Mrs. Fox’s New Mailbox

--金华十校读后续写 2025-4-10

阅读下面材料，根据其内容和所给段落开头语续写两段，使之构成一篇完整的短文。

In the neighborhood, my dad, Mr. Duane, is always referred to as "Collector Duane"， is an enthusiastic collector, who is always on the hunt for old items to repurpose, believing that with a bit of creativity, these forgotten objects can be transformed into something useful and new. Recently, he came across an old bicycle wheel, an old-fashioned metal milk box, an antique lamp, a dirty vase and some old clothes at a flea market, imagining all the possibilities they held.

My parents have a neighbor: Helen Fox. She is a 91-year-old widow(寡妇). My parents along with several other neighbors, look after Helen, ensuring she feels loved and supported.

Helen had long suffered from a problem: her mailbox. For some reason, the mailbox was placed insecurely down a somewhat steep(陡峭的) driveway off a busy highway, making it a daily danger for her to fetch her mail. Besides, it was old and rusty, as if it had suffered multiple violent impacts. Its once-bright red paint had faded to a dull pink. The door hung loosely. creaking(嘎吱作响)with every gust of wind. The letters on it had faded over the years. The 'F' was no longer clear, the O' had lost its shape, and the 'X was almost gone. Helen wanted to replace it with a new one and move it to a new location, but she had no idea where to start.

The minute my dad heard about it, he made it his mission to settle the problem. He began by contacting the local rural mail service, arranging to relocate Helen's mailbox. He also talked with Yancey, their shared rural postman, explaining the upcoming change. A relatively safe place was easy to find. But the real challenge was finding a perfect mailbox.

注意：

1．续与词数应为 150个左石；

2. 请按如下格式在答题卡的相应位置作答。

Para1: Then he remembered the old objects he had recently collected.

Para2: The next day, he showed up at Helen's house with a shiny new mailbox.

一、文本分析：

主题语境：人与社会

文章主题：邻里间的关爱与互助以及对旧物利用的创意展现。

1. 设计理念：

1． 所给原文内容：父亲是 “Collector Duane”，热衷于收集旧物并进行改造并例证了一些旧物品；邻居海伦是个年纪很大的老太太， 她家的邮箱破旧不堪且位置不安全，急需替换。热心的父亲联系了邮政部门以及邮差，着手为Fox 老太太解决问题—找个完美的邮箱。

2. 本文人物：主角 My Dad ； 配角：Helen Fox; Yancey; neighbors; (甚至是I) ；

3. 情节构思：①父亲改造旧的铁皮牛奶箱；亦可以加入“我”—感动于父亲的助人为乐的精神，我也主动加入建造新邮箱的工作中，善良代代传！②结合第二段首句父亲安装新的邮箱。

二、教学过程

Step1: Analyze characters

My Dad：thrifty and warm-hearted;

Helen Fox: old and needy ;

Neighbors: caring and kind

Step2: Sort through the plot of the story

Conflict : find a new mailbox.

Solution : My Dad transformed a metal milk box into a new mailbox

Step3: Read for clues for the new plot of the continuation writing

Use hidden clues to create logical and reasonable details for the continuation.

Step4: Design plots for each paragraph

Para1: Then he remembered the old objects he had recently collected.

Link1: Which old object did my Dad think about and how did he feel?

Body: What did he do and how? ( steps of transformation of the milk box)

Link2: What was the mailbox like and how did my Dad feel now ?

Para2: The next day, he showed up at Helen's house with a shiny new mailbox.

Link1: How did Helen feel and what did she say?

Body: Where did Dad place it and how?

Ending: ① What does the mailbox demonstrate to readers?

② What lesson did my Dad learn from the experience?

Possible Version:

Para1: Then he remembered the old objects he had recently collected. His face lit up as he came up with a good solution. Hardly had he entered his workshop/ garage/ storeroom/ basement when he rummaged through all the old items. Suddenly the old-fashioned metal milk box came into sight, which could be transformed to replace Helen’s weathered mailbox. Lips curving into a smile, the project of repurposing the milk box kicked off. Dad cleaned the milk box, sanded off the rust and gave it a fresh coat of bright red paint. With three big letters “ FOX’’ written on its front, a perfect mailbox was born/ created/ crafted. *Dad’s exquisite craftsmanship breathed new life into the once- rusty metal milk container, which couldn’t wait to embark on its new journey with Helen Fox.* (117)

或者*Staring at the brand new mailbox, Dad breathed a sigh of relief, happy to crack the nut.*

Para2: The next day, he showed up at Helen's house with a shiny new mailbox. As Helen’s eyes fell on the mailbox, a radiant smile cracked across her wrinkled face. Eyes sparkling with joy mingled with thrill, “ Thank you, Mr. Duane. It’s just incredible!” she exclaimed. Dad, with the help of the rural postman Yancey, securely installed the mailbox in a new, safer location, far away from the steep driveway. Running her trembling fingers across the smooth surface of the mailbox, Helen was choked with tears of gratitude. From then on, Helen was able to fetch her mail within safe walking distance. The new mailbox not only connected Helen with her loved ones but also served as a silent testament to the care, warmth and kindness of the community. (116)

或者：The creaky old mailbox was gone, but the kindness behind its replacement would last for ever.

Para1: Then he remembered the old objects he had recently collected. A great idea flashed across his mind. Hardly had he entered the garage when he rummaged through all the old items. Suddenly the old-fashioned metal milk box came into sight. Lips curving into a smile, he launched the project of repurposing the milk box. The whole afternoon witnessed him cleaning, sanding, cutting, fixing and painting. Deeply touched by Dad’s dedication and innovation, I volunteered to join him, offering to write three big letters “ FOX’’ on its front. When night fell, the once-discarded rusty metal milk box, with our joint efforts, was transformed into a shining red mailbox, ready to serve Helen. (102)

Para2: The next day, he showed up at Helen's house with a shiny new mailbox. “ Good morning, Mrs. Fox!” my Dad greeted Helen Fox warmly, eager to find an ideal home for the newly-transformed mailbox. Dad, together with some neighbors, decided to place the mailbox in the front door porch, which was within a walking distance to fetch her mail. Admiring the bright red mailbox, Helen Fox was overwhelmed with the joy of being seen and cherished by the community, murmuring thanks to Dad. Relieved to free Helen from the potential risk and satisfied with his newly-repurposed masterpiece,” Collector Duane” resolved to continue hunting for old items to repurpose and lend his helping hand to those in need. (106)