

English Readings
for
Junior Middle School
Students

4

初中英语阅读文选

上海教育出版社

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编者的话

中学英语教学大纲明确指出：“中学英语教学的目的是对学生进行听、说、读、写的基本训练，培养在口头上和书面上初步运用英语的能力，其中侧重培养阅读能力，为进一步学习和运用英语切实打好基础。”

阅读在整个外语教学中占很重要的地位，培养阅读能力是中学外语教学中最基本的任务之一。但是，《初中英语课本》第一册至第四册，各册教材平均只有课文十余篇。这十余篇课文的总字数还不到3000个（在第五、六两册中要多一些）。根据大纲的要求，要培养和提高学生阅读英语的能力，每个学期单纯地完成教科书内仅有的这一些内容，恐怕是不易收到显著效果的。

为了帮助学生巩固和扩大词汇，帮助学生掌握和丰富语言知识，帮助学生提高运用语言的能力，特别是阅读能力，我们认为必须开展和加强课外阅读，大大增加学生的阅读量。为此，我们选编了这套《初中英语阅读文选》，共六辑，供初中各年级学生使用。

本书，《初中英语阅读文选》（4），有短文三十二篇，均选自国外教科书或其他图书。文字力求浅显，内容富有趣味，并配以插图。其中有些故事，如：《神灯》、《蓝胡子》和《白雪公主》等都是英美社会中家喻户晓久经流传的故事，也是我国青少年所喜闻乐见的。本书在文字方面，力求照顾到初中英语课本第一册至第四册中用到的词汇和句型。书中出现的生

词、新的语法现象和句型都加以注释，以帮助学生理解选文内容。全书生词出现率约为1.4%。（连同前三辑中曾出现过的生词计算，生词出现率约为2.8%。）

本书每篇短文后面除有帮助理解短文内容的练习外，还配有结合初中教学内容的词汇、语法、语音和读音规则方面的复习性练习。本书另配有短文朗读录音磁带一盒，可供教师对学生进行听能训练和听写训练之用。

本书后面附有词汇表，其中除初中英语第一册至第四册中的词汇不再列入外，本文选前三辑中的新的词汇均予收录，便于读者查阅。

本书一、二、三辑出版以后，承各地师生纷纷采用，并有许多同志来函垂询和关注今后几辑的编写和出版工作。这是对我们莫大的支持和鼓励。谨此表示衷心的感谢！

由于我们编写时间仓促和水平有限，书中难免存在缺点和错误，仍请广大师生不吝赐教，批评指正，帮助我们进一步做好后面两辑的编写工作。

一九八四年八月

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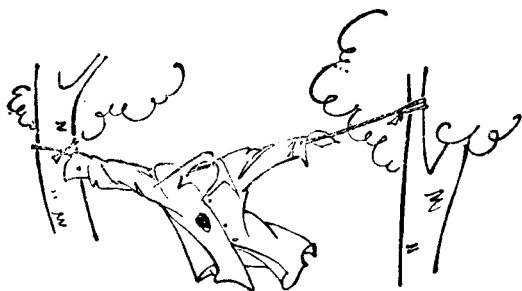
I

SOMETHING WHITE IN THE GARDEN

Joe woke up in the middle of the night and saw something white in his garden. It seemed to be moving towards the house.¹

"That's a thief," he thought.

And he took his gun and shot at him². Then he went back to bed, because he was too frightened to go out of the house in the dark.



The next morning Joe went out and saw one of his white shirts hanging on the clothes-line³ in the garden. His wife had washed it the day before⁴ and hung it out to dry⁵. Now it had a bullet hole⁶ right through⁷ the middle of it.

“My dear,” said Joe, “I was lucky⁸ last night. If I had been wearing that shirt, the bullet would have killed me.”⁹”

NOTES:

1. It seemed to be moving towards the house. —— 它好象在朝着屋子过来。
2. shoot [ʃu:t] —— 射击 (shoot, shot, shot)
shot at him —— 对着他开枪
3. clothes-line —— 晾衣服绳子
4. the day before —— 前一天
5. had hung it out to dry —— 把它挂在外边晾干
6. bullet ['bulit] —— 子弹
bullet hole —— 子弹洞
7. right through —— 正好穿过
8. lucky ['lʌki] —— 幸运
9. If I had been wearing that shirt, the bullet would have killed me. —— 如果我(昨晚)穿着这件衬衫的话, 子弹早就把我打死了。(wear, wore, worn)

SOMETHING ABOUT JOE

A. Answer the following questions.

1. When did Joe wake up?
2. What did he see in his garden?
3. Why did he take his gun and shoot at him?
4. What did he see in the garden the next morning?
5. What had it right through the middle of it?

6. Why did he say that he was lucky last night ?

7. What do you think of Joe? Was he silly or clever?

B. Put in the right verbs in the following sentences.

1. Joe _____ up in the middle of the night.

2. He _____ something white in his garden.

3. He _____ that it _____ a thief, so he _____ at him.

4. The next morning he _____ one of his white shirts _____ on the clothes-line in the garden. It _____ a bullet hole right through the middle of it.

5. He said he _____ lucky because he _____ (not) the shirt the night before.

FORMS OF VERBS

Give the past and past participle forms of the following verbs.

