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趣味英語

李珍妮編著

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本書是從報紙上許多新聞通訊選編出來的。這 些雖不是重要新聞,却寫得很不錯,益智趣味,可 作爲學習英語者的補充讀物。筆者把每則新聞都譯 成中文,以供對照,這就更適合一般人閱讀了。

從英語本身來說,這些新聞通訊有幾個特點: 第一是有豐富的實用詞彙,且有許多報子常用的術語,學了這些詞彙和術語,對於閱讀一些應用文件 是很有幫助的;第二,新聞通訊的語句比較簡省, 但經常也出現許多長句,語法比較繁複,學習這 些,可以幫助我們對英語的理解力;第三,這些新聞通訊都寫得很生動,多看多讀,可以提高英語寫 作的技巧。此外,每則新聞後面,都附有詞語註 釋,這對於英語程度不高的讀者,閱讀也是十分方便的。

本書是筆者在假期裏編寫的,時間不多,且限於個人水平,錯誤之處,敬請讀者指正。

李珍妮

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1. Unusual Sense of Humour

In Rio do Janeiro, a Brazilian was today counting the cost of meeting with two robbers withan unusual sense of humour.

The Brazilian was held up by two men while driving home this week.

The two politely told him that they needed his car for an important date, but it would be return to him.

The next day, an anonymous telephone call told him where to find his car.

The tank of the car was filled with gasoline, and inside the compartment was a note of thanks and two tickets for a popular musical comedy.

The man took his wife to the theatre that night. He had an unjoyable evening. Because when he got home, he discovered his apartment had been ransacked.

He commented: "There is no security from thieves in Rio, but you must admit they have a sense of humour."

不平凡的幽默感

在里約熱內盧,有一位巴西人,今天在計算他 碰到兩名很有幽默感的刧匪時的損失。

這位巴西人在這個星期駕車囘家時,被兩名男 子攔途截却。

那兩個人很有禮貌地對他說,他們需要他的汽車作爲重要約會之用,不過,他們會把汽車還給他的。

第二天,這位巴西人接到一個匿名電話,叫他 到某處取囘汽車。

當時,汽車的油箱灌滿了汽油,車廂裏面還有一張感謝的字條和兩張參加流行音樂喜劇的門票。

那天晚上,這位巴西人便帶着他的妻子到戲院 看劇。就在這個晚上,他可倒霉了,因爲當他回家 時,發現他的住所曾被盜竊。

他的評論是:「在里約熱內盧,想要從竊賊那 裏獲得保證是不可能的,但是你得承認,他們却有

幽默感。」

【註釋】

sense of humour 解作"幽默感"

He is a man with a good sense of humour-

他是一個很有幽默感的人。

humour 名詞,除解作"幽默"、"詼諧"外,還可解作"脾性"、"情緒"、"心情";作動詞使用時,解作"使滿足"、"遷就"、"順着……做"等等。

He is in good humour.

他的情緒很好。

He is in bad humour.

他的情緒不好。

When the humour takes him, he can do it very well.

當他有興緻的時候, 他可以做得很好。

When a baby cries, you must humour him (or her).

當嬰孩哭的時候,你一定要哄他(或她)。

Don't force the lock, you must humour it.

不要硬去把那鎖弄開, 你應想個好辦法才是。

sense 名詞,解作"感官"、"官能"、"感覺"、 "觀念"、"意識"、"情理"、"知覺"、"理性"等;它 也可作爲動詞使用,解作"意識到"、"醒悟"、"甦

醒過來"。

He has a keen political sense of smell.

他具有敏銳的政治嗅覺。

He has no sense of time.

他沒有時間觀念。

There is some sense in what he says.

他所說的話有些道理。

What is the sense of doing that?

做那件事有什麽道理呢?

He has lost his sense.

他已經失去知覺。

There's no sense in doing that.

做那件事是沒有什麽意思的。

Sense danger.

意識到有危險。

I did not sense his meaning.

我沒有領會他的意思。

She soon came to her sense after a blood transfusion

輸血後她很快便甦醒過來。

in a sense 解作"在某種意義上說"。

What you say is in a sense true.

