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(第二期教材)

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前言

目 录

江苏人民广播电台举办的《星期日广播英语》节目，是为跟随广播学完普及班英语的听众举办的。这个节目对于具有一定英语基础的其他听众也有帮助。

本书是《星期日广播英语》教材的第二册。在这一册教材中，选收了短篇小说、诗歌、散文、寓言等英美文学作品，也收入了传记、演说词、新闻报道等体裁的文章，共十八篇。这些文章对于扩大读者的知识面，提高英语水平有一定作用。

为了便于读者学习，除新闻报道性的文章外，其他各篇都加了注释，在教学时，授课教师将作进一步讲解和示范朗读。

在选编本书的过程中，得到了杨治中、沙尚森等老师的帮助，特在此致谢。由于我们的水平有限，书中的缺点错误在所难免，请予以指正。

编 者

1983. 2.

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Opening Speech

Deng Xiaoping

Comrades,

I now declare the Twelfth National Congress of the Communist Party of China open. ^{大家}

There are three main items on the agenda of our Congress: (1) to consider the report of the Eleventh Central Committee and decide on the Party's programme for striving to create a new situation in all fields of socialist modernization; (2) to consider and adopt the new Constitution of the Communist Party of China; and (3) to elect, according to the provisions of the new Party Constitution, a new Central Committee, a Central Advisory Commission and a Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.

With the accomplishment of the tasks of this Congress, our Party will have a more clear-cut guiding ideology for China's socialist modernization, the Party will be strengthened in greater conformity with the needs of the new historical period, and there will be cooperation of old and new cadres and a succession of the new to the old in the

Party's highest leading organs, thus making them a more vigorous command headquarters.

A review of the Party's history shows this Congress to be one of the most important since our Seventh National Congress.

The Seventh Congress held in 1945 under Comrade Mao Zedong's chairmanship was the most important in the period of democratic revolution from the time our Party was founded. It summed up the historical experience gained in the tortuous development of China's democratic revolution in the previous twenty-odd years, formulated a correct programme and correct tactics and overcame the erroneous ideas within the Party, thus attaining unity in understanding based on Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought. As a result, the Party became more united than ever before. The Seventh Congress laid the foundation for the nationwide victory of the new-democratic revolution.

The Eighth Congress of the Party held in 1956 analysed the situation following the basic completion of the socialist transformation of private ownership of the means of production and put forth the task of all-round socialist construction. The line of the Eighth Congress was correct. However, because the Party was not adequately prepared ideologically for all-round socialist construction at that time, that line and the many correct opinions put forward

at that Congress were not adhered to in practice. After the Eighth Congress, we suffered serious setbacks, though we also achieved many successes in socialist construction.

The present Congress is being held in circumstances vastly different from those at the time of the Eighth Congress. Just as the quarter century of tortuous development of our democratic revolution before the Seventh Congress taught the whole Party how to grasp the laws governing the democratic revolution in China, so the quarter century of tortuous development of our socialist revolution and construction after the Eighth Congress has taught the whole Party profound lessons. Since the Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh ^{第 11 次} Central Committee (held in December 1978), our Party has restored its correct policies in the economic, political, cultural and other fields of work and adopted a series of correct ^新 new policies after a study of the new situation and new experience. In comparison with the time of the Eighth Congress, our Party has gained a much deeper understanding of the laws governing China's socialist construction, acquired much more experience and become much more conscious and determined in implementing our correct principles. We have every reason to believe that the correct programme to be formulated at this Congress will create a new situation in all fields of socialist modernization and bring prosperity to our Party, our socialist cause, our country and all our nationalities.

In carrying out our modernization programme, we must proceed from the realities in China. Both in our revolution and construction, we should also learn from foreign countries and draw on their experience. But mechanical copying and application of foreign experience and models will get us nowhere. We have had many lessons in this respect. To integrate the universal truth of Marxism with the concrete realities of China, blaze a path of our own and build socialism with Chinese characteristics—this is the basic conclusion we have reached in summing up long, historical experience.

China's affairs should be run according to China's circumstances and by our own efforts. Independence and self-reliance have always been and will forever be our basic stand. While we Chinese people value our friendship and cooperation with other countries and people, we value even more our hard-won independence and sovereign rights. No foreign country can expect China to be its vassal, nor can it expect China to swallow any bitter fruit harmful to China's interests. We will unswervingly follow a policy of opening to the outside world and actively increase exchanges with foreign countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. At the same time, we will keep a clear head, firmly resist corrosion by decadent ideas from abroad and never permit the bourgeois way of life to spread in our country. We Chinese people have our own national self-

respect and pride. We deem it the highest honour to love our country and contribute our all to its socialist construction, and we deem it the deepest disgrace to impair the interests, dignity and honour of our socialist motherland.

