



纳撒尼尔·霍桑

总顾问·陈琳

The Scarlet Letter

红 字



华东师范大学出版社

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6
Level

The Scarlet Letter

红 字



• D •

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Design and art direction: Nadia Maestri
Computer graphics: Simona Corniola
Illustrations: Gianni De Conno
Picture research: Laura Lagomarsino

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总 顾 问: 陈 琳

策 划: 青太阳工作室 lovenotes@163.com

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审读编辑: 张春超

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序

一套供青少年和英语爱好者阅读的丛书，应满足三个要求：

Read for pleasure;

Read for information;

Read for language improvement.

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》满足了以上要求而有余。

首先，这是一套同时供听觉享受的书。一部作品，当它由专业演员朗读时，就能以其优美的声音、抑扬顿挫的语调、加上传神的表达，使读者和听者真正身临其境，最充分地领会作品中的情、境、思。而这一效果，就不是只有白纸黑字的书面材料所能提供的了。加之这套书图文并茂，更使视、听两种感官得以完美地结合。

其次，这套书为读、听者提供了有益的背景资料，包括作家生平、时代背景、人文知识等，有助于培养青少年的跨文化意识。书中许多传世名画，更给人充分的艺术享受。

再者，虽是读物，却兼具教科书的功能。每本书都编入为数不少的练习，涉及阅读理解、词汇辨析以及语法结构等，为课堂的语言教学提供了有效的补充。

在教育部颁布的国家英语课程标准中指出了泛读的重要性，明确规定了学生每学期的课外阅读量。学习任何外语，只有课内的精读，没有课外大量的泛读，是不可能学好的，更不用说获得语感。《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》丛书的编印出版，为广大青少年和英语爱好者提供了一个学习英语的新天地——我为你们庆幸。

教育部《英语课程标准》

专家组组长

陈琳

二〇〇三年冬为第一版而作

二〇〇九年夏为第二版修订

使用说明

1 应该怎样选书？

按阅读兴趣选书

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》精选世界经典作品，也包括富于创意的现代作品；既有脍炙人口的小说、戏剧，又有非小说类的文化知识读物，品种丰富，内容多样，适合口味不同的读者挑选自己感兴趣的书籍，享受阅读的乐趣。

按英语程度选书

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》现设 Level 1 至 Level 6，由浅入深，涵盖初、中级英语程度。读物分级采用了国际上通用的划分标准，主要以词汇 (vocabulary) 和结构 (structures) 划分。

Level 1 至 Level 3 出现的词汇较浅显，相对深的核心词汇均配上中文解释，节省读者查找词典的时间，以专心理解正文内容。在注释的帮助下，读者若能流畅地阅读正文内容，就不用担心这一本书程度过深。

Level 1 至 Level 3 出现的动词时态形式和句子结构比较简单。动词时态形式以一般现在时 (present simple)、现在进行时 (present continuous)、一般过去时 (past simple) 为主，句子结构大部分是简单句 (simple sentences)。此外，还包括比较级和最高级 (comparative and superlative forms)、可数和不可数名词 (countable and uncountable nouns) 以及冠词 (articles) 等语法知识点。

Level 4 至 Level 6 出现的动词时态形式，以现在完成时 (present perfect)、现在完成进行时 (present perfect continuous)、过去完成进行时 (past perfect continuous) 为主，句子结构大部分是复合句 (compound sentences)、条件从句 (1st and 2nd conditional sentences) 等。此外，还包括情态动词 (modal verbs)、被动形式 (passive forms)、动名词 (gerunds)、短语动词 (phrasal verbs) 等语法知识点。

根据上述的语法范围，读者可按自己实际的英语水平，如词汇量、语法知识、理解能力、阅读能力等自主选择，不再受制于学校年级划分或学历高低约束，完全根据个人需要选择合适的读物。

2 怎样提高阅读效果？

阅读的方法主要有两种：一是泛读，二是精读。两者各有功能，适当地结合使用，相辅相成，有事半功倍之效。

泛读，指阅读大量适合自己程度（可稍浅，但不能过深），不同内容、风格、体裁的读物，但求明白内容大意，不用花费太多时间钻研细节，主要作用是多接触英语，减轻对它的生疏感，巩固以前所学过的英语，让脑子在潜意识中吸收词汇用法、语法结构等。

精读，指小心认真地阅读内容精彩、组织有条理、遣词造句又正确的作品，着重点在于理解“准确”及“深入”，欣赏其精彩独到之处。精读时，可充分利用书中精心设计的练习，学习掌握有用的英语词汇和语法知识。精读后，可再花十分钟朗读其中一小段有趣的文字，边念边细心领会文字的结构和意思。

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》中的作品均值得精读，如时间有限，不妨尝试每两个星期泛读一本，辅以每星期挑选书中一章精彩的文字精读。要学好英语，持之以恒地泛读和精读英文是最有效的方法。

3 如何充分利用本系列 CD？

本系列每本书均配有 CD，提供作品朗读，朗读者都是专业演员，英国作品由英国演员录音，美国作品由美国演员录音，务求增加聆听的真实感和感染力。多聆听英式和美式英语两种发音，可让读者熟悉二者的差异，逐渐培养分辨英美发音的能力，提高聆听理解的准确度。

