

新世纪大学英语系列教材



新世纪大学英语

英美文化视听教程

(下册)

● 华中科技大学外语系 编著



华中科技大学出版社

New Century College English

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新世纪大学英语 英美文化视听教程（下册）

华中科技大学外语系 编著

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内 容 提 要

本教材共 10 个单元，主要介绍英美两国社会与文化的概貌，如政治、经济、体育运动、大众传媒、饮食文化、节日习俗以及种族问题等。每单元包括四部分：Part A 为文化焦点精读，课文前有背景知识介绍，课文后有阅读理解题和课文要点讨论；Part B 为视听活动，用来帮助学生更直观地理解本单元所覆盖的内容；Part C 为补充阅读，用来扩大阅读量和训练学生阅读的流利程度；Part D 为综合信息，目的是扩大学生的知识面。

本教材涵盖了文化的不同层面，具有涉及面广、信息量大的特点。本书选材内容丰富、语言规范，同时由于利用多媒体手段教学将视、听、读、写技能训练有机地结合，因此具有很强的趣味性和实用性，对提高大专院校本科生、研究生、广大英语爱好者的英语整体水平以及培养他们跨文化交际的能力颇有裨益。

前 言

《英美文化视听教程》是为了实现大学英语教学从“应试教育”向“素质教育”的转变,突出文化学习这一外语教育的重要环节,同时也是为了配合大学英语“综合英语”课程而精心编写的教材。《英美文化视听教程》全书分为上、下两册。本书是下册。

多年来,涉及英美文化或英语国家背景知识的课程一般是为英语专业的学生开设的。其内容主要是关于英美国家的历史、地理、政治经济和文化背景知识。因此,许多教材如:《英美文化基础教程》《英语国家社会与文化入门》《英美概况》等,侧重介绍知识文化,但知识文化对两种不同文化背景的人进行交际时不直接产生重大的影响。所以要培养跨文化交际能力必须传授交际文化知识。

本书基于上述目的,确定了以交际文化为主,以知识文化为辅的教学范畴,旨在既要培养学生的语言能力,同时又必须注重跨文化交际能力的培养。

本书在总体设计和编写上具有以下几个特点。

1. 设计新颖,调子明快。书中配有大量的插图,生动活泼,趣味性强。
2. 选材内容丰富,语言规范,所用材料均经过反复筛选;信息量大,涉及面广,可读性强。
3. 练习设计形式新颖。课堂活动的设计以及练习的编写以文化差异导致的交际冲突为线索,让学生把注意力放在如何排除影响顺利交际的文化障碍上,实用性强。
4. 语言输入形式生动直观,利用多媒体作为教学辅助手段,使视、听、读、写技能得以有机结合。语言材料主要选自英美等国近年出版发行的书籍、报刊以及国外的网站,视听资料主要选用英美经典名片,欣赏性强。

