

看笑话

学英语（一）

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The Clever Servant

Long time ago, there was a rich old man who loved wine and good food over everything else. And he had a servant who loved drinking and eating as much as his master did. Each time the rich old man went out, he helped himself to the bottles of wine and all the nice food. Of course, the rich man knew who did it and was displeased. But he could do nothing about it because he had never caught his servant drinking his wine and eating his food.

One day the old man was invited to dinner at the home of one of his friends. He did not know what to do with the wine, meat and chicken he had just bought. Certainly he could not leave them to the servant. In the end he had an idea. He called up the servant and said to him: "I'll be away for the whole evening, and I'll leave you to look after house. In the cupboard there are two bottles filled with poison. Be careful about it. You'll be killed if you take even a drop of it, there is also some meat and chicken in the cupboard. Take care of them." With these words the rich man left home.

As soon as the master turned his back, the servant opened the cupboard and began to enjoy all the nice things in it. He emptied two bottles and

ate up the meat, the chicken and everything else found in the cupboard. He was satisfied and soon fell asleep.

At midnight the rich old man returned home. He looked into the cupboard and, to his great surprised, all his wine and food were gone. He was mad with anger and called the servant up.

“ Oh, Master, ” the servant began before the old man could open his mouth. “ While you were away, the neighbor ’ s lack cat stole into our kitchen and ate up everything in the cupboard. I knew you would be very angry with me. I was so afraid that I drank the two bottles of poison to kill myself. ” There were even tears in the servant ’ s eyes. “ Oh, Master, ” he continued, “ Please don ’ t get angry with a dying man. I ’ ll soon be dead. ”

The rich old man, of course, did not believe a word of his story. But again, he could do nothing about it.

聪明的仆人

很久以前，有个富人贪酒好食，胜过于其它一切。他有一个仆人，也和主人一样好吃好喝。每当富人外出时，他只好把酒和食物藏起来。可是每次这个仆人都能找到它们并擅自把好酒好菜全部偷吃偷喝了。富人当然知道是谁干的，所以，很不高兴。但是，因为他从来没

有抓住过他仆人偷吃偷喝的把柄，所以他对此也不好怎么办。

一天，富人被邀到他朋友家赴宴。他不知道如何处理刚刚买回来的酒、肉、鸡等。当然，他也不能把它们留给他的仆人，于是他想出了一个主意。他把仆人叫来对他说：

“我今天整晚不在家，留下你好好看家。在食橱里有两瓶装满了毒药的酒，小心点别碰它。你沾上一滴就会要你的命的。在食橱里还有一些肉和鸡，也要注意有毒。”说完这个富人就走了。

主人一转身出门，仆人就打开食橱开始享用里面的美味佳肴。他喝光了两瓶酒，吃光了肉、鸡、和所有能在食橱里找到的东西。吃饱喝足之后，他就开始睡着了。

半夜，富人回家来了。他朝食橱里一看，大为惊讶，他的酒、食物全没了。他气急了，就把仆人叫起来。

“喔，主人，”富人还没有来得及开口，仆人就开始了，“你不在家时，邻居的黑猫溜进了我们的橱房，吃光了食橱里所有的东西。我知道你会很生我的气。所以我非常害怕，就喝了两瓶毒药自杀。”仆人的眼睛里甚至还噙着眼泪。“喔，主人，”他继续说道，“请不要对一个快要死的人发火了。我就要死了。”

富人当然不相信他的假话的一个字，但是，他对此还是毫无办法。

The Composition Class

The students in the composition class were assigned the task of writing an essay on “ the most beautiful thing I ever saw. ” The student who, of all the members of the class, seemed the least sensitive to beauty, handed in his paper first with astonishing speed. It was short and to the point. He had written: “ The most beautiful thing I ever saw was too beautiful for words. ”

作文课

在作文课上，学生被布置写一篇题为“我所见到过的最美的东西”的文章。在整个班级中看起来对美最不敏感的那个学生用令人吃惊的速度第一个交了卷。这篇作文短而扼要。他写道：“我所见到过的最美的东西美得无法用语言来表达。