聆听与阅读的安排可随读者喜爱，先读后听，先听后读，边听边读或交替进行。读者亦可以本系列的 CD 为核心，着重提高听的能力，此时应选择

程度稍浅的品种。

若将 CD 随身携带，反复聆听、诵读，日积月累，对英语理解能力和表达能力的提高必有显著成效。

4 本系列的练习与测试有何功能？

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》特别注重练习的设计，为读者考虑周到，切合实用需求，学习功能强。每章后均配有训练听、说、读、写四项技能的练习，分量、难度恰到好处。

听力练习分两类，一是重听故事回答问题，二是聆听主角对话、书信朗读或模拟记者访问后写出答案，旨在以生活化的练习形式逐步提高听力。

模仿录音朗读故事或模仿主人翁在戏剧中的对白，则是训练口语能力的好方法。

阅读理解练习形式多样化，有纵横字谜、配对、填空、字句重组等等，注重训练读者的理解、推敲和联想等多种阅读技能。

写作练习尤具新意，教读者使用网式图示 (spidergrams) 记录重点，采用问答、书信、电报、记者采访等多样化形式，鼓励读者动手写作。

书后更设有升级测试 (Exit Test) 及答案，供读者检查学习效果。

充分利用书中的练习和测试，可全面提升听、说、读、写四项技能。

5 本系列还能提供什么帮助？

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》提倡丰富多元的现代阅读，巧用书中提供的资讯，有助于提升英语理解力，拓展视野。

每本书都设有专章介绍相关的历史文化知识，经典名著更有作者生平、社会背景等资讯。书内富有表现力的彩色插图、绘图和照片，使阅读充满趣味，部分加上如何解读古典名画的指导，增长见识。有些剧作包含舞台演出剧本，可供戏剧爱好者一显身手。有的书还提供一些与主题相关的网址，比如关于不同国家的节庆源流的网址，让读者多利用网上资源增进知识。

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20, 29, 44, 53, 65, 78, 94,
105, 117, 130, 141, 152

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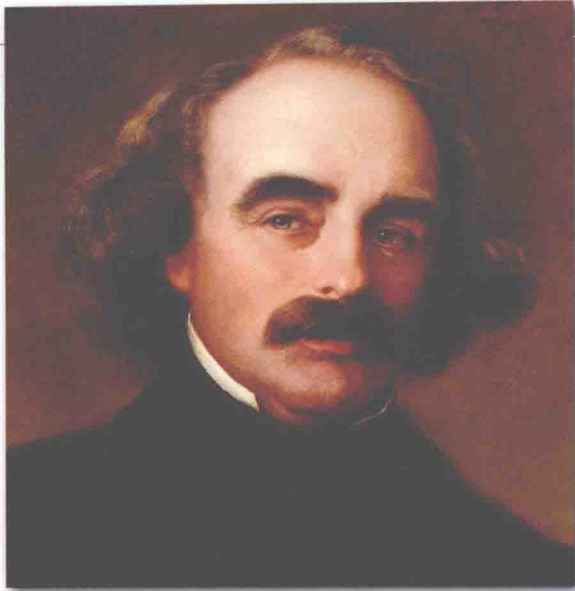
Exit Test 161 升级测试	
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All chapters except 6 and 11 are recorded. 故事节选录音



These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the extracts linked to the listening activities. 听力练习开始和结束的标记



Nathaniel Hawthorne
(1862) by Emanuel
Gottlieb Leutze.

A Note on Nathaniel Hawthorne

Nathaniel Hawthorne was born on July 4, 1804, in Salem, Massachusetts, to an established New England family.

His ancestors took part in the Salem witch trials and the Quaker persecution.¹ William Hathorne (Hawthorne added the “w”), who arrived in the New World in 1630, was the judge who sentenced a Quaker woman to be whipped through the streets of Boston. His son, also a judge, presided over the notorious Salem witch trials in 1692. A woman he condemned to death during the witch trials put a curse² on the Hawthorne family. There is no evidence that the curse had any effect on his family. However, Nathaniel Hawthorne was aware of this curse, and it came up in his writing.

1. **persecution** : act of cruelty.

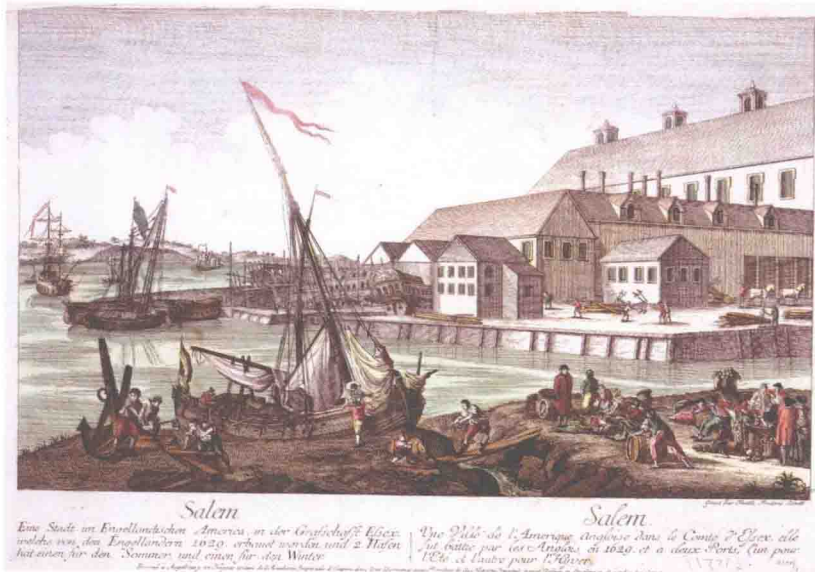
2. **curse** : a word or sentence asking God or a spirit to bring evil or harm to someone.