The 1980s will be an important decade in the historical development of our Party and state. To step up socialist modernization, to strive for China's reunification and particularly for the return of Taiwan to the motherland, and to oppose hegemonism and safeguard world peace—these are the three major tasks of our people in the 1980s. Economic construction is at the core of these tasks, as it is the basis for the solution of China's external and domestic problems. In a long period to come, at least in the eighteen years up to the end of this century, we must diligently do the following four things: ~~restructure the administration~~ and the economic systems and make the ranks of ^{cadres} cadres more revolutionary, younger in average age, better educated and more professionally competent; strive to build a socialist spiritual civilization; strike at criminal activities in the economic and other fields that undermine socialism; and rectify the Party's style and consolidate its organization on the basis of a conscientious study of the new Party Constitution. These will be the most important guarantee for our adherence to the socialist road and the concentration of our efforts on modernization.

Ours is now a big Party of 39 million members exercis-

ing leadership over state power for the entire country. However, the Communist Party will always be a minority in the whole population. None of the major tasks set forth by our Party can be accomplished without the hard work of the masses of the people. Here, on behalf of our Party, I wish to pay high tribute to all Chinese workers, peasants and intellectuals who have worked diligently for our socialist modernization and to the Chinese People's Liberation Army—the Great Wall of steel safeguarding the security and socialist construction of our motherland.

China's democratic parties fought together with our Party in the period of the democratic revolution and have advanced and undergone tests together with us in the socialist period. In the construction work ahead, our Party will continue its long-term cooperation with all patriotic democratic parties and all patriotic democrats. Here, on behalf of our Party, I wish to express our sincere gratitude to all the democratic parties and all our friends without party affiliations.

The cause of our Party has enjoyed the support and assistance of the progressive people and friendly countries throughout the world. Here, on behalf of our Party, I wish to express our sincere gratitude to them.

We must do our work well and carefully, strengthen our unity with the people of all nationalities in the country and with the people of the whole world and struggle hard

to make China a highly democratic and culturally advanced modern socialist country, and to oppose hegemonism, safeguard world peace and promote human progress.

September 1, 1982

In the days of King Arthur, there lived a famous magician called Merlin. One day, when he was travelling the country disguised as a beggar, he stopped at the cottage of a poor ploughman to ask for food. The ploughman had just come in from work, and was sitting down to supper. He was very tired, but he welcomed the stranger, even though this was only a ragged beggar man; and the ploughman's wife said he could sit down and share their supper.

Now Merlin noticed that the ploughman and his wife, though they had a snug cottage and enough to eat, did not seem happy.

"What is the matter?" he asked. "What is it you lack?" "Why," said the ploughman's wife, "my husband and I have lived here happily enough for nearly twenty years, but we have no child. This is a great sorrow to us. How I should love to have had a son!—yes, even a little son no bigger than my husband's thumb. However small he was, I should not mind, just so as I could call him my own and look after him."

Well, the beggar said nothing, and soon afterwards took his leave. But thinking over what the poor woman

The Story of Tom Thumb

In the days of King Arthur¹ there lived a famous magician called Merlin. One day, when he was travelling the country disguised as a beggar,² he stopped at the cottage of a poor ploughman to ask for food. The ploughman had just come in from work, and was sitting down to supper. He was very tired, but he welcomed the stranger, even though this was only a ragged beggar man; and the ploughman's wife said he could sit down and share their supper.³

Now Merlin noticed that the ploughman and his wife, though they had a snug cottage and enough to eat, did not seem happy.

