

阅读空间 · 新课标英语分级读物

英语课程标准第六级

6

英 汉 对 照 版

The Gift of the Magi and Other Tales

麦琪的礼物

→ O. Henry ←



中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会推荐

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出 版 说 明

这是一套针对英语为外语的学生而出版的世界文学名著分级读物。丛书的编写紧密结合新《英语课程标准》的要求,按难易程度分为6个级别,适合3至8级(即初一至高三)学生的阅读需求,帮助学生在语言技能、语言知识、学习策略和文化意识等方面达到新课标的培养目标。

这套书的英文注释版出版后,引起社会广泛关注,被迅速选定为国家教育部专项任务项目——“中小学英语真实阅读教学推广实验”的推荐用书;经中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会推荐,各地中小学英语教研员和教师正积极参与课题实验。相信该英汉对照版同样会成为各层次读者英语学习的首选。

丛书主要有以下特点:

囊括西方经典文学名著,在帮助学生提高语言水平的同时,能通过阅读与自己外语水平相当的简写本一窥文学名著之全貌。

按新课标分级,英汉对照版的各册词汇量从700词到3500词,满足中学生的阅读需要。语言难度循序渐进,有助于教师拓展学生的语言知识和文化背景信息,提升学生的英语阅读技能。

语言浅显、生动、地道,以英汉对照的形式出版,既保留了英文的原汁原味,中英文双语又可为读者在阅读英文时扫除语言障

序

随着国家《英语课程标准》的颁布和实施，中小学英语教学进入了一个新的阶段。新课标对学生课外阅读量和阅读目标都提出了更高的要求。作为课堂阅读的继续和延伸，课外阅读是中学英语阅读教学中的一个重要环节。新课标对课外阅读的新要求需要广大英语教师更好地解决以下三个问题：

❶ 如何激发和持久地保持学生的阅读兴趣？

❷ 如何将课外阅读活动与课堂阅读活动有效地结合？

❸ 如何在有限的课堂教学指导下监控和评价学生的课外阅读效果？

要解决上述问题，可以从以下几个方面考虑：

阅读选材 阅读材料的题材和难度是影响学生阅读兴趣的主要因素，因此教师在选择和推荐课外阅读材料时，首先应注意阅读材料是否符合学生的认知水平和语言水平，并在两者间找到平衡点。许多材料容易读懂，但对该年龄段的学生可能内容太过浅显，引不起学生的兴趣；也许材料符合学生的心理和认知水平，但语言太难，使学生望而却步。另外，阅读材料还应给学生提供更多的英语国家文化背景知识。许多英语文学名著、寓言故事等在英语国家家喻户晓，人们在言谈、写作时往往予以引用，如同我们引用古诗词和成语一样。如果学生对此毫不了解，就会造成交流和理解上的困难。这套百本之巨的《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》（西方文学名著系列）是在《英语课程标准》推广以来出版规模最大的一套中小学生英语阅读丛书，选题的设计者严格按照新课标的各个级别遴选阅读材料，提倡让英语阅读更轻松、更系统、更高效，这样的主导思想和策划方案无疑是正确的。这套丛书分级明确，语言浅显、地道，且与《英语课程标准》的分级标准相匹配，教师可以根据学生的外语水平和兴趣爱好帮助学生选择。

练习活动 阅读的练习和活动形式也是影响学生阅读兴趣的另一个重要因素。在以往的阅读教学中，由于教学时间的限制和应试的压力，阅读的练习和活动形式往往局限于单一的限时应试练习，给学生带来很强的压迫感，严重地影响了他们的阅读兴趣。因此，教师应该设计类型丰富、形式活泼的练习与活动，使学生从被动的阅读者转变为积极的参

与者，并使学生获得更多实践英语和使用英语的机会，如此才能激发和增强他们的阅读热情和兴趣。《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》丛书检测方式灵活，其多样化的阅读训练题型，对有意识地培养学生正确的学习策略很有意义。这套丛书的检测训练层级清晰，从初级的看图配话、趣味学用、拼字游戏、常识判断，到较深层的读前思考、推论归纳、背景探索，加上组对练习与互动讨论，明确地突出了学生语言应用能力的培养。