His ancestry explains, in part, his interest in the Puritans, and in the concepts of sin, punishment and evil.

Hawthorne decided to become a writer while at Bowdoin College in Maine. One of his classmates was Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, who later became a famous American poet.

For over a decade after graduation, he studied the Puritans and their history. In 1828, he published his first anonymous¹ novel, *Fanshawe*, which was not a success. In later life, he never mentioned this work. In 1837, he published an excellent collection of short stories, *Twice-Told Tales*.

He married Sophia Peabody in 1842, and they had three children. In 1846, he published another successful collection of short stories, *Mosses from an Old Manse*.



Salem (c. 1771) by Frederic Leizelt.

1. **anonymous** : of unknown authorship.

After leaving his employment at the Salem Customhouse in 1849, he began writing *The Scarlet Letter*, his masterpiece, which was published in 1850.

After *The Scarlet Letter*, Hawthorne published *The House of the Seven Gables* (1851) and *The Blithedale Romance* (1852). *The House of the Seven Gables* tells about a family that lives under a curse of a man condemned to death for witchcraft.

Following the election of Franklin Pierce as President of the United States in 1853, Hawthorne was appointed U.S. Consul in Liverpool and Manchester, England. After leaving this post, he traveled through Europe with his family, and lived in Italy for two years. There he wrote his last novel, *The Marble Faun* which was published in 1860 when he and his family returned to the United States.

He died away from home, on May 19th, 1864, while on a brief vacation with his friend, Franklin Pierce. He left several unfinished works.

Hawthorne and *The Scarlet Letter*

In 1976, a family living in Colorado discovered an old notebook among some papers. The notebook had been kept between 1835 and 1841 by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Like any writer's notebook, it was a collection of words, fragments ¹ of sentences and ideas. It was the notebook where Hawthorne had jotted down ² the first thoughts for his future masterpiece, *The Scarlet Letter*.

In 1838, eleven years before he began writing the novel, he had already created sketches of some of his characters. In his notes, he

1. **fragments** : parts.

2. **jotted down** : written down quickly.

wrote about “spiritual diseases and diseases of the body”, and about “a sin that could cause a sore to appear on the body”. The novel was taking shape in his mind. At a later date, he decided to tell the story of a woman condemned to wear the letter “A” as a sign of her adultery.¹

Was *The Scarlet Letter* a true story? In “The Custom House”, Hawthorne’s introductory writing to *The Scarlet Letter*, he wrote that while working at the Customhouse in Salem, he found a mysterious package.

Inside the package he found a fine red cloth, which was worn and faded. There were traces of gold embroidery² on it. After examining



Boston (c. 1833) by William James Bennet.

1. **adultery** : voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and somebody who is not that person’s husband or wife.
2. **embroidery** : patterns, designs sewn onto material.

it carefully, he noticed that it was a capital letter "A". Each leg of the A measured exactly 3 3/4 inches (about 6 cm) in length.

There were also several sheets of faded paper in the mysterious package. They had been written long ago by Surveyor Pue, who knew the tragic story of the scarlet letter and its owner.

After further investigation, Hawthorne was able to gather more information regarding the life and sufferings of the woman who was condemned to wear the scarlet letter. The story took place in the Puritan settlement of Boston, between 1642 and 1649.

Finally in 1850, *The Scarlet Letter* was published and was immediately recognized as a classic destined to ¹ fame. It has constantly remained in print ever since its first publication.

The fact that *The Scarlet Letter* involves universal themes such as love, sex, sin, evil, punishment, rebellion, hypocrisy, revenge and hate makes it a novel that cannot be forgotten by any generation.



Puritans Going to Church (1867) by George Henry Boughton.

1. **destined to** : certain to.

1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. A family living in Colorado discovered an old notebook with the story of <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> . | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. The notebook was a collection of drawings of Hawthorne's trips abroad. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Eleven years before Hawthorne began writing <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> , he had already created some of the characters. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. In his notes Hawthorne wrote about "spiritual diseases and diseases of the body." | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. While working at the Customhouse in Salem, he found a mysterious notebook. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. The old, faded red cloth with gold embroidery was a capital letter "A". | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Surveyor Pue was the original author of <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> . | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h. The story is about a woman who is condemned to wear the scarlet letter in the Puritan settlement of Salem, between 1624 and 1649. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i. The novel, which was published in 1850, was immediately recognized as a classic, and has constantly remained in print. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |