

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. 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.

* Represented by “S” on the back cover.

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.

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主要人物和地点

Main Characters and Places

文若虚 (Wén Ruòxū): 一个读书人, 经常遇到倒霉事, 人称“倒霉蛋”。

Wen Ruoxu: A young intellectual who often encountered bad luck, hence the nickname “bad luck guy”.

玛宝哈 (Mǎbǎohā): 波斯商人, 专门和海外商人兑换珍宝货物。

Marboh: A Persian merchant who often exchanged treasures and other commodities with overseas businessmen.

张乘运 (Zhāng Chéngyùn): 专门出海做生意的商人, 文若虚的好朋友。

Zhang Chengyun: A merchant who often went overseas to conduct business. He was a good friend of Wen Ruoxu.

苏州 (Sūzhōu): 江苏省的一个大城市。

Suzhou: A large city in Jiangsu Province.

北京 (Běijīng): 明朝时的首都, 也就是现在的北京。

Beijing: Capital of the Ming Dynasty, the current Beijing.

泉州 (Quánzhōu): 福建省的城市, 是很大的港口, 有很多外国商人。

Quanzhou: A large port city in Fujian Province, which has gathered many foreign merchants.

吉零国 (Jílíngguó): 海外的一个国家。

Chi Ling State: An ancient overseas country.

波斯 (Bōsī): 海外的一个国家, 一般认为是今天的伊朗。

Persia: An ancient overseas country, generally believed as present-day Iran.

倒霉蛋航海奇遇记

一、“倒霉蛋^①”文若虚

这个故事发生在中国的明朝^②。苏州有一个年轻人，名叫文若虚，他从小就很聪明，学什么都很快，不管是读书、画画儿，还是弹琴^③、下棋^④，都十分精通^⑤。他父亲是一个商人^⑥，比较有钱，所以他从来没

① 倒霉蛋 (dǎoméidàn) *n.*
bad luck guy
e.g., 他是一个倒霉蛋,
做什么事都不成功。

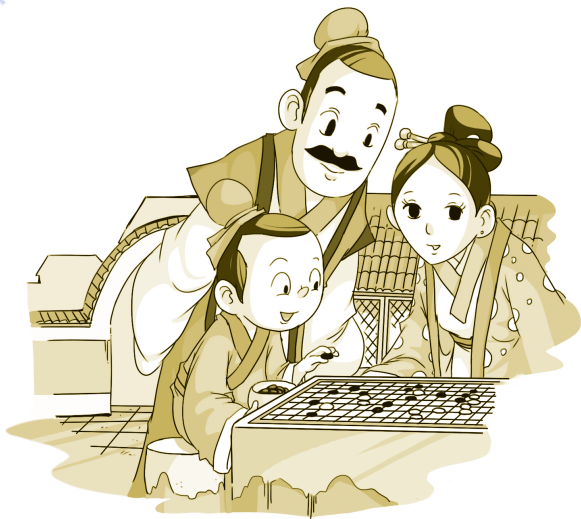
② 明朝 (Míngcháo) *n.*
Ming Dynasty
(1368-1644)
e.g., 明朝是古代的一个朝代。

③ 弹琴 (tánqín) *v.*
play the *guqin* or
piano
e.g., 他没事的时候会弹弹琴, 唱唱歌。

④ 下棋 (xiàqí) *v.*
play chess
e.g., 他从小就喜欢下棋。

⑤ 精通 (jīngtōng) *v.*
master, be well-versed in
e.g., 他从小就学习下棋, 非常精通。

⑥ 商人 (shāngrén) *n.*
businessman, merchant
e.g., 他是个商人, 经常要去别的城市。



Bad Luck Guy's Sea Adventures

I. Wen Ruoxu, the “Bad Luck Guy”

This story occurred in the Ming Dynasty of China. In the city of Suzhou, there was a young man named Wen Ruoxu. He was very smart since childhood and was quick at learning everything. Wen was adept at reading, painting, playing the *guzhen* and chess. His father was a rich merchant, so Wen never had money trouble and led a happy life.

When he became a teenager, his father called him over one day and said, “My son, since you have grown up, you should study hard and prepare for the imperial exams.” Back then, taking the imperial examinations was the only path to office. Wen accepted his father’s advice and began preparing for the exams. In the eyes of his classmates, he was the smartest among them and had the best test results, so they had no doubts that he would make it. Unfortunately, he failed several times, while almost all his classmates succeeded. “What bad luck I have! Perhaps I’m not suitable to be a scholar. I’d better try something else.” He comforted himself.

