

趣味英语

幽默故事大观

中英对照 一文一图



(英) L·A 希尔 著
许晓华 唐义均 译

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责任编辑：李泳玫

封面设计：陈默

技术设计：许晓华

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四川美术出版社出版发行

(成都盐道街3号)

新华书店经销

成都前进印刷厂印刷

开本 787×1092 毫米 1/24 印张 11.75

1991年10月第1版 1991年10月第1次印刷

印数 1—2000册

ISBN7—5410—0671—3/J·640

定价：11.00元





It was two weeks before Christmas, and Mrs Smith was very busy. She bought a lot of Christmas cards to send to her friends and to her husband's friends, and put them on the table in the living-room. Then, when her husband came home from work, she said to him, 'Here are the Christmas cards for our friends, and here are some stamps, a pen and our book of addresses. Will you please write the cards while I am cooking the dinner?'

Mr Smith did not say anything, but walked out of the living-room and went to his study. Mrs Smith was very angry with him, but did not say anything either.

Then a minute later he came back with a box full of Christmas cards. All of them had addresses and stamps on them.

'These are from last year,' he said. 'I forgot to post them.'

离圣诞节还有两周了,史密斯太太就忙开了。她买了不少贺年卡,以便寄给她的朋友和她丈夫的朋友们,她把贺年卡放在了起居室的餐桌上。后来,当她丈夫下班回家时,她对他说:“这是给我们朋友的贺年卡,这是邮票、钢笔和通讯录。我做晚饭时请你写一下这些贺年卡,好吗?”

史密斯先生一言不发,而是走出了起居室,进了他的书房。史密斯太太很生他的气,但也是一语不发。

接着,一分钟以后,他拿着一只盒子回来了,盒子里装满了贺年卡。所有的贺年卡上都有地址和邮票。

“这些是去年的,”他说。
“我忘了寄了。”



Mrs Jones was waiting for an important telephone call, but she had no bread in the house, so she left the baby at home and said to his five-year-old brother, 'I am going to the shops, Jimmy, and I will be back in a few minutes.'

While she was out, the telephone rang, and Jimmy answered. 'Hullo,' said a man, 'is your mother there?'

'No,' answered Jimmy.

'Well, when she comes back, say to her, "Mr Baker telephoned".'

'What?'

'Mr Baker. Write it down. B-A-K-E-R.'

'How do you make a B?'

'How do I make . . . ? Listen, little boy, is there anybody else with you? Any brothers or sisters?'

'My brother Billy is here.'

'Good, I want to talk to him, please.'

'All right.' Jimmy took the telephone to the baby's bed and gave it to Billy. When their mother came back, she asked, 'Did anyone telephone?'

'Yes,' said Jimmy, 'a man. But he only wanted to talk to Billy.'

琼斯太太正在等待一个重要的电话,但是她家里没有了面包,因此她把婴儿留在家里,嘱咐婴儿的五岁的哥哥说:“我去商店,杰米,我几分钟就回来。”

当她不在家的时候,电话响了,杰米接了电话。“喂,”一个男子说,“你妈在吗?”

“不在,”杰米回答说。

“那么,她回来时对她来说:‘贝克先生打来了电话’”。

“什么?”

“贝克先生。写下来吧,贝——克”

“怎么写贝字?”

“怎么写……?听着,小孩,还有谁和你在一起吗?有兄弟或姐妹吗?”

“我兄弟比利在这儿。”

“好,我想和他说话。”

“行,”杰米把电话拿到婴儿的床边,把电话给了比利。他们的母亲回来时就问:“有人打电话来了吗?”

“有,”杰米说,“一个男人。但他只想和比利说话。”



Nasreddin* had an old shed. It had no windows, so it was very dark, and it was full of old things.

One day Nasreddin went into this shed to get a ladder, but slipped on something and fell against a big garden fork. The fork hit him on the head and knocked him down. Then it fell on top of him and **hit him** hard on the left leg. The ends of the fork then went **into his** long beard. He fought with the fork fiercely, and at last **threw** it off him, jumped up and ran out of the shed. He was very angry. He had an old sword under his bed, and he now ran and got this. Then he ran back to the shed, opened the door suddenly and shouted in a terrible voice, 'All right, come out and fight, you and all the other forks in the world! I'm not afraid of you!'

