

内 容 简 介

摇摇本书精选了 300 个英美日常生活方面的幽默故事,故事内容新,多数尚未在国内流传,趣味性极强,读来令人发笑。故事后配有插图,词汇、词组注释,文化背景介绍及思考题。本书还配有磁带,读者可用来练习听说能力。

本书适合中学生、大学生、研究生及广大的英语爱好者。

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To my mother and father
for their endless love and
encouragement !



我叫姜梦茵，今年十四岁，是清华大学附属中学初二学生。

1999年9月底，因母亲去英国读博士学位，我不想同她分开，就要求同母亲一起去陪读。在英国刚入学的时候，我十分痛苦，因为我一共认识不到二十个单词，只会讲三五句简单的句子。我既听不懂老师讲课，也没法同小朋友交流。妈妈很着急。每天放学回家，妈妈都会问我今天学了几个单词，几个句型。可是英国的老师根本不是这样教的。他们的上课方法同我们的完全不同。上英文课，老师让学生自己找喜欢的小说、杂志去读，我的英文不行，老师就找来一些关于中国旅游的画报让我读。我读不懂，多数时候是根据画报中的图片去猜。老师有时也讲故事，同学们都哈哈大笑，我却云里雾里。

我的性格比较开朗，交了几个小朋友，我就有意跟他们学，开始囫圇吞枣地看书。圣诞节时，妈妈的一位朋友送我一本英文小说，作为圣诞礼物，书名是 Winnie-The-Pooh。这本书成为我的启蒙小说。尽管书中有大量的生词，但我非常感兴趣，我喜欢书中描写的小笨熊，总想知道它怎么样了，有时看到高兴的时候，我还给妈妈读一段。妈妈突然发现我能读成句了，欣喜若狂。此后我不但建立了信心，而且找到了学习英语的窍门，那就是大量读书，读自己感兴趣的东西。无论是什么，只要不间断地读，就会有进步。

我的最大爱好就是与朋友聊天和读英文小说。在英国与小朋友聊天时，我们最喜欢的就是分享自己刚刚读到或听到的笑话。回国后，我一直通过互联网与英国的同学保持联系，并保持着分享幽默这一传统。每逢看到特别有趣的故事，我就讲给父母听。他们鼓励我将我认为好看的故事汇编成册，拿出来同大家一起分享。这就是这本幽默故事集的由来。对故事中的俚语及难点，我做了改写、注释及删除。为方便大家的阅读，我还为部分词汇做了标注。同时我还特意本书录制了录音带，这样大家就可以听到我的声音啦。应该说这本书适合不同层次的英语爱好者，因为它既可以做阅读材料，也可以做听说材料。

在编写这本书的过程中，我父母给了我很大的鼓励和指导，特别是我母亲，她认真审校了全部文稿，包括插图。在此我向他们表示衷心的感谢！清华大学外语系的郭茜和杨芳阿姨也给了许多帮助，我也向他们表示感谢。

姜梦茵

圆园零年 员园月 员缘日

于清华园荷清苑



拿到姜梦茵同学的书稿，展卷阅读，不禁耳目一新。书中故事新颖，绝大多数的故事是我们从未听说过的。读着读着，常常忍俊不禁；仔细玩味，更觉其中意味深长。梦茵同学不但为一些单词加了注释，还对一些包含社会文化内容的语言现象做了解释。尤其精彩的是她在每个故事后面出的思考题，完全起到了画龙点睛、直入主题的作用。读笑话时，难免有不得要领、转不过弯的时候，而思考题则帮助我们明白故事的幽默之处。通过这些简短的问题与回答，我们可以看出小梦茵出色的概括能力及她对英语语言高超的运用能力。这一点，是值得我们每一个学英语的人模仿的。

姜梦茵小同学在语音形成的关键期到了英国，在地道的英语环境中成长学习了三年，讲一口流利标准的英国英语。不见面的人听到小梦茵的声音，根本分不出来她是英国人还是中国人。我们特地请梦茵同学为本书灌制了录音带，以便读者利用书中的故事进行听说练习；此外我们发现，听音带读幽默故事，更能领悟其中的幽默之处。

本书故事语言并不深奥，又有众多注释，所以我们决定省去汉语译文的累赘，奉献给读者原汁原味的英文，满足大家培养英语阅读习惯的愿望。



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1 W rong W ay

A man was driving down the freeway when his car phone rang.

Answering , he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him , " John , I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Route 135. Please be careful !"

" It's not just one car , " said John , " It's HUNDREDS of them !"



宰燥世译界性轻普别译像译生词表：

freeway = highway(美国英语)高速公路 ;英国英语为 motorway

urgently ['ə:dʒəntli] *adv.* 急迫地

warn [wɔ:n] *v.* 警告 ,告诫

route [ru:t] *n.* 路线

匠译译社思考题：

Is John going the wrong way or the right way ?



