

英语阅读菁华

——幽默篇

主 编 玉 华 石绍云 张 亮
副主编 武 倩 连松青 蔡宏武
 刘晓慧 张 芹 杨 磊



東華大學出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语阅读菁华. 幽默篇/玉华, 石绍云, 张亮编. 上海: 东华大学出版社, 2004. 11

ISBN 7-81038-857-6

I. 英... II. ①玉... ②石... ③张... III. 英语—对照读物, 笑话—英、汉 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2004)第 118755 号

英语阅读菁华

——幽默篇

主 编 玉 华 石绍云 张 亮

东华大学出版社出版

(上海市延安西路 1882 号 邮政编码: 200051)

新华书店上海发行所发行 苏州望电印刷有限公司印刷

开本: 787×960 1/32 印张 9.75 字数 328 千字

2004 年 11 月第 1 版 2004 年 11 月第 1 次印刷

印数: 0001~6000

ISBN 7-81038-857-6/H·142

定价: 16.00 元

总 序

经过一段时间的充分酝酿和准备,《英语阅读菁华》丛书终于和大家见面了。这套丛书共有五册——幽默篇、童话篇、风土人情篇、人文历史篇和科普篇。该丛书的目的在于帮助读者通过大量的阅读提高其英语综合运用能力,特别是阅读和翻译能力。该丛书具有以下几个特点:

一、给读者提供一个较理想的、真实的语言环境。该丛书选文题材广泛、内容丰富,既反映了英语国家的历史传统和文化背景,又包括了当代科学技术的最新发展和应用前景。这样就给读者提供了一个和自己的生活、学习、工作和科学研究有密切关系的、比较真实的语言环境,使读者能够比较轻松自然地进行阅读,在吸收语言的同时也学习进行中外双向交流所必需的文化背景知识,从而增加读者的阅读兴趣,在不知不觉中提高自己应用语言的能力。

二、给读者提供既地道规范又生动活泼的当代英语。丛书取材于英语国家(特别是美国)当代有影响的报刊杂志、文学读物、科技报道及各种优秀教材。不仅有较正式的书面语体,还有非正式的口语语体。这样,读者接触到的是富有时代气息的、比较实用的语言形式,从而学到地道规范、恰当得体的当代英语,进而提高对英语的感悟能力、理解能力和表达能力。同时也可了解英语的最新发展趋势。

三、注释翔实、明晰,译文通顺达意。丛书对原文中的难点均做了翔实明确的注释。每篇文章都配有参考译文,译文力求忠实原文,朴实无华,以利于读者自学参考。这样不仅有助于提高阅读理解能力,而且通过对照译文,促进翻译能力的提高。

四、既具有针对性,又符合科学性和系统性原则。该丛书适合于大学和研究生阶段的学生以及具有同等水平的英语学习者的阅读需要。愿该丛书带您走进一个较理想的英语语言学习环境,为您开辟一个新的英语世界,帮助您成为既有科学知识,又有较强的英语交际能力的 21 世纪的新型人才。

总而言之,我们是要为英语学习者设计一个多彩多姿的英语

天地,通过大量的阅读和实践,帮助您发展兴趣,开拓视野,改进方法,提高信心。我们相信,这套丛书是您感受英语、学习英语、提高英语、实践英语的新世界。

本丛书在编写过程中,参阅了大量的书刊并选编了其中的一些文章。在此我们向这些文章的作者表示最衷心的感谢。李娜、李明、孙金友、夏青、王保江等同志在文章的录入和统计、资料的收集等方面做了大量繁琐、细致的工作,并为本书提出了许多宝贵的建议和设想。

由于水平有限,书中肯定会有不少难尽人意之处,我们恳请广大读者不吝赐教,以便我们再版时作进一步的修订,使其更加完美,走进更多读者的心田。

前 言

您想培养激发学习英语的学习兴趣吗？那么，请您走进《英语阅读菁华——幽默篇》。本书是《英语阅读菁华》的第一册，精选幽默故事 258 个。这些幽默故事均选自近几年来国内外出版的英文报刊杂志及书籍。内容新颖，语言优美、简洁、诙谐、地道，具有浓厚的生活气息，寓意深刻且诙谐幽默，耐人寻味。

