Preface

For students who study Chinese as a foreign language, it's crucial for them to enlarge the scope of their reading to improve their comprehension skills. The "Rainbow Bridge" Graded Chinese Reader series is designed to provide a collection of interesting and useful Chinese reading materials. This series grades each volume by its vocabulary level and brings the learners into every scene through vivid storytelling. The series has the following features:

I. A gradual approach by grading the volumes based on vocabulary levels. We have consulted the New HSK Vocabulary (2012 Revised Edition), the *Graded Chinese Syllables, Characters and Words for the Application of Teaching Chinese to the Speakers of Other Languages (National Standard)* and the 1500 Commonly Used High Frequency Chinese Vocabulary, along with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) to design the "Rainbow Bridge" vocabulary grading standard. The series is divided into seven levels (Starter*, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6) for students at different stages in their Chinese education to choose from. For each level, new words are no more than 20% of the vocabulary amount as specified in the corresponding HSK and CEFR levels.

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*   Represented by "S" on the back cover.

As the levels progress, the passage length will in turn increase. The following table indicates the corresponding "Rainbow Bridge" level, HSK and CEFR levels, the vocabulary amount, and number of characters.

Level	Starter	1	2	3	4	5	6
HSK/ CEFR Level	HSK1 CEFR A1	HSK1-2 CEFR A1-A2	HSK2-3 CEFR A2-B1	HSK3 CEFR A2-B1	HSK3-4 CEFR B1	HSK4 CEFR B1-B2	HSK5 CEFR B2-C1
Vocabulary	150	300	500	750	1000	1500	2500
Characters	1000	2500	5000	7500	10,000	15,000	25,000

II. Intriguing stories on various themes. The series features engaging stories known for their twists and turns as well as deeply touching plots. The readers will find it a joyful experience to read the stories. The topics are selected from Chinese mythology, legends, folklore, literary classics, biographies of renowned people and historical tales. Such widely ranged topics would exert an invisible, yet formative, influence on readers' understanding of Chinese culture and history.

III. Reasonably structured and easy to use. For each volume of the "Rainbow Bridge" series, apart from a Chinese story, we also provide an introduction to the main characters in Chinese and English, new words with English explanations and sample sentences, and an English translation of the story, followed by comprehension exercises and a vocabulary list to help users read and understand the story and improve their Chinese reading skills. The exercises are mainly presented as objective questions that take on various forms with moderate difficulty. Moreover, keys to the exercises are also provided. The series can be used

by teachers in class or by students for self-study.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about the series, please email us at liuxiaolin@sinolingua.com.cn. You can also exchange ideas with us via our WeChat account: CHQRainbowBridge. This account will provide updates on the series along with Chinese reading materials and cultural tips.

Han Ying and Liu Xiaolin

主要人物介绍
Main Characters in the Story

梁山伯 (Liáng Shānbó)：男，祝英台的同学和恋人。
Liang Shanbo: Male, Zhu Yingtai's classmate and love.

祝英台 (Zhù Yīngtái)：女，梁山伯的同学和恋人。
Zhu Yingtai: Female, Liang Shanbo's classmate and love.

祝员外 (Zhù Yuánwài)：祝英台的父亲。
Squire Zhu: Zhu Yingtai's father.

银　心 (Yínxīn)：祝英台的丫环。
Yinxin: Zhu Yingtai's servant girl.

四　九 (Sìjiǔ)：梁山伯的书童。
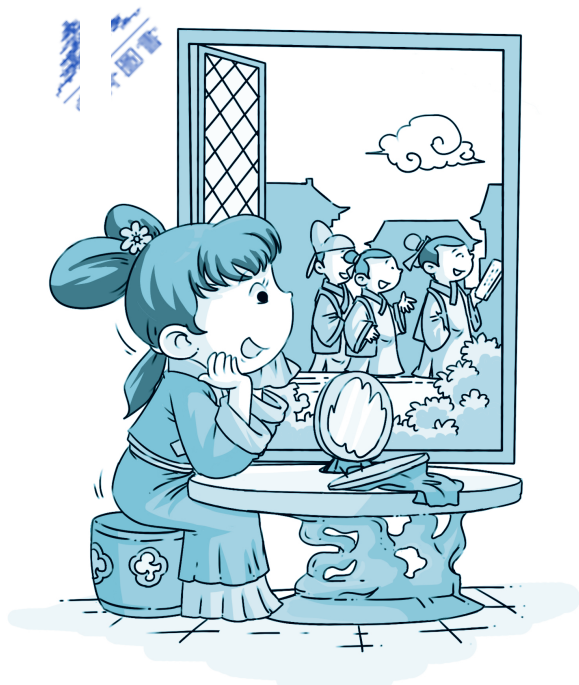Sijiu: Liang Shanbo's servant boy attending to his study.

马文才 (Mǎ Wéncái)：一位有钱人家的儿子，祝英台的父亲做主，想要她嫁的人。
Ma Wencai: The son of a wealthy family whom Zhu Yingtai's father forced her to marry.

梁山伯与祝英台

① 聪明 (cōngmíng) *adj.* clever, intelligent e.g., 这个女孩儿很聪明，一学就会。

　　从前有个姓祝的有钱人，大家都叫他祝员外，他有一个女儿叫祝英台。祝英台不仅长得漂亮，而且还很聪明①。她很喜欢读书写字，但是那时候，女孩子是不能出去上学读书的。英台每天坐在自己房

Butterfly Lovers

Long ago, there was a wealthy man whose family name was Zhu. People addressed him as Squire Zhu. He had a daughter, Zhu Yingtai, who was both beautiful and intelligent. She loved reading and writing. However, back in that time, girls were forbidden to seek an education at school, so Yingtai would sit by her window and look at the students passing by. Her mind wanted to fly out of the window to join them.

