



阅读空间 · 新课标英语分级读物

· 英文注释版 ·

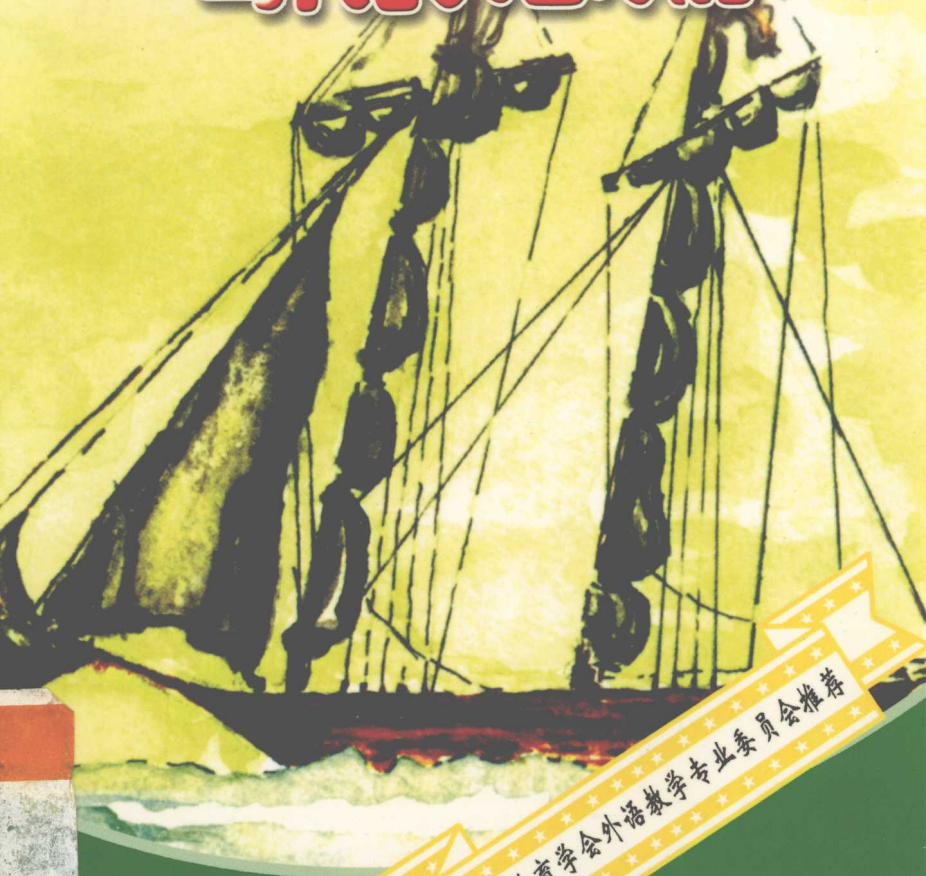
英语课程标准五级之六

5

Amistad

→ Pete Wright ←

断索怒潮



中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会推荐

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CENTURY  
ORIENTAL



世纪东方

阅读空间 · 新课标英语分级读物

— 第 5 级 —

# *Amistad*

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# 出 版 说 明

这是一套针对英语为外语的学生而出版的世界文学名著分级读物。丛书的编写紧密结合新《英语课程标准》的要求,按难易程度分为 8 个级别,适合各阶段学生的阅读需求,帮助学生在语言技能、语言知识、学习策略和文化意识等方面达到新课标的培养目标。

## 丛书主要有以下特点:

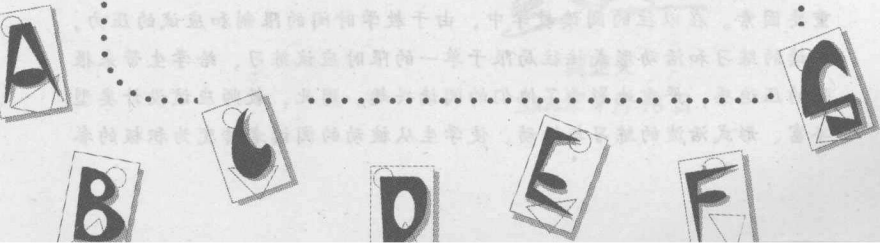
囊括西方经典文学名著,在帮助学生提高语言水平的同时,能通过阅读与自己外语水平相当的简写本一窥文学名著之全貌。

