

# 直接法英語讀本

(改訂本)

第六冊

編者 文幼章

中華書局印行

# DIRECT METHOD ENGLISH READERS

## BOOK SIX

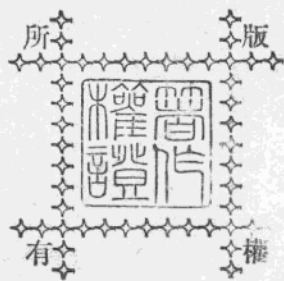
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## INTRODUCTION

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In Book Six all of Mr. Palmer's material which was originally in Book III Part I has been retained. A sufficient number of lessons have been added to keep the general scheme of a lesson a week.

The new material is simpler and intended to be used to develop speed reading. The play "A Pound of Flesh" can be used for special work in speaking at a normal rate of speed and for pronunciation.

James G. Endicott

Canadian Mission

Chungking

# CONTENTS

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## BOOK SIX

LESSON	PAGE
1. The Merchant of Venice (Part 1) - - -	I
2. The Merchant of Venice (Conclusion) - - -	14
3. A Pound of Flesh (A Play) - - -	31
4. What is Electricity? (Part 1) - - -	56
5. What is Electricity? (Conclusion) - - -	71
6. Five Short Stories - - -	82
7. Where Does Mud Come From? (Part 1) - - -	104
8. Where Does Mud Come From? (Conclusion) - - -	120
9. A Great Inventor (Part 1) - - -	135
10. A Great Inventor (Conclusion) - - -	147
11. A Great Thinker - - -	162
12. Letter Writing - - -	178
Appendix I. The Phonetic Alphabet - - -	189
Appendix II. The Plural of Nouns - - -	192

# DIRECT METHOD ENGLISH READERS

## BOOK SIX

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### LESSON ONE

#### THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

##### Part I

The greatest and most celebrated poet and writer of plays that England has ever known was William Shakespeare. He was born in the year 1564 (fifteen sixty-four) at a place called Stratford. The house in which he was born is still standing, and thousands of people from all over the world go to visit the place where Shakespeare lived when he was young.

One day he left Stratford and went to London to be an actor. We do not know

much about his life in London nor how he came to write his wonderful plays. They are all the more marvellous when we consider that Shakespeare was a self-educated man having had ~~very~~ few years at school and no opportunity for travelling.

The following story, "The Merchant of Venice", is one of Shakespeare's best-known works.

In the beautiful city of Venice, in Italy, there lived a rich merchant called Antonio, who was loved and respected by everybody—except one, a money-lending Jew called Shylock.

Now this Shylock hated Antonio, for the merchant was always saying nasty things about the Jews, and particularly about Shylock.

At this time, there was living near Venice at a place called Belmont, a very beautiful and wealthy lady named Portia. Her father had died a short time previously and had left a most extraordinary will. Knowing that whoever married his daughter would also gain possession of her huge fortune, he made what he thought was a wise plan. In his will, he said that whoever wanted to marry his daughter would first of all have to choose one of three caskets. One of these was made of gold, another of silver, and a third of lead. In one of the three caskets was to be a picture of Portia, and whoever chose this one was to marry her. Already many admirers of Portia had tried, but none of them had chosen the right one.

One of Portia's admirers was a handsome and elegant young man called Bassanio, who



was a dear friend of Antonio's. One day he made up his mind to try his fortune with the three caskets for he felt sure that he would be successful.