作为一名从事大学英语教学多年的教师，常常在课堂上给我们的学生讲一些浅显易懂的英语幽默小故事，这些故事常常会令同学们捧腹大笑。这不仅活跃了课堂气氛，而且调动了同学们学习英语的兴趣。兴趣是最好的老师，我们旨在通过这些精选的幽默故事及笑话激发广大读者学习英语的热情。读者可以一早一晚，也可在茶余饭后读上几篇，日积月累，循序渐进，在不知不觉中取得进步。

为了便于读者自学，每篇幽默故事都对一些重点和难点部分增加注释，并附有参考译文。适合初、中级英语阶段的学习者，特别是在校的大学生，也可作为英语教师的教学参考用书。

本书的编者衷心地希望读者从这本书里得到乐趣、智慧和知识！



目 录

1. Missed Again (又没打中)	(1)
2. Making Babies (生孩子)	(1)
3. On a Bus (在汽车上)	(3)
4. Alcohol (酒精)	(3)
5. A Penny (一便士)	(5)
6. Career Choice (选择职业)	(5)
7. Looking for a Job (求职)	(7)
8. Pet Tragedy (宠物悲剧)	(7)
9. Einstein and Driver (爱因斯坦和司机)	(9)
10. Divorce Story (离婚的故事)	(9)
11. Who Got My Voice First (谁先听到)	(11)
12. Poisoned Coffee (有毒的咖啡)	(11)
13. The Beautiful View (美丽景观)	(13)
14. Bad Luck (噩运)	(13)
15. The Fool (傻瓜)	(15)
16. Police Chase (警车追逐)	(15)
17. Is Your Wife Home Now? (你妻子在家吗?)	(17)
18. Biting Humor (咬人幽默)	(17)
19. Are Flies Good To Eat? (苍蝇好吃吗?)	(19)
20. Flowers (送花)	(19)
21. An Entrance Examination (入学考试)	(21)
22. The Funeral (葬礼)	(21)
23. I Have To Stand (总得站着)	(23)
24. I Must Be a Lawyer (“我肯定是个律师”)	(25)
25. Appendicitis (阑尾炎)	(25)
26. The Water Hole (水坑)	(27)
27. Christmas Present (圣诞礼物)	(27)
28. The Shredder (碎纸机)	(29)
29. Drunk (醉鬼)	(29)

30. The Florist (花店老板)	(31)
31. Running Home at Night (夜归)	(31)
32. Kissing the Mirror (亲吻镜子)	(33)
33. He Will Follow Us (跟过去)	(35)
34. Suck Chocolate (吮巧克力)	(35)
35. Running Home (跑回家)	(37)
36. The Motorcyclist (摩托车手)	(39)
37. The Poor Old Man (可怜的老人)	(41)
38. The Parking (停车)	(43)
39. Miss the Train (误车)	(45)
40. The New Maid (新女仆)	(47)
41. Rose (玫瑰)	(49)
42. Banker's Woe (银行家的悲哀)	(51)
43. Peace (安宁)	(53)
44. Soap And Water (肥皂和水)	(53)
45. A Private Conversation (私人谈话)	(55)
46. Police Story (警察的故事)	(55)
47. It Is No Use (没必要)	(57)
48. Free Ride ? (免费乘车 ?)	(57)
49. Necklace And Moon (项链与月亮)	(57)
50. Ole's Obituary (奥尔的讣告)	(59)
51. Dick's Questions (迪克的问题)	(59)
52. Three Gents (三位绅士)	(61)
53. Two Oranges (两个桔子)	(61)
54. An Energetic Wife (精力旺盛的妻子)	(63)
55. Mr. Jones And Mr. Smith (琼斯先生与史密斯先生)	(63)
56. Only One Who Could Answer (只有他能答得出)	(65)
57. A Cap in the Air (头发里的帽子)	(65)
58. Hint (暗示)	(67)
59. Father And Monkey (父亲与猴子)	(67)