One day, a matchmaker arrived at Wen’s family to introduce him to a future wife. His parents were very glad and decided on a marriage date for the couple. Wen was also happy to hear the bride was very beautiful, and he was busy preparing for his wedding everyday. However, bad news came just one day



练习题 Reading exercises

一、选择题。 Choose the correct answer.

1. 下面哪个不是文若虚从小就精通的? ()
A. 画画儿 B. 下棋 C. 读书 D. 做生意
2. 下面哪些倒霉事不是文若虚遇到的? ()
A. 卖扇子赔钱 B. 考试不成功
C. 卖橘子赔钱 D. 未婚妻去世
3. 文若虚为什么跟张乘运出海? ()
A. 他想去赚钱 B. 他想去散散心
C. 他想去寻找鼉龙 D. 他想去买一些货物
4. 关于洞庭红橘子, 下面哪句话不正确? ()
A. 洞庭红在中国非常贵 B. 洞庭红会变成红色
C. 洞庭红非常好吃 D. 洞庭红一开始是绿色的
5. 下面哪种情况和小说中不一样? ()
A. 很多人来买文若虚的橘子
B. 文若虚把橘子都卖给了国王
C. 橘子很快就卖完了
D. 文若虚卖橘子赚了很多钱

6. 大船为什么停到了一座岛旁边? ()

- A. 岛上有很多人买东西
- B. 岛上有很多乌龟
- C. 遇到了暴风雨
- D. 岛上有很多橘子

7. 文若虚在岛上发现了什么? ()

- A. 一只大乌龟
- B. 一只鼉龙
- C. 一个大龟壳
- D. 很多人

8. 关于玛宝哈, 下面哪句不正确? ()

- A. 玛宝哈是波斯人
- B. 玛宝哈的汉语非常好
- C. 玛宝哈以前是文若虚的朋友
- D. 玛宝哈最后回到了波斯

9. 玛宝哈为什么要买文若虚的大龟壳? ()

- A. 龟壳里有夜明珠
- B. 龟壳可以做药材
- C. 龟壳很少见
- D. 龟壳来自波斯

10. 文若虚最后在哪个城市生活? ()

- A. 北京
- B. 泉州
- C. 苏州
- D. 广州



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. C 9. A 10. B

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

三、选择填空

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

四、请根据故事内容给下列句子排列顺序

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

五、思考题

(答案略)

词汇表 Vocabulary List

安慰	<i>v.</i>	ānwèi	console, comfort
岸	<i>n.</i>	àn	shore, bank
摆	<i>v.</i>	bǎi	serve, arrange
宝石	<i>n.</i>	bǎoshí	gem, precious stone
宝物	<i>n.</i>	bǎowù	treasure
笔	<i>m.w.</i>	bǐ	sum
表现	<i>v.</i>	biǎoxiàn	show, manifest
剥	<i>v.</i>	bāo	peel, shell
不知不觉	<i>idiom</i>	bùzhī- bùjué	unknowingly, unconsciously
步	<i>n.</i>	bù	step
财产	<i>n.</i>	cáichǎn	wealth, possession
潮湿	<i>adj.</i>	cháoashī	wet, damp
称赞	<i>v.</i>	chēngzàn	praise, commend
城墙	<i>n.</i>	chéng- qiáng	city wall
惩罚	<i>v.</i>	chéngfá	punish
崇拜	<i>v.</i>	chóngbài	worship, admire
出海	<i>v.</i>	chūhǎi	travel overseas
传来	<i>v.</i>	chuánlái	pass, transmit
吹牛	<i>v.</i>	chuīniú	brag, talk big
答应	<i>v.</i>	dāying	agree, consent
打击	<i>n.</i>	dǎjī	blow, hit
大海	<i>n.</i>	dàhǎi	sea
待	<i>v.</i>	dāi	stay
当官	<i>v.</i>	dāngguān	become an official, reach officialdom
岛	<i>n.</i>	dǎo	island
倒霉蛋	<i>n.</i>	dǎoméidàn	bad luck guy
瞪	<i>v.</i>	dèng	open one's eyes wide
递	<i>v.</i>	dì	pass, hand over