

奇趣园 英语读物

Collections of Marvelous Anecdotes



每天一点儿 给力的英文

笑惨乐翻的英语笑话

(美) George Y. Tang / 编著

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作者简介



George Y. Tang, 中文原名汤毅坚, 生于上海, 毕业于复旦大学物理系; 参加大庆石油会战十年; 第一期中国科学院研究生院毕业; 任职哈尔滨科技大学十年。1990年以后在美国硅谷任资深高级电脑、网络设计工程师, 先后在Compaq, Juniper Networks和Cisco Systems等公司工作。目前业余时间担任旧金山湾区《老中地方新闻》的记者, 并主办《读新闻 学英文》专栏。

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本书精选 300 个在美国广泛流传的笑话，每章按照用词由浅到深、句法由简到繁、内容由短到长的顺序排列，从很简单的、容易看懂的笑话开始，逐步提高，最后介绍与双关语、多义词、同音词等语言背景和社会背景有关的比较难懂的笑话，无论是初通英语的中学生还是大学英语专业的研究生都可以找到适合各自程度的笑话，作为课外阅读材料使用。为了方便阅读，书中对比较难懂的笑话做了一些注释，并且在一些文章的后面列出了大学英语六级以上的词汇。

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前言

PREFACE

《每天一点儿给力的英文：捧腹爆笑的美式幽默》和《每天一点儿给力的英文：笑惨乐翻的英语笑话》是《奇趣园英语读物》系列丛书中的两个新成员。两本书各精选 300 个在美国广泛流传的笑话，简化句子结构，替换生僻词汇，加上中文译文，旨在帮助读者在阅读引人发笑的、流畅易懂的英语的同时学到许多新的词汇和表达方式。

每章内容按照用词由浅到深、句法由简到繁、内容由短到长的顺序排列，从很简单的、容易看懂的笑话开始，逐步提高，最后介绍与双关语、多义词、同音词等语言背景和社会背景有关的比较难懂的笑话，无论是初通英语的中学生还是大学英语专业的研究生都可以找到适合各自程度的笑话，作为课外阅读材料使用。为了方便阅读，书中对比较难懂的笑话做了一些注释，并且在一些文章的后面列出大学英语六级以上的词汇。

学习英语是一个长期积累的过程，即使对于在美国定居几十年的人士，虽然应付日常生活和工作已经游刃有余，但是在表达深一层感觉和感情的时候，常常觉得英语的功力还是不够。笑话属于深层次的文化，同一个笑话会因读者的年龄、性别、文化程度、职业、经历、兴趣、爱好等的差别而产生完全不同的反应。本系列丛书收集的内容能够让读者学到现代的“活”英语，使他们在提高英语水平的同时，为茶余饭后的谈话增添许多乐趣；还可以使他们了解世界各国的社会文化、风俗习惯、风土人情、人际交往等。

我的女儿 Nina Tang 为本系列丛书提供了许多帮助，我的女婿 Wei Li 编写了英语词汇分析软件，特此一并致谢。

George Y. Tang

2016 年 8 月于美国加州硅谷

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孩童笑话

第一章



001

The giraffe's neck

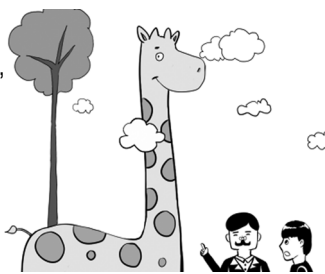
长颈鹿的脖子

Teacher: "Why is a giraffe's neck so long?"

Student: "Because its head is too far away from its body."

老师：“长颈鹿的脖子为什么那么长？”

学生：“因为它的头离它的身体太远了。”



giraffe *n.* 长颈鹿



002

Teacher is not as good

老师不如我

"Mom, the teacher is not as good as I am. I can recognize what she writes, but she can't recognize what I write!"

“妈妈，老师不如我，她写的字我认识，我写的字她不认识！”



003

A little taller

高一点

Mother took Helen to watch ballet. Helen saw all ballet dancers standing on their toes, and asked her mother, "Why didn't they find dancers a little taller?"

妈妈带海伦去看芭蕾舞表演，海伦见芭蕾舞演员都踮着脚，就问妈妈：“他们为什么不找高一点的演员呢？”

ballet *n.* 芭蕾舞，舞剧 toe *n.* 脚趾，足尖





004

What would God want with a dead dog?

上帝要一只死狗干什么？

Mom and dad were trying to **console** Lisa, whose dog had recently died. “You know, it’s not your fault that the dog died. He’s probably up in heaven right now, having a grand time with God.”

Lisa, still crying, said, “What would God want with a dead dog?”

丽莎的狗死了，爸爸和妈妈正在安慰她：“你的狗死了，这不是你的错。它现在可能正在天堂里，和上帝一起度过美好的时光。”

丽莎一边哭一边说：“上帝要一只死狗干什么？”

console v. 安慰，抚慰，慰藉



005

Can I borrow your daughter?

我能不能借用你的女儿？

A woman took her five-year-old daughter shopping with her. The little girl watched her mother try on **outfit** after outfit, **exclaiming** each time, “Mommy, you look beautiful!” A woman in the next **dressing room** called out, “Can I borrow your daughter for a moment?”

一个女人带着她5岁的女儿去购物，小姑娘看着她妈妈一件又一件地试穿外衣，每一次都惊叫说：“妈妈，你真好看！”在隔壁试衣室的女人喊起来：“我能不能借你的女儿用一会儿？”

outfit n. 全套服装 **exclaim** v. 呼喊，惊叫，大声说
dressing room 试衣间



006

Take a short brake

休息一会儿

My son did something wrong, and I **scolded** him. He started crying

loudly, and I simply **ignored** him. After an hour, he stopped crying. I asked him, “Won’t you cry anymore?”

He answered, “Yes, I will. I just want to take a short break.”

儿子做错了事，被我训斥后大哭了一个小时，我没有理他。待他不哭了，我问他：“你不哭了？”

儿子答道：“不是不哭，我想休息一会儿。”

scold v. 责骂，责备

ignore v. 不理，不顾，忽视



007

I can throw better

比你扔得准

Mother: “Why did you throw stones at your friend?”

Son: “He threw stones at me first.”

Mother: “When he threw stones at you, you should have come back immediately to tell me.”

Son: “What’s the use? I can throw better than you.”

妈妈：“你为什么用石头扔小朋友？”

儿子：“是他先用石头扔我的。”

妈妈：“他扔你的时候，你要马上回来告诉我。”

儿子：“那有什么用？我比你扔得准。”



008

That’s me

那是我

Two little girls were walking down the street when one of them looked down and found a mirror. She picked it up, looked at it. “Wow! I know this person. I’ve seen this person before.”

The other girl took the mirror and looked at it. “Of course you do.



That's me.”

两个小姑娘走在马路上，其中一个看到地上有一面镜子，就把它捡起来看。她说：“噢，我认识这个人，我以前见过她。”

她的同伴把镜子拿过去，看了一下说：“你当然认识这个人，那是我。”



笑话
009

Will you accept the charges?

你同意不同意付钱?

My wife was away at a business **conference**. During a break, she called home collect. My six-year-old son picked up the phone and heard a **stranger's** voice say, “We have a Mary on the line. Will you accept the charges?”

Frantic, he dropped the receiver and came **screaming**, “Dad! They've got mom! And they want money!”

我的太太到外地参加一个业务会议，休息期间她给家里打了一个对方付款电话。我6岁的儿子接电话，听到一个陌生人的声音说：“我们有一个玛丽在线上，你同意不同意付钱?”

他惊慌失措地扔下电话听筒，跑来大叫：“爸爸，他们把妈妈抓住了！他们要钱！”

conference *n.* (正式的)会议, 讨论

stranger *n.* 陌生人, 外人

scream *v.* 尖叫



笑话
010

A surprising reasoning

原来如此

Teacher: “Why ducks often stand on one leg?”

Student: “Because it knows that it will fall down if it withdraws the

other leg.”

老师：“为什么鸭子常用一条腿站立？”

学生：“因为它知道再缩起另一条腿就会跌倒了。”



笑话
011

Mom is always so busy

妈妈总是那么忙

Teacher: “Did your father do your homework again?”

Student: “Well, my mom is always so busy!”

老师：“又是你爸爸替你写的作业吧？”

学生：“唉，妈妈总是那么忙！”



笑话
012

Rabbit and python

兔子和大蟒

An **adorable** little girl walked into my pet shop and asked, “Excuse me, do you have any rabbits here?”

“I do,” I answered, leaning down to her eye level, and asked, “Do you want a white rabbit or would you rather have a soft, **fuzzy** black rabbit?”

She **shrugged**. “I don't think my **python** really cares.”

一个可爱的小姑娘进到我的宠物商店，问：“请问，你这里有兔子吗？”

我回答说：“有啊。”并且弯腰凑到她眼前问：“你是喜欢白色的兔子，还是喜欢软软的、毛茸茸的黑兔子？”

她耸耸肩膀说：“我想我的大蟒不会太在意的。”



adorable a. 可爱的 **fuzzy** a. 毛茸茸的

shrug v. 耸(肩) n. 耸肩 **python** n. 蟒, 蚺蛇





013

Just say what you hear mommy say

你听妈妈怎么说，你就怎么说

A family was having some people to dinner. At the table, the mother turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, “Would you like to say the **blessing** ?”

“I wouldn't know what to say,” replied the little girl.

“Just say what you hear mommy say,” the woman said.

Her daughter **bowed** her head and said, “Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?”

有一家人邀请一些客人来家里吃饭，在餐桌上妈妈对6岁的女儿说：“你愿不愿意做谢饭祷告？”

小姑娘回答说：“我不知道该说什么。”

妈妈说：“你听妈妈怎么说，你就怎么说。”

女儿低下头说：“亲爱的主，我究竟为什么要邀请这些人来吃饭？”

blessing *n.* 祝福

bow *v.* 鞠躬，屈服



014

You used to be a bear?

你以前是一只熊？

I was a Marine and now work for United Parcel Service. One day I bought my four-year-old son a stuffed bear in Marine **garb** . I brought out a picture of myself in full Marine **dress** . Pointing to the photo and then to the bear, I explained. “That's daddy.”

His eyes went from one to the other, and then he asked in a puzzled voice, “You used to be a bear?”

我以前是海军陆战队员，现在在联合包裹投递公司上班。有一天，我

给4岁的儿子买了一个穿着海军陆战队制服的玩具熊。我拿出一张我的穿着海军陆战队全套制服的照片，指指照片，又指指玩具熊，解释说：“这是爸爸。”

他的眼睛看看照片，又看看玩具熊，用困扰的声音说：“你以前是一只熊？”

garb *n.* 服装，装扮，装束

dress *n.* 女服，(统指)衣服



I can see the diving board

我能看见跳水板

We took our daughter for a **vacation**. Seated on the airplane near the wing, I pointed out to her that we were above the ocean.

“Can you see the water?” I asked her.

“No,” she said, **peering** out the window at the wing, “but I can see the diving board.”

我们带女儿去度假，坐在飞机上靠机翼的地方。我告诉她，我们现在是在大洋上空。

我问她：“你能看见水吗？”

她从窗口望出去，看着机翼说：“没看见水，不过我能看见跳水板。”

vacation *n.* 假期 **peer** *v.* 凝视，隐约出现



The kitten

小猫

Aunt: “Last time I saw a **kitten** here. How is it doing now?”

Girl: “Don’t you know?”

Aunt: “Is it dead?”



Girl: "No, it isn't."

Aunt: "Did you give it to a friend?"

Girl: "No, I didn't."

Aunt: "Well, I really don't know then... What happened to it?"

Girl said with a smile, "It's a fully grown cat now!"

阿姨：“上次在这儿看见一只小猫，它现在怎样啦？”

女孩：“你不知道吗？”

阿姨：“它死了吗？”

女孩：“没有。”

阿姨：“你把它送给朋友了吗？”

女孩：“没有。”

阿姨：“那么，我就不明白了。它现在怎么啦？”

女孩笑着说：“它已经长成大猫了！”

kitten n. 小猫



I'll give you ten bucks

我给你们 10 块钱

We were going out of state for six weeks and asked the neighbors' nine-year-old son to care for our dog. We explained that the job required feeding, **grooming**, walking and, most of all, plenty of love and playtime. Then, we asked him what the job would be worth to him. "I'll give you ten **bucks**," he said.

我们要出远门 6 个星期，就让邻居 9 岁的儿子替我们照看狗。我们对他说，这项工作需要喂食、梳毛、遛狗，最重要的是要有大量的爱心以及大量的时间和狗一起玩。然后我们问他，这对他来说值多少钱。他说：“我给你们 10 块钱。”

groom v. 理毛，梳毛

buck n. 美元





Dad is five years old

018 爸爸5岁了

A **kindergarten** teacher asked a child, “Can you tell your father’s age?”

The child replied, “My dad is five.”

The teacher smiled and said, “Think it again, could your father be as old as you are?”

“Yes, my father said he became a dad from the day I was born.”

幼儿园老师问一个孩子：“你能说出你爸爸今年多大了吗？”

孩子答道：“爸爸今年5岁了。”

老师笑了：“你再想一想，难道你爸爸和你一样大？”

“是的，我爸爸说过，他是从我出生那天开始当爸爸的。”

kindergarten *n.* 幼儿园 



Disqualified doctor

019 不合格的医生

Mother took three-year-old boy to a hospital. In order to let the boy relax, the doctor pointed to his ear and said, “Kid, is this your nose?”

The little boy looked at the doctor, turned to his mother and said, “Mom, he can’t even tell ears from nose. How can he be a doctor?”

妈妈带3岁的小男孩去医院看病。医生为了让小男孩不那么紧张，就指着他的耳朵逗他说：“小朋友，这是你的鼻子吗？”

小男孩看了看医生，转过头对妈妈说：“妈妈，他连鼻子和耳朵都分不清，还怎么当医生？”



A tree's not much of a present

一棵树也算不上什么礼物

My family wanted to do something to honor my son who had been sent to Iraq. With the help of my four-year-old grandson, I tied a yellow ribbon on the tree in my front yard.

“Why are we doing this, Grandma?” he asked.

“It's for your uncle,” I said.

He remarked quietly, “A tree's not much of a present.”

我的儿子被派到伊拉克打仗去了，我们全家想要做点什么来表示对他的敬意。在我4岁孙子的帮助下，我把一条黄绸带绑在前院的一棵树上。

他问我：“奶奶，我们为什么要这么做呀？”

我说：“这是送给你叔叔的。”

他轻声评论说：“一棵树也算不上什么礼物呀！”

ribbon *n.* 缎带，丝带，带，带状物



The wanted men

通缉犯

A group of kindergarteners went to visit a police station, and saw a lot of new things. David saw the pictures posted on the wall, and asked the police officer, “Are these the photos of the wanted men?”

The officer replied, “Yes, they are.”

David asked again, “So, why didn't you catch them when they had these pictures taken?”

一群幼儿园的小朋友来到警察局参观，见到了许多新鲜的东西。大卫看见墙上挂着的照片，就问警察叔叔：“这些照片是那些通缉犯

的吗？”

警察回答道：“是的。”

大卫又问：“那么给他们拍照的时候，为什么不把他们抓起来呢？”



笑话
022

The future brother

未来的弟弟

The 4-year-old daughter asked her dad how her future brother will be born. Her dad explained, “The head will be out first, then the body, and finally, the two legs. Do you understand?”

“Yes, I do. Dad, then you’ll put them together, right?”

4岁的女儿问爸爸，未来的弟弟是怎么生出来的。爸爸向她解释道：“先生出头，再生出身子，最后是两条腿，懂了吗？”

“懂了，爸爸，然后你把它们组装起来，对吗？”



笑话
023

Just have been there

刚去过

A father asked his 5-year-old daughter, “Who do you love better, dad or mom?”

“I love you both!”

“If dad was to Disneyland and mom was to Paris, where would you go?”

“I want to go to Paris.”

“Why?”

“Because Paris is more beautiful!”



“What if dad was to Paris and mom was to Disneyland?”

“Of course I am going to Disneyland!”

“Why?”

“Because I have just been in Paris!”

爸爸问5岁的女儿：“爸爸和妈妈你更爱谁？”

“两个都爱！”

“如果爸爸去迪士尼乐园，妈妈去巴黎，你要去哪儿？”

“我要去巴黎！”

“为什么？”

“因为那里比较漂亮呀！”

“那现在爸爸去巴黎，妈妈去迪士尼呢？”

“当然要去迪士尼！”

“为什么？”

“因为刚才已经去过巴黎了呀！”



Please, make her stop

求求你，让她停下来

In her first morning home, my daughter started her regular **jogging**. She saw a little boy on a **tricycle** watching his mother plant flowers. The boy waved to her with a big smile, and she yelled “Hi!” as she ran by. She did this every time she saw the boy. As she was passing for the fourth time, the boy turned to his mother. “Please, mommy,” he **begged**. “Make her stop.”

我女儿回家的第一个早晨，就开始她常规的慢跑。她看见一个男孩骑着一辆小三轮车，在看他妈妈种花。男孩对着她咧嘴笑、挥手，她就对他说：“你好！”她每次跑步经过男孩的时候都这么做。当她第4次经过的时候，男孩回头对他妈妈乞求说：“妈妈，求求你，让她停下来。”

jog v. 慢跑

tricycle n. 三轮车

beg v. 乞求，请求





笑话
025

Call the dog in

把狗叫进来

In the study, the son was doing homework and the dad was working on computer. Suddenly, the dad remembered that his wife asked him to bring back the clothes in backyard if it started raining. He asked his son: "Is it raining outside?"

The son said, "I don't know. Call the dog in, and see if he is wet."

书房里，儿子在做作业，爸爸在打电脑。忽然，爸爸想起妈妈吩咐过，下雨时要把晒在院子里的衣服收回来，于是就问儿子：“外面有没有下雨？”

儿子说：“我不知道。把狗叫进来，看它身上湿不湿。”



笑话
026

It was drowned

它是淹死的

One day, I went to a **daycare** center for interviewing. In a classroom I saw a fish bowl on the **window sill** that had only some **waterweeds** in. I asked, "Where is the goldfish?"

The teacher replied, "Oh, it just died the day before."

A little boy explained, "It was drowned!"

一天，我去幼儿园采访，看见一个班的窗前放着一个金鱼缸，里面只有一些水草，就问：“里面的金鱼呢？”

老师说：“前两天刚死掉。”

一个小朋友解释道：“它是淹死的！”

daycare n. 托儿所

window sill n. 窗台

waterweed n. 藻





027

Where is God?

上帝在哪里？

A Sunday School teacher asked his class, “Where is God?”

A boy raised his hand and said, “He’s in Heaven.”

A girl was called on and answered, “He’s in my heart.”

Johnny, waving his hand **furiously**, **blurted** out, “I know! I know! He’s in our bathroom!”

The teacher asked how he knew this. Johnny said, “Well... every morning, my father gets up, **bangs** on the bathroom door, and yells ‘My God, are you still in there?’”

教会主日学校一个老师问他的学生：“上帝在哪里？”

一个男孩举手说：“他在天堂里。”

一个女孩被叫起来回答，她说：“他在我的心里。”

强尼拼命地挥手，大声叫喊：“我知道，我知道，他在我们家的厕所里。”

老师问他是怎么知道的。强尼说：“嗯，每天早上我爸起床以后就敲厕所的门，大喊：‘我的上帝，你还在里面啊？’”

furiously *ad.* 狂怒，暴怒

blurt *v.* 脱口而出

bang *v.* 猛敲，砸



028

My mother doesn't look like that either

我妈看起来也不是这样

While doing **renovations** in our house, one of the workmen paused to look at a photo of me wearing **makeup** and a fancy gown. I heard him let out a low **whistle** and ask my son, “Who’s that?”

“That’s my mom,” my son answered.

“Wow,” the man said, “My mother doesn’t look like that.”

“Well,” my son said, “neither does mine.”

我们家装修房子的时候，一个装修工人停步看我的一张化了妆、穿着昂贵礼服的照片。我听见他轻轻吹了一下口哨，并且问我的儿子：“这是谁？”

我儿子说：“那是我妈妈。”

那人说：“嘿，我妈看起来可不是这样。”

我儿子说：“嗯，我妈看起来也不是这样。”

renovation *n.* 改造，装修 **makeup** *n.* 化妆品 **whistle** *n.* 口哨



Can't you read, either?

029

你也不识字？

I had signed up to be a school volunteer and was helping a first-grader with her homework. But it turned out I was the one in need of help. The **assignment** required coloring, and I'm color-blind—can't tell blue from red. As we finished our lesson, I told the little girl, “Next week you can read to me.”

Looking confused, she said, “Can't you read, either?”

我报名当上了学校的义工，帮助一个一年级的小姑娘做家庭作业，然而结果却是我需要帮助。这个家庭作业要求上颜色，而我是红绿色盲。在结束我们这一课的时候，我对小姑娘说：“下个星期你可以读给我听。”

小姑娘有点搞糊涂了，她说：“你也不识字？”

assignment *n.* 分配，委派，任务，(课外)作业



Wrong guess

030

猜错了

Teacher: “Why do you always fail to wash up? You see, even the



foods you ate today for breakfast are still hanging in your face. ”

Student: “Then, guess what I had for breakfast this morning. ”

Teacher: “Bread and milk. ”

Student: “No, you are wrong. That was what I ate yesterday morning. ”

老师：“你为什么总是不洗脸？你瞧，连你今天的早餐还挂在脸上。”

学生：“那你讲讲我早上吃的是什么？”

老师：“面包和牛奶。”

学生：“你说错了，那是昨天早上吃的。”



Breast feeding

喂奶

As I was nursing my baby, my six-year-old niece came into the room. Never having seen anyone breast feed before, she was interested and full of all kinds of questions about what I was doing. After thinking over my answers, she remarked, “My mom has some of those, but I don't think she knows how to use them. ”

我在给孩子喂奶的时候，6岁的侄女走进来了。她从来没有看见过喂奶，因此怀着极大的兴趣问这问那。对我的回答琢磨一番以后，她评论说：“我妈妈也有这两个东西，不过我想她不知道怎么用它们。”



On an apple tree

苹果树上

A farmer saw a little boy on an apple tree. He said, “Wait, little monkey, I'm going to tell your father!”

The boy raised his head and



shouted, "Dad, someone down there wants to talk to you!"

一个农夫发现一个小男孩爬在苹果树上，就说：“小捣蛋，你等着，我要去告诉你爸爸！”

男孩抬头向上面喊道：“爹，底下有人要和你说话！”



笑话
033

I want my mommy

我要妈妈

For the first time, my four-year-old daughter was coming to my office to have me clean her teeth. I seated her and, as usual, put on my gloves, **goggles** and mask. She got scared and cried, "I want my mommy!"

I quickly pulled off my mask and said, "I am your mommy."

Without hesitating, she yelled back, "Then I want my **granny**!"

我4岁的女儿第一次到我的诊所，由我给她清洗牙齿。我让她坐好，然后我像平时那样戴上手套、护目镜和口罩。她害怕了，哭喊着：“我要妈妈。”

我赶紧把口罩拿掉说：“我是你妈妈。”

她毫不犹豫地喊：“那我要姥姥。”

goggles n. 护目镜，风镜，游泳镜

granny n. 奶奶，姥姥



笑话
034

Prediction

预见

The teacher asked David, "What will happen if someone loses his left ear?"

David answered, "He will be unable to hear the voice from his left side."



The teacher asked again, “What if he also loses his right ear?”

David said, “Then he will be unable to hear anything or see anything.”

“Oh, will it be like this?”

David said confidently, “Yes, it’s true. If he loses both ears, then his hat will fall down and cover his eyes.”

老师问大卫：“人缺了左耳会怎样呢？”

大卫回答：“那将听不到来自左边的声音。”

老师又问：“如果右耳也缺了呢？”

大卫说：“那将什么也听不见，什么也看不见了。”

“会这样吗？”

大卫自信地说道：“是的，如果两只耳朵都没了，那戴在头上的帽子就会滑下来，把两只眼睛给遮住了。”



A life-time punishment

035

终生的惩罚

Even though I’m in my 30s I still stop by my parents’ house to **mow** their **lawn**. One afternoon, the kid next door was cutting his grass at the same time. “It’s **punishment** for skipping a day of school,” he explained. “Why are you still doing your folks’ yard?”

“Because I cut a class when I was your age,” I said with a straight face. I’m told he’s had perfect **attendance** ever since.

我虽然已经30多岁了，但是仍然为我父母家修剪草坪。一天下午，隔壁邻居家的男孩正好也在修剪草坪。他说：“我是因为逃学一天受到惩罚，你为什么还给你父母家修剪草坪？”

我一脸严肃地说：“因为我像你那么大的时候逃了一节课。”后来我听说他再也没有逃学。

mow v. 割 **lawn** n. 草地，草坪

punishment n. 处罚，惩罚 **attendance** n. 到场，出席人数





Practicing my trumpet

我在练习吹喇叭

My sister had been ill, so I called to see how she was doing. My ten-year-old niece answered the phone. “Hello,” she whispered.

“Hi, honey. How’s your mother?” I asked.

“She’s sleeping,” she answered, again in a whisper.

“Did she go to the doctor?” I asked.

“Yes. She got some medicine,” my niece said softly.

“Well, don’t wake her up. Just tell her I called. What are you doing, by the way?”

Again in a soft whisper, she answered, “Practicing my trumpet.”

我的姐姐病了，我打电话看她好一点没有。我 10 岁的外甥女接电话，轻声地说：“喂？”

我问她：“乖乖，你妈妈的病怎么样了？”

她仍然轻声地说：“她在睡觉。”

我问：“她去看医生了吗？”

她小声地说：“去了，拿了一点药回来。”

“嗯，不要叫醒她，就说我打过电话了。顺便问一句，你在干什么呢？”

她依然小声地说：“我在练习吹喇叭。”



trumpet n. 喇叭，小号





037

That's my son

那是我的儿子

It's every airplane passenger's nightmare—getting stuck near a crying baby. I was **manning** the ticket counter at a busy airport when the sound of a crying **infant** filled the air. As the next passenger stepped up to the desk, he glanced at the baby and rolled his eyes. “Don't worry,” I said to him cheerily. “Chances are that baby won't be on your flight.”

Head shaking, he **grimly** replied, “Oh, I bet he will. That's my son.”

坐飞机的时候如果坐在啼哭的孩子附近，那简直就是一场噩梦。当我在一个繁忙的机场顶班帮助检票的时候，有一阵婴儿的哭闹声传过来，走到柜台跟前的下一个乘客看了一眼娃娃，向上翻了一下白眼。我安慰他说：“别担心，很有可能这孩子不和你坐同一班飞机。”

他摇摇头，冷冷地说：“他肯定要和我坐同一班飞机，他是我的儿子。”

man v. 替班

infant n. 婴儿，幼儿

grimly a. 冷酷无情地，严厉地



038

The best evidence

最好的证据

A boy was **bragging** to his classmates, “Once my father **accidentally** fell into a river, he quickly caught two fish in the water that brought him back to land safe.” All of his classmates didn't believe, asking him for evidence. The boy said, “Why do we need evidence? It is the best evidence that my father is still alive.”

一个男孩向他的同学吹牛说：“有一次，我爸爸不小心掉进河里，他急忙抓住水中游着的两条鱼，这才安全地上了岸。”同学们都不相信，要

他拿出证据来。男孩说：“难道还需要证据吗？我爸爸现在活着，这就是最好的证据。”

brag v. 吹牛，自吹自擂 **accidental** a. 偶然的，意外的



笑话
039

My mom also put me in stroller

我妈妈也把我放在手推车里

While I sat in the **reception** area of my doctor's office, a woman rolled an elderly man in a **wheelchair** into the room. As she went to the **receptionist's** desk, the man sat there, alone and silent. Just as I was thinking I should make small talk with him, a little boy slipped off his mother's lap and walked over to the wheelchair. Placing his hand on the man's, he said, "I know how you feel. My mom makes me **ride** in the **stroller** too."

我在医生诊所的接待室等候的时候，一个女人推着一个坐在轮椅上的老人进来。在她去接待员那里时，那老人孤零零地坐在那里，一声不吭。我正想上去和他聊聊天，一个小男孩从他妈妈膝盖上滑下来，朝轮椅走去。他把一只小手放在老人的手上说：“我了解你的感受，我妈妈也常常把我放在手推车里。”

reception n. 接待 **wheelchair** n. 轮椅 **receptionist** n. 接待员

ride v. 骑，搭乘，乘坐 **stroller** n. 闲逛者，婴儿车



笑话
040

Whose father is the fastest?

