

大学英语 阅读与文化翻译

3



College English:
Reading and
Cultural Translation 3

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前言

在英语诸多技能的实践中，阅读实践无疑是非常重要的，因为无论是从丰富词汇量还是扩展文化知识的角度来说，阅读都是重要而又方便的信息来源。根据外语学习理论，外语学习者使用外语的水平取决于他所接受的外语信息输入的数量与质量，学习大量的、可理解的、真实而又实用的英语阅读材料是英语学习进步的基本保证。此外，随着中国国力的增强，中华文化走出去战略的重要性日益彰显，因此介绍中华文明和文化已经日益成为英语学习的重要目的之一。但长期以来，国内的英语教学重点主要放在如何解读国外的各种科学技术和文化信息上，对于如何教会学生用规范的英语介绍中国的现代文明和传统文化方面做得还不够，甚至许多英语专业的毕业生都无法较为自如地用英语表达中国的文化精粹。因此，本套教材的编写紧密围绕英语阅读技能训练和中华文化相关话题的汉译英技能训练这两个当今英语教学的核心问题，充分注意了阅读材料的题材和体裁多样化、真实性和实用性，尽量广泛地涉及日常英语使用中的各种话题。对于汉译英的训练，编者采用了展示中华文明与体现天津特色相结合的方法，每册将汉译英的训练分为两个部分：第一部分精心选取了中国历史文化中最有代表性的 20 个话题和参考译文供学生学习领会文化翻译的特点，第二部分则选取了天津区域文化的 10 个话题，要求学生模仿第一部分中的参考译文对这 10 个话题的内容进行翻译。

本套教材的另一个特点就是在训练材料的内容和难度编排上都贴近大学英语四六级考试的基本要求，使教材更好地服务于大学英语教学。本套教材的全体编写人员都具有丰富的英语教学经验，感谢他们在繁忙的教学工作之余牺牲自己的休息时间，多次开会探讨编写方案，反复修改初稿，最终编写出了这套特色鲜明而又实用的教材。两位总主编负责审定全部稿件，杨颖重点审定英语阅读部分，顾钢重点审定汉译英部分。我们尤其要感谢美国专家 Harris Ives 教授对于天津区域文化部分的参考译文所给予的修改建议。高等教育出版社相关工作人员孙宁、汪于祺责任编辑的认真工作也为本教材增色不少，在此一并感谢。

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2015 年 6 月 1 日

Contents

Unit 1	Cultural Literacy	1
Unit 2	Health Matters	14
Unit 3	Social Life	26
Unit 4	Life Choices.....	39
Unit 5	Holidays and Traditions	50
Unit 6	Disasters and Emergencies.....	64
Unit 7	Books and Magazines.....	77
Unit 8	Inventions and Technology	89
Unit 9	Controversial Issues	101
Unit 10	Enjoying the World	113
Keys	125
New Words, Phrases and Expressions	141



Cultural Literacy



Part One

Reading Comprehension

Section A

Matching

Match the words in the left column as used in the passage with their appropriate explanations in the right column.

1. otherwise

2. peer

3. intimate

4. adapt

5. liberty

a. a person of higher rank, status or position

b. used to say that a particular situation or fact is easy to see or understand

c. a remark or an action that is said or done in order to offend someone

d. in circumstances different from those present or considered

e. a person or thing of the same quality or with the

6. retain
7. customarily
8. obviously
9. adopt
10. demeaning
11. address
12. superior
13. remain
14. insult
15. equal

- same status, right, etc. as another
- f. usually, traditionally, as a rule
 - g. the power to act as one pleases
 - h. a person who is the same age or who has the same social status as you
 - i. to use a particular name or title for someone when you speak or write to them
 - j. to continue to be something; to be still in the same state or condition
 - k. putting someone in a position that does not give them the respect that they should have
 - l. to keep something; to continue to have something
 - m. to start to use a particular method
 - n. to change something to make it suitable for a new use or situation
 - o. having a close and friendly relationship

Passage A

Read the passage and do the exercises.

