

The Ant and the Grasshopper



One summer day, a grasshopper hops into a field. He sings happily because it is a beautiful summer day. He sees an ant pass by. The ant is working hard. It is carrying some corn to its home.

“Why don’t you stay and chat with me?” asks the grasshopper. “That corn looks heavy. Why are you carrying it?”

“I’m saving food for the winter,” answers the ant. “I recommend that you do the same thing. Then, you will have plenty of food for the winter.”

“Winter?” says the grasshopper. “Why worry about that? We have lots of food right now. And winter is a long time away.”



grasshopper



ant

Stop & Think

Why does the ant work hard every day?

KEY WORDS

- **hop** to jump
- **recommend** to advise
- **gather** to collect
- **disappear** to vanish
- **look over** to look around
- **pass by** to go by
- **a long time away** far in the future
- **completely** entirely; totally
- **discover** to see; to realize
- **prepare for** to be ready for; to get ready for

The ant leaves the grasshopper. The ant works hard every day, so it gathers lots of food. After a while, the ant completely fills its house with food.

Meanwhile, the grasshopper stays in the field. But he does not work at all. Instead, he plays and sings every day.

Soon, summer turns to fall, and fall turns to winter. When the weather gets colder, the food starts to disappear. The grasshopper discovers that he has no food to eat. He looks over at the ant's house. The ant has plenty of food and a nice, warm house. The grasshopper realizes how foolish he was.

That winter, there is lots of snow. Later, when spring arrives, the ant comes out of its house. The ant had enough food during winter. Now, it is ready to start gathering food for the next winter. When the ant looks around the field, there is no sign of the grasshopper.

- *Moral: Work hard today to prepare for tomorrow.*

be ready for



Stop & Think

What does the grasshopper do every day?

CHECK UP

Choose the right words.

- 1 The ant _____ a lot of food for the winter. (gathers | eats)
- 2 In winter, the _____ has no food to eat. (grasshopper | ant)
- 3 The grasshopper realizes how _____ he was. (fun | foolish)
- 4 Is the grasshopper in the field in the next spring? (Yes | No)

GRAMMAR POINT

see + O(object) + V(verb)

- He **sees** an ant **pass** by.

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That winter, / there is / lots of snow. Later, / when spring arrives, / the ant comes out of its house. The ant had enough food / during winter. Now, / it is ready / to start gathering food / for the next winter. When the ant looks around the field, / there is / no sign of the grasshopper.

• *Moral: Work hard today / to prepare for tomorrow.*

- hop 跳 • pass by 經過 • carry 扛 • stay 留 • save 積存 • recommend 建議
- plenty of 足夠的 • a long time away 很遙遠(時間) • gather 收集
- completely 完全地 • meanwhile 同時 • get colder 變冷 • disappear 消失
- discover 發現 • look over 看到 • realize 明白 • foolish 愚蠢的
- be ready to ... 準備 • sign 蹤跡 • prepare for ... 為……做準備

CLOSE UP

- 1 **Why don’t you stay and chat with me?** 你何不留下來和我聊天呢？
〈Why don’t you ... ?〉是「你為什麼不去做……呢？」的意思，表建議或勸誘。
- 2 **plenty of food** 足夠的食物 / **lots of food** 很多食物 / **lots of snow** 很多雪
〈plenty of ...〉和〈lots of ...〉兩個都是「很多……」的意思。
- 3 **fills its house with food** 家裡堆滿了食物
〈fill ... with ...〉是「用……填滿……」的意思。
- 4 **it is ready to start gathering food** 開始要為下一個冬天收集食物
〈be ready to ...〉是「準備好要去做……」、「隨時都可以去做……」的意思。

螞蟻和蚱蜢



夏天的某一天 **one summer day**，一隻蚱蜢 **a grasshopper** 跳進田裡 **hop into a field**，因為那一天是一個美麗的夏日 **a beautiful summer day**，他很高興地唱著歌 **sing happily**，看到一隻螞蟻 **an ant** 經過 **pass by**，那隻螞蟻很辛勤地工作 **work hard**，扛著穀粒回家 **carry some corn to its home**。

「你何不留下來 **stay** 和我 **with me** 聊天 **chat** 呢？」蚱蜢問，「那顆穀粒 **that corn** 看起來很重 **look heavy**，你為什麼要扛著它呢？」

「我在為冬天 **for the winter** 積存食物 **save food**」螞蟻回答。「我建議你也這麼做 **do the same thing**，這樣，你才有足夠的食物 **have plenty of food** 可以過冬。」

「冬天？」蚱蜢說，「幹嘛 **why** 擔心那個 **worry about that**？我們現在 **right now** 有很多食物 **have lots of food** 啊，冬天還很遙遠 **a long time away**。」

