英语小故事

7 Making a Kite

One day, Paula and Richard decided to make a kite. First they went out and found two straight sticks of the same length. They brought them back home and tied them with a piece of string into the shape of a cross. Then they took some string and used it to tie the four ends of the sticks together. Then, they spread some brightly coloured paper over the frame and glued it around the string. They stuck a tail made of paper to one of the corners, and tied a long string to the centre of the kite. On the next windy day, they took the kite to a hill near their house and flew it.

straight stick 直木棍 tie 系 string 绳子 shape 形状 cross 十字

spread 传开 frame 框架 stick 粘 tail 尾巴 windy 有风的

做一个风筝

一天，保罗和理查德决定做一个风筝。首先，他们出门找了两根一样长的直木棍。他们把木棍带回家，用一根绳子把它们绑成十字形。然后他们又拿了些绳子，把木棍的四个顶端连在一起。然后，他们把一些颜色鲜艳的纸涂上胶水，粘在风筝的框架上。他们将纸做的尾巴粘在一角，在风筝中间系上一根长绳。在接下来的一个有风的日子里，他们就在家附近的小山上放风筝了。

8 Animals in Danger

Some of the animals and birds in the rainforest, such as monkeys and

woodpeckers, live in the treetops. They are always swinging and flying from one

tree to another looking for food among the leaves and branches. They even sleep

in the treetops so they do not have to come down to the ground.

Have you heard that such animals and birds in the rainforests are in danger?

Because people are cutting down so many trees in the forests, the animals are

losing their homes. Do you know the reasons for it? Yes, people want wood, paper

and land. As a result many animals and plants are dying. Some forests are so

badly damaged that they become deserts.

rainforest 雨林 woodpecker 啄木鸟 treetop 树顶 swing 摇荡

leaves 树叶（ leaf 的复数形式） branch 树枝 desert 沙漠

濒危动物

一些雨林中的动物和鸟类生活在树顶上，例如猴子和啄木鸟。它们总是从一棵树荡到或飞到另一棵树上，在树叶和树枝间寻找食物。它们甚至在树顶睡觉，所以它们不用到地面上来。

你知道吗？雨林中的这些动物正处于危险中。因为人们砍伐了森林中的许多树，动物们失去了家园。你知道人们砍树的原因吗？是的，人们需要木材、纸和土地。所以，许多动物和植物正在消亡。一些森林遭到了严重的破坏，变成了沙漠。

9 English in the World

Some people say that the English language no longer belongs to the English,

and it belongs to the world. It is estimated that the number of people who use

English exceeds 750 million. Among these, about 350 million are native

speakers, while the rest use it as an official language. If we add to this

number the people who have acquired the language to some extent, the total is

close to one billion.

English plays an increasingly important role in the world as a medium for

conducting international business and diplomacy, as well as in science and

medicine, the Internet, air and sea communications, international sports

events, radio and TV programs, pop songs and movies.

estimate 估计 exceed 超过 native 本族的，本国的 official 官方的

acquire 掌握 to some extent 达到某种程度 billion 千万

increasingly 越来越多地 medium 工具，手段 conduct 实行，执行

international 国际的 diplomacy 外交 medicine 医药

communication 通信 event 事件

世界上的英语

有人说英语已不再属于英国人了，它属于全世界。据估计，使用英语的人超过七亿五千万，其中大约有三亿五千万是以英语为母语的人，而其余的人将英语作为官方语言使用。如果我们再加上已经掌握英语到一定程度的人，这个总数将接近十亿。

英语，作为进行国际业务和外交的工具，在世界上起着越来越重要的作用。它还在科学、医药、互联网、空中及海洋通信、国际体育赛事、电台电视节目、流行歌曲及电影中发挥着越来越重要的作用。