

# 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
<b>HSK/ CEFR Level</b>	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
<b>Vocabulary</b>	150	300	500	750	1000	1500	2500
<b>Characters</b>	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](mailto: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



## 主要人物和地点

### Main Characters and Places

沉香 (Chénxiāng): 神仙三圣母和凡人刘彦昌的儿子。

Chenxiang: The Son of Saint Mother, a goddess, and Liu Yanchang, a mortal.

三圣母 (Sānshèngmǔ): 华山上的女神，凡人刘彦昌的妻子，沉香的妈妈。

Sanshengmu (Saint Mother): The goddess who lived on Mount Hua. She was Liu Yanchang's wife and Chenxiang's mother.

刘彦昌 (Liú Yànchāng): 读书人，三圣母的丈夫，沉香的爸爸。

Liu Yanchang: A scholar who was the husband of Saint Mother and the father of Chenxiang.

二郎神 (Èrlángshén): 神仙，三圣母的哥哥。他的额头中间多了一只眼睛。

Erlang Shen (God Erlang): An immortal and brother of Saint Mother. He had a third eye in the middle of his forehead.

霹雳大仙 (Pīlì Dàxiān): 神仙，沉香的师父。武功高强。

Pili Daxian (God of Thunder): An immortal with remarkable kung fu skills. He was the master of Chenxiang.

华山 (Huà Shān): 在中国的西北边，陕西省境内。五岳之一。

Mount Hua: Located in Shaanxi Province in China's northwest, Mount Hua is one of the five sacred mountains in China.

## 宝莲灯<sup>①</sup>

① 宝莲灯  
(bǎoliándēng) *n.*  
magical lotus lantern

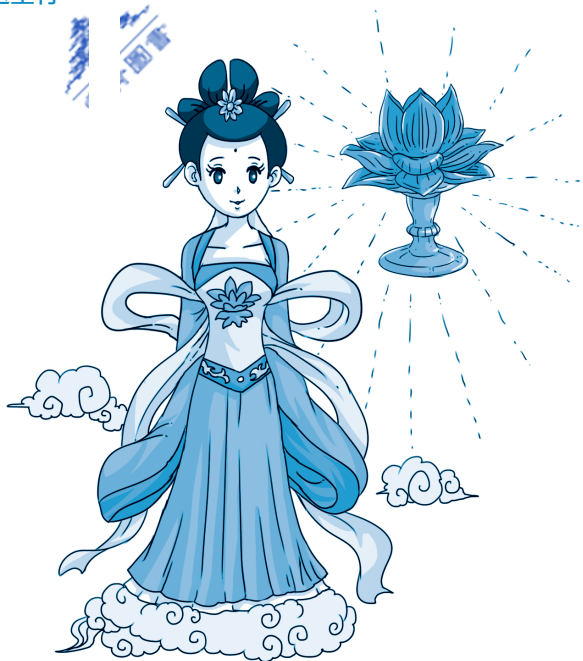
② 凡人(fánrén)  
*n.* mortal  
e.g., 凡人快乐地生活在大地上。

③ 神仙(shénniān)  
*n.* immortal  
e.g., 神仙和凡人是不可以生活在一起的。

④ 盏(zhǎn) *m.w.*  
(for lamps)  
e.g., 你看! 这里有一盏灯。

很多年以前，大地上不只生活着凡人<sup>②</sup>，还生活着神仙<sup>③</sup>。在华山上，就生活着一个神仙，大家都叫她三圣母。三圣母不仅长得漂亮，还很喜欢帮助人们，人们都很喜欢她。

三圣母有一盏<sup>④</sup>宝莲



## Magical Lotus Lantern

Many years ago, human beings were not alone on earth since immortals also resided here. Sanshengmu, also known as Saint Mother, was a beautiful goddess who lived on Mount Hua. She was always eager to help, and the people liked her very much.

Saint Mother had a magical lotus lantern which looked like a lotus flower. The lantern became extremely powerful once it glowed. It had the power to defeat both mortals and immortals. Using the power of the lotus lantern, Saint Mother helped those in need.

Saint Mother had an elder brother, God Erlang. He was very selfish. Knowing the enormous power of the lotus lantern, he wanted to take it for himself. He tried many times over a long period, but still couldn't get it.

One day, a scholar named Liu Yanchang passed by Mount Hua. Liu fell in love with Saint Mother at first sight. Saint Mother also grew very fond of Liu as the days passed by because he was such a nice person, not to mention he was tall and handsome. After some time, they started to live together.