按新课标分级,词汇量从 150 词到 3500 词,满足中小学生的阅读需要。语言难度循序渐进,有助于教师拓展学生的语言知识和文化背景信息,提升学生的英语阅读技能。

第 1 至第 5 级一页一练,练习量大,测试题型丰富多样,非常有利于学生和教师以量化的方式考核和检测阅读能力与水平,是课堂教学的较好补充。

语言浅显、生动、地道,以英文注释的形式出版,既保留了英文的原汁原味,中英文双语注释又为读者在阅读英文时扫除了语言障碍,能够充分调动读者的阅读兴趣,使英语阅读更轻松。

希望本丛书能够增强我国学生的英语阅读能力,提升他们的文学素养。



## 序

随着国家《英语课程标准》的颁布和实施，中小学英语教学进入了一个新的阶段。新课标对学生课外阅读量和阅读目标都提出了更高的要求。作为课堂阅读的继续和延伸，课外阅读是中学英语阅读教学中的一个重要环节。新课标对课外阅读的新要求需要广大英语教师更好地解决以下三个问题：

❶ 如何激发和持久地保持学生的阅读兴趣？

❷ 如何将课外阅读活动与课堂阅读活动有效地结合？

❸ 如何在有限的课堂教学指导下监控和评价学生的课外阅读效果？

要解决上述问题，可以从以下几个方面考虑：

**阅读选材** 阅读材料的题材和难度是影响学生阅读兴趣的主要因素，因此教师在选择和推荐课外阅读材料时，首先应注意阅读材料是否符合学生的认知水平和语言水平，并在两者间找到平衡点。许多材料容易读懂，但对该年龄段的学生可能内容太过浅显，引不起学生的兴趣；也许材料符合学生的心理和认知水平，但语言太难，使学生望而却步。另外，阅读材料还应给学生提供更多的英语国家文化背景知识。许多英语文学名著、寓言故事等在英语国家家喻户晓，人们在言谈、写作时往往予以引用，如同我们引用古诗词和成语一样。如果学生对此毫不了解，就会造成交流和理解上的困难。这套百本之巨的《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》（西方文学名著系列）是在《英语课程标准》推广以来出版规模最大的一套中小学生英语阅读丛书，选题的设计者严格按照新课标的各个级别遴选阅读材料，提倡让英语阅读更轻松、更系统、更高效，这样的主导思想和策划方案无疑是正确的。这套丛书分级明确，语言浅显、地道，且与《英语课程标准》的分级标准相匹配，教师可以根据学生的外语水平和兴趣爱好帮助学生选择。

**练习活动** 阅读的练习和活动形式也是影响学生阅读兴趣的另一个重要因素。在以往的阅读教学中，由于教学时间的限制和应试的压力，阅读的练习和活动形式往往局限于单一的限时应试练习，给学生带来很强的压迫感，严重地影响了他们的阅读兴趣。因此，教师应该设计类型丰富、形式活泼的练习与活动，使学生从被动的阅读者转变为积极的参

与者，并使学生获得更多实践英语和使用英语的机会，如此才能激发和增强他们的阅读热情和兴趣。《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》丛书检测方式灵活，其多样化的阅读训练题型，对有意识地培养学生正确的学习策略很有意义。这套丛书的检测训练层级清晰，从初级的看图配话、趣味学用、拼字游戏、常识判断，到较深层的读前思考、推论归纳、背景探索，加上组对练习与互动讨论，明确地突出了学生语言应用能力的培养。

**系统性与连续性** 阅读材料的系统性，是指根据《英语课程标准》，从语言知识、语言技能、文化意识和学习策略等几个方面，对阅读材料进行科学分级，使学生能够循序渐进，拾级而上。阅读材料的连续性，则是指阅读材料的篇幅和内容的关联性能够让课堂阅读活动延续并拓展到课外。阅读教学中经常采用的短篇限时阅读，虽然容易控制时间，提高阅读速度，但是因学生的阅读能力存在差异而不能“面向全体”，且阅读限时和单一的应试练习形式也很难将课堂阅读活动延伸到课外。市面上的英文名著简写本版本虽多，但像《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》这样内容系统、分级明确，并配有大量形式多样、活泼的分项练习的，确实不多。它弥补了短篇阅读理解内容相对独立，不具有连续性的缺陷，使阅读活动能够从课堂延伸到课外。学生可以自己选择他们喜欢的、适合自己水平的读本，教师可以通过诸如写故事梗概、预测故事情节、进行小组讨论等多样、互动的阅读练习与活动，将学生在课堂中的思维延伸到课外，并在下一次课堂教学中检验和评价学生上一次课外阅读活动的结果。

