

*A Collection of
English Readings*

英语故事会



贾柱立 主编

1

天津大学出版社

Going into the English Circle
走入英语圈 系列丛书

A Collection of
English Readings
英语故事会



贾桂立 主编

天津大学出版社

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编 者 的 话

《英语故事会》收录汇编了古今中外各种趣味性读物数百篇。本书的体裁和内容包括：通俗短文、童话寓言、幽默小品、民间传说、神话故事、人文民俗、名篇简写、佳作采撷、作家生平、故事梗概、名人轶事、小说散文、名胜史地等。文字浅显、题材广泛，每篇读物后均有注释，适用于英语初学者和具有中级英语水平的读者。

本书《英语故事会》英语单词的再现率较高，对于一些相对再现频率较低的词汇和短语，我们在另篇读物中适当做了重复注释，以便于初学者提高阅读效率。

由于编者水平有限，本书难免有一些不当之处，恳请读者批评指正。

1996年4月8日

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1. Hob¹ and the Bird

One day when Hob was on the way home from school, he saw a little bird at the foot of a tree. It had fallen out of its nest².

Hob took the little bird up in his hand. *He did not know what to do with it, as the nest was away up at the top of the tree*³.

At last he said, "Poor little bird, I will take you home. When you are big and strong, you will fly to the nest at the top of the tree."

So Hob took it home. He gave it good food and water, and put it in a cage⁴.

In a few months the bird grew big and strong, and had fine long wings⁵. One day Hob let it out of the cage, and it flew away back to its home *in the tree*⁶.

Notes:

1. Hob [hɒb] n. 霍博(人名)

2. nest [nest] n. 巢, 窝

3. He did not know what to do with it, as the nest was away up at the top of the tree. 因为鸟巢在高高的树顶上, 他不知道对此该怎么办。

4. cage [keɪdʒ] n. 笼, 鸟笼

5. wing [wɪŋ] n. 翅膀; 翼

6. in the tree 在树上

2. Pulling a Doorbell¹

An old gentleman was walking slowly along a street one noon when he saw a little boy who was trying to reach a doorbell which was too high for him. He was *kindhearted*² old man, so he stopped and said, "I'll ring the bell for you." And then he pulling the bell so hard that it could be heard all over the house.

The little boy looked up at him and said, "Now we will run away. *Come on*³." And before the old gentleman knew what was happening, the *naughty*⁴ boy had run round the corner of the street.

Notes:

1. doorbell ['dɔ:'bel] n. 门铃
2. kindhearted ['kaɪnd'hɑ:tɪd] a. 仁慈的, 好心的
3. come on 赶快, 快点
4. naughty ['nɔ:ti] a. 淘气的, 顽皮的

naughty

3. A Fox and a Tiger

A tiger went about *in search of*¹ other weaker animals for food. Once in his *hunting*², He happened to find a fox.

"You won't dare to eat me," said the fox, "as I am head of all animals *appointed*³ by God. It is against the *will*⁴ of God, if you eat

me now. *In case*⁵ you don't believe I say, let us go together. You just follow me as I go ahead to see if there is any animal that does not run away when I pass."

The tiger agreed and went with the fox. Certainly he saw all the animals run away *on seeing*⁶ the fox. He thought they were afraid of the fox without knowing it was he himself that they *feared*⁷.

Notes:

1. in search of 寻找, 寻求

2. hunting ['hʌntɪŋ] n. 打猎, 狩猎

3. appoint [ə'pɔɪnt] vt. 委派, 任命, 指派

"You won't dare to eat me," said the fox, "as I am head of all animals appointed by God..." "你不敢吃掉我", 狐狸说, "我是由上帝委派的所有动物的首领..."

4. will [wɪl] n. 意志, 意愿, 心意

It is against the will of God. 这有违于上帝的旨意。

5. in case 如果, 万一

6. on seeing 一看到

7. fear [fiə] vi. 害怕

Without knowing it was he himself that they feared. 而不知晓他们害怕的竟是他自己。

4. Buying a Bracelet¹

A rich man and his wife went into a shop to buy a bracelet. *Neither*² of them was very young. They looked at a lot of beautiful