How Names Are Used in America

People generally call each other by their first names much sooner in their acquaintance than people do in other walks of life. Taking that 1 too soon has closed many doors for the offender. Therefore, one must sense the proper moment to drop formal address and 2 subtle measures to prevent unwelcome 3 address. If you have been accepted wholeheartedly into a group, however important first names are in the world's eyes, it would be conspicuous for you to continue beyond a certain time to call them by their last names, such as Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Harvin.

If an older woman enjoys having young people call her by her first name, she will ask you to do so — 4 do not! In business circles, many people think it 5 to be called by their first names, it is best to use "Mr." , "Miss" with a business 6 or an employer.

A divorcee can ask the courts for her maiden name if there are no children. But

usually the woman of taste, with or without children, takes after divorce her maiden name with the divorced husband's name. The remarried divorcee with children does not incorporate her divorced husband's name in her new one. The children 7 their real father's name, unless by legal adoption they take the name of the mother's new husband.

Husband and wife refer to each other as "Mr." and "Mrs." when speaking to people who are not their 8. To acquaintances they call each other "my husband" and "my wife". To friends, they refer to each other by their first names.

Army officers are called by their titles when 9. Catholic priests are called "Father". A senator is 10 called "Senator" all of his life. A congressman is called "Mr." both in and out of office and an ambassador is called "Mr. Ambassador".

(314 words)

Notes

1. **maiden name:** the family name a woman had before marriage 女子的娘家姓
2. **Catholic priest:** a person trained for various religious duties in a church which claims to be the historical descendant of the early Christian church 天主教的神父

Filling the Blanks

Select one word for each blank from the word bank given below. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| A) otherwise | B) retain | C) adopt | D) customarily |
| E) peer | F) liberty | G) addressed | H) intimate |
| I) equals | J) demeaning | K) insult | L) remain |
| M) superior | N) obviously | O) adapt | |

Section B

Finding Indexes

For each sentence, try to decide some words and phrases as indexes to help you locate the sentence in Passage B.

1. Carving scary faces out of pumpkins is a Halloween custom dating back to Ireland.
2. On Halloween, teenagers like to dress up to attend costume dances at school while adults like to go to masquerade parties.
3. The parts came together into a great, tall man, who danced round and round the room.
4. On Halloween people may play some pranks such as soaping car windows and tipping over garbage cans.
5. The last day of October was the eve of the Celtic new year.
6. Halloween was taken by Irish people to the US in the 1840s when they immigrated there.
7. "What do you come for?" is a tale told at Halloween parties in Britain, North Carolina and Virginia.
8. One of the traditional Halloween colors is black, probably because Halloween festivals and traditions took place at night.
9. The origins of some American celebrations including Halloween lie in both pre-Christian and Christian customs.
10. Symbols of Halloween include witches flying on broomsticks, black cats, ghosts, goblins, and skeletons.

Passage B

Read the passage and do the exercises.

Halloween

- A** On October 31st, dozens of children dressed in costumes knock on their neighbors' doors and yell "Trick or treat" when the doors open. Pirates and princesses, ghosts, and popular heroes of the day all hold bags open to catch the candy or other goodies that the neighbors drop in. As they give each child a treat, the neighbors admire the costumes and try to guess who is under the masks.
- B** November 1st has been a religious holiday known as All Saints' Day for more than

2,000 years. The Mass that was said on this day was called Allhallowmas. The evening before became known as All Haggiw e'en, or Halloween. Like some other American celebrations, its origins lie in both pre-Christian and Christian customs.

