The Sign of Four - Chapter 17 知识点总结

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**• 01月18日知识点总结 •**

The Sign of Four - Chapter 17

**• 昨日讨论回顾•**

1. “… Strange ideas of this kind are common enough in the history of crime, and often provide. valuable clues leading to the criminal. Do you **follow**all this ?” **follow 在这里怎么理解？**

**Tips: 这里的follow可以从本义“跟随”引申，这里是夏洛克在分析了一长串之后询问花生能否“跟得上”他的思路。**

i.e. I couldn't follow the professor's explanation.

2. “Now the red edge of the sun pushes itself over the London cloud-bank. It shines on a good many people, but on none, I dare bet, who are on stranger business than you and I.”

**1) good这里怎么理解？类似的用法在之前的文章里面是否出现过？**

**Tips: a good + 数量 【大、长、宽】**

-  “We were **a good sixty feet**from the ground, and wherever I looked, I could see no foothold.”

2) but on none, I dare bet, who are on stranger business than you and I. **on在这里什么意思？能否举出一个同样的用法。**

**Tips: “I’m on it!”**

3) How sweet the morning air is! See how that one little cloud floats like a pink feather. **【Now the red edge of the sun pushes itself over the London cloud-bank.】 用你们最棒中文描述第二句话。**

**Tips: 【Now the red edge (边缘) of the sun / pushes itself (指代sun) / over the London cloud-bank(云堤).】**

**• 今日讲义•**

1. Toby led us down to the river, to the very edge of a small wooden wharf, and there stood whining, looking out on the dark current beyond.

**「current」 这里作名词 表示 “河流”**

两人跟着Toby来到河边，Toby站在**码头（wharf）**的边缘望着河水狂吠。继而Sherlock 判断追查的凶手必然在这里乘船离开了。

**【there stood whining】是一个倒装**，正常语序是 and it stood there whining. 其结构和 “Here comes the bus! (公交车来了)” 是一样的。

2. A second sign above the door said that a steam launch was kept—a statement which was confirmed by a great pile of coke nearby. Sherlock Holmes looked slowly round, and his face assumed an ominous expression.

在门上另外有一块牌子，上面说这里另备有小汽船。码头上堆积着许多焦炭，可以知道就是这个汽船的燃料。

**「 steam launch 」指的是小汽艇**，**a great pile of coke 是一大堆焦炭。**

这里的「 coke 」不是平时口语中说的 “可乐” ，而是 “焦炭” 。

Sherlock在这周围慢慢地看了一下以后，脸上露出了大事不妙的神色（an ominous expression）。

**【assume a / an ... expression】表示流露出某种神色**

3. Sir, it is in the steam launch that he has gone. That’s what puzzles me, for I know there aren’t enough coals in her to take her further than Woolwich. If he’d been away in the barge I’d have thought nothing of it, for many a time a job has taken him as far as Gravesend, and then if there was much to do there he might have stayed over. But what good is a steam launch without coals?

通过和Smith家的小孩和女人套近乎，Sherlock从Mrs.Smith口中得知Mr.Smith是乘汽艇走的，但是汽艇里面的炭不多，最远只能到Woolwich。

4. Besides, I don’t like that wooden-legged man, with his ugly face and his strange talk.

在Mrs.Smith的抱怨中出现了wooden-legged man，关键线索再次浮现，但是Sherlock完全不动声色，继续探听更多信息。

5. It was him that woke him up yesterday night, and, what’s more, my man knew he was coming, for he had steam up in the launch.

从my man knew he was coming（我的老伴知道他要来）可以看出假肢男——也就是Jonathan Small，很聪明，提前就安排好了Smith家的船。

6. “The main thing with people of that sort,” said Holmes, as we sat in the boat, “is never to let them think that their information can be of the slightest importance to you. If you do, they will instantly shut up like an oyster. If you listen to them under protest, as it were, you are very likely to get what you want. ”

在坐上小船后，Sherlock告诉Watson：

套消息的时候不要让别人觉得他说的话对你很重要，否则他们就会立刻闭上嘴什么也不说。一般他们抱怨的时候，就会说出你想要的信息……福尔摩斯探案秘籍＋1条～

而且在此之前Sherlock套出汽艇相关信息的时候也是非常聪明，他没有直接问，而是假装不记得或者提供错误的信息，让Mrs. Smith去纠正他，这位胖夫人当然不知道自己无意间透露了如下信息：船名Aurora，船身新上漆，黑底加两根红色条纹，烟囱是黑色配白边。

**• 课堂讨论•**

1. But **what good** is a steam launch without coals? **good 这里的意思是“货物”吗？**

i.e.  **“What’s the good of doing that?”**

扩展: **for good –**

i.e.

- “How are things going between you and your girlfriend?”

- “We had a big fight. Since that, she **has left for good.**”

2.

1). “We are **out of**luck,” said Holmes. – *The Sign of Four*

2). “… she might never be completely **out of** money.” – *The Sign of Four*

3).  I could imagine his giving a friend a little pinch of some drug he had discovered, **not out of**ill-will, you understand, but simply **out of**a spirit of inquiry. – *A Study in Scarlet*

**这三句话中，哪两句中的out of是同一个意思？这里的两种out of 分别做什么意思？**

3.  If he’d been away in the barge I’d have thought nothing of it, for **many a time** a job has taken him as far as Gravesend, and then if there was much to do there he might have stayed over.  **many a time 怎么理解？之前的文章里面有见过many a同样的用法吗？**

many a + 单数 =  a large number of

i.e. “That is a question which has puzzled **many an expert**.” – *A Sudy in Scarlet*

**• 好歌献给你•**

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