系统性与连续性 阅读材料的系统性，是指根据《英语课程标准》，从语言知识、语言技能、文化意识和学习策略等几个方面，对阅读材料进行科学分级，使学生能够循序渐进，拾级而上。阅读材料的连续性，则是指阅读材料的篇幅和内容的关联性能够让课堂阅读活动延续并拓展到课外。阅读教学中经常采用的短篇限时阅读，虽然容易控制时间，提高阅读速度，但是因学生的阅读能力存在差异而不能“面向全体”，且阅读限时和单一的应试练习形式也很难将课堂阅读活动延伸到课外。市面上的英文名著简写本版本虽多，但像《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》这样内容系统、分级明确，并配有大量形式多样、活泼的分项练习的，确实不多。它弥补了短篇阅读理解内容相对独立，不具有连续性的缺陷，使阅读活动能够从课堂延伸到课外。学生可以自己选择他们喜欢的、适合自己水平的读本，教师可以通过诸如写故事梗概、预测故事情节、进行小组讨论等多样、互动的阅读练习与活动，将学生在课堂中的思维延伸到课外，并在下一次课堂教学中检验和评价学生上一次课外阅读活动的结果。

希望有更多的一线教师积极总结自身的教学经验，广泛开展和参与阅读教学的课题研究与探讨，总结出更好、更有效率的阅读教学方法。

中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会理事长

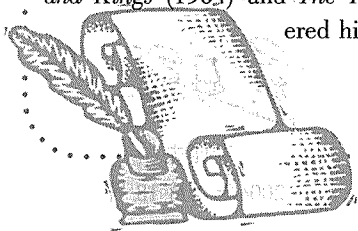
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Introduction

O. Henry, pseudonym of William Sidney Porter, was born in Greensboro, USA in 1862 and died in New York in 1910. One of the most prolific American short-story writers, he was, above all, famous for the unexpected concluding "twist" he would give to his stories which were based on his own various adventurous experiences and his acute capacity of observation of people and their habits.

After a youth spent in passing from one occupation to another, he was accused of embezzling funds from the First National Bank of Austin, Texas, where he worked and so he fled to Honduras. He returned to Austin in 1897 and after being tried and sentenced he spent three years in the Columbus prison in Ohio where he discovered his vocation for writing and began to publish his first works under different pseudonyms, O. Henry being the most used. When he was released he settled in New York where he continued his successful literary career.

In a period when the short story was the most popular narrative form in America, Henry produced a vast quantity, the best of which combine paradox and the grotesque with vivid description and authentic narrative tension. *Cabbages and Kings* (1904) and *The Four Million* (1906) are considered his best collections.



简

介

欧·亨利，1862年出生在美国格林斯博罗，原名威廉·西德尼·波特，1910年卒于纽约。他是美国最多产的短篇小说家之一，尤为突出的是，他以赋予其故事出人意料的结局从而产生盘根错节的效果而著称，故事都源于他自己的各种冒险经历和他对周遭人群及其生活习惯的敏锐观察。

欧·亨利在青年时期不停地更换职业，后来由于被指控挪用其所供职的得克萨斯州奥斯汀第一国家银行的资金而不得不逃往洪都拉斯。他于1897重返奥斯汀，在经历庭审和宣判之后在俄亥俄州的哥伦布监狱服刑三年。在狱中他发现了自己的写作才能，并开始用不同的笔名发表其早期作品，欧·亨利则是他最常用的笔名。获释后，他定居在纽约并继续其成功的写作生涯。

曾经有一段时间，短篇小说成为了美国最受欢迎的文学体裁，而此期欧·亨利创作甚丰，其中最好的作品把惟妙惟肖的描写和真实可信的紧张情节与反常的立论和奇异的风格结合起来。《白菜与国王》（1904）和《四百万》（1906）被公认为他



The Gift of the Magi

One dollar and eighty seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty-seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.