2

Being Blamed for What I
Haven't Done

One day a little boy came home from school , and said to his mother , “ Mum , today in school I was punished for something I didn't do. ”

The mother exclaimed , “ But that 's terrible ! I 'm going to have a talk with your teacher about this ! By the way , what was it that you didn't do ? ”

The little boy replied , “ My homework. ”



宰燥辞芽性耘普弊译生词表：

blame [bleim] *vt.* 责备，谴责

exclaim [iks'kleim] *v.* 惊叫

reply [ri'plai] *vi.* 答复

晕燥辞主释：

Mum :(英国英语)妈妈 ;美语为 Mom 或 Mommy

思考题：

Do you think the mother is going to have a talk with the teacher ?

3 Smart Teacher

“ If there are any idiots in the room , will they please stand up ?” said the sarcastic teacher. After a long silence , one freshman rose to his feet.

“ Now then mister , why do you consider yourself an idiot ?” inquired the teacher with a sneer.

“ Well , actually I don ’ t ,” said the student , “ but I hate to see you standing up there all by yourself. ”



生词表：

smart [sma:t] *adj.* 聪明的

idiot ['idiət] *n.* 白痴

sarcastic [sə:'kæstik] *adj.* 讽刺的



Selection of English Humorous Stories

英语幽默故事

freshman ['freʃ mən] *n.* 新生 , 大学一年级学生

rise to one 's feet 站起来

consider [kən 'sidə] *vt.* 认为

inquire [in 'kwaɪə] *v.* 询问

sneer [sniə] *n.* 冷笑

actually ['æktʃ uəli] *adv.* 实际上

思考题：

What does the student mean ?

4 Wishful Thinking

A couple came upon a wishing well one day.

The husband leaned over and made a wish and threw in a coin.

The wife decided to make a wish , too !

But she leaned over too much , fell into the well , and was yelling and screaming because she was all wet.

The husband was stunned for a while , but then smiled and said , “ It really works ! ”

宰燥世禁世枯普燥译生词表：

wishful thinking *n.* 心想事成

couple ['kʌpl] *n.* 夫妇



well [wel] *n.* 井
 lean [li:n] *vi.* 倚靠
 coin [kɔɪn] *n.* 硬币
 yell [jel] *vi.* 大叫
 scream [skri:m] *v.* 尖声叫
 stun [stʌn] *vt.* 使.....震惊

幽默笑话思考题：

What is the wish that the husband made ?

5 How Many Chickens?

Two guys meet on a dusty country road. One of them is carrying a big bag labeled , “chickens. ”

“Chickens , eh ?” says the other guy. “ Hey , if I guess how many chickens you got , will you give me one ?”

“ OK , ” says the guy with the bag , “ if you guess right , I ’ll

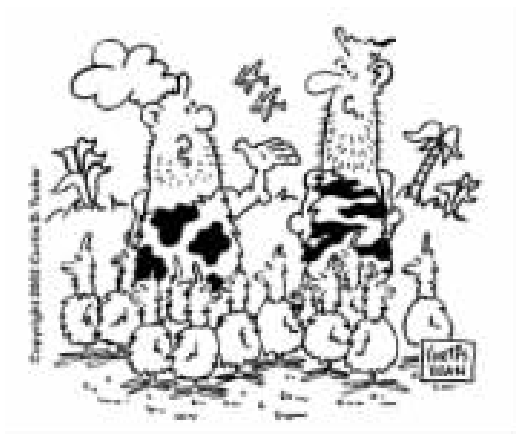


Selection of English Humorous Stories

英语幽默故事

give you both of them. ”

The other scratches his head and guesses , “ Um... five ?”



宰燥凿泽葬挫耘普费癖臻译生词表：

dusty ['dʌsti] *adj.* 满是灰尘的

label ['leɪbl] *vt.* 贴标签于

scratch [skrætʃ] *vt.* 搔

思考题：

How many chickens are there in the bag ?

6

Bad Warranty

An angry motorist went back to a garage where he'd purchased an expensive battery for his car six months

earlier.

“ Listen ,” the motorist grumbled to the owner of the garage , “when I bought that battery you said it would be the last battery my car would ever need. It died after only six months !”

“ Sorry ,” apologized the garage owner. “ I didn t think your car would last longer than that. ”



宰爆世芽世松普期译生词表：

warranty ['wɒrənti] *n.* 担保

battery ['bætəri] *n.* 电池

grumble ['grʌmbəl] *vi.* 抱怨

apologize [ə'pɒlədʒaɪz] *vi.* 道歉

匠怎哪思考题：

How long did the garage owner think the car would last ?



Lazy Men

A

“ I :

Nin

“W
10+

“T



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