

The 25th Annual Putnam County
SPELLING BEE

2020年6月浙江省五校联考读后续写讲评
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- 01 Read and analyze the passage
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① Theo stood at the microphone. Silence settled over the hall. “Your word is onomatopoeia,” said Mr. Ramirez, the announcer. I got this! Theo thought. Spelling was sort of his superpower. He wasn’t a math or science guy, but he had a gift for spelling.

② Theo’s brain fast-forwarded to the spelling bees ahead: first the county championship, then the state championship, and finally the national spelling bee. “Your answer, please, Theo?” He glanced back at Alexa, another fourth-grader, sitting on the edge of her chair. She wanted another chance at winning. If he missed his word, she’d be back in the game. But that wasn’t going to happen. Theo got the right spelling.

③ Theo’s sister, Deandra, who had also competed but missed her word, applauded with the rest of the crowd. Mr. Ramirez presented the trophy(奖杯) to Theo. He lifted both arms into the air. “I’m the alpha-best.” Then he raced toward his sister. “Ha!” Theo said, making the trophy dance in front of Deandra’s nose.

④ She rolled her eyes. “You’re a terrible winner.”

⑤ “What’s wrong with celebrating my victory?”

⑥ Deandra crossed her arms and made a sour face. “You know, it wasn’t cool the way you ignored Alexa onstage. She tried to shake your hand.”

⑦ Theo shrugged. “I didn’t notice. Anyway, county bee, here I come!”

⑧ “You might want to crack open the dictionary before counties. In two weeks, you’ll be facing the best of the best.”

⑨ “And they’ll be up against me, the alpha-beast.”

⑩ Deandra shook her head. “Well, good luck. I think you’re going to need it.”

⑪ Two weeks passed in a blink. At the county bee, students from different schools gathered around onstage, some looking more worried than others. Finally, it was time for the contestants (选手) to take their seats.

⑫ After six rounds, the group of more than 100 students decreased to just seven. This was no regular spelling bee. Theo had barely made it through the last round with a lucky guess on conscience. And if he’d had to spell aerospace or conical, he’d be out already. His sister’s advice suddenly made sense.

⑬ Paragraph 1:

When it was his turn again, Theo stood frozen for the longest moment.

⑭ Paragraph 2:

The following Monday at school, Theo found Alexa in the lunchroom.

01

Read and analyze the passage

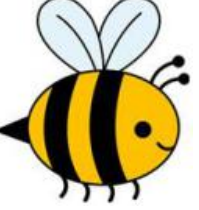
How is the passage developed?

Para. 1/2 : Describe main characters and setting

Para. 3-10 : Present conflicts

Para. 11-12 : Relate events that make conflicts complex

Para. 13-14 : Present the solution of the conflicts or cause characters to change



Describe main characters and setting(Para.1/2)

Characters:

Theo,
announcer, Deandra, Alexa, contestants

Setting:

on stage at the school spelling bee

Theo





Present conflicts(Para.3-10)

Plot:

Theo won the school bee and his reaction.

Conflicts:

- 1.Theo didn't shake hands with Alexa after the victory.(a terrible winner)
- 2.Theo wouldn't prepare the spelling bee and believed in his luck.

What kind of person is Theo?

too proud, over-confident

- Mr. Ramirez presented the trophy(奖杯) to Theo. He lifted both arms into the air. “I’m the **alpha-best**.”
- “And they’ll be up against me, the **alpha-beast**.”



Relate events that make conflicts complex(Para.11/12)

Theo had barely made it through the last round with a **lucky** guess on conscience.

Would Theo always be lucky and win the county spelling bee?





Present the solution of the conflicts or cause the character to change

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Character change



proud,
a terrible winner and learner
didn't respect his rival
wouldn't put efforts,
believed in luck

HOW?

modest, humble,
respects his rival
determines to work hard

Theme:

to educate people to be modest
Chance favors the prepared mind.

underlined words:

Theo, Deandra, Alexa, superpower, spelling bee,
terrible, victory, ignored, contestants, made it through

【**who**】 Theo, Deandra, Alexa, contestants

【**where**】 spelling bee

【**theme**】 superpower, victory

【**adj.**】 terrible

【**v.**】 ignored, made it through

Given sentences:

Paragraph 1:

When it was his turn again, Theo **stood frozen** for the longest moment.

- Why did he stand frozen for the longest moment?
- Would he win the game?

Plot

Feelings

Theo racked his brains

but in vain

lost the game

realized sth.

nervous, uneasy

regretful

sad, frustrated, disappointed

guilty

Given sentences:

Paragraph 2:

The following Monday at school, Theo found Alexa in the lunchroom.