There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.

In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr James Dillingham Young".

The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, the letters of "Dillingham"



麦琪的礼物

一美元 87 美分，全在这儿了，其中 60 美分还是由一个个赞美分子儿凑起来的。那些硬币都是每次从杂货商、菜贩子和屠夫那儿死乞白赖地一个两个地抠下来，直弄得自己脸颊涨红，愧对人们无声地责备她的小气，感到这样掂斤播两的交易实在丢人。德拉把这笔钱数了三遍，数来数去还是一美元 87 美分。而第二天就是圣诞节了。

显然除了倒在破旧的小沙发上哭泣之外别无他法。德拉就是这样做的。这不由得使她感叹生活就是由啜泣、抽噎和微笑构成的，而抽噎又占了生活中的主要一部分。

趁这位家庭主妇渐渐从啜泣转向抽噎之际，看看她的家吧。一套带家具的公寓，每周的租金是 8 美元。虽不能以“乞丐窝”一言以蔽之，外观却也够得上乞丐帮这个词儿了。

门廊入口的下边有个信箱，但是不会有信投进去。门边有个电铃按钮，但不会有人伸手指按响。在信箱旁边还贴着一张卡片，上面写着“詹姆斯·迪林汉姆·扬先生”。

“迪林汉姆”这个名字还是主人以前春风得意、每周挣 30 美元时，一时高兴加上去的。而现在收入减为每周 20 美元，“迪林汉姆”这几个字母显得有些模糊了，就好像它们正在认



looked blurred, as though they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called “Jim” and greatly hugged by Mrs James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good.

Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a gray cat walking a gray fence in a gray backyard. Tomorrow would be Christmas Day and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and sterling — something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honor of being owned by Jim.

There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks. Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. Her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its color within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.



真地考虑要缩写成一个显得谦逊、又不那么装腔作势的字母D。不过，每次詹姆斯·迪林汉姆·扬先生回家、到了楼上的公寓时，詹姆斯·迪林汉姆·扬太太，也就是先前所介绍的德拉，总会叫他“吉姆”并热烈地拥抱他。这就是他们感觉很好的一切了。

德拉停止了哭泣，用粉扑在脸颊上补了些粉。她站在窗前呆呆地看着外面，灰蒙蒙的院子里一只灰色的猫正在灰色的篱笆上行走。明天就是圣诞节了，而她只有一美元87美分来给吉姆买件礼物。几个月来，她把可以节省下来的每个美分都存下来，结果只存了这么点儿钱。每周20美元根本花不了多久。支出向来比她计算的要多，总是这样。只有一美元87美分给吉姆买礼物，给她心爱的吉姆。她曾经用许多个欢乐时辰筹划买一件吉姆喜欢的东西，一件精致、珍奇而贵重的礼物，一件真正能配得上吉姆的礼物。

房间的两扇窗子之间有一面壁镜。也许各位见过房租八美元的公寓中的壁镜。一个瘦小、机灵的人可以通过迅速观察变形成一组纵条的映像，对自己的容貌有一个相当精确的概念。身材苗条的德拉已经精通这门技术。

突然德拉从窗口旋风般转过身站到镜子前。她的眼中闪耀着光芒，但脸上却在20秒之内失去了神采。她迅速将头发解开让它散落下来。





Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's. The other was Della's hair. Had the Queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard from envy.

So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she fluttered out the door and down the stairs to the street.

Where she stopped the sign read: "Mme Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds." One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the "Sofronie".

"Will you buy my hair?" asked Della.

"I buy hair," said Madame, "Take yer hat off and let's have a sight at the looks of it."

Down rippled the brown cascade.