- C** October 31st was the eve of the Celtic new year. The Celts were the ancestors of the present-day Irish, Welsh and Scottish people. On this day ghosts walked and mingled with the living, or so the Celts thought. The townspeople cooked food all that day and when night fell they dressed up and tried to resemble the souls of the dead, hoping that the ghosts would leave peacefully before the midnight of the new year.
- D** Much later, when Christianity spread throughout Ireland and October 31st was no longer the last day of the year, Halloween became a celebration mostly for children. "Ghosts" went from door to door asking for treats, or else a trick would be played on the owners of the house. When millions of Irish people immigrated to the United States in the 1840s the tradition went with them.
- E** Today school dances and neighborhood parties called "block parties" are popular among young and old alike. More and more adults celebrate Halloween. They dress up like historical or political figures and go to masquerade parties. In larger cities, costumed children and their parents gather at shopping malls early in the evening. Stores and businesses give parties with games and treats for the children. Teenagers enjoy costume dances at their schools and the more outrageous the costume the better!
- F** Certain pranks such as soaping car windows and tipping over garbage cans are expected. But partying and pranks are not the only things that Halloweeners enjoy doing. Some collect money to buy food and medicine for needy children around the world.

Symbols of Halloween

- G** Halloween originated as a celebration connected with evil spirits. Witches flying on broomsticks with black cats, ghosts, goblins and skeletons have all evolved as symbols of Halloween. They are popular trick-or-treat costumes and decorations for greeting cards and windows. Black is one of the traditional Halloween colors, probably because Halloween festivals and traditions took place at night. In the weeks before October 31st, Americans decorate windows of houses and schools with silhouettes of witches and black cats.
- H** Pumpkins are also a symbol of Halloween. The pumpkin is an orange-colored

squash, and orange has become the other traditional Halloween color. Carving pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns is a Halloween custom dating back to Ireland. A legend grew up about a man named Jack who was so stingy that he was not allowed into heaven when he died, because he was a miser. He could not enter hell either because he had played jokes on the devil. As a result, Jack had to walk the earth with his lantern until Judgment Day. The Irish people carved scary faces out of turnips, beets or potatoes representing jack of the lantern, or jack-o'-lantern. When the Irish brought their customs to the United States, they carved faces on pumpkins because in the autumn they were more plentiful than turnips. Today jack-o'-lanterns in the windows of a house on Halloween night let costumed children know that there are goodies waiting if they knock and say "Trick or treat!"

Halloween Treats

- I** After carving your pumpkin, separate the pulp from the seeds. Rinse the seeds and spread them out to dry. The next day, add enough melted butter or margarine to coat each seed. Spread the seeds onto a cookies sheet and bake in a 300 degree oven for 20 minutes or until they are slightly brown.
- J** Take the paper wrapping off about 100 caramels and put them in a saucepan. Put the saucepan over a pan of boiling water. Boil the water until the caramels melt. Put a wooden stick into the top of each apple, dip the apples into the caramel. Let them cool on wax paper and enjoy!
- K** No Halloween party is complete without at least one scary story. Usually one person talks in a low voice while everyone else crowds together on the floor or around a fire. The following is a retelling of a tale told in Britain, North Carolina and Virginia.
- L** There was an old woman who lived all by herself, and she was very lonely. Sitting in the kitchen one night, she said, "Oh, I wish I had some company." No sooner had she spoken than down the chimney tumbled two feet from which the flesh had rotten. The old woman's eyes bulged with terror. Then two legs dropped to the hearth and attached themselves to the feet. Then a body tumbled down, then two arms, and a man's head. As the old woman watched, the parts came together into a great, tall man. The man danced round and round the room. Faster and faster he went. Then he stopped, and he looked into her eyes. "What do you come for?" She asked in a small voice that shivered and shook. "What do I come for?" he said.

"I come for YOU!" The narrator shouts and jumps at the person near him!

(936 words)

Notes

1. **Halloween:** October 31st, celebrated in the United States, Canada, and the British Isles by children going door to door while wearing costumes, begging treats and playing pranks 万圣节前夕（10月31日），在美国、加拿大以及英伦诸岛的孩子们在装扮之后走家串户接受款待并且做些恶作剧以庆祝这个节日
2. **All Saints' Day:** a religious holiday celebrated on November 1st 万圣节（每年的11月1日）
3. **Mass:** a ceremony in the Christian church, especially the Roman Catholic church, in which Jesus Christ's last meal with his disciples is remembered 弥撒，基督教教堂（特别是罗马天主教教堂）中举行的领取圣餐的仪式
4. **Judgment Day:** the day at the end of the world when God judges all human beings, sending the saved to heaven and the damned to hell 审判日，传统基督教末世论中的世界末日，在这一天上帝对所有人做出审判，把获赦的人送上天堂，把有罪的人打入地狱

Comprehension Checking

Read these ten statements again. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter.