Plot

Feelings

Theo apologized to Alexa

nervous, embarrassed, ashamed

Alexa's reaction

smile; comforted him/ surprised

Theo's reaction

surprised, touched, happy,

ending

determined

Language appreciation:

Para. 1:

1. (*nervous*) His palms were soaked with sweat.
2. His mind was racing, but as seconds ticked past, nothing popped into his mind.
3. Now he was in the similar position like Alexa that day. Unfortunately, the next contestant narrowly made it through, depriving Theo of the chance to win.
4. (*lost the game*) He had no choice but to make a random guess, and without doubt, he was out.
5. (*frustrated*) His heart sank.
6. (*frustrated*) Theo ducked his head, clutched his sleeves tightly and edged back to his seat.

7. (冠军的做法) However, Theo couldn't believe his eyes when he saw the winner put the trophy aside and went down the stage to shake hands with other contestants. "Wish you good luck, Theo." It was at that time that he realized that he might have hurt Alexa, which made his heart jolt.

8. (顿悟) Theo came to realize that there was no such thing as superpower and he needed to crack open the dictionary.

9. (顿悟) "He was absolutely a terrible winner, and now, a terrible loser." He thought to himself.

Para.2:

10. (尴尬) “I’m sorry, Alexa.” uttered Theo in a low voice, his face burning with embarrassment.
11. (道歉) Mustering up his courage, Theo approached her timidly. “Sorry to ignore you that day.” he said in an apologetic tone. “Now I’ve paid the price for my pride. I lost the game.”
12. (ending) In the days to come, they made each other pals to practice spelling, accompanied by the dictionaries, for they both discovered, true superpower lies in endeavor.
13. (ending) That day witnessed Theo’s growth, from being proud to being modest, from believing luck to making down-to-earth efforts.
14. (ending) They enjoyed lunch together, but most importantly, shared the resolution to become the next Alpha-best, with down-to-earth efforts.

考场佳作:

第二节 读后续写(满分 25 分)

22.5

When it was his turn again, Theo stood frozen for the longest moment. So unfamiliar the word was to him that he spelt it with tremendous uncertainty, as if his superpower miraculously disappeared. "Sorry. A tiny mistake." The host's exclamation made his heart sink. Gloomy clouds hovering over Theo's head, he stepped back reluctantly and peering at his contestant, praying for another chance. Unfortunately, his rival gave the correct answer and thus carried off the championship. Theo stood rooted on stage, his face burning. Nevertheless, instead of ignoring him and showed off the victory, his rival, a pretty girl, turned back and shook hands with Theo politely. "You are a respectable rival." Upon hearing this, Theo was abruptly haunted by a sense of shame.

The following Monday at school, Theo found Alexa in the lunchroom. "I'm genuinely apologetic for what I'd done in the last spelling contest. You played well and deserves my dignity." Deeply astonished by his words, Alexa gazed at Theo in bewilderment, which soon replaced by comfort and relaxation. Theo gripped her hand tightly in compensation for his previous impoliteness. Looking into Alexa's smiling eyes, Theo was enlightened that it was his heartfelt respect for others rather than his achievement or inborn talent that true "superpower" lay in.

第二节 读后续写(满分 25 分)

21.5

When it was his turn again, Theo stood frozen for the longest moment. Words were spinning in his head but the one he had to spell didn't occur to him. From behind came other contestants' chirp, which made Theo's stomach stir. As minutes ticked past, sweat began popping out in his palms and he couldn't help trembling. Finally, the judge announced Theo was out and he was asked to return to his seats. The next hour witnessed Theo in his seat, downhearted and drooping his head. When the spelling bee came to an end, Theo dragged himself from the seat and approached the champion, expecting a handshake. However, he was ignored by the overjoyed champion. It was then that he realized how terrible Alexa could feel last time.

The following Monday at school, Theo found Alexa in the lunchroom. Guilt filling his chest, he walked up to her with his head bowed. "Sorry, Alexa." uttered Theo in an extremely low voice, "I hurt you in the previous spelling bee." "You mean, the handshake? I know you didn't mean to ignore me." Alexa replied with a bright smile. At this, Theo heaved a sigh of relief and his face was illuminated with a smile. He shared his experience at the county bee with Alexa and the two decided to practicing spelling together since then on, for their friendship was definitely strengthened due to the experience.

参考范文:

When it was his turn again, Theo stood frozen for the longest moment. He racked his brains, searching for the right word, but this time his superpower seemed to fail him. His mind went totally blank. Other contestants were whispering when the bell rang, announcing he was out. Imagine Theo's sadness when he walked down the stage, sank heavily into his seat and let out a sigh. It suddenly dawned on him that Alexa must have felt the same. "I was indeed a terrible winner. I must apologize to her." Theo thought to himself.

The following Monday at school, Theo found Alexa in the lunchroom. Taking a deep breath, Theo went straight to her. "I'm sorry for ignoring you." He said in a weak voice. "It's OK. I figured you were just too excited, so how was the county bee?" Alexa asked with a beam of smile. "It was a disaster." Theo shrugged his shoulders and started pouring out all the regret for not putting his heart into preparing the competition. Hearing this, Alexa comforted him and the two decided to study together, determined to become the next Alpha-best.

Thank you!

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