谁的爸爸最快？

Three children were arguing whose father is the fastest. The first child said, "I accidentally knocked a cup off the table. But, my dad caught it before it fell to the ground."



The second child said, "Once my father went hunting and shot a deer. He rushed up to hold it before it fell to the ground."

The third one said, "My dad is supposed to be off-duty at six o'clock in the evening, but he arrived home by 5:30 p. m."

有3个小孩在比谁的爸爸最快。第一个小孩说：“我不小心把桌上的杯子碰掉了，可是杯子还没有跌到地面，我爸爸就把它接住了。”

第二个小孩说：“我爸爸去打猎，射中一头鹿，在鹿摔倒地面之前他就冲上去把它扶住了。”

第3个小孩说：“我爸爸每天下午6点下班，他5点半就到家了。”

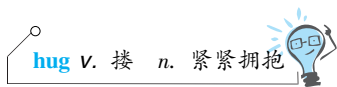


A small trick

小花招

One woman took a walk with her two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, and started chatting with other mothers. The little girl saw an older boy was playing with an attractive toy, and wanted to play as well. But, instead of grabbing the toy, she went to the boy's mother and asked for a hug. The woman happily held her. Seeing this, the little boy put down his toy, and ran over to his own mother. So, the little girl easily got the toy.

一个女子带着2岁半的女儿散步，和其他妈妈们聚到一起聊起了天。小女孩看见一个比她大的男孩在玩一个很好玩的玩具，很想要玩，但是她没有去抢，而是走到那个小男孩的妈妈面前让她抱。男孩的妈妈高兴地去抱她。那个小男孩看见了，放下手里的玩具，跑过来要自己妈妈抱。于是，小女孩顺利地拿到了玩具。





笑话
042

How's your arm broken?

胳膊怎么断了？

David went to school with his arm in **plaster bandage**. His teacher asked him, "What happened to your arm?"

David said, "It's broken."

The teacher said, "How?"

David said, "Because I was too lazy."

The teacher said, "You broke your arm because you were too lazy?"

David said, "When I was walking on the road, a tiny stone ran into one of my shoes. But I didn't want to **bend** down. So I held a utility pole, trying to shake the stone off the shoe. A **passerby** thought I got an electric shock, and hit my arm with a stick..."

大卫胳膊上打着石膏去上学，老师问：“你的胳膊怎么了？”

大卫说：“断了。”

老师说：“为什么？”

大卫说：“因为我太懒了。”

老师说：“太懒胳膊会断？”

大卫说：“我走在路上，鞋子里跑进一颗石头，可是我懒得弯腰，就抱着电线杆抖着脚让石头掉出来。路人以为我触电了，就用棍子打我的胳膊……”

plaster *n.* 石膏 **bandage** *n.* 绷带

bend *v.* (使)弯曲，屈身 **passerby** *n.* 过路人



笑话
043

Blow a whistle

吹口哨

Scott and his dad were onboard a train. His dad asked him not to stretch his head out of the window, but he didn't listen. His dad



suddenly took off his hat, hid behind him, and said, “See, your hat was blown away!”

Scott started crying and wanted his hat back. His dad said, “Don’t cry. If you try to blow a **whistle**, your hat may fly back.” And so, when Scott stared at the window and blew a whistle, his dad put his hat back on his head.

Scott smiled happily, “It’s real fun!” Suddenly, he took his dad’s hat and threw it out of the window, and cheerfully said, “Dad, it’s your turn now to blow a whistle!”

在火车上，爸爸叫斯科特不要把头伸出窗外，但是他不听话。爸爸一下子摘下他的帽子，藏在身后说：“看，你的帽子吹跑了！”

斯科特哭起来，要找回飞掉的帽子。爸爸说：“别哭，你吹一声口哨，帽子也许能飞回来。”于是，在斯科特盯着车窗吹口哨的同时，爸爸把帽子戴回了他的头上。

斯科特高兴地笑了：“真好玩！”突然，他摘下爸爸的帽子扔出窗外，快活地说：“爸爸，这回轮到你吹口哨了！”

whistle *n.* 口哨

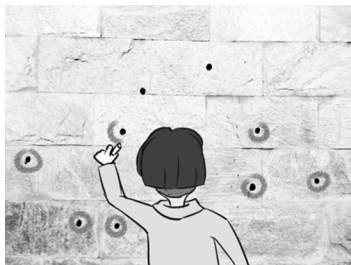


A young expert marksman

044

小神枪手

The coach of a shooting team noticed a row of gun ports in a wall that each hole hit right the center of a small **chalk** circle. He thought that the guy must be an expert **marksman**, and he must find him. Finally, he found out that the guy was a 7-year-old boy, and asked him, “Kid, how can you shoot so



accurately?"

The boy said, "It's very easy. First, I shot against the wall. Then, I drew a circle around the hole with a piece of chalk."

射击队的教练在街边墙上发现了一排气枪弹洞，个个都命中一个很小的粉笔圈。他心想这准是个神枪手，一定要把他找到。最后，他发现射手竟是个七岁的男孩，就问他：“小朋友，你的枪法怎么那么准？”

小男孩说：“很简单的，我先对着墙开枪，然后用粉笔在弹洞周围画个圆圈。”



A gift for the teacher

045

送给老师的礼物

It was the last day of school, and all the students were bringing presents for their teacher. A florist's daughter came up and gave her teacher a box.

The teacher said, "I'll bet these are flowers!"

The girl replied, "How did you know?"

"Just a lucky guess," she said.

Next, a boy whose family owned a candy store came up and gave the teacher a box. She said that she knew it was candy. When the boy asked how she knew, she again said, "just a lucky guess."

Finally, a boy whose father owned a liquor store came up and gave the teacher a box, but one of its corners was damp from a leak. The teacher asked the boy if it was wine.

The boy said, "No."

She touched the leak and put it to her tongue, and asked if it was champagne. The boy again said no. Finally, she gave up, and asked



him what was in the box.

He said happily, "A puppy!"

这是学期的最后一天，所有的学生都带礼物来送给老师。花店老板的女儿走上来，送给老师一个盒子。

老师说：“我敢打赌这里面是花。”

女孩问：“你怎么知道的？”

老师说：“碰巧猜对了。”

接着，糖果店老板的儿子走上来，送给老师一个盒子。老师说她知道这里面是糖果，男孩问她是怎么知道的，老师又说：“碰巧猜对了。”

最后，酒店老板的儿子走上来，送给老师一个盒子，但是这个盒子的一个角漏湿了。老师问男孩盒子里是不是葡萄酒。

男孩说：“不是。”

老师碰了碰漏湿的地方，放到舌头上，问是不是香槟酒。

男孩说：“不是。”

最后，老师放弃了，问他盒子里到底是什么。

男孩开心地说：“一只小狗！”

liquor *n.* 烈性酒

damp *a.* 潮湿的

tongue *n.* 舌，舌头

champagne *n.* 香槟



I guess this is That

046

我想这个是“那个”

When my son and daughter bought three birds, they named them This, That, and The Other. After a few months, This died, and they buried the bird in the backyard. A few months later, The Other passed away, and they buried it next to This. A few more months later, my daughter came home to find a bird lying on ground. She **tearfully** announced, "I guess this is That."

我的儿子和女儿买了3只鸟，他们给鸟起的名字叫“这个”、“那个”

和“另一个”。过了几个月，“这个”死了，他们把它埋在后院。又过了几个月，“另一个”死了，他们又把它埋在“这个”的旁边。又过了几个月，我女儿回到家里，发现一只鸟躺在地上，她眼泪汪汪地说：“我想这个是‘那个’”。

tearfully *ad.* 哭泣地，含泪地



笑话
047

This time he took the cage

这次它连笼子一起带走了

I bought my five-year-old daughter, Lisa, a **hamster**. One day he escaped from his **cage**. We turned the house upside down and finally found him.

Several weeks later, while Lisa was at school, he escaped from his cage again. I searched **frantically** but never found him. Hoping to make the loss less painful for Lisa, I took the cage out of her room.

When Lisa came home from school that afternoon, she climbed into my lap. “We’ve got a serious problem,” she announced. “Not only is my hamster gone again, but this time he took the cage.”

我给5岁的女儿丽莎买了一只宠物仓鼠。有一天它从笼子里逃了出来，我们把整个家翻了个底朝天才把它找回来。

过了几个星期，丽莎上学不在家的时候，它又从笼子里逃出来。我发疯似的找，但是再也找不到这个小东西了。为了减少丽莎的痛苦，我把笼子从她的房间里拿了出来。

丽莎下午放学回家，爬到我的膝盖上对我宣布：“我们碰到了一个严重的问题，不但我的宠物仓鼠跑了，而且这次它连笼子也一起带走了。”

hamster *n.* 仓鼠

cage *n.* 笼子

frantically *ad.* 疯狂地





校园笑话

第二章



What tense

048

什么时态

An English teacher asked the students, "What **tense** is it when I say 'I'm pretty'?"

The students answered, "Past tense."

英语老师问学生：“当我说‘我很漂亮’的时候，是什么时态？”

学生们回答：“过去时。”

tense *n.* 时态 *a.* 紧张的



The watch is not mine

049

这手表不是我的

My classmate was late for school. The teacher in charge showed a watch to him without a word. The classmate looked at the watch and said, "The watch is not mine."

我的一个同学迟到了，班主任老师拿着手表给他看，不说话。那同学看了看说：“这手表不是我的。”



You wake him up

050

你来摇醒他

Professor: "Please wake up your classmate next to you. This is in class, sleeping is not allowed."



Student: "Professor, please wake him up by yourself. It was you who put him to sleep."

教授：“请你把旁边的那位同学摇醒，这是上课时间，不允许睡觉。”

学生：“教授，还是请你自己来摇醒他吧，是你把他弄睡着的。”



Blame the teacher

051

怪罪老师

Teacher: "Your reading needs some improvement. When I was at your age, my reading was already very **fluent**."

Student: "That is because your teacher was better than mine."

老师：“你的阅读太差了，我在你这个年龄已经阅读得十分流利了。”

学生：“这是因为你的老师比我的好。”

fluent *a.* 流利的，流畅的



The high bridge

052

好高的桥

Two people were **boasting**. One said, "If a person jumps from my bridge, he won't reach the water in 10 minutes."

The other said, "It's nothing. If a person jumps from my bridge, he'll be starved to death before reaching the water."

两个人在吹牛，一个人说：“从我的桥上跳下来，10分钟才能到水面。”

另一个说：“这不算什么，如果从我的桥上跳下来，他还没有落水就饿死了。”

boast *v.* 自夸，夸耀 *n.* 自夸，大话





Truth

053

实话

After reading his son's report card, the father said, "Your scores tell me that you didn't **cheat** in the exam."

Son: "It doesn't mean I didn't cheat, but I just didn't succeed."

父亲看完儿子的成绩单后说：“看你的成绩，就知道你考试没有作弊。”

儿子：“不是没有作弊，是没有成功。”

cheat v. 欺诈，骗取



Another cow

054

另一头牛

Teacher: "A noun is the name of a person or a thing. David, please give an example of a noun."

David: "A cow."

Teacher: "You are right. Please sit down. Scott, would you please give another example?"

Scott: "Another cow."

老师：“名词是表示人或物的名称的。大卫，请举出一个名词的例子。”

大卫：“牛。”

老师：“说得对，请坐下。斯科特，请你再举出一个例子。”

斯科特：“另一头牛。”



Good question

055

问得好

A **chemistry** teacher told his friends, "Oxygen was not found until 18th century."



A friend asked, "So, what did people breathe before that?"

一位化学老师对朋友们说：“氧气是在 18 世纪才被发现的。”

一位朋友问：“那么在那之前，人呼吸什么呢？”

chemistry *n.* 化学



The most annoying

056 最让人烦恼的事

The teacher in charge is complaining to the principal, "David is the naughtiest kid in the class. The most **annoying** thing is that he has never missed a class."

班主任跟校长诉苦：“大卫是班上最淘气的孩子。最让人烦恼的是，这孩子从来不缺课。”



annoy *v.* 使烦恼，使生气，打搅



The responsibility

057 责任

Teacher: "Please give an example about **responsibility** I have just explained."

Student: "Sir, my pants have only one button left, and this button takes the full responsibility!"

老师：“我刚才所讲的责任，请你们举一个例子。”

学生：“先生，我裤子上的纽扣只剩一颗了，这一颗纽扣是负全部责任的！”

responsibility *n.* 责任，责任心，职责，任务





058

A pig behind you

你后面的猪

During the class, a girl sitting behind a boy drew a pig and posted it on his back. The boy quickly found it out and pulled it off. The girl asked him, "How did you know there was a pig behind you?"



上课的时候，坐在一个男生后面的女生画了一头猪贴在他的背上。那个男生很快发现了，把猪拿了下来。那个女生问他：“你怎么知道你的后面有一头猪呢？”



059

The robber

强盗

A student was late for class this morning, and the teacher asked him, "Why are you so late?"

Student replied, "I was robbed on the way here."

Teacher: "Oh my! What did he take from you?"

Student: "He took away my homework!"

学生早上迟到了，老师问他：“你怎么这么晚才来呀？”

学生回答说：“我在路上被强盗抢了。”

老师：“啊呀！他抢走了你的什么东西呀？”

学生：“他抢走了我的作业本！”



060

I'm going left

我要左转了

My **teenage** daughter was nervous as she took the wheel for her first driving lesson. As she was pulling out of the parking lot, the **instructor**



said, "Turn left here. And don't forget to let the people behind you know what you're doing."

She turned to the students sitting in the back seat and announced, "I'm going left."

我女儿上驾驶课第一次握方向盘，很紧张。当她开着车从停车场出来的时候，教练说：“在这里左转，不要忘记告诉你后面的人你要干什么。”

她转过头来对坐在后排的同学说：“我要左转了。”

teenage *a.* 十几岁的

instructor *n.* 指导者，教员



061

David failed exam

大卫考试不及格

David failed exam. His friend asked, "Why did you get such a low grade?"

"Because of an absence," David answered.

"You mean you were **absent** on the day of the test?"

"No, not me, but the kid who sits next to me was."

大卫考试不及格，他的朋友问他：“你的分数为什么这么低？”

大卫回答说：“因为缺席。”

“你是说考试那天你缺席了？”

“不是我缺席，是坐在我旁边的人缺席。”

absent *a.* 缺席的



062

She's just swearing at her computer

她只是在诅咒她的电脑

One day I visited the computer lab in the School for the Deaf, and noticed

a hearing-impaired student signing away dynamically—but, it seemed, to no one in particular. I asked the interpreter if the student was okay. “Oh, she’s fine,” said the interpreter. “She’s just swearing at her computer.”

有一天，我去参观聋哑学校的电脑机房，看到一个听力受损的学生正在活跃地打手势，但是看起来不像是针对哪一个人。我问懂哑语的人这个学生有没有问题，他说：“她没事，她只是在诅咒她的电脑。”



impair v. 损害



063

The impolite behavior

不礼貌行为

In the moral education session, the teacher found that David was **bending** over the table sleeping, and then called him, “David!”

David was **awakened** and replied, “Yes, Sir!”

Teacher: “What is an impolite **behavior**?”

David said loudly, “Disturbing others’ rest is an impolite behavior!”

老师在给学生们上道德教育课时，发现大卫伏在桌上打盹儿，就叫道：“大卫！”

大卫被惊醒了，应道：“到！”

老师：“什么是不礼貌行为？”

大卫大声说：“打扰别人休息是不礼貌行为！”



bend v. (使)弯曲，屈身

awaken v. 唤醒

behavior n. 行为



064

The wonderful person

了不起的人

The examiner: “Do you think Shakespeare would be a wonderful



person if he was alive today?"

Student: "Yes, he would be a wonderful person, because we can not find a person in the world who lives more than four hundred years."

主考人：“如果莎士比亚今天还活着，你认为他是否会成为一个很了不起的人物？”

学生：“是的，他肯定会成为一个非常了不起的人物，因为世界上还找不到一个能活400多岁的人。”



笑话
065

When the teacher comes

老师过来时

A girl was listening to an iPod in class. She said to her **tablemate**, "Tell me when the teacher comes." She was so loud that almost everybody in the room heard what she said, so did the teacher. And the teacher came over and asked her, "What do you want?"

一个女孩上课的时候听 iPod，她对同桌说：“老师过来告诉我一声。”她说话声很大，几乎所有人都听到了。老师也听到了，走过来问她：“你有什么事？”



tablemate *n.* 同桌



笑话
066

Honesty

诚实

Being a **teenager** and getting a **tattoo** seem to go hand by hand these days. I wasn't surprised when one of my daughter's friends showed me a **delicate** little Japanese symbol on her hip. "Please don't tell my parents," she **begged**.

"I won't," I promised. "By the way, what does that stand for?"

“Honesty,” she said.

这年头，十几岁的小青年和刺青几乎已经密不可分，所以当我女儿的一个朋友让我看她臀部一个精致的小的日本符号时，我并没有大惊小怪。她央求我说：“不要告诉我的父母。”

我说：“我不会告诉他们的。顺便问一句，这个符号代表什么意思？”

她说：“诚实”。

teenager *n.* 青少年 **tattoo** *n.* 文身 **beg** *v.* 乞求，请求
delicate *a.* 纤弱的，精致的，微妙的，灵敏的



I had no choice

我是没办法

Friends and I were chatting over dinner in a restaurant. A man at the next table told his cell phone caller to hold on. Then he stepped outside to talk. When he returned, I said, “That was very **thoughtful**.”

“I had no choice,” he replied. “You were making too much noise.”

我和朋友们在餐馆里边吃边聊，旁边桌上的一个男子对着手机说“等一下”，然后就走到外面去通电话。他回来的时候我对他说：“你挺为我们着想啊。”

他说：“我是没办法，你们太吵了。”

thoughtful *a.* 沉思的，体贴的，关心的



There is something dirtier

还有更脏的

The teacher picked up Henry's hand and said, “Your hand is the dirtiest in our school.”

Henry said, “No, Sir. There is something dirtier.” Then, he raised



his other hand.

老师拿起亨利的一只手说：“你这只手是我们全校最脏的了。”

亨利说：“不！老师，还有比这更脏的。”说完他伸出了另一只手。



New continent

新大陆

A teacher asked Scott to come forward and point out the location of the new continent Columbus discovered. Scott did it correctly.

Then the teacher asked Scott, “What does the number under the new continent mean?”

Scott: “It’s the phone number of Columbus.”

The teacher smiled and said, “Students, now do you know who discovered the new continent?”

All the classmates spoke out loudly, “Scott!”

老师叫斯科特到前面地图上指出哥伦布所发现的新大陆，斯科特指出了正确的位置。

接着老师问斯科特：“新大陆下面的那行数字代表什么意思？”

斯科特答：“那是哥伦布的电话号码。”

老师笑着说：“同学们，你们现在知道是谁发现新大陆了吧？”

同学们齐声说：“斯科特！”



A unique trick

绝招

In a law class, the professor was illustrating a case. Seeing a student sleeping, he woke him up and asked him, “How do you

sentence the case?"

The student **murmured** and didn't know how to answer. The teacher further asked, "If you were the judge, what would you do?"

The student immediately answered, "The court is dismissed!"

法律课上，教授正在讲一个案例，看到一个学生在睡觉，就叫他起来，问他：“你怎样判这个案例？”

学生支支吾吾，不能回答。老师继续问：“如果你是法官，你该怎么办？”

学生立刻答道：“退庭！”

murmur v. 低语，喃喃细语



They're just friends

它们只是朋友

Engineering classes at the university are tough, and struggling students sometimes go to **extremes** in order to pass. Grading exams one **semester**, I got to this question: "What is the relationship between **kinetic** and potential energy?" One student, obviously **stumped**, decided to get clever and wrote, "As far as I know, they're just friends, but there could be something else going on there."

大学的工程课程难度很大，成绩差的学生为了要得个合格有时要走极端。有一个学期我在批考卷的时候，批到一道“动能和势能之间有什么关系？”的题目，一个显然发懵的学生自作聪明地答道：“就我所知，它们只是朋友，不过或许它们之间还有点什么事儿。”

extreme n. 极端，极度，极限

semester n. 学期

kinetic a. 动力(学)的，活动的

stump v. 把……难住，难倒





Save Our Trees

072

节省树木

Kids have a greater need for speed than classroom computers can deliver. Impatient to turn in his term paper, one **restless** student kept clicking the “Print” command. The printer started to print out copy after copy of the kid’s ten-page report. The **topic** is “Save Our Trees.”

孩子们总是嫌课堂里的电脑不够快。因为急着要交期末的作文，一个不耐烦的学生不停地点击“打印”命令，打印机就一份接一份地印他那10页长的报告，而文章的标题是：“节省树木”。

restless *a.* 不平静的，不安的，坐立不定的 **topic** *n.* 题目，话题



Shrink in proportion

073

按比例缩小

A teacher asked students to rewrite a 1500-word article to 500 words. Later, when the teacher read Scott’s article, he asked, “Why did you write 45-**meter**-high building into 15 meters, 6 cars into 2 cars, and 3 people into 1 person?”

Scott said, “I shrank them based on strict **proportions**.”

老师要求同学们把一篇1500字的文章缩写成500字。老师看了斯科特的作文以后问：“你怎么把45米高的建筑物写成了15米，6辆汽车写成了2辆，3个人写成了1个人？”

斯科特答：“我是严格按比例缩小的。”

meter *n.* 米 **proportion** *n.* 部分，份儿





Have you seen her grades?

你没看见她的成绩吗？

As an admissions **counselor** for a state university, I took a call from an **furious** mother demanding to know why her daughter had been turned down. Avoiding any mention of the **transcript** full of D's, I explained that her daughter just wasn't as "competitive" as the admitted class. "Why doesn't she try another school for a year and then transfer?" I suggested.

"Another school!" exclaimed the mom. "Have you seen her grades?"

我是一所州立大学的招生顾问，接到一个愤怒的母亲打来的电话，要求知道为什么她的女儿没有被录取。我避免说她女儿的成绩单上全是 D，只是解释说她的女儿不像其他被录取的学生那样“有竞争性”。我建议说：“你女儿可以先到别的学校学一年，然后再转学。”

那妈妈大喊道：“转学？你没看见她的成绩吗？”

counselor *n.* 辅导员

furious *a.* 狂暴的，强烈的

transcript *n.* 成绩单



Be prepared

准备

Scott failed his final exams. Knowing that his dad will be very upset, he sent his elder brother an e-mail, hoping his brother can prepare their dad to accept the bad news. The next day, he received the reply from his brother: "Our father is prepared, but you'd better also be prepared!"

斯科特的期末考试不及格，他知道爸爸一定会非常不满，就给哥哥发了一份邮件，请哥哥转告爸爸，准备接受坏消息。第二天，他收到了哥哥



的回复：“爸爸已经准备好了，你自己最好也准备准备！”

 **笑话** 076 **Lies**
谎言

A professor said to the class, “You have learnt the concept of lies. In my book *On Lies* I have discussed this concept. Please raise your hand if you already read this book.” All the students raised their hands together.

The professor continued, “Very good. Now I have a new example for my lecture! My book hasn’t been published yet!”

教授说：“你们已了解‘谎言’的概念，关于这个问题，我已在自己的著作《论谎言》一书中写到。你们谁读过这本书，请举起手来。”所有的同学都不约而同地举起了手。

教授继续说：“很好，这回可有了新的讲课例子，我写的书还没有出版呢！”

 **笑话** 077 **Singular and plural**
单数和复数

English Teacher: “Do you understand singular and plural forms now?”

Scott: “Yes, I do.”

English Teacher: “Tell me, what form is ‘pants’, singular or plural?”

Scott: “It’s singular on the top half and plural on the bottom half.”

英语老师：“你们懂得单数和复数了吗？”

斯科特：“懂得了。”

英语老师：“那你说说看，‘裤子’是



单数还是复数?”

斯科特：“它的上半部是单数，下半部是复数。”

plural a. 复数的 n. 复数



Good news or bad news

好消息还是坏消息

Students were all busy preparing for next week's exam when the class leader ran into the classroom and announced loudly, "I have good news and bad news for everyone. The good news is that next week's exam was cancelled!" The class suddenly burst into happiness. Some classmates even started dancing.

The class leader continued to say, "The bad news is that next week's exam has been rescheduled for tomorrow."

同学们正在准备下星期的考试，班长跑进教室，大声宣布：“告诉大家一个好消息和一个坏消息。好消息是下星期的考试被取消了！”班上顿时沸腾了，甚至有人高兴得跳起舞来。

班长接着说：“坏消息是下星期的考试改到明天了。”



First thing for president

总统的第一件事

The **presidential** election was around the corner. A teacher organized his students for a discussion. The teacher asked everyone, "What would be your first thing to do if you were **elected** the president?"

A student answered with no hesitation, "Cancel all homework."

总统大选的日期越来越近，老师正在组织学生讨论。老师问大家：“如



果让你当总统，你要做的第一件事是什么呢？”

一个学生毫不犹豫地回答：“取消全部作业。”

presidential *a.* 总统的 **elect** *v.* 选举，推选，选择



笑话
080

The shortest composition

最短的作文

A teacher asked his students to watch a TV series at home, and write an article about it. The second day, Scott handed in a composition with only two words: “power **outage**”. The teacher asked him to watch another chapter at night and write another article. The following day, Scott handed in another composition with five words: “The TV set doesn’t work.”

老师要同学们晚上在家里看一集电视剧，然后写一篇观后感。第二天，斯科特交了一篇作文，上面只有2个字“停电”。老师叫他晚上看第二集后再写一篇。第二天，斯科特又交了一篇作文，上面有5个字“电视机坏了”。

outage *n.* 停电（等）期间



笑话
081

Ask for suggestions

请教

A medical student wanted to learn heart surgery, but couldn’t make up his mind. So he visited a professor for suggestions. The professor asked him, “Young man, do you want to have a rich life?”

“Of course.”

“Then you should learn dentistry.”

“Why?”

“A person has only one heart, but 32 teeth.”

一个医学院的学生想学心脏外科，又拿不定主意，于是去请教一位教授。教授问他：“小伙子，你想过富裕的生活吗？”

“当然。”

“那你应当学牙科。”

“为什么？”

“人的心脏只有一个，而牙齿却有 32 颗。”



笑话
082

God didn't see you

上帝没看见你

A teacher fell **asleep** in the class. When woke up, he told students, “I had a dream to see God.” The second day, one of his students also slept in class. The teacher knocked on the table to wake him up and said, “How can you sleep in class?”

The student answered, “I also went to see God.”

The teacher asked, “Then what did God say to you?”

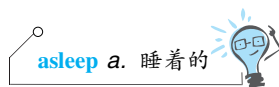
The student answered, “The God said he didn't see you yesterday.”

一个教师在课堂上打瞌睡，醒来对学生说：“我做了个梦，去见上帝了。”第二天，一个学生也在课堂上打起了瞌睡，这个教师就敲桌子把他叫醒，说：“你怎么能在上课时睡觉？”

学生回答说：“我也去见上帝了。”

老师问道：“上帝对你说了什么？”

学生回答：“上帝说，他昨天没看见你。”



asleep a. 睡着的



Conditioned response

条件反射

I always sit in the last row and sleep in class. Every time the class is over, my **tablemate** wakes me up, and I go out of the classroom through the door next to me. One day, the teacher called me to answer a question. My tablemate woke me up. I stood up, pushed open the door, and walked out of the classroom. All of the teacher and students were **stunned**.

上课的时候，我总喜欢坐在最后一排睡觉，每次下课都是同桌把我叫醒，我就径直从旁边的门走出教室。有一天，老师叫我回答问题，同桌把我叫醒，我起身推门，就走出了教室，全体师生都惊呆了。

tablemate *n.* 同桌 **stun** *v.* 使昏迷，使震惊



When my hat is here, I'm here

我的帽子在这里，就是我在这里

Custom at one university **dictated** that if a professor was ten minutes late, the class was canceled. One professor arrived early for a 9 a. m. lecture. He placed his hat on his desk, and went to the **faculty** room. Before he knew it, it was 9:10. By the time he got back to his classroom, it was empty. The next day, he let his students have it. "When my hat is here," he **fumed**, "I'm here!" The following day, the professor arrived at 9 a. m. He was met by the sight of 28 hats on 28 desks—and no students.



