

中学英语阅读文选

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山东教育出版社

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外语教学与研究出版社

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山东教育出版社

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## 前 言

培养英语阅读能力是英语教与学的主要任务之一，而阅读能力的养成必须通过足够数量的阅读实践方能实现。为给中学生和自修英语的同志提供一些合适的英语阅读材料，我们选编了这套《中学英语阅读文选》。全书共分三册，第一册适合初中二、三年级用；第二册适合初中三年级和高中一年级用；第三册适合高中二、三年级用。本书选材注意了语言准确、难度适当、知识性与趣味性相结合等几个方面。每篇正文之后有对生词、词组和难句的注释，有的注释适当涉及一些语法知识，以帮助读者正确理解原文，同时还能获得必要的系统语法知识。每篇附有一定数量的不同形式的练习，可用以检查、巩固阅读效果。书后并附有练习的参考答案。

本书由高重、孙守礼、叶学先、高德华等同志选编、注释，并经李奇瑞、史济群同志审定。

一九八五年九月

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## 1. Why the Bear's Tail Is Short

On a cold winter day, a fox told Mother Bear that he would teach her how to fish.<sup>1</sup> As she was willing<sup>2</sup> to learn, he took her to a hole in the ice, and told her to put her tail down into the water.

He told her, too, to keep the tail there for a long time. Then when she pulled the tail out of<sup>3</sup> the water, she would find it covered with fish.<sup>4</sup>

The bear was silly enough to believe all that the fox said.<sup>5</sup> She sat a long time with her tail in the water, waiting for the fish.<sup>6</sup> But when she tried to pull her tail out of the water, she found that it was frozen fast<sup>7</sup> in the ice.

She called the fox to pull her out; but he laughed to himself<sup>8</sup> and ran away. So she called to Father Bear to help her.

Father Bear came. He pulled and pulled with all his might, until at last he got her out.<sup>9</sup> But a part of her tail was left<sup>10</sup> in the ice. This is why people find the bear's tail so short.

## Notes

1. On a cold winter day, a fox told Mother Bear that he would teach her how to fish. 在一个寒冷的冬天, 一只狐狸告诉母熊说, 他愿意教她钓鱼。

在 that 引导的宾语从句中, would 是情态动词, 表示“愿望”。又如:

I said I would do my best. 我说过我要尽力而为。

how to fish 是不定式短语, 作宾语 her 的补足语。fish 作动词用, 意思是“捕鱼”、“钓鱼”。

2. willing ['wɪlɪŋ] *adj.* 自愿的, 愿意的 (后跟动词不定式), 如:

He is willing to wait. 他情愿等待。

3. pull...out of... 把……从……拉出(起)来, 如:

He rushed into the room and pulled me out of bed. 他跑进房间把我从床上拉了起来。

4. She would find it covered with fish. 她(母熊)将会发现尾巴上满是鱼。

it 是 find 的宾语, 指上文中的 her tail. covered with fish 是过去分词短语作宾语补足语, 相当于: She would find that her tail would be covered with fish.

fish 在这儿是复数, 表示许多鱼。fish 和 sheep 一样, 单数形式和复数形式相同。fishes 是指不同种类的鱼。



5. The bear was silly enough to believe all that the fox said. 母熊傻得竟相信了狐狸所说的一切。

句中 enough 是副词, 修饰 silly, 表示程度。

all = all the words; that the fox said 是定语从句, 修饰 all。如先行词是不定代词 all, 定语从句要用 that 引导, 不能用 which。

6. She sat a long time with her tail in the water, waiting for the fish. 她把尾巴放在水里坐了很长时间, 等着鱼儿。

a long time 作状语, 表示时间, 前面省略了介词 for。with her tail in the water 是带 with 的复合结构。waiting for the fish 是分词短语, 均作状语表示伴随情况。

7. it was frozen fast... 被冻得结结实实……

frozen 是 freeze ([fri:z] v. 冻结) 的过去分词。

fast adv. 紧紧地, 牢牢地, 如:

The door was fast shut. 门紧闭着。

8. laugh to oneself 洋洋得意地大笑

9. He pulled and pulled with all his might, until at last he got her out. 他用尽全力, 拉了又拉, 最后终于把她拉了出来。

might [mait] n. 力气, 体力

10. left [left] 是 leave [li:v] 的过去分词, 在这儿的词义是“留下”。was left... 是被动语态, 意思是“被留在……”。

## Exercises

为下列单词选择适当的释义，

1. silly:

