



阅读空间 · 新课标英语分级读物

· 英文注释版 ·

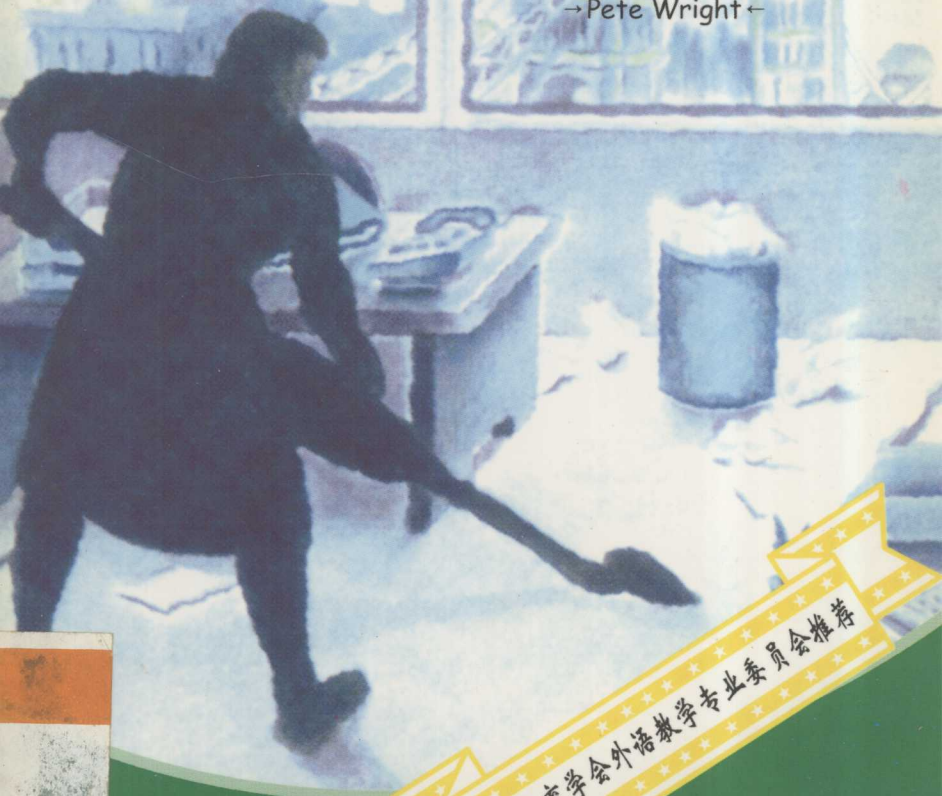
英语课程标准五级之二

5

The Monster of London

伦敦怪物

→ Pete Wright ←



中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会推荐

中国电力出版社
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CENTURY ORIENTAL 世纪东方

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— 第 5 级 —

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原著：Pete Wright

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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—套中小学生学习英语阅读丛书，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。

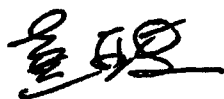
练习活动 阅读的练习和活动形式也是影响学生阅读兴趣的另一个重要因素。在以往的阅读教学中，由于教学时间的限制和应试的压力，阅读的练习和活动形式往往局限于单一的限时应试练习，给学生带来很强的压迫感，严重地影响了他们的阅读兴趣。因此，教师应该设计类型丰富、形式活泼的练习与活动，使学生从被动的阅读者转变为积极的参

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》
Vanity Fair	《名利场》
Halloween	《万圣节》
Moll Flanders	《摩尔·弗兰德斯》
The Portrait of a Lady	《一个贵妇的画像》
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

一个恶魔在伦敦游荡。凶杀案接连发生,而且很有规律。到底谁是凶手?这个凶手会不会罢手?

怎样寻找凶手?警察们感到无从下手、无迹可寻。而同时在这个大都市里,生活依然在继续。人们工作、娱乐,有着各自的生活。有钱人依然那么富有,穷人依然那么贫困。人们还是在忙忙碌碌。

一群清洁女工在伦敦市中心干活,她们也有自己的苦恼。一个不同寻常又突如其来的死亡事件牵连到了她们。当她们中的一个遭到了警察的怀疑时,她们都竭力保护这个朋友,携手一致同盲目的司法机制作斗争。