纳斯雷丁有个旧棚子。棚子没有窗户,所以非常黑暗,而且棚子里堆满了旧东西。

有一天,纳斯雷丁到这个棚子里去搬梯子,可是在什么东西上滑了一下,摔倒在一把大干草叉上。叉子击中了他的头部,把他打倒在地,接着倒在他的身上,重重地砸在他的左腿上。叉尖接着刺进了他的长胡须。他拼命和那把叉搏斗,最后把它从身上甩掉了。他跳起身来,跑出了棚子。他气极了。他床下有一把破剑,他现在跑去拿了出来。然后,跑回到棚子,猛然打开门,用可怕的声音叫喊到:“好吧,出来比试一下吧,你,还有世界上所有其它的东西!我才不怕你们呢!”



A man always went to the same bar at the same time every day and asked for two glasses of beer. He drank them and then asked for two more.

One day the man behind the bar said to him, 'Why do you always ask for two glasses of beer? Why don't you get one big glass instead?'

The man answered, 'Because I do not like to drink alone. I drink with my friend.'

But a few days later the man came in and asked only for one beer.

'Oh,' said the barman, 'has your friend died?'

'Oh, no,' said the man. 'He is very well. This beer is for him. But I have stopped drinking beer. My doctor doesn't want me to drink any more because it is dangerous for me.'

每天总有一个男子在同一个时间去同一个酒吧,并要两杯啤酒。他喝完之后又要上两杯。

有一天,柜台后面的男招待对他说:“你为什么总是要两杯啤酒而不是要一大杯呢?”

这个男子回答道:“因为我不喜欢一个人喝酒,我在同我的朋友一起喝酒呢。”

几天以后,这个男子又来到了这儿,但只要了一杯啤酒。

“喂,”男招待说,“你的朋友过世了吗?”

说,“哦,不,”这个男子回答“他很好,这杯酒就是为他买的。但是我已经把酒戒了。我的医生再也不让我喝酒了,因为这对我的身体有危险。”



Old Mr Black loved shooting bears, but his eyes were not good any more. Several times he nearly shot people instead of bears, so his friends were always very careful when they went out shooting with him.

One day a young friend of his wanted to have a joke, so he got a big piece of white paper and wrote on it in very big letters 'I AM NOT A BEAR'. Then he tied it to his back and went off. His friends saw it and laughed a lot.

But it did not save him. After a few minutes Mr Black shot at him and knocked his hat off.

The young man was frightened and angry. 'Didn't you see this piece of paper?' he shouted to Mr Black. 'Yes, I did,' said Mr Black. Then he went nearer, looked carefully at the paper and said, 'Oh, I am very sorry. I did not see the word NOT.'

老布莱克先生喜欢猎熊，但是他眼神不太好。他好几次都差一点把人当熊打了，因此，每当他的朋友跟他一同去打猎时总是小心翼翼的。

一天，他的一位年轻朋友想跟他开个玩笑，于是这位朋友弄来了一大张白纸并在上面写了几个大字“我不是熊”，然后，把纸贴在自己的背后就出发了。他的朋友们看见了就大笑。

但这一切都无济于事。几分钟后布莱克先生就瞄准了他，并把他的帽子给打飞了。

这位年轻人既害怕又气愤。“难道你没有看见这张纸吗？”他对布莱克先生嚷道。“呀，我看见了。”布莱克说道，然后他走近了点儿，非常仔细地看了那张纸后说：“噢，对不起，我没看见上面的‘不’字。”



Mrs Brown's old grandfather lived with her and her husband. Every morning he went for a walk in the park and came home at half past twelve for his lunch.

But one morning a police car stopped outside Mrs Brown's house at twelve o'clock, and two policemen helped Mr Brown to get out. One of them said to Mrs Brown, 'The poor old gentleman lost his way in the park and telephoned us for help, so we sent a car to bring him home.' Mrs Brown was very surprised, but she thanked the policemen and they left.

'But, Grandfather,' she then said, 'you have been to that park nearly every day for twenty years. How did you lose your way there?'

