

当代英语阅读进阶 (Book III)

初雪

First Snow

● 崔亚萍



西安电子科技大学出版社



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当代英语阅读进阶(Book II)

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内 容 简 介

《当代英语阅读进阶》为按语言难易程度划分的英语系列阅读丛书，共 6 册。丛书的目的在于帮助读者通过大量阅读提高英语阅读理解和综合运用能力。丛书共选短文 306 篇，题材广泛，语言规范，内容生动有趣。第 I、I 册，第 III、IV 册，第 V、VI 册分别相当于初级、中级和高级阶段，大致适合于中学，大学一、二年级，大学高年级和研究生阶段。

本书是丛书的第 III 册。本册精选文章 36 篇，多为原作。根据本阶段读者特点，部分原作略有改动。选文内容包括异域趣事、文化教育、名人传略、文学艺术和中国文化传统等有关社会文化生活的各个方面。所有文章都配有常用、惯用词组，注释，阅读理解问题及参考译文。

本书适合于大学一、二年级和具有中等英语程度的学生和英语爱好者阅读，也有助于英语写作和翻译水平的提高。

《当代英语阅读进阶》

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编 者 的 话

《当代英语阅读进阶》是一套分级阅读丛书。它的目标在于帮助读者通过大量阅读提高其英语综合运用能力，特别是阅读、写作、口语和翻译能力。这套丛书从以下几个方面促进这一目标的实现：

一、给读者提供一个较理想的、真实的语言环境。该书选文题材广泛，内容丰富、反映时代气息。丛书内容涉及人文社会、自然环境、政治经济、文化艺术、体育文娱、医疗保健、高新科技等各个方面，既反映了英语国家的历史传统和文化背景，又包括了当代科学技术的最新发展和应用前景；同时，还适当选入了反映中国传统文化和当代发展的文章。这样就给读者提供了一个和自己的生活、学习、工作和科学研究有密切关系的、比较真实的语言环境，使读者能够在没有心理压力的情况下比较轻松自然地进行阅读，在吸收语言的同时也学习进行中外双向交流所必需的文化背景知识，从而增加读者的阅读兴趣和实际效果。

二、给读者提供既地道规范又生动活泼的当代英语。《进阶》取材于英语国家在当代有影响的报刊杂志、文学读物、科技报道、商业信函及各种优秀教材；包括了记叙、说明、描写、议论等各种体裁；不仅有较正式的书面语体，还有非正式的口语语体。这样使读者接触到的是富有时代气息的、比较实用的语言形式，从而学到地道规范、恰当得体的当代英语，进而提高对英语的感悟能力、理解能力和表达能力。

三、突出英语常用、惯用词及词组。在英语学习的各个阶段，

若能掌握英语常用词的搭配和使用,将有效地提高英语理解能力和表达能力。基于这一考虑,《进阶》在每篇文章之后,都列出了文章中所出现的全部常用、惯用词组及释义。对于反复出现的词组和习语,也尽量重复列出。全书共列出这样的词语 2 300 余条,其目的在于通过多次重复,增强记忆,使读者能够熟练地掌握最常用词组和习惯用语。

四、课后设问,启发思考,加深理解。《进阶》在每篇文章之后,都编有与文章内容相关的问题。读者通过口头或书面回答这些问题,或回忆文章内容细节,或推断作者观点、态度,或归纳主题思想,从而增强理解,加深记忆,同时也提高了英语思维与表达能力。

五、注释翔实、明晰,译文通顺达意。《进阶》对原文中的难词、难句及所涉及的文化背景知识均做了翔实明确的注释,每篇文章都配有参考译文,译文力求忠实原文,质朴无华,以利读者自学参考。这样不仅有助于提高阅读理解能力,而且通过对照译文,促进翻译能力的提高。

《进阶》共包括 306 篇文章,按其篇幅长短,内容深浅和语言难度分为 6 册。第 I、II 册,第 III、IV 册,第 V、VI 册分别相当于初级、中级和高级阶段,大致适合于中学,大学一、二年级,大学高年级和研究生阶段的学生和具有同等水平的英语学习者的阅读需要。读者可根据自己的程度选择某一阶段的两册使用。建议最好阅读全书,熟记所有的常用、惯用词语,认真做练习回答问题,这套由浅入深、生动有趣、地道规范的当代英语阅读丛书将会帮助您从整体上提高自己的阅读能力、写作能力、口语表达能力和翻译能力,使自己的英语水平跨上一个新台阶。

愿《进阶》带您走进一个较理想的英语语言环境,为您开辟一

个新的英语世界，帮助您成为既有科学知识，又有较强的英语交际能力的 21 世纪人才。

在本书的编写过程中，参阅了大量书刊并选编了其中的一些文章。在此对这些文章的作者表示最衷心的感谢。本书的出版得到西安电子科技大学出版社的同志，特别是霍小齐同志的热情支持和帮助，我们在此表示最诚挚的谢意。

编 者

1998 年 1 月

于西北大学

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1



First Snow*

初 雪

He wasn't sure what had awakened him. Perhaps the child had made some small noise in her sleep. But as he peeked from beneath the covers¹, his gaze was drawn not to the cradle but to the window.

It was then that he realized what had **sneaked** through the shield of his slumbers. It was the sense of **falling snow**.

