

Unit 1

Leisure Activities

PART 1 Preparation

1 A Survey of Chinese People's Leisure Activities

STEP ONE

Work in groups to make a list of Chinese people's leisure activities. Try to include as many activities as possible.

STEP TWO

Divide the class into four groups. Each does the survey of one of the following four age groups: your grandparents' age group, your parents' age group, college students, children under 12. Two students from each group interview students in other groups, the rest staying to be interviewed. Report the findings to the group when you finish. The following table is for your reference.

Age Groups	Leisure Activities	Time Spent	Frequency
Grandparents	playing t'ai chi (太极拳)	one hour	every day
Parents			
College students			
Children under 12			

STEP THREE

Make a short report to the class regarding the leisure activities of Chinese people in the four age groups.

2 Laughter

Laughter is a great medicine. Almost all of us like jokes, appreciate humor, enjoy talk shows, cross-talk (相声), or sketches (滑稽短剧). Work in groups to discuss why cross-talk is popular in China.

Words and expressions you may use

humorous language

quick wit 机智风趣

funny gestures

irony

resonate with the audience 引起观众的共鸣

tease 取笑

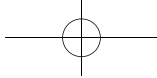
presentation skills

traditional Chinese culture

mimic 模仿

gifted

local operas 地方戏曲



3 Recognizing Puns (双关语)

Read the following sentences and find out the pun.

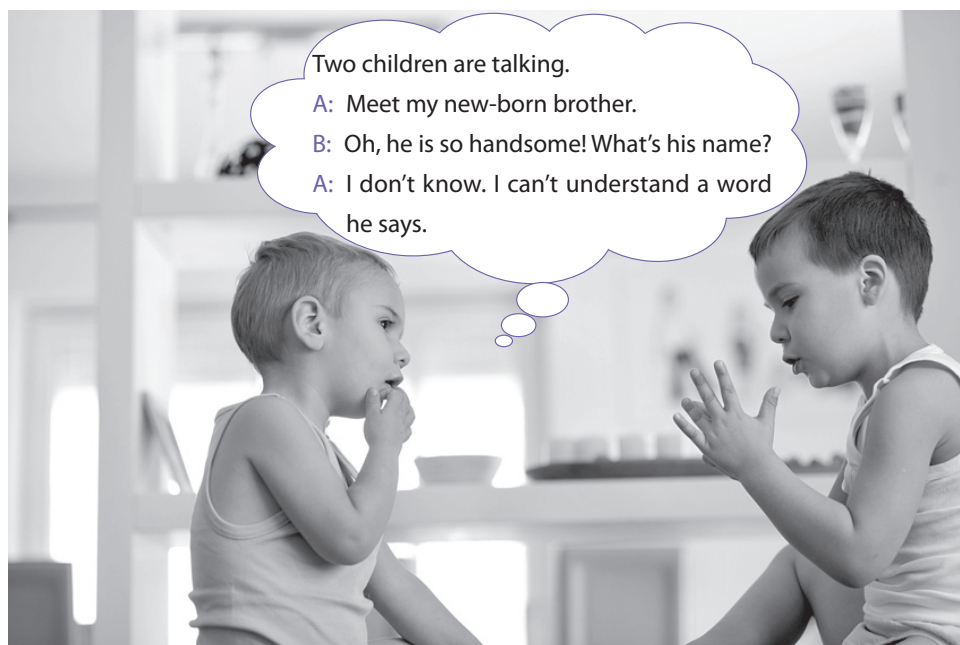
- 1 Don't expect to eat something fancy when you're flying because it's plane food.
- 2 If you get sick at the airport it could be a terminal illness.
- 3 To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
- 4 Math teachers have lots of problems.
- 5 A small boy went to the counter to pay for his lunch, but he was a little short.
- 6 A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said "No change yet."
- 7 A boy saving up for a car has a lot of driving ambition.
- 8 My mother is a bored member of the new private school.

PART 2 Reading-Centered Activities

In-Class Reading

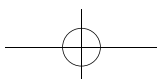
Pre-Reading

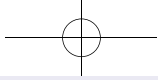
Read the following joke and work in groups to discuss the following questions.



- 1 Do you enjoy jokes? Why or why not?
- 2 Do you think humor is an important quality for a person and a key to getting along with others? Give your reasons.

2
Unit 1





Passage Reading

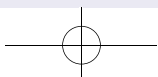
Entertaining Humor—What’s Funny?

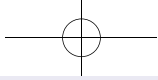


- 1 The joy of laughing at a funny story is **universal**, probably as old as language itself. But, what is it that makes a story or a joke funny?
- 2 As one who has enjoyed humor since I first recognized it, I’ve made an attempt to explain and discuss humor with students in such diverse cultures as Latin America and China. I’ve done some serious thinking about funny stories. It has been a labor of love¹!
- 3 Why is it that several students in a class will fall out of their chairs laughing after I tell a joke while the rest of the students look as if I’ve just read the weather report?² Obviously some people are more sensitive to humor than others. And, we recognize that some people tell jokes very well while others struggle to say something funny. We’ve all heard people say, “I like jokes, but I can’t tell one well, and I can

never remember them.” Some people have a better sense of humor than others just as some people have more musical talent, mathematical talent, etc. than others. A truly funny person has a joke for every occasion, and when one is told, that triggers an entire **string** of jokes from that person’s memory bank³. A **humorless** person is not likely to be the most popular person in a group. It is reasonable to say that the truly humorous individual is not only well-liked, but is often the focus of attention in any **gathering**.

- 4 Even some animals have a sense of humor. My wife’s mother often visited us for extended stays⁴. She normally didn’t like dogs, but she fell in love with Blitzen—a female Lab⁵ we had, and the relationship was **mutual**. Even when young, Blitzen would **tease** Grandma by very **selectively** carrying one of her bedroom slippers into the living room where Grandma sat in her favorite,



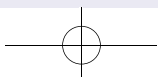


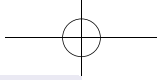
comfortable chair. Blitzen **pranced** just beyond the reach of Grandma until Grandma was **tempted** to leave her chair to get the slipper from Blitzen. When Grandma left her chair, Blitzen would quickly jump into the chair, flashing her Lab smile from **sparkling** brown eyes which clearly said, “Aha, I fooled you again.”

- 5 Typical jokes or humorous stories have a three-part **anatomy** that is easily recognized. First is the **SETUP** (or **setting**), next is the **BODY** (or story line⁶), and these are followed by the **PUNCH LINE**⁷ (an unexpected or surprise ending) which will make the joke funny if it contains some humor. Usually all three parts are present, and each must be clearly presented⁸. It helps if the story / joke teller uses gestures and language which are well-known to the audience.
- 6 Humor, as a form of entertainment, can be analyzed in order to discover what makes a funny story or joke seem funny. Here, for example, are some of the most common types of humor. They range from the most obvious humor to the more subtle types.
- 7 “**SLAPSTICK**” is the most obvious humor. Its language is simple, direct, and often makes fun of another person or group. Slapstick was and is the technique of the stand-up **comedian**⁹ and the **clown**. It appeals to all ages and all cultures. Nearly every English-speaking comedian in this century has used the following joke in one form or another. One man asks another, “Who was that lady I saw you with last night?” The other replies, “That was no lady, that was my wife.” The humor lies in the fact that the second man is saying that his wife is not a lady. In other words, she is not a **refined** woman. The joke is no less funny because it is so often used. The audience knows in advance what will be said, because it is classic humor, and any audience values it even more because of its **familiarity**.
- 8 Chinese “**CROSS-TALK**” is a special type of slapstick in which two Chinese comedians humorously discuss topics such as **bureaucrats**, family problems, or other personal topics. Cross-

talk can be heard anywhere from small village stages to the largest Beijing theaters, and to radio and television. It is clearly a traditional form of humor well understood by Chinese people.