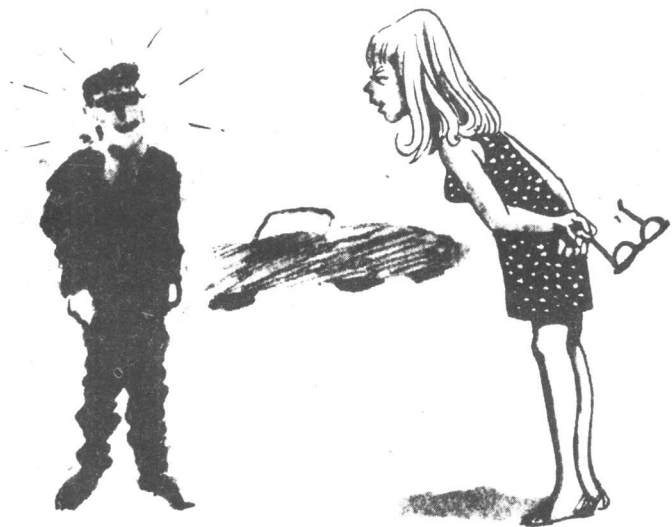
The old man smiled, closed one eye and said, 'I didn't quite lose my way. I just got tired and I didn't want to walk home!'

布朗夫人的祖父同她和她的丈夫住在一起。每天早晨他都到公园去散步,然后 12 点半就回家吃午饭。但是一天上午 12 点,一辆警车停在了布朗夫人的住宅外面,两位警察搀扶着布朗先生走出汽车,其中的一位对布朗夫人说道:“这位可怜的老先生在公园里迷了路,他打电话向我们求助,于是我们就把他送到了这儿。”

布朗夫人感到非常吃惊,但她还是向警察道了谢。警察就走了。

“唉,爷爷”,她说道,“二十年来你几乎每天都去那个公园,怎么会在那儿迷路呢?”

这位老人微笑着,闭上一只眼说道:“我根本没有迷路,我只是太累了,不想走着回家。”

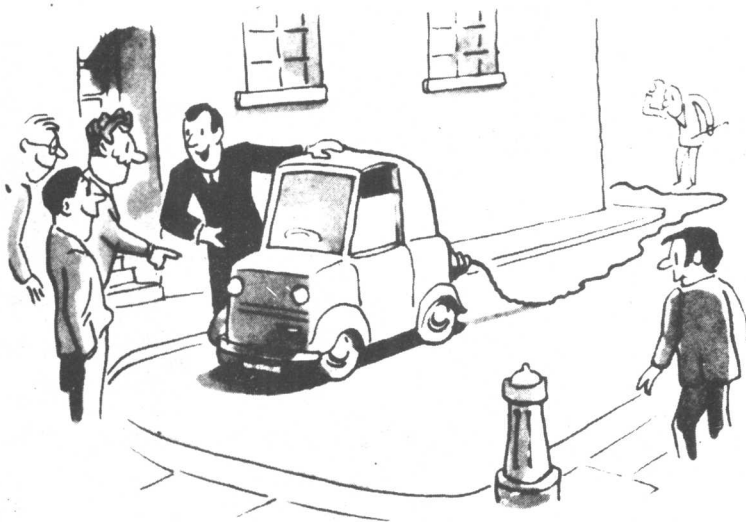


Helen's eyes were not very good, so she usually wore glasses. But when she was seventeen and she began to go out with a young man, she never wore her glasses when she was with him. When he came to the door to take her out, she took her glasses off, and when she came home again and he left, she put them on.

One day her mother said to her, 'But Helen, why do you never wear your glasses when you are with Jim? He takes you to beautiful places in his car, but you don't see anything.'

'Well, Mother,' said Helen, 'I look prettier to Jim when I am not wearing my glasses—and he looks better to me too!'

海伦的眼睛不太好,因此她通常戴着眼镜。她十七岁时就开始和一个小伙子谈恋爱了;同他在一起时,她从来不戴眼镜。当他到她家门口接她出去时, she 就把眼镜摘掉,而当她再次回到家和他离开后,她便重新戴上眼镜。有一天她母亲对她说:“海伦,为什么当你同吉姆在一起时总不戴眼镜?他用车带你到那些好地方去,你却什么也看不见。”“哦,妈妈,”海伦说道,“对吉姆来说,我不戴眼镜就看着更漂亮,对我来说,吉姆看上去也更英俊!”



