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The Man Who Escaped

逃亡的人

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内 容 提 要

爱德华·科克原是英国情报军官，因被同事埃里克·马斯特斯陷害为间谍而入狱，在狱中四年，反复思索，疑马斯特斯和一个叫雨果的人是真正的间谍。为了证明自己无辜，科克越狱，在警察和侦探追捕下，几经周折，终于逃往伦敦，找到女友凯特。在凯特协助下，科克化装为盲老人，捉住马斯特斯，迫使他一同前往雨果的汽车修理厂搜查待出卖的军事情报，不料又遭雨果袭击。正当雨果举枪欲射之际，警察自屋顶和侧门冲入，捉住罪犯，救出科克和凯特。

故事情节紧张。全书分为二十五节，每节为一课，每课各有语法重点，由浅入深，合乎循序渐进的要求。据原编者称，编此故事的目的在于帮助中等程度学生提高运用英语的能力，重在运用。

本书英文部分选自 Kernel Lessons, Intermediate, Students' Book, Longman 1974 年版；附有详细注释和参考译文，可供中学师生和初学者阅读。

THE MAN WHO ESCAPED¹

Episode² 1

1. Edward Coke³ used to⁴ be an army officer, but he is in prison now. Every day is exactly the same for him.

It is winter now and Coke and all the other men get up at six, when it is still cold and dark. They have breakfast at six thirty. Work begins at seven thirty. Some of the men work in the prison factory, where they make mailbags, but Coke often works in the fields outside.

2. The men have lunch at twelve. Lunch lasts an hour and then the men go back to work again. Dinner is at six. Coke usually goes to the prison library after dinner



and reads until 9.30. The lights go out at ten.

The day is long, hard, and boring⁵ and every man has a lot of time to think. They usually think about why they are there.⁶ Coke does. He always thinks about two men.

3. One of the men is called Eric Masters⁷. He used to be an army officer, just like Coke. Coke knows that Masters has a lot of money now. The second man's name is Hugo.⁸ That is all Coke knows about him. Masters knows where and who Hugo is, but Coke doesn't.

Every night Coke lies in bed and thinks about Eric Masters and Hugo. There is another thing he thinks about, too. Escaping. He wants to escape and find Masters, and then the other man. Coke is in prison for something he did not do.

Episode 2

1. It is six o'clock on a very cold winter evening. All over England¹ people are sitting down in their living-rooms and are watching the news on television or are listening to it on the radio. There is one very important piece of news this evening. It is this.

"In the West of England this evening, hundreds of policemen are looking for a man who escaped from

Princeville Prison² early this morning. The man's name is Edward Coke. He is 30 years old, six feet tall, and has black hair and blue eyes. He is wearing a dark blue prison uniform. The police do not think he can stay free³ very long. It is only a few degrees above zero and it is snowing."

2. The radio is on⁴ in an expensive⁵ pub⁶ in Soho⁷, in the centre of London. Most of the people there are not very interested in the news programme, but one man is. His name is Eric Masters. He is about 45 and is wearing very expensive clothes. He is looking very afraid of something. There is another man standing next to him at the bar. Masters is asking him a question.

"Did they say the man's name was Coke?"

"Yes, that's right. Coke...Edward Coke. Why? Do you know him?"

"Pardon⁸?"

"Do you know him?"

"No...no, I don't know him...I...I just wanted to know the man's name, that's all."

3. In another part of London, a young detective⁹ is standing in the office of his chief at Scotland Yard¹⁰. The young detective's name is Richard Baxter¹¹.

"You knew Coke, didn't you, Baxter?"

"Yes, sir. I arrested him four years ago."

Baxter's chief is nodding his head.

"Yes, I know that, Baxter. That's why I'm giving you this order, now. Find¹² Coke again! You must find him immediately¹³!"

Episode 3

1. It is 6.30 in the evening now, and the wind is still blowing. It is getting colder. About ten miles away from Princeville Prison a man is hiding in a field. The wind is cutting through¹ his thin prison uniform like a knife.

A dog is barking somewhere in the distance². Is it a police dog perhaps? The man in the field does not know. There is only one idea in his mind at the moment; He must find food and some warm clothes, but where?

2. Two hundred miles away in London, Baxter's train is standing at platform 9 in Paddington Station³. Baxter is sitting in a comfortable compartment⁴. There is another man opposite him⁵. Baxter does not know the man but he can see he wants to talk. The man is holding a newspaper in his hands.