- 9 A **PLAY ON WORDS** is not so obvious as slapstick, but it is funny because of **misused** or misunderstood language. My favorite example is the story of three elderly gentlemen traveling by train in England. As the train slowed for a stop the first man asked, “Is this Wembley?” “No,” said the second, “it’s Thursday.” “So am I,” said the third man. “Let’s stop for a beer.” We know that older people often do not hear things clearly, so the misunderstanding of both Wednesday (for Wembley) and thirsty (for Thursday) makes a nice setup for the punch line delivered by the third man.
- 10 The famous Chinese **cartoonist** and **humorist** Ding Cong is a master of word play. In one of his funny cartoons, a teacher says, “How come¹⁰ you completely copied somebody else’s homework?” The young student replies, “I didn’t completely copy it. My name on the page is different.” In another classic Ding Cong cartoon, an **irritated** father asks, “Tell me, what’s one plus two?” The son says, “I don’t know.” The impatient father then says, “For example, you, your mother, and I altogether are how many, you **idiot**?” The son proudly answers, “Three idiots.” Whether these stories are cartoons or jokes, told by a slapstick comedian or a cross-talking team, they appeal to people everywhere as funny stories because they have a note of reality¹¹ to them, and the unexpected punch line is quite funny.
- 11 **PUNS** are even more subtle forms of word play. They use the technique of similar sounding words or alternative meanings of the same word. Puns are thought by some critics to be the lowest form of humor, but I disagree with this. Puns require more subtle and sophisticated language skills than most humor forms, but even the very young can use them in their simpler forms. For example, the “**riddle**” or trick question often uses a pun in the setup,





the story line, or, more often, the punch line. Puns are the first type of humor I learned, and at about five years of age I remember hearing the following riddle. One person asks, "What is black and white and red all over?" The other person usually cannot answer the riddle, so says, "I give up. What is the answer?" The **riddler** replies, "A newspaper." This is the obvious answer if one knows that "red" is pronounced the same as "read" in English, but the meanings are clearly different.

12 **DOUBLE ENTENDRES** (French for double meanings) are special variations of puns in which words or phrases have double meanings. Frequently the two meanings are very different, and one is quite proper while the second is often, but not always, **vulgar**. I like the somewhat mild story of a school teacher and a **principal** of a high school who are concerned because some boys and girls have been seen kissing on the school playground. The teacher says to the students, "The principal and I have decided to stop kissing on the school playground." Hearing some **laughter**, she senses her message was not altogether clear, so she adds, "What I mean to say is that there will be no more kissing going on under our noses¹²". This **clarification**, of course, does nothing to correct the first statement and the double meaning of the joke becomes even more **laughable**.

13 Some professional humorists think too much of today's humor is not very intelligent or sophisticated. They dislike the **suggestive** or vulgar language used too frequently, and they feel that most humorists are not very creative. It is true that some of today's humor is rather shocking, but I don't think humor is to be blamed for that. Humor is alive and well, and it will persist simply because there are funny things happening every day. Some humorous people see and hear these funny things and are able to make them into funny, entertaining jokes and stories.

(1,346 words)

Proper Names

Blitzen /'blitsən/ 布利茨恩 (狗的名字)

Ding Cong 丁聪 (1916-2009, 中国著名漫画家)

Wembley /'wembli/ 温布利 (英国一城市)

New Words

anatomy /ə'nætəmi/ *n.*

I) the structure of an organization, process, etc.
构造, 结构

For the first time, we have the chance to examine the anatomy of a secret government operation.

2) the scientific study of the structure of human or animal bodies 解剖 (学)

I) The students will do anatomy next semester.

II) Knowledge of human anatomy is essential to figure drawing.

★ **bureaucrat** /'bjʊərəkræt/ *n.* an official working in an organization or a government department, especially one who follows the rules of the department too strictly 官僚主义者

I) Endless paperwork was dished out (分发) by those bureaucrats.

II) I suppose my application has been lost by some incompetent bureaucrat.

cartoonist /kɑ:'tu:nɪst/ *n.* sb. who draws cartoons 漫画家

I) He is now a consultant, while continuing as a cartoonist.

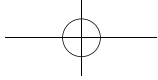
II) The famous cartoonist's works were published in almost every newspaper.

★ **clarification** /,klærəfɪ'keɪʃn/ *n.* the act of making sth. clear or easier to understand, or an explanation that makes sth. clear 澄清, 解释

I) We are seeking clarification from the judge.

II) The newspaper printed clarifications of the incorrect statements.

注: 生词表中一般要求词汇不作标记, 较高要求词汇标记为★, 更高要求词汇标记为▲, 超纲词汇标记为#。



▲ **clown** /klaʊn/ *n.* a performer in a circus who wears funny clothes and bright make-up, and does silly things in order to make people laugh 小丑

- I) I used to like the clowns best at the circus.
- II) He's required to play the part of the clown.

comedian /kə'mi:diən/ *n.* sb. whose job is to tell jokes and make people laugh 滑稽演员, 喜剧演员

- I) Bill wanted to be a comedian, but he wasn't funny.
- II) The English comedian, Charlie Chaplin, made a hit as the "Little Tramp".

cross-talk *n.* witty, rapid dialog, e.g. between two comedians 相声

- I) We enjoyed the cross-talk performance in Beijing.
- II) There is usually cross-talk on the special New Year's TV program in China.

double entendre /ˌdu:bl ɒn'tɒndrə/ *n.* (French) a word or phrase that may be understood in two different ways 双关语

Those who are slow can have a moment to reflect and catch the subtleties of a double entendre.

entertaining /ˌentə'teɪnɪŋ/ *adj.* amusing and interesting 有趣的, 令人愉快的

- I) The couple watched a very entertaining movie last Saturday.
- II) His books aren't particularly well-written, but they're always entertaining.

familiarity /fə'mɪlɪ'ærəti/ *n.* a good knowledge of sth. 熟悉, 精通

- I) In fact, his familiarity with American history is pretty limited.
- II) Applicants should demonstrate a familiarity with housing laws.

gathering /'gæðərɪŋ/ *n.* a meeting of a group of people 聚会

- I) Easter is one of the best times for a family gathering.
- II) There will be a gathering of world leaders in Vienna next month.

humorist /'hju:mərist/ *n.* a person with an active sense of humor, especially one who uses humor skillfully, as in writing or talking 幽默(作)家; 有幽默感的人

- I) Books and articles flowed from Mark Twain, and each increased his reputation as America's greatest humorist.
- II) Later, when other humorists stepped into her territory, she remained the funniest and dearest of them all.

humorless /'hju:mələs/ *adj.* too serious and not able to laugh at things that other people think are amusing 缺乏幽默感的

- I) He was a straight-faced, humorless character.
- II) A humorless person is not likely to be the most popular person in a group.

★ **idiot** /'ɪdiət/ *n.* a stupid person or sb. who has done sth. stupid 笨蛋, 蠢材

- I) I knew I'd been an idiot to stay there.
- II) Anyone who crosses the street without checking for traffic is an idiot.

★ **irritated** /'ɪrɪ,tetɪd/ *adj.* feeling annoyed and impatient about sth. 恼火的; 不耐烦的

- I) I was beginning to get irritated at the long delay.
- II) Not surprisingly, her teacher is getting irritated with her.

laughable /'lɑ:fəbl/ *adj.* so bad, silly, or unbelievable that it makes you want to laugh 可笑的, 荒唐的

- I) The promises are so far from reality that they are laughable.
- II) The play was a tragedy, but the acting was laughable.

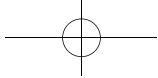
laughter /'lɑ:ftə/ *n.* the act of laughing or the sound of people laughing 笑; 笑声

- I) Their laughter filled the corridor.
- II) He looked shocked, then burst into laughter.

misuse /mɪs'ju:z/

vt. use sth. in the wrong way or for the wrong purpose 误用; 滥用

- I) It's a word that is often misused.
- II) Even harmless drugs can be misused.



n. the use of sth. in the wrong way or for the wrong purpose 误用; 滥用

- I) It was a clear misuse of the word.
- II) The effectiveness of this drug has, however, led to its misuse.

mutual /'mju:tʃʊəl/ *adj.*

- 1) (of a feeling or action) felt or done by two or more people toward one another 相互的, 彼此的
 - I) It's plain that he adores his daughter, and the feeling is mutual.
 - II) Despite differences in background and outlook, their partnership was based on mutual respect, trust and understanding.
- 2) shared by two or more people 共同的, 共有的
 - I) We found we have a mutual interest in mountaineering (登山).
 - II) We were introduced by a mutual friend who felt that we might like to go out together.

prance /pra:ns/ *vi.* walk or move in a spirited manner 神气活现地走或移动

- I) We used to prance around our bedroom pretending to be pop stars.
- II) I wish your children would settle down and stop prancing about.

principal /'prɪnsəpl/

n. sb. in charge of a school or college 校长

- I) Donald King is the principal of Dartmouth High School.
- II) If you talk any more in class, I'm sending you off to see the principal.

adj. first in order of importance 最重要的, 主要的

- I) The salary is good, but that is not the principal reason I accepted the job.
- II) His principal reason for making the journey was to visit his family.

pun /pʌn/ *n.* an amusing use of a word or phrase that has two meanings, or of words with the same sound but different meanings 双关语

- I) The slogan (广告语) was a pun on the name of the product.
- II) This is a humorous pun, or play on words: Seven days without water makes one weak (week).

refined /rɪ'faɪnd/ *adj.* (of a person) very polite and having good manners and good taste (人) 有礼貌的, 有教养的; 有品位的

- I) He was refined too, and was keen on art and calligraphy.
- II) They don't know how to be reserved and refined unless they see it in a movie.