60. A Long Time (许久)	(69)
61. A Forgetful Man (健忘的人)	(71)
62. Stranger (陌生人)	(71)
63. A Party (宴会)	(73)
64. A Problem (头疼事)	(73)
65. I'll Keep It on My Floor (放在地板上)	(75)
66. Both Mistaken (两人都错了)	(75)
67. You're Not Going To Make It (你活不成了)	(77)
68. What Is Your Favorite Fruit? (你爱吃哪种水果?)	(77)
69. A Pleasant Surprise (惊喜)	(79)
70. Modern Life (现代生活)	(79)
71. A Stubborn Horse (倔强的马)	(81)
72. You Are Too Late (你太晚了)	(81)
73. She Is Left-handed (她是左撇子)	(83)
74. Joke (玩笑)	(83)
75. The Very Last Birthday (最后的生日)	(85)
76. Now She Knows (终于明白了)	(85)
77. The Mistaken Father (糊涂父亲)	(87)
78. Smart Machine (聪明的机器)	(87)
79. The Cat And the Saucer (猫与托盘)	(89)
80. Happy in Dream (梦中的幸福)	(89)
81. Senior Class (长辈)	(91)
82. A Bookworm's Wedding Night (一个书呆子的新婚之夜)	(91)
83. At the Supermarket (在超级市场)	(93)
84. Two Hearts Beating (两颗心脏在跳动)	(93)
85. Day after Day (日复一日)	(95)
86. Smart Bride (机灵的新娘)	(95)
87. He Lowered Her Chair Six Inches (他把她的椅子降低了 6 寸)	(97)
88. Foresight (先见之明)	(97)

89. Which Months Did He Go Away (几月走的)	(99)
90. We Have the Same Mother (同一母亲)	(99)
91. A Woman's Answer (妇女的回答)	(101)
92. Not So Easy (没那么容易)	(101)
93. The Choice of Word (选词)	(103)
94. Threatening Letters (恐吓信)	(103)
95. Wedding Or Not (是否结婚)	(105)
96. Blast Off (爆炸)	(105)
97. Your Uncle Ezra (你的叔叔埃兹拉)	(107)
98. She'd Rather Buy a Gift (她宁愿买一件礼物) ...	(107)
99. Doctor's Advice (医生的劝告)	(109)
100. Gallant And Buoyant (殷勤的和轻快的)	(109)
101. Wasted Sweetness (徒劳的拉票)	(111)
102. Standing By (待命)	(113)
103. Liberty in Darkness (黑暗中的自由)	(113)
104. You're Not Coming Empty-handed, Are You? (你不会空手而来, 对吧?)	(115)
105. Boy And Cake (男孩和饼)	(115)
106. A Long Face (拉长脸)	(117)
107. Barber's Wife (理发师的妻子)	(117)
108. Jumper (跳伞员)	(119)
109. Honesty (诚实)	(119)
110. Irrelevant Answer (答非所问)	(121)
111. Bad Memories (坏记性)	(121)
112. Too Smart for Dad (青出于蓝)	(123)
113. Why Was She Angry? (她为什么生气)	(123)
114. Really Serious (确实严重)	(125)
115. Skip a Day (跳过一天)	(125)
116. The Only Remedy (惟一的补救办法)	(127)
117. It Makes No Difference (没什么两样)	(127)
118. Who Pushed Me? (是谁推我了?)	(129)
119. Two Champions (两个冠军)	(129)