螞蟻離開蚱蜢 **leave the grasshopper** 以後，每天 **every day** 辛勤地工作，所以他收集了很多食物 **gather lots of food**，過一陣子 **after a while**，螞蟻家裡堆滿了食物 **fill its house with food**。

同時 **meanwhile**，蚱蜢留在田野裡 **stay in the field**，但他完全沒工作，反而每天玩耍和唱歌 **play and sing**。

不久 **soon**，夏天變成秋天 **turn to fall**，秋天變成冬天 **turn to winter**，當天氣 **the weather** 變冷 **get colder**，食物 **the food** 也開始消失 **disappear** 了，蚱蜢這才發現 **discover** 他沒有食物可以吃 **have no food to eat**，他看到螞蟻的家 **look over at the ant's house**，螞蟻有很多食物，他的家又好又溫暖 **a nice, warm house**，蚱蜢明白了 **realize** 他之前有多愚蠢 **how foolish**。

那個冬天 **that winter** 下了很多雪 **lots of snow**，之後 **later**，當春天來臨 **spring arrives**，螞蟻走出他的家 **come out of its house**，冬天的時候 **during winter** 他有足夠的食物 **have enough food** 可以吃，現在他準備好要為下一個冬天 **for the next winter** 收集食物 **gather food** 了。螞蟻在田野間四處查看 **look around the field**，卻再也看不見蚱蜢的蹤跡 **no sign of the grasshopper** 了。

• 寓意：今日辛勤的工作是為明日作準備 **prepare for tomorrow**。

GRAMMAR POINT

see + 受詞 + 原形動詞：看到……做了……

⇒ 像 **see**（看）、**hear**（聽）這樣的感官動詞，受詞後要接原形動詞。

- He **sees** an ant **pass by**. 他看到一隻螞蟻經過。
- All the animals **heard** the hare **brag** many times. 所有動物都聽膩了兔子說的大話。

What Men Live By



shoemaker



hut



fret



naked

There was once a poor shoemaker named Simon. He had no house or land. He lived in a hut with his wife and children. One morning, he went to the village to buy some sheepskins for a winter coat. He had only three rubles, but he planned to visit some of his customers on the way. They owed him five rubles for work he had already done.

Simon visited several customers' houses, but he could not collect any money. He went to the store and asked if he could buy the sheepskins on credit. But the shopkeeper refused to give them to Simon.

Simon felt downhearted and started walking homeward. "Though I have no sheepskin coat, I don't care. I can live without a coat. Yet my wife will surely fret," he thought.

While he was walking home, he passed by a church

Stop & Think

Why couldn't Simon pay for the sheepskins?

KEY WORDS

- **on the way** while going somewhere
- **refuse** to turn down; to reject
- **homeward** toward home
- **robber** a thief
- **look back** to look behind oneself
- **owe** to have to pay money to
- **feel downhearted** to be sad; to be depressed
- **naked** having no clothes on
- **interfere** to get involved
- **frightened** scared

at the bend in the road. Simon saw something white behind the church. He did not know what it was. He came closer, and, to his surprise, it was a naked man. He was sitting against the church without any clothes on.



Suddenly, Simon felt afraid. “Robbers must have killed him and stolen his clothes. If I interfere, I will have a big problem,” Simon thought.

Simon continued walking, but when he looked back, he saw the man was moving. Simon felt more frightened.

“If I go there, he might kill me for my clothes. Even if he doesn’t attack me, what can I do for him?” thought Simon.

He ran down the road. But he suddenly stopped.



Stop & Think

What did Simon see behind the church?

CHECK UP True or false?

- 1 Simon had five rubles. _____
- 2 Simon wanted to buy some sheepskins. _____
- 3 There was a robber next to the church. _____
- 4 Simon was afraid of the naked man. _____

GRAMMAR POINT

though / if / even if

- **Though** I have no sheepskin coat, I don’t care.
- **If** I interfere, I will have a big problem.
- **Even if** he doesn’t attack me, what can I do for him? (even if = even though)

What Men Live By

There was once / a poor shoemaker / named Simon. He had no house or land. He lived in a hut / with his wife and children. One morning, / he went to the village / to buy some sheepskins / for a winter coat. He had only three rubles, / but he planned / to visit some of his customers / on the way. They **owed him five rubles** / for work / he had already done.

Simon visited several customers' houses, / but he could not collect any money. He went to the store / and asked if he could buy the sheepskins / on credit. But the shopkeeper refused / to give them to Simon.