▲ **riddle** /'rɪdl/ *n.*

- 1) a question that is deliberately very confusing and usually has a humorous or clever answer 谜, 谜语
 - I) Are you good at solving riddles?
 - II) See if you can solve this riddle.
- 2) a mysterious action, event, or situation that you do not understand and cannot explain 奥秘, 费解之事
 - I) No one could provide an answer to the riddle of Elise's death.
 - II) Scientists claimed to have solved the riddle of the birth of the universe.

riddler /'rɪdlə/ *n.* a person who tells riddles 出谜(语)的人

- I) In some children's games, one person is the riddler and the others must answer the questions.
- II) The riddler gave his riddles to the listeners and asked them to solve the riddles.

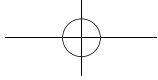
selectively /sɪ'lektɪvli/ *adv.* in a selective manner 有选择地

- I) Within the project, trees are selectively cut on a 25-year rotation.
- II) Critics argue that the drug laws have been selectively enforced (执行).

setting /'setɪŋ/ *n.* the place or time at which an event occurs or a play, novel, etc. is set (某事、戏剧、小说等的) 背景

- I) The setting of the story is a hotel in Paris during the war.
- II) The island was used by Dickens as the setting for *Oliver Twist*.

setup /'setʌp/ *n.* the way that sth. is organized or arranged 机制, 结构



- I) He's new to the office and doesn't know the setup yet.
- II) I gradually got rather disillusioned with the whole setup of the university.

slapstick /'slæp,stri:k/ *n.* humorous acting in which the performers fall over, throw things at each other, etc. 滑稽表演, 打闹剧

- I) I don't think slapstick is funny.
- II) There's a lot of slapstick in the Marx Brothers' films.

★ **sparkling** /'spɑ:kliŋ/ *adj.* shining brightly with points of flashing light 闪亮的, 闪光的

- I) They looked down to the sea sparkling in the sun.
- II) They have the same sparkling eyes and the same fresh beautiful face.

string /striŋ/ *n.*

- 1) a series of similar events that happen one after another 一连串, 一系列
- I) The incident was the latest in a string of attacks.
- II) The team had a string of 13 wins last season.
- 2) a thin wire or cord used on a musical instrument or a strong thin cord used for fastening or tying things 弦; 线
- I) He went off to change a guitar string.
- II) Can you find me some string to tie up this package?
- 3) a number of objects that form a line 一行, 一串
- I) A string of cars traveled up the narrow mountain road.
- II) She was wearing a linen suit and a string of pearls.

suggestive /sə'dʒestɪv/ *adj.* seeming to suggest sth. sexual or indecent 使人产生邪念的, 挑逗的

- I) He kept giving me suggestive looks.
- II) He's always making sexually suggestive jokes.

★ **tease** /ti:z/ *v.* joke about or intentionally annoy 戏弄; 取笑

- I) Don't get upset. I was only teasing.
- II) I used to hate being teased about my red hair when I was at school.

★ **tempt** /tempt/ *vt.*

- 1) try to persuade sb. to do sth. by making it seem attractive 怂恿; 引诱 (某人) 去做
- I) The shop windows were lit invitingly, tempting the late shoppers.
- II) They tempted him to join the company by offering him a large salary and a company car.
- 2) make sb. want to have or do sth., even though they know they really should not 引诱, 诱惑
- I) Nothing could tempt me to take such a step.
- II) Don't let credit tempt you to buy something you can't afford.

universal /ˌju:ni'vɜ:sl/ *adj.*

- 1) involving everyone in the world or in a particular group 普遍的; 全体的
- I) The desire to look attractive is universal.
- II) There does not appear to be universal agreement on the issue of early education.
- 2) true or suitable in every situation 通用的
- I) These days a credit card has almost universal application.
- II) He was about to learn a universal truth of professional journalism.

★ **vulgar** /'vʌlgə/ *adj.* lacking in good taste or refinement 粗俗的, 庸俗的

- I) She was criticized for telling vulgar jokes.
- II) The film was tasteless, vulgar and even badly shot.

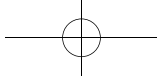
Phrases and Expressions

beyond the reach of sb. in a place sb. cannot reach by stretching their arm or hand 在某人伸手够不着的地方

- I) Keep chemicals beyond the reach of children.
- II) The apple is beyond the reach of the patient.

flash a smile smile at sb. quickly and for a short time 对某人一笑

- I) She flashed a sudden smile at him.
- II) Meg flashed Cissie a grateful smile.



make an attempt to do sth. try to do sth. 努力做某事, 试图做某事

- I) She made a few half-hearted attempts to join in their conversation.
- II) The climbers will make another attempt to reach the summit today.

make fun of make unkind, insulting remarks about sb. or sth. 嘲弄; 拿……开玩笑

- I) I'm not making fun of you. I admire what you have done.
- II) He felt that they were making fun of him, though he could not understand why.

Notes

- 1 "A labor of love" means "sth. that is hard work but that you do because you want to (心甘情愿做的苦工)".
e.g. I) For Mavis and her team of volunteers furniture removal is a labor of love.
II) Even the most difficult tasks seem easy to us when they are a labor of love.
- 2 句中 *laughing after I tell a joke* 表示伴随的状况。在 *that* 引导的从句中, *while* 引导一个并列从句, 表示对比。
- 3 Here "one" means "one joke", and the first "that" refers to the joke. This part of the sentence means "when one joke is told, it starts a series of jokes that person has in his mind".
- 4 Here "extended stays" means "longer stays".
- 5 "Lab" here is the abbreviation of "Labrador (拉布拉多犬)".

6 "Story line" means "the main set of related events in a story (故事情节)".

7 The expression "punch line" means "the last few words of a joke or story that make it funny or surprising (笑话或故事中最后几句点题或抛出笑料等的妙语, 画龙点睛的结尾语)".

8 In this sentence, the first "present" is an adjective, meaning "being there"; the second "present" is a verb, meaning "show sth. in a particular way".

- e.g. I) The President was not present (*adj.*) at the meeting.
- II) We'll present (*vt.*) the information using a chart.

9 A "stand-up comedian" refers to a comedian who performs alone, standing and talking to the audience (单人表演的喜剧演员; 单口相声演员).

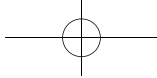
10 The informal expression "how come" is used to ask why something has happened or been said, especially when you are surprised by it (怎么回事; 为什么).

- e.g. I) How come you didn't come to the party?
- II) How come David's at home? Isn't he feeling well?

11 The expression "a note of sth." means "a type of feeling or quality when sb. speaks or does sth. (话语或行为中所含的感情色彩, 特征)".

- e.g. I) There was a note of anger in her voice.
- II) He brought a note of realism into the debate.

12 Literally, the expression "under our noses" means "on a spot under the nose". Figuratively, it means "right in front of sb.; quite openly (当着某人的面; 公开地)". So the school teacher's explanation doesn't clarify what she said at the beginning.



Exercises

Post-Reading

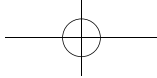
Reading Comprehension

1 The passage can be divided into five parts. Work in pairs to complete the topic of each part.

Paragraphs	Topics
Paras.1-3	Humor is _____, but people's sense of humor _____.
Para. 4	Even _____ have a sense of humor. The writer's _____ is a good
Para. 5	example.
Paras. 6-12	The typical three parts of a joke: 1) _____, 2) _____, 3) _____.
Para. 13	Different forms of humor: 1) _____, 2) _____, 3) _____, 4) _____, and double entendres. Humor will _____ even though some professional humorists think today's humor is not very _____ or _____.