某一所大学的习惯是，如果上课以后 10 分钟教授还没到，这节课就取消了。一位教授来上早上 9 点的课，因为时间还早，就把帽子放在讲台上，到教授休息室去休息一下。等他再看时间，已经 9 点 10 分了，他回到教室一看，人都走空了。第二天，他生气地对老师说：“我的帽子在这里，就是我在这里。”次日，当他 9 点钟到达的时候，看见 28 张桌子上有 28 顶帽子，一个学生都没有。

dictate v. 命令

faculty n. 全体教学人员

fume v. 发怒，生闷气



Who is so noisy?

085

谁在吵闹?

On the first day of school, the principal walking in **campus** heard a loud noise from a classroom. He rushed into the classroom, and saw the tallest boy was talking loudly. He pulled him out of the classroom, and ordered him to stay in the **hallway**.

The principal then returned to the classroom, calmed down the others, and then delivered a speech about “good manner”. After that he asked, “Do you have any questions?”

A girl stood up and asked, “Mr. Principal, can you please let our teacher come in?”

开学第一天，校长在校园里巡视，听到从一个教室传来吵闹声。他冲进那间教室，看到个子最高的男生正在大声说话，就把他拉出教室，命令他站在走廊里。

校长回到教室，命令其他人安静下来，接着发表了一番关于“行为美”的训话。然后，他说：“你们还有什么问题要问吗？”

一个女孩站起来：“校长，可以让我们的老师进来了吗？”

campus n. (大学)校园

hallway n. 大厅过道





African wild boars

非洲野猪

A **biology** teacher was describing the African wild **boars** in class when he found that most of the students were taking a nap. He angrily shouted, "Look at me! How can you know the appearance of African wild boars if you don't look at me?"



生物老师正在讲台上描述非洲野猪，竟发现多数学生在打瞌睡。他生气地喝道：“你们要看着我啊！不看我，怎么知道非洲野猪长什么模样？”

biology *n.* 生物(学)

boar *n.* 野猪



The proof

证明

In order to show students the harmfulness of alcohol, a teacher put a **worm** in a glass of alcohol, and the worm died immediately. She asked the students, "Do you know what that proves?"

A student said, "This proves that if we drink alcohol, then the worms in our **belly** will be killed."

老师为了向学生证明酒的危害性，就把一条虫放进一杯酒里，虫立刻死掉了。她问学生：“大家知道这证明了什么？”

一个学生说：“这证明如果我们喝了酒，肚子里的虫就死掉了。”

worm *n.* 虫，蠕虫

belly *n.* 肚子，腹





Teacher announces test results

088 老师报成绩

The math teacher is announcing the mid-term exam results, “The number of students who got above ninety is the same as above eighty. The number of students who got eighties is the same as got seventies.”

The whole class burst into cheers as soon as he finished his words. A student still worried: “What about the number of students who failed?”

The teacher slowly continued, “The number of students who failed is the same as the number of students in the class.”

数学老师在宣布期中考试的成绩：“90分以上和80分以上的人数一样多，80分以上和70分以上的人数也一样多。”

他的话刚说完，全班一阵欢呼。一位同学不放心地追问：“那么不及格的人数呢？”

老师不紧不慢地回答：“不及格的人数和全班的人数一样多。”



A surprise visit

089 出乎意料的访问

Don't ever pay a surprise visit to a child in college. You might be the one getting the surprise. I learned this when I swung by my son's **campus** during a business trip.

Locating what I thought was his house, I rang the **doorbell**. “Yeah?” a voice called from inside.

“Does John Smith live here?”

“Yup,” the voice answered. “Leave him on the front **porch**. We'll drag him in later.”

我这次出差途中顺便走访我儿子的校园后得出的结论是：不要出乎意料地访问在大学里的孩子，出乎意料的可能倒是你自己。



我找到了我认为是他住的房子，按响了门铃，从里面传出来一个声音：“唔？”

“约翰·史密斯住在这里吗？”

那个声音回答说：“是，让他待在前面门廊里吧，我们过一会儿会把他拽进来的。”

campus *n.* (大学)校园

doorbell *n.* 门铃

porch *n.* 门廊



090

Like father like daughter

有其父必有其女

My daughter had **absent-mindedly** left her **sneakers** on our kitchen table. “That’s **disgusting**,” my husband **grumbled**. “Doesn’t she realize we eat off that table?” Then he went out to work on the car. I cleaned the table and left to do my grocery shopping. When I came home I couldn’t set my bags down anywhere. Sitting in the middle of the kitchen table was a car muffler.

我女儿心不在焉地把她的球鞋扔在厨房的桌子上，我丈夫嘟嘟囔囔地说：“真恶心，难道她不知道我们在这张桌子上吃饭吗？”说完就出去搞他的车去了。我把桌子清理以后就出门买东西，等我买了东西回来，发现我的这些购物袋都找不到地方放——在厨房的桌子的正中，放了一个汽车消音器。

absent-minded *a.* 健忘的，心不在焉的

sneakers *n.* 运动鞋

disgust *n.* 厌恶，恶心；*v.* 使厌恶

grumble *v.* 抱怨，发牢骚



091

Thirty years younger

年轻30岁

When I was 28, I was teaching English to high school freshmen in a

school where occasionally the **faculty** and staff were allowed to **dress** down. One of those days I wore a **sweatshirt** and **slacks**. A student came in and his eyes widened. “Wow!” he exclaimed. “You should wear clothes like that every day. You look twenty, maybe even thirty years younger!”

我 28 岁的时候在一所高级中学给一年级学生教英语，偶尔学校允许教职员可以穿着随便一些。有一次我穿了一件运动衫和宽松裤，一个学生进来的时候，眼睛都睁大了：“哟，您每天都应该穿这样的衣服。您看起来年轻了 20 岁，甚至 30 岁！”

faculty *n.* 全体教学人员 **sweatshirt** *n.* 运动衫 **slack** *n.* (复) 宽松裤
dress *n.* 连衣裙，衣服 *v.* 穿衣服



That record will stand forever

这个纪录永远不会被打破了

Back at my high school for the tenth **reunion**, I met my old coach. Walking through the **gym**, we came upon a **plaque** on which I was still listed as the record holder for the longest softball throw. Noticing my surprise, the coach said, “That record will stand forever.” I was about to make some modest comment that records exist to be broken, when he added, “We stopped holding that event years ago.”

高中毕业 10 年以后回母校团聚，碰到以前的教练。我们穿过体育馆的时候，看到一块牌匾，上面刻着我的名字，我仍然是棒球投掷最远纪录保持者。注意到我的诧异，教练说：“这个纪录永远不会被打破了。”我刚想谦虚几句说纪录的存在就是为了被打破，他补充说：“我们几年前就取消这项比赛了。”

reunion *n.* 团聚 **gym** *n.* 体育馆，健身房 **plaque** *n.* 牌匾





笑话
093

He doesn't hate you anymore

他不再恨你了

As a result of an **explosive** argument with our mother, my little brother posted a sign reading “I hate mom” on the door to his room, and **slammed** it shut. My dad, a school **psychologist**, came home after work to this **tense standoff**. “I’ll take care of it,” he confidently told mom, and went into my brother’s room.

Minutes later, dad came out. “He doesn’t hate you anymore,” he **reassured** her. Sure enough, my brother had **crossed** out “mom” on his sign. It now read “I hate dad.”

我弟弟和妈妈之间发生了一场激烈争吵，随后就在他的门上贴了一张字条：“我恨妈妈”，并且“砰”的一声关上了门。我爸爸在学校里当心理医生，下班回到家里看到这个紧张对峙，很有信心地对妈妈说：“让我来处理。”然后就进了弟弟的房间。

过了几分钟，爸爸出来了，安慰妈妈说：“他不再恨你了。”不错，弟弟把字条上“妈妈”二字划掉了，变成了“我恨爸爸”。

explosive a. 爆炸的，爆发的；n. 炸药 **slam** n. v. 猛击，撞击，冲击

psychologist n. 心理学家 **tense** a. 神经紧张的，担心的 **standoff** n. 对峙

reassure v. 打消……疑虑使安心 **cross out** 删除，划掉



笑话
094

The oldest thing in my house

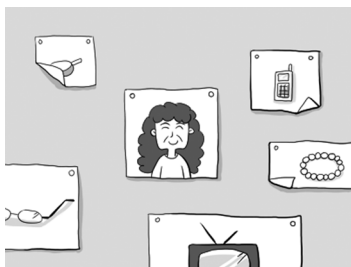
我家里最老的东西

My 12-year-old daughter asked me, “Mom, do you have a baby picture of yourself? I need it for a school project.” I gave her one without thinking to ask what the project was. A few days later I was in her classroom for a parent-teacher meeting when I noticed my face pinned to

a mural the students had created. The title of their project was “The oldest thing in my house.”

我12岁的女儿问我：“妈妈，你有小时候的照片吗？我要用来做学校的作业。”我给了她一张，也没想要问她是什么作业。

过了几天，我到她的教室参加家长会，看见我的脸被钉在学生们画的一张墙报上，而她们作业的名字叫“我家里最老的东西”。



mural *n.* 壁画 *a.* 壁上(中)的



Trust student better

095

比较相信学生

The computer in my classroom recently started acting up. After watching me struggle with it, one of my students took over. “Your hard drive crashed,” he said. I called the computer services office and explained, “My computer is down. The hard drive crashed.”

“We can’t just send people down on your say-so. How do you know that’s the problem?”

“A student told me,” I answered.

“We’ll send someone over right away.”

我们课堂里的电脑最近开始捣乱，一个学生看我在那里搞得焦头烂额，就说：“你的硬盘出问题了。”我打电话给电脑服务办公室：“我的电脑死机了，是硬盘出问题了。”

“我们不能光凭你这么说说就派人过去，你怎么知道是硬盘出问题了？”

我回答说：“是一个学生告诉我的。”

“那我们马上就派人过去。”



A secret

096

秘密

A politician went to his daughter's school to give students a speech, and received applause several times. Back home, he proudly asked his daughter, "Do you feel very proud that your dad's speech received so many applause from your classmates?"

The daughter said, "Tell you a secret. If we students **applaud** with special **dynamic**, then it means we hope the speech comes to an end as soon as possible."

一个政论家到他女儿的学校演讲，引起学生几次热烈鼓掌。回到家后，他得意地对女儿说：“爸爸演讲，得到你们同学那么多掌声，你感到很骄傲吧？”

女儿说：“告诉你一个秘密，我们同学鼓掌特别起劲的时候，就是希望那个演讲的人快点结束。”

applaud v. 喝彩，欢呼，欢呼

dynamic n. 动力；a. 充满活力的，动态的



The correct answer

097

正确答案

There was a problem on the graduation exam in a detective school: "A car was quickly moving on a highway. Its **headlights** were not on. There were no road lights. There was no moonlight, either. Suddenly, a **drunkard** in black appeared on the road. Right before the car was to hit the man, it suddenly stopped. Please find out the reason."

Someone answered: "Because the eyes of the drunkard were shining."

Another one answered: "Because the drunkard shouted loudly."

The correct answer is—it was in **daytime**.

侦探学校毕业考试有一道试题是：“公路上有一辆汽车飞驰，没有开车灯。这时没有路灯，也没有月亮。突然之间，有一个穿黑衣服的醉鬼走到路中间，眼看那个人就要被汽车撞倒，但汽车忽然刹住了。请问是什么原因？”

有人答：“因为醉鬼的眼睛发光。”

还有人答：“因为醉鬼大声叫喊。”

正确的答案是：当时是白天。

headlight *n.* 前大灯

drunkard *n.* 酒鬼

daytime *n.* 白天



Turn on the computer

098

开机

I was working on my **assignment** in a public computer room at school, and finally I was close to finish. Suddenly, my screen came to a complete darkness. I saw a student next to me was firmly pushing the power button on my computer, while his eyes were anxiously looking at his screen.

I asked, "What are you doing?"

"I am turning on my computer!"

"Whose machine are you turning?"

"I'm sorry, my mistake!"

我在学校公共机房做作业，好不容易快做完了，忽然屏幕一片漆黑，只见身旁一位学生的手正重重地按在我主机的电源键上，一边还焦急地看着他眼前的显示器。

我问：“你在干什么呢？”

“我开机呀！”



“你开谁的机哪?”

“对不起，我弄错了!”

assignment *n.* 分配，委派，任务，(课外)作业



Which tire was flat?

099

哪个轮胎破了?

A final exam was in session at a university. Toward the end of the exam three students rushed to the classroom. They explained to the professor that the reason why they were late was that the car they shared got a flat tire. The professor **agreed** to let them take a make-up examination. But, there was only one problem on the exam paper: “Which tire was flat on the car you shared?” As a result, three students had answers different from each other...

某大学正在举行期末考试，快结束的时候，有3个学生匆匆忙忙地跑进教室。他们3人向教授解释，因为他们合坐的汽车的一个轮胎破了，所以才会迟到。教授答应让他们补考，可是试卷上只有一道题目：“你们坐的那辆汽车，哪个轮胎破了？”结果，3个学生的答案互不相同……

agree *v.* 同意，赞成



Principal's good memory

100

校长的好记性

Although schools are getting bigger and bigger, most principals in Germany still think it very important to know all students by name. In a meeting, a principal recognized one of his previous students, “You are

Mr. Millo in class-6A of 1994, aren't you?"

The young man answered, "Yes, I am. Mr. Principal, you really have a very good memory."

The principal said proudly, "You see, I never forget any of my old students. Then, what do you do now?"

The young man answered, "Now, I am one of your mathematics teachers in the school, Mr. Principal."

在德国，尽管学校变得越来越大，大多数校长还是认为知道全体在校学生的名字很重要。在一次会议上，一位校长认出了他先前的一名学生：“你是米罗先生，1994级6A班的学生，对吗？”

那位年轻人回答：“确实是，校长先生，您的记性真好。”

校长骄傲地说：“你看，我从来不会忘记任何一个老学生的名字。那么，你现在干什么工作？”

那位年轻人回答：“校长先生，我现在是本校的数学教师。”



My trick worked

101

我的办法奏效了

My fellow teacher called for help—she needed someone who knew about animals. As a science teacher, I filled the bill. "Oh," she added, "bring a net."

Expecting to find some kind of **beast** as I entered her classroom, I was **greeted** instead by the sight of **excited** kids watching a **hummingbird** fly around. Rather than use the net, I suggested they hang red paper by an open door. I explained, the bird would be drawn to it, and eventually fly out. Later, the teacher called back. The trick worked.





“Now,” she said, “we have two hummingbirds flying around the room.”

我的老师同事打电话寻求帮助，她需要一个懂动物的人，因为我是自然老师，她就来找我。她又补充说：“带一个网来。”

我走进她教室的时候，估计会看到什么野兽，可是我看见的是一群兴高采烈的孩子正看着一只蜂鸟飞来飞去。我没有用网，而是建议他们在打开的门边上挂一张红纸。我解释说，红纸会把鸟吸引过去，最后飞出去。后来，这位老师打电话回来说，我的办法奏效了。

她说：“现在我们有2只蜂鸟在教室里飞来飞去了。”

beast *n.* 兽，动物，凶残粗鲁的人 **greet** *v.* 问候，致敬

excited *a.* 兴奋的 **hummingbird** *n.* 蜂鸟



Beautiful mistake

102

美丽的错误

A good-looking female student in a college likes to enjoy herself in the mirror. Even when the final was around the corner, she still wouldn't put down her mirror. Her roommates worried about her exam, and warned her. But, she said with a gentle sigh, “Is being beautiful a kind of mistakes?”

A normally self-contained roommate suddenly opened her mouth: “You have never made such mistakes.”

一位长得不错的女大学生喜欢照镜子，甚至期末考试逼近，仍然舍不得放下镜子。室友们担心她的功课，纷纷劝她，她却轻叹说：“难道美丽也是一种错误？”

一位平时少言的室友突然开口道：“你从来没犯过这种错误。”





An expensive cell phone

103 高级手机

Right before **midterm**, students reminded each other to bring a calculator to exam. David took out a new cell phone he bought and said, "I only need to bring my cell phone that has a calculator function!" After the examination, David sadly said, "What **lousy** luck! My cell phone can't **calculate** square root!"

期中考试前，大家都互相提醒不要忘了带计算器。大卫拿出新买的手机说：“我只要带手机就行了，我的手机有计算功能！”考完后，只见大卫伤心地说：“真倒霉，我的手机不能开根号！”

midterm *n.* 期中

lousy *a.* 糟糕的

calculate *v.* 预测，推测



Hare was sleeping

104 兔子打瞌睡

David always sleeps in class. The **unbearable** teacher woke him up and asked him, "Do you know why the **hare** lost the race against the **turtle**?"

David replied with bleary eyes, "I don't know."

The upset teacher said, "It's because the hare was sleeping."

David happily said, "I see! It turns out that all who didn't sleep are turtles!"

大卫上课总是打瞌睡，老师忍无可忍地把他叫醒，问他：“你知道龟兔赛跑中兔子为什么会输吗？”

大卫睡眼惺忪地回答：“不知道。”

老师生气地说：“因为兔子在打瞌睡。”

大卫开心地说：“我明白了，原来没打瞌睡的全是乌龟啊！”

unbearable *a.* 不可忍受的

hare *n.* 兔子

turtle *n.* 海龟，陆龟，水龟





Perfect

105

完全正确

A teacher was teaching types of sentences. She asked Scott to give an example of an interrogative sentence. Scott rubbed his eyes and asked, "Teacher, what did you want me to do?"

The teacher said, "Right. Please give an **exclamatory** sentence."

Scott widely opened his eyes and said, "You said it was right!"

The teacher said, "Very good. Please say a **declarative** sentence."

Scott shook his head and said, "Maybe I am running a **fever** today."

The teacher said happily, "Perfect! Sit down, please."

老师正在讲句子种类，她要斯科特举一个疑问句的例子。斯科特揉揉眼睛，问道：“老师，你叫我干什么？”

老师说：“很好，请再说一个感叹句。”

斯科特睁大眼睛说：“这也算对！”

老师又说：“非常好，请再说一个陈述句。”

斯科特摇头说：“我今天可能是发烧了。”

老师高兴地说：“完全正确，请坐下。”

exclamatory *a.* 感叹的

declarative *a.* 陈述的

fever *n.* 发烧，发热



Very serious about math

106

对数学绝不马虎

A little girl was failing math. Her mother enrolled her in Catholic school in the hopes to improve her math grades. During the first marking period, her mother noticed a dramatic improvement in her math studies.

In order to study more, the girl would refuse playing with friends or eating **dessert** after dinner. On report card day, her mother was **astonished** to see that her daughter got an A + in math.

She asked her daughter, “Why the sudden change of attitude about math—do the **nuns** punish you?”

The girl replied, “No, but when I saw the little man on the wall nailed to the plus sign, I knew that this school was very serious about math!”

一个小姑娘数学不好，她妈妈把她转学到一所天主教学校，希望她的数学有进步。在第一阶段考试，她的数学成绩就有了很大进步。为了能学得更多，她饭后不吃甜食，也不去和小朋友玩。期末发成绩报告单的时候，她妈妈惊讶地发现她的数学得了 A +。

她妈妈问她：“为什么你学习数学的态度有了这么大的转变？是不是修女们惩罚你了？”

小姑娘回答说：“不是，不过当我看见墙上那个小男人被钉在加号上面，我知道这所学校对数学是绝不马虎的。”

dessert *n.* 甜点心

astonish *v.* 使惊讶

nun *n.* 修女，尼姑





愚人笑话

第三章



笑话

107

Just arrived

刚到

A man fell to the street from upstairs, and a man came to see and asked him, "What happened?"

The man said, "I don't know. I just arrived as well."

一个人从楼梯上跌到马路上，另一个人跑来问他：“发生了什么事？”

那个人说：“不知道啊，我也是刚到。”



笑话

108

It's too long

时间太久

A clerk didn't come to work for two days. When he showed up the third day, his boss asked, "Where have you been these two days?"

The clerk replied, "I accidentally fell off the window from third floor down to the street."

The boss said angrily, "Did it take two days to fall down from the third floor?"

一个职员有两天没来上班。第3天老板一看见他就问：“你这两天干什么去了？”

职员答道：“我不小心从3楼窗口跌到大街上去了。”

老板气冲冲地责问说：“从3楼跌下去要两天吗？”



No patience

109

没有耐心

A fishing man said to the person next to him, "You have watched me for 3 hours, why don't you try it yourself?"

"I have no **patience** for that."

一个钓鱼的人对旁边的人说：“你已经看了我3个小时了，为什么你自己不钓一下？”

“我没有耐心。”

patience *n.* 耐心



Sigh with emotion

110

感叹

Husband said to his wife emotionally, "Dear, if Thomas Edison had not **invented** the electric bulbs, we would still have to go by **candle** lights while watching TV."

丈夫感慨地对妻子说：“亲爱的，如果当年爱迪生不曾发明电灯，那么我们现在还只能点着蜡烛看电视。”

invent *v.* 发明，创造，捏造，虚构

candle *n.* 蜡烛



The family knows

111

家里人知道

The doctor said to the nurse, "Go and get the name of the injured woman, then notify her family."

After a while, the nurse came back and said, "The patient said no need for it, because her family knew her name."

医生对护士说：“你去问那位受伤的太太的名字，好通知她家里。”
护士一会儿回来说：“患者说不用了，家里人知道她的名字。”



笑话

112

Don't understand

不理解

John and Henry were drinking in the bar. John said to Henry, “My wife doesn't understand me. What about your wife?”

Henry said, “I don't know. She has never mentioned you.”

约翰和亨利两个人在酒吧喝酒，约翰对亨利说：“我妻子不理解我，你妻子呢？”

亨利说：“我不知道，她从没提起过你。”



笑话

113

Go home

回家

A policeman saw a **drunkard** walking circle around a barrel, and asked, “What's the matter with you?”

“Nothing. I'm going home. The end of this wood fence is my home.”

警察看见一个醉鬼在摸着一个大木桶绕圈子，便问：“你怎么啦？”

“没事！我回家，这木头围栏的尽头就是我的家。”



drunkard *n.* 酒鬼



笑话

114

Really sorry

实在惋惜

Bob wanted to train his donkey to work every day without eating



anything, so he gradually reduced the food to it. When the donkey finally starved to death, he said **regretfully**, "It's really a big loss! The donkey died when it just learnt not to eat."

鲍勃想训练他的驴子不吃东西还能干活，所以天天给它减食。最终当驴子饿死时，他惋惜地说：“真可惜！刚学会不吃东西就死了。”

regretfully *ad.* 充满悔恨地



The drunkards drive

115

醉鬼开车

Two **drunkards** were driving on the way home. One of them said, "Watch out, there is a **curve** in front."

The other said, "Ah! Are you the one who is driving?"

两个醉鬼在开车回家的途中，一个说：“注意，前面有个弯道。”

另一个说：“啊！不是你在开车吗？”



drunkard *n.* 酒鬼

curve *n.* 曲线，弯曲(物) *v.* 弄弯，成曲形



Unknown problems

116

未知的问题

My boss said, "What I need is a detailed list of unknown problems we will encounter."

我的上司说：“我所需要的是一份我们会碰到的未知问题的详细清单。”



Only for company business

117

只能用于公司业务

My boss said, "E-mail is not to be used to pass on information or data. It should be used only for company business."

我的上司说：“电子邮件只能用于公司业务，不应该用来传送信息和数据。”



Security card

118

保安磁卡

My boss said, "As of tomorrow, employees will only be able to access the building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday, and employees will receive their cards in two weeks."

我的上司说：“从明天起员工们只能用各人自己的保安磁卡才能进出办公楼。下个星期三给大家照相，两个星期以后大家就可以拿到保安磁卡了。”



My sunglasses, too?

119

还有我的太阳镜？

When I walked up to the ATM at my bank, I noticed someone had left his card in the slot. I looked up the person's name in the phone book and gave him a call. "I found your ATM card," I told the man who answered.

He then asked hopefully, "Did you happen to find my sunglasses, too?"

我走到银行提款机前面，看见卡槽里有一张提款卡，是别人遗忘在里



面的。我从电话号码簿上找到他的名字，给他打了个电话：“我捡到你的提款卡了。”

他满怀希望地问我：“你有没有碰巧也捡到了我的太阳镜？”

slot *n.* 槽，插槽

sunglasses *n.* 太阳镜



Always get double prints

总是洗两套

Dining out one evening, I noticed some teenagers celebrating at a nearby table. When one girl pulled out a camera, I offered to take a picture of the group. After one photo, I suggested taking another just in case the first one didn't come out. "Oh, no, that's okay," she said, as she took back her camera. "I always get double prints."

有一次我在外面吃晚饭，有一些十几岁的少年在邻桌庆祝。我看一个女孩拿出相机来，就提议由我来给他们拍集体照。拍了一张以后，我说再拍一张吧，万一这张没拍好呢。这个女孩一边把相机拿回去，一边说：“不用了，我每次都是洗两套照片的。”



I still have my intelligence

我的智慧还在

A little boy went up to his father and asked: "Dad, where did all of my intelligence come from?"

The father replied: "Well, son, you must have gotten it from your mother, because I still have mine."

一个小男孩过去问他爸爸：“爸爸，我的智慧都是从哪里来的？”

爸爸回答说：“哦，儿子，你的智慧肯定是从你妈妈那里得来的，因为我的还在。”

  **Open 24/7**
122 7天24小时营业

The first day at my new health club I asked the girl at the front desk, "I'd like to exercise after work. What are your hours?"

"Our club is open 24/7," she told me **excitedly**, "Monday through Saturday."

到新的健身俱乐部去的第一天，我问前台小姐：“我喜欢下班以后来锻炼，你们什么时间开门？”

她兴奋地说：“我们俱乐部是7天24小时营业，从星期一到星期六。”



  **Just in case**
123 以防万一

Two policemen found three bombs, and would turn them in. One policeman asked the other, "What if one of the bombs explodes on the way?"

The other said, "Then we will say we found only two."

两个警察捡到三枚炸弹，准备去上缴。一个警察问另一个：“如果炸弹在路上爆了一个怎么办？”

另一位警察说：“那我们到了那里就说只捡到两枚。”

  **Tree-planting**
124 种树

A man kept digging holes, and then filling them with earth. A **passerby** didn't understand and asked, "What are you doing?"



Answer: "The person responsible for putting in saplings is **absent** today."

一个人不停地挖坑，然后又用土填上。行人不解地问：“你这是干什么？”
答：“放树苗的人今天没来。”

passerby *n.* 过路人

absent *a.* 缺席



125 I already got that side

125 那边我已经打开了

When I arrived at an auto shop to pick up my car, I was told that the keys had been **accidentally** locked in it.

I went to the service **department** and found a **mechanic** working **feverishly** to **unlock** the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger's side, I **instinctively** tried the door handle and discovered it was open.



"Hey," I announced to the mechanic, "It's open!"

"I know," answered the young man, "I already got that side."

我到修车铺取车的时候，他们告诉我，不小心把车钥匙锁在车里了。

我到了服务部，看到一位修理工正满头大汗地开驾驶座那一侧的车门。

我从乘客座位那边看过去，本能地试了一下门把手，发现门是开着的。

我大声告诉那位修理工：“喂，这门是开着的！”

那个年轻人回答说：“我知道，那边我已经打开了。”

accidentally *ad.* 偶然地，意外地

department *n.* (工厂的) 车间，(企业等的) 部门

mechanic *n.* 技工，机修工

feverishly *ad.* 疯狂地

unlock *v.* 开……的锁，开启

instinctively *ad.* 本能地，直觉地





Smart pigs

126

聪明的猪

A student was trying to solve a very simple problem on the **blackboard**. He couldn't resolve it for a long time, and his classmates laughed and shouted, "pig, pig..."

He turned around and said angrily, "Even some pigs are smart!"

一个学生在黑板上做一道非常简单的题，很长时间都没做出来，下面的同学笑他：“猪，猪……”

他回过头来，气愤地说：“猪还有聪明的呢！”

blackboard *n.* 黑板



The dog training

127

驯狗

John: "I am training my dog to **bark** when he wants to eat."

Bob: "It should be quite simple."

John: "I have taught him at least 100 times."

Bob: "How did it go? Can he bark now?"

John: "No, he can't. But if I don't bark, he won't eat."