希望有更多的一线教师积极总结自身的教学经验，广泛开展和参与阅读教学的课题研究与探讨，总结出更好、更有效率的阅读教学方法。

中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会理事长  
人民教育出版社外语分社社长



龚亚夫

2004年4月18日

## 第 5 级

Title	书名
Wanted! Dead or Alive	《通缉令》
The Witness	《证人》
The Bermuda Triangle	《百慕大三角》
Far From the Madding Crowd	《远离尘嚣》
The Monster of London	《伦敦怪物》
Emma	《爱玛》
The Story of an African Farm	《非洲农场的故事》
The Canterbury Tales	《坎特伯雷故事集》
My Granddad Jack the Ripper	《开膛手杰克》
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Halloween	《万圣节》
Moll Flanders	《摩尔·弗兰德斯》
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Kidnapped	《绑架》
The Scarlet Letter	《红字》
The Pilgrim's Progress	《天路历程》
Ben Hur	《宾虚》
Amistad	《断索怒潮》

# 简

# 介

为什么会有奴隶?

大部分“伟大”文明是建立在奴隶劳动的基础上的,这是个不幸的历史事实。在几千年前的古埃及、古希腊和古罗马,奴隶从事着大部分劳动,然而却不被当人看。如果你是奴隶,你肯定就不是一个完整的人!

1835年,欧洲大国的新协议虽然规定奴隶贸易为非法,奴隶的子女却仍要继续为奴,奴隶主要被用在种植甘蔗、烟草和棉花的大型农场。

奴隶贸易停止了吗?当然没有。新奴隶的价格疯狂地上涨,直到能够抵偿他们将他们从非洲运来的风险的程度。从非洲到哈瓦那运送奴隶的船是有两根桅杆的纵帆船,速度很快,许多这种船只是由美国东北部的船厂制造的。Amistad就是其中之一,最初叫“友谊”号,“友谊”在西班牙语中就是Amistad。身为清教徒的船厂主对自己所造的这艘船未来的用途似乎也不很清楚。

甲板下的空间十分有限,奴隶们经常被迫呆在不到一米高的空间里,患病的风险极大。

英国海军巡行于奴隶贸易的航线上,并袭击可疑船只。经常地,当运送奴隶的船长意识到不可能逃脱英国船只时,就命令船员将全部奴隶扔到大海。到1840年,多达三分之二的运送奴隶的船只逃脱了袭击。如果运送奴隶的船没有足够的食物,一些奴隶就要被扔到海底。有时,流行病会夺去大部分人“货”。

这个关于奴隶的故事是真实的!





## Contents

<b>Knives in the Dark</b> .....	1	<b>Gilabaru:</b>	
<b>Ka-le:</b>		For the Love of Allah .....	32
America .....	4	<b>Marngroo:</b>	
Africa .....	5	Words .....	32
Slavery Everywhere .....	6	The Chiefs .....	33
Children .....	7	More Words .....	34
Aboard the Ship .....	7	A Decision? .....	35
Cuba .....	9	<b>Singbe:</b>	
<b>Singbe:</b>		Good News .....	36
To the Barracoon .....	9	A Setback .....	36
Sold .....	10	Hope .....	37
The "Amistad" .....	12	<b>James Covey:</b>	
<b>Gilabaru:</b>		The Interpreter .....	38
Food .....	13	What Is Happening? .....	39
Cannibals! .....	14	<b>Gilabaru:</b>	
Escape .....	15	To Speak and Be Understood	
Out .....	17	.....	40
<b>After the Battle:</b>		<b>Singbe:</b>	
Freedom .....	19	Strange Customs .....	41
<b>Singbe:</b>		<b>Ka-le:</b>	
Saling to Africa? .....	20	Delay .....	42
<b>Ka-le:</b>		<b>Singbe:</b>	
The Ships .....	21	Evidence .....	43
The Other Ships .....	22	<b>Gilabaru:</b>	
Help .....	23	Two Ships — Two Futures ...	43
Action .....	24	<b>Singbe:</b>	
<b>Gilabaru:</b>		"Will They Never Let Us	
Land .....	25	Go?" .....	44
Gold .....	26	<b>Kale:</b>	
<b>Singbe:</b>		Hope and No Hope .....	45
The Strange New Land ...	27	<b>Singbe:</b>	
The Captains .....	28	Home to Africa .....	46
Company .....	29	Looking Back .....	47
<b>Ka-le:</b>		<b>And Now... Slavery Today</b>	
Capture .....	30	.....	47
<b>Singbe:</b>		<b>Comprehension Check</b> .....	50
Prison Dreams .....	31		