2 Choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

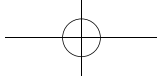
- When hearing the same joke, _____.
 - all the listeners laugh
 - different people have different reactions
 - most people regard it as the weather report
 - most listeners fall out of their chairs
- A humorous person _____.
 - doesn't have a joke for every occasion
 - always pays attention to other people
 - is not always funny
 - is well-liked by other people
- Blitzen took the slipper into the living room because _____.
 - she knew Grandma didn't like dogs
 - she didn't like Grandma
 - she wanted to play a trick on Grandma
 - Grandma was a stranger
- The word "typical" (*Line 1, Para. 5*) implies that _____.
 - most jokes or humorous stories have three parts
 - every joke or humorous story has three parts



- C a joke or humorous story that has three parts is a real one
D a common joke or humorous story is the most recognizable
- 5 The sentence "The joke is no less funny because it is so often used" (*Para. 7*) means the joke _____.
A becomes less funny because it is often used
B is not often used because it is not very funny
C is funny even if it is often used
D is often used because it is funny
- 6 In the story of the three elderly gentlemen, the punch line is _____.
A "Let's stop for a beer."
B "Is this Wembley?"
C "It's Thursday."
D "So am I."
- 7 The writer cites Ding Cong's cartoons mainly to _____.
A illustrate what "a play on words" is
B show Ding Cong is the greatest master of word play
C entertain the reader
D show how to use words in a cartoon
- 8 According to the writer, a pun is _____.
A the least sophisticated form of humor
B too subtle to be understood by children
C difficult to understand because of the sophisticated language
D subtle but its simple forms are within children's reach
- 9 The school teacher intends to mean that "the principal and I have decided _____".
A not to kiss any more on the school playground
B that the pupils should stop kissing on the school playground
C to be kissed on the school playground
D not to see anyone kissing on the playground
- 10 We can conclude from the passage that the writer _____.
A thinks humor has become vulgar
B values humor highly
C doesn't like some professional humorists
D thinks most humorists are not creative

3 Work in groups to discuss the following question.

Why do you think that some people will fall out of their chairs while the rest look as if the writer has just read the weather report?



- 4 Work in groups to analyze the following two jokes according to the three-part anatomy mentioned in the passage. Present your analysis to the class and see if there's another way of doing this.

JOKE 1

One day a visitor from the city came to a small rural area to drive around on the country roads, see how the farms looked, and perhaps see how farmers earned a living. The city man saw a farmer in his yard, holding a pig up in his hands, and lifting it so that the pig could eat apples from an apple tree. The city man said to the farmer, "I see that your pig likes apples, but isn't that quite a waste of time?"

The farmer replied, "What's time to a pig?"

JOKE 2

One absent-minded professor approached the edge of a wide river, and far across on the other side he saw another absent-minded professor. The first man called out loudly, "Hello! How do I get to the other side of the river?"

The second man on the far side of the river shouted back, "Hello! You are already on the other side of the river".

- 5 Do you agree with the following statement? Why or why not?

People will let you insult them if you make them laugh.

Examples:

- Laughter is the best medicine.
- People need laughter sometimes to get out of an embarrassing situation.
- Life will be boring without laughter.
- I like laughter, but I don't want to be laughed at.
- Making fun of people sometimes leads to insults.

Vocabulary

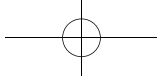
- 1 Complete the following sentences with appropriate words. Change the form if necessary.

1 entertain entertaining entertainment entertainer

- A I couldn't put down the _____ novel.
- B The bride's parents arranged for the _____ at the reception.
- C We _____ a group of exchange students from Japan.
- D John has wanted to be an _____ ever since he was young.

2 recognize recognizable recognition

- A Bill is _____ from the many movies he has appeared in.
- B I _____ the man who tried to mug (抢劫) me.
- C The witness' _____ of David led to his arrest.



3 tempt temptation tempting

- A The display of fresh fruit looked _____ .
- B Tom had to struggle against the _____ to spend more money than he earned.
- C I tried to _____ my co-worker to leave work early.

4 reason (n. & v.) reasonable reasoning (n.)

- A The student _____ thoughtfully before answering the question.
- B My English teacher showed me why my _____ was faulty.
- C I'm sure there's a perfectly _____ explanation for his absence.
- D Let me give you one _____ why the work of these researchers is so vital.

5 analyze analysis analytical analyst

- A The lab technician _____ the blood samples.
- B The _____ methods of the investigator revealed the identity of the murderer.
- C The market _____ was fired because he didn't foresee the drop in stock prices.
- D The initial _____ is more important than any subsequent examination.

6 value (n. & v.) valuable valuation

- A Max learned a _____ lesson from his costly mistake at work.
- B The jewelry _____ revealed my diamond to be a fake (赝品).
- C John _____ the companionship of his trusty dog.
- D The show had poor entertainment _____ for children.

7 humor humorous humorless humorist

- A The book was written by the American _____ Garrison Keillor.
- B I have a good sense of _____ and I like to use it to make people laugh.
- C The _____ story drew a roar of laughter from the crowd.
- D She struggled through the difficult and _____ article.

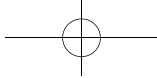
8 understand understanding misunderstand understandable

- A It's _____ that Mary was promoted because she works so hard.
- B The two former enemies reached a(n) _____ and shook hands.
- C I _____ your concern about the situation.
- D I _____ you because you didn't speak loudly enough.

2 Work in pairs to translate the following phrases into English using the word "sense".

Example: 幽默感 a sense of humor

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1 责任感 _____ | 2 安全感 _____ |
| 3 自卑感 _____ | 4 优越感 _____ |
| 5 节奏感 _____ | 6 正义感 _____ |
| 7 羞耻感 _____ | 8 无助感 _____ |
| 9 方向感 _____ | 10 紧迫感 _____ |



3 Complete the following passage with appropriate words from the box.

directly	answer	entertained	mischief	end	contacted	selectively	followed
capacity	extent	response	sense	individually	mutual	successful	

A couple had two little boys, 8 and 10 years of age, who were excessively mischievous.

The two were always getting into trouble and their parents could be certain that if any 1) _____ occurred in their town, their two young sons were involved in some 2) _____. The parents were at their wit's 3) _____ as to what to do about their sons' behavior.

The parents heard that a clergyman in town had been 4) _____ in disciplining children, so they 5) _____ him, and he agreed to give it his best shot (尽全力去做). He asked to see the boys 6) _____, so the 8-year-old was sent to meet with him first. The clergyman sat the boy down and asked him sternly, "Where is God?"

The boy made no 7) _____, so the clergyman repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God?"

Again the boy made no attempt to 8) _____, so the clergyman raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face, "WHERE IS GOD?"

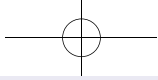
At that, the boy bolted from the room, ran 9) _____ home, and slammed himself in his closet. His older brother 10) _____ him into the closet and said, "What happened?"

The younger brother replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it!"

Translation

Complete the following sentences by translating the Chinese in brackets into English.

- _____ (活泼的举止是正常的) for a four-year-old child.
- _____ (速度快的车对约翰有吸引力), but he can't afford one.
- Dave required a lot of time to study the _____ (各种各样的论据).
- _____ (我要求我的上司进行澄清), and she explained the project to me again.
- Photographic film is _____ (对光很敏感).
- _____ (互相鼓励) can be a great help, especially in the early days.
- Jimmy cried when people _____ (拿他开玩笑).
- John won't give up. He _____ (坚持他的观点).
- Ted always wants _____ (成为注意的焦点).
- Is it cheaper if _____ (我们提前买票)?



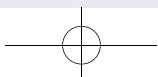
After-Class Reading

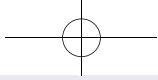


Fatal Attraction¹

1 The “Queen” of British murder mystery writing is, without doubt, Agatha Christie. Although the writer herself died over 20 years ago, her “**whodunit**” novels continue to sell in huge numbers. They have been translated into more than 100 languages and they have sold over two billion copies.