A man was trying to build an electric motor-car. He worked in an office in the town during most of the week, but on Saturdays and Sundays he stayed at home in the country and worked on his electric car. Every Monday he told his friends at the office about his work on the car, but his news about it was never very good. Then at last one Monday morning he came to the office and said to his friends, 'I have done it! I have driven from my home to here by electricity!'

His friends were all very glad. 'How much did it cost to get here by electricity?' they asked.

'Three hundred and two pounds,' he answered. 'Two pounds for the electricity, and three hundred pounds for the electric wires from my house to the car.'

有个人想建造一辆电动汽车，每周大部分时间他都在镇上的一家公司工作。但每个星期六和星期天他都呆在乡下家里造他的电动汽车。每个星期一他都给他公司的朋友们讲述有关造汽车的情况，但是从来没有好消息。终于在一个星期一的早晨，他来到公司并对他的朋友们说：“我已大功告成！已经用电把车从家开到这儿来了！”

他的朋友们都非常高兴。“你用了多少钱才用电把车开到这儿的？”他们问道。

“三百零二镑，”他答道，“两英镑是用来付电费，三百英镑是用来买从我家开到这儿的电线。”



An artist went to a beautiful part of the country for a holiday, and stayed with a farmer. Every day he went out with his paints and his brushes and painted from morning to evening, and then when it got dark, he went back to the farm and had a good dinner before he went to bed.

At the end of his holiday he wanted to pay the farmer, but the farmer said, 'No, I do not want money—but give me one of your pictures. What is money? In a week it will all be finished, but your painting will still be here.'

The artist was very pleased and thanked the farmer for saying such kind things about his paintings.

The farmer smiled and answered, 'It is not that. I have a son in London. He wants to become an artist. When he comes here next month, I will show him your picture, and then he will not want to be an artist any more, I think.'

有个美术家到乡下一处美丽的地方去度假,在一个农场主家借宿。他每天出门都带着油彩和画笔,从早到晚地画,天黑时才返回农场,睡觉前吃一顿晚餐。

假期结束时,他想付钱给农场主,但农场主却说:“不,我不要钱——但是给我一张你的画。钱算得了什么?一星期就花完了,而你的画会一直留在这儿。”

画家很高兴并感谢主人对他作品的赞赏。

这位农场主微笑着答道:“不是那么一回事儿。我有一个儿子在伦敦。他想当美术家。他下个月回来时,我就把你的画给他看。我想,他再也不会想当美术家了。”



Mr Jones was very angry with his wife, and she was very angry with her husband. For several days they did not speak to each other at all. One evening Mr Jones was very tired when he came back from work, so he went to bed soon after dinner. Of course, he did not say anything to Mrs Jones before he went upstairs. Mrs Jones washed the dinner things and then did some sewing. When she went up to bed much later than her husband, she found a piece of paper on the small table near her bed. On it were the words, 'Mother.—Wake me up at 7 a.m.—Father.'

When Mr Jones woke up the next morning, it was nearly 8 a.m.—and on the small table near his bed he saw another piece of paper. He took it and read these words: 'Father.—Wake up. It is 7 a.m.—Mother.'

琼斯先生很生他妻子的气，他妻子也很生她丈夫的气。几天来他们彼此根本不说话。一天晚上，琼斯先生下班回到家时感到非常疲倦，于是他吃完晚饭后立即就上床睡觉了。当然，在上楼之前他没对夫人说任何话。琼斯夫人收拾完了晚餐又做了些针线活。她歇得比丈夫晚得多，当她上楼睡觉时，她发现床边小柜上放着一张纸条，上面写着：“妈妈：——早晨7点钟叫醒我。——爸爸。”

琼斯先生第二天早晨醒来时已经快8点了——在他床边小柜上他看到了另一张纸条。他拿起来读道：“爸爸，——起床。7点了。——妈妈。”



红灯亮了，老人刹住了车并等着绿灯亮。当他正在等候时，一辆警车从后面驶来，重重地撞在他的车尾就停住了。

警车里坐着两名警察，当事后这位老人走出他的汽车并毫无困难地朝他们走来时，他们感到又惊又喜。他七十多岁了。

那位老人来到警车的车门前，和蔼地微笑了一下就说：“告诉我，年轻人，亮红灯时我不在这儿的话，你们怎么停这辆车呢？”

The lights were red, so the old man stopped his car and waited for them to change to green. While he was waiting, a police car came up behind him, hit his car hard in the back and stopped.