最后,当这个孤单的女人在为她的罪恶感而作思想斗争时,一直隐藏在伦敦的汹涌的人群中一张陌生的面孔出现在她的面前,供认了他可怕的犯罪事实。

没有什么预兆,两条不同的道路交叉到了一起。然后……



Contents

Life is What You Make it	1
5 A. M.	2
The Cleaners	3
The Offices	6
Number 1	8
Weeks	11
Ethel	13
The Manager	15
Yes!	16
Breakfast at Charlie's	17
Pain	18
Did She or Didn't She?	20
Spider, Spider	21
Capture	23
The "Nick"	26
CID	27
Not a Word	28
Cells	29
Morning	31
Harry	32
The Deal	33
The Van	34
The Old Bailey	35
Meanwhile	36
In Court	37
A Solitary Voice	39
BMW	40
Easy	40
Newspapers	41
Taking	42
Among the People	42
Sanctuary	43
The Photocopier Man	48
Comprehension Check	52

Life is What You Make it

Mary Muffet was a cleaner. It seemed to her that she had always been a cleaner. She had swept and scrubbed¹ and polished her way through forty years. Where had all the time gone? Forty years of floors and toilets and dustbins. Forty years of working in a dream.

Originally, Mary had come from the North. It was colder there, colder and harder than the South, but she still missed it. Her few memories of her childhood were pleasant and comforting.

She remembered the small town nestled² at the foot of the cold, high moors. She remembered fond parents and generous friends, full of mischief. Had it really been like that? Had her childhood really been so wonderful? Probably not. The mind plays tricks with the past.

One thing she was sure of: as a child she had felt she belonged and never since then had she felt the same.

Why had she come South? How had it happened? Was it really such a terrible disappointment when the boy she thought she loved married another girl? Had she even really loved him? She had never spoken directly to him of her feelings. Now, Mary could not even be certain of that. Youngsters⁵ are so strange and impetuous⁶. She had

NOTES

1. scrub: rub hard at something in order to clean. 擦洗, 擦净
2. nestle: lying comfortably and snugly. 坐落于, 位于
3. moor: high treeless land. 荒原
4. mischief: naughtiness. 淘气, 调皮
5. youngster: young person; child. 少年, 年轻人
6. impetuous: tending to take quick action but without careful thought.
鲁莽的, 冲动的





left her home as soon as she could and found a little room and a cleaning job in the centre of far away London, all on the same day. She had been pleased with herself — with her luck and determination. Perhaps it had all been too easy. If it had been harder, she might have gone back home. Her life could have been different. Perhaps.

The years — where had they all gone, dull¹ and uneventful, steady, unremarkable?

5 A.M.

Mary Muffet stood at 5 a.m. in Charing Cross Road, in the heart of London. For a brief, terrifying moment, she had a sense of all the miles of dead brick, stone, concrete and tarmac² stretching out in all directions. She felt like a tiny, dried out fly, trapped forever on an abandoned³ spider's web. Life was grey, carried forward by its own dreary⁴ momentum⁵ of loneliness, alarm clocks, darkness and poverty.

She shrugged⁶ her shoulders and pushed open the door of the café. The glass of the door ran on the inside with condensed⁷ water droplets. The hot smell of burnt bacon fat hit her in the face like a blow⁸. For a second, she lost her balance⁹. The door pushed back

NOTES

1. **dull**: uninteresting. 枯燥的, 没趣的
2. **tarmac**: a mixture of tar and very small stones, used for making the surface of roads. (铺路用的)柏油碎石
3. **abandoned**: not used any more. 被抛弃的, 遗弃的
4. **dreary**: depressing. 压抑的, 沉闷的
5. **momentum**: the moving weight of something. *here*, rhythm. 动力;
(此处指)节拍
6. **shrug**: raise the shoulders as a gesture of indifference. 耸肩
7. **condensed**: formed from the damp air. 冷凝的
8. **blow**: a hit. 突然袭击
9. **balance**: poise or steadiness, not falling. 平衡



The Monster of London

against her heavy stomach. She took a step backwards, regained her balance and pushed forward into the warm, heavy interior of the café.

“Hello, Mary! Over here. Charlie! Another bacon sandwich and a mug¹ of tea for Mary. Three sugars.”

Charlie, the café owner, gave no sign of hearing the order. Why should he give one? He had seen Mary enter. She had eaten the same breakfast, drunk the same strong, sweet, brown tea and sat at the same seat at the same table for as long as he could remember, summer and winter, rain and shine.

“What’s up, Mary. Is your knee bad again?”

Mary Muffet put her shapeless plastic shopping bag on the floor beside her seat and sank down with a sigh. She rearranged the cutlery² with quick, deft³ movements of her surprisingly delicate⁴ hands.

