

INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH READERS



英语幽默及语言游戏

中级英语读物丛书



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English Humour
and
Language Games

英语幽默及语言游戏

吴祖林 陈永祥 选注

江苏教育出版社

中级英语读物丛书

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编 者 的 话

为了帮助高中学生以及具有同等英语程度的读者较快地学好英语，我们特编辑了中级英语读物丛书，由江苏教育出版社分辑出版。丛书包括：《世界优秀故事选》、《英语幽默及语言游戏》、《英美名诗选》、《英语现代散文选》、《国外英语课文选》、《外国寓言童话选》、《外国神话与传说》、《英语科普小品选》以及《英语国家概况》等。选材不求系统、全面，主要是向读者提供加注释的英语读物，作为学习英语的辅助材料。

《英语幽默及语言游戏》是根据国外多种出版物精选的，共有幽默故事百余篇，语言游戏近百项。这些幽默故事大多在英美等国广为流传，内容健康，语言诙谐，含意明确，文字浅近，易于理解。编选时，按作品内容作了粗略的分类，如“儿童幽默”、“大学幽默”、“名人趣事”等等。本书所选的语言游戏旨在提高学习语言兴趣、活跃课堂气氛。其中有的涉及词汇，有的相当于情景对话，有的测验知识面，有的则训练逻辑思维和灵敏反应等等。本书内容丰富，题材广泛，形式活泼。如应用于课堂教学，有助于提高学生掌握语言的能力，对发展学生智力也有裨益。成年英语爱好者也可在余暇时选读或选用某些难度较大的项目。为便利读者，有些游戏项目还附有参考答案。

由于水平有限，书中的注释可能有欠妥之处，希望读者批评指正。

一九八四年八月

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Part One English Humour

第一部分 英 语 幽 默

I COLLEGE HUMOUR

1



Absent-minded professor: "Now, where did I put my glasses?"

2

Wife: "Why didn't you put the cat out as I told you?"

3

Absent-minded professor: "I put something out.³ Ye gods⁴! It must have been the baby⁵!"

3

When they pulled the absent-minded professor, half drowned, from the lake, he sputtered,⁶ "How exasperating!⁷ I've just remembered that I can swim.⁸"

4

Prof.⁹: "Wake up that fellow next to you."

Stud.¹⁰: "You do it, prof, you put him to sleep.¹¹"

5

Prof.: "You missed¹² my class yesterday, didn't you?"

Stud.: "Not in the least¹³, sir, not in the least!"

6

Last week Professor Egghead¹⁴ drove into a car at the crossroads.¹⁵ He did not damage his own car very much, but he did a lot of damage to the other car.¹⁶

"I am very sorry," said the professor. "It was my fault. Find out the cost of your repairs and then ring me up. I'll pay."¹⁷ Then he began to drive away.

"But what's your telephone number?" asked the driver of the other car.

"It's in the directory,"¹⁸ the professor called back.

"But what's your name?" shouted the other man.

"That's in the directory too," shouted the professor.

7

The bright student looked long and thoughtfully at the second examination question, which read: "State the number of tons of coal shipped out of the United States in any given year."¹⁹ Then his brow cleared and he wrote: "1492—none."²⁰

8

"If the Dean doesn't take back what he said to me this morning, I am going to leave college."²¹

"What did he say?"

"He told me to leave college."

9

There were three professors at the railway station. They were deep in conversation. The train had just arrived, but they did not notice it.²² Then the guard shouted, "Take your seats, please!"²³

The professors heard the guard and rushed for the train.²⁴ Two of them got on the train before it moved. The third one was left behind. It was Professor Egghead. He looked sad.

One of the professor's students was at the station. He

tried to comfort the professor.²⁵ "It wasn't really bad, sir," said the student. "Two out of three caught the train."²⁶ That's quite good, you know."

"I know," the professor said. "But it was my train. My friends only came to say goodbye."²⁷

10

Prof.: "A fool can ask more questions than a wise man can answer."²⁸

Stud.: "No wonder so many of us flunk in our exams."²⁹

11

Sophomore:³⁰ "But I don't think I deserve quite a zero on this paper."³¹

Teacher: "Neither do I, but it's the lowest mark I can give."³²

12

Professor: "Look! I haven't forgotten to bring my umbrella home with me today."

Wife: "But you didn't take it with you."³³