

名家经典珍藏版

# 英国语文<sup>5</sup>

(英汉双语)

[英] 托马斯-尼尔森公司◎编 王 硕 李康康◎译

❖❖❖ THE ROYAL READERS ❖❖❖



北京工业大学出版社

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# 出版说明

人类历史的发展过程也是思想文化不断积累和沉淀的过程。在几千年的人类历史发展长河中，先贤们或在人文社科领域，或在科学技术领域创作出了无数经典名著。这些著作所蕴藏的思想财富和学术价值，早已为世人所熟知，它们无不体现了作者所处的特定时代的思想和文化。通过这些经典名著，读者不仅可以欣赏到流畅的文笔、生动的描述和详细的刻画、深邃的思想，更可以领悟它们各自独特的历史与文化内涵。可以说，这些作品深深地影响了世世代代的读者，也引导着当今的学人以此来充实和丰富自己的头脑。有鉴于此，我们邀请了专门研究世界历史文化的专家学者，精心挑选代表世界历史文化不同领域的经典作品，采取英汉双语对照的形式出版，一方面为读者提供原汁原味的世界经典名著，让读者自由地阅读，在此过程中逐渐提升自己的英语水平；另一方面通过这种阅读，以达到对世界历史文化的整体了解，开阔自己的视野，打开通往世界的心灵之窗，同时又获得思想文化、个人修养、伦理道德等多方面的提升。

我们衷心期待这套书成为大家学习道路上不可或缺的好伙伴！如果您在阅读中发现有疑问或错误之处，请不吝指正，以便我们更加完善这套书。

## 译者前言

《英国语文》原名《皇家读本》（The Royal Readers），是20世纪前后由英国著名的教材出版公司托马斯-尼尔森公司编写出版的一套小学语文教材。这套教材共分为六册，分别对应西方英语国家小学一至六年级的语文教学。这套书出版后，在西方英语国家的学校被广泛使用。根据这套书原编者的初衷，是为了引导孩子们对他们所阅读的作品产生真正的兴趣，并通过阅读提升他们的能力，最终将阅读所获得的能力运用到生活实践中去。可以说，这是一套以兴趣为引导、学以致用教材。

这套书的编写体例非常严谨，一至四册教材的每篇文章后面基本都有课后提问、拼读训练、书写练习等内容，从第五册开始，又增加了单词解释，使学生通过阅读增加词汇量，进一步巩固和加深对文章的印象。

在选文内容上，这套书由浅入深，每一册对应不同年龄段的读者，选文也从简单的儿歌、短文、常用句型开始，逐渐提升为篇幅稍长的作品，再进阶到中长篇的经典著作。从难易程度来看，这套书前三册内容简单浅显，文字朴素简洁，比较适合国内中低年级小学生阅读；后三部分的内容相对繁复深奥，开始有侧重性，有的笔法精妙、描写细腻，有的文风犀利、寓意深刻，比较适合高年级小学生和中学生阅读。总之，这套书的选文内容丰富，从其所选文章涉及的体裁来看，包括了故事、童话、传记、诗歌等；题材涉及旅游、历险、历史、自然、科学等。这些选文体现了英国丰富的历史文化知识和西方国家的道德价值观念，让小读者们在提高文学修养的同时，也可以开阔自己的视野。

这套书的最大特色在于它所包含的内容非常贴近生活，能让小读者们觉得书中讲述的事情就发生在他们身边。而且，这套书所选的文章除了颂扬真、善、美之外，并没有回避生活中的艰难与困苦，突出了困境之下个人的坚守与

成长。这样的文章往往更容易引起心灵的共鸣，也将对小读者们的人生观起到正面积极的作用。

我们衷心希望通过这套书的出版，让中国的读者朋友学习地道标准的英语，打开通往世界的心灵之窗；同时还能获得文学知识、个人修养、伦理道德等多方面的提升。

如果您在阅读中发现有疑问或错误之处，请不吝指正，以便我们更加完善这套书的编写。

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## Lesson 1 A PERILOUS ADVENTURE

### 第一课 千钧一发的冒险

Three or four lads are standing in the channel below the great Natural Bridge of Virginia. They see hundreds of names carved in the limestone buttresses, and resolve to add theirs to the number. This done, one of them is seized with the mad ambition of carving his name higher than the highest there! His companions try to dissuade him from attempting so dangerous a feat, but in vain. He is a wild, reckless youth; and afraid now to yield, lest he should be thought a coward, he carves his way up and up the limestone rock, till he can hear the voices, but not the Words of his terror-stricken playmates.

One of them runs off to the village, and tells the boy's father of his perilous situation. Others go for help in other directions; and ere long there are hundreds of people standing in the rocky channel below, and hundreds on the bridge above, all holding their breath, and awaiting the fearful catastrophe. The poor boy can just distinguish the tones of his father, who is shouting with all the energy of despair,—“William! William! don't look down! Your mother, and Henry, and Harriet are all here praying for you! Don't look down! Keep your eyes towards the top!”