约翰：“我想驯我的狗，让它想吃东西时就叫。”

鲍勃：“这应该是很容易的事。”

约翰：“我已经教了它足有 100 次了。”

鲍勃：“怎么样，它会叫了吗？”

约翰：“不叫。但如果我不学狗叫，它就不吃东西。”

bark *v.* 吠叫，咆哮 *n.* 吠声，狗叫声





128

Call in absent

电话请假

One of the workers on my construction crew didn't show up for work on Monday, and he didn't phone to explain his **absence**. On Tuesday morning, though, he did call. "I won't be able to make it work today," he said, "or yesterday."

我们建筑工程队有一个工人星期一没来上班，也没来电话请假。不过星期二早上他来电话了，说：“我今天或者昨天将不能来上班了。”

absence *n.* 缺席



129

But I was really sick this time

可是我这一次是真的病了

My co-worker was being let go due to a **nasty** habit she had of not always showing up for work. As an officer in our union, I was preparing to argue on her behalf when she took matters into her own hands and insisted, "But I was really sick this time."

我的一个同事因为有经常不来上班的坏毛病而遭解雇。作为工会的负责人，我正准备为她的利益争辩，她却把事情全都揽了过去。她坚持说：“可是我这一次是真的病了。”

nasty *a.* 令人讨厌的



130

The person is on vacation

那个人正在度假

There I was, my first day on the job as a receptionist, handling one phone call after another, when an employee stopped by my desk.

“Have you ever done this before?” she asked.

“No,” I said.

“Thought not. You just told that caller, ‘The person you want is on vacation. Would you care to hold?’”

这是我第一天上班当前台接待员，一个又一个地接电话。这时候一个员工走过我的桌子前，她问：“你以前干过这个吗？”

我说：“没有。”

“我想你也是没干过。你刚才对电话里的人说：‘你要找的人正在度假，你在不在意等他一下？’”



vacation *n.* 假期



I got the license plate number

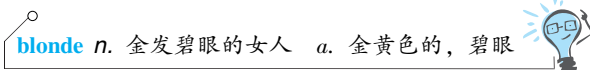
我把车牌号记下来了

A blonde was at home watching TV with her friends when she heard a noise. She ran out just in time to see a thief drive off in her car. “Did you see his face?” her friends asked when she came back inside.

“No, but it's okay. I got the license plate number!”

一个金发女郎正在家里和几个朋友一起看电视的时候，听见有噪音，就跑出去，正好看见一个窃贼开着她的车跑了。当她回到屋子里的时候，她的朋友们问她有没有看清那个窃贼的脸。

她说：“没有看清，不过没关系，我把车牌号记下来了。”



blonde *n.* 金发碧眼的女人 *a.* 金黄色的，碧眼



You haven't found it yet?

你还没有找到？

A man got lost on the way to the theater in a small town. He stopped



at a **farmhouse**, where a woman gave him excellent directions. A week later he went back to see another play, got lost again, and stopped at the same house. When the woman came to the door, she **exclaimed**, “You haven’t found it yet?”

一个男子在去小镇的剧院时迷了路，他停在一家农舍前，一个妇女清楚地告诉他该怎么走。一个星期以后，他又去看剧，又走迷了路，又停在同一家农舍前，同一个妇女走出来应门的时候惊叫起来：“你还没有找到那个剧院？”

farmhouse *n.* 农舍

exclaim *v.* 呼喊，惊叫，大声说



No swimming

133

禁止游泳

A man and his friends went boating, and the boat turned over. The man kept **motionless** and waited for others to rescue him.



His friends asked him, “You can swim, can’t you?”

The man said, “Yes, I can. But the sign on the stone says ‘no swimming’!”

一名男子和朋友们去划船，船翻了，他一动不动地等别人去救他。

朋友问：“你不是会游泳吗？”

男子说：“我是会游泳，可那石头上写着‘禁止游泳’啊！”

motionless *a.* 静止的，一动不动的



A 911 call

134

呼救

“Fire! Fire!” a **terrifying** voice was coming from the other side of the phone line.

“Where is it?” asked the operator.

“It’s in my home.”

“I mean where the location of the fire is?”

“In the kitchen.”

“I know. But, how do we get to your home?”

“You have fire trucks, don’t you?”

“救火！救火！”电话里传来了呼救声。

“在哪里？”接线员问。

“在我家。”

“我是问失火的地点在哪里？”

“在厨房。”

“我知道，可是我们该怎样去你家？”

“你们不是有救护车吗？”

terrifying a. 吓人的



笑话
135

I am really stupid

我真笨

A woman asked the man sitting next to her in a party, “Who is the **disfigured** man across the table?”

The man replied, “Oh, that’s my brother.”

The woman was very **embarrassed** and **stammered** out, “I am really stupid. How didn’t I see you two look so **alike**?”

在酒席上，一位妇女问邻座的男子：“对面那个丑八怪是谁？”

男子回答：“是我哥哥。”

问话的妇女十分狼狈，结结巴巴地说：“我真笨，你们兄弟俩长得这么像，我怎么没看出来呢？”

disfigure v. 使变丑

embarrassed a. 尴尬的

stammer v. 口吃地说

n. 口吃

alike a. 相同的，相像的





The chewing gum

136

口香糖

Before the takeoff of the plane, a **stewardess distributed chewing gums** to passengers. A passenger asked, “What is the chewing gum for?”

The stewardess said, “It’s to protect your ears from humming, sir.”

After the plane landed, the gentleman said to the stewardess, “The chewing gum worked great! Now, can you help me to get it out of my ears?”

飞机起飞前，一位空姐给旅客发口香糖。一位旅客问：“这口香糖干什么用？”

空姐说：“为了使你的耳朵不嗡嗡作响。”

飞机着陆后，这位先生对空姐说：“这口香糖真管事！现在你能帮我把它从耳朵里掏出来吗？”

stewardess *n.* 空姐 **distribute** *v.* 分配，分布，配(电)，(over)散布
chewing gum 口香糖



Put it on my sister

137

加到我妹妹身上

People don't like to look dumpy in their own **snapshots**, which is why I get a lot of requests asking me to retouch photos. So I wasn't surprised when one woman, pointing to a family portrait, asked me, “Can you take 30 pounds off me” until she added, “And put it on my sister?”

人们不喜欢自己在照片里显得矮胖，这就是为什么他们经常要求我修照片的原因。所以，当一个女人指着合家欢照片对我说：“你能不能把我去掉30磅”的时候我没有大吃一惊，直到她说：“加到我妹妹身上。”

snapshot *n.* 快照





138

Here comes my neighbor's house

我邻居的房子过来了

There's this **drunkard** standing out on the street corner, and a cop passed by and said, "What do you think you're doing?"

The drunk said, "I heard the Earth goes around every 24 hours, and I'm waiting for my house. Won't be long now, here comes my neighbor's house."

一个醉汉站在马路拐角，一个警察走过，问他：“你这是在干什么？”

醉汉说：“我听说地球每24小时转一圈，我在这里等我的房子过来。不用等多久了，我邻居的房子已经过来了。”

drunkard *n.* 酒鬼



139

Wet paint

油漆未干

A girl visited a zoo for the first time in her life. When she saw a "Wet paint" sign hanging next to the **cage** of a **leopard**, she was so surprised that she couldn't help calling up, "Oh, I thought the spots on leopards were natural!"

一个女孩第一次到动物园去游玩，当她看到豹子笼旁边挂着“油漆未干”的牌子时，惊奇地叫起来：“我还以为豹子身上的斑点是天然的呢！”

cage *n.* 笼子

leopard *n.* 豹



140

Wedding anniversary

结婚纪念日

A professor returned home, saw the table decorated with a bunch of



flowers, and asked his wife, "What day is today?"

His wife said, "Did you forget? Today is your wedding anniversary!"

He smiled, "Thank you! I'll also buy a big bunch of flowers to celebrate your wedding day."

教授回到家中，见桌上摆放着很大的一束花，就问夫人：“今天是什么日子？”

夫人说：“你忘了吗？今天是你的结婚纪念日啊。”

他听了微微一笑：“谢谢你！到了你的结婚纪念日，我也买一大束花来祝贺你。”

anniversary *n.* 周年纪念日



Catch a cold without a hat

141

不戴帽子会感冒

A patient was sitting in a doctor's office, trembling. The doctor said, "You jumped into the ice cold river only for getting back a hat? You could be frozen to death."

The patient said, "But I have to get my hat back. I will catch a cold if I walk in winter without wearing a hat."

患者坐在医生面前，浑身发抖。医生说：“仅仅为了捞回帽子，你就跳进那冰冷的河水中吗？你会冻死的。”

患者说：“但我非得捞回我的帽子不可。冬天如果不戴帽子走路，我会感冒的。”



They'll leave the key for you

142

他们会把钥匙留给你

George, my husband, volunteered to strip the bricks from the

exterior of my parents' house. One morning he was out front chipping away when a man came by looking for my father. "He's not here," George said. The man thanked him, watched him remove a few more bricks and said, "I'll bet next time they'll leave the key for you."

我的丈夫乔治自告奋勇地要帮我的父母亲拆除房子外面的砖块。一天上午他正在前面拆砖的时候，有一个男子来找我父亲。乔治说：“他不在家。”那男子谢了他，又看他拆了几块砖，然后说：“我想下一次他们一定会把钥匙留给你。”

exterior a. 外部的，外面的 n. 外部



Blind submission

143

盲从

I was driving in the **procession** to the **cemetery** for a distant relative's **funeral**. "Since we don't really know anybody, do you want to just head home?" I asked my wife. When she nodded, I made a U-turn. I looked in the mirror and found the rest of the procession was still following.

我们行驶在一个车队里，前往公墓参加一个远房亲戚的葬礼。我问太太：“我们并不认识其他人，你想不想干脆回家？”她点点头，我就调转车头往回开。我从后视镜里看到，后面的车队仍然跟着我们。

procession n. 队伍，行列

cemetery n. 墓地，坟地，公墓

funeral n. 丧葬，葬礼



Can the car swim?

144

这种车会不会游泳？

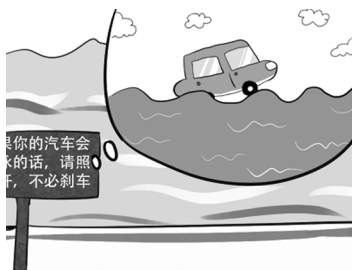
Near a hairpin turn in the highway there is a sign: "If your car can swim, drive straight forward without using brakes." A doctor who just



bought his car immediately returned to the car factory, and asked the manager seriously, “Can this car swim?”

公路的急转弯处有一幅标语牌写道：“如果你的汽车会游泳的话，请照直开，不必刹车。”一位刚买了车的博士看到后，

马上调头开到汽车厂，认真地问经理：“你们这种车会不会游泳？”



If the last engine shuts off

如果最后一个引擎熄火

A blonde is on a four-engine plane. All of a sudden there's a loud bang. The pilot comes on the radio and says, “I'm sorry, one engine has just shut off. We'll be delayed 1 hour.”

Then there's another bang. Once again, the radio comes on and the pilot says the same thing except that they'll be delayed 2 hours.

After that, the third engine shuts off and the pilot tells the passengers that they will be delayed 3 hours.

The blonde turns to the guy sitting beside her and says, “Man, if the last engine shuts off we'll be delayed 4 hours.”

一个金发女郎乘坐一架4引擎飞机，突然轰隆一声巨响，接着飞行员广播告诉大家说：“对不起，有一个引擎熄火了，我们要晚点1小时。”

然后又是一声巨响，飞行员又说差不多的话，只不过说要晚点2小时。

随后，第3个引擎熄火，飞行员告诉大家要晚点3小时。

金发女郎回头对身边的男士说：“啊呀，如果最后一个引擎熄火，我们就要晚点4小时了。”

blonde n. 金发的女人

bang n. 突然的巨响





Lucky

146

幸运

A **burglar** stole a shop in the night. The owner of the shop told a detective the next day, "Thank God that the burglar came last night instead of the night before."

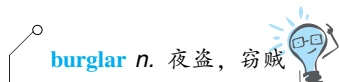
The detective asked, "Is there any difference?"

"Yes, if he had come the night before, my losses would have been much bigger, because I just cut the prices for all the goods by forty percent yesterday morning."

有盗贼夜间光顾某商店。第二天，店主对来查案的侦探说：“感谢上帝，幸好盗贼不是前天晚上而是昨天晚上来的。”

侦探问：“这有什么不同？”

“要是前天晚上来，我的损失可大了，因为昨天早上我刚把全部商品降价百分之四十。”



burglar *n.* 夜盗，窃贼



Checkout at 11 a. m.

147

离馆时间上午 11 点

After a few rough years, I decided to let my son try the **rigid** structure of the military. Once he'd completed basic training, he took a two-day **assignment**. Midmorning on the second day, I was surprised to receive a call from my son, who was still at his hotel. "Why aren't you on the road yet?" I asked.

"I'm all ready to go, dad," he replied, "but the sign on the door says, 'Checkout at 11 a. m.'"

经过几个不平静的年头，我决定让儿子去接受军队严格的管束。他在



完成基本的训练之后，接受了一个2天的任务。第二天上午10点多钟，我接到儿子从旅馆打来的电话，我吃惊地问他为什么还不上路。

他回答说：“爸爸，我已经准备好要走了，可是门上的牌子写着‘离馆时间上午11点’。”

rigid a. 刚性的，刻板的，严厉的

assignment n. 任务



It's not that noticeable

148

那伤疤不是很明显

There's a **scar** on my face from a car accident. A **customer** came into the gas station where I work, glanced at me and **exclaimed**, "My God, what happened to you?" I told him and hoped that would be the end of it. But he kept pressing me for more information. Finally, he made his purchase and, just before walking away, said, "Hey, don't worry about it. It's not that noticeable."

我脸上有一道车祸留下的伤疤，一个顾客走进我工作的加油站，看了我一眼就大呼小叫起来：“我的天哪，你出什么事啦？”我告诉了他实情，并希望就此打住，可是他继续追问更多的细节。最后，他买完了东西要离开的时候说：“嘿，别太在意，那伤疤不是很明显。”

scar n. 瘢痕，伤疤

customer n. 顾客，客户

exclaim v. 呼喊，惊叫，大声说



Tell her not to wait

149

叫她不要等了

A man just arrived in London and separated from his wife in the street. He told a policeman, "If my wife passes by here, please tell her to wait for me in front of the building."

Policeman: "But I don't know her!"

Man: "Ah, you are right! Sorry, I didn't realize it. Then, please tell her not to wait."

一个男子初到伦敦就和妻子走失了，他对警察说：“要是我妻子经过这里，你叫她在这座大厦前面等我。”

警察：“可是我不认识她呀！”

男子：“没错！我真没有想到这一点，那你就叫她不要等了。”



How many adults?

有几个大人？

For our **honeymoon** my fiancé and I chose a **fashionable** hotel known for its **luxurious** suites. When I called to make **reservations**, the desk clerk inquired, "Is this for a special occasion?"

"Yes," I replied. "It's our honeymoon."

"And how many adults will there be?" she asked.

我和男朋友选择一家以豪华套房而闻名的上流旅馆去度蜜月。当我打电话去预订房间的时候，前台服务员问我：“这是不是为了什么特殊的场合？”

我回答说：“是的，是我们的蜜月。”

她问：“房间里有几个大人住？”

honeymoon *n.* 蜜月 **fashionable** *a.* 流行的，(尤指) 有钱人常光顾的

luxurious *a.* 奢侈的，豪华的 **reservation** *n.* 预约，预订



Schedule lunar eclipse earlier

把月食安排早一点

A listener called the **disc jockey** on the air at our radio station to ask about the **upcoming lunar eclipse**. "The eclipse can be seen at 1:30 in



the early morning,” the DJ told her.

“That late?” the listener snapped. “I don’t know why they don’t schedule these things earlier, so kids can enjoy them too!”

一位听众打电话给我们广播电台现场直播节目的主持人，询问有关即将来临的月食的问题。节目主持人告诉她：“月食可以在凌晨一点半的时候看到。”

那位听众厉声说：“那么晚？我真不明白他们为什么不把这些事情安排得早一点，好让孩子们也能一起观赏？”

disl jockey (简称 D. J.) 音乐节目主持人 **upcoming a.** 即将到来的

lunar a. 月亮的 **eclipse n.** (日，月)食



Blind people drive

152 盲人开车

The stoplight on the corner buzzes when it is safe to **cross** the street. I was crossing with a co-worker of mine, when she asked if I knew what the **buzzer** was for. I explained that it signals to blind people when the light is green. She responded, shocked, “What on earth are blind people doing driving?”

当行人可以安全过马路的时候，马路拐角处的指示灯就会发出响声。我正和一位同事一起过马路，她问我知不知道这响声是干什么用的。我说，这是给盲人的绿灯信号。她胆战心惊地问：“盲人究竟为什么要开车？”

cross v. 穿越，横过

buzzer n. 蜂鸣器



An easygoing servant

153 随和的保姆

The **hostess** asked the new hired **servant**: “Girl, do you like

parrots?"

"Don't worry, madam. I'm not picky about food. I can eat anything."

女主人问新雇来的保姆：“姑娘，你喜欢鹦鹉吗？”

“别担心，太太，我什么都吃，不挑食。”



hostess *n.* 女主人，旅馆女老板

servant *n.* 仆人



Her mother died, too

154

她的妈妈也死了

One day, a girl's neighbor went over to her house, saw the girl crying, and asked her what happened. The girl said that her mother had passed away. The neighbor comforted her a little and then left.

The next day the neighbor went back over to the house and found the girl crying again. She asked her why she was crying this time. "I just got off the phone with my sister, her mother died, too!"

一天，一个邻居到一个女孩的家里去，看见她在哭，就问她出了什么事，女孩说她的妈妈死了。邻居安慰了她几句，就走了。

第二天，这个邻居过来看她，发现她又在哭，就问她这次为什么哭。“我刚和我姐姐通完电话，她的妈妈也死了。”



Road closed

155

道路关闭

Signs warning of closed roadways are frequently **ignored** in rural areas. Highway workers barely took notice when a woman drove past



their sign to the **trench** they had dug in the middle of the road. They were surprised, however, to see the same woman coming toward them from the same direction a couple of hours later. “Oh,” she said **frantically** as she again pulled up next to the trench crew. “Is it closed in this direction too?”

在乡间，人们往往忽视道路关闭的警告标志，所以当一个女人开车从修路工人旁边经过，开往他们在路中间挖的大沟的时候，他们几乎都没有在意。可是，2个小时以后，同一个女人从同一个方向又开过来的时候，他们感到惊奇。当她又开到挖沟队跟前的时候，她惊慌失措地问：“怎么这个方向也关闭了呢？”

ignore v. 不理，不顾，忽视

trench n. 深沟，壕沟，战壕



Notify wife

通知夫人

A professor was visiting his friend when it suddenly started raining heavily. His friend said, “It’s raining, we are also talking cheerily, you’d better stay here for night.”

“Yes, thanks for your invitation,” he said. But, soon he couldn’t be seen anywhere.

After an hour, he came back, soaking wet in the rain. His friend asked him what the matter was. He said, “I went home to notify my wife that I would not go home tonight because of the heavy rain.”

一位教授正在朋友家作客，天突然下起大雨，朋友说：“天下雨了，我们也谈得投机，你干脆在我这里过夜算了。”

“好的，好的，多谢邀请。”他答应着，但一转眼却不见了。

一个小时之后，他冒雨进来，浑身湿透，朋友忙问他是怎么回事。他说：“我回家通知夫人，今夜雨大，我不回家了。”



New shoes

157

新鞋

Bob bought a pair of new shoes. His wife saw that he did not wear the shoes for a week and asked, "Why are you not wearing those new shoes?"

"I can start wearing them tomorrow. When I bought the shoes, the salesman told me that new shoes would **pinch** my feet during the first week."

鲍勃买了一双新鞋，他的妻子看他一个星期都不穿，就问他：“你为什么还不穿那双新鞋呢？”

“明天就可以穿了。买鞋时售货员对我说，穿新鞋后第一个星期会有些夹脚。”

pinch v. 捏，掐，拧，挟 n. 捏，掐，微量



Hard to find

158

找不到

A man took his son out to play. In the spur of the moment, he let his son **ride** on his neck. After a while, he suddenly thought of his son, and asked the man next to him, "Did you see my son?"

The man laughed out loudly and said, "Isn't he on your neck?"

The man put his son down and asked, "Where did you go? It was so hard to find you!"

有一个人带着儿子出去玩，一高兴便让儿子骑在他的脖子上。过了一会儿，他忽然想起儿子来，便问旁边的人：“你看见我儿子了吗？”

那人笑着说：“他不就在你脖子上吗？”

这个人把儿子放下来，问：“刚才你上哪儿去了？叫我找不到！”

ride v. 骑，驾驶，乘坐





How many cars did she hit?

159 她撞了几辆车？

I was getting into my car when I noticed a **dent**. On the windshield was a note and a phone number from the driver.

"I feel terrible," the woman apologized when I called. "I hit your car as I was pulling into the next parking spot."

"Please, don't worry," I said to her. "I'm sure our insurance companies will take care of everything."

"Thank you for your understanding," she said. "You're so much nicer than the man I hit on the way out."

我要进我的车里去的时候，看到车被撞了一个坑。那个司机在我车的挡风玻璃上留了一个条，上面有电话号码。

我打电话过去的时候，那个女人道歉说：“真对不起，我在停到你隔壁的停车位的时候撞到了你的车。”

我对她说：“别担心，我们双方的保险公司肯定会处理好一切的。”

她说：“谢谢你的理解，你的态度比我退出来的时候撞到的那个男人好多了。”

dent *n.* 凹痕，凹陷



Follow a snowplow

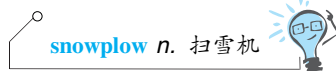
160 跟着扫雪车

A **blonde** got lost in her car in a snowstorm. She remembered what her dad had once told her. "If you ever get stuck in a snowstorm, wait for a



snowplow and follow it.” Pretty soon a snowplow came by, and she started to follow it. She followed the plow for about 45 minutes. Finally, the driver of the truck got out and asked her what she was doing. She explained that her dad had told her. The driver nodded and said, “Well, I’m done with the parking lot here at Wal-Mart, now you can follow me over to K-Mart.”

一个金发女郎在暴风雪里开车迷了路，她想起她爸爸曾经告诉过她：“如果你在暴风雪里开车迷了路，等扫雪车来，跟着它开。”很快，一辆扫雪车来了，她就跟着它，开了45分钟。最后，扫雪车的司机下车过来问她：她在干什么。她向她解释了她爸爸告诉过她的话，那个司机点点头说：“哦，我已经扫完了Wal-Mart的停车场，现在你可以跟我去K-Mart了。”



Better speakers

161 好一点的讲员

As a traffic safety consultant, I often gave talks to organizations on accident prevention. One night after I spoke to a PTA group, the program chairperson thanked me **profusely** and gave me a check for fifty dollars.

“Giving these presentations is part of my job,” I said. “Could I **donate** the money to one of your courses?”

“That would be wonderful,” she **gushed**. “We have just the program that could use it. We’re trying to raise money so we can afford better speakers.”

作为交通安全顾问，我经常给各种组织讲如何预防交通事故。一天晚上，我给家长教师协会讲完话，主持人大大地感谢了我一番，并且给了我一张50美元的支票。

我说：“做这样的讲演是我工作的一部分，我能不能把这笔钱捐给你



们的课程?”

她脱口说：“那太好了，我们正好有一个计划可以用这笔钱。我们正在筹集资金，这样我们就可以请好一点的讲员。”

profusely *ad.* 大量地，丰富地 **donate** *v.* 捐赠 **gush** *n./v.* 涌出，迸发



Pushed the wrong button

162 按错了按钮

Flying through the Midwest in the **summertime** means one thing: **turbulence**. Just after a teenager girl had entered the bathroom, we hit a **patch** of very rough air. After the bumps had subsided, she **exited** the bathroom, a look of **terror etched** on her face. “Are you all right?” I asked. “That turbulence was so bad.”

“So that’s what it was,” she said. “I thought I’d pushed the wrong button.”

夏季在美国中西部飞行就意味着一件事：涡流。一个十几岁的女孩刚进入厕所，我们的飞机就碰到一片非常不稳定的气流。等颠簸平息下来以后，她从厕所里出来了，一脸惊恐的模样。我问她：“你没事吧？这股涡流可够厉害的。”

她说：“原来是这么一回事，我还以为是我按错了按钮。”

summertime *n.* 夏天，夏季 **turbulence** *n.* 涡流，狂暴，动乱

patch *n.* 补丁，碎片，小块，小片 **exit** *n.* 出口 *v.* 出去

terror *n.* 恐怖，可怕的人(事) **etch** *v.* 蚀刻



A jigsaw puzzle too hard

163 拼图游戏太难

Mike gets a call from his girlfriend, Lisa. “I’ve got a problem,” says

Lisa.

“What’s the matter?” asks Mike.

“Well, I’ve bought this **jigsaw** puzzle, but it’s too hard. None of the pieces **fit** together and I can’t find any edges.”

“What’s the picture of?” asks Mike.

“It’s a big rooster,” replies Lisa.

“All right,” says Mike, “I’ll come over and take a look.”

Mike goes over to Lisa’s house, and Lisa leads him into her kitchen and shows him the jigsaw on the kitchen table. Mike looks at the jigsaw, and then turns to Lisa and says, “For Pete’s sake—put the **cornflakes** back in the box.”

迈克接到他的女友丽莎的电话，丽莎说：“我碰到麻烦了。”

迈克问：“什么事？”

丽莎说：“我买了一盒拼图游戏，但是太难了，哪一块也拼不到一起，还找不到边在哪里。”

迈克问道：“那是一幅什么图？”

“大公鸡。”

“好，我过去看看。”

迈克到了丽莎的家，丽莎带他到厨房，让他看桌子上的拼图游戏。他看了看桌子上的拼图游戏，转身对丽莎说：“看在圣·彼得的份上，你把这些玉米片放回盒子里去吧。”

jigsaw *n.* 拼图

fit *v.* 适合

cornflakes *n.* 玉米片



笑话
164

A serious man

认真的人

A **passerby** asked Bob, “Excuse me, where is the department store?”



“Go ahead, pass the bridge and turn right.”

The passerby asked again, “Is the bridge very long?”

“20 meters.”

The passerby thanked and quickly walked toward the bridge. Suddenly, Bob caught up from behind, panting: “I’m sorry! I just realized that the bridge was 40 meters long. If you do as I said, to walk 20 meters and then turn right, you will fall into the river!”

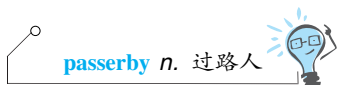
一位过路人问鲍勃：“请问，百货公司在哪儿？”

“过了前面那座桥，再向右转。”

过路人又问：“桥很长吗？”

“20 米。”

过路人谢过后，快步向桥走去。突然，鲍勃从后面追上来，气喘吁吁地说：“对不起！我刚想起来，那桥长 40 米。如果你照我说的那样，走 20 米然后向右转，你就会掉到河里去！”



passerby *n.* 过路人



Whom to send

165

寄给谁

A father asked his son to mail a letter. After the son left home, the father remembered that he forgot to put address on the envelope.

When the son returned home, the father immediately asked him, “Did you notice that the letter didn’t have the address?”

“I noticed it, but I still put it into the mailbox.”

“Why?”

“I thought you didn’t want me to know whom the letter was to send.”

爸爸让儿子去寄信，儿子走了以后，爸爸才想起忘了在信封上写地址。

儿子回来后，爸爸赶忙问：“你有没有发现那封信没写地址？”

“我早就发现没写地址，不过还是把它投进了信箱。”

“为什么呢？”

“我以为你不想让我知道那是写给谁的。”



Bring me another martini!

再给我拿一杯马丁尼酒来!

I was waiting tables at an **exclusive** country club when an elegantly **dressed** woman spilled Manhattan clam chowder all over her white **linen** skirt. She **began furiously** wiping it with a napkin. Having plenty of experience with getting out food **stains**, I asked, “May I bring you some club soda?”

“Young lady,” she exclaimed, “I’ll be the judge of when I’ve had enough to drink. Bring me another martini!”