## Knives in the Dark

**I**t was night. The Captain slept on the deck of his ship, the Amistad, as it glided<sup>1</sup> through the warm waters near Cuba, in the group of islands called the West Indies. Beside him slept his young cabin boy, Antonio, and the mulatto<sup>2</sup> cook—both slaves. Some said that the cook was his son by a slave woman. Towards the stern, two other shapes tossed and turned in the hot night, trying to sleep on mattresses laid on the deck. Somewhere, further back still, were the two hired seamen, snoring happily after a bottle of strong wine. The sea was calm, but there was an electric tension in the air. Beneath the wooden planking<sup>3</sup> of the deck, was a cramped<sup>4</sup> hell<sup>5</sup> hole of crowded, sleepless, sick and hungry men, waiting in the stinking, poisonous<sup>6</sup> darkness.

A hatch in the deck towards the bow opened, bit by bit, like the lid of a giant coffin. Black shapes crawled stealthily out onto the deck. The shining white of an eye, the pearly gleam of teeth, these were nothing to the wicked, virgin edges of bright steel blades<sup>7</sup> glinting mercilessly in the starlight. Hard feet crept across the boards towards the sleeping figures. The first of the shapes seemed hardly to bother to bend low, as if he wished to bow to no man. His long, flat ended cane knife moved always nearer to the sleeping men.

### NOTES

1. **glide:** move along smoothly and continuously. 滑翔, 滑行
2. **mulatto:** a person with a Negro parent and a white European parent.  
黑白混血儿
3. **plank:** long flat piece of sawn timber. 厚板
4. **cramped:** narrow and restricted. 狭小的
5. **hell:** place of the damned after death. 地狱; 阴间
6. **poisonous:** causing death or illness if taken into the body. 引起中毒的
7. **blade:** flat cutting part of a knife, sword, chisel, etc. 刃





The Captain, From some deep reserve of intuition<sup>1</sup>, sensed danger. He woke quickly and quietly from his sleep. The hot blood rushed in his veins. He tried to slice the reality around him away from the body of dreams and nightmares of his overheated imagination. His stomach locked in apprehension<sup>2</sup>.

With a cry of alarm, he saw the swinging blade arching through the air towards his unprotected face. He threw up his arm hopelessly. One of his attacker's companions tried to stop the blow. It was enough. The blade's end gouged<sup>3</sup> into the deck, sending a splinter spinning away into the night. Another slicing blow struck the Captain in the head. Blood flew.

The mulatto cook was awake, scrabbling to escape. The Captain scuttled<sup>4</sup> away on all fours, grabbing his sword by the scabbard, and desperately trying to wrench<sup>5</sup> the sheath away from the fine, Toledo steel blade. The pistol, which had tangled, in his night clothes and dragged along the deck with him, clattered<sup>6</sup> onto the wooden plank-ing. The Captain's hand fumbled for the pistol as his attackers drew nearer. He yanked the hammer back with his left hand, aimed at the nearest man, and pulled the trigger<sup>7</sup>. The hammer fell. The powder exploded. A man screamed, and flew back with the impact. Acrid gunpowder smoke drifted across the deck in a choking cloud.