'What is the matter?' he asked. 'What is it you lack?'⁴

'Why,'⁵ said the ploughman's wife, 'my husband and I have lived here happily enough for nearly twenty years, but we have no child. This is a great sorrow to us. How I should love to have had a son⁶—yes, even a little son no bigger than my husband's thumb. However small he was, I should not mind, just so as I could call him my own and look after him.'⁷

Well, the beggar said nothing, and soon afterwards took his leave. But thinking over what the poor woman



had said, Merlin said to himself, 'What a good idea to give this woman just what she wants.'⁸ So by magic he brought it about that the ploughman's wife had a little boy no bigger than the ploughman's thumb.⁹ They loved him dearly and named him Tom Thumb, and he never grew an inch bigger, but was always just the same size as his father's thumb. *Hand*

One moonlight night the Fairy Queen happened to look in at the window of the cottage.¹⁰ She flew inside and kissed Tom, and ordered her fairies to make him a suit of clothes. They made him a shirt of *spider's web*, a jacket of thistledown, trousers of feathers, stockings of apple peel, and a little pair of shoes of mouse-skin, with the fur on the *inside*. Then on top of his head was placed an oak-leaf cap; and these were the clothes that Tom wore, winter and sum-

mer, greatly to the admiration of his mother and all the neighbours round about.¹¹

As he grew older, Tom was full of tricks. He used to play at cherry-stones with the boys from the village.¹² When he had no stone of his own, he would creep into the bags belonging to the boys and steal their stones. One sharp-eyed lad caught sight of him doing this,¹³ and just as Tom had got his head inside the boy's bag, he pulled the string tight and made Tom howl with pain.

'That'll serve you right for stealing!'¹⁴ said the boy with the bag.

'I'll never steal again!' cried Tom. 'Only let me out, and I'll never steal again!'

So Tom was let out; and—for a time at least—he stole no more cherry-stones.

Tom was so small that, although his mother loved him dearly, she sometimes lost sight of him,¹⁵ especially when she was busy. One day she was making a batter pudding and chanced to leave the kitchen for a moment. Tom climbed on to the edge of the basin to see what was inside; his foot slipped, and splash! he fell right into the batter.¹⁶ His mother poured the mixture into the pan and began cooking it. Tom's mouth was so full of the pudding that he could not call out, but he kicked and struggled for all he was worth.¹⁷

'Well, now,' said Tom's mother, 'I do declare that

pudding is bewitched.¹⁸ An evil spirit has got into it, and it's good for nothing.'

So she tipped the pudding out of the window. Just then a tinker happened to be passing, and being hungry, he thought the pudding would do for his dinner.¹⁹ So he picked it up and put it in his wallet. But by this time Tom had got his mouth free of the batter²⁰ and began to holler out loud.

'Oh, my!' said the tinker. 'Now what's got into my bag, I wonder? 'Tis some evil spirit come to frighten me for picking up that pudding.'²¹

So without looking into his wallet, he opened it as quickly as he could and tipped everything out, Tom and pudding and all. Shaking the rest of the batter from his clothes and picking up his oak-leaf cap, which had fallen off, Tom ran home as fast as he could. His mother was overjoyed at seeing him again,²² gave him a good wash in a teacup full of warm water, kissed him, and put him to bed.

Next day his mother took him out to the field with her when she went to milk the cow.²³ It was a windy day, and she was afraid the little boy would get blown away. So while she did her milking, she tied him to a thistle. But the cow, seeing only his oak-leaf cap, thought she would like a tasty mouthful, so she gobbled up the thistle and Tom as well.²⁴ Inside the cow's mouth Tom was terrified of the two great rows of teeth, so he called out with all his might:

'Mother, mother! Help, help!'

'Where are you?' cried his mother, getting up from her milking-stool and looking round for the thistle where she had tied her son for safety.

'Here!' called Tom, 'Inside the cow's mouth!'

But the cow was so surprised to hear a shrill voice coming from inside her own mouth that she opened her jaws and let Tom fall. As luck would have it, his mother held out her apron and caught Tom just in time.²⁵

Tom's next adventure happened when he was out in the fields driving the cattle along with a whip which his father had made him of a barley straw.²⁶ He slipped on some rough ground and fell into a furrow. Before he could pick himself up, a great black raven flew down and carried him off in her beak.²⁷ Away she flew over hills²⁸ and valleys until she came to the sea—and there she dropped him.

Down and down fell Tom Thumb,²⁹ till at last he struck the water. Then snap!—a great fish with wide-open jaws swallowed him up in a moment and carried him out to sea. But a fishing-boat caught up the fish in its nets, and next day this very fish, with Tom inside, was brought to the court of King Arthur himself. When the cook cut open the fish to prepare it for the King's dinner, how surprised she was to find Tom inside! Alive and well he was, though a little frightened at his adventure; and all the scullions and the kitchen-maids gathered round to look at him. Then