我在一家不对外开放的乡村俱乐部等座位的时候，看到一个穿着高雅的妇人把曼哈顿海鲜杂烩羹溅到了她的白色亚麻裙上，她开始狂怒地用纸巾擦。我对如何除去食物污渍颇有经验，就问她：“要不要我给你拿一些汽水来？”

她大声吼叫着说：“小姐，我自己会判断什么时候喝够了，再给我拿一杯马丁尼酒来！”

exclusive a. 豪华的，高级的

dress v. 穿衣服

linen n. 亚麻，亚麻制品

skirt n. 女裙

begin v. 开始

furiously ad. 狂暴地，强烈地

stain n. 污点，瑕疵





Still in the original place

还在原处

A traveler was leaving the hotel in a hurry to catch the train. He walked to the door, and saw the heavy rain outside. He said to the service girl, "Excuse me, would you please go to my room to check if my umbrella is there?"

A few minutes later, the girl returned and said, "Sir, your umbrella is still in the original place."

一位旅行者离开旅馆，急着去赶火车。他走到门外，见外面正下着大雨，就对服务小姐说：“对不起，请你去看看我的雨伞是不是在我房间里。”

几分钟后，服务小姐回来说：“先生，你的雨伞还在原处放着。”



Squeeze twice for no

听不见捏两下

During a soccer game, one of the players took a hard hit. He **tumbled** to the ground and stopped moving. We grabbed our first-aid gear and rushed out onto the field. The coach picked up the young man's hand and urged, "Son, can you hear me? Squeeze once for yes and twice for no."

在足球比赛中，一个球员被撞得很厉害，他倒在地下，一动也不动。我们抓起急救装备，冲进了运动场。教练抓住这个年轻人的手，急促地说：“孩子，你能不能听见我说话？能听见捏一下，听不见捏两下。”

tumble v. 摔倒，使滚翻





First class not for New York

一等舱不到纽约去

A blonde with coach ticket for New York gets on board an airliner and drops herself into the first class section. A flight attendant tells her that her ticket is for coach, not first class, and tells her to move to the correct location. The blonde responds, "I'm blonde, I'm going to New York, and I'm not moving."

Numerous other attendants tell her the same thing, and she keeps replying, "I'm blonde, I'm going to New York, and I'm not moving."

The pilot catches wind of this, and heads down to the first class section. He finds the blonde, and proceeds to whisper something in her ear. The blonde hurriedly grabs her carryon, and immediately heads for the coach section.

One attendant asks the pilot, "What did you say to her?"

The pilot responds, "I told her that first class isn't going to New York."

一个金发女郎拿着去纽约的经济舱机票上了飞机，一屁股坐在一等舱的位子上。一位空姐告诉她，她的票是经济舱，不是一等舱，并且让她挪到自己的座位去。这个金发女郎回答说：“我是金发女郎，我到纽约去，我不挪走。”

好几个空姐都让她挪走，但她始终重复说：“我是金发女郎，我到纽约去，我不挪走。”

飞行员听说这件事，就往一等舱走过去。他找到那个金发女郎，在她耳边悄悄说了几句话，这个金发女郎急急忙忙抓起自己的随身行李，往经济舱走去。

一位空姐问飞行员：“你对她说什么了？”

飞行员回答说：“我告诉她，一等舱不是到纽约去的。”

board *n.* 甲板 **airliner** *n.* 客机

attendant *n.* 侍者，服务员 **grab** *v.* 攫取，抓取





Ears are too long

耳朵太长

A man drove a donkey cart to pass an arch. He worried that the arch might be not tall enough, and tried to knock the rocks off from the arch. A policeman saw him and said, "There is such a fool in the world! Don't you think it much easier to dig off a layer of soil under the arch?"



The man **disagreed**, "The cart can't pass not because the donkey's legs are too long, but because the donkey's ears are too long."

有个人赶着毛驴车要过一个拱门，他看拱门不够高，就把拱顶的石块一点一点敲掉。一个警察看见了就说他：“世上竟有这样的傻瓜！你把拱门底下的土刨去一层岂不省事？”

赶车人不服气：“过不去又不是因为驴腿太长了，而是驴耳朵太长了嘛！”



Don't know where to go

不知上哪儿

A scientist was riding a train when the **conductor** happened to come for ticket checking. Frantically, he could find no ticket.

At that moment, the conductor recognized him as the famous scientist and said, "Don't worry. Just show me the ticket on your way back."

"No, I have to find it now. Otherwise, how do I know where I am

going?”

有位科学家乘火车，正赶上查票。他怎么也找不到车票，急得满头大汗。

这时，列车员认出了他是著名科学家，说：“不要紧，你回来时给我看就行了。”

“不，我一定要把它找出来，要不然我怎么知道我该上哪儿去？”

conductor *n.* 导体，售票员



A piglet

172

乳猪

A man was late for a dinner party. After he seated in a hurry, he saw a roasted piglet right in front of him. He was glad and said, “It’s good. I am sitting next to the piglet.” Shortly after, he found a fat woman next to him was angry. He quickly responded with a smile and added, “I’m sorry. I mean the one cooked.”

某人赴宴迟到，匆忙入座后见一只烤乳猪就在面前，高兴地说：“不错，我坐在乳猪的旁边。”话刚出口，才发现身旁一位胖女士生气，他急忙陪着笑脸说：“对不起，我是说那只烤好了的。”



I’m not the mother

173

我不是妈妈

At a **pharmacy**, a woman asked to use the **infant** scale to weigh the baby she held in her arms. The clerk explained that the device was out for repairs, but said that she would figure the infant’s weight by weighing the mother and baby together on the adult scale, then weighing the mother alone and **subtracting** the second amount from the first.



“It won't work,” answered the woman. “I'm not the mother, I'm the aunt.”

在一家药房里，一个女子要求用他们的婴儿秤来称她抱着的孩子。职员告诉她说那个秤已经送去修理了，不过可以用成人秤先称妈妈和孩子的总重量，然后再称妈妈一个人的重量，用第一个重量减去第二个重量就是孩子的重量。

那个女人反对说：“这个办法行不通，我不是妈妈，我是阿姨。”

pharmacy *n.* 药店

infant *n.* 婴儿，幼儿

subtract *v.* 减(去)





老人笑话

第四章



Never get any exercise

再不能锻炼身体了

My parents had one of those old-time **rotary** telephones. Once, I misdialed a long-distance number, and had to do it all over again. “Mom,” I asked in frustration, “Why don’t you replace this thing with a **touch-tone phone**?”

“If we did,” my mother said, “your father would never get any exercise.”

我的父母有一台老式的拨盘式的电话机。有一次我打长途电话，拨错了一个号，只好从头再来一遍。我沮丧地问：“妈，你们为什么不换一台按键式的电话机呢？”

我妈说：“如果我们换了，那你爸就再也不能锻炼身体了。”

rotary a. 旋转的

touch-tone phone 按键式电话

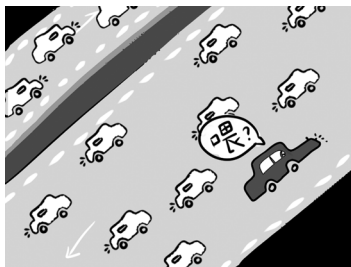


Not just one car

不是只有一辆

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his cell phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife’s voice urgently warning him, “I just heard on the news that there’s a car going the wrong way. Please be careful!”

“It’s not just one car,” said the old man, “It’s hundreds of them!”





一个老年人正沿着高速公路驾驶，他的手机响了，一接电话就听到他太太用急促的声音警告他：“我刚听新闻说，公路上有一辆车逆向行驶，你要小心。”

老人说：“不是只有一辆，有好几百辆。”



A 65-year-old new mother

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65 岁的新妈妈

With the help of a **fertility** specialist, a 65-year-old woman has a baby. All her relatives come to visit and meet the newest member of their family. When they ask to see the baby, the 65-year-old mother says, “Not yet.”

A little later they ask to see the baby again. Again the mother says, “Not yet.”

Finally they say, “When can we see the baby?”

And the mother says, “When the baby cries.”

And they ask, “Why do we have to wait until the baby cries?”

The new mother says, “Because I forgot where I put it.”

在生育专家的帮助下，一位 65 岁的老太太生了一个孩子，所有的亲戚们都来看他们家族的这个新成员。当他们要求看孩子的时候，这位 65 岁的妈妈说：“还不到时候”。

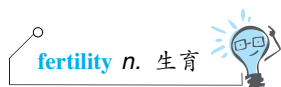
过了一会儿，他们又要求看这个孩子，这位妈妈又说：“还不行”。

最后，人们问：“那我们什么时候才能看这个孩子呢？”

这位妈妈说：“等孩子哭的时候。”

人们问：“为什么要等到孩子哭的时候？”

这位新妈妈说：“因为我忘了把孩子放在哪里了。”



fertility n. 生育



笑话
177

If you say something worth \$300

如果你说的话值 300 美元

For years I tried **unsuccessfully** to persuade my wife to get a hearing aid. “How much do they cost?” she asked one day after I had talked the idea to her again.

“They’re usually about \$300,” I said.

“Okay, if you say something worth \$300,” she replied, “I’ll get one.”

好多年来，我一直试图说服我太太配一副助听器，但都没有成功。有一天，我再一次向她提议的时候，她问我：“配一副助听器要多少钱？”

我说：“通常是 300 美元。”

她回答说：“好，什么时候你说的话值 300 美元，我就配一副。”

unsuccessfully *ad.* 不成功地，失败地



笑话
178

Watching dream

看梦

Husband woke up in the midnight and pushed his wife, “Dear, hurry, bring me my glasses!”

“What are you going to do with glasses in late night?”

“I just had a **fantastic** dream, but there were some details I couldn’t see very clearly.”

丈夫半夜里推醒他的妻子说：“亲爱的，快点把眼镜给我拿来！”

“这半夜三更的，拿眼镜做什么啊？”

“我做了个好梦，可就是有些细节看不大清楚。”

fantastic *a.* 奇异的，极好的





A real winner

真正的赢家

One **resident** of our retirement center loved to talk politics. Following the election, I asked him if he'd picked a winner.

"Well," he casually replied, "the man I voted for lost."

"You seem pretty calm about it," I said.

"That's because the man I bet on won."

我们老人公寓有一名住客很喜欢谈论政治话题。大选的次日，我问他所选的人是不是胜了。

他漫不经心地回答：“我投赞成票的人败了。”

我说：“你看来挺心平气和的。”

他说：“那是因为我投赌注的那个人胜了。”

resident *n.* 居民，住户，旅客，房客



My heart was replaced last year

我的心脏去年换掉了

Fitness center applicants at my hospital are queried about their medical problems. One man wrote "None" on the application form where it asked whether he had any **cardiac** problems. When a **huge surgical scar** was noticed on his chest, he was asked, "What is that from?"

"I used to have problems with my heart, but it was replaced last year," the man answered **calmly**.

我们医院的健身中心要了解申请人的身体状况。一位男子在申请表上“是否曾经患过心脏疾病”一栏填上“无”，人们发现他胸口上有很大的手

术刀疤，问他：“这是怎么来的？”

他平静地回答说：“我的心脏以前有问题，不过去年换掉了。”

cardiac a. 心脏的 **calmly** ad. 平静地 **huge** a. 巨大的
surgical a. 外科的，手术上的 **scar** n. 瘢痕



笑话 Hearing problems

181

听力问题

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a perfect set of hearing aids. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, “You can hear 100% now. Your family must be really pleased.”

The gentleman replied, “Oh, I haven’t told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to their conversations. I’ve changed my will three times!”

一个老头有严重的听力问题已经好几年了，他去找医生，医生给他配了一副非常合适的助听器。过了一个月，他回到医生那里，医生说：“现在你的听力恢复到了 100%，你的家人一定很高兴。”

老头回答说：“我还没有告诉他们，我只是坐在那里听他们说话。我已经把遗嘱修改 3 次了。”



笑话

Moving couch

182

搬沙发

My mother complained that her back was really hurt from moving **couch**. “Why don’t you wait till your husband gets home?” someone asked.

“I could,” my mother said, “but it is easier to move the couch if



he's not on it. ”

我妈妈抱怨说搬了沙发以后腰背疼。有人问：“你为什么不等你丈夫回来再搬？”

我妈妈说：“我可以等他回来，但是如果他坐在上面，沙发更不容易搬动。”

couch *n.* 长沙发椅



I used to drive a school bus

183

我以前是开校车的

My wife and I were watching the **gorillas** at the zoo when several of them charged at the **enclosure** fence, **scattering** the crowd, except for one elderly man. Later, my wife asked him how he had kept calm. “I used to drive a school bus,” he explained.

我和太太在动物园看黑猩猩，有几只黑猩猩突然往笼子的围栏冲过来，游人纷纷逃窜，只剩一个老头子。后来，我太太问他怎么会这样镇定，他解释说：“我以前是开校车的。”

gorilla *n.* 大猩猩，高大凶恶的人

enclosure *n.* 围绕，围场，围栏

scatter *v.* 散开，驱散，散布，散播



Give you a hearing test

184

测一下你的听力

Once a very proper older lady went to her doctor. “Doctor,” she said, “I have a very bad gas problem. Yesterday afternoon I had lunch with the Secretary of State and his wife, and had six silent gas **emissions**. Last night I had dinner with the governor and his wife, and had four silent gas emissions. Then, while sitting in your waiting room, I

had five silent gas emissions. Doctor, you've got to help me! What can we do?"

"Well," said the doctor raising his voice a little, "I think the first thing we're going to do is give you a hearing test."

有一个很正统的老太太去看医生，她说：“医生，我有一个很糟的放屁的毛病。昨天下午我和国务卿夫妇一起吃午饭，我有6次无声的气体排放；昨天晚上我和州长夫妇一起吃晚饭，我有4次无声的气体排放；刚才在你候诊室等候的时候，我有5次无声的气体排放。医生，你一定要帮帮我，我该怎么办？”

医生提高嗓门说：“嗯，我想我们首先要做的是测一下你的听力。”

emission *n.* 散发物，发出物



Generation gap 185 代沟

On our way to my parents' house for dinner one evening, I glanced at my 15-year-old daughter. "Isn't that **skirt** a bit short?" I asked. She rolled her eyes at my comment and gave me one of those "Oh, mom" looks.

When we arrived at my parents' place, my mother **greeted** us at the door, hugged me and asked, "Don't you think your **blouse** is **awfully low-cut**?"

一天傍晚，在去我父母家吃饭的途中，我看了一眼15岁的女儿，问：“你这裙子是不是太短了？”她把眼睛往上一翻，用“啊哟，妈！”那种眼光看了我一眼。

当我们到达父母家的时候，我妈妈在门口欢迎我们，拥抱我，然后问我说：“你不觉得你的上衣领口开得太低了吗？”

skirt *n.* 女裙

greet *v.* 问候，致敬

blouse *n.* 女衬衫

awfully *ad.* 非常，极其

low-cut *a.* 领口开得低的，袒胸露颈的





Dangerous on top

186

上面危险

A young man **boarded** a double-decker bus. When he was stepping up to the upper deck, an old man next to him suddenly warned him, "Don't go up. It's dangerous in the upper deck."

The young man asked, "Is it dangerous up there?"

The old man said, "Very dangerous! There is no driver there!"

一个小伙子上了一辆双层巴士，正准备上到二层去，旁边一位老人突然说：“别上去，上面危险。”

小伙子问：“上面有危险吗？”

老人说：“非常危险！上面没有司机啊！”

board v. 上船（或火车、飞机。公共汽车等）



Cheap but good

187

价廉物美

My wife was fascinated by the **elegant calligraphy** on the handwritten **menu** in a Chinese restaurant. She took it home and spent months **knitting** a **sweater** with Chinese characters in the front. She was wearing it at a **cocktail** party when a Chinese physician asked where she got the symbols.

"From a menu," she admitted.

"Do you know what they say?"

"I'm afraid to ask," My wife said, "but tell me anyway."

"Cheap but good"

我的妻子被中国餐馆的手写菜单上优美的书法迷住了，她把菜单带回

家，花了几个月的时间织了一件毛衣，把中国字织在胸前。她穿着这件毛衣参加一个鸡尾酒会，一位中国医生问她是在哪里搞到这个图样，她承认是从菜单上描下来的。

医生问：“你知道这些字什么意思吗？”

我的妻子说：“我没敢问，你告诉我吧。”

中国医生说：“价廉物美”。



elegant *a.* (举止、服饰) 雅致的

calligraphy *n.* 书法

knit *v.* 编织

menu *n.* 菜单，菜谱

sweater *n.* 毛衣，线衣

cocktail *n.* 鸡尾酒



I don't even go that far on vacation

188

我度假都没走那么远

Our group was third in line behind two other **foursomes** at the golf course. A young man in the first group struck his **tee** shot straight down the middle of the 410-yard fairway to within a few yards of the green. "Wow," said an older man in the second foursome, "I don't even go that far on **vacation**."

在高尔夫球场，我们组排在另外两个4人组的后面。第一组里的一个小伙子在打第一杆的时候他的球就直飞410码草坪区的中部，离绿色区只有几码远。在第二个4人组里的一个老头子感叹说：“哇，我度假都没走那么远。”

foursome *n.* 四人组

vacation *n.* 假期

tee *n.* (高尔夫球场的)发球区，开球处



Bartender

189

酒保

The **board** of education in a nearby town sold off a building that had



been a schoolhouse. The buyer converted it to a **tavern**. One day an elderly man was walking by the place with his grandson and pointed to the building. “That’s where I went to school when I was your age.”

“Really,” said the boy. “Who was your **bartender** back then?”

附近小镇的教育局出售了一栋曾经是校舍的房子，买主把它改装成一个小酒馆。有一天，一个老人家和他的孙子在一起散步路过那里，爷爷指着这所房子对孙子说：“我像你这么大的时候，就在那里上学。”

孙子问：“真的吗？那时候谁是你们的酒保？”

board *n.* 董事会，委员会，理事会

tavern *n.* 酒馆

bartender *n.* 酒保，调酒员



Don't call me

190

不要打电话给我

My husband and I stopped by my father’s house on the way back from a friend’s **funeral**. During the visit, my husband spoke about the man who had died, saying, “You know, I had a feeling I should have called him last week, but I didn’t. The next time I have that feeling, I’m going to do it.” Later dad saw us to the door. As we said our goodbyes, he **muttered** to my husband, “And don’t call me.”

我和我丈夫在参加完一个朋友的葬礼以后顺便到我父亲那里看看他，谈话当中提到这个刚死去的朋友，我丈夫后悔地说：“上个礼拜我有一种感觉，应该要打电话给他，但是我却没有打。下次我有这种感觉的时候，我就要去做。”后来我父亲送我们到门口，互相道别的时候，我父亲悄悄地对我丈夫说：“不要打电话给我。”

funeral *n.* 丧葬，葬礼

mutter *v.* 低语，抱怨





The eighth symptom

第 8 个症状

Hypochondriac that I am, I constantly **log on** to the Internet to self-**diagnose** my latest **sickness**. But even I knew it was time to **lighten up** the day, I typed in the key words “liver **disorders**”. That led me to a medical site. With growing alarm I realized I had each of the first seven **symptoms**. Then I came to No. 8 and suddenly felt much better: “Feeling of **stupor**. No longer enjoys **romping** and wagging tail.”

我患有忧郁症，经常登录到网上去自我诊断我最近的疾病。尽管我知道我应该乐观起来，我还是键入了关键字“肝脏失常”，它把我带进一个医学网站。当我看到头 7 个症状我全有的时候，我越来越紧张，不过当我看到第 8 个症状的时候，突然觉得好多了——那个症状是“没精打采，不再喜爱戏闹和摇尾巴。”

log on 登录

diagnose v. 诊断（疾病）

sickness n. 疾病

lighten up 照亮

disorder n. 疾病，小病

romp v. 游玩喧闹，玩耍

stupor n. 麻木，昏迷，恍惚

symptom n. 症状，征候，征兆



Who honked the horn

谁按了喇叭

As I drove into a parking lot, I noticed that a pickup truck with a dog sitting behind the wheel was rolling toward a female **pedestrian**. She seemed **unaware**, so I hit my **horn** to get her attention. She looked up just in time to jump out of the way of the truck's path. I rushed to see if she was all right. “I'm fine,” she assured me, “but I hate to think what could have happened to me if that dog hadn't **honked**.”

我开车进到一个停车场的时候，看到一条狗坐在一辆小型卡车的方向



盘后面，正朝着一个步行的妇女滑行过去，她似乎没有觉察，于是我就按喇叭警告她，她及时抬起头来，跳出了卡车的行进路线。我赶紧跑过去看看她有没有受伤，她说：“我没事，不过我不敢想象，如果那条狗不按喇叭的话，我会出什么事。”

pedestrian *n.* 行人，步行者 **unaware** *a.* 不知道

horn *n.* 喇叭，号角 **honk** *n.* 汽车喇叭声 *v.* 按汽车喇叭



Hearing test

听力测试

An old man goes to his doctor and says, "I don't think my wife's hearing is as good as it used to be. What should I do?"

The doctor replies, "Try this test to find out for sure. When your wife is in the kitchen doing dishes, stand fifteen feet behind her and ask her a question. If she doesn't respond, keep moving closer, asking the question until she hears you."

The man goes home and sees his wife preparing dinner. He stands fifteen feet behind her and says, "What's for dinner, honey?" No response. He moves to ten feet behind her and asks again, no response. Five feet, no answer. Finally he stands directly behind her and says, "Honey, what's for dinner?"

She says, "For the fourth time, I said CHICKEN!"

一个老头对他的医生说：“我觉得我太太的听力不如从前了，我该怎么办呢？”

医生说：“你可以做这样一个试验确认一下：当你太太在厨房做饭的时候，你在她后面 15 英尺的距离问她一个问题，如果她不回答，就走近一点再问，直到她听见为止。”

老头回到家里，看见太太正在做饭，就站在她后面 15 英尺的距离问：“亲爱的，晚饭吃什么？”没有回答；他走到她后面 10 英尺的距离再问，

没有回答；他走到她后面 5 英尺的距离再问，还是没有回答。最后，他紧贴着她的背后问：“亲爱的，晚饭吃什么？”

她说：“我这是第 4 次回答：吃鸡！”



A bright side of life

往好的方面想

Being able to look on the bright side of life was something I always **admired** about my grandfather. Even after receiving the terrible diagnosis that he had Alzheimer's, he was **philosophical**. “There's one good thing that'll come from this,” he told my father.

“What's that?” asked dad.

“Now I can hide my own **Easter** eggs.”

我总是羡慕我的爷爷一切事情都能往好的方面想。即使在被诊断得了老年痴呆症以后，他仍然非常达观地对我爸爸说：“得了老年痴呆症也有好处。”

我爸爸问：“什么好处？”

“我可以给自己藏复活节的鸡蛋了。”

admire v. 羡慕 **Easter** n. 复活节

philosophical a. 哲学的，达观的，处乱不惊的



Analyze everything to death

打破砂锅问到底

My mother is always trying to understand what **motivates** people, especially those in her family. One day we were talking about one relative who just changed her job. “Why do you suppose she changed jobs?” she asked. “Maybe she has a **subconscious** desire not to succeed.”



“Or maybe it just happened,” said I. “Do you know you **analyze** everything to death?”

Mother was silent for a moment. “That’s true,” she said. “Why do you think I do that?”

我妈妈总是想要揣摩别人的动机，尤其是她家里的那些人。有一天，我们谈起一个亲戚刚换了工作，她问我：“你认为她为什么换了工作？她是不是潜意识里不想成功？”

我说：“也许事情就这么发生了。你知不知道你总是打破砂锅问到底？”

妈妈沉默了一会儿说：“确实，那么你认为我为什么总是打破砂锅问到底？”

motivate v. 激发

subconscious a. 潜意识的

analyze v. 分析，分解



Tear up tickets

196

撕票

An old farmer went to the movies. He bought a ticket and went to the cinema. But after a while, he stormed out to buy another ticket. Then, in less than a minute after he entered the cinema, he rushed out like crazy to buy another ticket.

The lady in the box office felt curious and asked him, “You already bought two tickets. Why do you want another one?”

The farmer said angrily, “How do I know? Every time I got into the cinema, there was a lady who tore my ticket up.”

一个老农去看电影，买好票后走进影院，没过多久就气呼呼地出来又去买票，重新进去后不到一分钟，再次发疯似的冲出来，要再买一张票。

售票小姐觉得很奇怪，就问他说：“你不是已经买了2张票吗？干吗还要再买啊？”

他很生气地说：“我怎么知道？每次我一走进电影院，就有一个小姐把我的票撕掉了。”



笑话

Goodbye, mother!

妈妈再见!

A young man was walking through a **supermarket** to pick a few things when he noticed an old lady following him around. Thinking nothing of it, he **ignored** her and continued on. Finally he went to the checkout line, but she got in front of him.

“Pardon me,” she said, “I’m sorry if my staring at you has made you feel uncomfortable. It’s just that you look just like my son, who just died recently.”

“I’m very sorry,” replied the young man, “Is there anything I can do for you?”

“Yes,” she said, “As I’m leaving, can you say ‘Goodbye, mother!’? It would make me feel much better.”

“Sure,” answered the young man. As the old woman was leaving, he called out, “Goodbye, mother!” and felt quite good about himself that he did a good **deed** and made someone feel happy. As he stepped up to the checkout counter, he saw that his total was \$127.50.

“How can that be?” he asked, “I only purchased a few things!”

“Your mother said that you would pay for her,” said the clerk.

一个年轻人正在超市里选购几样东西。他注意到一个老太太总是跟着他，也没有多想，就自顾自继续走。最后他到了交款处排队，那个老太太走到他的前面说：“对不起，如果我盯着你看使你觉得不舒服，我向你道歉。这只是因为你长得很像我刚死去的儿子。”

年轻人回答说：“我为你难受，我能为你做点什么吗？”

她说：“等一会儿我要离开的时候你能不能说一声‘妈妈再见’？这样



会使我好受得多。”

年轻人说：“当然可以”。于是，当老太太要走的时候，年轻人说了一声“妈妈再见”。他为自己做了一件使别人快乐的好事而感到高兴。当他走到收银员那里，看到他的总金额是 127.50 美元。

他说：“这怎么可能？我只买了几样东西。”

收银员说：“你妈妈说你会为她付账的。”

supermarket *n.* 超级市场

ignore *v.* 不理，不顾，忽视

deed *n.* 行为，事迹



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I wasn't listening

我根本就没有在听

A local cable-news crew came to interview me in my job as a **coordinator** for a country victim/witness-assistance program. I called my mother, told her the broadcast time, and asked her to give me her take on the show. She was very **excited** about her daughter being on TV. Later, my mother phoned me and said, “It was just on, and you looked so cute!”

“Great, mom,” I replied, “But did I sound professional, like I knew what I was talking about?”

“Gee, I don't know,” she said. “I wasn't listening.”

我们当地的有线电视台新闻节目组采访了我这个乡村受害人/证人互助团体协调人。我打电话给我妈妈，告诉她节目播出时间，让她帮我看看有什么缺点。她对于女儿上电视颇为兴奋，后来她打电话跟我说：“刚播完，你看着那么好看。”

我说：“太好了，不过我说的是不是很专业，很在行？”

她说：“啊呀！我不知道，我根本就没有在听。”

coordinator *n.* 协调员

excited *a.* 兴奋的





笑话

199

Old man and the chicken

老头和鸡

For years I've been getting a terrific **grill** chicken from a nearby restaurant. One night as I placed an order to go, I told the girl behind the counter, "I'll pick it up later. Do you want my name?"

"Oh, no," she said. "I've seen you come in here a lot." Then she **scribbled** something on a piece of paper. Feeling **flattered**, I happily went out. When I returned to **grab** my order, I glanced at her note on the bag: "Old man in the pink shirt."

多年来，我一直在附近的一家餐馆买美味的烤鸡。一天晚上我订了一只外卖的鸡，我告诉账台小姐：“我过一会儿来取，要不要留下我的名字？”

小姐说：“不用了，我经常看见你来这儿。”然后她在一张纸上面草草写了几个字。我觉得受到了奉承，高高兴兴地走了。当我回来取货的时候，看到她贴在口袋上的字条：“穿粉红色衬衣的老头。”

grill *n.* 烤架，烤肉 **scribble** *v.* 草草记下，匆匆书写

flatter *v.* 奉承，阿谀，谄媚 **grab** *v.* 攫取，抓取



笑话

200

Refresh my memory

提醒我一下

Two senior couples are walking along, wives in front, and husbands in back. Mark says to Tom, "Gee, we went to a new restaurant last night and had the best meal ever. Good prices too."