"I see⁶ someone escaped from Princeville Prison this morning."

"Oh, really?"

"Yes... Would you like to read about it? It's all

here in the paper."

"No, thank you."

3. The train is leaving the station now. Baxter is looking out of the window. He can see a thousand bright lights in the windows of pubs, cafés⁷, houses and flats⁸. Everywhere people are sitting down to⁹ warm meals and hot cups of tea. The world looks warm and comfortable.

The man opposite Baxter is still talking.

"The paper says the man was a spy¹⁰... he gave important military secrets away¹¹. I hope the police catch him."

"Yes, so do I¹²."

Episode 4

(Note: From this point onwards, there is a synopsis¹ at the beginning of every unit. The synopsis tells in a few words what happened in the last episodes. The story is also told in the *past tense* from now on.)

SYNOPSIS': A young detective, Richard Baxter, arrested Coke four years ago. Coke escaped from prison because he wanted to find two men, Eric Masters and someone called 'Hugo'. That was all Coke knew about the second man. He knew Masters when they were officers in the army. Baxter, the detective, left London on the same day Coke escaped.

His job was to catch Coke again

1. Baxter got on the train at 5 o'clock. An hour later, at 6, he was asleep in the warm train compartment. Coke was still in his hiding-place in a field, 100 miles away. The winter evening got darker and colder. The wind cut through Coke's thin uniform like a knife.



Coke was hungry and tired, and his arms and legs were so cold that he could hardly feel them². He knew he had to find food, warm clothing, and a warm place somewhere. "I have to make a move! I can't just stay in this field and die of the cold³!" he thought.

2. Coke got up and began to walk. "Where am I? Which direction am I walking in⁴? Am I going back towards the prison?" he asked himself. A few minutes later, the moon came out and Coke could see better. He stopped and looked around. Suddenly he saw a small light not far away. "What can it be? It can't be a car. It isn't moving! It must be a house!" he said to himself and began to walk towards it. The

light got larger. It was a house. He could see the form of the roof in the darkness.

3. Ten minutes later he was outside the house. He stopped and listened. "Strange," he thought. "I can't hear anything, not even a radio or a television⁵, but there must be someone in there! There's a light on!" Just at that moment, a thought struck him⁶. "This is probably the only house around for miles! The police know I'm probably around here somewhere; and if they're anywhere, they're in that house, waiting for me!"

Coke did not move. The wind became colder. His feet and hands felt like ice in the snow. "I have to take the chance⁷! I have to! This is the only place I can find warm clothes and food⁸," he thought.

Episode 5

SYNOPSIS: Coke escaped from prison and hid in a field. It was very cold and he knew he had to find warm clothes and food somewhere. He saw a house in the country, isolated and far away from the nearest town¹. He stood outside the house before going in. He could not understand why there was no noise coming from it, not even the sound of a radio or television.

1. Coke listened for several seconds but he could not hear anything at all. And yet there was smoke

coming from the chimney and there was a light on in the front room! "Why is it so quiet? Is it a trap?" Are the police waiting for me in there?" he asked himself. He went to the front door and pushed it. To his surprise³ it was open! He went in very quietly. In the front room there was a fire burning in the fireplace⁴. The room was clean, small and very warm. There was very little furniture in it—only a couch and a table in front of the fire and two oldfashioned⁵ chairs. There were also some photographs on the shelf above the fire. They were yellow and old. One of them was of a young man in a World War I uniform. There were also a few of the same young man and also a woman in old-fashioned wedding-clothes.

2. Suddenly Coke froze⁶. There was someone else in the room. He knew it. He could feel it! He turned around quickly and, at the same time, put his hand in his pocket. There was a small knife there. He saw an old woman. She had a covered dish in her hands and there was a delicious smell of meat and vegetables coming from it. She did not look afraid. She did not even look surprised.

"I'm sorry," she said, and put the dish down on the table.

Coke could hardly believe his ears. Here he was,

a stranger in her house and yet she said she was sorry!

3. "I'm sorry," she said again. "I didn't hear you. Did you knock? I'm deaf, you see." She pointed to her ear, shook her head and said "deaf" a second time. "People often come to the door and knock, but I don't hear them. I'm glad you came in."

Coke stared at her for a second and then finally found his voice. "I...I'm sorry. I just stepped in."