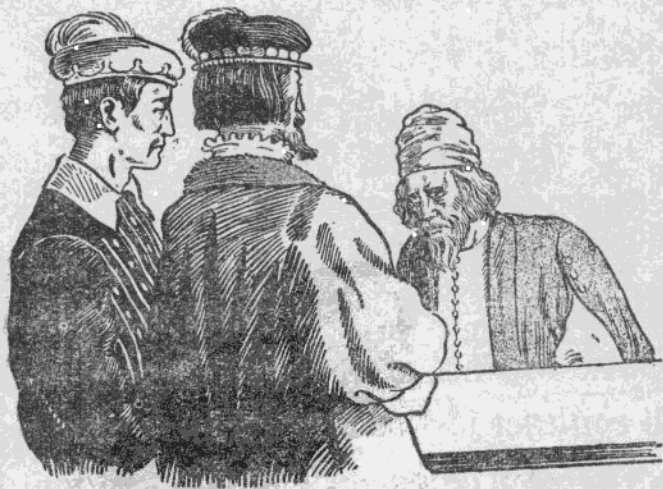
But he would have to buy fine clothes, horses and presents, and he could not afford these things, for he was by no means rich. On previous occasions Antonio had lent him large sums of money, and so without the slightest hesitation he decided to go again to his friend for help.

Antonio would have been delighted to lend him the money, but at that time he had invested all he possessed in ships with rich cargoes going to different parts of the world. But Antonio suggested that Bassanio should go to a money-lender and borrow the necessary sum. He himself would give the security

and repay the debt when his ships returned to Venice again.

As they could think of no one else who had enough money to lend, they went to ask Shylock for the required amount.

When Shylock heard this, he thought that this would be a splendid chance for revenge on Antonio.

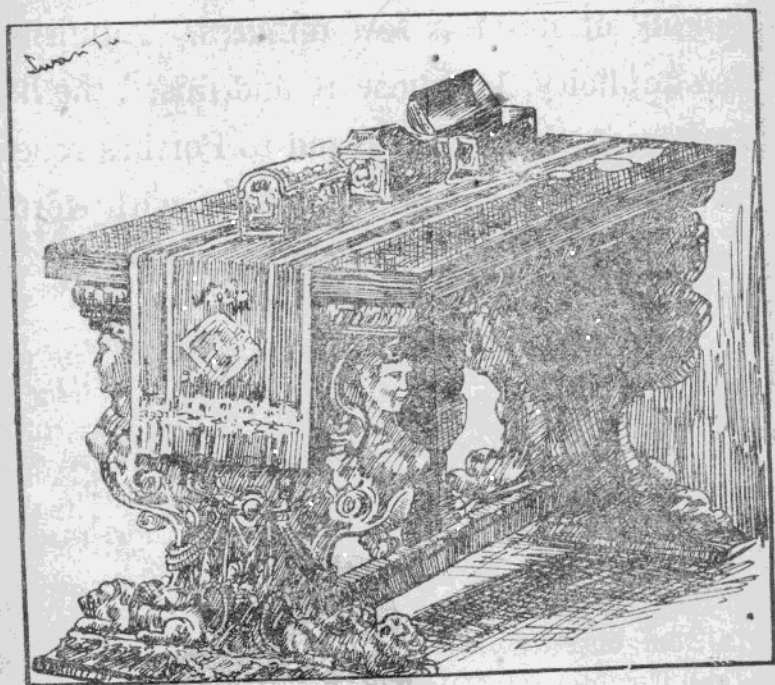


For some time, Shylock gave no answer, and the two friends imagined that he was going to refuse. But suddenly, to their surprise he consented not only to lend the money but to lend it without interest. As for the security, Shylock made a sporting offer, namely that if the debt were not repaid by a certain date, he would have the right to cut off a pound of flesh from any part of Antonio's body.

Bassanio would not hear of his friend taking such a terrible risk, but Antonio, knowing perfectly well that his ships would be back long before that date, accepted the sporting offer. He probably wished to show that he was not afraid of Shylock, and signed the contract just as if it were an ordinary one.

After a good deal of preparation, Bassanio set out for Belmont, and there he was

shown the three caskets. You can imagine how excited Portia was, for she was as anxious for Bassanio to choose the right one as he was himself.



The Three Caskets

He first of all came to the casket made of gold, but he considered this as being too

showy, and turned to the silver one. But he considered silver to be too suggestive of commerce and turned away from this one. He then saw the casket of lead, and stood looking at it for a few minutes. Admiring its simplicity, he chose it and raised the lid. To Bassanio's great joy, and to Portia's relief, he found inside a picture of her with words that proved that he had chosen rightly.