Tom says, "Well, we like to eat out too. What was the name of the restaurant?"

Mark says, "You'll have to **refresh** my memory a little. What's the



name of that pretty flower, smells sweet, grows on a **thorny** bush?"

Tom says, "How about rose?"

"Yes, yes, that's it!" cries Mark, then calls ahead to his wife. "Rose. Hey, Rose. What was the name of the restaurant we ate last night?"

两对老夫妇在一起走，太太们在前，丈夫们在后。

马克对汤姆说：“哎呀，我们昨天晚上去了一家新的餐馆，从来没吃过这么好的菜，价钱也公道。”

汤姆说：“那家餐馆叫什么名字？我们也想去。”

马克说：“那你得稍稍提醒我一下，那种很漂亮、闻起来很甜、在带刺的灌木上长的花叫什么名字？”

汤姆说：“是不是玫瑰？”

马克大叫起来：“对，对，对，就是玫瑰。”然后他就喊前面走着的太太：“玫瑰，玫瑰，我们昨天晚上吃饭的那家餐馆叫什么名字？”

refresh v. 提醒，使想起

thorny a. 棘手的，多刺的，有刺的



I can remember that

我能记得住

An 80-year-old couple was having problems remembering things, so they decided to go to their doctor to get checked out to make sure nothing was wrong with them. After checking the couple out, the doctor told them that they were physically okay but might want to start writing things down and make notes to help them remember things. The couple thanked the doctor and left.

Later that night while watching TV, the old man got up from his chair and his wife asked, "Where are you going?"

He replied, "To the kitchen."

She asked, "Will you get me a bowl of ice cream?"

He replied, "Sure."

She then asked him, "Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?"

He said, "No, I can remember that."

She then said, "Well, I also would like some strawberries on top. You'd better write that down because I know you'll forget that."

He said, "I can remember that, you want a bowl of ice cream with strawberries."

She replied, "Well, I also would like whip cream on top. I know you will forget that so you'd better write it down."

With irritation in his voice, he said, "I don't need to write that down. I can remember that." He then fumed into the kitchen. After about 20 minutes he returned from the kitchen and handed her a plate of bacon and eggs.

She stared at the plate for a moment and said, "You forgot my toast."

一对80岁的老夫妇记性不好，他们决定到医生那里去做一次检查，看看有什么问题没有。医生给他们做了全面检查，告诉他们身体并没有什么问题，不过建议他们用笔把事情记下来，以帮助他们记忆。他们谢了医生就回家了。

这天晚上看电视的时候，丈夫从他的椅子上站起来。

妻子问他：“你到哪里去？”

他说：“去厨房。”

妻子问：“你能不能给我拿一碗冰激凌来？”

他说：“当然可以。”

妻子问他：“你是不是觉得应该写下来，免得忘记？”

丈夫说：“不用，我能记得住。”

妻子接着说：“不过，我还想放一些草莓在上面。你最好是写下来，



我知道你会忘记的。”

丈夫说：“我能记得住，你是要一碗冰激凌加草莓。”

妻子接着说：“可是我还想在上面放一些鲜奶油。我知道你会忘记的，你最好是写下来。”

丈夫不悦地说：“我不需要写下来，我能记得住。”他气呼呼地进了厨房。20分钟以后，他从厨房回来了，递给妻子一盘咸猪肉和鸡蛋。

妻子盯着盘子看了一会儿，说：“你忘了我的烤面包了。”

cream *n.* 奶油，乳脂 **fume** *v.* 发怒，生闷气

bacon *n.* 咸猪肉，熏猪肉 **toast** *n.* 烤面包，祝酒(词) *v.* 烘，烤，祝酒

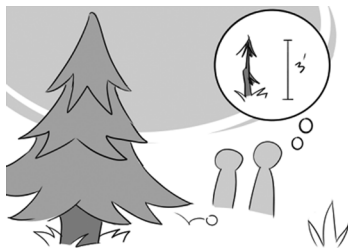


When I was your age

202

我在你这个年纪的时候

A young man was golfing with an old gentleman. When they reached the 9th fairway, the young man found himself with a tough shot. There was a large **pine** tree right in front of his ball and directly between his ball and the green. After several minutes of debating how to hit the shot, the old man finally said, “You know, when I was your age, I’d hit the ball right over that tree.”



With that challenge placed before him, the youngster swung hard, hit the ball up, right **smack** into the top of the tree trunk, and the ball bounced back on the ground not a foot from where it had originally lay. The old man offered one more comment, “Of course, when I was your age, that pine tree was only 3 feet tall.”

一个小伙子和一个老头在一起打高尔夫。当他们打第9个洞的时候，小伙子发现自己面临一个困难的局面：有一棵高大的松树正好挡在他的球和绿地之间。他们俩对如何打这个球争论了好几分钟，最后那个老头说：

“在你这年纪的时候，我会把球直接从树顶上打过去。”

面对这样一个挑战，小伙子猛力挥杆击球，球飞起来，正好打在树干的顶部，反弹回来，掉在离原来位置不到1英尺的地方。那个老头又补充说：“当然喽，我在你这年纪的时候，这棵松树只有3英尺高。”

pine *n.* 松树

smack *v.* 使劲碰（或撞），掴，用巴掌打



Renew the old romance

203

重温旧梦

One day, an old couple was talking about their youth time. The recall to their distant past made them so excited that they decided to renew their old **romance**. They picked a day to date on the riverbank as they were young.

On that day, the old man gathered fresh flowers, and waited on the riverbank. But, the old lady didn't show up. After a long waiting, the old man returned home only to find his wife lying in bed covered with a sheepskin coat.

He shouted angrily, "How could you stand me up?"

The old lady buried her face in the **pillow** and said shyly, "My mom doesn't allow me to."

一天，一对老夫妻谈起他们的青年时代，对过去的回忆使他们激动不已，于是他们决定重温旧梦，定了个日子，像年轻时那样到河边约会。

届时，老头采集了鲜花，来到河边等候，可是老太太却一直没有出现。老头空等一场，回到家里看到老伴盖着羊皮袄躺在床上，就生气地大声叫嚷起来：“你怎么能失约呢？”

老太太把脸埋在枕头里，羞怯地说：“妈妈不让我去。”

romance *n.* 浪漫

pillow *n.* 枕头





204

We have sound now

我们现在有声音了

For the first time in many years, an old man traveled from his rural town to the city to watch a movie. Handing the attendant \$7, he couldn't help but comment, "The last time I came to the movies, the ticket was only 25 cents."

"Well, sir," the attendant replied with a grin, "You're really going to enjoy yourself. We have sound now."

许多年来第一次，一个老头从乡下小镇进城来看电影，他给服务员付了7美元以后忍不住评论说：“上一次我来看电影，票价只有25美分。”

那个服务员咧嘴笑着说：“嗯，先生，你会很享受的，我们现在的电影有声音了。”

attendant *n.* 侍者，服务员

grin *n.* 咧着嘴笑



205

What did you teach?

你是教什么的？

While waiting in the reception room of a new dentist, I noticed his certificate, which bore his full name. Suddenly, I remembered that a tall boy with the same name had been in my high school class some 40 years ago. Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought. This bald, gray-haired man with the deeply lined face was too old to have been my classmate. After he had examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended the local high school.

"Yes," he replied.

"When did you graduate?" I asked.

He answered, "In 1957."

"Why, you were in my class!" I exclaimed.

He looked at me closely and then asked, "What did you teach?"

我换了一个新牙医，在他的接待室等候的时候，看到证书上有他的全名。我想起大约40年前我们高中班上一个大个子男生就是这个名字。然而，一看见他我马上就打消了这种念头。这个秃顶、白头发、脸上皱纹那么深的老头不可能是我的同班同学。他给我检查完牙齿之后，我问他是不是在本地的一所高中念过，他说：“是”。

我问：“哪一年毕业的？”

他回答：“1957年。”

我大喊起来：“啊，你是在我的班上！”

他仔细地看看我，然后问：“你是教什么的？”

reception *n.* 接待 **certificate** *n.* 证(明)书，文凭

bald *a.* 秃头的，无毛的 **exclaim** *v.* 呼喊，惊叫，大声说



We're waiting for you to leave

我们是在等你们走

Residents of a local nursing home loved our **karate** school's demonstration. We could tell because they gave us a big hand at the end. After the **applause** died down, everyone remained seated, so we showed off a few more moves. When our **encore** ended and again no one left, we launched into our second encore.

"I didn't expect karate to be so popular here," I whispered to one **resident**.

"It's not," she said with a kindly smile. "We're waiting for you to leave so we can get on with our bingo game."

我们附近一家养老院的老人们喜爱我们空手道学校的表演，从他们在我们表演结束的时候热烈的掌声，我们就可以听出来。掌声停下来之后，人们都在原地坐着，所以我们又练了几套。在加演的节目结束之后，人们还没有要离开的意思，我们只好又演第2套加演节目。



我小声地对我旁边的老人说：“没想到你们这么喜欢空手道。”

她面带善良的笑容，回答说：“不是我们喜欢，我们是在等你们走，然后可以玩宾戈游戏。”

karate *n.* 空手道 **applause** *n.* 喝彩，鼓掌

encore *n.* 再表演一个 **resident** *n.* 居民，住户，旅客，房客



207 First hotel stay 头一次住旅馆

Granny was visiting town for the first time. She checked in at the hotel, and the **bellboy** took her bags. She followed the boy, and as the door was closing, she looked around and shook her **fist** at him.

“Young man, I may be old and straight from the hills, but that doesn't mean I'm stupid! I pay good money, and this room won't do at all! It's too small, and without proper **ventilation**! Why there's not even a bed!”

The bellboy looked at her and said, “Ma'am, this isn't your room. It's the **elevator**.”

老奶奶头一次进城，她在旅馆开了一间房间。旅馆的男侍者拿起她的行囊，她跟在后面。门关上以后，她看了一圈，挥舞着拳头对待者说：

“小伙子，我可能老了，山里人，但是我不蠢。我花了大价钱，而这间房间根本不行。它这么小，通风不良，为什么连一张床都没有？”

那个男侍者看着她说：“夫人，这不是你的房间，这是电梯。”

bellboy *n.* 旅馆侍者 **fist** *n.* 拳头

ventilation *n.* 通风 **elevator** *n.* 电梯，升降舵



208 Finders keepers 谁捡的归谁

An elderly couple who were childhood sweethearts, are celebrating

their fiftieth **anniversary**. They walk down the street to their old school. There, they find the old desk they'd shared and where he had carved, "I love you, Lisa."

On their way back home, an armored car drives by and a bag of money falls out. Lisa quickly picks it up and takes it home. There, she counts the money, and it's fifty thousand dollars.

The husband says, "We've got to give it back."

She says, "Finders keepers." And she puts the money back in the bag and hides it up in their **attic**.

The next day, two FBI men are going door-to-door in the neighborhood looking for the money and show up at their home.

They say, "Pardon me, but did either of you find any money that fell out of an armored car yesterday?"

She says, "No."

The husband says, "She's lying. She hid it up in the attic."

She says, "Don't believe him, he's getting absent-minded."

But the **agents** sit the man down and begin to question him.

One says, "Tell us the story from the beginning."

The old man says, "Well, when Lisa and I were walking home from school yesterday..."

The FBI guy looks at his partner and says, "Let's get out of here."

一对青梅竹马的老夫妻正在庆祝他们的金婚纪念，他们沿街走到他们过去的学校，找到了过去他们同桌时坐的桌子，上面刻着“丽莎，我爱你”。

在回家的路上，一辆运钞车从他们身边开过，掉下一袋钱。丽莎很快把它捡起来，拿回家里，她数了一下，有5万美元。

丈夫说：“我们必须把它还回去。”

太太说：“谁捡的归谁。”就把钱放回口袋，藏在阁楼上。

第二天，两个联邦调查局的人在这一带挨家挨户地找钱，来到这



一家。

他们说：“对不起，你们昨天有没有看见从一辆运钞车掉下来的钱？”

丽莎说：“没有”。

丈夫说：“她在撒谎，她把钱藏在阁楼上了。”

太太说：“别相信他，他是老糊涂了。”

不过，这两个特工叫这个老头儿坐下来，开始盘问他。

一个说：“把这个故事从头给我们说一遍。”

老头儿说：“嗯，昨天我和丽莎从学校走回家……”

这个联邦调查局特工看看他的同伴说：“我们赶紧走吧。”

anniversary *n.* 周年纪念日

attic *n.* 阁楼，顶楼

agent *n.* 代理商(人)，代表





医患笑话

第五章



笑话 209 Away from wine

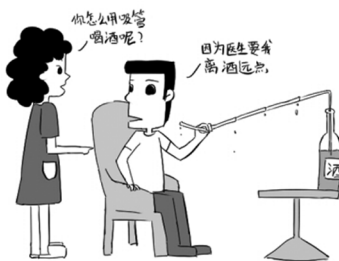
209 离酒远点

Wife: "Why are you using a **straw** to sip wine?"

Husband: "Because the doctor told me to stay away from wine."

妻子：“你怎么用吸管喝酒呢？”

丈夫：“因为医生要我离酒远点儿。”



straw n. 稻草, 麦竿, 吸管 **sip** v. 小口喝, 抿



笑话 210 When to eat

210 什么时候吃

A doctor told a fat man, "From now on you are only allowed to take one piece of bread and a glass of water for every meal."

The man answered, "OK. But, take the bread before or after meals?"

大夫对一个胖子说：“以后每顿饭只能吃一片面包，喝一杯水。”

胖子回答说：“好的，不过面包是饭前吃还是饭后吃？”



笑话 211 The patient's desire

211 患者的愿望

A doctor told his patient, "You are so sick that no medicine can cure you... Who else do you want to see?" The patient slightly nodded his



head.

“Who do you want to see?” The doctor asked patiently.

“I'd like to see another doctor!” The patient replied.

医生对患者说：“你的病已无药可救……你还想见见谁吗？”患者微微点了点头。

医生耐心地问：“你想见谁呀？”

患者回答：“我想见另一个医生！”



What did the sign say?

212

那招贴上写的是什么？

In the doctor's waiting room I saw a mother helping her little boy sound out the words on a **sign**. Finally he mastered it and his mom cheered, “That's great! Now sit there. I'll be back in 15 minutes.”

What did the sign say? “Children must not be left unattended.”

在医生的候诊室里我看到一个母亲正在教她的小男孩读一个招贴上的字。最后，小男孩学会了，母亲高兴地说：“太棒了！现在你坐到那儿，我过15分钟回来。”

那招贴上写的是“孩童不可无人照看”。

sign *n.* 符号，标牌，指示牌



Died of pneumonia

213

死于肺炎

A patient said, “Doctor, are you sure I have a **pneumonia**? Sometimes, when doctors treat a patient for pneumonia, the patient died of other diseases.”

The doctor said, “If I treated a patient for pneumonia, the patient

died of pneumonia. ”

患者：“医生，你确定我得的是肺炎吗？有时候，医生在治疗肺炎，患者却死于其他的病。”

医生：“我在治疗肺炎时，患者就死于肺炎。”

pneumonia *n.* 肺炎



The echo

214

回声

A patient had a toothache. While examining the teeth, the dentist **exclaimed**, “Oh my! This is the largest **cavity** I have ever seen! The largest! The largest!”

The patient said angrily, “You don’t need to repeat.”

The dentist said, “No, I didn’t. That was the echo from the cavity.”

一位患者牙痛，医生给他做检查的时候惊叫道：“啊呀！这是我见过的最大的牙洞！最大的！最大的！”

患者生气说：“你不必重复说。”

医生回答说：“我没有重复，那是牙洞的回声。”

exclaim *v.* 呼喊，惊叫，大声说

cavity *n.* 洞，穴，空腔



Wait until what time

215

等到什么时候

Patient: “Doctor, I have a bad cough. ”

Doctor: “How old are you?”

Patient: “Seventy. ”

Doctor: “Did you cough when you were 30 years old?”



Patient: "No, I didn't."

Doctor: "Did you cough at the age of fifty?"

Patient: "No, I didn't either."

Doctor: "If you don't cough now, when are you going to?"

患者：“大夫，我咳得很厉害。”

大夫：“你多大年纪？”

患者：“70岁。”

大夫：“你30岁时咳嗽吗？”

患者：“不咳嗽。”

大夫：“50岁时咳嗽吗？”

患者：“也不咳嗽。”

大夫：“如果现在还不咳嗽，那你等到什么时候才咳嗽？”



You're just lazy

你只是懒

The man told his doctor that he wasn't able to do all the things around the house that he used to do. When the examination was complete, he said, "Now, Doc, tell me in plain English what is wrong with me. I can take it."

"Well, in plain English," the doctor replied, "you're just lazy."

"Okay," said the man. "Now give me the medical term so I can tell my wife."

一个男子告诉医生说，他以往做的那些家务事，现在全都不能做了。当医生检查结束以后，他说：“医生，用通俗的英语告诉我，我到底得了什么病，我能扛得住。”

医生回答说：“用通俗的英语说，你只是懒。”

他说：“好，现在你用医学术语告诉我，我好转告我太太。”



Wait for eggs

等着吃鸡蛋

A woman brought her daughter to a **psychiatrist**: “In the last six months, my daughter always imagined herself as a hen.”

The doctor said, “Why did you wait until now to see a doctor?”

“Our family likes to eat eggs.”

一位妈妈带着女儿去看精神科医生：“这半年来，我的女儿一直觉得自己是一只母鸡。”

医生：“你们为什么等到现在才来看病啊？”

“我们一家人都喜欢吃鸡蛋。”

psychiatrist *n.* 精神病学家



An excellent doctor

名医

A doctor doesn't talk or ask questions when he sees his patients. His neighbors praised to his wife, “Your husband is really an excellent doctor. He can cure without talking with people.”

His wife said, “He is used to it, because he had been a **vet** before.”

有个医生看病的时候既不叫患者开口，自己也不说话。邻居们对他夫人说：“你先生真是名医高手，不用患者说话，就能治病。”

夫人说：“他习惯了，因为他以前一直当兽医。”

vet *n.* 兽医



I'm a butcher

我是个卖肉的

Every time a father comes to visit his **newborn** in the **nursery** I'd



challenge him to guess his baby's weight. Few even came close. But, one dad picked up his son, felt him in his hands, and said. "Seven pounds and six ounces." That was the **precise** weight, right down to the ounces.

"That's amazing," I told him.

"Not really," he replied. "I do this all the time. I'm a **butcher**."

每当有新生婴儿的父亲到婴儿室来看孩子的时候，我总要考考他，叫他猜一猜孩子的体重，绝大多数父亲都猜得很离谱。但是，有一个父亲抓起他的儿子，在手上掂了掂说：“7磅6盎司”。这恰恰是孩子的体重，精确到盎司。

我说：“真是神了。”

他回答说：“没有啦，熟能生巧啊，我是个卖肉的。”

newborn *n.* 新生儿

nursery *n.* 苗圃，婴儿室

precise *a.* 精确的，准确的

butcher *n.* 屠夫



It's a lie detector

这是测谎器

When a woman called 911 complaining of difficulty breathing, I rushed to her home. Placed a **sensor** on her finger to measure her **pulse** and blood **oxygen**, I began to gather her information.



"What's your age?" I asked.

"Fifty-five," answered the patient.

Eying the beeping device on her finger, she asked, "What does that do?"

"It's a lie **detector**," I said with a straight face.

"I am sixty-seven."

一个妇人打 911 电话说她呼吸困难，我马上赶到她家里。我把一个测量脉搏和血液含氧量的传感器夹在她的手指上，然后开始收集她的信息。

我问：“你多大年纪了？”

患者回答说：“55 岁”。

她看着手指上那个“嘀嘀”叫的装置问：“这是干什么的？”

我一脸严肃地说：“这是测谎器。”

“我 67 岁。”

sensor *n.* 传感器，灵敏元件 **pulse** *n.* 脉搏，脉冲
oxygen *n.* 氧气 **detector** *n.* 发觉者，探测器



Don't be nervous

221 不要紧张

A patient was pushed into the operating room. A doctor found him trembling, and tried to comfort him, “Don't be nervous. Everything will be fine!”

The patient said, “This is my first operation.”

The doctor said, “What's afraid of? It is also my first operation. I'm not afraid at all!”

一个患者被推进了手术室，医生看见他在发抖，就对他说：“不要紧张，没事的！”

患者说：“我是第一次开刀。”

医生说：“怕什么？我也是第一次开刀，我一点都不怕！”



Ask patients

222 问诊

A young intern doctor is consulting a doctor: “Doctor, why did you always ask patients what they ate?”



The doctor answered with a smile, “This is **extremely** important information. Based on what patients eat, I can decide how much I can charge them.”

年轻的实习医生向医生请教：“在看病时，你为什么总忘不了问患者吃什么？”

医生笑答：“这是极其重要的信息。根据患者用餐，就可以判断能向他们收多少钱了。”

intern *n.* 实习生

extremely *ad.* 极端地，极度地



A miracle

223

奇迹

In a soccer game, a player badly hurt his two fingers. When he went to a clinic for treatment, he anxiously asked, “Doctor, can I play the piano after my hand is cured?”

The doctor assured, “That’s for sure.”

“It’ll be a **miracle**, Doctor. I’ve never played the piano before.”

在一场激烈的足球比赛中，一个球员的两个手指伤得很厉害。他到一家诊所去治疗，万分焦急地问：“医生，我的手以后能不能弹钢琴啊？”

医生向他保证：“那准行。”

“医生，这倒是个奇迹，我以前从来不会弹钢琴。”

miracle *n.* 奇迹，令人惊奇的人(或事)



No key

224

没有钥匙

A **director** in a mental hospital wanted to test the conditions of their

patients. He drew a door on a wall and told the patients, "Who can go out from this door can go home!" So, all the patients rushed to the wall except one.

The director asked him, "Why don't you go?"

The patient replied, "How can I go out without the key?"

精神病院长为了测试患者病情，在墙上画了一扇门，然后对患者们说：“谁能从这扇门出去，就可以回家啦！”于是，患者纷纷向墙冲去，只有一人不动。

院长问他：“你为什么不去呢？”

患者答道：“没有钥匙怎么能出去？”

director *n.* (学院的) 院长



Disagree

看法不一致

A man met an old friend in the street. Seeing his friend on **crutches**, the man asked, "What happened to you?"

"I had a traffic accident six months ago."

"Was it so bad? You are still on crutches!"

"My doctor thought I could walk without them, but my lawyer **disagreed**."

一个人在街上碰到了老朋友，见他拄着拐杖，就关切地问：“你怎么了？”

“我6个月前遇到了车祸。”

“这么严重？现在还用拐杖！”

“我的医生认为可以丢掉了，但我的律师认为还不行。”

crutch *n.* 拐杖

disagree *v.* 不同意





226

Smart pills

变聪明的药

Patient: "Doctor, can you give me some medicine that can make me smarter?" The doctor prescribed some pills to him, and asked him to come back the following week.

A week later, the patient said, "Doctor, I don't think I have become smarter." The doctor prescribed some more pills to him, and asked him to come back the following week.

After another week, the patient came back again. This time he said, "I know I haven't become smarter. Doctor, I just want to ask you if the pills you gave me were nothing but regular candies."

The doctor replied, "You became smarter."

患者问：“大夫，你能给我一些可以变聪明的药吗？”医生开了药方，嘱咐他下个星期复诊。

一个星期以后，患者说：“大夫，我觉得自己没有变聪明。”医生又开了药，约他下个星期再来。

一个星期以后患者又来了，这一次他说：“我知道自己没有变聪明，我只是想问问大夫，你给我的药是不是一般的糖丸。”

医生答道：“你变得聪明些了。”



227

Eat more peels

多吃果皮

A doctor told his patient, "You may want to eat more fruits, especially their peels. Fruit peels contain rich vitamins. By the way, what fruit do you love the most?"

The patient said, "Coconuts."

医生对患者说：“你要多吃水果，尤其是果皮，果皮里含有丰富的维生素。对了，你最爱吃什么水果？”

患者说：“椰子。”



Wife and piano

228

妻子与钢琴

A man said to a psychiatrist, “My wife thinks that she is a piano. I really don't know what to do.”

The doctor said, “Take her to see me.”

The man cried out, “What? Are you crazy? Do you know how much it costs to move a piano?”

一个男人对精神科医生说：“我妻子认为她是架钢琴，我真不知道该怎么办才好。”

医生说：“那就带她到我这儿来看看。”

男人叫道：“你疯了吗？你知道搬一架钢琴要花多少钱吗？”



It's rather personal

229

实在是个人隐私

I was in a busy waiting room when a cell phone rang. A woman answered it, and for the next few minutes, she explained to her caller in *intimate* detail her *symptoms* and what she suspected might be wrong. Suddenly the conversation shifted, and the woman said, “Him? That's over.” Then she added, “Can we talk about this later? It's rather personal, and I'm in a room full of people.”

我在拥挤的候诊室里听到手机铃声，一个妇女接电话，她用好几分钟时间向对方详细介绍她的症状，以及她怀疑是什么毛病。突然，话题转了，她说：“我和他？结束了。”她接着说：“我们能不能以后再谈，这实在是个人隐私问题，我这里满屋子都是人。”

intimate a. 亲密的，详尽的

symptom n. 症状，征候，征兆





Show him, honey

230

亲爱的，让医生看看

The Smiths were shown into the dentist's office, where Mr. Smith made it clear he was in a big hurry. "No fancy stuff, Doctor," he ordered, "No gas or **needles** or any of that stuff. Just pull the tooth and get it over with."

"I wish more of my patients were as enduring as you," said the dentist admiringly. "Now, which tooth is it?"

Mr. Smith turned to his wife. "Show him, honey."

史密斯夫妇来到牙医诊所，史密斯先生明确表示他急着要走，他说：“医生，不要用什么花哨昂贵的东西，不要用任何气体呀、针呀什么的，把牙齿拔出来就不痛了。”

牙医称赞他说：“真希望更多的患者像你这样不怕痛。你哪一颗牙齿痛？”

史密斯先生转过身去对他太太说：“亲爱的，让医生看看。”

needle *n.* 针，缝衣针



This is not the Internet

231

这里可不是互联网

I am five feet, three inches tall and pleasingly **plump**. After I had a minor accident, my mother accompanied me to the emergency room. The triage nurse asked for my height and weight, and I **blurted** out, "Five-foot-eight and 125 pounds." While the nurse **pondered** this information, my mother **leaned** over to me. "Sweetheart," she gently **scolded**, "this is not the Internet."

我身高5英尺3英寸，胖得很可爱。在发生一点小事故之后，我妈妈送我到急诊室去。预检护士问我身高体重，我随口说：“5英尺8英寸，

125 磅”。当护士正在琢磨这些数字的时候，我妈妈凑近我，小声指责我说：“孩子，这里可不是互联网”。

plump *a.* 丰满的，微胖的 **blurt** *v.* 脱口而出 **ponder** *v.* 考虑，沉思

lean *v.* 倾斜，屈身，倚，靠 **scold** *v.* 责骂，责备



笑话
232

That's just what the doctor ordered

这正是医生订的

I am a room service **attendant** in one of the high-class hotels in Las Vegas. During a medical convention at the hotel, I was preparing a breakfast order that consisted of fried eggs, **bacon**, **ham**, **hash** browns, and a Danish cheese. “Now that's a heart attack waiting to happen,” commented a passing co-worker.



“Yeah,” I replied. “And believe it or not, that's just what the doctor ordered!”

我是拉斯维加斯一家豪华旅馆的客房服务生。在旅馆举行医学年会期间，我正在为客人准备一份早餐，有煎鸡蛋、咸猪肉、火腿、煎马铃薯饼和一块丹麦奶酪。一位从旁边经过的同事评论说：“有一个心肌梗死快要发生了。”

我说：“对呀！不过不管你信不信，这正是那个医生订的。”

attendant *n.* 侍者，服务员 **ham** *n.* 火腿

bacon *n.* 咸猪肉，熏猪肉 **hash** *n.* 肉丁马铃薯



笑话
233

Six months to live

只能活 6 个月了

“I'm afraid I have bad news,” the doctor told his patient. “You only have six months to live.” The man sat in **stunned** silence for the next



several minutes. Regaining his **composure**, he **apologetically** told his **physician** that he had no medical insurance. “I can't possibly pay you in that time.”

“Okay,” the doctor said, “let's make it nine months.”