120. Atheist (无神论者)	(131)
121. The Place Is Full Of Mothers (妈妈太多)	(131)
122. Gallant Effort (殷勤)	(131)
123. Why She Did Not Talk (不说为妙)	(133)
124. Johnny Knew (约翰尼知道)	(133)
125. Fashion (赶时髦)	(135)
126. Unfair (不公平)	(137)
127. True Feelings (实情)	(137)
128. The Same Feeling (同样的感觉)	(139)
129. A Penny Pincher (守财奴)	(139)
130. Secondhand (二手货)	(141)
131. Being Considerate (善解人意)	(141)
132. Smart Dad (精明的父亲)	(143)
133. Fame and Hard Work (名声与艰苦劳动)	(145)
134. First Question (首要问题)	(145)
135. Senior Citizen (老年公民)	(147)
136. Marry Him (嫁给他)	(147)
137. As the Years Turn (生日来临之际)	(149)
138. Saving Matches (节约火柴)	(149)
139. Selfish ? (谁自私 ?)	(151)
140. Scholar And Farmer (学者和农夫)	(151)
141. More Rare ! (嫩得稀奇 !)	(153)
142. Bob's Answer (博比的回答)	(153)
143. Smart Or Not ? (谁不聪明 ?)	(155)
144. Mum Wouldn't Like (妈妈不让)	(155)
145. The Least To Buy (至少要买这些)	(157)
146. God Got an A (上帝得了 A)	(157)
147. The Art of Bribery (受贿有术)	(159)
148. Only Saw One (只看见一个)	(159)
149. Born First Lady (天生第一夫人)	(159)
150. Bragging (吹牛)	(161)
151. Thankful (感激的)	(161)

152. Straight Forward (直截了当)	(163)
153. Christmas Tree (圣诞树)	(163)
154. Look Differently (看法不同)	(165)
155. Dear, These Are My Jeans (亲爱的,那是我的裤子)	(165)
156. Be a Passenger (坐在乘客席上)	(167)
157. Do It Again (再来一次)	(167)
158. Over-reacted (过分紧张)	(169)
159. Fair Question (合理的问题)	(169)
160. Send Him Away (把它送走)	(171)
161. No More Babies ! (别太多孩子 !)	(173)
162. Symbol (标志)	(173)
163. Pick Me Up (接我)	(175)
164. Ways And Means (方法与途径)	(175)
165. Half-lost (一半的损失)	(177)
166. Solution to Problems (解决难题)	(177)
167. Injured at Pearl Harbor (在珍珠港受伤)	(179)
168. Right (公民权利)	(179)
169. A Gentleman (绅士)	(181)
170. I'm Glad (我很高兴)	(181)
171. It's His Fault (是他的错)	(183)
172. An Absent-minded Professor (心不在焉的教授)	(183)
173. Who Was the First Man ? (谁是第一个男人 ?) ...	(185)
174. Good Intentions (良好的心愿)	(185)
175. A Mysterious Letter (一封神秘的信)	(187)
176. A Barking Wife (汪汪叫的妻子)	(187)
177. A Rich Father (有钱的父亲)	(189)
178. The Rain (下雨)	(189)
179. Fire ! Fire ! (火 ! 火 !)	(191)
180. I Don't Need To Steal Anymore (我不需要再偷了)	(193)