There were two policemen in the police car, and they were very surprised and glad when the old man got out of his car and walked towards them without any trouble after such an accident. He was over 70 years old.

The old man came to the door of the police car, smiled kindly, and said, ‘Tell me, young man, how do you stop this car when the lights are red and I am not here?’



Mrs Williams loved flowers and had a small but beautiful garden. In the summer, her roses were always the best in her street. One summer afternoon her bell rang, and when she went to the front door, she saw a small boy outside. He was about seven years old, and was holding a big bunch of beautiful roses in his hand.

‘I am selling roses,’ he said. ‘Do you want any? They are quite cheap. Five pence for a big bunch. They are fresh. I picked them this afternoon.’

‘My boy,’ Mrs Williams answered, ‘I pick roses whenever I want, and don’t pay anything for them, because I have lots in my garden.’

‘Oh, no, you haven’t,’ said the small boy. ‘There aren’t any roses in your garden—because they are here in my hand!’

威廉斯太太喜爱花卉而且还拥有一个小花园。夏天，她的玫瑰花在她那条街上始终是好的。一个夏天的下午，她的门铃响了，她走到前门时看见门外有个小男孩。他大约七岁，手里抱着一大簇美丽的玫瑰花。

“我是卖玫瑰花的”他说道。“想要点儿吗？很便宜，5便士一把，花都很新鲜，我今天下午摘的。”

“我的孩子，”威廉斯太太答道：“我什么时候想要玫瑰花就什么时候摘，而且不花一个子儿，因为我花园里有的是玫瑰花。”

“哦，不，你没有了，”小男孩说道。“你花园里没有玫瑰花啦——它们都在我手里呢！”



A woman was having some trouble with her heart, so she went to see the doctor. He was a new doctor, and did not know her, so he first asked some questions, and one of them was, 'How old are you?'

'Well,' she answered, 'I don't remember, doctor, but I will try to think.' She thought for a minute and then said, 'Yes, I remember now, doctor! When I married, I was eighteen years old, and my husband was thirty. Now my husband is sixty, I know; and that is twice thirty. So I am twice eighteen. That is thirty-six, isn't it?'

有位妇女心脏有点儿不舒服,于是就去见了大夫。他是个新大夫,不认识她。所以他首先问了几个问题,其中一个 is: “你多大年龄?”

“呃”,她回答说,“我记不得了,大夫,容我想一想。”她想了一分钟,于是说道:“是的,我现在想起来了,大夫!我结婚的时候是十八岁,我丈夫是三十岁。我知道我丈夫现在是六十岁;那是三十的两倍。因此我该是十八的两倍。也就是三十六岁,是不是?”



One day Mrs Jones went shopping. When her husband came home in the evening, she began to tell him about a beautiful cotton dress. 'I saw it in a shop this morning,' she said, 'and ...'

'And you want to buy it,' said her husband. 'How much does it cost?'

'Fifteen pounds.'

'Fifteen pounds for a cotton dress? That is too much!'

But every evening, when Mr Jones came back from work, his wife continued to speak only about the dress, and at last, after a week, he said, 'Oh, buy the dress! Here is the money!' She was very happy.

But the next evening, when Mr Jones came home and asked, 'Have you got the famous dress?' she said, 'No.'

'Why not?' he said.

'Well, it was still in the window of the shop after a week so I thought, "Nobody else wants this dress, so I don't want it either".'

有一天琼斯太太买东西了。他丈夫晚上下班回到家时，她就开始给他讲述一件漂亮的棉布衣服的事。“今天早晨我在商店里看见了那衣服。”她说道：“而且……”

“而且你想买，”她丈夫说道。“值多少钱？”

“十五英镑”

“十五英镑买一件棉布衣服？那也太贵了！”

但是每个晚上，当琼斯先生下班回到家时，他妻子不停地唠叨那件衣服的事；终于，一星期后，他说：“喂，把那件衣服买下吧！给你钱！”琼斯夫人非常高兴。但是第二天晚上，琼斯先生回家后问她：“买了那件了不起的衣服了吗？”她却说道：“没有。”

“为什么没买？”他说道

“是这样的，一星期后衣服仍在商店的橱窗里。因此我想‘别人谁也不要这件衣服，因此我也不要它了。’”