- (1) foolish      (2) interesting      (3) stupidly

2. fish:

- (1) try to buy fish  
(2) a man who tries to catch fish  
(3) try to catch fish

3. bear:

- (1) a large heavy animal with thick fur and a very short tail  
(2) a large heavy animal with two big ears and a very short tail  
(3) a large heavy animal with a long tail and very short legs

4. pull:

- (1) to move something to another place by holding and drawing along  
(2) to go from one place to another  
(3) to use force upon something so as to move forward or away from oneself

5. freeze:

- (1) something covered with snow

(2) be so cold that water turns into ice

(3) to make very cold by using ice

## 2. The Fox and the Bear

One day in summer Old Fox said to Brown<sup>1</sup> Bear, "Let's plant some vegetables in our garden."

"All right," said Brown Bear.

Old Fox said, "You can have the tops, and I'll have the roots."<sup>2</sup>

"That's fair," said Brown Bear. "You can have the roots, and I'll have the tops."

"What vegetables shall we plant in our garden?" asked Old Fox.

"Let's plant corn," said Brown Bear.

"The birds will eat the corn," said Old Fox. "Let's plant turnips."<sup>3</sup>

"All right," said Brown Bear. "Let's plant turnips."

So they planted turnips in the garden.

One day in autumn Old Fox said, "Brownie, our turnips are ripe. You take the tops, and I'll take the roots."<sup>4</sup>

So Old Fox had the turnips, and Brown Bear had only the leaves.<sup>5</sup>

"That isn't fair," said Brown Bear.

The next spring Old Fox said, "Brownny, let's plant some vegetables again."

"All right," said Brown Bear. "This year you can have the tops, and I'll have the roots."

"That's fair enough," said Old Fox.<sup>6</sup> "This year you can have the roots, and I'll have the tops."

Then Old Fox said, "Brownny, what shall we plant in our garden?"

"Let's plant potatoes,"<sup>7</sup> said Brown Bear.

"The worms<sup>8</sup> will eat the potatoes," said Old Fox. "Let's plant beans<sup>9</sup>."

"All right," said Brown Bear.

So they planted beans in their garden.

When the beans were ripe, Old Fox said, "Brownny, our beans are ripe. You take the roots and I'll take the tops."

So Old Fox had the beans, and Brown Bear had only the roots.

"That isn't fair," said Brown Bear. "I'll never plant anything with you again."<sup>10</sup>

## Notes

1. brown [braun] *adj.* 棕色的
2. You can have the tops, and I'll have the roots.  
你要顶，我要根。

3. "The birds will eat the corn," said Old Fox.  
'Let's plant turnips.' "鸟儿会吃玉米的,"老狐狸说。"咱们种萝卜吧。"

这里 *will* 是情态动词, 表示某种必然性, 如:

When it gets cold, the birds will fly to the south. 当天气转冷时, 鸟儿要飞往南方。

4. "Brownny, our turnips are ripe. You take the tops, and I'll take the roots." "熊哥, 咱们的萝卜熟了。你拿叶子吧, 我要根。"

Brownny ['brauni] Brown 的昵称

ripe [raip] *adj.* 成熟的

这里 *top* 指根菜类的叶子, 如: turnip tops 萝卜叶。

5. So Old Fox had the turnips, and Brown Bear had only the leaves. 于是老狐狸得到了萝卜, 而棕熊只得了些叶子。

*had* 在该句中的意思是 "得到, 取得。" 又如:

I have had two letters from her. 我已经收到了她的两封信。

6. "That's fair enough," said Old Fox. 老狐狸说, "那太公平了。"

*fair* (*adj.* 公平的) 作表语。副词 *enough* 修饰 *fair*。  
*enough* 修饰形容词或副词时, 总是后置。如:

Is this large enough? 这个够大吗?