你所說的, 在某種意義上說是正確的。

in every sense 解作"在各種意義上說"。 It's a lie in every sense of the word. 這是不折不扣的謊言。 make sense 解作"講得通"、"有意義"。 This sentence doesn't make sense. 這句子毫無意義。 Frighten someboby out of his senses. 解作"嚇得魂不附體"。

Last night, when you come in the darkness, you frightened me out of my sense.

昨夜,當你在黑暗中進來時,你把我嚇得魂不 附體。

2. Kiss Campaign

Jeff Henzler hopes to raise dollars 10,000 by getting 3,000 girls to pay him to kiss them.

Since he wants to get it over with in less than eight hours, the girls are going to have to queue up at a rate of one every 9.5 seconds or so.

He wants to raise the money for Piorkowski, his roommate at University of Pennsylvania, who fell from the roof February. 12 and broke his back.

Piorkowski, 21, and will be operated on next week, Henzler hopes his kiss campaign will help raise enough money to pay the hospital bills.

Kissing day will be March 5.

With the support of the university and the local business community, Henzler plans to open for business in a booth on a mall just outside the campus.

There's 3,200 girls in the dorms alone, Henzler

said, of course, not all of them will want to participate for various and other reasons.

接吻運動

傑夫·韓斯拉爾希望籌到一萬美元,並且得到 三千名女孩子來給他捐付這筆欵項,然後讓他親吻 她們一下。

因爲他要在不到八個小時之內完成這項任務, 所以女孩子們都得排隊等候, 比率是大約九·五秒 吻一個。

他想籌敦給皮奧科斯基,他這位賓夕法尼亞大學同房間住的同學,於今年二月十二日從天台摔下,折斷背脊骨。

皮奧科夫斯基,二十一歲,將於下個星期施行 手術。韓斯拉爾希望他的接吻運動能夠籌得足夠款 項,以便支付皮奧科斯基的醫療費用。

接吻的日期定於三月五日。

韓斯拉爾得到大學和當地商界人士的支持,計 劃就在校園外邊的林蔭路上一個小亭子裏開始「營 業」。

韓斯拉爾說:「只是在宿舍居住的女孩子 就 有

三千二百名。當然,由於種種理由的緣故,並不是 所有女孩子都來參加的。」

【註釋】

pay 動詞,解作"支付"、"付清"、"繳納"、 "償還"、"抵償"、"付欵"·····等。

I haven't paid the doctor yet.

我尚未付款給醫生。

· Have you paid what you owe him yet.

你欠他的(錢)還清了沒有?

I must pay the Electric Light Company before the end of the month.

我必須在月底之前繳付電費給電燈公司。

The robber will have to pay for what he has done.

刧匪必須因他的所作所爲而受到懲罰。

Pay him back in his own coin.

以其人之道, 還治其人之身。

pay day

發薪日

pay-envelope

工資袋

pay master

出納員、軍需官

pay off

發工資、分盈利

pay out

花費、支出

pay station

公用自動收費電話亭

raise 動詞,解作"舉起"、"升高"、"使起來"、 "喚起"、"揚起"、"提高"、"增加"。

raise one's eyes

舉目

I raised my hat to him.

我舉帽向他致敬。

Heavey rains raised the river stage.

暴雨使河水水位升高。

Raise the living standard of the people.

提高人民的生活水平。

business 名詞,解作"商業"、"生意"、"商店"、

"職責"、"事務"、"權利"、"難事"。

Mr. Wang carried on wholesale business.

黃先生經營批發生意。

Business is dull.

生意冷淡。

He has a business in Hong Kong.

他在香港有一間商店。

What is your business?

你的職業是什麽?

He knows his business. 他精通他自己所幹的那一行。 Mind your own business. 不要你管(我的事)。 What a business it is! 這是一件難辦的事!

3. The Woman with Duplicated Womb

A Spanish woman possessing duplicated sexual organs has given birth to two daughters a month apart of each other.

Antonia Marin, a 32 year old housewife in a village, 12 miles from this southeastern town Cartagena. Gave birth prematurely to a girl on april 3 and discovered she was still pregnant.

Just over a month later, on May 7, a second daughter, apparently developed in Marin's second womb, was born.

Marin's doctor said such a case was unprecedented.

Marin said: "I am delighted with the twins. Although I still haven't got over the surprise of being a unique case in the world."