The Cleaners

At this time of day, the customers in the café were mainly regulars — taxi drivers, cleaners, street sweepers, homeless alcoholics who had survived another night out in the cold, party-goers looking for something to soak up the excess alcohol⁵. Charlie didn’t mind who came in off the street, provided he couldn’t smell the customer over the frying bacon and spitting eggs. He would fill another hundred plates before the greasy breakfasts became greasy midday meals.

“Cold again,” said Susie, the cleaner from the nearby pet shop.

All the other cleaners sitting in the group had jobs in better

NOTES

1. **mug**: a large, heavy cup. 大杯
2. **cutlery**: knives, forks and spoons. 餐具
3. **deft**: skillful, neat. 敏捷熟练的, 灵巧的
4. **delicate**: quick to show or feel the effect or presense of something. 灵敏的
5. **alcohol**: the pure colorless liquid present in drinks that can make one drunk, such as wine, beer and spirits. 酒精



places than hers — smart¹ offices like Mary, the Old Bailey court-house like Charlotte, the police station in Tottenham Court Road like Daisy, the bank on the corner like Ethel — but Susie liked her job. She didn't mind cleaning out the cages. The animals always looked happier in their fresh bedding.

Often, she would take one of the animals home with her to keep her company overnight. The pet shop owner probably knew, but if the animals appeared back in their cages the next day, he didn't seem to mind.

Charlie was used to the sudden screams of laughter or fright from the other cleaners, when Susie produced a snake from under her cardigan² or a large spider from her sleeve. He amused himself, as he cooked and prodded, turned and served, poured and stirred, by imagining how the different creatures would fry up. He pictured snakes and kittens³, sliced, crisply fried and waiting on the thick, white plates along with chips and baked beans and soft white bread spread with cheap, yellow margarine⁴.

Charlie was a strange man. It was rumoured⁵ among the customers that his wife was stunningly⁶ beautiful. Perhaps it was an exaggeration⁷. How could any woman bear to stay with a man whose skin stank of overheated fat? Perhaps she had no sense of smell! Perhaps she was short-sighted too — or mad!

The cleaning women often debated⁸ the question in outrageously⁹

NOTES

1. **smart**: prestigious or expensive. 漂亮的, 豪华的
2. **cardigan**: a woollen upper garment, opening at the front. 开襟毛衣
3. **kitten**: a young cat. 小猫
4. **margarine**: a food similar to butter, which is mainly made from vegetable fats. 人造黄油
5. **rumour**: say to be true, but not confirmed. 谣传
6. **stunningly**: very impressively. 极好地, 极吸引人地
7. **exaggeration**: saying or believing more than the truth about sth.
夸张, 夸大
8. **debate**: discuss. 讨论, 辩论
9. **outrageously**: inappropriately. 极不寻常地, 非常地



loud voices. Charlie ignored them. He knew the truth. No one else would ever know.

“Did you hear about the ‘Monster’?”

Daisy savoured the word as it rolled over her tongue and crept out past her full lips. The other women leant forward expectantly¹.

“He’s killed another! No one survives a meeting with this particular beast!”

“What does he do?” asked Ethel, eyes wide, mouth wet and pointed, as if she was still holding the round “o” of the last vowel.

“They won’t say...” Charlotte had followed the story day by day as it headed² towards the front page of the early editions of her newspaper, “... they’re not releasing any details in case people start copying his style.”

“What sort of perverted³ people do they think we are?” said Mary indignantly⁴.

“Who was the victim⁵ this time?” interrupted Charlie from behind the counter. He moved the giant enamelled⁶ teapot to one side, so he could lean forward and hear the conversation above the sizzle of the food on the hot plate.

“Another banker!” said Ethel. “It’s not often that bankers get killed. It’s normally some poor old pensioner robbed and murdered for the few pence in her purse. No, the rich don’t usually get themselves killed.” Ethel was knowledgeable about such matters. She read her paper carefully every weekday morning on the bus from Stratford in East London.

NOTES

1. **expectantly**: waiting hopefully. 期待地
2. **head**: move in a definite direction. 朝向, 向……走去
3. **perverted**: unnatural and twisted. 不正当的
4. **indignantly**: expressing or feeling surprised anger. (因错事或不公正的事而) 愤怒地
5. **victim**: usu. a person who suffers pain, death, harm, etc. 牺牲者, 受害者
6. **enamelled**: coated with a protective glaze on metal, harder than paint. 涂以瓷釉的



The conversation went on, but by the time she had to hurry away to start work, Mary was not much the wiser¹ about "The Monster of London".