- 2 The appeal of Agatha Christie’s books, both in Britain and abroad, is not hard to understand. Each book is cleverly constructed. She uses characters that are easily recognizable and her plots develop almost like **clockwork**. But most importantly, all her stories set a puzzle for the reader.
- 3 Nearly all of Christie’s books start with a murder, forcing the reader to ask the question, “whodunit?”, and all of them end with a solution. The fun for the reader is in following the clues hidden in the story and trying to reach the correct solution before the author reveals it. This formula appeals to the strongest of human instincts—curiosity—and its popularity shows no sign of going away².
- 4 Many of the mysteries are solved by one of the Christie’s regular investigators, like the very confident Belgian, Hercule Poirot, or the apparently harmless little old lady, Miss Marple. She also created a special setting for her stories which has become as familiar as some of her characters. It is England between the two World Wars, where close-knit communities live in quiet villages or rich city folk **assemble** for weekends at grand country houses.
- 5 This world is ruled by a rigid social **hierarchy**. The owners of the country houses, probably members of the **aristocracy**, are at the top, then there are the professional classes: doctors, lawyers and businessmen. At the bottom are the common people, who normally appear in the books as servants, cooks and **gardeners**. When a murder is committed, there’s no **shortage** of suspects to be investigated.
- 6 Agatha Christie’s world is not quite a real world, which is one of the reasons why her books have not become **dated**. This is a world which is safe and **predictable** until a murder shatters people’s lives. The crime must be solved so that the





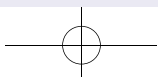
murderer can be arrested, but also, so that calm can be restored.³

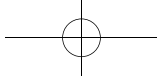
- 7 During most of Agatha Christie's life, England had the death **penalty** for murder. So, once the crime in her books is solved and the murderer identified, that is the end for him or her. There are no **loose ends** and the reader can sleep peacefully in his or her bed.
- 8 In the real world, of course, things don't happen quite like that. Criminals go unpunished, people are **wrongly convicted** and there are **miscarriages of justice**. In short, the real world is not a safe place. It is for this reason that so many readers like to bury their heads in⁴ an old-fashioned detective story with a safe and predictable ending.
- 9 The kind of whodunit Agatha Christie wrote is certainly old-fashioned. Few contemporary crime writers are producing this kind of book. The modern crime novel is more **morally** and **psychologically** complex, often adding to "whodunit?" another question: "whydunit⁵?". Modern writers are more interested in understanding the criminal's mind and what drives a person to kill. They explore a world of crime that is much darker than anything imagined by Agatha Christie. Instead of being comforting, most contemporary crime novels **unsettle** their readers.
- 10 But Britain's affection for what the Americans call the "**cosy**" school of crime **fiction** has

not died.⁶ Murder is still considered to be entertainment and the television schedules are full of detective **dramas** which end with a murderer safely under arrest.

- 11 Another sign of how popular whodunits have become are "Murder Mystery Weekends", offered by hotels.⁷ Guests take on the characters of classic whodunit suspects and spend a weekend trying to find out who among them is the "murderer". Or there are murder dinner parties, at which groups of friends get together to solve a crime over the dinner table, using specially prepared information about their character and their **whereabouts**. If murder with your meal doesn't appeal, there is a range of popular board games⁸ and computer games to test your powers of **detection**.
- 12 But for some people it can become an **obsession**. Letters still are sent to "221B Baker Street, London⁹", home of Sherlock Holmes, perhaps the most famous **fictional** detective of all, asking for his help in solving a variety of mysteries. So many letters arrive for the great detective, that the company which now occupies that address employs someone with the special job of answering them.
- 13 So long as human beings remain curious, there seems no doubt that the whodunit, in all its various forms, will continue to exert its fatal attraction.

(776 words)





Proper Names

Agatha Christie /'æɡθə 'krɪsti/ 阿加莎·克里斯蒂 (1890-1976, 英国女侦探小说家、剧作家, 塑造比利时侦探波洛形象, 主要作品有小说《尼罗河惨案》以及剧本《捕鼠器》等)

Belgian /'beldʒən/ 比利时人

Hercule Poirot /'hɜːkjʊl pɔwər'əʊ/ 赫尔克里·波洛 (阿加莎·克里斯蒂系列侦探小说中的主人公之一)

Miss Marple /'mɑːpl/ 马普尔小姐 (阿加莎·克里斯蒂系列侦探小说中的主人公之一)

Sherlock Holmes /'ʃɜːlɒk 'həʊlmz/ 夏洛克·福尔摩斯 (英国作家亚瑟·柯南·道尔所著系列侦探小说中的主人公)

New Words

▲ **aristocracy** /,æri'stɒkrəsi/ *n.* a class of people in some countries who have a high social rank and special titles such as “duke” or “countess” 贵族

- I) Daughters of rich merchants would often marry into the aristocracy.
- II) The nation's elite send their children to boarding schools in the tradition of the British aristocracy.

assemble /ə'sembl/

v. (cause people or things to) come together; collect 集合, 聚集; 收集

- I) When the fire alarm rang we (were) assembled outside the emergency exit.
- II) Over the years we have assembled a huge collection of old books.

vt. build sth. by putting all its parts together 组合, 装配

- I) The shelves are sold in kits (配套元件) and you have to assemble them yourself.
- II) The aircraft will continue to be assembled in France.

clockwork /'klɒkwɜːk/ *n.* mechanism with wheels and springs, like that of a clock 发条装置

- I) The tape was driven either by an electric or clockwork motor.
- II) Quartz-crystal-based watches are both cheaper and more accurate than those driven by clockwork.

convict

vt. /kən'vɪkt/ prove or officially announce that sb. is guilty of a crime after a trial 证明 (宣判) ……有罪

- I) The defendant was convicted of murder.
 - II) He has twice been convicted of robbery.
- n.* /kən'vɪkt/ sb. who has been proved to be guilty of a crime and sent to prison 囚犯
- I) The convict was serving a 20-year sentence.
 - II) There was a report on the news about an escaped convict.

★ **cosy** /'kəʊzi/ *adj.* (*AmE* **cozy**)

- I) comfortable and warm 温暖舒适的
- I) They were beginning to miss the cosy flat in St. John's Wood.
- II) Wall lights and table lamps give a cosy feel to this carefully planned room.
- 2) pleasant and friendly 亲切友好的
- I) Construction companies tend to have a cosy relationship with the government.
- II) My mood this year is for a cosy, nice and thoroughly wholesome (有益健康的) Christmas.

dated /'deɪtɪd/ *adj.* clearly belonging to a former time; old-fashioned 过时的; 老式的

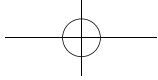
- I) That dress looks a bit dated now.
- II) It was a good film when it came out, but it looks rather dated now.

detection /dɪ'tekʃn/ *n.* the process of detecting sb. or sth. 发觉, 察觉

- I) Other studies have been concerned with the early detection of diabetes (糖尿病) by looking at the slightest eye problems.
- II) The crime detection rate in the area is particularly low.

drama /'drɑːmə/ *n.*

- I) a play for the theater, television, radio, etc. 戏剧, 电视剧
- I) He knew nothing about Greek drama.



- II) The drama was so depressing that the whole audience was crying.
- 2) a real situation which is exciting or unusual 戏剧性场面 (事件)
- I) Sue related the drama of getting lost in the foreign city.
- II) We had a little drama last night when the oil in the pan caught fire.

fiction /'fɪkʃn/ *n.* stories and novels about imaginary people and events 小说

- I) Diana is a writer of historical fiction.
- II) Happy marriage may be more common in fiction than in real life.

fictional /'fɪkʃnəl/ *adj.* of or relating to fiction; imaginary 小说的; 虚构的

- I) The names of the shops are entirely fictional.
- II) The writer based his fictional characters on the four sisters living next door to him.

gardener /'gɑːdnə/ *n.* sb. whose job is to work in gardens 园丁, 园艺工人

Five gardeners were hired to take care of the palace garden.

★ **hierarchy** /'haɪərɑːki/ *n.* a system for organizing people according to their status in a society, organization, or other group 等级制度

- I) She is high up in the management hierarchy.
- II) There is a hierarchy in the classification of all living creatures.

loose ends *n.* parts of sth. that have not been completed or properly done 未完成 (做好) 的部分

- I) There are some annoying loose ends in the plot.
- II) It's a good report, but there are still a few loose ends to be tied up.

miscarriage /'mɪskæɪɪdʒ/ *n.* (~ of justice) a situation in which sb. is wrongly punished by a court of law for sth. they did not do 审判不公, 误判

- I) The Supreme Court should set aside Mr. Banker's execution to prevent a miscarriage of justice.
- II) I can imagine no greater miscarriage of justice than the execution of an innocent man.

morally /'mɒrəli/ *adv.* according to moral principles about what is right and wrong 道德上, 道义上

- I) What you did wasn't illegal, but it was morally wrong.
- II) For a teacher to hit a child is not just morally wrong, but also illegal.

▲ **obsession** /əb'seʃn/ *n.* an unreasonably strong and continuous interest in sth., or worry about sth. 着迷, 迷恋; 困扰人的想法

- I) She would try to forget her obsession with Christopher.
- II) Gambling became an obsession, and he eventually lost everything.

penalty /'penlti/ *n.* a punishment imposed for breaking a law, rule or contract 刑罚, 惩罚, 处罚

- I) One of those arrested could face the death penalty.
- II) The charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years' imprisonment.

predictable /prɪ'dɪktəbl/ *adj.* happening in the way you would expect 可预料的, 可预言的

- I) The outcome of these experiments is not always entirely predictable.
- II) He asked whether this was predictable from previous performances.

psychologically /,saɪkə'lɒdʒɪkli/ *adv.* concerned with a person's mind and thoughts 心理上

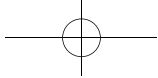
- I) Psychologically it's a good idea to praise a child for their efforts.
- II) She is a woman who is economically and psychologically independent.

shortage /'ʃɔːtɪdʒ/ *n.* a situation in which there is not enough of sth. that people need 短缺, 缺乏, 不足

- I) Due to the shortage of funds, the library closed.
- II) There's no shortage of ideas when it comes to improving the education of children.

