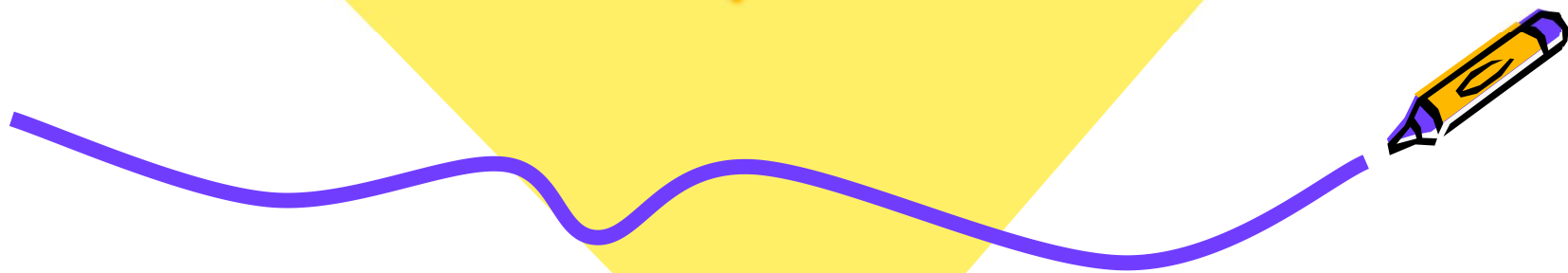
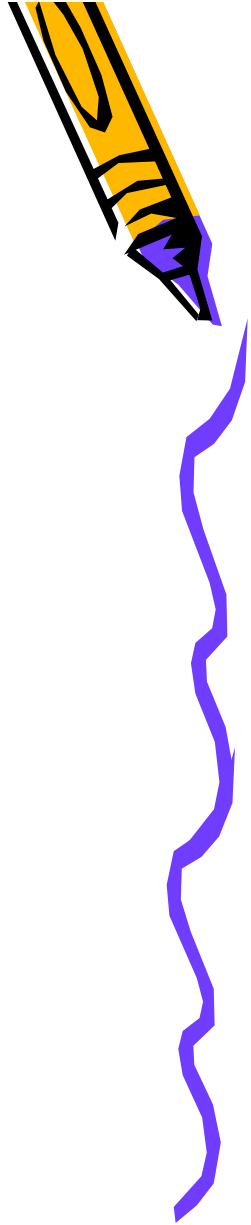


Lesson 11

Button, Button





- Word study
- About the author
- Structure of the text
- Text analysis
- Assignment





Word study



- 1. authentic: true and accurate
- Compare **genuine, authentic, real, true**.
- **Genuine**: 指任何事物的起源、作者或性质等名符其实，强调无掺杂、伪冒、假造等。
- **Authentic**: 强调有正式的证据或文件可资证明，强调可靠与值得信任。
- **Real**: 此词也指名实相符，不是人造的货假造的，强调是真的，不只是貌似，不只是名义上的。
- **True**: 符合某一标准或范例，或与实情相符。
- e.g. a genuine painting by Tang Bohu
- an authentic statement
- This is a real pearl, not an imitation or a fake.
- He is a true humanitarian.





- 2. define
 - a. state precisely the meaning of sth.
 - b. show (a line, shape, feature, etc) clearly
- e.g. The mountain was sharply defined against the eastern sky.
- 那座山在东方天空的衬托下显得轮廓分明。





- 3. indemnity: payment for loss of goods, money, life, etc
- indemnity (against/for sth.)
- (为防遭伤害或损失的) 保障, 赔偿

