

美国原版经典语文课本



# THE ECLECTIC READERS

美国语文读本

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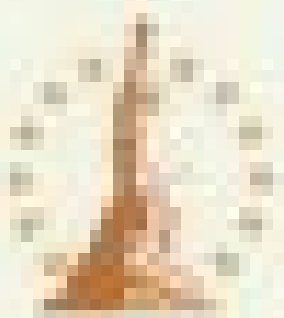
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THE ECLECTIC



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美國語文讀本



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WILLIAM H. MCGUFFEY



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## 出版前言

呈现于读者面前的这套《美国语文读本》，亦名《麦加菲读本》，其编者威廉·H·麦加菲曾先后任美国迈阿密大学语言学教授和俄亥俄大学校长。考虑到“麦加菲”的英文名称在美国已是注册商标，加之它是一套影响深远而广泛的语文课本，我们在中国首次原文出版这套著名教材时，便将书名定为《美国语文读本》。这套书既有教材功能，亦可当作提高英语水平的有效读物。

《美国语文读本》从19世纪中期至20世纪中叶，一直被广泛用作美国学校的语文教材，据称有10000多所美国学校用它当作教材。美国著名汽车制造商亨利·福特称赞这套书是他儿童时代最有兴趣的读物，后来他自费大量印刷这套书，分发给很多学校。到了21世纪，西方一些私立学校和家庭学校仍用它作为教材，足见这套书的价值与影响力。据估计，这套书从问世至1960年，至少发行了1.22亿册；1961年后，在西方每年销量仍达30000册以上。应该说，没有哪一套个人主编的教材能超过此发行量了！

这套读本的英文原版共分七级，包括启蒙读本和第1-6级。考虑到启蒙读本与第一级篇幅都较少，难易程度也很接近，于是我们将之合并为第1册，其余2-6级与英文原版相同。这样国内出版的这套读本共包括6册。第1册从字母表开始，主要侧重于字母的发音与书写、基本单词与常用句型，同时强调英文书写，课文后面附

有不少书法练习，让孩子们不仅将英语说得像外国人，而且写得也跟外国人一样，这也许是国内英语教学所缺少的一个环节。从第2册开始，均是比较正式的课文，每一课包括词汇和课文，对一些难词有英文解释，让学生学会通过简单英文理解生词，养成用英语理解和思维的习惯。第4册还附有课后思考练习，这些练习可以帮助学生更好理解文章，引发孩子们的思考。第5册和第6册的课文前增加了作者简介与相关背景知识，内容丰富而有一定深度。

从所选课文的英文难易程度来看，大致而言，这套读本的第1-3册跟国内小学毕业程度相近，那么第4级以上则适用于中学生阅读使用。从文体方面，除了常用文体外，这套读本对诗歌、戏剧、论说文等文体也很重视，书中选取了不少名家的名作名篇。这对国内孩子们真正感受英语这一西方语言的魄力是大有帮助的。

人类文化的瑰宝不仅源远流长，而且具有很大共通性，在全社会不断呼吁教育改革的今天，我们将这套优秀的美国读本引进到国内，应该具有一定借鉴意义。它有益于中国孩子在学习英语的同时，了解西方的文学与文化历史，通过英语这门语言工具，开阔自己的视野，打开通往世界的心灵之窗。同时，这套书的字里行间灌输了很多做人的道理和准则，让孩子们在学习英语的同时学会做人，这正是我们出版此套书的内心所愿！

作为此书的出版者，我们最后恳请读者原谅并给予帮助的是，由于此套书出版过程中扫描和编排校对的工作量较大，或许会出现一些错误与不当之处，恳请读者谅解并指正，并帮助我们更加完善此套读本。我们的联系方式为 [meiguoyuwen@126.com](mailto:meiguoyuwen@126.com)，期待与您交流！

出版者



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LESSON 1  
EVENING AT HOME

*newspaper*    *cold*    *order*    *seem*    *through*  
*stockings*    *chat*    *story*    *light*    *Harry*  
*branches*    *kiss*    *burns*    *Mrs.*    *events*  
*another*    *Mr.*    *stool*    *lamp*    *mends*



1. It is winter. The cold wind whistles through the branches of the trees.

2. Mr. Brown has done his day's work, and his children, Harry and Kate, have come home from school. They learned their lessons well today, and both feel happy.

3. Tea is over. Mrs. Brown has put the little sitting room in order. The fire burns brightly. One lamp gives light enough for all. On the stool is a basket of fine apples. They seem to say, "Won't you have one?"