Understanding

Our daughter was filling us in on her date the night before. They had driven to a neighboring city for dinner and a show. When her father asked her

where the restaurant was located, she said, " You know, I really can ' t tell you. I was enjoying the ride, the company and the scenery, and all of a sudden we were there. "

" I understand perfectly, " her father said. " That ' s exactly how your mother and I arrived at middle age! "

理 解

我们的女儿向我们介绍她昨晚和男朋友约会的情况。他们开着车去邻近的一个城市吃晚饭并看一场演出。当她爸爸问她去的那个饭馆在什么地方时,她说:“您知道,我真的说不出来。我俩一路上亲亲热热地东瞧西望,欣赏路旁的景色,开心极了,一晃就到了那里。”

“我全知道了,”她爸爸说。“我和你妈妈就是那样一晃就到了中年了。”

Two Pounds Plums

Mother: I sent my little boy for two pounds of plums and you gave him a pound and a half.

Shopkeeper: My scales are all right, madam. Have you weighed your little boy?

两磅李子

母亲：我让小儿子来买两磅李子，可你只给了他一磅半。

店主：我们的秤准确无误，太太。您秤过您的小儿子了吗？

A Thank-you Letter

“Are you writing a thank-you letter to Grandpa like I told you?”

“Yes, Mum.”

“Your handwriting seems very large.”

“Well, Grandpa's deaf, so I'm writing very loud.”

感谢信

“你是在按照我说的给爷爷写信感谢他吗？”

“是的，妈妈。”

“你的字好像写得太大了。”

“嗯，爷爷的耳朵不好，所以我写得大声点儿。”

Wedding

Mrs. Jones and her little daughter Karen were outside the church watching all the coming and goings of a wedding. After the photographs had been taken, everyone had driven off to the reception and all the excitement was over. Karen said to her mother, "Why did the bride change her mind, Mummy?"

"What do you mean, change her mind?" asked Mrs. Jones.

"Well," said the moppet, "She went into the church with one man and came out with another!"

婚 礼

一场婚礼在教堂举行，琼斯夫人和她的小女儿卡伦在教堂外面看热闹。人们照完像后都开着车去参加婚礼宴会了，一切激动的事都结束了，这时卡伦问妈妈：“妈妈，新娘子怎么变主意了？”

“变主意了？你指的是什么？”琼斯夫人问。

“嗯，”孩子说，“她进教堂时和一个男人，出来时又和另一个男人！”

（注：进教堂时新娘由其父亲或女家的男子陪伴，出来时则是由新郎陪伴。）

I Taught the Teacher

Mother asked her little boy, "Darling, what did the teacher teach you today?"

"Nothing, Mum," answered the son proudly, "instead, she asked me how much one plus two was, and I told her three."

我教老师

妈妈问她的小儿子：“宝贝儿，今天老师都教你些什么？”

儿子骄傲地说：“什么也没教，妈妈，她反倒问我一加二等于几，我告诉她是三。”

Who Is the Laziest?

Father: Well, Tom, I asked to your teacher today, and now I want to ask you a question. Who is the laziest person in your class?

Tom: I don't know, father.

Father: Oh, yes, you do! Think! When other boys and girls are doing and writing, who sits in the class and only watches how other people work?

Tom: Our teacher, father.

谁最懒？

父亲：哎，汤姆，今天我跟你们老师谈过，现在我想问你个问题。你们班上谁最懒？

汤姆：我不知道，爸爸。

父亲：啊，不对，你知道！想想看，当别的孩子们都在做作业，写字时，谁在课堂上坐着，只是看人家做功课？

汤姆：我们老师，爸爸。

The Father and His Son

Father: You know, Tom, when Lincoln was your age, he was a very good pupil. In fact, he was the best pupil in his class.

Tom: Yes, Father. I know that. But when he was your age, he was President of the United States.

父与子

父亲：汤姆，你要知道，当林肯在你这年龄时，他是一个很好的学生。事实上，他是班里最好的学生。

汤姆：是的，爸爸，我知道。可当他在你这个年龄