

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.

* 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

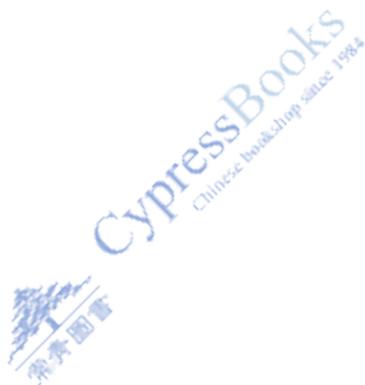
II. Intriguing stories on various themes. The series features engaging stories known for their twists and turns as well as deeply touching plots. The readers will find it a joyful experience to read the stories. The topics are selected from Chinese mythology, legends, folklore, literary classics, biographies 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

Main Characters of the Story

刘兰芝 (Liú Lánzhī): 焦仲卿的妻子，漂亮可爱又有才能。

Liu Lanzhi: The pretty and talented wife of Jiao Zhongqing.

焦仲卿 (Jiāo Zhòngqīng): 刘兰芝的丈夫，年轻上进的小官员。

Jiao Zhongqing: A young and ambitious petty official, husband of Liu Lanzhi.

焦母 (Jiāo mǔ): 性格暴躁，非常讨厌刘兰芝。

Mother of Jiao Zhongqing: She is hot-tempered and dislikes Liu Lanzhi very much.

刘兄 (Liú xiōng): 趋炎附势，冷酷无情。

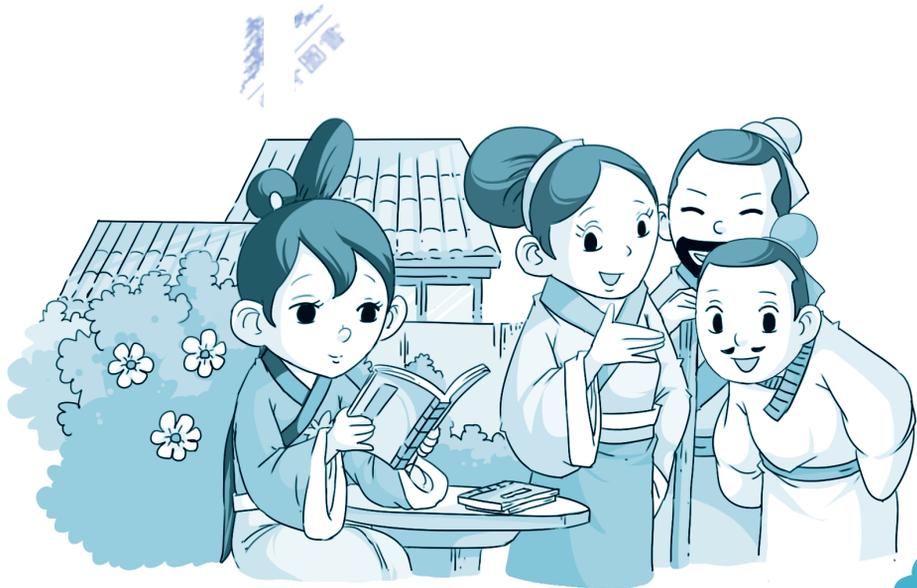
Brother of Liu Lanzhi: A snobbish and cold-hearted person.

刘母 (Liú mǔ): 跟刘兰芝的哥哥住在一起，很爱女儿刘兰芝。

Mother of Liu Lanzhi: She lives with her son and loves her daughter dearly.

焦仲卿与刘兰芝

一千多年前，中国有一个漂亮、可爱的小女孩儿，她的名字叫刘兰芝。远近的人们都认为她像花儿一样美。人们都很喜欢刘兰芝。他们常常说：“我要是有个像刘兰芝这么漂亮的女儿就好了！”



Zhongqing and Lanzhi, a Chinese Tragedy

Around a thousand years ago, there was a cute little girl named Liu Lanzhi in China. People from far and near agreed that she was as beautiful as a flower. They adored her and would often say, “If only I had a daughter as beautiful as her.”

Time went by quickly. Lanzhi grew into a teenager. Besides beauty and charm, she was also blessed with many talents. At around 13 or 14, she learned to make clothes by herself. At 15, she began to study music with a teacher her parents picked out. At 16, she could read better than her elder brother. She became more and more adorable. People often said, “If only I had a daughter as versatile as her.”

Another year passed quickly. Lanzhi turned 17. Every young man who had heard about Lanzhi wanted to marry her. They asked their parents to send matchmakers to Lanzhi's home with their marriage proposals. Jiao Zhongqing was one of them.

Lanzhi's parents were delighted to see the coming of matchmakers every day. They thought, “Now that so many men are fond of our daughter, she could get married soon. We shall pick a good family for her.” Whenever the matchmakers came, they would earnestly ask, “Is the man tall? What does he look like? Is he kind-hearted? What is his family like?” After the matchmakers had answered these questions, Lanzhi's parents would ask some more.



练习题 Reading exercises

一、选择题。 Choose the correct answer.