He looked down at his clothes. His prison uniform was so dirty that it was impossible to tell what kind of uniform it was. Then he suddenly had an idea.

"I'm a mechanic from a garage^s in town. I came to repair a lorry somewhere out here but the road was icy. I had an accident. I...I fell off my motorbike."

He had to say this several times before she finally understood him. When she did, she gave him some hot water and soap and afterwards some food. The only thing he needed now was a change of clothes!

Episode 6

SYNOPSIS: After Coke escaped, he hid in a field all day. Then, when it got dark, he went into a small house in the country. There was an old deaf lady in the house. She gave him food. The young

detective who arrested Coke four years ago, Baxter, left London by train. Scotland Yard's orders were "Find Coke immediately!"

1. It was a cold and miserable night. Only a few miles away from the house Coke was in, two policemen in a small village police station could hear the wind outside. One of them was a sergeant¹. The other was much younger.

"I wonder how Mrs Bentley² is?" the sergeant asked.

"Mrs Bentley? Oh, you mean that old lady whose husband died a few years ago?"

"That's right. She's deaf, you know, so she never listens to the radio or watches television. In fact, she doesn't even read the papers."

"Oh?" the young policeman said. He wondered why the sergeant wanted to tell him all this. Then he found out.

"Why don't you go out to her place and see if she's all right?"

"Who? Me? On a night like this?"

"It's not far. Besides, you've got your bike, haven't you?"

2. Baxter got off the train at a small station. There was a detective waiting for him on the platform. He shook Baxter's hand.

"My name's Halls, Tom Halls³. Scotland Yard phoned us and told us to meet you here. There's a car waiting."

Baxter wasted very little time on social formalities⁴. (C) m. 112

"Coke escaped more than 24 hours ago. I want to catch him before another 24 hours are up⁵."

Halls looked at Baxter for a few seconds before he answered.

"A lot of us wonder why Scotland Yard is so interested in this fellow Coke. He isn't the first one to escape. Another man did only about six months ago, but Scotland Yard didn't ~~send anyone~~ ^{send anyone} to help us then."

Baxter was already half-way to the car before he said anything.

"Coke isn't just an ordinary ~~murderer~~ ^{murderer}. He's very special. Let's get going!"

3. The young policeman was angry. ~~He was~~ ^{He was} on the road now. The wind was cold and blew snow into his face. "That stupid sergeant," he thought. "We must be one of the last stations in England that still uses bikes, and he sends me out on one⁶ on a night like this!"

He had to get off the bike and push it up a hill. It was the last hill between the station and the old

lady's house. When he got to the top of it he could see the house down below, at the bottom of the hill. Just as he looked down at it, he saw a light go on⁷ in one of the rooms upstairs. "Stupid! That's what it⁸ is, sending me out on a night like this!" the policeman said again. Then he got on his bike and began to go down the hill very fast, towards the house.

Episode 7

SYNOPSIS: Coke found food in a small house in the country. Baxter arrived at a small station. Another detective met him there and asked Baxter why Scotland Yard was so interested in Coke. A sergeant in a police station not far from the house Coke was in sent a young policeman to the house to tell the old lady in it about Coke.

1. "You know, your clothes are in a terrible state," the old lady said after the meal. "You ruined them when you had the accident!"

"That's all right. They're just my work-clothes," Coke answered.

"My husband was just about your size. A little heavier perhaps. All his clothes are upstairs. They're no good to him. He died two years ago." She pointed up to the room above them.

"Why don't you see if any of his clothes fit you¹. You can bring them back tomorrow."

"Nobody can be this² lucky!" Coke thought to himself. He went upstairs and turned the light on. It was clear that the old lady was almost in another world. She trusted everybody. He found a heavy jacket, a woollen shirt and some trousers hanging in the room.

2. "What do you know about Coke?" Baxter asked Halls. They were in the car now. "Very little, I'm afraid. In fact, I don't think I know anything about him at all. Wasn't he the fellow who was in that spy case about four years ago?"

"Yes, that's right. Coke always said it wasn't him...that it was someone else."

"That's what they all say. But what's so special about him?"

"Coke was in Army Intelligence³. He knew important secrets. We could never understand why he sold them. There wasn't a real motive⁴. Some said he did it for money. We couldn't prove it, but if he was a spy, he still knows too much. We could never find out who he sold the secrets to⁵. That's why we have to catch him before he makes contact with any of his old friends."

3. Coke put the clothes on as quickly as he