本书在编写过程中得到了外语系领导和教师的热情帮助,华中科技大学出版社的领导和英语编辑也给了我们热情的鼓励和帮助,在此一并表示感谢。

雷小川教授对本书的总体设计、内容安排和材料取舍提出了宝贵的意见,并对本书进行了详尽审阅,在此我们向他表示最诚挚的谢意。

由于编者水平和经验有限,教材编写方式又有异于传统教材,书中难免有错误和不当之处,敬请广大读者和同仁批评指正。

编 者

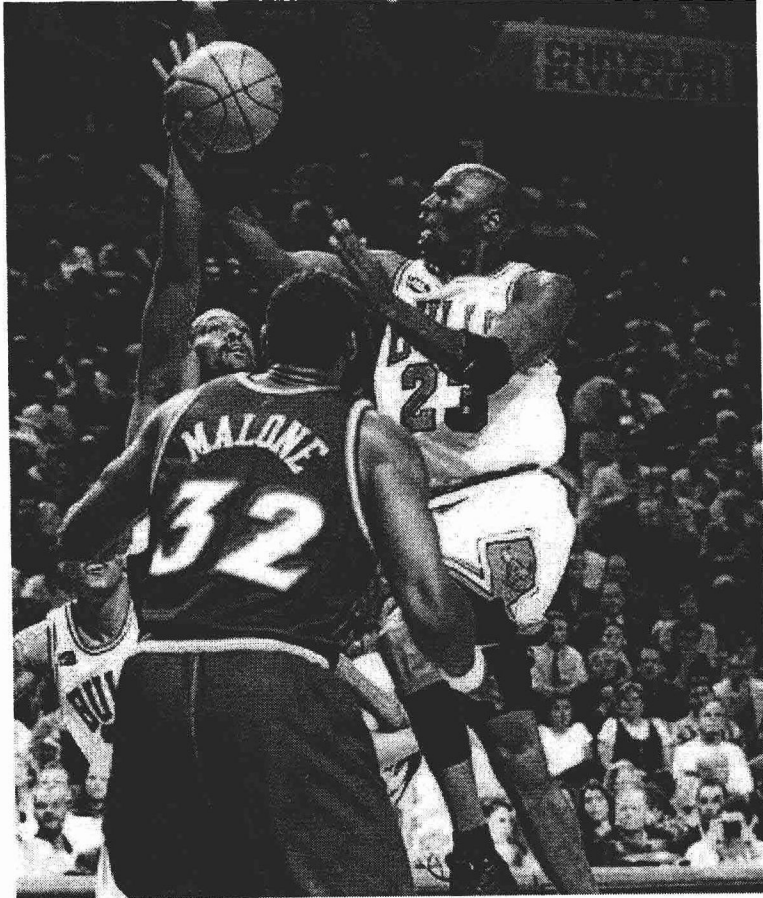
2004年12月

于喻家山麓

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Unit One Sports

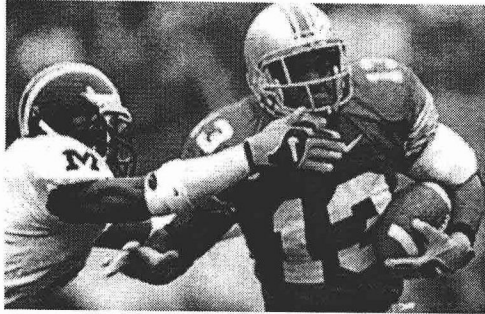
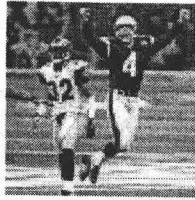
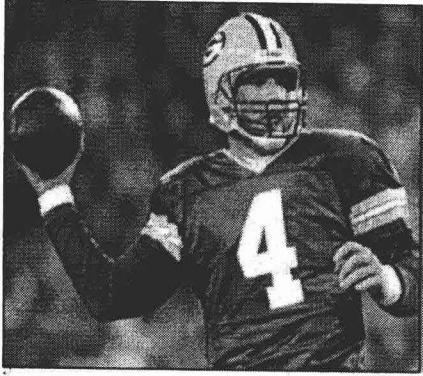


"Sports serve society by providing vivid examples of excellence."

— George F. Will

Warm-up

Watching or attending sports events is an important part of the lives of many Americans. What is the sport below, and how does it affect the lives of the people?



PART A Cultural Focus

Football in America

Before You Read

Glossary

frankfurter /'fræŋkfətə/ *n.* a long thin smoked sausage with a reddish-brown skin 牛肉香肠

bun /bʌn/ *n.* a small round flat bread roll 小面包圈, 小圆面包

mustard /'mʌstəd/ *n.* a condiment made from the powdered seeds of some of these plants 芥末酱
(调味品)

ketchup /'ketʃəp/ *n.* a thick cold sauce made from tomatoes 番茄酱

relish /'relɪʃ/ *n.* a spicy sauce made from fruit and vegetables that have been boiled 调味品, 开胃食品

pretzel /'pretsl/ *n.* a crisp salty biscuit often served with drinks at a party 椒盐卷饼

