

<<欧洲文化入门>>

图书基本信息

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内容概要

这是一本中国大学英语系的教科书，为了教学需要而编写的。

学习英语的中国大学生在阅读英文书刊和同英语国家人士的交往中，往往感到由于缺乏欧洲文化知识而增加了许多困难。

英语中有数不清的典故、名言、成语、人名、地名等等来自古希腊罗马的哲学、文学、历史著作，希伯莱的圣经，文艺复兴时期的艺术创作或者牵涉到各时期思想、科技、政治、社会方面的重要事件和人物。

如果对这些所知无多，读书未必全懂，对谈也难顺利。

而一旦对这些有了较多知识，则不仅了解程度会提高，而且由于通过文化来学习语言，语言也会学得更好。

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章节摘录

2. Social and Political Structure Athens was a democracy. Democracy means "exercise of power by the whole people" , but by "the whole people" the Greeks meant only the adult male citizens , and citizenship was a set of rights which man inherited from his father. Women , children , foreigners and slaves were excluded. They had no rights. The economy of Athens rested on an immense amount of slave labour. Slaves worked on farms and in workshops and mines owned by their masters. There was harsh exploitation in Greek society. The Greeks loved sports. Once every four years , they had a big festival on Olympus Mount which included contests of sports. Thus began the Olympic Games. Revived in 1896 , the Games have become the world's foremost amateur sports competition.

3. Homer Ancient Greeks considered Homer to be the author of their epics. He probably lived around 700 B.C. Two such epics , the Iliad and the Odyssey , have survived. They are not about events of Homer's own time , but about great men and wars of a remoter age , probably in the period 1200—1100 B.C. The Iliad deals with the alliance of the states of the southern mainland of Greece , led by Agamemnon in their war against the city of Troy. The heroes are Hector on the Trojan side and Achilles and Odysseus on the Greek. In the final battle , Hector was killed by Achilles and Troy was sacked and burned by the Greeks.

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