A cane knife whipped through the thick night air. The blade bit deep into soft, unresisting flesh and came up hard against the

### NOTES

1. **intuition:** unconscious reasoning. 直觉; 直觉力
2. **apprehension:** anxiety about the future. 忧虑; 担心; 恐惧
3. **gouge:** dig violently in. 胡乱地或破坏性地凿(洞)
4. **scuttle:** run with short quick step. 用小而快的步子跑
5. **wrench:** twist or pull sb./sth. violently away from. 猛扭; 猛拉
6. **clatter:** (cause sth. to) make a clatter. (使某物)发出连续的咔嚓声
7. **trigger:** lever that releases a spring for firing a gun. 扳柄; (枪的)扳机



sinewy<sup>1</sup> bone of the cook's spine. A screaming froth drained from the poor mulatto's mouth. The other blows that struck his body were hardly necessary. All the years that could have been in this young life, were gone. Wasted.

Dark shapes pursued<sup>2</sup> the Captain, but with less force, now that the surprise was lost. The two Spanish gentlemen struggled to free themselves from their night clothes. They plunged<sup>3</sup> away from the probing<sup>4</sup> blades. Only two or three of the attackers seemed to thirst for blood. The others tried to snare and make prisoners of their victims.

The Captain was down. One of the two sailors glanced quickly back when he heard the cries of pain and fear, and then continued with his companion lowering the small boat from the stern<sup>5</sup>. The two seamen dropped soundlessly into the night, and were soon rowing away towards the nearest friendly land.

The Spanish gentlemen saw that they could not help the Captain, and must look after themselves if they could. They rushed into an open hatch<sup>6</sup> near the stern, and tried to hold the cover against their pursuers. The Captain bled. He lay on the deck among the feet of the killers. When the knife flashed towards him again and again, he seemed to lift himself to meet each blow. The life crashed and flooded out of him.

The Amistad was taken!

### NOTES

1. **sinewy**: tough; muscular. 肌肉发达的;强壮的
2. **pursue**: follow (sb./sth.), esp. in order to catch or kill. 追赶;追逐
3. **plunge**: fall into sth. suddenly and with force. 猛投;刺进
4. **probing**: intended to discover; searching. 追根究底的;探索的
5. **stern**: back end of a ship. 船尾
6. **hatch**: a ship's deck through which cargo is lowered or raised.

船上的舱口





## Ka-le

### America

A flock of geese<sup>1</sup> flies across the fields, and on over the small woods. There is no heat in the sun in this land of White Men. It sits low in the sky at noon. Mists hang in the air all day. A rider canters up the road. I think he may be a messenger carrying news, but he passes without a glance, and goes on his way. I touch the rough stone of this place. My dark skin soon loses feeling on the cold surface.

My name is Ka-le. My skin is the colour of water at night. My hair is like the short, dark wool of the goats from north of my home. My body is strong and straight. My teeth are white. I am a prisoner.

I saw eleven summers among my Mendi people. Now, I am far from home.

I wait for the last time, with my brother and sister Mendis, for the decision of the chief judges of the great American tribe.

They can set us free-or...

They can send us back to the Spanish men who bought us from their brother slave traders. The Spanish long to kill some of us, and take the rest of us to work endlessly until we die! They want to teach others like us the danger of fighting for freedom.

Will the chiefs<sup>2</sup> make us free?

### NOTES

1. goose: web-footed water bird larger than a duck (pl. geese). 鹅

2. chief: leader. 首领



Will they make us slaves?

While we wait, I will tell you our story from the beginning.

I have waited so long. It is hard to believe that I have ever lived beyond the stone walls of the White man's prisons.

## Africa

I come from far away across the great ocean. My country lies within the area the White men call "West Africa". My home village is ten days' march from the sea. It is in the land of the Mendi people. There are many villages in my country. There are many tribes in the lands round about.

We are many. The white men are few. They say we are beasts<sup>1</sup>. They say we have no souls. They say we are born to be slaves and beasts of burden.

Why are the white men so blind? Our own Gods know we have souls. The wise dark men from the north, who worship their God and his prophet<sup>2</sup> Mohammed, know that we have souls. Some of us follow this great God. The teachings of Mohammed are gentle.

Since we arrived in this cold country, we have been called many things. I struggle to learn the language of this strange tribe. People travel for many days to see us "Cannibals"<sup>3</sup> in our prison cages. We children are regarded with less fear than the grown men. Perhaps they fear their strength.

## NOTES

1. **beast:** brutal or disgusting person. 野蛮的人; 野兽
2. **prophet:** person who tells what will happen in the future. 预言家;  
预言者
3. **cannibal:** animal that eats own kind. 同类相食的动物





Our friends here call us “innocents<sup>1</sup>” — God’s children. They hate slavery. They work hard to free us. I do not understand this. Slavery is everywhere.