Monster of London.

Victims: 3

Witnesses: 0

Clues: 0

Prediction: more victims to come!

The Offices

"Come here, Muffet. You'll have to work late today. The manager is having a breakfast conference of his top staff at 10 a. m.," said the office organiser. His voice had its usual hard, nasal edge², as if he was daring the listener to disagree with him.

"Breakfast? Breakfast at ten o'clock?" thought Mary, puzzled.

The man continued, "We need someone to clear up after them. Is that OK — yes, good?" He walked away without waiting for an answer to his "question". In his world, the wishes of management came only a little way behind the "Ten Commandments³". He could not imagine that anyone else might feel differently about the matter — especially the office cleaner, faceless, unimportant and so easily replaceable.

Mary Muffet watched his plump⁴ rear waddling⁵ away down the corridor⁶. She sighed. That meant she'd have to wait around for an

NOTES

1. the wiser: here, more informed. (此处指)了解更多信息的
2. nasal edge: intonation caused by breathing through the nose. 鼻音
3. Commandment: any of the ten laws (the Ten Commandments) which according to *the Bible* were given by God to the Jews on Mount Sinai. 戒律(《圣经》指的十戒之一)
4. plump: rather fat. 圆胖的
5. waddle: walk like a duck. 蹒跚而行
6. corridor: a passage, esp. between two rows of rooms. 通道, 走廊



hour after she'd done her usual work, before she could start cleaning up after the meeting. She'd get an extra hour's pay for that, but she wouldn't be paid for the wasted time. She'd miss "Woman's Hour" on the radio.

Mary clicked her tongue and set off with her trolley¹ to clean the toilets. The toilets always seemed to be in a mess in the mornings, although she'd tidied them after the office workers had left the night before.

"Life's what you make it, I suppose," she said out loud to herself.

When she heard the cleaner's words, a secretary, sitting at a desk near the window, smirked² over at her friend, the filing clerk³. She whispered across, "If I'd made a life like hers, I'd kill myself as soon as I got back to whatever depressing dump⁴ she lives in. I'd jump under a bus..."

"I'd slash⁵ my wrists," answered the clerk with a giggle, "I'd join a gun club and blow my head off!"

This game would continue up to the coffee break.

"And I wouldn't try to kill myself with aspirin, either. After the first two, I might feel better!"

"No, right! No, I'd take the lift to the top floor and teach myself to fly — the hard way."

The sound of plates breaking came from behind the door of the meeting room. Then, after a moment, a squeal⁶ of laughter. Then nothing.

NOTES

1. trolley: a small cart. 手推车
2. smirk: smile in an unpleasant way. 假笑, 傻笑
3. filing clerk: person in an office who stores and retrieves paperwork. 档案管理员
4. dump: here, low quality accommodation. (此处指)条件恶劣的住所
5. slash: cut with long sweeping violent strokes. 猛削, 乱砍
6. squeal: a long cry. 长声尖叫



Number 1

"Muffet! You're a lazy, incompetent, disobedient¹ woman!"

Mary looked up in confusion. Since she had first arrived in London, whenever anyone raised their voice near her, she had always immediately felt guilty. What had she done?

The office organiser almost knocked the poor woman off her feet as he brushed impatiently past her.

He grabbed the can of spray polish from the top of the huge photocopying² machine.

"Look!" he almost screamed in Mary's face in his fury³ and frustration⁴.

Mary noticed that the man's breath was sour⁵. Why was he so angry? What had she done?

"I've told you time and time again! Don't spray polish anywhere — Anywhere near my machine!"

"But I didn't..."

"If I ever see this polish anywhere in this room, you'll be sacked⁶. Do you understand? In fact, I don't think I'll bother to wait and take the chance, you stupid woman! Look at this..."

"I didn't spray anywhere near it..."

The man ignored her. He leaned over his precious machine, stroking the buttons, wiping his finger along the top cover, then inspecting the surface of his skin minutely⁷. His silk tie hung vertically down. The

NOTES

1. **disobedient:** falling or refusing to obey. 不顺从的, 不服从的, 不听话的
2. **photocopy:** make a photographic copy of. 影印, 复印
3. **fury:** intense anger. 大怒
4. **frustration:** the feeling one has when prevented from achieving one's purpose. 沮丧, 受挫
5. **sour:** opposite of sweet; acid. 酸的, 发酵的, 酸腐的
6. **sack:** be thrown out of a job. 被解雇的
7. **minutely:** very closely and carefully. 详细地, 仔细地

