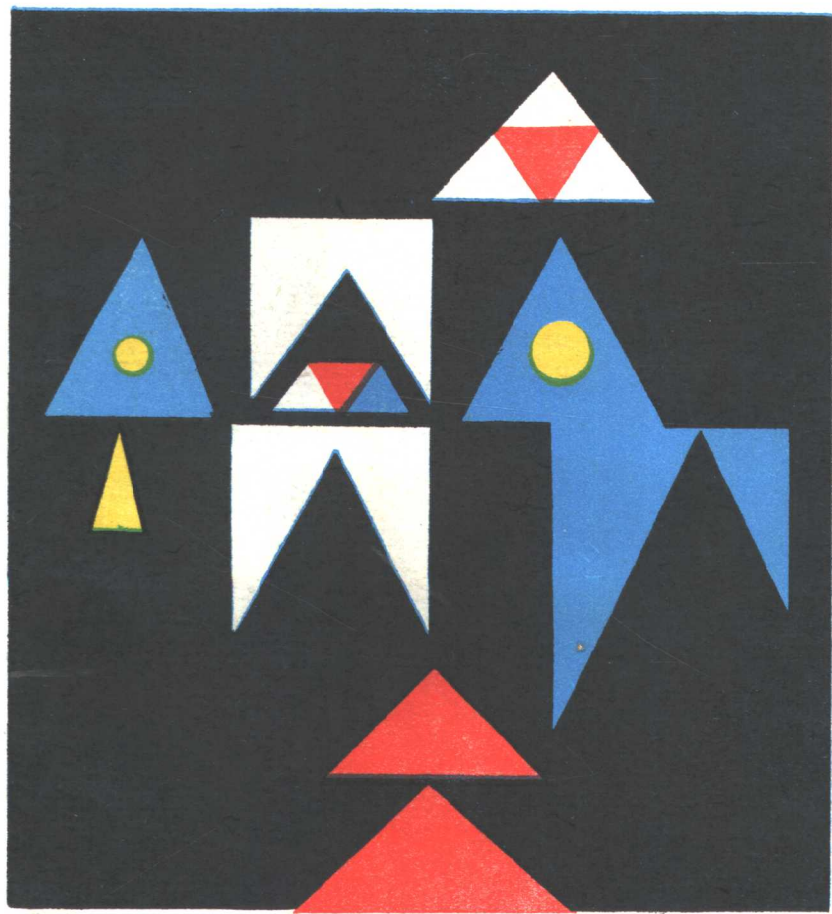


英语趣味故事听力训练

INTERESTING STORIES FOR
LISTENING COMPREHENSION



上海外语教育出版社

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陈 珩 贞 编
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编者的话

近年来，由于我国实行对外开放政策，与国外的贸易往来、科技交流、旅游参观等活动日益频繁，学习英语已成为当前迫切的需要。在对外活动中，首先接触的是“听”和“说”，听不懂对方的语言，要达到交流思想就困难了。我们编写本书的目的，就是要通过系统的听力训练以提高学生的听说能力。

本书系根据国外录音资料编写的听力教材。全书共收原著课文十篇，语言规范，有一定趣味性，适合英语专业二、三年级学生或中学英语教师的水平。课文录音系配乐朗诵，富有表情和感染力。我们根据原版磁带剪辑录成一盘盒式磁带，供训练听力和摹仿语音语调之用，曾在高校英语专业听力课试用多年，效果良好。

为适应广大英语自学者的需要，我们对每课的语言难点和必要的背景知识作了注释并提供了课文的参考译文。课文后的练习有助于读者检查听力理解和口头表达能力。

我们建议采用下列步骤使用本书：

- (1) 先听录音二到三遍，遇到困难时，参阅难点解释。
- (2) 做理解练习。(选择题)
- (3) 阅读书面材料，最好边听边读，以加深理解并培养语感。
- (4) 做有关概括分析的练习。
- (5) 口头复述课文。

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(6)根据提示内容，口头作文。

使用本教材时，必须坚持先听后读，最后两个练习可在教师指导下或自学小组中进行。

由于我们水平有限，编译中难免有疏漏不妥之处，欢迎读者在使用过程中提出改进意见。

编 者

一九八五年二月一日

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1. The Day

I Danced

for Pavlova

by Margo Fischer

Key Words

ballet	a kind of dance at which a person dances on his or her toes. To dance ballet well a person must work and practise very hard.
ballerina	a girl or a woman ballet dancer
costume	special clothes for acting or dancing
stage	a platform that's raised up so that many people can see the player dance as it is being performed
swan	a graceful water bird. If a person dances like a swan it means that person is a graceful dancer.