She wondered why girls had to stay in the house. Why couldn't she go to school? She called Yinxin, her servant girl, over. The two of them came up with a good idea—she would dress up as a man and go to school in a place far from home.

On that very day, Yingtai dressed up as a man and Yinxin dressed up as a servant boy. The two of them went to see Yingtai's parents. Her parents were having tea at the hall, then they saw a man and his servant boy approached and addressed them. They quickly rose and asked the man's name.

Yingtai was very glad that her parents didn't recognize her through her disguise. She took off the man's clothes and the other disguise. She addressed her parents again. They were surprised to see their own daughter. Her father said angrily, "A girl should behave like a girl—staying in her own room! A girl shouldn't step out of the gate, not to mention dress like this!"

一、选择题。 Choose the correct answer.

1. 梁山伯跟祝英台是什么关系？（　　　）

　　A. 父女　　　　B. 兄妹　　　C. 兄弟　　　D. 恋人

2. 祝英台的丫环名字叫什么？（　　　）

　　A. 四九　　　　B. 很心　　　C. 银心　　　D. 狠心

3. 英台把自己打扮成一个男子，把丫环打扮成什么？（　　　）

　　A. 老师　　　　B. 书童　　　C. 员外　　　D. 书生

4. 看到打扮成男人的英台，她的父母一开始怎么样？（　　　）

　　A. 没有认出来　　　　　B. 认出来了

　　C. 很高兴　　　　　　　D. 想到了

5. 英台想打扮成男人去哪里上学？（　　　）

　　A. 上海　　　B. 杭州　　　C. 广州　　　D. 梅州

6. 祝英台和梁山伯是在哪儿结拜成兄弟的？（　　　）

　　A. 学校里　　　B. 家里　　　C. 亭子里　　D. 大树下

7. 英台在学校里学习了几年？（　　　）

　　A. 一年　　　B. 两年　　　C. 三年　　　D. 四年

8. 祝英台和梁山伯的床中间放着什么东西？（　　　）

　　A. 两把椅子　B. 两个书柜　C. 两张桌子　D. 两个书箱

9. 书箱上还放了什么？（　　　）

    A. 一盆花　　　　　　B. 一盆水

    C. 一个杯子　　　　　D. 一个瓶子

10. 祝英台回家以前，交给师母一个什么东西？（　　　）

    A. 一把扇子　　　　　B. 一条手绢

    C. 一幅画儿　　　　　D. 两只蝴蝶

二、判断题：请根据故事内容判断下列说法是否正确，如果正确请标"T"，不正确请标"F"。

Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. 祝英台的父亲名叫"祝员外"。　　　　　　　　（　　　）

2. 祝英台的丫环名叫"银心"。　　　　　　　　　（　　　）

3. 男扮女装去外地上学这个主意是祝英台和丫环一起想出

   来的。　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　（　　　）

4. 祝英台比梁山伯大两岁。　　　　　　　　　　（　　　）

5. 梁山伯和祝英台在学校里是同桌，也是同屋。　（　　　）

6. 师母很关心祝英台，像对自己的女儿一样爱她。（　　　）

7. 三年以后，祝英台的母亲生病了，她父亲叫她回去。（　　　）

8. 祝英台有一个妹妹，跟她长得一模一样。　　　（　　　）

9. 祝英台的父亲觉得女孩子不应该自己找男人。　（　　　）

练习题答案 Keys to the exercises

一、选择题
1. D　　2. C　　3. B　　4. A　　5. B
6. C　　7. C　　8. D　　9. B　　10. A

二、判断题：请根据故事内容判断下列说法是否正确，
如果正确请标"T"，不正确请标"F"
1. F　　2. T　　3. T　　4. F　　5. T
6. T　　7. F　　8. F　　9. T　　10. T

三、选择填空
1. C　　E　　B　　D　　F　　A
2. C　　B　　F　　D　　A　　E
3. B　　C　　A　　F　　E　　D
4. C　　D　　B　　E　　F　　A
5. B　　E　　D　　F　　A　　C

四、连线题
1. A-c, B-d, C-a, D-e, E-b
2. A-c, B-d, C-a, D-e, E-b

五、请根据故事内容给下列句子排列顺序
C-A-D-B-G-H-F-E

词汇表
Vocabulary List

挨（着）	v.	āi(zhe)	be next to, be close to
办法	n.	bànfǎ	method, means, way
窗户	n.	chuānghu	window
床	n.	chuáng	bed
吹吹打打	v.	chuīchuīdǎdǎ	beat drums and blow trumpets
聪明	adj.	cōngmíng	clever, intelligent
打扮	v.	dǎban	dress up, make up
大厅	n.	dàtīng	hall, lobby
呆头鹅	n.	dāitóu'é	leatherhead
鹅	n.	é	goose
罚	v.	fá	punish, penalize
坟墓	n.	fénmù	grave, tomb
告别	v.	gàobié	bid farewell to
公	adj.	gōng	male
合（上）	v.	hé(shàng)	close
河	n.	hé	river
蝴蝶	n.	húdié	butterfly
互相	adv.	hùxiāng	each other
花轿	n.	huājiào	bride's sedan
交（给）	v.	jiāo(gěi)	hand over, deliver
结拜	v.	jiébài	become sworn brothers or sisters
课桌	n.	kèzhuō	desk, (school) table
老实	adj.	lǎoshi	honest, naive
礼物	n.	lǐwù	gift, present
埋	v.	mái	bury
母	adj.	mǔ	female
闹	v.	nào	make a noise, cry or scream
盆	n.	pén	basin, pot
亲（弟弟）	adj.	qīn(dìdi)	blood/biological (younger brother)