

<<当代英国概况>>

图书基本信息

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作者：肖惠云 编

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前言

人类和动物都有交际系统，但是人类的交际系统——语言比其他动物的交际系统更为精细、更为复杂，传递了其他交际系统所不能传递的信息。

这些信息就是文化。

所以文化和语言实际上是两位一体的，一个是内容，另一个是载体。

从Malinowski和Boas开始，人类语言学经历过一段辉煌的发展史，它不但导致了描写语言学和结构语言学的诞生，而且诱发了现代社会语言学和文化语言学（ethnolinguistics）的出现。

Lado的《跨文化的语言》用了《语言教师的应用语言学》的副标题，更把文化教育的问题提到语言教师的面前。

近年来，在我国也慢慢掀起了一个文化语言学的热潮。

邢福义主编的《文化语言学》旨在建立理论框架，邓炎昌、刘润清和顾嘉祖、陆升都编写了《语言和文化》，王宗炎主编的《外语与外国文化丛书》正在陆续问世。

在外语院系里，也开设了各个国家的“国家概况”的课程。

把文化（亦称为国情）的教育列为外语教育的一个重要的组成部分是有充分的理由的：一是从外语学习的角度看，和外国人交往不但要精通他们的语言，还必须理解他们的文化、思维方式、价值观和生活习惯；二是在一个多元化的社会里，跨文化的理解对促进各国人民的互相尊重和合作，对维护世界和平都是极为重要的。

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内容概要

《当代英国概况》（修订本）是由国内外专家合作编写的一套当代英国社会与文化概况的教程，供高校英语专业高年级学生使用，也适用于进修英语的教师、准备去英语国家的进修人员和从事涉外工作的人士。

全书内容广泛，覆盖了当代英国社会与文化的各个方面，共有18单元，分别从概貌、家庭、就业、业余生活、教育、福利、宗教、法律、政治、经济、外交、大众媒介等方面介绍当代英国社会及其变化。

并针对中国学生的需要，提供图文并茂的素材，让学生自己阅读和分析，领会两种文化和正体的差异。

本教材编排新颖、内容丰富、语言生动，且配以较多的练习。

它既强调有学生使用英语来获得信息，又组织学生根据已获得的信息来进行小组讨论或书面总结，以加深他们对英国文化的认识，同时还培养他们的语言运用能力。

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章节摘录

The West End and the South Bank are famous as centres for drama and music. As a world cultural centre London contains museums and galleries covering all branches of knowledge and the arts, of which the oldest and largest is the British Museum. There are numerous parks, such as Regent's Park and Hyde Park to which the public have free access. Wembley Stadium is the site of the Football Association Cup Final, Twickenham home of English Rugby Union, Lords of English cricket and Wimbledon the site of the international Lawn Tennis Championship.

(See Chapter 6) As with all large urban areas, London has suffered the problems of economic change. Although the Port of London remains the largest in Britain and the eighth largest in Europe, it no longer employs the size of labour force that it used to. Many of London's manufacturing activities have relocated to nearby towns where land is cheaper or to other countries where labour is cheaper. The East End of London vividly demonstrates the inequalities of British society. Areas of low cost housing where the families of less skilled workers remain on low pay or social welfare benefits are close to redeveloped exclusive residential facilities and expensive office blocks where millions of pounds are being made in finance and other thriving service sector activities. London also faces transportation and other environmental problems. The tube, is the oldest and longest underground railway in the world and London is the hub of the nation's rail and motorway networks. However, with its massive commuters and tourist traffic and narrow streets, it has become increasingly difficult to keep traffic flowing. Since 2000 London has had a directly elected Mayor, who together with a separately elected assembly forms the Greater London Authority. They face the challenge of maintaining the unique character and economic strength of London into the 21st century.

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