tailgate /'teɪlgeɪt/ *n.* a door at the back of a lorry truck that opens downwards 后挡板

culminate /'kʌlmɪneɪt/ *v.* to reach the highest point or degree; climax 达到顶点

idle /'aɪdl/ *a.* (of machines, factories, etc.) not in use 闲置的

fringe /'frɪndʒ/ *n.* a marginal, peripheral, or secondary part 边缘

advent /'ædvent/ *n.* the coming of an important event, person, invention, etc. 出现, 到来

pageantry /'pædʒəntri/ *n.* impressive and colourful events and ceremonies 壮观的场面

intermission /,ɪntə'mɪʃn/ *n.* a short period of time between the parts of a play, film / movie, etc. (电影、戏剧等的) 中间休息

varsity /'vɑ:səti/ *n.* the principal team representing a university, college, or school in sports, games, or other competitions 学院体育比赛的代表队

squad /skwɒd/ *n.* a small group of people organized in an activity 一班, 一队

cheerleader /'tʃiəli:də/ *n.* one who leads the cheering of spectators, as at a sports contest 拉拉队队长

prowess /'prəʊəs/ *n.* great skill at doing sth. 非凡的能力

quarterback /'kwɔ:təbæk/ *n.* the player whose position is behind the line of scrimmage and who usu. calls the signals for the plays 四分卫

offense /ə'fens/ *n.* the act of attacking or assaulting 进攻

requisite /'rekwɪzɪt/ *a.* required; essential 必需的

punt /pʌnt/ v. a kick in which the ball is dropped from the hands and kicked before it touches the ground 踢凌空长球; 踢脱手球

touchdown /ˈtʌtʃdaʊn/ n. an act of carrying, receiving, or gaining possession of the ball across the opponent's goal line for a score of six points 攻方持球, 触地得分

tackle /ˈtækl/ n. the act of stopping an opposing player by seizing and throwing the player down 阻截队员

tie /taɪ/ n. a situation in a game or competition when two or more players have the same scores 平局

Football in America

Sunday morning in thousands of American homes adults are hurrying to pack frankfurters, hamburgers, and sausages, with rolls and buns, mustard and ketchup, and various relishes: onions, pickles and the like. Bags of potato chips, pretzels and peanuts are also gathered up. There is also the portable grill to get ready as well as a cooler filled with ice, beer and soda water. All of this food is for the "tailgate" party at the football game. (Station wagon automobiles, popular a few years ago, had a rear door that opened horizontally. It was called, after the rear gate of horse drawn wagons, the tailgate. When the car was parked in a lot, the tailgate was lowered and food and drinks were placed on it. Thus, a tailgate party.)

For those many other thousands not actually attending the game, a party nonetheless is held in front of a TV set, where one can watch three different games on a single Sunday afternoon and evening. American professional football is played during the late summer (preseason), the fall (regular season), and the winter until late in January (post-season, or play-off time)^①. All this culminates in the Super Bowl^② to decide the champion team for the year. There are now twenty-four teams divided into two conferences, the American Football Conference (AFC) and the National Football Conference (NFC). These teams are located throughout the country from Seattle to Miami, from San Diego to New England.

Professional sports in America are entertainment, especially football. Spectators are as much interested in eating and drinking as they are in the game itself. It is a time to party, and a time to advertise products for consumption. It was not always so. Professional football used to be a minor activity on the American scene. Because games were played only once a week, a football stadium had to accommodate many paying customers, so they were quite large. The largest stadium today is the Pontiac Silverdome^③ in Michigan with a capacity of a little over 80 000 seats, and the smallest is the Oakland Coliseum^④ in California seating just 50 000 people. A large area of land in the middle of a city is very expensive, and it would be essentially idle for days at a time. Thus stadiums were located on the fringes of cities or a waterfront land if that was available. But this made it difficult for spectators to attend.

