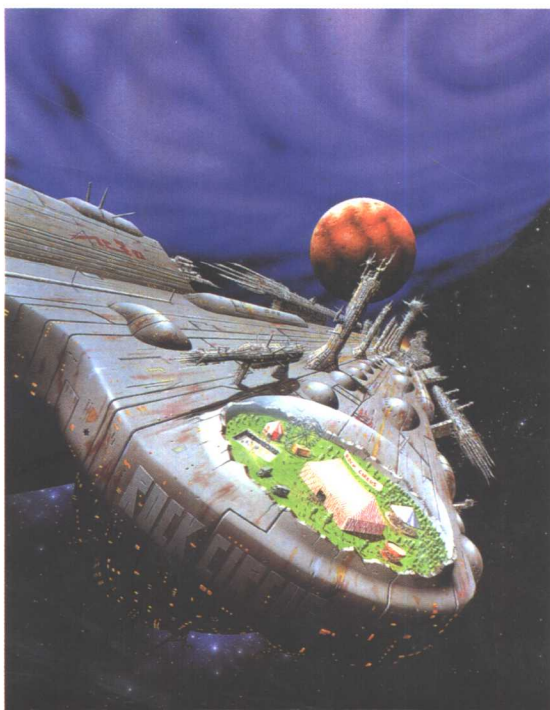


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英语 科幻 故事荟萃

A COLLECTION OF ENGLISH SCIENCE FICTIONS



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英语科幻故事荟萃

A Collection of English Science Fictions

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前言

我们使用的母语——汉语是当今世界上使用人数最多的语言,而英语则是使用最为广泛的语言。随着 21 世纪的到来,随着我国对外开放的深入,我国与世界各国在教育、经济、科技、文化等方面的交往与交流也会日益频繁,学习英语,熟练地运用英语已成为许多人的热切期望。

那么,学好英语是个高不可攀的目标吗?回答是 No。美国心理学家布鲁纳斯断定:“只要有适合学生个性特点的学习条件,世界上任何一个人能学会的东西,几乎所有的人都能学会。”由此可见,学好英语是完全可能的。学生的英语水平之所以存在高低差别,其主要原因并不是在于智力因素,而是在于非智力因素。根据编者多年的教学经验,我们认为兴趣是学习英语的强大动力。学生如果对英语产生兴趣,就会出现积极的、振奋的精神状态,自然主动、轻松、愉快地学习英语。

为了激发学生对英语的兴趣,探索一条学习英语的行之有效的办法,我们力图从世界色彩斑

斓、瑰丽丰美的文学宝库中搜集那些脍炙人口的、广为流传的故事,认真选材、整理、分类、加注,编纂成这套《英语故事会丛书》。希望广大英语爱好者,尤其是中学生能通过阅读英语故事,喜欢英语、喜欢阅读。从而打下较为扎实的语言基础。

这套《英语故事会丛书》,包括《英语童话故事荟萃》、《英语寓言故事荟萃》、《英语幽默故事荟萃》、《英语探险故事荟萃》、《英语科幻故事荟萃》共五个独立成册的部分。英语童话生动活泼、幻境绚丽;英语寓言智喻巧妙,发人深省;幽默故事,妙趣横生,智敏聪慧;探险故事,情节起伏,扣人心弦;科幻故事,离奇多变,让人耳目一新。这一切将深深地吸引学生。本丛书选取现代英语故事精品,选取标准是:语言表达地道,趣味性强,文化内涵丰富,贴近学生心理,知识性强。每个故事都作了较为详细的注释。

我们坚信,广大英语爱好者通过学习本丛书不仅能扩大知识面,开阔胸怀,还能欣赏到世界文化宝库中的真、善、美,达到陶冶情操,提高英语水平的目的。

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Round the World in Eighty Days

八 十 天 环 游 地 球

Phileas Fogg and Passepartout^①

Phileas Fogg lived at 7 Savile Row^②, but he spent most of his time at the Reform Club in London's Pall Mall.

He was a silent man^③. Nobody knew much about him. He left his house at 11.30 every morning to walk to the club, and he left the club in time to walk back to Savile Row and go to bed at midnight. He had his lunch and his dinner at the club. He read the papers^④ there, and he played the card game called whist^⑤.