Comprehension

After listening to the recording twice, do the following:

I. Circle the letter of the right answer to each question.

1. Why did Margo cry after she had danced?
 - a. She was very tired.
 - b. Her long underwear fell down.
2. Why was Pavlova sad?
 - a. Her dog had died.
 - b. The people did not clap for her.
3. What made Pavlova feel happy again?
 - a. She was paid a lot of money for being in the ballet.
 - b. Margo's costume made her laugh.

II. Write *A* before the sentences that show Margo was happy. Write *B* before the sentences that show she was unhappy.

- 1. How lucky I was !
- 2. It was time to meet Anna Pavlova.
- 3. "Yes," I said through my tears.
- 4. I had been dancing the whole time in this silly costume.

TEXT

I was in ballet school. One day our dance teacher said to the class, "The great ballerina Anna Pavlova (pahv-LOH-vah) will soon be in a ballet in our city. Three of my best students will dance for her when the ballet is over."

Then our teacher told us the names of the three

students she had chosen. Kristina Berg, Lita Chong and me, Margo Fischer. How lucky I was!

But when the special day came, I had a very bad cold. My parents said, "Margo, the ballerina costume is too short and thin to keep you warm. If you go, you'll have to put on long underwear under a dress."

The heavy, long underwear came from under my dress and drooped down onto my shoes. But I wore those ugly clothes to be able to go to the ballet.

That evening my teacher, Kristina, Lita and I went to watch Anna Pavlova dance. Pavlova glided across the stage like a swan on a lake. How happy I felt.

Then it was over. It was time to meet Anna Pavlova. I rolled up the legs of my long underwear. Now they would be hidden under my dress.

Pavlova told our teacher, "I'm very sad today. One of my dear little dogs is dead. But now is no time for feeling sorry for myself. I want to see your students dance."

My teacher had to explain, "Only two of my students can dance. Poor Margo here has a bad cold."

I wanted so much to dance for Pavlova. I pleaded, "Please let me dance."

"Why not let her?" Pavlova asked.

I was filled with joy. I put on the ballet slippers and ran up on stage.

I began. First I ran forward on my toes. Then I

spun around as I made a circle around the stage.

I thought I was doing well. But as I circled the stage, I heard people laughing. By the time I was finished, everyone was laughing—even Pavlova.

I looked down and saw what had happened. The legs of my long underwear had fallen down. I had been dancing the whole time in this silly costume.

I jumped down from the stage. I ran to one of the seats in the back of the room and started to cry.

Then I felt a hand under my chin. I looked up into Anna Pavlova's face.

"Don't cry, Margo. You have given me a good laugh. I needed something to cheer me up today. I want to thank you for that. Now listen to me. You want to become a great dancer, don't you?"

"Yes," I said through my tears.

"All right, then. Greatness means that people may laugh at you. You might make a mistake, and every one will laugh. Sometimes people will clap wildly after you dance. At other times they won't clap at all. Sometimes you work for a lot of money. Then, again, you may work for almost nothing at all.

"If you're a true dancer, you will keep on working very hard. For an hour or two, you will make the people who watch you forget their sadness and their problems. This is a great thing."

Today I am grown up. But I still remember Anna

Pavlova and the words she spoke to me. She taught me that a ballet dancer must do more than dance well. A dancer must also care about the people watching. And he or she must never give up.

Note

Anna Pavlova A Russian classical ballerina, 1885-1931. Only rarely do the great personalities of classical ballet become part of world history; one of the few whose genius was known widely in her life time and then did pass into general legend as Anna Pavlova. Pavlova was of Polish origin but was born in St. Petersburg (now Leningrad).

Skimming & Scanning

Exercise I

Put a check (✓) next to five words that could describe Anna pavlova.

- 1. careless
- 2. persevering
- 3. protective
- 4. selfish
- 5. absent-minded

- ☐ 6. scatter-brained
- ☐ 7. encouraging
- ☐ 8. conceited
- ☐ 9. warm-hearted
- ☐ 10. understanding

Exercise II

Put a check (✓) next to four sentences that show Pavlova struggled hard to win her success.

- ☐ 1. I'm very sad today.
- ☐ 2. You have given me a good laugh.
- ☐ 3. Greatness means people may laugh at you.
- ☐ 4. But now is no time for feeling sorry for myself.
- ☐ 5. Then, again, you may work for almost nothing at all.
- ☐ 6. At other times they won't clap at all.
- ☐ 7. You will keep on working very hard.