Interest in professional football suddenly increased with the advent of color television. It had to be color television and not the simple black-and-white sort, because without viewing colors, the players on opposing teams can not be distinguished easily, making it quite difficult to follow the

game. With color, the teams are easily distinguished, and the pageantry, the colored banners and flags, heighten the visual interest. Technically advanced equipment permitted home viewers to see a replay, sometimes in slow motion. More experienced cameramen, with more cameras available, were able to anticipate unusual plays and follow the movement of the ball more closely. And announcers were able to describe the game and explain it to home viewers, and even provide background information about the players and owners. Television producers made arrangements with the officials to take intermissions from play so that corporate sponsors could broadcast commercials during the course of the game, rather than waiting until the end of a set period. Furthermore, games could be broadcast every week, with different games played at different times. All of these led to increased interest on the part of spectators, who now were more willing to leave their comfortable homes where they could watch on television, and travel to a far away stadium to join with other fans in attendance. Notice that one can view the game more clearly at home than one can see it from most seats in an enormous stadium, so the social aspects of being there with others is an important motivation for attending the game in person. Many stadiums today have a large screen visible from the seating area and capable of displaying a television picture. So even those spectators at the stadium itself can see "instant replays" of events on the field that they were unable to see from their seats.

In addition to professional football, most colleges and universities have a varsity football team, with additional personnel in a marching band and a squad of cheerleaders, whose task is to lead the spectators in cheering for their team. The marching band and cheerleaders usually provide entertainment during the major intermission halfway through the game.

One reason football is so popular in America may be that the game combines teamwork with individual prowess in a rough, contact competition. The football hero is a ball carrier who can evade the defensive team, all of whom are trying to stop him. This explains why runners like O.J. Simpson[®] became famous, while those teammates who protected him from the rushing defensive players are unknown. Similarly, an effective defensive player, who is able to move through the protection and stop the ball carrier, will often become famous.

Americans like to glorify individuals who succeed in overcoming obstacles, natural ones as well as those presented by others. Perhaps this inclination is peculiar to Americans.

How the game is played?

The two opposing teams place eleven players on the field at one time. The team having possession of the football is the offense whose object is to advance the ball over the defense's goal line. The ball may be carried by runner, or it may be thrown forward down the field to another player. The execution of these plays is directed by the quarterback, who is usually stationed directly behind the center of the line of players facing the opponent's goal. The offense must advance at least ten yards in four attempts (called downs) otherwise the defensive team gains possession of the ball and thus becomes the offense. When this happens the players on the field are usually replaced by other team members, because these days there is considerable specialization, or division of labor, one player being a kicker, another a runner,

and so on.

If the offense believes it will fail to make the requisite ten yards, it will usually kick the ball on fourth down, so that when the defense takes possession it will be that much farther back from their desired goal. This kick is called a punt.

A team scores 6 points for a touchdown, running or passing the ball over the opponent's goal line. At that stage, the team can earn one additional point by kicking the ball through the goal posts, a Point After Touchdown (PAT)^⑥. If a team is close enough to the goal posts, and believes it may not be able to score a touchdown, it can attempt to kick the ball through the goal posts. This is called a Field Goal^⑦, and is worth 3 points.

Play begins after both teams line up facing each other divided by a line stretching from sideline and passing through the ball on the field. The ball is handed or tossed by the player in the center of the line to someone in the backfield, usually the quarterback. Some of the defensive players attempt to restrain the player with the ball, which is called a tackle. Other defensive players move away from the line and attempt to prevent a successful pass. The play is over and the timing clock stops, when a goal is scored, the ball goes out of bounds, the ball carrier is tackled, or a pass is not caught. The clock can also stop if a team calls time out^⑧.

There are four quarters of playing time lasting 15 minutes for each quarter. At the end of an hour of playing, the team with the most points wins. In college football, there could be a tie, but in professional football, if both teams have the same score, the game will continue for additional 15 minutes period until one team scores, at which point they are the winners.