The boy does not look down. His eye is fixed towards heaven, and his young heart on Him who reigns there. He grasps again his knife. He cuts another niche, and another foot is added to the hundreds that remove him from the reach of human help from below.

The sun is half way down in the west. Men are leaning over the outer edge of the bridge with ropes in their hands. But fifty more niches must be cut before the longest rope can reach the boy! Two minutes more, and all will be over. That blade is worn to the last half inch. The boy's head reels. His last hope is dying in his heart, his life must hang upon the next niche he cuts. That niche will be his last.

At the last cut he makes, his knife—his faithful knife—drops from his little nerveless hand, and ringing down the precipice, falls at his mother's feet! An involuntary groan of despair runs through the crowd below, and all is still as the grave. At the height of nearly three hundred feet, the devoted boy lifts his hopeless heart and closing eyes to commend his soul to God.

Hark!—a shout falls on his ears from above! A man who is lying with half his length over the bridge, has caught a glimpse of the boy's head and shoulders. Quick as thought the noosed rope is within reach of the sinking youth. No one breathes. With a faint, convulsive effort, the swooning boy drops his arm into the noose.

Not a lip moves while he is dangling over that fearful abyss; but when a sturdy arm

reaches down and draws up the lad, and holds him up before the tearful, breathless multitude—such shouting and such leaping and weeping for joy never greeted a human being so recovered from the jaws of death.

## Words

ambition, *aspiration*.

attempting, *undertaking*.

buttresses, *supports*.

catastrophe, *event*.

commend, *commit*.

convulsive, *agitated*.

dangerous, *perilous*.

despair, *hopelessness*.

dissuade, *discourage*.

dying, *expiring*.

energy, *vehemence*.

glimpse, *glance*.

greeted, *welcomed*.

involuntary, *unintentional*.

leaning, *stretching*.

multitude, *crowd*.

nerveless, *feeble*.

precipice, *cliff*.

reckless, *rash*.

resolve, *determine*.

seized, *inspired*.

swooning, *fainting*.

## Questions

What did the boys see on the limestone rocks? What did they resolve to do? What did one of them propose? Who came to witness his dangerous position? In what did his chance of safety lie? How was he at last saved?

☆ ☆

三四个小伙子站在宏伟的弗吉尼亚自然大桥的桥洞下。他们看到桥墩的石头上刻着许多人名，便决定要把自己的名字也加进去。刻完后，其中一个小伙子心里一直有个疯狂的想法，他想把自己的名字刻得比别人的都高！他的朋友劝解他放弃这样危险的行为，但一点用也没有。他是个桀骜不驯又无所顾忌的年轻人；他怕自己要是现在放弃了，人家就会把他看成是懦夫，于是他决定要一直攀爬上桥墩的石头上，直到听到人们的欢呼声为止，而不是听从他那群胆小的朋友的劝阻。

他其中一位朋友跑到村里头，把他危险的处境告诉了他父亲。剩下的人则四处寻求帮助，不一会儿工夫，就来了上百个人聚集在桥洞下，还有的挤在桥上，屏住呼吸，来观看那惊心动魄的一幕。这可怜的孩子一下子就辨认出了他父亲的声音，他父亲正声嘶力竭地喊着：“威廉！威廉！别往下看！你妈妈、亨利，还有哈利亚特都在为你祈祷呢！别往下看！眼睛往上看！”

男孩没有往下看。他的眼睛紧盯着天空的方向，年轻的心一心想着上帝是那里的主宰。他再一次抓起刀子，又刻下一笔，又攀爬了一步，他本来已经离着地面几百英尺，这样地面上的人们就更加难以帮他了。

太阳已经快要下山了。人们把身子探出桥，手里抓着绳子。但在那最长的绳子能够得到这男孩之前，他还得再刻上五十刀！再过两分钟，一切就结束了！那刀子已经被磨损得只剩下半寸的样子了，而男孩子开始头昏目眩起来。他最后的希望就是即使死去也要完成自己的心愿，而他的生命就完全系在他要刻的下一笔了。那一笔将是他的最后一笔。

当最后一笔刻完的时候，他的刀——他那恪尽职守的刀子——从他那已经毫无感觉的手中掉落了下来，一路滚落下峭壁，落在了他母亲的脚边！油然而生的绝望情绪马上在下面的人群中蔓延开来，但所有人都鸦雀无声，一动不动。在三百英尺的高度，那热忱投入的男孩已经绝望的心升华了起来，他闭上眼睛等待着上帝的召唤。

啊！——一声喊叫从头顶传来！有个人把身子横亘在桥上，抓住了男孩的头和肩膀。说时迟那时快，那带套索的绳子一下子就够到了往下坠的男孩。大家都屏住呼吸。昏昏沉沉的男孩使出吃奶的力气，把胳膊套进了绳套里。

他惊心动魄地悬吊在半空的时候，没有人发出声响；但当用稳稳的手臂托住那孩子，拽他上桥，把他送到满含热泪、屏住呼吸的人群面前的时候——人们爆发出前所未有的欢呼雀跃声和喜极而泣的声音，他们为从死神手中夺回一个毫发无损的生命而喜极而泣。

## Lesson 2

### THE DESTRUCTION OF SENNACHERIB'S ARMY

### 第二课 亚述王军队的陨灭

The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold,  
And his cohorts were gleaming with purple and gold.  
And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea,  
When the blue waves roll nightly on deep Galilee.