- e.g. an indemnity fund 赔偿基金



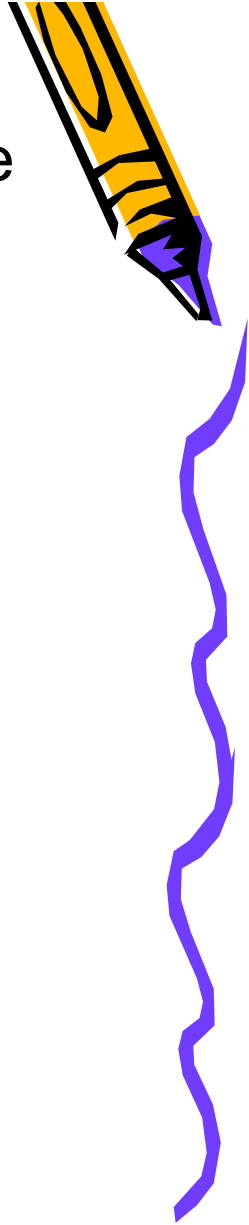


- 4. repress:
- a. restrain or suppress (an impulse)
- b. prevent (a revolt, etc) from breaking out
-
- e.g. repress a sneeze, smile, cough
- 强抑着不打喷嚏、不笑、不咳嗽
- All protest is brutally repressed by the regime.
- 一切抗议活动都遭到当局的野蛮镇压。
-





- 5. shriek
- to give a long high shout, especially when you are excited, frightened or in pain
- **shriek with sth.**
- e.g. shriek with laughter, excitement
- 尖声大笑、激动的尖叫
- **shriek sth. (out)**
- e.g. shriek (out) a warning
- 尖声警告



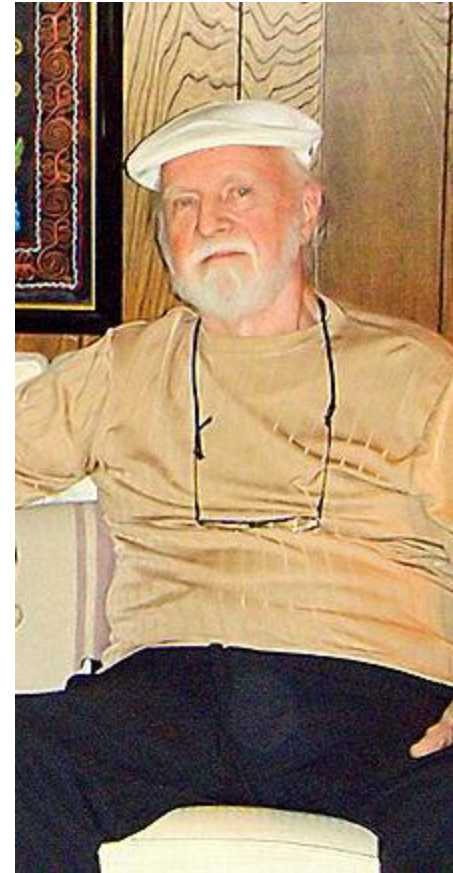


- 6. smash
- a. (cause sth. to) be broken violently into pieces;
- b. hit sth./sb. very hard;
- c. crash (a vehicle)
- **smash (sth.) against, into, through, etc sth.** 冲进或撞上某物
- **smash sth. down** 击倒某物
- e.g. The elephant smashed through the trees.
大象在树林中横冲直撞。
- The fireman smashed the door down to reach the children.
消防员破门而入冲向孩子们。



II. About the author

- Richard Matheson (1926----) is an American author who has written quite a number of mystery, horror stories and science fiction, some of which have been turned into movies. He is described by some readers as one of those good writers whose works you may not have read. Richard Matheson's stories often have an unexpected twist like the present text.





III. Structure of the text



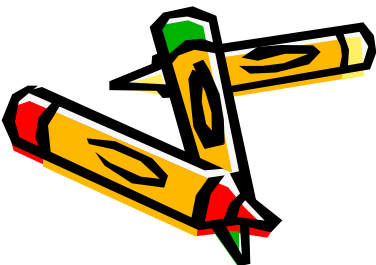
- Part I
- (1-36): Mr. Steward called the Lewises in the evening, and a push-button unit was delivered to them.
- Part II
- (37-54): The couple reacted differently to what Mr. Steward said.
- Part III
- (55-116): Norma got deeply involved in the matter and this made her husband very unhappy.
- Part IV
- (117-129): Norma was to get the amount in the form of Arthur's insurance policy.