181. Before the Trouble Starts (趁麻烦出现之前) ...	(195)
182. Have You Ceased Beating Your Wife ? (你停止打妻子了吗?)	(197)
183. Bribery (贿赂)	(199)
184. A Cure for a Headache (治疗头痛)	(201)
185. Delicious ! (味道好极了!)	(201)
186. Stupid Question (愚蠢的问题)	(203)
187. Do You Know My Work ? (你知道我是干什么的吗?) ...	(203)
188. A Different Kind of Audience (不同的听众)	(205)
189. A London Fog (伦敦大雾)	(207)
190. Before the Store Opened (在商店开门前)	(209)
191. Class, Lass And Ass (班级、情人和蠢驴)	(209)
192. I Work for the IRS (我在美国国税局工作)	(211)
193. Two Men (两个男人)	(213)
194. Wish (许愿)	(213)
195. Carburetor (化油器)	(215)
196. A Terrific Class (一个好班)	(215)
197. I Just Started on the Job Today (我今天第一天上班)	(217)
198. Churchill And Bernard Shaw (丘吉尔和肖伯纳)	(217)
199. Frozen Parrot (冰冻鹦鹉)	(219)
200. Not To Be Taken Out (概不外借)	(221)
201. Adoption (收养)	(221)
202. Lucky (运气)	(223)
203. Women (女人)	(223)
204. The Hunting Trip (打猎之旅)	(225)
205. The Christmas Cards (圣诞贺卡)	(227)
206. Whose Heart Is Better ? (谁的心更好?)	(227)
207. Student Recruitment (招生)	(229)
208. Who's Going Deaf ? (谁要聋了?)	(229)

209. The Lost Purse (丢失的钱包)	(231)
210. Contented Married Life (令人满意的婚姻生活)	(231)
211. No Problem (没问题)	(233)
212. Saving Lives (救人)	(233)
213. To Be on the Safe Side (保证没走错)	(235)
214. I Can Go Home (我可以回家了)	(235)
215. A Nail Or a Fly ? (钉子还是苍蝇 ?)	(237)
216. First Flight (第一次坐飞机)	(239)
217. A Bad Impression (一个坏印象)	(241)
218. A Smuggler (走私犯)	(243)
219. I Didn't Know That I Was So Far Back Already ! (真 没想到我已经往回跑了这么远 !)	(245)
220. Skunk (臭鼬)	(245)
221. Only Once (只有一次)	(247)
222. Persistence (缠住不放)	(247)
223. Treat (款待)	(249)
224. Bedtime Prayers (睡前祷告词)	(251)
225. That's Why (原来如此)	(251)
226. An Old Couple's Quarrel (老夫妻吵架)	(253)
227. Difference (区别)	(253)
228. Good News And Bad News (好消息和坏消息)	(255)
229. This Alligator Isn't Wearing Any Shoes Either (这只鳄 鱼也没穿鞋)	(257)
230. Grass Eater (食草者)	(259)
231. What's Your Name ? (你叫什么名字 ?)	(259)
232. A Dying Man's Favorite Cookies (临死者最爱吃的 小甜饼)	(261)
233. No Frills Dentist Appointment (直率的牙病患者)	(263)
234. Can't Get Out (无门可出)	(263)

235. Weather Predict (天气预报)	(265)
236. Take Good Care (加倍小心)	(265)
237. To Congress (去国会)	(267)
238. Very Pleased To Meet You (很高兴认识你)	(267)
239. Beyond Tolerance (难以忍受)	(269)
240. A Forgetful Husband (健忘的丈夫)	(271)
241. Not a Crime But a Miracle (不是犯罪而是奇迹)	(271)
242. Don't You like Any of Our Colors Today ? (没有一样 您喜欢的颜色吗 ?)	(273)
243. One Point (一分之差)	(273)
244. New Year Resolution (新年决心书)	(275)
245. Napoleon Was Ill (拿破仑病了)	(277)
246. A Small Boy And a Donkey (小男孩与驴子)	(277)
247. A Telephone Call (一个电话)	(279)
248. Friend for Dinner (请客)	(281)
249. "Me, too." ("我也是")	(281)
250. She (她)	(283)
251. What Happens ? (那会怎么样 ?)	(283)
252. Heads Or Tails (正面还是反面)	(285)
253. White Lies (善意的谎言)	(287)
254. Sun, Moon And Joshua (太阳、月亮和约书亚)	(289)
255. A Cow Or a Horse (牛乎、马乎 ?)	(291)
256. Hunters (猎人)	(291)
257. Three Turtles (三只海龟)	(293)
258. The New Farmer (新手农民)	(293)
主要参考文献	(295)



原文

1. Missed^① Again

1 David joined the army when he was eighteen. And for several months he was taught how to be a good soldier. He did quite well in everything except shooting. One day he and his friends were practising their shooting and all of them did well except David. At last the officer said, “David! You are quite hopeless^②! Do not waste your bullets. Go behind that wall and shoot yourself.”