Like the leaves of the forest when summer is green,  
That host with their banners at sunset were seen;  
Like the leaves of the forest when autumn hath blown,  
That host on the morrow lay withered and strown.

For the Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast,  
And breathed in the face of the foe as he passed;  
And the eyes of the sleepers waxed deadly and chill,  
And their hearts but once heaved, and for ever were still.

And there lay the steed with his nostrils all wide,  
But through them there rolled not the breath of his pride  
And the foam of his gasping lay white on the turf,  
And cold as the spray of the rock-beating surf.

And there lay the rider, distorted and pale,  
With the dew on his brow and the rust on his mail  
And the tents were all silent, the banners alone,  
The lances unlifted, the trumpets unblown.

And the widows of Asshur are loud in their wail;  
And the idols are broke in the temple of Baal;  
And the might of the Gentile, unsmote by the sword,  
Hath melted like snow in the glance of the Lord!

—Lord Byron (1788–1824)

## Words

banners, *standards*.  
distorted, *deformed*.  
gasping, *panting*.  
gleaming, *sparkling*.  
sheen, *brightness*.

silent, *noiseless*.  
wail, *lamentation*.  
waxed, *became*.  
withered, *faded*.



如野狼一样，亚述人从荒原席卷而来，  
他们的队列闪烁着紫色和金色。  
戟矛闪亮，如同海上的繁星，  
似蓝色的波浪在夜晚向深邃的加利利湖席卷。

如翠绿的盛夏时分树林里的绿叶，  
暮色沉沉，军队将领和他们的条幅依稀可见；  
像深秋时节树林里的叶子，  
朝露振振，军队铙羽，英气不复。

死亡之神，振动羽翼滑翔而过，  
把死亡的气息吹拂到其所到之地；  
沉睡的人儿双目紧闭，如蜡像一般一动不动，身体冰冷，  
他们曾经搏动的心脏永远停止了跳动。

骏马倒地，大张着鼻孔，  
它喘息的不再是往日的荣耀，  
那曾经的喘息只留下嘴边挂着白沫，  
它已经冰冷地躺在了砾石丛生的草原。

还有那马背上的人也躺在了地上，身体扭曲，脸色苍白，  
眉心沁汗，信件斑驳，  
营地死寂一片，只剩下那独自飘曳的条幅，

无人投掷的长矛，还有那不再吹响的号角。

从亚述人的窗边经过，能听到他们的号啕声动天；

太阳神庙里的神像被捣毁；

那利刃也丝毫触动不得加利利人的权威，

好像被上帝看了一眼的积雪一样，融化不再！

——拜伦勋爵（1788-1824）

## Lesson 3 “ABOVE THE CLOUDS”

### 第三课 在云端

In 1856 an attempt was made, under the auspices of the British Government, to commence a series of observations in some region “above the clouds,” where the serene and quiet air would be specially favourable for viewing the heavenly bodies. The island of Teneriffe was selected for this purpose, as combining more of the required advantages than any other mountain within easy reach of Europe.

The expedition was under the direction of Piazzzi Smyth, the distinguished astronomer at Edinburgh; who, in a remarkable and interesting work, has since published a narrative of the expedition. In an article contributed to a popular magazine he thus graphically describes the ascent of Teneriffe to a point high “above the clouds:”—

It was only a few days after—on a morning also cloudy, and with north-east cloud too—that the little party set forth from the town of Orotava, on the northern coast of Teneriffe, to climb the great mountain, and put to the only true test of actual practice their hopes of getting “above the clouds.” Through long, winding, stony pathways, between vineyards and cactus plantations, between orange groves and fig-trees, they proceeded, always ascending; past gardens, and then past orchards, still ever ascending; past corn-fields and oat-fields, ascending yet higher, and then amongst natural vegetation only—ferns and heath and some few wild laurels; and now, at a height of 3000 feet vertical, they are close under the cloud.

Before entering therein, let us pause for a moment and survey the beauties of creation in the region we are leaving behind. If, for that one purpose of severe astronomy, a position below the clouds is unsuitable, yet what an infinite amount of benefit for man to enjoy, and of beauty for him to contemplate, is connected therewith! Beneath the clouds are kindly rains and gentle dews; and these, assisted by a warm climate, encourage all those exquisite forms of vegetation which we have admired clothing the lower slopes of the mountain. Without these, where were the fruits to support human life; where the buds and blossoms and fading flowers which teach us many a lesson useful to life eternal?

But duty now calls us on our upward way. Before many more seconds are passed, first comes one cold hurrying blast, with mist upon its wings, and then another, and another. Then, in the midst of a constant dense wet fog, all creation is shut out of our view, except the few feet of sloping earth on which we are treading, and that appears of a dull gray; and the occasional spiders' webs seen across our path are loaded with heavy drops of moisture.