

<<英美文化精粹>>

图书基本信息

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前言

众所周知，语言与文化互相影响、互相作用。

语言是文化的一部分，并对文化起着重要作用，但语言又受文化的影响，反映文化。

这就要求我们，不但要学好作为交际工具使用的英语语言，掌握语音、语法、词汇，而且还要深入了解英美文化，知道使用英语的人如何看待事物，如何观察世界；了解他们如何用语言来反映社会思想、习惯和行为；要懂得他们的“心灵之语言”，即了解他们社会的文化。

如果不懂一个民族的文化，就不可能真正学懂这个民族的语言，更不懂这个民族的人民。

没有对英美文化的深刻了解，就没有真正意义上英语语言和英美文学的掌握，更谈不上对英美社会的真正认识。

这也是我们编写《英美文化精粹》的初衷。

《英美文化精粹》分别介绍了英美两国的民族特点、历史发展、地理环境、政府制度、宗教信仰、文学概要、教育模式、风俗习惯、节日活动、种族关系及社会事件等。

本书内容丰富、涉及面广，对英美文化进行了较为系统的介绍。

本书主要具有以下特点。

1.结构明晰：本书采用专题的形式，对英美文化进行介绍。

全书共分十二个专题，对英美文化的不同方面一一做了介绍，结构简单，清晰明了，基本涵盖了非英语人士对英美文化了解的基本需求。

2.角度新颖：本书打破了以往英美文化书籍对文化的单纯介绍，力图从跨文化交际的角度，对英美文化进行介绍。

对某一文化现象不仅有一般的内容介绍，还有其背后原因的简明理论阐述，力求使读者在阅读过程中不仅“知其然，还要知其所以然”。

书中许多章节的编写采用了中西文化对比的方法，以利于读者更好的比较异同，体会文化间的差异，促使读者有所思考，以加深对英美文化的理解。

3.选材新颖：本书选材兼顾传统英美文化介绍的同时，力求选取最新英美文化研究理论和成果，素材新颖。

本书不仅可以作为大学高年级学生、研究生的英美文化教材，还可以供企事业单位，特别是大型企业使用，用于培训员工，增强跨文化意识，提升跨文化交际能力。

对于具有一定英语基础的英语爱好者也是一本快速了解英美文化的好书。

本书的编著主要由张亮平（Chapter3、5、6、7、8、12）、李鹏（Chapter1、2、4、9、10、11）完成，同时要感谢武汉工业学院外语系同仁的大力支持。

由于时间仓促，加之作者学术水平有限，书中难免有不足之处，还望读者及同行不吝赐教。

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内容概要

本书吸收了国内外英美文化研究的最新成果，广泛而精炼地介绍了英美文化的方方面面，包括历史、地理、政治、语言、节日、价值观、重大事件、教育、文学、音乐、美术及《圣经》等，并从跨文化交际的角度对一些现象进行了理论阐述和解释。

本书既可以作为高校英语文化素质培养的教材，也可以作为正在参与或将要参与跨文化交际人士的知识性读物。

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章节摘录

1.1 The History of England The history of England did not begin until the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons, when the partition of Britain into several countries largely began. It was the history of Britain that began in the prehistoric during which time Stonehenge was erected. At the height of the Roman Empire, Britannia was under the rule of the Romans. Their rule lasted until about 410, at which time the Romano-British formed various independent kingdoms. The Anglo-Saxons gradually gained control of England and became the chief rulers of the land. Raids by the Vikings were frequent after about AD 800. In 1066, the Normans invaded and conquered England. There were many civil wars and battles with other nations throughout the Middle Ages. During the Renaissance, England was ruled by the Tudors. England had conquered Wales in the 12th century and was then united with Scotland in the early 18th century to form the Kingdom of Great Britain. Following the Industrial Revolution, Great Britain ruled a worldwide empire, of which, physically, little remains. However, its cultural impact is widespread and deep in many countries of the present day.

1.1.1 Prehistory and Roman Britain (Britannia) Archaeological evidence indicates that what was later southern Britannia was colonized by humans long before the rest of the British Isles because of its more hospitable climate between and during the various ice ages of the distant past. Julius Caesar invaded southern Britain in 55 BC and 54 BC. Until the Roman Conquest of Britain, Britain's British population was relatively stable, and by the time of Julius Caesar, the first invasion the British population of what was old Britain was speaking a Celtic language generally thought to be the forerunner of the modern Brythonic languages. After Julius Caesar abandoned Britain, it fell back into the hands of the Britons.

The Romans began their second conquest of Britain in 43 AD, during the reign of Claudius. They annexed the whole of modern England and Wales over the next forty years and periodically extended their control over much of lowland Scotland.

1.1.2 Anglo-Saxon Conquests and the Founding of England In approximately 495, at the Battle of Mount Badon, Britons inflicted a severe defeat on an invading Anglo-Saxon army which halted the westward Anglo-Saxon advance for some decades. Anglo-Saxon expansion resumed in the sixth century, although the chronology of its progress is unclear. One of the few individual events which emerged with any clarity before the seventh century is the Battle of Deorham, in 577, a West Saxon victory which led to the capture of Cirencester, Gloucester and Bath, bringing the Anglo-Saxon advance to the Bristol Channel and dividing the Britons in the West Country from those in Wales.

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