## Slavery Everywhere

In my own country of the Mendi people, if a man borrows and cannot repay his debt, he must become the slave of the lender. It is our law. The debtor can only escape slavery if he can find some one to take his place. He may capture<sup>2</sup> someone from another tribe, or may even send a son or another relative to take his place. This is our way!

The cold-hearted Spanish are different. They live in a huge village called Lomboko, built on the islands at the mouth of the Gallinas river, which drains into the great ocean. They have huge huts, called “barracoons” in their language. These can hold hundreds of prisoners at one time. Prisoners enter in small numbers at night. When the barracoons are full, a ship comes to carry them off into the dying sun. They are never seen again.

The thirst of the Spanish for slaves is endless. Sometimes I think that they will drain our country of people, as the Gallinas river drains our lands of water. They pay high prices to the local kings-guns and spirits<sup>3</sup> and cloth. Who can resist them?

The barracoons fill and fill. The men, women and children in them are people in debt or captured by their enemies and sold

### NOTES

1. **innocent**: person who know nothing of evil or wrong. 天真无邪
2. **capture**: take (sb./sth.) as a prisoner. 俘获(某人/某物)
3. **spirit**: *here*, strong, distilled alcohol. 烈酒



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into slavery. There are even people sold by their own tribe!

There were whispers — only whispers — that slavery is against the laws of the Spanish. The chiefs of the Spanish wink and turn their back — for a price! The slave trade continues ever faster.

## Children

I was taken to a barracoon at night with a group of children even younger than me. There were a few women too. We waited in the darkness for our captors to find a buyer for us.

Finally, we were fixed together with chains, and dragged below the deck of a white man's boat, to leave forever the lands of our people. My eyes were dry. This was too deep for tears.

## Aboard the Ship

We children were lucky. The men were kept below the deck in the stinking, poisonous<sup>1</sup> heat day after day, week after week, month after month. The roof of their prison was too low for them to stand — too low for them to sit!

They lay, day after day, on bare boards. The rocking of the ship bruised<sup>2</sup> them, and rubbed the skin off their backs where they lay.

Those who refused to eat, or were too sick to eat the thin, tasteless food that was spooned<sup>3</sup> into the desperate, waiting hands twice a

### NOTES

1. poisonous: causing death or illness if taken into the body.

引起中毒的

2. bruise: cause an injury to. 使受挫伤

3. spoon: take with a spoon. (用勺)舀







day, were beaten with sticks and whipped without mercy. I lay at night listening to the muffled<sup>1</sup> cries and groans of my poor brothers.

Soon, they started to die. There was a dreadful fever that turned strong men into skeletons<sup>2</sup>, and wrung the life out of them. The sailors were afraid to go below. The dying and the dead lay in filth and corruption in the holds<sup>3</sup>.

I saw sick men, still alive, thrown into the sea, to disappear under the waves, or heard their thin cries fade<sup>4</sup> into the distance as the ship left them to their slow and endless night. I cried silently. Now I cried.

We sailed west for three moons or more. The world is so big. It will not fit in my mind all at one time! I thought the sea would go on forever.

Sometimes, small groups of prisoners were allowed on deck to stretch their aching limbs<sup>5</sup>, and wash the sores on their poor bodies with buckets<sup>6</sup> of seawater.

Once, a prisoner struck a sailor who was tormenting him. He was dragged across the deck and tied to the mast<sup>7</sup>. I did not think that they would ever stop whipping him. The blood ran down his brown skin.

When they had finished, they rubbed salt and rum and gunpowder into the mess of wounds. The poor man screamed and screamed. I thought that he would die. But he lived. He lived to

### NOTES

1. **muffled**: heard unclearly. 听不清的
2. **skeleton**: framework of bones. 骨骼, 骨架
3. **hold**: the storage space below a ship's deck. 货舱
4. **fade**: disappear gradually. 逐渐消失
5. **limb**: leg, arm or wing. 肢(腿, 臂或翼)
6. **bucket**: round open container with a handle for carrying things. 圆桶, 提桶
7. **mast**: upright post of wood or metal used to support a ship's sails.

船桅, 桅