Phileas Fogg was also an exact man^⑥. He expected his one manservant to be exact, too. Forster, his last manservant, had not been exact

enough^⑦, and he had gone. Phileas Fogg was waiting at his Savile Row house for the man who was to take Forster's place.

The man who arrived was about thirty years old.

"You are French," said Phileas Fogg, "and your name is John?"

"Jean, if you don't mind, sir. Jean Passepartout, they call me, because I used to be good at getting out of trouble^⑧. I am a good man, sir, but I have done a lot of different kinds of work. At one time I worked in a circus^⑨, riding, jumping, walking the tightrope^⑩. Then I became a teacher of gymnastics^⑪. After that, I was a fireman^⑫ in Paris. But I left France five years ago, and I came to England to find a quiet life as a manservant. I heard that you were the quietest man in Britain, and I would like to work for you because I want to live quietly and forget the name Passepartout."

"I'll call you Passepartout," said Phileas Fogg. "What time is it?"

Passepartout pulled a big silver watch from his pocket. "It is 11:29, sir," he said.

“All right. From now, 11:29 on 2nd October 1872, I am your employer.”

With those words^⑬, Phileas Fogg put on his hat, and went out. Passepartout was left in the house alone.

“Well, here I am^⑭,” the Frenchman said to himself. “But what do I do?”

He went into all the rooms in the house. One of them was clearly his own room, and in it he found a **timetable of the things he must do**^⑮. Everything was there, from 8 o’ clock, when Phileas Fogg got up, to 11:30, when he left the house to go to the Reform Club: tea at 8:23; **shaving water**^⑯ (31°C) at 9:37, etc. Then from 11:30 in the morning until exactly midnight, when the gentleman always went to bed, everything was clearly written down.

Passepartout smiled. “This is just right for me,” he thought. “Mr. Fogg and I are going to understand each other! He likes to live like a clock^⑰. He is a clock.”

Notes

1. passepartout *n.* 万能钥匙;百事通
2. Phileas Fogg lived at 7 Savile Row.
斐利亚·福格住在萨维尔街7号。
3. a silent man: 少言寡语的人;沉默寡言的人
4. the papers: 报纸
5. whist *n.* 一种纸牌游戏
6. an exact man: 做事有板有眼的人
7. His last manservant had not been exact enough. 他的上一个男仆不够准时。
8. because I used to be good at getting out of trouble: 因为我总是挺有能耐,什么麻烦都能解决
9. circus *n.* 马戏团
10. tightrope *n.* 钢丝
11. gymnastics *n.* 体操
12. fireman *n.* 消防员
13. with those words: 说着
14. Here I am. 到了。
15. timetable of the things he must do: 作息时间表

16. **shaving water**: 刮面用的水

17. **He likes to live like a clock**. 他喜欢生活得像钟那样精确。

The Bet^①

At the Reform Club, Phileas Fogg had his meals at **exactly the usual times**^②. He read *The Times* in his usual chair at the usual times.

At 6 : 10, the five gentlemen who always played whist with Phileas Fogg **took their places**^③ in the card room, and he **joined them**^④.

Whist is the most silent of card games. But this evening, before the game started, the gentlemen **spoke about a thief**^⑤. The papers said that this man had stolen fifty-five thousand pounds from the Bank of England. One of the whist players was a **governor**^⑥ of the Bank of England.

“They’ll catch the man,” he said. “The best **detectives**^⑦ have been sent to every **port**^⑧. They have an exact description of the gentleman.”

“A description? A gentleman?”

“Yes,” said Ralph, the bank governor. “Nobody saw him take the fifty-five thousand pounds, but a number of people saw a stranger in the room the banknotes^⑨ were taken from. He was well dressed^⑩, tall, good-looking^⑪—a real gentleman. He won’t escape.”

“Oh, I don’t know,” said Stuart. “The world is a very big place.”

“It was a big place,” said Phileas Fogg.

“How do you mean—‘was’? Has it become smaller?”

“Yes,” said Ralph. “I think Mr. Fogg is right. You can go round the world ten times more quickly than a hundred years ago.”

“All right,” said Stuart. “But just because you can go round the world in about three months——”

“In eighty days,” said Phileas Fogg.