One year after that, Saint Mother gave birth to a lovely baby boy. They named him Chenxiang. Saint Mother found joy in each day. She said to herself, "I have a husband who loves me so dearly and a son who is so adorable. I'm a very happy



## 练习题 Reading exercises

### 一、选择题。 Choose the correct answer.

1. 沉香姓什么? ( )

- A. 沉      B. 刘      C. 二      D. 三

2. 沉香家里有几个人? ( )

- A. 一个      B. 两个      C. 三个      D. 四个

3. 二郎神是三圣母的什么人? ( )

- A. 爸爸      B. 儿子      C. 哥哥      D. 丈夫

4. 和刘彦昌在一起, 三圣母觉得怎么样? ( )

- A. 很快乐      B. 很生气      C. 很难过      D. 很无聊

5. 宝莲灯看起来像什么一样? ( )

- A. 太阳      B. 月亮      C. 雪花      D. 莲花

6. 小朋友们说沉香是没妈的孩子, 沉香觉得怎么样? ( )

- A. 难过      B. 高兴      C. 认真      D. 幸福

7. 沉香的梦里没有什么? ( )

- A. 妈妈      B. 爸爸      C. 小鱼      D. 小船

8. 在沉香几岁的时候, 爸爸告诉了他妈妈的事情? ( )

- A. 五岁      B. 七岁      C. 八岁      D. 十岁

9. 沉香跟着霹雳大仙学习了几年的武功? ( )

- A. 六年      B. 八年      C. 十年      D. 三年

10. 沉香得到了什么的力量之后, 才救出了妈妈? ( )

- A. 开山神斧      B. 二郎神  
C. 霹雳大仙      D. 宝莲灯

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. 人们非常喜欢三圣母。 ( )
2. 三圣母和刘彦昌一起住在华山下。 ( )
3. 二郎神很关心三圣母, 他对她很好。 ( )
4. 二郎神先抢走了宝莲灯, 然后在三圣母家放了一把火。 ( )
5. 三圣母被二郎神压在了华山下。 ( )
6. 沉香和爸爸一起去华山救妈妈。 ( )
7. 沉香还没救出妈妈, 就离开了这个世界。 ( )
8. 沉香为了救妈妈而去学习武功。 ( )
9. 沉香最后打跑了二郎神, 拿到了宝莲灯。 ( )
10. 沉香救出妈妈以后, 回去和师父霹雳大仙一起生活了。 ( )





## 练习题答案 Keys to the exercises

### 一、选择题

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

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

### 三、选择填空题

1. C    F    B    A    D    E  
1. D    H    A    F    B    G    E    C  
1. E    D    A    B    C    A    F

### 四、连线题

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

### 五、请根据故事内容给下列句子排列顺序

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

## 词汇表 Vocabulary List

宝莲灯	<i>n.</i>	bǎoliándēng	magical lotus lantern
惩罚	<i>v.</i>	chéngfá	punish
发光	<i>v.</i>	fāguāng	shine, give out light
凡人	<i>n.</i>	fánrén	mortal
华山	<i>n.</i>	Huà Shān	Mount Hua
救火	<i>v.</i>	jiùhuǒ	put off a fire
开山神斧	<i>n.</i>	kāishān shénfǔ	sacred ax for cutting into a mountain
砍	<i>v.</i>	kǎn	cut, chop
泪	<i>n.</i>	lèi	tear
力量	<i>n.</i>	lìliàng	power, strength
莲花	<i>n.</i>	liánhuā	lotus
流	<i>v.</i>	liú	flow
梦	<i>n.</i>	mèng	dream
奇迹	<i>n.</i>	qíjì	miracle
强	<i>adj.</i>	qiáng	strong, powerful
抢	<i>v.</i>	qiǎng	snatch, grab
神仙	<i>n.</i>	shénxiān	immortal
生	<i>v.</i>	shēng	give birth to
师父	<i>n.</i>	shīfu	master, teacher
武功	<i>n.</i>	wǔgōng	kung fu, martial arts
像	<i>v.</i>	xiàng	be like, resemble
醒	<i>v.</i>	xǐng	wake up
血	<i>n.</i>	xuè	blood
压	<i>v.</i>	yā	press, weigh down
英俊	<i>adj.</i>	yīngjùn	handsome
盏	<i>m.w.</i>	zhǎn	(for lamps)
自私	<i>adj.</i>	zìsī	selfish