VERBS	PAST TENSE	PAST PARTICIPLE
1. break	_____	_____
forget	_____	_____
wake	_____	_____
wear	_____	_____
2. do	_____	_____
draw	_____	_____
eat	_____	_____
fall	_____	_____
3. hang	_____	_____
say	_____	_____

shoot	_____	_____
think	_____	_____
4. begin	_____	_____
fly	_____	_____
sing	_____	_____
swim	_____	_____
5. hit	_____	_____
let	_____	_____
put	_____	_____
set	_____	_____

SOUND IT OUT

Read the following words and pay attention to the letters in italics.

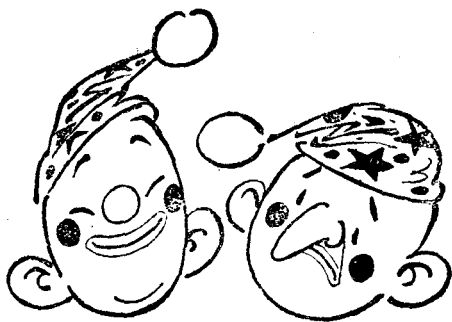
- | | | | | | |
|----------|--------|---------|---------|--------|-----|
| 1. go | hole | woke | clothes | grow | sew |
| 2. shoot | food | true | through | move | |
| 3. foot | bullet | could | should | would | |
| 4. north | draw | thought | caught | course | |

2

clowns

CLOWNS ARE FUN

Clowns like to make people laugh. They paint their faces¹ and put on funny noses. Sometimes they put



on a sad face² but most of the time they put on a happy face. They also wear funny clothes.

Most clowns work in circuses. They do all kinds of silly things to make people laugh. They run, jump, and fall down. They ride donkeys towards the back. They pull or push each other. Sometimes they shout and sing. Clowns are funny men! A circus is not a circus without clowns!

Children very much enjoy watching clowns. The

clown in the picture is visiting sick children in a hospital. He is tasting³ a little girl's cotton candy⁴. He often



visits hospitals to make children laugh — and other people, too. They need to laugh. It helps them get better faster.

There is an old saying: “Laughter⁵ is a good medicine.”

NOTES:

1. paint [peɪnt] —— 绘画; (以油漆、颜料等) 涂抹; 化妆
paint their faces —— 把脸涂上油彩
2. put on a sad face —— 装得愁面苦脸
3. taste [teɪst] —— 尝味
4. cotton ['kɒtn] —— 棉花
cotton candy —— 棉花糖
5. laughter ['lɑːftə] *n.* —— 笑

CLOWNS LIKE TO MAKE PEOPLE LAUGH

1. How do clowns make people laugh?

They paint their _____ to make people laugh.

They put on _____ noses to make people laugh.

They put on a _____ face or a _____ one to make people laugh.

2. What else do they do to make people laugh?

They do all kinds of _____ things to make people laugh.

They _____, _____ and _____ down to make people laugh.

They _____ donkeys towards the _____ or _____
or push each other to make people laugh.

MAKE somebody DO something

Which is right? Draw a line under the right word or words.

1. The clowns like to make people _____.

to laugh

laugh

2. Don't make the baby _____

to cry

cry

3. I saw mother smiling. It made me _____ well.

to feel

feel

4. How can you make air _____?

to move

move

ENJOY doING something

Which is right? Draw a line under the right word or words.

1. Children very much enjoy _____ clowns.

to watch watch watching

2. Most children enjoy _____ in summer.

to swim swim swimming

3. Boys enjoy _____ football in autumn.

play playing to play

4. Do you enjoy _____ in winter?

skate skating to skate

5. How do you enjoy _____ to the concert?

listen listening to listen

SOUND IT OUT

Read the following words. Pay attention to the letter or letters in italics.

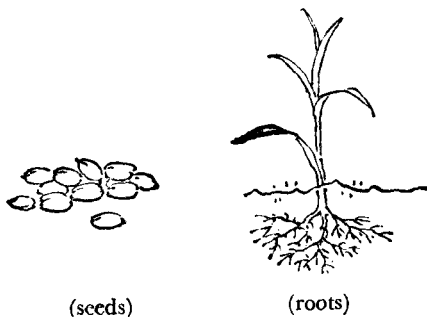
- | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| 1. day | <i>pa</i> int | table | game | taste | <i>the</i> y |
| 2. be | <i>se</i> em | <i>se</i> at | thief | receive | magazine |
| 3. <i>I</i> | <i>tr</i> y | <i>wh</i> ite | <i>ni</i> ght | <i>lie</i> | <i>fri</i> ghtened |
| 4. old | <i>Jo</i> e | <i>w</i> oke | hole | blow | coat |
| 5. <i>to</i> | fool | <i>throu</i> gh | threw | soup | move |

3

OUR FOOD

Where do we get our food? We get much of it from the earth¹. We use some kinds of animals or birds to give us food.

Great parts of the earth are covered with grass, a plant



which grows with narrow green leaves² and puts down roots quickly³. There are more than three thousand kinds of grasses growing.

Grasses have very small seeds which are used as food by birds and small animals. Man has discovered⁴ how to grow grasses with larger seeds.

Wheat⁵, rice and other grains come from grass. The grain lands of the world have been planted by men.⁶



(wheat)



(rice)

From grain man gets an important part of the food.

The grass lands of the earth give food to many different animals. From some of them we get meat and milk. From birds living on grain⁷ we get eggs and meat.

Seeds planted in good earth give grains and fruits⁸ and vegetables⁹ of many kinds.



(vegetables)



(fruits)

The seas and rivers give fish and sea plants for food.

NOTES:

1. earth —— 泥土