

中学生英语课外阅读丛书 (中英对照)

李名慈 主编

The Secret Garden

[英国] 弗朗西斯·豪森·贝内特 著

秘密花园



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导 读

当今的英语教育，特别是中学的课程，都是以口语为主进行编排的。而编排的方式无不强调精读，即一小段文章，辅以大量的读音训练、语法训练和口语训练，反反复复，把一切细枝末节无不弄得清清楚楚。除了课本以外还有一本又一本练习册等着学生。等到学生渡过这些泱泱题海，兴味索然且不说，也早在动辄得咎的习惯中变得提心吊胆，哪里还敢开口说话，因此，结果和教学的目的大相径庭。这实际是一厢情愿的结果。我们大家知道，要想学会说一门外语，最最重要的是要有一个说这门外语的环境，这就是为什么到国外去学说话并不很难，在国内熟读十几本会话读物而遇到外国人依然噤若寒蝉的缘故；这就是为什么有些聪明的留学生到了国外起先要挑没有华人的地方钻，因为有一个华人的小圈子，学习说外语的机会势必大打折扣。因此在口语的教学中最要紧的是创造一个说外语的环境，鼓励同学大胆开口，组织

同学进行对话，引导大家在自由表达的前提下逐步纠正表达中的错误。具备这种教学经验的人目前可以说是凤毛麟角，不少中学老师自己开口都有问题，当然更无法去培养学生开口。于是学究式的追求答题正确的教学，代替了培养学生具备实际应用能力的教学。

这种精读的形式甚至引起了外籍教师的批评。他们认为这样读完一本教科书所得到的信息实在少得可怜，跟当今信息爆炸的社会是很不相称的。我们也发现现在有一种很奇怪的学习英语的方式，即始终读一本又一本教科书，读完这套再读那套，读得很苦，收效也甚微，读到后来不要说应用，就是阅读都很困难。有好多人拿到了一个级别，或者拿到了一个文凭，就跟英语拜拜了，几年下来连最基本的东西也记不清了。这实际上是一种最大的浪费。我们再看看，现在学过英语的人和正在学英语的人有多少，而真正能用英语的人又有多少，就可以估计到这种浪费究竟有多大了。

与其事倍功半地追求一时追求不到的东西，不如切实下点工夫先争取在阅读上过关。我们在阅读上过了关，我们就在实际应用上跨出了质变的一大步，我们就能用它来获取大量的信息，不断巩固和提高我们已经学到的语言知

识,我们就有了一种成就感,从无边的书海和题洋中挣脱出来。

我们编这套书的目的就是让中学生在学习英语方面有一个宽松的环境,提高他们的学习兴趣,而绝不是增加他们的负担。我们不必把读这种书看作是一种郑重其事的事,喧闹的街市上可以读,拥挤的车厢里可以读,排队买饭的时候可以读,等候开会的时候也可以读。这些都是外国名著的缩写本,有小说也有童话,文字既是标准的英语,又很浅显。

我们阅读这些书时切不要把精读的习惯带进来,不要去死抠每一个字,即使有不认识的单词,也先别去看译文,别去看注释,想法根据上下文和句子中的其他意思推测一下它可能有的解释。如果把这个解释放进去,和上下文意义通畅了,你就推测成功了。久而久之,你的阅读能力就会大大地提高。

还有,每一遍的阅读尽量争取快一点,阅读完一段后,问一问留下什么印象,然后再多读几遍,比较每次的印象。着眼在整体的理解上是否有错误,而不是一字一句地理解。你一定不要过分自信,有时我们的理解会截然相反,但细心的话,我们总是可以从上下文的逻辑分析中发现其中的错误。还有我们也不妨粗略地翻译翻译,

如果翻译起来特别困难或者特别拗口，这里边也往往潜伏着误解。


我们不必记住每一个单词，一些生僻的字我们不妨放过，但是反复出现的单词一定要记住。现在很多同学养成了一种坏习惯，不肯专门记单词，只在做大量练习时顺便记记单词。这对扩充词汇很没有好处。阅读理解总是通过词汇的扩充来完成的。这是很费工夫的事，但不下这个工夫又不行。而且记忆有这样一个特点，你下决心记住它，几次下来一定能记住。你不想记住它，碰到的次数再多，你对它始终是陌生的。