1. Carving scary faces out of pumpkins is a Halloween custom dating back to Ireland.
2. On Halloween, teenagers like to dress up to attend costume dances at school while adults like to go to masquerade parties.
3. The parts came together into a great, tall man, who danced round and round the room.
4. On Halloween people may play some pranks such as soaping car windows and tipping over garbage cans.
5. The last day of October was the eve of the Celtic new year.
6. Halloween was taken by Irish people to the US in the 1840s when they immigrated there.

7. "What do you come for?" is a tale told at Halloween parties in Britain, North Carolina and Virginia.
8. One of the traditional Halloween colors is black, probably because Halloween festivals and traditions took place at night.
9. The origins of some American celebrations including Halloween lie in both pre-Christian and Christian customs.
10. Symbols of Halloween include witches flying on broomsticks, black cats, ghosts, goblins, and skeletons.

Section C

Finding Alternatives

Choose the words or phrases with the same meaning for the italicized words and phrases in the following sentences.

1. Gestures *vary* from one country to another.
A. differ B. move C. alternate
2. In Spain and many other countries you *beckon* someone with your palm down.
A. to signal somebody to tell them to stop
B. to signal somebody to send them away
C. to signal somebody to tell them to move nearer
3. In Polynesia you take hold of your friend's hands and use them to *stroke* your face.
A. hit B. rub C. pat
4. In other parts of Europe the slow hand clap is a great *compliment*!
A. condolence B. praise C. criticism
5. The English do not use gestures as much as many other people, and it is very easy for misunderstandings to *arise* with them.
A. rise B. occur C. result

Passage C

Read the passage and do the exercises.

Gestures

Although we are not normally aware of it, most of us use our hands when we are talking. You can see this by turning down the sound on your television set. Notice how much the speakers use their hands as they talk. Our hands can show the shape and size of things (try describing a spiral staircase without using your hands) and emphasize what we are saying. Some gestures, though, have special meaning; what do these people seem to be saying?

These gestures are not made naturally: we have to learn them and they *vary* from one country to another. For example, how do you call someone to you? In Spain and many other countries you *beckon* someone with your palm down, which can look like the English sign for sending someone away. In Italy you wave good-bye with the back of your hand, which can look like the English sign for beckoning someone!

What do you mean when you nod or shake your head? Nodding seems to be one of the few gestures found in nearly every country; it also means “yes” almost everywhere but in some parts of India, for example, shaking the head also means “yes”. In Greece and Southern Italy and many other parts of the world, throwing the head back, which can look like a nod, means “no”.

When you see your friends, how do you greet them? People in many countries find the English cold and unfriendly because they often do no more than say “hello”. Even adults shake hands usually only the first time they meet. French people, including schoolchildren, shake hands with their friends or kiss them on both cheeks, if they are close friends, each time they meet and when they leave one another. At home they do not go to bed without kissing everyone in the family good night, on both cheeks, and shaking hands with any visitors. The same thing happens in the morning. How do you think a French child might feel staying in your family?

Other countries have different ways of greeting. The Eskimos rub noses. In Samoa people sniff one another, and in Polynesia you take hold of your friend's hands and use them to *stroke* your face.

In some parts of East Africa it is considered very unlucky to point with your fingers, and so people turn their heads and put their lips in the direction they mean. In Britain some people “cross their fingers” for good luck but in Austria and Germany they hold

their thumbs. In Britain, if the people in an audience do not like a performer and if they are not very polite, they may clap their hands slowly to mean "Go away!" In other parts of Europe the slow hand clap is a great **compliment**! In Britain people may stand up as a sign of respect. In some other countries they sit down to show that they look up to the person.