★ **unsettle** /ʌn'setl/ *vt.* make sb. feel upset or nervous 使不安, 扰乱

- I) The sudden changes unsettled Judy.
- II) She was still recovering from the accident, so he avoided any subjects which might unsettle her.



▲ **whereabouts** /weərəˈbaʊts/ *n.* the place or area where sb. or sth. is 行踪; 去向

- I) She did not say where she was going, and nobody knows her whereabouts.
- II) Once he knew his father's name, finding his whereabouts proved surprisingly easy.

whodunit /ˌhuːˈdʌnɪt/ *n. (informal)* (for “who done it”) a book, film, etc. about a murder, in which you do not find out who did the murder until the end 侦探小说 (电影等)

- I) We all know the answer to this whodunit.
- II) The book is one of those whodunits where you don't find out who the murderer is till the very end.

wrongly /ˈrɒŋli/ *adv.* incorrectly or in a way that is not based on facts 不正确地, 错误地

- I) Matthew was wrongly diagnosed as having a brain tumor.
- II) They interviewed several people wrongly convicted of crimes.

Phrases and Expressions

end with have sth. as the last part 以……结束

- I) The festival ended with fireworks.
- II) His statement ended with the words: “Pray for me”.

in short used when you want to give the main point of sth. 简而言之, 总之

- I) In short, the report says that more money should be spent on education.
- II) Inflation is down, spending is up. In short, the economy is in good shape.

like clockwork with perfect regularity and precision; smoothly 极有规律性和准确性地; 顺利地

- I) Our bus service has been improved recently and the buses now run like clockwork.
- II) The Queen's holiday is arranged to go like clockwork, everything pre-planned to the minute.

take on begin to have a particular quality, appearance, etc. 呈现 (某种品质), 以……面貌出现

- I) These insects can take on the color of their surroundings.
- II) His writing took on a feverish intensity when he was diagnosed with cancer.

under arrest kept by the police 被捕, 在押

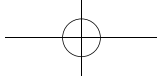
- I) A drug dealer who controlled a gang of 16 people was under arrest last night.
- II) The detectives approached the man and placed him under arrest.

without doubt used to emphasize an opinion 确实 (用于强调某个观点)

- I) He is without doubt someone who has reached the very top in his profession.
- II) Without doubt this was the most important relationship I developed at college.

Notes

- 1 The word “fatal” in the title means “with very serious negative effects (毁灭性的; 灾难性的)”. Since it also means “resulting in sb's death” and all Agatha Christie's detective stories involve deaths, we can appreciate the writer's good choice of the word here. The word “attraction” means “the action or power of attracting (吸引力, 诱惑力)”.
- 2 The phrase “go away” here means “disappear or fade (变弱)”.
- 3 In this sentence the word “solve” means “find a solution to, an explanation of, or a way of dealing with sth.”, and the word “calm” is a noun meaning “peace”.
- 4 Here “bury one's head in sth.” means “focus one's attention on sth. and ignore what is going on around (埋头于)”. An idiomatic expression “bury one's head in the sand” means “ignore an unpleasant situation and hope it will stop if you do not think about it (逃避现实, 采取鸵鸟政策)”.
- 5 The word “whodunit” (for “why done it”) is built imitating the word “whodunit” meaning “a book or a film that appeals to people who



are interested in understanding why a crime is committed, in other words, the motives for a crime (以侦查或探讨犯罪动机为主题的犯罪动机小说或电影)”。

- 6 Here “affection for (sb. or sth.)” means “a warm gentle feeling of caring for or loving (sb. or sth.) (挚爱, 钟爱)”, and the word “school” means “a group of people that share an opinion or way of thinking about sth. (学派, 流派)”.

e.g. Let a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend (百花齐放, 百家争鸣).

- 7 这是一个倒装句, 主语是 Murder Mystery Weekends, are 是系动词, another sign 是表语, 后面的 of + how 引导的宾语从句修饰 another sign, 句末的 offered by hotels 是过去分词短语, 修饰 Murder Mystery Weekends.

8 board games: 棋盘游戏

- 9 In “221B Baker Street, London”, the letter “B” after the number “221” indicates that the house numbered 221 consists of more than one flat and Flat B is where Sherlock Holmes lives.

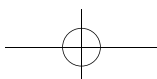
Exercises

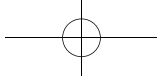
Comprehension and Vocabulary

- 1 Complete the following table with the information you get from the passage.

What Makes Agatha Christie's Books Appealing?

	Agatha Christie's Formula	Why Are Her Books Appealing?
Plot	All her books start with a 1) _____, forcing the reader to ask the question, “whodunit?” and all of them end with a 2) _____.	The fun for the reader is in following the 3) _____ hidden in the story and trying to 4) _____ before the writer reveals it.
Characters	The very 5) _____ Belgian, Hercule Poirot, the apparently 6) _____ little old lady, Miss Marple.	The characters are easily recognizable.
Setting	It is 7) _____ between the two World Wars, where close-knit communities live in quiet 8) _____ or rich city folk assemble for weekends at grand country houses.	The world she creates is 9) _____, which is one of the reasons why her books have not become 10) _____.
Ending	Once the crime in her books is solved and the murderer 11) _____, that is the end for him or her. There are no 12) _____ and the reader can sleep peacefully in his or her bed.	But the real world is not a 13) _____ place. It is for this reason that so many readers like to 14) _____ in an old-fashioned detective story with a safe and predictable ending.





2 Read the sentences carefully and choose the one that is closest in meaning to the sentence quoted from the passage.

- 1 The “Queen” of British murder mystery writing is, without doubt, Agatha Christie. (*Para. 1*)
- A Agatha Christie was the Queen when murder mystery novels were most popular in Britain.
 - B Agatha Christie is the most popular writer of murder stories in Britain.
 - C Agatha Christie is a famous character in British murder stories.
- 2 This world is ruled by a rigid social hierarchy. (*Para. 5*)
- A The characters in the story have strictly defined social status and duties.
 - B There is always a kingdom in a murder story, with kings and queens.
 - C In a murder story people from different social ranks never talk to each other.
- 3 When a murder is committed, there’s no shortage of suspects to be investigated. (*Para. 5*)
- A When investigating a murder case, there are not enough policemen.
 - B In a murder case, there are quite a few people who seem likely to be the murderer.
 - C Usually there are hardly any suspects involved in a murder case.
- 4 (So, once the crime in her books is solved and the murderer identified,) that is the end for him or her. (*Para. 7*)
- A ... the story ends right there.
 - B ... a new story begins.
 - C ... the murderer will be executed.
- 5 But for some people it can become an obsession. (*Para. 12*)
- A Some people are just crazy about detective stories and refuse to read anything else.
 - B Helping police to solve murder cases becomes a profession of some people.
 - C Some people become so involved with murder stories that they can’t focus on anything else.

3 Complete the following sentences with the proper form of the words given. Pay attention to the part of speech of the word you use.

1 popular

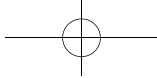
- A Vitamin C is _____ believed to prevent colds.
- B I was jealous of the football player’s _____ in school.
- C The scientist refuted (驳斥) the _____ misconceptions about nuclear power.

2 curious

- A Just out of _____, I wonder how much this apartment costs.
- B I’m _____ about this book she’s supposed to be writing.
- C She watched _____ as I opened the box.

3 mystery

- A The identity of the dead body remained a _____.
- B I received a _____ package in the mail.
- C I always look in the _____ section of the bookstore.



4 familiar

- A Jane was hired because of her _____ with computers.
- B I can't speak German fluently, but I'm somewhat _____ with the language.
- C Read the handbook to _____ yourself with our company policies.

5 predict

- A The weather forecaster's _____ were generally accurate.
- B Interest rates are a good _____ of housing sales.
- C It is difficult to _____ what the long-term effects of the accident will be.

6 profession

- A Jane was satisfied with her chosen _____.
- B Bob wanted the wiring in his house to be perfect, so he hired a _____ electrician.
- C Most health _____ agree that smoking is harmful.