詹姆斯·迪林汉姆·扬夫妇现在拥有两样让他们引以为豪的东西，一样是吉姆三代传下来的金表，另一样就是德拉的头发。如果示巴女王住在风道对面的那套公寓里，德拉会把她的头发悬在窗外晾干，使女王陛下的珠宝和礼物都会相形见绌。如果所罗门王当了看门人，把他的财宝都藏在地下室，吉姆每次经过那里时都会掏出金表，让所罗门王忌妒得揪胡子。

因而此刻，德拉美丽的头发披散在身上，像一道由褐色水流形成的小瀑布，涟漪般的长发闪着亮光。她的头发一直垂到膝下，仿佛成了她的衣衫。随后她带着一些不安迅速地把头发重新梳好。她犹豫了一会儿，一动不动地站在那儿，有一两滴泪水溅落在破旧的红地毯上。

她穿上褐色的旧外套，戴上褐色的旧帽子，裙子一甩就一阵风似的出了门，下楼跑到街上，眼里还留着晶莹的泪光。

她走到一块招牌前停住了，上面写着：“莎弗朗妮夫人——经营各种头发用品”。德拉跑上一段楼梯，气喘吁吁，于是停下来定了定神。那位夫人身材高大，肤色太白，冷冰冰的，与她的名字大不相同。

“您愿意买我的头发吗？”德拉问道。

“我买头发。”夫人说道，“把帽子摘下来让我瞧瞧。”

瀑布一样的头发散落下来。



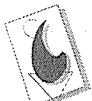
“Twenty dollars,” said Madame, lifting the mass with a practised hand.

“Give it to me quick,” said Della.

Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was ransacking the stores for Jim’s present.

She found it at last. It surely had been made for Jim and no one else. There was no other like it in any of the stores, and she had turned all of them inside out. It was a platinum fob chain simple and chaste in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by meretricious ornamentation — as all good things should do. It was even worthy of The Watch. As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim’s. It was like him. Quietness and value — the description applied to both. Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 87 cents. With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company. Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it on the sly on account of the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain.

When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love. Which is always a tremendous task, dear friends — a mammoth task.



“20美元，”夫人边说边伸手很内行地抓起头发。

“赶快把钱给我。”德拉说。

噢，接下来的两个小时仿佛长了玫瑰色翅膀，移着舞步过得飞快。请各位不必在乎这个拼凑的比喻。总之，她逛遍所有的商店，要为吉姆买到圣诞礼物。

最后她终于找到了。这件礼物简直就是为吉姆而不是其他人特制的。没有任何一家商店还会有这样的礼物，因为她把所有商店的东西都翻遍了。那是一条白金表链，样式简单而高雅，只以它的品质说话，而不是靠浮华的装饰来炫耀——一切好东西都应该是这样的。它甚至衬托出那只金表的价值。她一看到这条表链就知道这必定是为吉姆准备的。表链的风格和吉姆的为人一样，文静而有价值——这个评价对表链和吉姆来说都是恰如其分的。店主以21美元的价格卖给了她，她拿着剩下的87美分匆匆地回了家。配上这条表链，吉姆在任何地方都可以恰如其分地表露出对时间的牵挂了。金表虽然贵重，但由于表链是用一条旧皮索充当的，因此吉姆有时只得偷偷地看一眼时间。

德拉回到家后，陶醉的感觉稍稍让位给了谨慎和理智。她拿烫发铁钳，点着煤气着手工作，以修整那毁损的头发，它为增添挚爱而慷慨奉献。这始终是一项非常重大的工作，亲爱的朋友们——是件宏伟的工作。





Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a truant schoolboy. She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully, and critically.

“If Jim doesn't kill me,” she said to herself, “before he takes a second look at me, he'll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl. But what could I do — oh, what could I do with a dollar and eighty-seven cents?”

At 7 o'clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops.

Jim was never late. Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat on the corner of the table near the door that he always entered. Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight, and she turned white for just a moment. She had a habit of saying little silent prayers about the simplest everyday things, and now she whispered: “Please God, make him think I am still pretty.”

The door opened and Jim stepped in and closed it. He looked thin and very serious. Poor fellow, he was only twenty-two — and to be burdened with a family! He needed a new overcoat and he was without gloves.

Jim stepped inside the door, as immovable as a setter at the scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her