There are many other signs used in different countries, and what is an insult in one country may not be understood or may have quite a different meaning in another. The English do not use gestures as much as many other people, and it is very easy for misunderstandings to **arise** with them.

(546 words)

Notes

1. **The Eskimos:** aboriginal people who inhabit the circumpolar region, excluding Scandinavia and most of Russia, but including the easternmost portions of Siberia
爱斯基摩人
2. **Samoa:** an independent nine-island country in the Pacific Ocean, Apia being its capital
萨摩亚群岛
3. **Polynesia:** a division of Oceania including scattered islands of the central and southern Pacific Ocean roughly between New Zealand, Hawaii, and Easter Island
波利尼西亚

Comprehension Checking

Choose the best answer from the four choices given below according to the passage.

1. To beckon someone in Spain, you should _____.
A. throw your head back
B. hold your thumb up
C. wave your hand with your palm down
D. nod towards yourself
2. People in many countries find the English cold and unfriendly because they _____.
A. often do no more than say "hello"
B. sit down to look up a person

- C. only shake hands with people they meet
 D. clap their hands slowly after a performance they like
3. Which gesture mentioned in this text is found in nearly every country bearing the same meaning?
- A. Clapping hands.
 B. Nodding the head.
 C. Saying "hello" to friends.
 D. Sending someone away.
4. According to the text, which of the following nationalities will likely cause the most misunderstanding with their gestures?
- A. The Americans.
 B. The Australians.
 C. The Chinese.
 D. The English.
5. From this text we can infer that _____.
- A. it is proper to do no more than say "hello" to greet an Englishman
 B. it does not take gestures to tell someone about the layout of the Forbidden City in Beijing
 C. it is easy to understand the gestures of other nationalities
 D. something like a gesture can never cause a misunderstanding



Part Two

Chinese-English Translation

Section A

Translation Study

Study the following passages of Chinese-English translation.

段落
翻译

篆刻

从刀法 (engraving techniques) 和章法 (composition) 的角度, 印章 (seal) 可分为婉丽和粗放两种; 此外还可分为沉着含蓄和飞扬暴露两种。从总体上来说, 工细婉丽、沉着含蓄为篆刻艺术的主流风格, 其余的类型则为别

流。另外，篆刻还有款识（**inscriptions**），正如书画有题款，篆刻的款识一般镌刻在印章的周侧或顶端。款识的形式和风格各异，内容有长有短，短的一二字，长则十几字，甚至数百字。

参考
译文

Chinese Seal Cutting

When viewed from the perspectives of engraving techniques and composition, seals are divided into refined and unrestrained ones. Besides, seals can also be grouped into “implicit” and “explicit” ones. Generally speaking, the refined and implicit seals constitute the majority, and the rest are considered as the minor. In addition, there are also inscriptions, as found in calligraphy and painting, either on the end or on the sides of the seal. The inscription varies in forms or styles, and it can be long or short. The shortest contains one or two characters, but the longest contains dozens, even hundreds of characters.

段落
翻译

青花瓷

青花瓷（**blue-and-white porcelain**）是中国瓷器的典型形态，明清两代出口的瓷器中，八成是青花瓷。青花瓷在唐代之前就有了，而真正形成规模并有杰出创造是在元代。明代是青花瓷的成熟期，中国青花瓷器的大量珍品出自这个时代。景德镇，自元代在景德镇创造出令人心醉（**enchanted**）的青花瓷之后，一直是中国瓷器的中心。

参考
译文

Blue-and-White Porcelain

Blue-and-white porcelain is a typical Chinese handicraft of porcelain. It took 80% of the porcelain exported during the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911). It emerged before the Tang Dynasty (618-907), but not until the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) did it become popular with innovative styles. The Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) witnessed the maturity of the handicraft and a large number of valuable blue-and-white porcelain produced. Jingdezhen, though it is a small town, became a porcelain-producing center in China since it originated the enchanting blue-and-white porcelain in the Yuan Dynasty.