He does not work hard enough. 他干活不够努

力。

enough 用作形容词修饰名词时,可前置,也可后置。如:

We haven't time enough (or enough time). 我们没有足够的时间。

7. potato [pə'teɪtəʊ] *n.* 马铃薯, 土豆

potatoes 是 potato 的复数形式

英语中以“o”结尾的名词, 其复数形式有些加 es, 如:

hero——heroes; Negro——Negroes; 但多数只加 s, 如:

radio——radios; photo——photos; piano——pianos 等。

8. worm [wɜ:m] *n.* 虫子

9. bean [bi:n] *n.* 豆子

10. I'll never plant anything with you again. 我再也不和你一起种任何东西了。

never 是个意义很强烈的否定词, 意思是“永不”, “决不”, “毫不”。如:

He answered never a word. 他一句话也不回答。

That will never do. 那决不行。

## Exercises

根据短文内容在空白处填上适当的词或词组:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ suggested planting some vegetables in their garden some day in summer, didn't he?
2. Old Fox wanted to have \_\_\_\_\_, and gave \_\_\_\_\_ to Brown Bear,

3. Brown Bear would plant corn. But Old Fox told him that \_\_\_\_\_ would eat the corn and they'd better plant \_\_\_\_\_.
4. In autumn, Old Fox had \_\_\_\_\_ and Brown Bear had nothing but \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Brown Bear was angry \_\_\_\_\_ Old Fox.
6. The next spring, Old Fox said that the worms \_\_\_\_\_ the potatoes and they should plant \_\_\_\_\_.
7. When the beans were ripe, Old Fox told Brown Bear to take \_\_\_\_\_ of them.
8. At that time Brown Bear said that it was \_\_\_\_\_ and he would never plant \_\_\_\_\_ with Old Fox again.

### 3. The Buffalo and the Tiger

There was once a farmer who had a buffalo<sup>1</sup>. All day long the buffalo worked hard in the fields.<sup>2</sup> But one day the farmer said to the buffalo, "You are a slow and lazy animal. Look at the tiger. See how strong and fast it is."<sup>3</sup>

The buffalo was angry and said, "Master, take me to the tiger and you'll find out who is stronger." The farmer laughed and agreed.

When the tiger saw the buffalo, he was happy. "I'm

going to have a good dinner today," the tiger thought to himself.

The buffalo said to the tiger, "Mr Tiger, my master thinks you're stronger than me.<sup>4</sup> Now let's see whether he is right. I shall let you bite<sup>5</sup> me three times. But you must let me butt you three times in return.<sup>6</sup>" The tiger agreed.

Then the buffalo jumped into a muddy pond and covered himself with mud.<sup>7</sup>

"Now, Mr Tiger, I'm ready," said the buffalo. The tiger immediately sprang on<sup>8</sup> the buffalo. But however hard he tried, he could not bite through the buffalo's thick skin that was covered with mud.<sup>9</sup>

"Well, Mr Tiger," said the buffalo. "It's my turn now.<sup>10</sup>" The tiger had to get down<sup>11</sup> from the muddy buffalo.

Then the buffalo threw the tiger down with the first butt, and killed it with the second before the tiger had time to get to its feet.<sup>12</sup>

From that time on<sup>13</sup> the farmer became very kind to his buffalo.

## Notes

1. buffalo ['bʌfələu] *n.* 水牛



2. All day long the buffalo worked hard in the fields.  
水牛整天在地里辛勤劳动。

all day long (整天) = all day, all day long 的意义较强一些。美国人多习惯用 all day。

3. See how strong and fast it is. 看看老虎多么有力气，行动多么敏捷。

see 是谓语动词，how 引导的是宾语从句。

4. ...my master thinks you're stronger than me. ....  
我的主人认为你比我壮。

在这一复合句中 you're stronger than me 是省略 that 的宾语从句。这个宾语从句应当是 "you're stronger than I (am strong)." than me 这种用法在口语中常见。

5. bite (bit [bit], bitten ['bitn]) vt. 咬

6. But you must let me butt you three times in return. 但是你必须让我抵你三次作为交换。

butt [bat] vt. 抵，撞

in return 作为报答，作为回报，又如：

I bow in return. 我鞠躬回礼。

7. Then the buffalo jumped into a muddy pond and covered himself with mud. 接着水牛跳进泥塘，浑身沾满了泥。

jump into 跳进……里面去，又如：

Comrade Wang jumped into the river to save the child. 王同志跳进河里去救孩子。