Simon felt downhearted / and started walking homeward. "Though I have no sheepskin coat, / I don't care. I can live / without a coat. Yet my wife will surely fret," he thought.

While he was walking home, / he passed by a church / at the bend in the road. Simon saw something white / behind the church. He did not know / what it was. He came closer, / and, **to his surprise**, / it was a naked man. He was sitting against the church / without any clothes on.

Suddenly, / Simon felt afraid. "Robbers **must have killed him / and stolen his clothes**. **If I interfere, / I will have a big problem**," Simon thought.

Simon continued walking, / but when he looked back, / he saw / the man was moving. Simon felt more frightened.

"If I go there, / he might kill me / for my clothes. **Even if he doesn't attack me, / what can I do for him?**" thought Simon.

He ran down the road. But he suddenly stopped.

- hut 木屋 •sheepskin 羊皮 •ruble 盧布（俄國的錢幣單位） •customer 客人
- on the way 在路上 •owe 欠 •collect 收帳 •on credit 賒帳 •refuse 拒絕
- feel downhearted 覺得沮喪 •pass by 經過 •naked 光著身子 •robber 強盜
- interfere 介入 •have a big problem 惹上大麻煩 •look back 回頭看
- frightened 受驚的 •attack 攻擊

CLOSE UP

- 1 **owed him five rubles** 欠他五盧布
〈owe + 人 + 錢〉是「向某人借多少錢」、「欠某人多少錢」的意思。
- 2 **to his surprise** 出乎他所料
to one's surprise 是「出乎某人意料之外」、「令人訝異的是」的意思。例 To my surprise, he was alive.（出乎我所料，他竟還活著。）
- 3 **must have killed him and (must have) stolen his clothes** 一定殺了他、搶了他的衣服
〈must have p.p.〉是「一定已經……了」的意思，用於對過去的事作很有把握的推測時。

人靠什麼存活

從前 **once** 有一個貧窮的鞋匠 **a poor shoemaker** 叫西門 **named Simon**，他沒有房子，也沒有土地 **have no house or land**，他和妻子、孩子 **with his wife and children** 住在一棟小木屋裡 **live in a hut**，有天早晨 **one morning**，他到村莊裡 **go to the village** 買些羊皮 **buy some sheepskins** 想作一件冬天的大衣，他只有三個盧布 **only three rubles**，他計劃 **plan** 在路上 **on the way** 拜訪 **visit** 他的幾個顧客 **some of his customers**，他幫他們做鞋 **for work he does**，他們還欠他五個盧布 **owe him five rubles**。

西門拜訪了幾個客戶的家，但收不到半毛錢 **cannot collect any money**，他到商店裡 **go to the store** 問能不能賒帳 **on credit** 買羊皮，但店主 **the shopkeeper** 拒絕把羊皮賣給西門 **refuse to give them to Simon**。

西門覺得很沮喪 **feel downhearted**，於是往回家路上走 **walk homeward**，「儘管我沒有羊皮大衣 **have no sheepskin coat**，我不在乎 **don't care**，我沒有大衣 **without a coat** 也活得下去 **can live**，但我太太 **my wife** 一定會很憂愁 **will surely fret**。」他想。

當他走回家的時候，在路上的轉彎處 **at the bend** 經過一間教堂 **pass by a church**，西門看到有個白白的東西 **something white** 在教堂後面 **behind the church**，他不知道那是什麼，他走近 **come closer** 一看，很訝異 **to his surprise**，那是一個光著身子的男子 **a naked man**，一絲不掛地 **without any clothes on** 背靠著教堂坐著 **sit against the church**。

突然間 **suddenly**，西門很害怕 **feel afraid**，「強盜 **robbers** 一定殺了他 **kill him**，搶了他的衣服 **steal his clothes**，如果我插手 **interfere**，我會惹上大麻煩 **have a big problem**。」西門想。

西門繼續走 **continue walking**，但他回頭 **look back** 一看，他看到那個人動了，西門更害怕 **feel more frightened** 了。

「如果我去那裡 **go there**，他可能會為了我的衣服 **for my clothes** 把我殺掉 **kill me**。」即使他沒有攻擊我 **attack me**，我又能為他做什麼呢？」他想。

他往前跑 **run down the road**，但他突然停下來 **suddenly stop**。



GRAMMAR POINT

though : 即使……也…… **if** : 如果……的話 **even if** : 即使……也……

- **Though** I have no sheepskin coat, I don't care. 即使我沒有羊皮大衣，我也不在乎。
- **If** I interfere, I will have a big problem. 如果我插手，我會惹上大麻煩。
- **Even if** he doesn't attack me, what can I do for him? (**even if = even though**) 即使他不攻擊我，我又能為他做什麼呢？