4. Harry and Kate read a story in a new book. The father reads his newspaper, and the mother mends Harry's stockings.

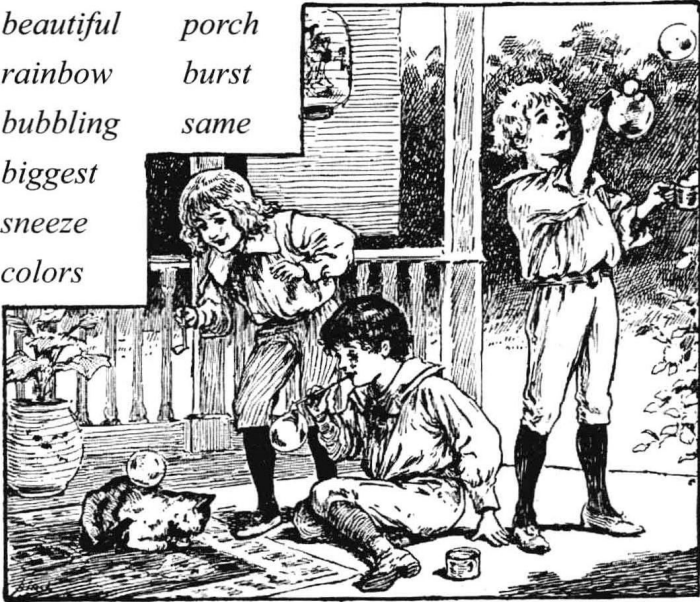
5. By and by, they will tell one another what they have been reading about, and will have a chat over the events of the day.

6. Harry and Kate's bedtime will come first. I think I see them kiss their dear father and mother a sweet good night.

7. Do you not wish that every boy and girl could have a home like this?

## LESSON 2 BUBBLES

*beautiful*    *porch*  
*rainbow*     *burst*  
*bubbling*    *same*  
*biggest*  
*sneeze*  
*colors*



*main*        *soap*        *wash*        *red*        *many*

1. The boys have come out on the porch to blow bubbles. The old cat is asleep on the mat by the door.

2. "Ha! ha!" laughs Robert, as a bubble comes down

softly on the old cat's back, and does not burst.

3. Willie tries to make his bubble do the same. This time it comes down on the cat's face, and makes her sneeze.

4. "She would rather wash her face without soap, " says Harry. "Now let us see who can make the biggest bubble."

5. "Mine is the biggest, " says Robert. "See how high it floats in the air! I can see—ah! it has burst."

6. "I can see the house and the trees and the sky in mine, " says Willie; "and such beautiful colors."

7. "How many, Willie?"

8. "Red, one; blue, two; there—they are all out. Let us try again."

9. "I know how many colors there are, " says Harry. "Just as many as there are in the rainbow."

10. "Do you know how many that is?"

LESSON 3  
WILLIE'S LETTER

*rubber*            *gun*            *parlor*            *street*  
*number*            *ten*            *o'clock*            *shoot*

New York, Dec. 10, 1878.

Dear Santa Claus:

Papa is going to give me a Christmas tree, and he says that you will put nice things on it if I ask you. I would like a gun that will shoot, and a rubber ball that I can throw hard, and that will not break Mamma's windows or the big glass in the parlor.

Now, please don't forget to come. I live on Fourth St., number ten.

I will go to bed at eight o'clock, and shut my eyes tight.

I will not look indeed I won't.

Your little boy  
Willie.

LESSON 4  
THE LITTLE STAR

*above*                      *world*                      *dark*                      *oft*  
*never*                      *spark*                      *dew*                      *till*  
*diamond*                      *twinkle*                      *blazing*

1. Twinkle, twinkle, little star;  
How I wonder what you are,  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky!
2. When the blazing sun is set,  
And the grass with dew is wet,  
Then you show your little light;  
Twinkle, twinkle, all the night.
3. Then, if I wore in the dark,  
I would thank you for your spark.

I could not see which way to go,  
If you did not twinkle so.

4. And when I am sound asleep,  
Oft you through my window peep;  
For you never shut your eye,  
Till the sun is in the sky.



LESSON 5  
TWO DOGS

<i>behind</i>	<i>together</i>	<i>noble</i>	<i>Scotch</i>
<i>Dodger</i>	<i>minutes</i>	<i>crib</i>	<i>wagon</i>
<i>terrier</i>	<i>country</i>	<i>scold</i>	<i>fellow</i>
<i>shaggy</i>	<i>friskily</i>	<i>fits</i>	<i>cellar</i>
<i>guards</i>	<i>Newfound land</i>	<i>yard</i>	<i>harness</i>