7 vary

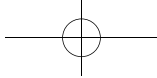
- A The electronics department had a wide _____ of radios.
- B The editor had _____ problems with the journalist's article.
- C My work schedule _____ depending on what time of the year it is.

8 detect

- A A device for smoke _____ is essential for every home.
- B The _____ specialized in missing-person cases.
- C The bird _____ the worm in the grass and dove down to get it.

Key to After-Class Reading

8	A	detection	B	detective	C	detected	
7	A	variety	B	various	C	varies	
6	A	profession	B	professional	C	professionals	
5	A	predictions	B	predictor	C	predict	
4	A	familiarity	B	familiar	C	familiarize	
3	A	mystery	B	mysterious	C	mystery	
2	A	curiosity	B	curious	C	curiously	
3	1	A	popularity	B	popular	C	
2	1	B	2	A	3	B	
		4	C	5	C		
11	1	identified / arrested	12	loose ends	13	safe	
6	harmless	7	England	8	villages	9	not quite a real world
1	murder	2	solution	3	clues	4	reach the correct solution
						5	confident
						10	dated
						14	bury their heads

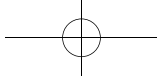


PART 3 Further Development

1 Vocabulary Review

Read the following sentences carefully and choose the one in which the italicized word or phrase has the same meaning as in the sentence quoted from the passages in the book as well as the online course.

- 1 A truly funny person has a joke for every occasion, and when one is told, that *triggers* an entire string of jokes from that person's memory bank.
 - A He pulled the *trigger*, the gun went off and I was hit in the chest.
 - B His theory held that political events in one place would *trigger* similar events in another.
 - C There are fears that the incident may act as a *trigger* for further violence in the capital.
- 2 A truly funny person has a joke for every occasion, and when one is told, that triggers an entire *string* of jokes from that person's memory bank.
 - A The manager interviewed a *string* of would-be employees.
 - B Steve needed some new *strings* for his guitar.
 - C The postal clerk tied my package with *string*.
- 3 This formula appeals to the strongest of human instincts—curiosity—and its popularity shows no sign of *going away*.
 - A If this pain doesn't *go away* soon, I will go mad.
 - B I'm tired of your constant complaint, *go away* and leave me in peace.
 - C Are you *going away* this summer?
- 4 Modern writers are more interested in understanding the criminal's mind and what *drives* a person to kill.
 - A I learned to *drive* when I was 17.
 - B The dog had *driven* the sheep into one corner of the field.
 - C It was hunger that *drove* them to steal the bread.
- 5 But Britain's affection for what the Americans call the "cosy" *school* of crime fiction has not died.
 - A After two years of medical *school*, I thought I knew everything.
 - B Her work has been greatly influenced by the Impressionist *school* of painting.
 - C It takes a lot of patience to *school* a dog.
- 6 ... there is a range of popular *board* games and computer games to test your powers of detection.
 - A In the nursing home she will have to pay for room and *board*.
 - B I'll check the departure *board* for train times.
 - C He walked over to the window and stared down at the chess *board*.
- 7 I saw a television *commercial* in which two guys began tossing cans of frozen orange juice back and forth in a juggling pattern.
 - A This property is suitable for domestic or *commercial* use.
 - B She ended up doing *commercials*, which ironically revived her acting career.
 - C I used to like their music, but they've become very *commercial*.



- 8 Even though I *dropped* a lot of balls at first, I was amazed how easily I caught on.
- A She *dropped* the tray with a crash.
 - B He *dropped* his voice and glanced round at the door.
 - C The proposal was *dropped* after opposition from civil liberties groups.
- 9 I bought a set of juggling *clubs*, and my parents bought me a set of juggling rings.
- A I've just joined the local tennis *club*.
 - B I still have four *clubs* and two hearts in my hand.
 - C A man broke into her house and threatened to beat her with a *club*.
- 10 Two days before Christmas, as people *streamed* into the auditorium, there I was, juggling on a small stage at one side of the hall.
- A There was bright sunlight *streaming* through the windows.
 - B She came in, rain *streaming* from her clothes and hair.
 - C Red Cross officials estimate that 20,000 refugees *streamed* into the city last week.

2 Competing for Tourists

You are the manager of a recreation center and are competing with other recreation centers in order to attract groups of foreign tourists on a regular basis. The tourists are young couples with or without a child. They would spend about one week at your center. Describe the facilities available that make your center particularly attractive and the activities you can arrange for the tourists. Work in groups to design a fun-packed week at your recreation center.

Examples:

- tours to places of interest
- tours to local schools, market, community centers
- arts tours
- discovering food fun
- classes of Chinese calligraphy (书法), medicine and acupuncture (针灸)
- childcare
- medical center
- sports facilities

3 Trying to Be the Most Entertaining Group

Work in groups to prepare something that will entertain or amuse your classmates, for example: a joke, riddle, song, magic trick, mime (哑剧), skit (滑稽短剧), etc. Present what your group has prepared for the class. Then vote for the most entertaining group.

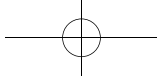
Example:

A Magic Trick

The Magnetic Knife —A common table knife magnetically clings to your hands!

REQUIREMENTS: One table knife

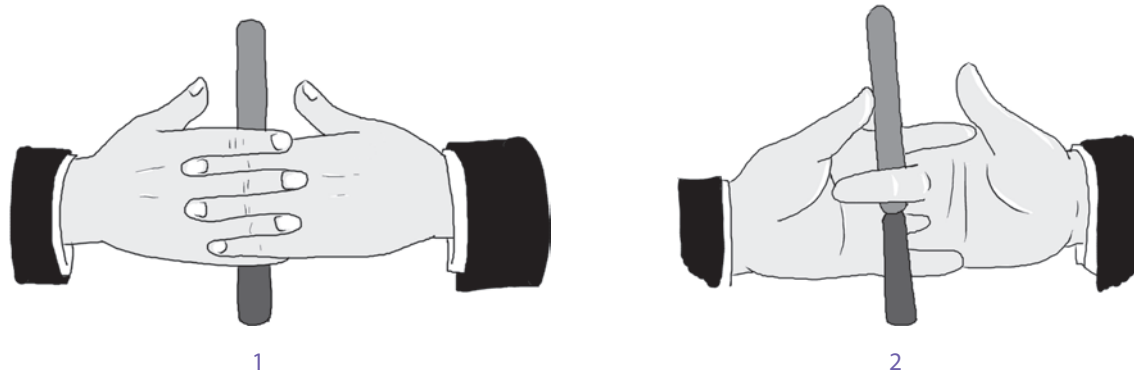
A magician should be able to perform magic anywhere he goes! This one is good for the dinner table. Interweave your fingers as in Picture 1, but don't pick up the knife yet. When you interweave your fingers,



secretly leave the middle finger of one hand loose (Picture 2). If you arrange your fingers right, no one will be able to tell one finger is loose when looking at your hands from the other side!

Now, pick up a knife from the table by secretly placing it behind the finger as shown, but hold your thumbs as though they were keeping the knife in place.

Slowly, with a look of great concentration, release your grip on the knife with your thumbs. It will seem as if the knife is magnetically attached to your palms! After a few moments, drop the knife, and allow the knife and your hands to be examined. It's magic!



4 Week-Long Holiday Project

With the coming week-long holiday, the College Student Union is offering grants up to 2,000 yuan for students' participation in any feasible projects that will use their academic knowledge and bring certain kinds of profit. Students are encouraged to apply for the grants in groups of five. Discuss with your group members about your plan and come up with a written application letter which should include at least: 1) name of your project; 2) people involved and their responsibilities; 3) project target; 4) research methods and steps; 5) budget; 6) further actions.

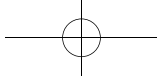
5 Racking Your Brains

Work in pairs to solve the following riddles.

- 1 What animal carries two hills on its back?
- 2 What goes up but never comes down?
- 3 What gets wet as it dries?
- 4 A bird am I and a male,*
On my head there is a crown,
With many coins on my tail.
- 5 The longer it stands, the lower it grows.
- 6 What's the best way to catch a fish?

***Note:**

The normal order of the line is "I am a bird and a male."