医生对他的患者说：“我恐怕有一个坏消息告诉你，你只能活6个月了。”那个人吓得在那里呆坐了好几分钟。他恢复镇定以后，很抱歉地对医生说他没有医疗保险，不可能在那么短的时间里付钱。

医生说：“好吧，那就改9个月吧。”

stun *v.* 眩晕，使震惊

composure *n.* 镇静，镇定

physician *n.* 内科医生

apologetically *ad.* 带着歉意，带着歉疚



234

I can't wake my doctor

我不能叫醒我的医生

As a **veterinarian**, I was called at home in the middle of the night by a woman in **distress**. She had swallowed her dog's heart **worm** pill by mistake. I knew it wouldn't harm her, but by law, I'm **forbidden** to give medical advice. “If your dog had swallowed your pill, then you'd call me,” I explained. “In this case, you really should consult with your own physician.”

“But it's one in the morning!” she **exclaimed**. “I can't wake my doctor.”

我是一名兽医，有一天半夜，一个苦恼的妇人打电话到我家里，她误吃了她的狗的心脏蠕虫药片。我知道这对她没什么危害，但是法律不允许我做医药方面的建议。我对她解释说：“如果你的狗吃了你的药，你应该打电话找我，而现在这种情况，你实在应该问你自己的医生。”

她大喊：“可现在是凌晨一点钟，我不能叫醒我的医生！”

veterinarian *n.* 兽医

worm *n.* 虫，蠕虫

exclaim *v.* 呼喊，惊叫，大声说

distress *n.* 苦恼，危难，不幸；*v.* 使苦恼

forbid *vt.* 禁止，不许





235

Count down

倒计时

A man hasn't been feeling well, so he goes to his doctor for a complete **checkup**. Afterward the doctor comes out with the results. "I'm afraid I have some very bad news," the doctor says. "You're dying, and you don't have much time left."

"Oh, that's terrible!" says the man. "How long have I got?"

"Ten," the doctor says sadly.

"Ten?" the man asks. "Ten what? Months? Weeks? What?"

"Nine..."

一个男子觉得不舒服，就到医生那里做一个全面检查，医生拿着检查结果出来说：“我有一个很坏的消息告诉你：你快死了，剩下没多少时间了。”

那个男人说：“太糟糕了，我还剩多少时间？”

医生悲哀地说：“10”。

男人问：“10个月？10个星期？10什么呀？”

“9……”



checkup *n.* 检查



236

Never painless

没有一次不痛

A nurse was going to draw blood from Lucy. Lucy looked at the **shiny needle** and said, "Is it painful? I'm afraid of **pain**!"

The nurse said, "Don't worry. I have been a nurse for twenty years..."

Lucy said, "Very good. I don't worry anymore!"



The nurse inserted the needle only to hear Lucy crying sharply. Then, the nurse continued slowly: "It has never been painless!"

护士要为露西抽血，露西看着闪闪发亮的针头说：“会不会痛啊？我怕痛！”

护士说：“放心好了，我做了20年的护士……”

露西说：“太好了，我放心了！”

然后护士一针扎下，只听到露西一声尖叫，护士才缓缓接着说：“没有一次不痛的！”



shiny *a.* 耀眼的，发光的

needle *n.* 针，缝衣针

pain *n.* 痛，痛苦



A cure to bad memory

237

专治记性不好

A patient came to see a specialist for bad memory. The doctor sold him a large bag of medicine, but he forgot to bring it with him. A few days later, the patient came to visit again, and said nothing was better. The doctor sold him a large bag of medicine again. After the patient left, the doctor said to the nurse, "He forgot to bring medicine with him again. Put it up, and I'll sell it to him next time."

一位医生专治记性不好。有位患者就诊，医生卖给他一大包药，他忘了拿走。几天后，患者又来，说没见好转，医生又卖给他一大包药。患者走后，医生对护士说：“这包药他又忘记拿了，放起来，等下次再卖给他。”



Pulling tooth

238

拔牙

A mother took her child to dentist's to have his tooth pulled. When it's done, she paid ten dollars to the dentist.

The dentist said, "Madam, it's thirty dollars."

The mother was surprised and asked, "You just said ten dollars, didn't you?"

The dentist said, "Yes, madam. But your child **screamed** so much that two other patients were **scared** away."

妈妈带孩子去拔牙，拔完牙，她拿出 10 美元交给医生。

医生说：“太太，要 30 美元。”

妈妈吃惊地问：“你刚才不是说只要 10 美元吗？”

医生回答：“是的，太太，但是你的孩子叫得这样厉害，把两个患者吓跑了。”

scream *n. v.* 尖叫 **scare** *n.* 惊恐，恐慌 *v.* 惊吓，受惊



笑話
239

I hung him up to dry

是我把他挂起来晾的

After hearing that one of the patients in a mental hospital had saved another from a suicide attempt by pulling him out of a bathtub, the director reviewed the rescuer's file and called him into his office.

"Mr. Smith, your records and your **heroic behavior** indicate that you're ready to go home. I'm only sorry that the man you saved killed himself later with a **rope** around the neck."

Mr. Smith replied, "That was me who hung him up to dry."

精神病院的主任听说他的一个患者从浴缸里救出一个要自杀的患者，就重新审查一遍这个患者的病历，并且把他叫到办公室里来。

“史密斯先生，你的记录和你的英雄行为表明你已经可以回家了，唯一遗憾的是，你救的那个人后来又悬梁自尽了。”

史密斯先生说：“那是我，是我把他挂起来晾的。”

heroic *a.* 英雄的，英勇的 **behavior** *n.* 行为 **rope** *n.* 绳，索





Just remember

240

只要记住

An old Jewish man is on the operating table awaiting surgery. It was his **demand** that his son, a well-known **surgeon**, performs the operation. He is about to receive the **anesthesia** when he asks to speak to his son.

“Yes, dad, what is it?”

“Don’t be nervous. Do your best. And just remember, if it doesn’t go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife.”

一个犹太老头躺在手术台上准备手术，是他要求由他的儿子——一个有名望的外科医师——来主刀的。正要麻醉的时候，他要求和他的儿子说话。

“爸爸，什么事？”

“不要紧张，尽力而为。只要记住：如果手术不成功，我出了什么事，你妈妈就会来和你和你的妻子住在一起。”

demand *n.* 要求

surgeon *n.* 外科医生

anesthesia *n.* 麻醉



A heart that hadn't been used

241

从来没有用过的心脏

A rich patient needed a heart **transplant** and discussed his options with his doctor. The doctor said, “We have 3 possible donors, the 1st is a young, healthy athlete who died in an **automobile** accident, the 2nd is a middle-aged businessman who never drank or smoked and who died flying his private jet. The 3rd is an attorney who died after practicing law for 30 years. Which do you want?”

"I'll take the lawyer's heart," said the patient. The doctor asked the patient why.

"It was easy," said the patient, "I wanted a heart that hadn't been used."

一个有钱的患者要做心脏移植手术，正在和医生讨论几种选择。医生说：“我们有3个可能的捐献者：第一个是年轻而健康的运动员，死于车祸；第2个是一个中年商人，从来不喝酒抽烟，在驾驶自己的私家喷气式飞机的时候死亡；第3个是一位律师，他在执业30年以后逝世。你要选哪一个？”

患者说：“我要律师的心脏。”医生问患者为什么。

患者说：“这很简单，我要一颗从来没有用过的心。”

transplant *n.* 移植，移种

automobile *n.* 汽车



笑话
242

Good for business

有利于生意

During a boxing game, a player was knocked out several teeth. The audiences were very concerned. There was only one person who was beamed with joy.

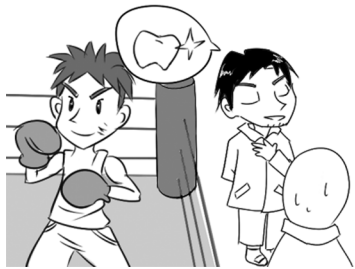
A person sitting next to him curiously asked, "Sir, are you a boxing coach?"

The man replied, "No, I'm a dentist."

拳击比赛中，一位选手被打掉了好几颗牙齿，观众都提着心，只有一个人高兴得眉开眼笑。

坐在旁边的一位观众好奇地问：“先生，你是拳击教练吗？”

那个人回答道：“不，我是牙科医生。”



audience *n.* 听众，观众

beam *v.* 笑容满面，眉开眼笑





Pay my \$60 up front

我先预付 60 美元

Exasperated with **unbearable** patients in the clinic, I put up a sign that read: “If you are **grouchy**, **irritable**, or just plain mean, there will be a \$10 **surcharge** for putting up with you.” That same afternoon a patient came to my window and announced, “The doctor said he would like to see me every month for the next six months, so I’m going to pay all my \$60 up front.”

被诊所里令人讨厌的患者激怒，我贴了一张字条：“如果你是怨天尤人的、急躁的，或者十足刻薄的，那么为了忍受你，额外收费 10 美元。”当天下午，一个患者到我的窗口说：“医生说在未来的 6 个月里每个月要见我一次。所以我先预付 60 美元。”

unbearable a. 不可忍受的

grouchy a. 好抱怨的

irritable a. 易怒的

surcharge n. 附加费



I'm ready

我准备好了

I work as a **receptionist** at an **upscale salon**. After greeting clients, I would ask them to change into a **protective** gown. One afternoon a serious-looking businessman entered the salon, and was directed to the changing room and told the gowns were hanging on the hooks inside. Minutes later he emerged. “I’m ready,” he called out. I gasped. Instead of a gown, the man was wearing something another client had left hanging in the room—a **floral blouse** with shoulder pads.

我在一家高档的沙龙当接待员，当顾客来的时候，我向他们问好，然后带他们去换护身长袍。一天下午，来了一位一脸严肃的生意人，我带他到更衣室，告诉他长袍都挂在里面的挂钩上。几分钟以后，他出来了，

说：“我准备好了。”我一看差一点昏倒。他不是穿着护身长袍，而是穿着另一位顾客脱下来挂在里面的衣服——一件带垫肩的花罩衣。

receptionist *n.* 接待员 **upscale** *a.* 高档的，高级的 **salon** *n.* 沙龙
protective *a.* 给予保护的，保护的 **floral** *a.* 花的



笑话
245

Extraordinarily smart

精明超群

A man went to see a doctor, and the doctor ordered **urinalysis**. The man immediately returned home, and brought in a full bottle of **urine**. When the test results turned out, he excitedly announced to the family, “The urinalysis result for our whole family is negative!”

有个人去看病，医生吩咐验尿，这人马上赶回家，提来满满一大瓶尿。检验结果出来后，他兴奋地向全家宣布：“我们全家验尿结果都正常！”

urinalysis *n.* 验尿 **urine** *n.* 尿液



笑话
246

Who is the patient?

谁是患者？

Hospital regulations require a **wheelchair** for patients being discharged. When I pushed a wheelchair to the **ward**, I found a gentleman already **dressed up** and sitting on the bed with a **suitcase** at his feet. He insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital. After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the **elevator**. On the way down I asked if his wife was meeting him. “I don't know,” he said. “She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown.”



医院规定必须用轮椅送患者出院。当我推着轮椅到病房的时候，看见一位男士已经穿好衣服坐在床上，脚边放着一个小提箱。他坚持说他不需要我的帮助就可以离开医院，我对他说规定是必须照办的，他才勉强让我用轮椅推着他上了电梯。在电梯下行的时候我问他太太会不会来接他，他说：“我不知道，她还在楼上厕所里换她的病号服呢。”

wheelchair *n.* 轮椅 **ward** *n.* 病房，病室，监房 **dress up** 穿衣
suitcase *n.* 小提箱，衣箱 **elevator** *n.* 电梯



The only time to control

247

唯一可以控制的时候

As a nurse in a **maternity unit**, I've had to answer all kinds of questions from patients and their families. I noticed that one **expectant** father seemed particularly interested in the electronic fetal monitor. "Would it hurt anything if I just turned this **dial** up and down from time to time?" he asked.

"No," I answered, "but why would you want to do that?"

Smiling, the dad explained, "I know from experience it's the only time in a child's life I'll be able to control."

作为产科病房的护士我不得不回答患者和家属提出的各种各样的问题。我注意到一位准父亲似乎对电子胎儿监护仪特别感兴趣，他问我：“如果我把这个钮一会儿拨上来，一会儿拨下去，会不会伤到胎儿呢？”

我说：“那不会，不过你为什么想那样做呢？”

他笑着解释说：“根据我的经验，在孩子的一生中，这是我唯一可以控制他的时候。”

maternity unit 妇产科 **expectant** *a.* 期待的，指望的，未来的
dial *n.* 调节盘，控制盘，刻度盘





It used to be a dolphin

248

以前它只是一条海豚

As an **obstetrician**, I sometimes see unusual tattoos when working in labor and delivery. One patient had some type of fish tattoo on her **abdomen**. “That sure is a pretty **whale**,” I commented.

With a smile she replied, “It used to be a dolphin.”

作为一个产科医生，在接生的时候能看到一些不一般的刺青。看到一个产妇的肚子上有一个类似鱼形的刺青，我评论说：“这条鲸真的挺漂亮。”

她笑着回答说：“以前它只是一条海豚。”

obstetrician *n.* 产科医生

abdomen *n.* 腹部

whale *n.* 鲸



An intractable disease

249

疑难杂症

A man went to hospital. A doctor there checked his chest and abdomen, and he said very painful. The doctor ordered to examine his head, chest, and abdomen. But no problems were found. So he suggested him to visit the **intractable** disease division. A few days later, the doctor saw the patient again, and asked him what problems were finally found out. The patient said he had a broken finger.

某人去医院看病，医生摸他的胸部、腹部，他都说很痛。医生开单子检查他的头部、胸部、腹部，但是没有查出任何毛病，就建议他去看疑难杂症科。过了几天，医生又见到那位患者，就问他查出是什么病。患者说，他的手指断了。

intractable *a.* 棘手的





Does the cat know?

猫知道吗?

A patient of mental **disorder** always imagined himself as a mouse. With the help of the doctors, he finally could be released from the hospital. However, when he approached to the door, he saw a cat and immediately ran back.

The doctor said, "Now that you know you are not a mouse any more, why are you still afraid of a cat?"

The patient said, "Yes, I know, but does the cat know?"

有一位精神病患者，总认为自己是老鼠。他在医生的帮助下可以出院了，可是他刚刚走到门口，看到有一只猫，就马上跑了回来。

医生说：“你已经知道自己不是老鼠了，为什么还怕猫？”

患者说：“我是知道了，可是猫知道吗？”

disorder *n.* 疾病，失调，紊乱，不适



Who is to take sleeping pills?

谁吃安眠药?

A patient told a doctor, "A dog was endlessly right outside my window. It drove me crazy!" The doctor prescribed him some sleeping pills.

A week later, the patient came again. He looked even more exhausted than before. The doctor asked him, "Didn't those sleeping pills work for you?"

The patient said, "Every night I ran after the dog. But, even if I caught him, he refused to take those pills."

一个患者对医生说：“我家窗外的狗整夜叫个不停，我简直要疯了！”医生给他开了一些安眠药。

一星期后，那个患者又来了，看上去比上次更糟。医生问：“安眠药无效吗？”

患者说：“我每晚去追那条狗，可是即使好不容易捉到了，它也不肯吃安眠药。”



笑话
252

He looks just like you

他长得真像你

We brought our newborn son to the **pediatrician** for his first checkup. As he finished, the doctor told us, “You have a cute baby.”

Smiling, I said, “I bet you say that to all new parents.”

“No,” he replied, “just to those whose babies really are good-looking.”



“So what do you say to the others?” I asked.

“He looks just like you.”

我们带着新生儿子到儿科医生那里去做他的第一次健康检查，做完检查之后医生对我们说：“你们的孩子很好看。”

我笑着说：“我想你对所有刚做爸爸妈妈的人都这么说。”

他回答说：“不，我只是对真的好看的孩子的父母才这么讲。”

我问：“那你对其他人怎么说呢？”

“他长得真像你。”

pediatrician *n.* 儿科医生



笑话
253

Keep going

坚持不懈

A big lady went to hospital for suggestions of losing weight. A



doctor told her, "Walk 10 kilometers on foot every day for a month, **uninterrupted**."

After a month, the doctor received a phone call: "Doctor, do you remember me? I visited you a month ago for losing weight."

"Oh, yes! I remember you! Is it effective?"

"It's great! I lost 10 kilograms already. But there is a problem. I'm now 300 kilometers away from home. How can I get back?"

一位胖女士到医院问医生减肥要领，医生告诉她：“每天步行 10 公里，坚持一个月，不间断。”

一个月后，大夫接到一个电话：“大夫，你还记得我吗？我是一个月前到你那里减肥的。”

“哦！记得，记得！效果怎么样？”

“太棒了！我比以前减了 10 公斤。不过有个问题，我现在离家 300 公里，怎么才能回去呀？”

uninterrupted a. 不间断的



Quit smoking

254

戒烟

A man had heart conditions, and his doctor suggested him to quit smoking. The doctor also said if he couldn't quit at once, he could start to smoke one cigarette after each meal. One month later, the man went to see the doctor. The doctor found the man developed stomach problem, and asked him what happened. The man said, "Maybe I ate too many meals every day, because I wanted to follow your suggestion of smoking one cigarette after each meal."

一人患有心脏病，医生劝他戒烟，又说如果不能一下子戒掉，可以先改成饭后抽一支烟。一个月后，他又去看医生，医生发现他又添了胃病，

就问他是怎么回事。他说：“可能是因为我遵照你饭后一支烟的建议，每天吃饭次数过多吧。”



Is there a pharmacist in the house?

255 这里有药剂师吗?

My son was getting married to a doctor's daughter. At the wedding **reception**, the father of the **bride** stood to read his **toast**, which he had **scribbled** on a piece of **scrap** paper. Several times during his speech, he halted. I assumed that was a moment of deep **emotion**. But after a particularly long pause, he explained, "I'm sorry. I can't seem to make out what I've written down." Looking out into the **audience**, he asked, "Is there a **pharmacist** in the house?"

我的儿子娶一个医生的女儿为妻。在婚宴上，新娘的父亲站起来致辞，他的发言稿是很潦草地写在一张小纸条上。在讲话中，他好几次停下来，我以为是因为情绪激动的缘故。然而在一次特别长的停顿之后，他解释说：“对不起，看来我是认不出我写的是什么了。”他往听众席上看了一下，问：“在座的有药剂师吗？”

reception *n.* 接待处；接待仪式，欢迎会，招待会 **bride** *n.* 新娘

toast *n.* 祝酒(词) **scribble** *v.* 草草记下，匆匆书写 **scrap** *n.* 碎片

emotion *n.* 情绪，情感 **audience** *n.* 听众，观众 **pharmacist** *n.* 药剂师





警匪笑话

第六章



A polite robber

有礼貌的抢劫犯

A man walking through a forest encountered with a big man. The big man asked, "Excuse me, Sir. Is there a policeman nearby?"

The man said, "No, there isn't."

"So, can we find the police in a short time?"

"No, we can't."

Then, the big man drew out a knife and said, "It's a stickup. Put your hands on your head!"



一个男子经过一片树林，遇到了一个大汉。大汉问：“请问这位先生，附近可有警察？”

男子说：“没有。”

“那么能在短时间内找到警察吗？”

“不能。”

随后，大汉拿出一把刀说：“把双手放在头上，抢劫！”



Personal experience

亲身经历

I am teaching business class at the local prison. One night, when in the chapter on banking, I mentioned that, on average, ATM contains only about \$15,000 at a given time. Just then a man in the back raised his hand. "I'm not trying to be rude," he said, "but the machine I robbed had about \$50,000 in it."



我在当地的一个监狱里教商科。一天晚上，在教银行系统这一章的时候，我谈到自动提款机里面平均只有大约 15000 美元。就在这时候，后排有一个男子举起了手。他说：“我不是存心要冒犯你，不过我抢的那台自动提款机里面大约有 5 万美元。”



258 Changing career

改行

The judge: "I hope this is the last time to see you here."

Thief: "What? Are you going to change your career, your honor?"

法官：“我希望这是最后一次在这里见到你了。”

小偷：“怎么，法官大人，你要改行吗？”



259 Waited for a whole night

等一个晚上

One night, I was stopped by a police officer for speeding. The officer said to me, "I waited here for you for a whole night."

I answered, "Sir, I knew. So I tried to get here as fast as I could!"

有一晚，我开飞车被警察拦下了。那位警察说：“我在这里等你一个晚上。”

我回答说：“警官，我早就知道了，所以我以最快的速度赶到这里！”



260 A beggar got angry

乞丐发怒

A man was begging in the street and a passerby said, "You are strong and healthy. Why should I give you money?"

The **beggar** got very angry and said, "Should I **disable** myself just for asking your dirty money?"

一个乞丐在街头行乞，一个路人看了说：“你身强力壮，又没有残疾，我为什么要给你钱？”

乞丐大怒说：“难道为了向你讨几个臭钱，我还要把自己弄成残疾不成吗？”

beggar *n.* 乞丐

disable *v.* 禁用，使无能，使残废



I did also when young

年轻时也干过

When an old man was stealing fruits in an **orchard**, he was caught red-handed by the owner. The owner asked him, “How can you steal others' fruits at this age?”

The man said, “No, Sir, you are wrong. I did the same thing when I was young.”

一个上了岁数的人在果园里偷果子，被主人当场抓住。主人问他：“你这么大了，怎么还偷别人的果子吃？”

他说：“不，你说错了，我年轻时也干过。”

orchard *n.* 果园



You are the same

你也一样

The judge: “Don't you feel **ashamed** that you come to the court so often?”

The thief: “But you also come here every day.”

法官：“你常常到法院里来，不觉得难为情吗？”

小偷：“可是你也天天来这里啊。”

ashamed *a.* 惭愧的，害臊的





Only when he's drunk

263

他只是在喝醉的时候才这样

A man is driving with his wife, when he is pulled over by a policeman.

"Sir," says the cop. "You were going 70 in a 50."

"No, I wasn't."

"Yes, you were," says the wife.

"Keep quiet!" says the man, angrily.

"And you weren't wearing a **seat belt**," says the cop.

"Yes. I was."

"No, you weren't," says the wife.

"SHUT UP!" says the man, really angry.

"Ma'am," asks the cop, "is he always that rude and violent?"

"Only when he's drunk."

一个男人开车带着他的老婆，一个警察让他停在路边，说：“先生，你在限速 50 的路上开 70。”

“我没有。”

他老婆说：“你是开那么快。”

男人生气地说：“别出声！”

警察说：“你还没有系安全带。”

“我系了。”

他老婆说：“你是没有系。”

男人非常生气地说：“闭嘴！”

警察问：“夫人，他一直是那么粗鲁、野蛮吗？”

“他只是在喝醉的时候才这样。”

seat belt 安全带





A frustrated man

沮丧的男子

A man walked into a Burger King at 1:50 AM, **flashed** a gun and **demanded** cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered **onion** rings, the clerk said they weren't ready for breakfast yet. The man, **frustrated**, walked away.

凌晨 1:50，一名男子走进“汉堡王”，亮出手枪要钱。收银员说如果不买东西他就打不开收银抽屉。那人说要买洋葱圈，收银员说早餐还没准备好。那个男子沮丧地走了。

flash v. (快速地) 出示, 显示 **demand** v. 要求
onion n. 洋葱 **frustrate** v. 挫败, 使无效



Caught on a cold

感冒被抓

In the cell, one **inmate** asked the other, "How were you caught?"
"Because of a cold."
"A cold?"
"When I was stealing, I **sneezed** and woke up the security guard."
牢房里，一个犯人问另一个：“你是怎么被抓进来的？”
“因为感冒。”
“感冒？”
“我偷东西时打了一个喷嚏，保安就醒了。”

inmate n. 犯人, 被羁留者 **sneeze** v. 打喷嚏





266

I'm the groom

我是新郎

A police officer in a small town stopped a motorist who was speeding.

“But officer,” the man said, “I can explain.”

“Just be quiet!” snapped the officer. “Or I’m going to let you cool off in jail until the chief gets back.”

“But officer, I just wanted to say...”

“And I said KEEP QUIET! Now you’re going to jail!”

A few hours later, the officer checked up on his prisoner and said, “Lucky for you. The chief is at his daughter’s wedding. He’ll be in a great mood when he gets here.”



“Don’t count on it,” said the prisoner. “I’m the groom.”

一个小镇的警察抓了一个开车超速的司机，那个男子说：“不过警官，我可以解释。”

警察打断他说：“住嘴！否则我让你到监狱里去冷静冷静，直到我的头儿回来。”

“不过警官，我只是想说……”

“我说了住嘴！现在你得到监狱里去！”

几个小时以后，这个警察核查到囚犯，并且对他说：“你很幸运，头儿在参加他女儿的婚礼，他回来的时候一定有好心情。”

那个囚犯说：“别指望了，我是新郎。”

groom *n.* 新郎





What time is the proper time?

267

什么时间合适?

Judge: "How dare you steal in **daylight**?"

Defendant: "In last trial, you also angrily asked, 'how dare you steal in midnight?' Your honor, what is the proper time for me to work?"

法官: "你竟敢在大白天行窃!"

被告: "你上次审判我时, 也是这么气愤地说: '你竟敢在深更半夜行窃!' 请问法官大人, 我该什么时间工作才合适呢?"

daylight *n.* 白昼, 黎明



He wasn't that fat

268

他没有那么肥

I am a prosecuting attorney in a small town and will admit to having a few extra pounds on me. Not long ago, I was questioning a witness in an armed **robbery** case. I asked, "Would you describe the person you saw?"

The witness replied, "He was kind of short and **stout**."

"You mean short and stout like me?" I asked.

"Oh, no," the witness said. "He wasn't that fat."

我在一个小镇上当控方律师, 我也承认我身上有一些赘肉。不久前, 我在一件持枪抢劫案中询问证人: "请你描述你见到的那个人。"

证人回答说: "他是那种矮而胖的人。"

我说: "你的意思是说像我这样矮而胖?"

证人说: "噢不, 他没有那么肥。"

robber *n.* 强盗 **stout** *a.* 肥胖的, 坚固的





Not necessarily true

269

那可不一定

A police officer was interrogating the suspect: "Are you married?"

Suspect: "Yes. "

Police: "With whom?"

Suspect: "A woman. "

Police: "Don't play trick with me. Everyone knows it is to marry a woman. "

Suspect: "That's not necessarily true. For example, your mother would have to marry a man. "

警察正在审问嫌疑犯：“你结婚了吗？”

嫌疑犯：“是的。”

警察：“和谁？”

嫌疑犯：“和一位女性。”

警察：“你不要耍小聪明，每个人都知道是和女人结婚。”

嫌疑犯：“那可不一定，比如你妈妈就和一个男人结婚。”



If you hurry you can still make it

270

如果你快点开，还能赶得上

I was late for work when the red lights flashed behind me. Knowing I was **busted**, I pulled over and waited with **license** and **registration** in hand. As the **trooper** wrote out the ticket, he asked me where I was headed.

"I'm late for an important 7:30 meeting," I said.

The officer checked his watch. "If you hurry," he remarked, "you can still make it. "

我上班要迟到了，后面还跟来了闪着红灯。我知道完了，就停到路边，手里拿着驾照和牌照等着。警察开完罚单，问我往哪里去。

我说：“我7点30分有一个重要的会议，来不及了。”

警察看了看手表说：“如果你快点开，还能赶得上。”

busted *a.* 被当场逮住 **license** *n.* 执照，许可证

registration *n.* 登记 **trooper** *n.* (美国) 州警察



The punishment

惩罚

A problem in a law school exam: “What’s the **punishment** to commit **bigamy** offence?”

A student answered: “Two mothers-in-law.”

法学院一次考试的试题：“对重婚罪的惩罚是什么？”

一个学生回答：“两个丈母娘。”

punishment *n.* 惩罚

bigamy *n.* 重婚



Self-service

自助服务

A man was captured for stealing gas in a gas station. He explained it to the police, “I was in self-service. In the gas station there was a sign saying ‘Help wanted’, and another sign saying ‘Please help yourself’. So I hired myself, filled up gas, paid money to myself, and finally quit the job.”

一个人在加油站偷油时被抓获了。他对警察说：“我是在自助服务。那个加油站有块牌子写着‘诚征员工’，另一块牌子写着‘请自助’，所以我就雇了自己，自己加满汽油，把钱付给自己，最后辞职走人了。”



Two thieves

两个小偷

An old lady met two men. They asked her, “Can you give us a coin?”