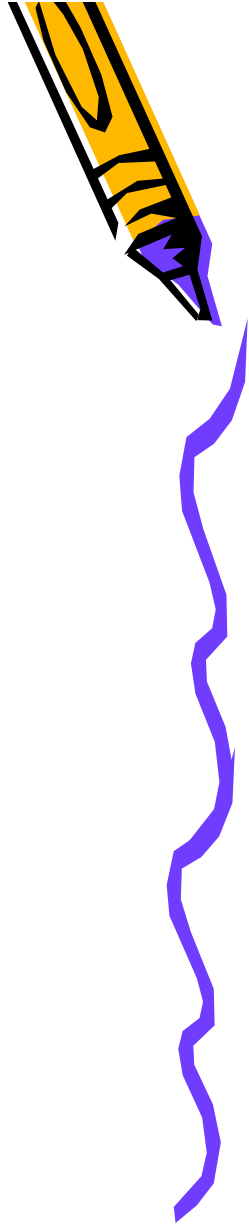
IV. Text analysis

- Part I.
- Questions:
 - 1. What was Norma's first reaction?
 - 2. Why did Norma repress a smile?





- 1. a cube-shaped carton sealed with tape
- a carton having the shape of a cube, which was fastened or closed with (sticky) tape
- e.g. a heart-shaped candy
- 2. I'll get it.
- get: take, deal with
- I'll go and see who the visitor is.





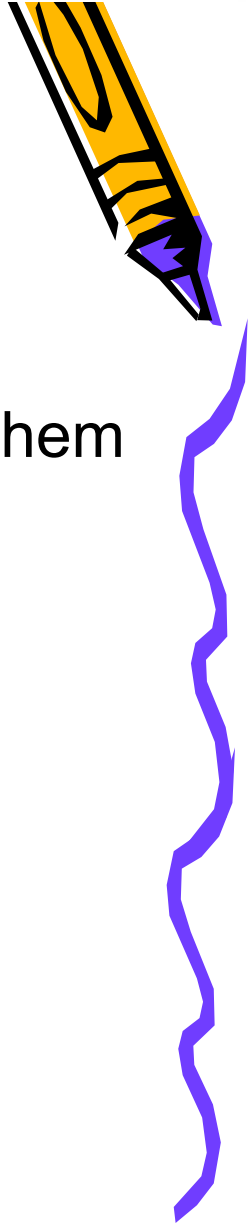
- 3. sales pitch
- salesman's way of persuading people to buy the goods they are trying to sell

- 4. a practical joke 恶作剧
- a trick played on sb. in order to make them appear ridiculous or to amuse others





- Part II.
- 1. Impulsively, she dropped them into her purse.
- Paraphrase:
- She suddenly picked up the torn card and dropped them into her purse without giving too much thought to it.



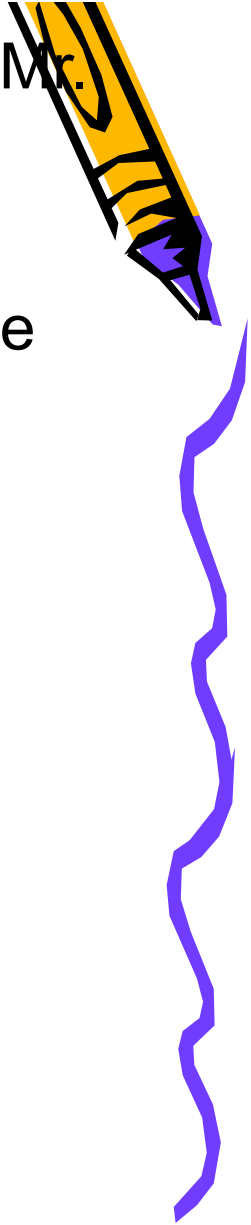


- Part III.
- Questions:
 1. Why did Norma call Mr. Steward if she thought the whole thing was crazy?
- The story shows us how Norma was drawn into this situation step by step. At this point she was curious, but she still did not quite believe the man.





- 2. Why did Norma stiffen and hang up angrily when Mr. Steward offered to bring back the unit?
- She felt at this point that it was rather insulting for the man to assume that Norma could not resist such a temptation.