1. 焦仲卿是一个什么人? ()
A. 媒人 B. 小官员 C. 太守 D. 老师
2. 刘兰芝在她多大的时候嫁给了焦仲卿? ()
A. 十五岁 B. 十六岁 C. 十七岁 D. 十八岁
3. 刘兰芝和焦仲卿结婚几年了? ()
A. 半年 B. 一年 C. 两三年 D. 四五年
4. 谁不喜欢刘兰芝? ()
A. 刘兰芝的哥哥 B. 刘兰芝的母亲
C. 焦仲卿的妹妹 D. 焦仲卿的母亲
5. 刘兰芝离开焦仲卿家后, 去了哪里? ()
A. 焦仲卿的妹妹家 B. 刘兰芝的哥哥家
C. 刘兰芝的妹妹家 D. 焦仲卿的姐姐家
6. 刘兰芝的母亲看见刘兰芝被送回刘家, 她的心情是什么样的? ()
A. 很不高兴 B. 很开心 C. 很害怕 D. 很感动
7. 太守想让刘兰芝嫁给自己的第几个儿子? ()
A. 一 B. 三 C. 五 D. 七

8. 刘兰芝的哥哥听说刘兰芝不想嫁给太守的儿子，他的心情是什么样的？（ ）

- A. 很不高兴 B. 很开心 C. 很害怕 D. 很感动

9. 焦仲卿后来怎么样了？（ ）

- A. 跟刘兰芝跑了 B. 跟刘兰芝一起回家了
C. 跳水塘死了 D. 上吊了

10. 刘兰芝后来怎么样了？（ ）

- A. 跟焦仲卿跑了 B. 跟焦仲卿一起回家了
C. 跳水塘死了 D. 上吊了

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. 刘兰芝不只漂亮可爱，还很有才能。 ()
2. 刘兰芝十几岁就学会了音乐。 ()
3. 焦仲卿的母亲很喜欢刘兰芝。 ()
4. 刘兰芝的哥哥想让刘兰芝等着焦仲卿来接她。 ()
5. 太守送了刘兰芝的家人很多礼物。 ()
6. 刘兰芝爱焦仲卿，也爱太守的儿子。 ()
7. 刘兰芝要嫁给太守的儿子了，她非常开心。 ()



练习题答案 Keys to the exercises

一、选择题

1. B 2. C 3. C 4. D 5. B
6. A 7. C 8. A 9. D 10. C

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. T 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. T
6. F 7. F 8. F 9. T 10. F

三、选择填空

1. E C B A F D
2. B C D E F A
3. E B A C F D

四、连线题

1. A-c, B-d, C-b, D-e, E-a 2. A-c, B-b, C-d, D-e, E-a

五、请根据故事内容给下列句子排列顺序

D-B-A-E-F-G-C

词汇表 Vocabulary List

笨	<i>adj.</i>	bèn	stupid
不孝	<i>v.</i>	búxiào	be unfilial
曾经	<i>adv.</i>	céngjīng	once
打扮	<i>v.</i>	dǎban	dress up
到底	<i>adv.</i>	dàodǐ	on earth
短暂	<i>adj.</i>	duǎnzàn	brief, transient
夫妻	<i>n.</i>	fūqī	husband and wife, couple
赶	<i>v.</i>	gǎn	drive away
怪	<i>v.</i>	guài	blame
官员	<i>n.</i>	guānyuán	official
规矩	<i>n.</i>	guīju	(good) manners
害怕	<i>v.</i>	hàipà	fear
合葬	<i>v.</i>	hézáng	bury in one grave
嫁	<i>v.</i>	jià	(of women) marry
健康	<i>adj.</i>	jiànkāng	healthy
接	<i>v.</i>	jiē	pick up
礼物	<i>n.</i>	lǐwù	gift
邻居	<i>n.</i>	línjū	neighbor
媒人	<i>n.</i>	méiren	matchmaker
墓地	<i>n.</i>	mùdì	grave
脾气	<i>n.</i>	píqì	temper
骑	<i>v.</i>	qí	ride
强迫	<i>v.</i>	qiǎngpò	force, compel
娶	<i>v.</i>	qǔ	(of men) marry

劝	<i>v.</i>	quàn	persuade
山珍海味		shānzhēn-hǎiwèi	idiom delicacies of every kind
上吊	<i>v.</i>	shàngè diào	hang oneself
深	<i>adj.</i>	shēn	deep
失去	<i>v.</i>	shīqù	lose
水塘	<i>n.</i>	shuǐtáng	pool
死亡	<i>n.</i>	sǐwáng	death
太守	<i>n.</i>	tàishǒu	prefect, a position in ancient China equivalent to current provincial governor.
小鸟	<i>n.</i>	xiǎo niǎo	little bird
心愿	<i>n.</i>	xīnyuàn	wish
休	<i>v.</i>	xiū	divorce (one's wife)
意义	<i>n.</i>	yìyì	meaning
永恒	<i>adj.</i>	yǒnghéng	eternal
有钱有势		yǒu qián yǒu shì	rich and powerful
院子	<i>n.</i>	yuànzi	courtyard
祝贺	<i>v.</i>	zhùhè	congratulate