等到你对英语发生了真正的兴趣，也培养了阅读能力，你就可以开始大量接触各种英语信息，你的知识领域一定可以大大地扩展，你的英语水平也一定可以大大地提高。那时你的谈资也可大大地增加，稍稍组织一下，你就会发现你也可以谈谈了。这是水到渠成的问题，说外语其实并不是很神秘很复杂的一件事。

这一套书在浩如烟海的英语读物和练习册中很不显眼，但是你想真正读一些除了课本以外的东西并不容易，买外国书太贵，而我国自己出的，给中学生阅读的就几乎没有。这一套不起眼的读物就是这样特殊。

编 者





Mary Lennox was a spoilt, rude and bad-tempered child. She was never really well, and she was thin and miserable, with a sour face. No one liked her at all.

None of this was really Mary's own fault. She was born in India, where her father worked. He was always busy with his work, and paid no attention to his daughter. Her mother was very pretty, and cared only for parties and pleasure. She left Mary in the care of an Indian nursemaid, who gave the little girl everything she wanted so that she would not cry and upset her mother. So, not surprisingly, Mary grew up into a spoilt and most unpleasant girl.


One hot morning, when Mary was nine years old, she had a strange feeling that something was wrong. She stayed in her room and heard shouts and cries and the patter of hurrying feet, but no one came to her. She lay on her bed and fell asleep.

玛丽·雷诺克斯是一个被宠坏的孩子，态度粗暴、脾气很坏。她的身体从来没有真正好过，瘦得可怜，一张脸又总是气呼呼的，所有人都一点也不喜欢她。

但是这些都不是玛丽本身的缺点。她出生在印度，她的父亲在那里工作。他总是忙于工作，从不注意自己的女儿。她的母亲十分美丽，只顾出席宴会，寻欢作乐。她把玛丽交给一个印度保姆照管。小女孩要什么，保姆就给她什么，这样她就不会哭哭啼啼惹母亲生气了。这样一来，玛丽长成一个被宠坏的、很不快活的女孩也就不足为奇了。

玛丽九岁那年，一个炎热的早晨，她有一种奇怪的感觉，似乎什么事都不对劲。她呆在自己的房间里，听到一片哭叫声以及“啪嗒、啪嗒”匆匆忙忙的脚步声。可就是没有人来看她，她躺在床上睡着了。





When she awoke, the house was silent. Still no one came to her, and she was angry that she had been forgotten. Suddenly, the door opened, and two Englishmen came in.

“Why was I forgotten?” Mary said, stamping her foot. “Why does nobody come?”

“Poor little kid!” said one of the men. “There’s nobody left to come.”

That was how Mary learned that her father and mother were dead. They had been killed by the disease sweeping the country. Most of the servants had died too, and the rest had run away. Mary was quite alone. There was no one left in India to look after her, so she was sent to England to live with her uncle, Mr Craven, at Misselthwaite Manor in Yorkshire.


当她醒来时，房子里一片寂静。这时仍然没有人来看她，她很生气别人把她遗忘了。突然，门开了，有两个英国人走了进来。

“为什么谁都把我忘了？”玛丽一边说一边跺脚，“为什么没有一个人来？”

“可怜的小家伙！”其中一个人说，“没人留下来看你了。”

这就是玛丽知道她父母已经死了的情形，他们在蔓延这个国家的瘟疫中死去。大多数仆人都都死了，剩下的也逃跑了。玛丽成了孤零零一个人，在印度没人照看她，所以她被送去英国，跟她的叔叔住在一起。她的叔叔科瑞文先生住在约克夏郡的密塞尔斯威脱庄园。





In London, Mary was met by Mrs Medlock, her uncle's house-keeper. Mary disliked her at once. But then, Mary disliked everyone. Mrs Medlock thought Mary was a plain, rude child and she was quite right. As they travelled north she told Mary about the house. It sounded very grand and gloomy, and stood on the edge of a moor.