“Fogg’s right,” said Ralph, “The part of the railway between Rothal and Allahabad is open now, so *The Times* has worked out^⑫ this timetable.” And he showed them, on the centre page of the paper:

London to Suez ^⑬ -rail and ship	7 days
Suez to Bombay ^⑭ -ship	13
Bombay to Calcutta ^⑮ -railway	3
Calcutta to Hong Kong-ship	13
Hong Kong to Yokohama ^⑯ -ship	6
Yokohama to San Francisco ^⑰ -ship	22
San Francisco to New York-railway	7
New York to London-ship and rail	9

“Yes,” said Stuart, “eighty days. But that doesn’t allow anything for storms, accidents, attack by enemies^⑱...”

“It allows for everything,” Phileas Fogg answered.

“It’s all right on paper^⑲,” said Stuart. “But in real life.....”

“In real life too, Mr. Stuart.”

“I’d like to see you try, Mr. Fogg.”

“Well, let’s all go. Then you will see me.”

“No, thank you,” said Stuart. “But I’ll bet four thousand pounds that the journey can’t be done in the time.”

“It can,” Phileas Fogg said.

“Well, do it!”

“Go round the world in eighty days? All right.”

Phileas Fogg's friends were surprised. They were even more surprised when he said: “I have twenty thousand pounds in Baring's Bank. I'm ready to bet that amount that I can do it^②.”

“Twenty thousand pounds!” cried Ralph. “Twenty thousand pounds that an unexpected delay can cause you to lose^②?”

“Nothing is ever unexpected,” Fogg said.

In the end, Phileas Fogg's five friends took the bet^②. If he made the journey round the world in eighty days, or less, they would pay him twenty thousand pounds. If the journey took more than eighty days, he would pay them that amount—four thousand pounds each.

“Right,” said Fogg. “The train for Dover^② leaves at 8:45 this evening. I'll be on it.”

Fogg looked at his pocket book. “Today is Wednesday 2nd October. So I must be back here, in this room in the Reform Club, on Saturday 21st December at 8:45 in the evening.”

At 7:25 ,Phileas Fogg said good night to his friends and left the Refrm Club . At 7 : 50 , he opened the door of his own house and went in .

Passepartout had read his timetable very carefully .He was surprised to see Mr. Fogg .His timetable told him to **expect**② his employer at mid-night exactly .

Phileas Fogg called him . “We leave in ten minutes for Dover and Calais ,” he said . “We are going round the world .”

Passepartout ' s eyes opened wide—very wide . His arms reached far out③ . He was a picture of surprise④ .

“Round the world !” he breathed .

“In eighty days ,” said Phileas Fogg . “We mustn' t waste a minute .”

“But your baggage ?”

“No baggage . Just one **overnight bag**⑤ . Two shirts and some socks . The same for you . We can buy things on the way . Bring down my overcoat . Wear **strong**⑥ shoes . Move !”

At 8 o' clock ,Passepartout was ready with a small bag holding clothes for his employer and

himself. He left his room, closing the door carefully. His thoughts were going round and round^②. “A quiet life,” he said. “A quiet life!”

Mr. Fogg was ready. He had a book under his arm, *Bradshaw's World Railway and Steamship Guide*. He took the bag from Passepartout and put into it a very thick roll of banknotes^③. Then he passed the bag to Passepartout. “Look after it,” he said. “There's twenty thousand pounds in it.”

Passepartout nearly dropped the bag.

At the station, Phileas Fogg saw his five friends from the Reform Club.

“You are kind to come to say goodbye,” he said. “I'll have stamps in my passport to show where I have been, and you can see them when I come back.”

“That's not necessary,” said Ralph. “We'll take your word as a gentleman^④.”

At 8:40, Phileas Fogg and Passepartout took their places in the train^⑤, and at 8:45 the train started.

The story of the bet, and Phileas Fogg's plan to go round the world in eighty days, were

the talk of London. The story was in every newspaper the next day and for the following week. There were a lot of bets on the result^③.

Then the Chief of the London police^③ received a telegram:

Suez 9 October

To Chief of Police, Scotland Yard, London.

Am following bank thief Phileas Fogg.

Send warrant without delay to Bombay^④.

Fix (detective)

That was exciting. "Was Phileas Fogg really the thief?" the papers asked. People remembered the surprising story of the bet. "Was it just to hide the true reason for the journey?" *The Times* wrote.

Notes

1. bet *n.* 打赌

2. at exactly the usual times: 像往常一样, 在固定的时间

3. take their places: 他们就位; (他们坐下)