## GRAMMAR AND EXPLANATION

### Singular and Plural Nouns

Bassanio was an *admirer* of Portia. Bassanio was one of her *admirers*.

He had to choose a *casket*. There were three *caskets* to choose from.

On this *occasion*, Bassanio went to Antonio, to borrow a *sum* of money. On previous *occasions* Antonio had lent him *sums* of money.

### Infinitive of New Verbs

Invest

Possess

Require

Respect

Sign

### Nouns and Verbs

Hesitation—Hesitate

Requirement—Require

Investment—Invest

Risk—Risk

Possession—Possess

Security—Secure

Relief—Relieve

### Adjectives and Adverbs

Elegant—Elegantly

Handsome—Handsomely

Extraordinary—Extraordinarily

Marvellous—Marvellously

Previous—Previously

Splendid—Splendidly

Right—Rightly

### Direct and Indirect Speech

*Direct:* "Whoever *wants* to marry *my* daughter *will* have to choose..."

*Indirect:* He said that whoever *wanted* to marry *his* daughter *would* have to choose...

*Direct:* "If the debt is not repaid, I [Shylock] *will* have the right..."

*Indirect:* Shylock said that if the debt *were* not repaid, he *would* have the right...

### Would

The man who married his daughter *would* gain possession of her fortune.

The man *would* have to choose one of three caskets.

He felt sure he *would* be successful.

He *would* have to buy fine clothes.

Antonio *would* have been delighted to help him.

Antonio *would* give the security

He thought this *would* be a splendid chance.

He *would* have the right to cut off a pound of flesh.

Bassanio *would* not hear of his friend taking such a risk.

Knowing that his ships *would* be back.

### Was to

In one of the three caskets *was to* be a picture.

The man who chose this casket *was to* marry Portia.

The debt *was to* be repaid by a certain date.

Bassanio *was to* choose one of the three caskets.

### Going to

We are *going to* read "The Merchant of Venice".

Bassanio was *going to* try his fortune.

They thought that Shylock was *going to* refuse.

When Bassanio was just *going to* choose one of the three caskets, Portia was very excited.

I hope it is *going to* be a fine day.

### Should

Antonio suggested that Bassanio *should* go to Shylock.

I told him that he *should* speak English

It is better that you *should* be early

### **Were for Was**

If he *were* to try his fortune, he would have to buy fine clothes.

If he *were* successful, he would marry Portia.

If the debt *were* not repaid, he would have the right to cut off a pound of flesh.

He signed the contract just as if it *were* an ordinary one.

### COMPOSITION

A. The expressions ***I wish you would . . . , I wish you would not . . .*** are generally used when urging, imploring or protesting. They suggest that the person addressed persists in not doing something that he has previously been requested to do, or in doing something that he has previously been requested not to do. In some cases however (especially when modified by **just**), these expressions have a mild imperative force.

Each of the following sentences expresses a request or a command. Rewrite each of them in such a way as to introduce ***I wish you would*** or ***I wish you wouldn't***:

*Examples:*

Come here.

I wish you would come here.



Don't wait.	I wish you wouldn't wait.
Just shut the door.	I wish you would just shut the door.
Would you mind going?	I wish you would go.
Will you speak to him?	I wish you would speak to him.
Please stay.	I wish you would stay.

1. Don't make a noise.
2. Come back earlier.
3. Will you buy one for me?
4. Please don't speak so loudly.
5. Would you mind opening the window?
6. Don't do that.
7. Just post this letter.
8. Will you write to me?
9. Don't be in such a hurry.
10. Listen to me.
11. Would you mind lending me your book?
12. Please don't make so many mistakes.
13. Just write your name on this piece of paper.
14. Will you meet me at the station?
15. Would you mind not leaving those books on the floor?
16. Please pronounce better.
17. Just speak more slowly.