PART 4 Translation and Writing

1 Knowing About Translation

英语长句的翻译(1)——概述

英语重形合，句子结构可以借助各种连接手段加以扩展和组合，从而构成复杂的长句。这类长句可由若干分句、子句、多种短语及词组等构成。而汉语重意合，连词运用得比较少，结构较为自由，以短句居多。因此正确处理英语长句的翻译是确保译文忠实、通顺的重要环节。

1. 英语长句的翻译步骤

英语句子虽然较长，但一般都遵循一定的基本结构。翻译时，可以按照以下步骤进行：

1.1 句法分析

英译汉时，首先需要理清原文的基本句法结构，并且判断出句子的类型，是简单句、并列句、复合句还是并列复合句，并找出主语和谓语，然后判断出各种修饰成分之间的关系以及句中代词所指代的对象。

1.2 语言表达

可将英语长句中各个部分分别译出，并根据汉语的特点，不拘泥于原文形式，对译文进行整合，确保译文的通顺和流畅。以本单元 In-Class Reading 中的两个句子为例：

1) Even when young (1), Blitzen would tease Grandma (2) by very selectively carrying one of her bedroom slippers into the living room (3) where Grandma sat in her favorite, comfortable chair (4).

此句的主句是 Blitzen would tease Grandma。第一部分 Even when young 是主句的时间状语，第三部分 by very selectively carrying one of her bedroom slippers into the living room 是方式状语，第四部分 where Grandma sat in her favorite, comfortable chair 是定语从句，修饰 living room。这四个部分译成汉语分别是：

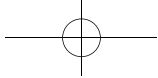
- (1) 即使在小时候
- (2) 布利茨恩戏弄外祖母
- (3) 故意把她卧室里的一只拖鞋叼到起居室
- (4) 外祖母坐在她最喜欢的那张舒适的椅子上

通过对四个部分的整合，按照汉语的时间顺序和逻辑关系，此句可译为：

布利茨恩即使在很小的时候就常常戏弄外祖母。当外祖母坐在起居室里她最喜欢的那张舒适的椅子上时，布利茨恩就故意把她卧室里的一只拖鞋叼到起居室。

2) Whether these stories are cartoons or jokes, told by a slapstick comedian or a cross-talking team (1), they appeal to people everywhere as funny stories (2) because they have a note of reality to them, and the unexpected punch line is quite funny (3).

此句的主句是 they appeal to people everywhere as funny stories。第一部分 Whether these stories are cartoons or jokes, told by a slapstick comedian or a cross-talking team 为让步状语从句，第三部分是由两个并列句组成的原因状语从句。这三个部分译成汉语分别是：



- (1) 无论这些故事是漫画还是笑话，是由演滑稽剧的喜剧演员说，还是搭档的相声演员讲
- (2) 作为有趣的故事，它们吸引每个地方的人
- (3) 因为它们贴近现实生活，而且其中那些出人意料的妙语也十分有趣

按照汉语的表达习惯对三个部分进行整合，并适当增添词语，此句可译为：

这些故事无论是漫画还是笑话，是由演滑稽剧的喜剧演员说，还是搭档的相声演员讲，都为各地的人民所喜爱。人们喜爱这些有趣的故事，因为它们贴近现实生活，并且其中那些出人意料的妙语也十分有趣。

2. 英语长句的翻译方法

2.1 原序译法：

某些英语长句所表达的事件或动作是按照时间或逻辑关系排列的，且语序和汉语基本相同，在翻译时可以按照原文语序翻译，这称为原序译法。例如：

- 1) As I got better, I began to add tricks, tossing the balls so that one went over the top of the others, or under the others, or I bounced one off my head or elbow and still kept the pattern going.

随着技艺日趋熟练，我开始加上花样：抛球时把一个球抛到其他球的上方，或者其他球的下方，或者我让一个球弹在我的头上或者臂肘上，并继续按原来的方式抛球。

- 2) Then five years later, when I was 21, my mother called me aside one day during the Christmas season and said, “Dan, how would you like to juggle for the Salvation Army dinner this year?”

五年之后，当我 21 岁时，在圣诞节期间的一天，母亲把我叫到一边说：“丹，你愿不愿给今年救世军（基督教的一个教派）的晚宴表演杂耍？”

2.2 换序译法

某些英语长句在叙述两个或两个以上的动作或事件时，其先后顺序可能与汉语的表达习惯不一致，翻译时需要调整顺序，这称为换序译法。例如：

- 3) Or there are murder dinner parties, at which groups of friends get together to solve a crime over the dinner table, using specially prepared information about their character and their whereabouts.

或者举办“谋杀案侦破晚宴”：一群朋友聚在一起，吃饭时根据预先专门准备好的关于人物性格和行踪的线索破解一桩案件。

- 4) Forty-five minutes later I ended the performance with my final word of advice to the children: “If you want to succeed, at juggling or anything else, you have to keep trying. You can do it. Just never give up.”

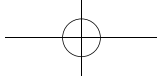
45 分钟以后，我给了孩子们一句忠告，以此作为节目的结束语：“不论是杂耍还是别的，如果你们想成功，就必须不断地努力。你们能做到，只是永远都不能放弃。”

2.3 拆分译法

把某些较长的英语句子进行分解，译成两个或两个以上的汉语句子，称为拆分译法。例如：

- 1) As one who has enjoyed humor since I first recognized it, I've made an attempt to explain and discuss humor with students in such diverse cultures as Latin America and China.

第一次意识到幽默的存在，我便喜欢上了它。我曾试图向学生们解释并与他们探讨幽默这个话题。这些学生文化差异很大，有来自拉丁美洲的，也有来自中国的。



- 2) First is the SETUP (or setting), next is the BODY (or story line), and these are followed by the PUNCH LINE (an unexpected or surprise ending) which will make the joke funny if it contains some humor.

第一部分是铺垫（即背景），接下来是主干部分（即故事情节），随后便是画龙点睛的结尾语（即一个出人意料或令人惊讶的结尾）。如果结尾语含有一定的幽默成分的话，这个笑话便会很有趣。

- 3) I like the somewhat mild story of a school teacher and a principal of a high school who are concerned because some boys and girls have been seen kissing on the school playground.

我喜欢那个关于一位中学教师和校长因看见学生在学校操场上接吻而感到担心的故事。故事并不过火。

2.4 重组法

指打破原文的层次和结构安排，按照汉语的行文习惯将原文内容进行重新组合的翻译方法。这种方法是对上述各种长句翻译方法的综合利用。例如：

- 1) Letters still are sent to “221B Baker Street, London”, home of Sherlock Holmes, perhaps the most famous fictional detective of all, asking for his help in solving a variety of mysteries.

所有小说里最有名的侦探也许就是夏洛克·福尔摩斯，他的住处是“伦敦贝克街221B号”。现在仍有信件寄到那里，要求他帮忙破解各种各样的谜案。

- 2) On my first job as sports editor for the Montpelier (Ohio) *Leader Enterprise*, I didn't get a lot of fan mail, so I was intrigued by a letter that was dropped on my desk one morning.

作为体育编辑，我最早为蒙彼利埃（俄亥俄州）的《企业导报》工作。当时我很少收到体育迷的来信。因此，一天早晨放在我桌上的一封来信引起了我的好奇心。

2 Translation Practice

Translate the following paragraphs into Chinese.

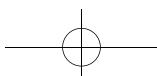
This elderly, unmarried English lady was between 65 and 70 years of age when she made her first appearance in *The Murder at the Vicarage* in 1930. She appeared in 12 novels and 20 short stories over a period of 41 years—making her quite elderly by her last case!

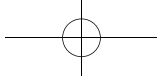
In appearance, Miss Marple is a tall, thin woman with a pink, wrinkled face, pale blue eyes and snowy white hair which she wears piled upon her head in an old-fashioned manner. Her harmless appearance, meandering conversation¹ and ever-present knitting needles often mislead people into underestimating her as simply a “dithering² old maid”. Those who really know her recognize that she is a sharp observer of human nature with “an uncanny³ talent of being always right”.

Despite a lifetime spent in the seemingly dull St. Mary Mead, Miss Marple is quite worldly in her recognition and acceptance that evil is all around us. As she often points out, her village and its environs provide examples of every character trait and evil in human nature that can be found in big cities. Thus, her method of detection consists in finding parallels between life and people in St. Mary Mead and happenings in the outside world.

Notes:

- 1 **meandering conversation:** 冗长的对话
 2 **dither:** keep being unable to make a final decision about sth. 犹豫
 3 **uncanny:** very strange and difficult to explain 怪异的，不可思议的





3 Writing

Write a composition on either of the following topics.

- 1 My Favorite Pastime
- 2 How People Spend Their Leisure Time

Words and expressions you may use

relaxation	entertainment	illusion	definitely	limited	appeal to
professional	entertaining	laughter	in advance	require	alternative
popularity	attraction	universal	take one's mind away		

Blank writing area with horizontal dotted lines for text entry.