Quietly, so as not to disturb the child's mother, he rose from the bed² and inched toward the cradle. Reaching **down**, he gently lifted the warm bundle to his shoulder. Then, as he tiptoed from the bedroom, she lifted her head, opened her eyes and—daily dose of magic³—smiled up at her dad.

He **carried** her downstairs, counting the **creaks** on the way⁴. Together, they settled in at the kitchen table, and the **adult** in him

* 本文作者是 Jonathan Nicholas(乔纳森·尼古拉斯)。



slipped away⁵. Two children now⁶, they pressed their noses against the glass.

The light from the street lamp on the corner filtered down through the birch trees, casting a glow as green as a summer memory upon the winter-brown back yard. From the distance came the endless echo of the stoplight, flashing its ruby message, teasing like a dawn that would not come.

The flakes were falling thick and hard now, pouring past the window, a waterfall of mystery⁷. Occasionally, one would stick to the glass, as if reluctant to tumble to its fate. Then, slowly, slipping and sliding down the glass, it would melt, its beauty fleeting. Gone⁸.

Within an hour, a white tablecloth was spread upon the lawn. And as gray streaks of dawn unraveled along the black seam of the distant hills, father and daughter watched the new day ripple across the neighborhood.

A porch light came on. A car door slammed. A television flickered.

Across the street, a family scurried into gear. But this day was different. Glimpsed through undraped windows⁹ as they darted from room to room, the slim figures of the children seemed to grow ever fatter until, finally, the kitchen door flew open¹⁰ and out burst three awesomely bundled objects that set instantly to rolling in the snow.

He wondered where they had learned this behavior. Even the littlest one, for whom this must have been the first real snowfall, seemed to know instinctively what to do¹¹.

They rolled in it, they tasted it, they packed it into balls and

tossed it at one another. Then, just when he thought they might not know everything, they set about shaping a snowman on the crest of the hill.

By the time the snowman's nose was in place, the neighborhood was fully awake. A car whined in protest, but skidded staunchly out of its driveway. Buses ground¹² forward like Marines, determined to take the hill. And all the while¹³, the baby sat secure and warm in his arms.

He knew, of course, that she wouldn't remember any of this. For her there would be other snowfalls to recall. But for him, it was her first. Their first¹⁴. And the memory would stay, cold and hard, fresh in his thoughts¹⁵, long after the snowman melted.

常用、惯用词组

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| 1. so as to | 为了 |
| 2. as ... as | 和...一样 |
| 3. stick to | 粘附 |
| 4. as if | 宛如, 好像 |
| 5. come on | 出现, 开始 |
| 6. from ... to | 从...到 |
| 7. burst out | 突然爆发; 突然出现 |
| 8. set about | 开始 |
| 9. of course | 当然 |

注 释

1. But as he peeked from beneath the covers, ...

但当他眯着眼从被窝里往外瞧时。“peek”从缝隙或隐蔽处眯着眼看、偷看。

2. ... he rose from the bed ...

他从床上起来。

3. daily dose of magic

每天都有的一次魅力。即每天都能享受到的那种魅力。

4. ... counting the creaks on the way.

伴随状语。“on the way”一直，一路上。

5. and the adult in him slipped away.

他那大人味儿消失了。“adult”成年人。在这儿意译更恰当些。
“slip away”消失，溜走。

6. Two children now ...

指父亲现在也像个孩子一样。

7. pouring past the window, a waterfall of mystery.

作者用 pouring 和 waterfall 来形容雪下得很大。

8. Then, slowly, slipping and sliding down the glass, it would melt, its beauty fleeting. Gone.

然后，慢慢地、滑下去、滑下玻璃，它将融化，它的美丽即将消失，一去而不复返。这句话仔细地描写了雪花落在玻璃上的情景，用词丰富，情景交融。

9. Glimpsed through undraped windows ...

在这个长句中，glimpsed 前省去主语 they（指孩子们）。这个长句子里的内容是父女俩看到邻街一户人家的情形。

10. ... the kitchen door flew open ...

厨房门猛地打开了。“flew open”形容门开得很猛。

11. ... seemed to know instinctively what to do.

直译：似乎天生就知道该做什么。这里指知道在雪里怎么打闹、玩耍。

12. ground grind 的过去时，意为“磨动”，“移动”。
13. all the while 这整个时间，整个这一阵子，这里指从他们看雪到现在。
14. Their first. =It was their first snow. 这是他俩的第一场雪。
15. fresh in his thoughts 记忆犹新

Comprehension Questions

1. When did the story begin?
2. What happened when he was asleep?
3. How many people are there in the story?
4. What can you infer from “counting the creaks on the way”?
5. How was the snow?
6. How long had they been watching the snow?
7. In which paragraph can we see the detailed description of the snow?
8. What can we see in the second paragraph from the bottom?
9. Why did the writer say “Their first”?
10. What is the main idea of the story?

参 考 译 文

初 雪

他搞不清什么东西把他吵醒了。也许是孩子在她的睡梦中发出了一点小小的声音。可是，他眯着眼睛从被窝里往外瞧时，他的目光没有投向摇篮，而是被引向了窗户。

这时他才搞明白是什么东西悄悄地钻进了他的酣梦中。这是