Oral Drills

1. Retell the story in the 3rd person.
2. Tell about a time something has happened to you that made you feel silly or sad.

2. Mexico's

Mysterious

Lost City

by David Reed

Key Words

mystery	something of which the origin or cause is hidden or impossible to understand
pyramid	a structure with a triangular or square base and sloping sides meeting at a point, especially one of those built of stone in ancient Egypt
temple	a building used for the worship of a god
skeleton	bony framework of an animal body
noble	a person of noble birth

Comprehension

After listening to the recording twice, do the following:

- I. Check (✓) the three things that give a feeling of mystery to Palenque.
 - 1. The nobles ruled over the people.

- 2. The city was hidden in the jungle.
- 3. The farmers came into the city at certain times of the year.
- 4. Alberto Ruz found a secret stairway that led to a coffin.
- 5. No one knows why the city is empty.

II. For each question, write the number of the best answer.

What showed that ...

- Palenque was empty for a long time?
 - the Maya had wanted to keep the stairway secret?
 - the Maya spent much of their time studying?
1. The jungle covered most of the city.
 2. The Maya put a stone on the floor.
 3. The Maya wrote down all they knew.

TEXT

It was hard, hot work getting through the jungle. Thick vines and snakes twisted in and around the huge trees. Very little sunshine trickled down to the forest floor. Insects buzzed all around, and the sounds of wild animals filled the night.

But Alberto Ruz and his workers went on. They wanted to study how people lived long ago. Then Ruz saw what they had traveled so far to see.

"Look, there it is!"

THE SECRET OF THE PYRAMID

They had reached Palenque (puh-LEN-kay), the mysterious city of Mexico. More than 1500 years ago, the Maya Indians had built Palenque. But for 1000 years now, the jungle covered most of the city.

Ruz was curious about the three-sided buildings known as *pyramids*. On top of each pyramid sat a special square structure called a *temple*. Ruz and his workers made their way into one of the temples. Ruz saw a large, flat stone slab on the floor of the temple.

"That's odd. I wonder what's underneath? Let's lift that stone and see."

Ruz and his workers stared at what lay below the stone. There was a long, secret stairway going down into the base of the pyramid! The way was blocked by tons of dirt and rock heaped there by the Maya Indians.

The workers started to dig, but they realized it would take a long time. A year later, they reached the bottom of the stairway. Next they had to cut through a very thick stone wall. In the room beyond, Ruz saw something which put a chill into his heart.

"It looks like six skeletons in front of that stone door! What are they guarding?"

He cut around the stone door and stepped into a large, high room. In the center of the room lay a huge slab of rock. This, Ruz knew, was the lid of a Mayan

coffin.

The workers jacked up the stone, and Ruz pushed his way under it. His flashlight knifed through the darkness. Suddenly Ruz came face to face with a human skull ! It wore a mask of seashells and jade, a lovely green stone. The skeleton itself was covered with a thousand pieces of jade.

Who was this great person, so richly dressed ? No one knows. But we are beginning to find out about the time in which he lived.

1300 YEARS AGO

We have learned to read some of the Maya's picture writing. From this we know that Mayan cities were used mainly by the nobles. The nobles ruled over the people.

Mayan art shows us what the nobles looked like. They wore many strings of jade beads and huge feather headdresses. Noble babies had flat boards strapped to their heads—one in front and one in back. When the boards were taken off, the babies had flat heads for the rest of their lives. The Maya thought flat heads were beautiful.

Some of the Maya spent much time learning. They wrote down what they knew. They studied the stars and the planets. From their studies, they calculated that a year was equal to a little more than 365 days.

Most Mayan people lived on farms outside the cities.

But at certain times of the year, the farmers were summoned into the cities to build more temples and pyramids. The Maya did not use the wheel, so they had no wagons to haul in the stones for the buildings. And they did not have work animals to pull the stones. People were forced to drag the huge stones from the jungle to the city.

About 1000 years ago, the busy life of Palenque came to a mysterious end. Palenque and the other Mayan cities were left empty and were almost completely hidden by the jungle.

Why did this occur? Perhaps there was no more food. Sickness may have killed many of the people. There might have been a great war. Maybe the farmers killed the nobles.

Ruz thinks we will never know the answer. Like the skeleton in the jade mask, Palenque may forever be lost in mystery.

Note

Maya A member of a race of Indians in southern Mexico and central America whose civilization reached its height around A. D. 1000

Skimming and Scanning

Exercise I