"There' ll be nothing for you to do, and your uncle won' t bother with you," said Mrs Medlock. "He' s got a crooked back. He was a sour young man until he married. His wife was a very pretty girl and he worshipped her. When she died, it made him queerer than ever. He' s away most of the time, so you' ll have to look after yourself. "

It was dark when they got out of the train. A carriage pulled by two horses took them to the house , but Mary could see nothing outside in the rainy blackness.

"What' s the moor like?" she asked.

"It' s just miles and miles of wild land, "
Mrs Medlock replied.

在伦敦，梅狄洛克夫人——她叔叔的管家前来迎接她。玛丽一看见她就讨厌她。并且后来，玛丽谁都不喜欢。梅狄洛克夫人认为玛丽是个单纯的无教养的孩子——在这点上她完全正确。当她们向北赶路时，她告诉玛丽关于庄园的事。它令人觉得很大也很阴森，屹立在荒原的边缘。

“在那里你没有什么事可做，你叔叔也不会打扰你，”梅狄洛克夫人说，“他是个驼背，结婚之前一直是个闷闷不乐的年轻人。他的妻子是个很美丽的姑娘，他很崇敬她。后来她死了，他就变得更古怪。他多数时间出门在外，所以你能自己照管自己。”

当她们走下火车，天已经黑了。有一辆两匹马拉的马车把她们送到庄园。在下着雨的黑夜中，玛丽看不到马车外的任何景色。

“荒原是什么样的？”她问道。

“望不到头的荒地呗。”梅狄洛克夫人回答。



“Nothing grows there but gorse and heather, and nothing lives on it but wild ponies and sheep.”

At last, the carriage stopped in a courtyard. A huge oak door was opened by a butler. “You’ re to take her to her room,” he said to Mrs Medlock. “The master is going to London tomorrow and he doesn’ t want to see her.”

Mary followed Mrs Medlock upstairs and through many corridors to a room with a fire burning and supper on the table.

“This is where you’ ll live,” Mrs Medlock told Mary. “Just see you stay here and don’ t go poking round the rest of the house.” This was Mary’ s welcome to Misselthwaite Manor. It made her feel cross and unwanted and lonely.

The next morning, Mary awakened to find a housemaid lighting her fire. She was called Martha and she smiled and chatted as she worked.

“除了荆豆和石南，什么也不长；小动物中除了野生的小矮马和羊，没有任何其他东西在那里生活。”


最后，马车停在一个院子里。一个男管家前来打开巨大的橡木门。“主人吩咐你把她带到她的房间里去，”他对梅狄洛克夫人说，“主人明天要去伦敦，不想见她。”

玛丽跟着梅狄洛克夫人上了楼。她们穿过许多走廊来到一间生着壁炉的房间，桌子上已经摆好了晚餐。

“这是你的房间。”梅狄洛克夫人告诉玛丽，“注意呆在这里，不要到房子里的其他地方乱转。”这就是密塞尔斯威脱庄园对玛丽的欢迎！她很生气，谁也不要她，她感到孤零零的。

次日清晨，玛丽醒来发现有个女仆在为她生火。她叫玛尔查，她一边干活一边微笑着闲聊。





Mary was not used to friendly servants. In India, she had never said "Please" or "Thank you", and once she had even slapped her nurse's face when she was angry. Somehow she knew that she must not treat Martha this way. At first, Mary had no interest in Martha's chatter but, little by little, she began to listen to the friendly Yorkshire voice.

"Eh! You should see all my brothers and sisters in our little cottage on the moor." Martha said. "There's twelve of us and my father only gets sixteen shillings a week. My mother has a job to feed 'em all for strong and fresh air on th' moor makes 'em strong and healthy. Our Dickon, he's twelve, he's always out on th' moor. He's good with' animals. He's tamed a wild pony."

When Martha had to go away, Mary went out to play.