2 David felt ashamed^③. He went behind the wall, and a few seconds later the officer and the other young soldiers heard the sound of a shot.

3 “Heavens!” the officer said. “Has that silly^④ man really shot himself?”

4 He ran behind the wall anxiously. But David was all right. “I’m sorry, sir,” he said, “but I missed again.”

2. Making Babies

1 A 3rd-grade girl came home from school. She was very happy, and her Mom noticed this. Mom asked, “What makes you so happy today?” The girl said, “Mom, we learned how to make babies in school today!”

2 Thinking that 3rd grade was a bit^① early for that, she asked her daughter to tell her how.

3 “It’s easy, Mom — you just drop^② the ‘y’, and add ‘ies’,” the daughter said.

1. **①** miss *v.* 未击中 **②** hopeless *a.* 没有希望的;令人绝望的

③ ashamed *a.* 感到羞耻;感到惭愧

④ silly *a.* 愚昧的;愚蠢的

2. **①** a bit 一点点 **②** drop *v.* 除掉



译文

1. 又没打中

1 大卫十八岁时入伍。在如何当个好兵的几个月训练中，他除了射击之外，其他项目的成绩都很好。一天，他和他的朋友们正在练射击，除大卫外，其他人练得都不错。最后，教官说道：“大卫！你没救了！别再浪费子弹了，到墙后去朝自己开一枪！”

2 大卫非常惭愧。他走到墙后。几秒种之后，教官和其他年轻士兵听到了一声枪响。

3 “天哪！”军官说道：“难道那傻瓜真的自杀了吗？”

4 他匆匆忙忙跑到了墙后，大卫一点儿事也没有。“我很惭愧，长官，”他说道：“我又没打中。”

2. 生孩子

1 一天，一位小学三年级的小女孩兴高采烈地从学校回到家中，她妈妈注意到她特别高兴，便问道：“今天你怎么这么高兴啊？”小女孩回答说：“妈妈，今天我们在学校里学习怎么生孩子。”

2 妈妈觉得这事儿对三年级的孩子来说，知道得未免太早，便问她都学了什么。

3 “这很简单，妈妈，你只要把‘y’去掉，加上‘ies’就行。”她回答道。



原文

3. On a Bus

1 There were many people on the bus and no vacant^① seats. When a young man entered, an old lady near him attempted^② to rise, but the young man forced her back into her seat.

2 “Thank you,” he said, “but please don’t do that. I am perfectly^③ able to stand.”

3 “But, young man, let me . . .” began the old lady.

4 “I ask you to keep your seat,” interrupted^④ the young man with a hand on her shoulder.

5 But the old lady tried to rise, saying, “Young man, will you permit me to . . .”

6 “No, no,” said the young man, and then he forced her back again.

7 At last the old lady managed to get up, she said to the young man, “Young man, you carried me three stops beyond my house. I want to get off.”

4. Alcohol^①

1 A father was trying to teach his young son the evils^② of alcohol.

2 He put one worm^③ in a glass of water and another worm in a glass of whiskey^④. The worm in the water lived, while the one in the whiskey curled up^⑤ and died.

3 “All right, son,” asked the father, “what does that show you?”

4 “Well, Dad, it shows that if you drink alcohol, you will not have worms.”

3. **1** vacant *a.* 空的 **2** attempt to do something 试图干某事; 企图

干某事 **3** perfectly *ad.* 完全地; 完美地 **4** interrupt *v.* 打扰

4. **1** alcohol *n.* 酒精 **2** evil *n.* 邪恶 **3** worm *n.* 虫子

4 whiskey *n.* 威士忌酒 **5** curl up 卷曲起来