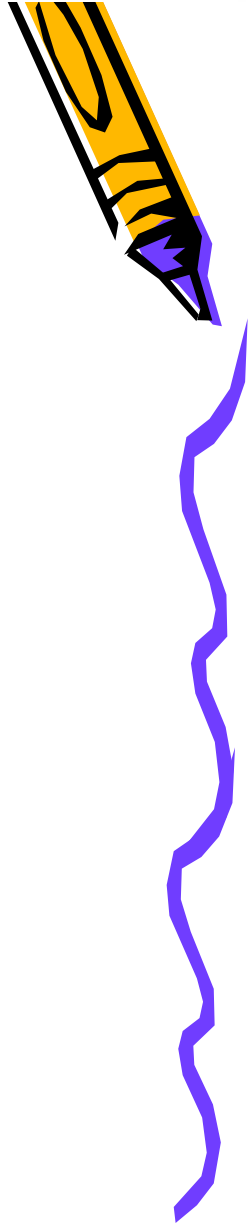
- 3. Why did Norma think that it did not make any difference whether she was going to be late or not that day?
- Because she was going to win the 50,000 dollars.





- Paraphrase:
- 1. Not that I believe a word of what you told us.
- I am curious about the unit, but it does not mean that I believe what you told me.
- 2. Well, of all the nerve, she thought.
- She is angry that Mr. Steward assumed that she would want the package.





3. Break in: interrupt

4. His voice was guarded.

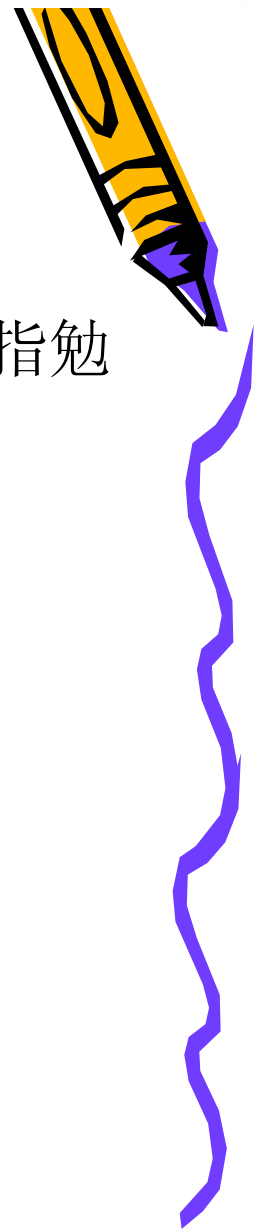
- Paraphrase:
- He answered her cautiously.

5. Draw back: to hold oneself at a distance





- Draw back from sth./doing sth. 撤回，取消
- Draw in (白天的时间) 渐短
- Draw sb. into sth./doing sth. 使某人参加某事物（尤指勉强他人）
- Draw on（时间或季节）临近，接近
- Draw on/upon sth. 使用，利用
- Draw sb. on 吸引或引诱某人
- Draw sb. out 鼓励某人说话
- Draw sth. out 将（事情）拖长
- Draw up (车辆) 停下来

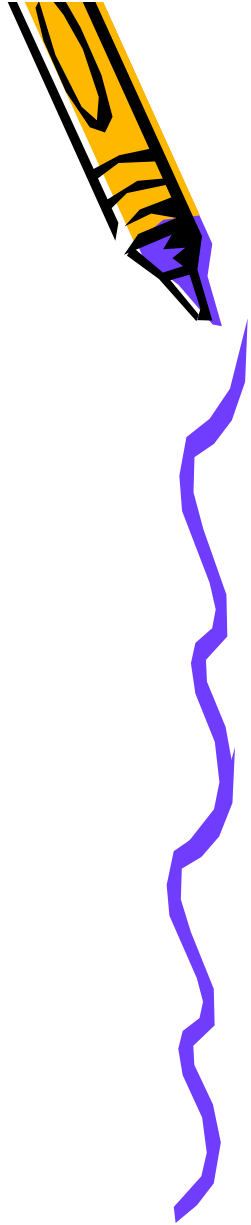




6. Cut him off: cut him short

7. To get so worked up over nothing.

- Paraphrase:
- To become so upset for no reason.





- Part IV.
- Paraphrase:
 1. Something cold pressed at her skull as she removed the button unit from the wastebasket.
- She was so stunned that she could feel no pain or anything as she removed the button unit from the wastebasket.
- 2. It wasn't her voice shrieking so; it couldn't be.
- She screamed to Mr. Steward over the phone in such a way that even she herself couldn't recognize her voice. She had never screamed at people like that before.





V. Assignment

- Finish the exercise in the “vocabulary” and “grammar” parts after the text.