The old lady didn't understand why, and asked them, “What do you want to do with a coin?”

One of the men said, “We will use it to guess head and tail to decide who will rob your bag and who will rob your **wallet**.”

一个老太太碰见两个人，他们对老太太说：“你能不能给我们一个硬币？”

老太太不解地问道：“你们要硬币做什么呀？”

其中一个人说道：“我们用来猜正面和反面，然后决定谁抢你的提包，谁抢你的钱包。”



wallet *n.* 钱包



A driving test

路考

At the DMV I took a woman out on her driving test when a police **cruiser** came up behind us—**sirens wailing**, lights flashing. “Was I speeding?” she asked the officer after her car pulled over.

“No,” said the officer. “But you are driving a stolen vehicle.”

Smiling **awkwardly**, the woman turned to me. “Does this mean I failed my test?”

在机动车管理署我带一个妇女出去路考，一辆警车跟上了我们，拉着警笛，闪着灯。她把车停在路边，问警察：“我开太快了吗？”

警察说：“没有，但是你开的是一辆被盗的车。”

那个女子尴尬地笑着问我：“这是不是意味着我的路考失败了？”

cruiser *n.* 巡洋舰，巡逻警车

siren *n.* 汽笛，警报器

wail *v.* 哭泣，哀号，呼啸

awkwardly *ad.* 笨拙地；尴尬地



Protecting men

275

保护男人

A man said, “I really don't understand why the law says a man can have only one wife.”

Another man said, “You must be a bachelor. You will find out that this law in fact protects the men.”

一位男士说：“我真不懂为什么法律规定男人只能有一个老婆。”

另一位男士说：“你肯定是个单身。你以后会发现，其实这条法律是保护男人的。”



The excellent acting skill

276

出色的演技

A car was pulled over by the police for running red. The driver tried to find an excuse, “I am a doctor. I am in a hurry to send the patient to a mental hospital.” The police looked at them in doubt. The passenger quickly acted by looking at the police with a sweet smile and said, “Dear, kiss me.” The police let them go right away.



一辆汽车闯红灯，被警察截住。司机找借口说：“我是个医生，急着把这个患者送进精神病院。”警察用怀疑的目光看着他们，那个乘客连忙



用甜蜜的目光看着警察，微笑着说：“吻我一下吧，亲爱的。”警察马上放他们走了。



Appearance

277 模样

One man was beaten, and the police arrived to ask him, “Can you describe the appearance of the person who beat you?”

The man said, “Of course I can. I was beaten because I was describing his appearance!”

一个人被打了，赶到现场处理的警察问他：“你能描述打你的人的模样吗？”

那人说：“当然能，我就是因为描述他的模样而挨打的！”



I have seen it

278 我见过

A judge pointed to the weapon and asked the **defendant**, “Have you seen this gun?”

“No, Sir,” the defendant replied.

The judge asked several times, but the defendant insisted that he had never seen it. The judge had to announce a dismiss.

The second day, the judge continued to **interrogate** the defendant, “Have you seen this gun?”

“Yes, sir, I have.”

“When and where?” The judge fell a little relief.

“Yesterday in this court!”

法官指着作案凶器问被告：“你见过这支枪吗？”

“没有，先生。”被告答道。

法官又问了几遍，被告仍坚持说没见过，法官只好宣布休庭。

第二天，法官又继续审问被告：“你见过这支枪吗？”

“是的，先生，我见过。”

“什么时候？什么地方？”法官有点感到欣慰。

“昨天在法庭上！”

defendant *n.* 被告

interrogate *v.* 审问



I want to get out of here

我想要从这里出去

I was reviewing my client's case with him in prison when it was announced that visitors had 15 minutes to leave or be locked in for the three-hour prisoner **headcount**. I said goodbye to my client and left. But somehow I got lost on my way out. Desperate for directions to the **exit**, I noticed some men wearing orange **jumpsuits**. I called out to one of them, a no-neck, barrel-chested man. “Sir,” I said, “I want to get out of here.”

He **shrugged**. “So do I.”

我正在监狱里和我的委托人一起仔细讨论他的案情，广播通知说探访者必须在 15 分钟之内离开，否则在查点犯人人数的 3 个小时期间不能出去。我向委托人告了别，就离开了，可是不知怎么就走迷了路。情急之中，看见几个穿着橘色连衫裤囚服的男子，就喊其中一个缩脖子、身材像圆桶的男子：“先生，我想要从这里出去。”

他耸了耸肩膀说：“我也想要出去。”

headcount *n.* 数人头

jumpsuit *n.* 工装裤，连衫裤

exit *n.* 出口

shrug *v.* 耸(肩) *n.* 耸肩





Nobody moves!

不许动

A pair of Michigan **robbers** entered a record shop nervously waving revolvers. The first one shouted, “Nobody moves!” When his partner moved, the startled first robber shot him.

两个密歇根强盗走进一家唱片商店，紧张地挥舞着手中的左轮手枪。头一个家伙喊：“谁也不许动！”当他的同伙走动时，这个惊慌失措的歹徒开枪打了他。

robber *n.* 强盗



No exceptions

没有例外

My pager beeped, **summoning** me to the hospital. As I raced toward the hospital, a **patrol** car sped up behind me—lights flashing, **siren blaring**. So I hung my **stethoscope** out the window to signal that I was on an emergency call. Within seconds came the policeman’s response: a pair of **handcuffs** flapping outside the police car window.

我的传呼机响了，呼唤我到医院去。我正急着往医院赶的时候，一辆警车加快速度追了上来，闪着灯，拉着警笛。我把听诊器从窗口伸出去，表示我是赶着去赴急诊。几秒钟之后，警察的回应过来了：一副手铐从警车的窗口伸了出来。

exception *n.* 例外，除外

summon *v.* 召唤

patrol *n.* 巡逻，巡查

siren *n.* 汽笛，警报器

blare *v.* 发出（响亮而刺耳的声音）

stethoscope *n.* 听诊器

handcuff *n.* 桎梏，手铐





Too late to know

282

为时已晚

Complaining of **blurred** vision, an **inmate** was brought into the prison clinic. The **optometrist** **fit** the prisoner with his new pair of glasses.

“How’s that?” he asked.

“I’ll put it this way,” said the prisoner. “If I’d had these before I got arrested, I’d have seen that those uniformed men chasing me weren’t mailmen.”

一个囚犯抱怨说他看东西模糊，就被带到监狱的诊所就医。眼科医生给他配了一副新眼镜，问道：“这副怎么样？”

囚犯说：“我这么跟你说吧，要是在我被抓住以前就带上这副眼镜，我就不会以为追我的那些穿制服的人是邮差了。”

blur *n. /v.* 模糊，蒙眬

inmate *n.* 犯人，被羁留者

optometrist *n.* 验光师

fit *v.* 适合



I just stopped for the red light

283

我只是因红灯而停

I had just pulled over someone for driving under the influence when another car pulled up behind us. I stopped what I was doing and ventured back to see if the driver needed assistance. “No, I don’t need any help,” he said, **reeking** of **booze**. Then, pointing to the **flashing cherry** top on the roof of my **cruiser**, he continued, “I just stopped for the red light.”

我刚让一个酒后驾车的人停在路边，另一辆车就停在了我们的后面。我放下正在处理的事情，冒险去看看那个司机是不是需要什么帮助。那个人指着我的巡逻车顶上的闪光的红色，满嘴喷着酒气说：“不，我不需要什么帮助，我只是因红灯而停。”

reek *v.* 散发臭气，发出难闻的气味 *n.* 恶臭

booze *n.* 酒精饮料

flash *n. v.* 闪光

cherry *n.* 樱桃

cruiser *n.* 巡洋舰，巡逻警车





笑话
284

Kind witness

善良的目击证人

A lawyer returns to his parked BMW to find the **headlights** broken. There's no sign of the **offending** vehicle but he's **relieved** to see that there's a note stuck under the windshield wiper. "Sorry. I just backed into your car. The witness who saw the accident is nodding and smiling at me because he thinks I'm leaving my name, address and other particulars. But I'm not."

一个律师回到他停着的宝马车旁，发现两个前车灯都被撞坏了，没有肇事车的踪迹。不过，看到雨刷下面夹了一张字条，他松了一口气。字条上写着：“对不起，我刚才倒车撞到了你的车。看见这个事故的目击证人现在正在对我点头和微笑，因为他以为我正在给你留下我的姓名、地址和其他特别事项。但是，我并没有。”

headlight *n.* 前大灯 **relieved** *a.* 感到宽慰的，放心的
offend *v.* 冒犯，触犯，得罪，使不快，使恼火



笑话
285

The diver

潜水员

A jewelry store was robbed. When the police arrived on the scene, they found a drunkard lying there on the ground. In order to find out the **whereabouts** of the jewelry, the police brought a **bucket** of cold water, dipped his head into the water and asked him, "Did you see the jewelry?"

The drunkard said, "I'm sorry, I really can't find it. Can you try some other divers?"

一家珠宝店被盗，当警察赶到现场时，发现一个醉鬼躺在地上。为了弄清珠宝的去向，警察找来了一桶冷水，一边将醉鬼的头按入水中，一边问：“你看到那些珠宝了吗？”

这个醉鬼说：“对不起，我实在找不到，你们还是换别的潜水员吧！”

whereabouts *n.* 下落 **bucket** *n.* 铲斗，桶



笑话
286

The negotiation

谈判

When a **hunter** was about to shoot a big bear, the bear smiled and said, “Negotiation is better than fight, isn’t it? Tell me what you want.”

The hunter put the gun down and said, “I want a **fur** coat.”

The bear said, “It’s not difficult at all. Let’s sit down and talk about it.”

After a moment, the big bear **pat** its **belly**, stood up and said, “See, negotiation worked. I’m no longer **hungry**, and you put on a fur coat.”

猎人正要向大熊开枪，大熊笑眯眯地说：“谈判不是好过开火吗？你需要什么，说吧。”

猎人把枪放下，说：“我要一件皮大衣。”

大熊说：“这一点也不难，咱们坐下谈吧。”

过了一阵，大熊拍着肚皮站起来说：“瞧，谈判多好，我不饿了，你也穿上了皮大衣。”



hunter *n.* 猎人 **fur** *n.* 皮，毛皮，皮 **pat** *v.* 轻拍，轻抚

belly *n.* 肚子，腹 **hungry** *a.* 饥饿的



笑话
287

See how you ride

看你怎么骑

A man’s bike was stolen. He bought a new one, but it was stolen



again after a few days. He was very angry. So when he bought another new bike, he put on five locks together with a note which read: "See how you steal!" When he went to **ride** his bike that afternoon, he found someone added one more lock on the bike and some more words in his note: "See how you ride!"

有一个人的自行车被偷了，他买了一辆新的，可是，过了几天新车又被偷了，他非常生气。于是当他又买了一辆新车后，一下子上了5把锁，并且还留了一张字条：“看你怎么偷！”下午他要骑车时，发现车子上多了一把锁，而且在他的字条上多了一行字：“看你怎么骑！”

ride v. 骑，搭乘，乘坐



Swapping necklaces

288

互换项链

A thief robbed the **necklace** of an old lady in the street. She was **promptly** responded and caught the thief by his collar, but the thief still **snatched** her necklace and fled.

When the police arrived, they asked her to describe the thief's appearance. She said, "Don't bother to search for him. The necklace he grabbed from me was a **fake** diamond. And when I caught his collar, I snatched his necklace that is genuine."

有个盗贼在街上抢一位老太太的项链，那个老太太反应极快，一把抓住了盗贼的领子，但盗贼还是抢了她的项链逃走了。

事后，警方让老太太描述一下那个盗贼的模样。她说：“用不着去找他了，他抢去的那条项链不过是假钻石，而我抓他领子时抢了他的项链，是真货。”

necklace n. 项链

promptly ad. 敏捷地，迅速地

snatch n. v. 抢走，偷窃

fake a. 假的 n. 假货，赝品





You were my lawyer

你是我的辩护律师

As a judge, I was sentencing criminal **defendants** when I saw a familiar face. I reviewed his record and found that the man was a career criminal, except for a five-year period in which there were no **convictions**.

“Mike,” I asked, **puzzled**, “how were you able to stay out of trouble for those five years?”

“I was in prison,” he answered. “You should know that—you were the one who sent me there.”

“That’s not possible,” I said. “I wasn’t even a judge then.”

“No, you weren’t the judge,” the defendant smiled. “You were my lawyer.”

我是一名法官，正在宣判刑事犯被告的时候，看到了一张熟悉的脸。我又看了一下他的记录，发现他是一个职业惯犯，只有5年时间里没有犯罪。

我很纳闷，就问他：“迈克，这5年时间你怎么会没惹麻烦呢？”

他回答说：“我在监狱里。你该知道的，你就是那个送我进去的家伙。”

我说：“这不可能，那时候我还不是法官呢。”

被告笑着说：“你不是法官，你是我的辩护律师。”

defendant *n.* 被告 **conviction** *n.* 判罪，定罪，深信
puzzle *v.* 使……困惑 *n.* 难题，(字，画)谜



Wrong deposit slip

用错了存款条

A man, wanting to rob a downtown Bank of America, walked into



the branch and wrote on a deposit slip "This is a stickup. Put all your money in this bag."

While standing in line, waiting to give his note to the teller, he began to worry that someone had seen him writing the note and might call the police before he reached the teller window. So he left the Bank of America and crossed the street to Citibank.

After waiting a few minutes in line, he handed his note to the Citibank teller. The teller read it and told him that she could not accept his stickup note because it was written on a Bank of America deposit slip and that he would either have to fill out a Citibank deposit slip or go to Bank of America. The man said OK and left. The Citibank teller then called the police, and the man was arrested a few minutes later as he was waiting in line at Bank of America.

一个想到市中心美国银行打劫的男子走进银行，在存款条上写道：“这是持枪抢劫，把你所有的钱都装进这个口袋。”

当他排队等着要把这张字条给银行职员看的时候，他担心刚才有人看见他写字条，会在他到达银行职员窗口前就打电话给警察。于是他离开了美国银行，穿过马路到了花旗银行。

在花旗银行排队等了几分钟以后，他把字条递给银行职员。银行职员看了一下对他说，她不能接受这张打劫的字条，因为它是写在美国银行的存款条上。她说，他要么重填一张花旗银行的存款条，要么上美国银行去。这个人说了声“行”就离开了。这位花旗银行职员给警察打了电话，几分钟之后警察逮捕了那个男子，他正在美国银行排队。



Whose car did he drive home?

291

开了谁的车回家?

A drunkard was pulled over by police when he was driving home. At this moment, there was a traffic accident nearby, and the officer ran over

to deal with. The man took the chance and fled.

The next day, when the police found him, he said, "Why do you **bug** me? I wasn't drunk."

The police said, "Let's go to your **garage**, you will know." It turned out that the car he drove home was a police car.

一个醉鬼开车回家时，被警察抓到了。正在这时，旁边发生了一起车祸，警察跑去处理，那个人就趁机逃走了。

第二天，警察找到了他。他说：“你们为什么找我麻烦？我又没喝醉。”

警察说：“到你的车库看看就知道怎么回事了。”原来他把警车开回家了。



bug v. 使烦恼，使恼怒 n. 虫子，臭虫

garage n. 汽车间(库)



Both are for wives

都是为了太太

Bob was happily walking on the street after he received his paycheck. When he turned into a narrow lane, he was suddenly stopped by a robber in mask, asking for money. Bob **pleaded**, "Oh, please let me go! If I give you my paycheck, my wife wouldn't believe that I encountered a robber."

The robber responded with a **sneer**, "If I let you go, how will my wife believe that I don't have any **harvest** today?"

鲍勃领了薪水回家，高高兴兴地走在街上。当他拐进一条小巷时，突然被一个蒙面盗贼拦住，要他交出钱来。鲍勃哀求道：“请放过我吧！我太太是不会相信我遇到了盗贼的。”

盗贼冷笑着说：“如果我放过你，难道我太太会相信我今天没有收获吗？”



plead v. 恳求

sneer n. /v. 冷笑，嘲笑

harvest n. 收获，收成 v. 收割





293 Don't know what course to take

无所适从

A thief stood in the **dock** of a court with hands in his pockets. The judge **reprimanded** him loudly, "You must respect the court. Draw your hands out of your pockets, now."

The thief replied, "Your honor, it is very confusing ... If I put my hands in my pockets, you want me to draw them out; if I put my hands into other people's pockets, you will put me in jail. Your honor, don't you want me to keep holding them in the air?"

一个小偷站在法庭的被告席上，他的手插在口袋里。法官大声训斥道：“你要尊重法庭，快把手从口袋里抽出来。”

小偷回答：“法官大人，这事很难办……如果我把手放在自己的口袋里，你们要我抽出来；如果我把手放进别人的口袋，你们就会把我送进监狱。我的法官大人，难道你要我把手一直举在空中吗？”

dock *n.* 被告席

reprimand *v.* 训斥



294 I wasn't through

我还没有过去

I'm a police officer, and was training a new recruit when we were assigned to transport a prisoner to headquarters. The prisoner was verbally **abusive**, and my recruit seemed to be getting upset as he drove the squad car into an intersection and then quickly changed lanes, and another car almost hit us. So, after a **screech** of brakes I shouted, "Don't you know that it's illegal to change lanes in the middle of an intersection?"

“I was already through the intersection, sir,” the recruit replied.

“Maybe,” came a **shaky** voice from the back seat. “But I wasn’t!”

我是一个警察，正在带一个新徒弟。我们被指派转运一个囚犯到总部去，那个囚犯嘴里骂骂咧咧的，我的徒弟似乎有点生气了。当他开着警车到十字路口的时候突然换车道，另外一辆车差一点撞到我们。煞车的尖叫声过后，我大喊道：“你不知道在十字路口换车道是违法的吗？”

徒弟回答说：“长官，我已经过了十字路口了。”

这时候，从后排座上传来战战兢兢的声音：“也许你已经过了十字路口，不过我还没有过去。”

abusive *a.* 虐待的，辱骂的 **screech** *v./n.* 尖叫

shaky *a.* 摇摇欲坠的，颤抖的



I'm the one

295

我是关键人物

One day I was showing a group of ninth-graders the court procedures. Court was in **recess** and only the clerk and a young man in **custody** wearing handcuffs were in the **courtroom**.

“This is where the judge sits,” I began, pointing to the **bench**. “The lawyers sit at these tables. The court clerk sits over there. The court recorder, or **stenographer**, sits over here. Near the judge is the witness stand and over there is where the jury sits. ”

“As you can see,” I finished, “there are a lot of people involved in making this system work. ”

At that point, the prisoner raised his cuffed hands and said, “Yeah, but I'm the one who makes it all happen. ”

有一天，我带一群9年级学生到法院学习法庭的程序。法庭正在休庭期间，只有书记员和一个戴着手铐的被拘留的青年男子在法庭里。

我开始介绍说：“这是法官的座位，律师们坐在那些桌子旁边，书记



员坐在那里，法庭记录员，也就是速记员，坐在这边，靠近法官的地方是证人席，那边是陪审团的席位。”

我做结论说：“大家可以看到，要使这个系统运转起来，需要许多人参与。”

就在这时候，那个囚犯举起铐在一起的双手说：“不过，要是没有我，这一切都不会发生。”

recess *n.* 休会

custody *n.* 保管，拘留，拘押

stenographer *n.* 速记员

courtroom *n.* 法庭，审判室

bench *n.* 长凳，工作台



Win a grand slam

赢了大满贯

A police officer pulled over a driver and informed him that, because he was wearing his seat belt, he had just won \$5,000 in a safety competition.

“What are you going to do with the prize money?” the officer asked.

The man responded, “I guess I’ll go to the driving school and get my license.”

At that moment, his wife, who was seated next to him, chimed in, “Officer, don’t listen to him. He’s a smart aleck when he’s drunk.”

This woke up the guy in the back seat, who saw the cop and blurted out, “I knew we wouldn’t get far in this stolen car.”

At that moment, there was a knock from the trunk and a voice asked, “Are we over the border yet?”

一个警察让一个司机停在路边并且告诉他，由于他系了安全带，赢得了5千美元的安全竞赛奖。

警察问：“你准备怎么花这5千美元奖金呢？”

那个男子说：“我想我得去上驾驶学校，然后考执照。”

这时候，坐在他旁边的妻子插话说：“警官，别信他。他喝醉的时候

就自作聪明。”

这吵醒了坐在后排座位上的人，他看见警察就激动地说：“我早知道开这偷来的车跑不远。”

就在这时，有人敲后厢盖问：“我们过边境线了吗？”



笑话
297

The designated decoy

被指定的诱饵

One night, a police officer was staking out a particularly noisy bar for possible drunk drivers. At closing time he saw a fellow **stumble** out of the bar, trip on the **curb**, and try his keys on five



different cars before he found his. Then he sat in the front seat fumbling around with his keys for several minutes.

Everyone left the bar and drove off. Finally, he started his engine and began to pull away. The police officer was waiting for him. He stopped the driver, read him his rights and administered a Breathalyzer test. The results showed a reading of 0.0.

The puzzled officer **demanded** to know how that could be. The driver replied, “Tonight, I’m the **designated decoy**.”

一天晚上，一个警察正在秘密监视一家特别吵闹的酒吧，准备抓酒后驾车的人。在酒店打烊的时候，他看见一个人踉踉跄跄地走出酒吧，在马路沿上走，用钥匙试了5辆车才找到自己的车，然后坐在前座上瞎摸乱找了好几分钟。

每一个人都离开了酒吧，开车走了，最后这个人也发动引擎开动了。警察正等着呢！他让司机下车，向他宣读了他的公民权利，让他做呼气分析测试，测试结果显示为零。

困惑的警察要求知道是怎么一回事，司机回答说：“今天晚上我是被



指定的诱饵。”

stumble v. 跌跌撞撞地走，蹒跚而行

curb n. 抑制，路边

demand v. 要求

designate v. 指定

decoy n. 诱饵



笑话
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A flattered man

受宠若惊的男人

A woman and a man are involved in a car accident. Both of their cars are totally damaged, but amazingly neither of them is hurt. After they **crawl** out of their cars, the woman says, “You’re a man, I’m a woman, that’s interesting. Wow, just look at our cars! There’s nothing left, but fortunately we are **unhurt**. This must be a sign from God that we should meet, and be friends, and live together in peace for the rest of our days.”

Flattered, the man replies, “Oh yes, I agree with you completely! This must be a sign from God!”

The woman continues, “Look at this, here’s another **miracle**. My car is completely destroyed, but this bottle of wine doesn’t break. Surely, God wants us to drink this wine and celebrate our good fortune.” Then she hands the bottle to the man. The man nods his head in agreement, opens it and drinks half the bottle, and then hands it back to the woman.

The woman doesn’t take the bottle, “No. I think I’ll wait for the police...”

一个女人和一个男人卷入一场交通事故，他们俩的车都完全毁坏了，幸好谁也没受伤。他们从各自的车里爬出来后，那个女的说：“你是个男的，我是个女的，有意思。看看，我们的车全毁了，但是我们俩谁也没受伤，这一定是上帝的旨意，要我们俩相遇，成为朋友，并且要我们在以后的日子里住在一起平安地生活。”

那个男的受宠若惊地说：“对呀！我完全同意，这一定是上帝的旨意。”

那个女的接着说：“看看，这是另外一个奇迹，我的车完全毁坏了，但是这瓶葡萄酒却没有打碎，显然上帝要我们喝这瓶酒来庆祝我们的好运气。”她把酒瓶递给男的，那个男的点头表示同意，打开酒瓶，喝了半瓶，然后把瓶子递还给女的。

那女的没有接，“不，我想我要等警察来……”

crawl v. 爬行 **unhurt** a. 没有受伤的

miracle n. 奇迹，令人惊奇的人(或事)



A good excuse

找借口

A fellow bought a new Mercedes and was out on the interstate for a nice evening drive. As the needle jumped up to 100 mph, he suddenly saw flashing red and blue lights behind him.

“There’s no way that a cop can catch a Mercedes,” he thought to himself, and proceeded to open her up further. The needle hit 110, 120... Then the reality of the situation hit him. “What in the world am I doing?” he thought and pulled over.

The cop came up to him, took his license without a word and examined it and the car. “It’s been a long day, this is the end of my shift and it’s Friday the 13th. I don’t feel like more paperwork, so if you can give me an excuse for your driving that I haven’t heard before, I just might let you go.”

The guy thinks for a second and says, “Last week my wife ran off with a cop. I was afraid you were trying to give her back!”

“Have a nice weekend,” said the officer.

一个家伙新买了一辆奔驰车，趁着天黑，到州际高速公路上过把瘾。当指针跳到时速 100 英里的时候，他突然看见后面有闪光的警灯跟着他。

他对自己说：“警车不可能追上奔驰，”就猛踩油门继续加速，指针指



向时速 110, 120……这时，他忽然醒悟，对自己说：“我这到底是在干什么呀？”就把车停在路边。

警察走过来，一言不发，对他的驾照和汽车审视了半天，然后说：“这一天好长，我快下班了，今天又是 13 号星期五，我不想再开罚单了。如果你能给我一个好的、我从来没有听说过的理由，为什么开快车，我或许会放你一马。”

这个家伙想了一下说：“上个星期我老婆跟一个警察私奔了，刚才我是怕你要把她送回来。”

警察说：“祝你周末愉快！”

 **interstate** *n.* 州际公路 **flash** *n. /v.* 闪光



They're looking for me

300

他们正在找我

The boss of a big company needed to call one of his employees about an urgent problem with one of the main computers. He **dialed** the employee's home phone number and was **greeted** with a child's **whisper** "Hello?"

The boss asked, "Is your daddy home?"

"Yes," whispered the small voice.

"May I talk with him?" the man asked.

To the surprise of the boss, the small voice whispered, "No."

Wanting to talk with an adult, the boss asked, "Is your mommy there?"

"Yes," came the answer.

"May I talk with her?"

Again the small voice whispered, "No."

Knowing that it was not likely that a young child would be left home

alone, the boss decided he would just leave a message with the person who should be there watching over the child. “Is there any one there besides you?” the boss asked the child.

“Yes,” whispered the child, “A policeman.”

Wondering what a cop would be doing at his employee's home, the boss asked, “May I speak with the policeman?”

“No, he's busy,” whispered the child.

“Busy doing what?” asked the boss.

“Talking to daddy and mommy and the fireman,” came the whispered answer.

Growing concerned and even worried as he heard what sounded like a helicopter through the earpiece on the phone, the boss asked, “What is that noise?”

“A helicopter,” answered the whispering voice.

“What is going on there?” asked the boss, now alarmed.

In an impressed whispering voice the child answered, “The search team just landed the helicopter.”

Alarmed, concerned and more than just a little frustrated the boss asked, “Why are they there?”

Still whispering, the young voice replied along with a muffled giggle: “They're looking for me.”

一个大公司的老板要找他的一个雇员来解决公司一台主电脑的紧急故障，就打电话到那个雇员的家里，接电话的是一个小男孩的耳语声：“哈罗。”

老板问：“你爸爸在家吗？”

小男孩的耳语声：“在家。”

老板问：“我能跟他说话吗？”

出乎他的意料，小男孩小声说：“不能。”

老板急着想和大人说话，就问：“你妈妈在家吗？”



小男孩小声说：“在家。”

老板问：“我能跟她说话吗？”

再一次，小男孩小声说：“不能。”

老板想大人们不大会让孩子单独在家，就要和照看孩子的人说话：“在你旁边还有别人吗？”

小男孩小声说：“有一个警察。”

老板想警察会在他的雇员家做什么呢？他问：“我能跟警察说话吗？”

小男孩小声说：“不能，他正忙着呢。”

“忙着干什么？”

“正在跟我爸爸、妈妈和消防队员说话。”

老板听到电话听筒中传来类似直升飞机的噪音，更加担心了。他问：“那是什么声音？”

那耳语声回答：“一架直升机。”

老板更紧张了：“那里发生了什么事？”

小男孩用一种很严肃的耳语声说：“搜索队正从直升机上下来。”

老板非常惊恐、担忧、焦虑：“他们为什么在那里？”

小男孩用耳语声夹杂捂住的格格笑声说：“他们正在找我。”

dial v. 拨(电话号码)

greet v. 问候，致敬

whisper n. 低语，私下说

fireman n. 消防队员

frustrate v. 挫败，使无效

giggle n. 咯咯笑



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