Notes

- ① American professional football...play-off time). 美国职业橄榄球赛分前赛季（夏末），正规赛季（秋季）及季后赛或超级锦标赛（冬季至一月）。
play off: 实力最强的运动队之间的锦标赛。
- ② the Super Bowl: 美国超级职业橄榄球赛。自 1967 年起每年一月份举行，参加者为全国橄榄球联合会所属美国橄榄球协会（即下文提到的 American Football Conference, 简称 AFC, 和全国橄榄球协会 National Football Conference, 简称 NFC）中的优胜者。
- ③ Pontiac Silverdome: 庞蒂亚克银体育馆。庞蒂亚克（Pontiac）为美国密歇根州东南部城市。
- ④ Oakland Coliseum: 奥克兰·柯立希姆体育场。奥克兰（Oakland）为美国加州城市。
- ⑤ O.J.Simpson: 辛普森。美国著名黑人橄榄球运动员，因涉嫌杀死前妻及其男友被审查，后被判无罪，但绝大多数美国人认为他有罪。
- ⑥ a Point After Touchdown (PAT): 底线得分的加分
- ⑦ a Field Goal: 射门得分（美式足球可得三分）
- ⑧ time out: 暂停

After You Read

1. Explain the following in your own words.
 - 1) the Super Bowl
 - 2) touchdown
2. Fill in the blanks.
 - 1) The two conferences for American football are AFC, which stands for _____ and NFC, which stands for _____.
 - 2) In playing football, the team having possession of the ball is the _____ whose objective is to advance the ball over the _____'s goal line.
 - 3) When defensive players try to stop the player with the ball, this is called _____.
 - 4) When either team calls for a stop, this called _____.
3. Questions for thought and discussion.
 - 1) Why do you think a lot of people love sports? In what way do sports reflect American culture? Compare your opinion with the author's comment.
 - 2) Football, baseball and basketball are the three most popular sports in U.S. Are they popular in China? Why / Why not?
 - 3) What types of sports are Chinese athletes are good at? Why?
 - 4) Comment on the role of television in sports competition. Do you like to watch a match via television at home or would you prefer to watch in the stadium?
4. Composition or discussion.

There is violence and dangerous play in many sports today, because the desire to win is so great. What can be done about it?

PART B Audio-Visual Activities

Film Clips of *Ultimate Jordan*

Before You Watch

1. Who had said the following?

“Now I guess it hits me that I’m not going to be in a uniform anymore, and that’s not a terrible feeling. It’s something that I’ve come to grips with, and it’s time. This is the final retirement.”

2. Who played in 1 072 games, playing an amazing 41 011 minutes and finished his career with 32 292 points, 5 633 assists and 6 672 rebounds?
3. Who finished his career with 32 292 points — the third-highest total in league history, behind Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Karl Malone?
4. Whose 30.12 career average goes down as the best in NBA history?



Background Information

About Jordan, the Position — Guard

Height — 6’6”

Weight — 216

Birthday — February 17, 1963



High School — Laney H.S. in Wilmington, NC

College — North Carolina 1985

NBA Experience — 15 seasons

Drafted — selected by Chicago in the first round (third overall) of the 1984 NBA Draft

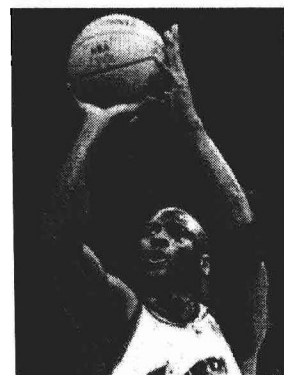
“I can accept failure, but I can’t accept not trying.” — Michael Jordan

Jordan’s Achievements

Michael Jordan is the greatest athlete in basketball history. During his brilliant career, Jordan won 6 NBA Championships, earned 5 MVP awards and was selected to 13 All-Star games.

Michael’s talent and personality transcended into the very lives of his fans. He single-handedly paved the way for off-the-court athlete-endorsements — a billion dollar industry today!

AWARD	YEAR
NBA World Champion:	1991, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 1998
NBA Rookie of the Year:	1985
NBA All Rookie Team:	1985
All NBA First Team:	1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 1998
NBA Defensive Player of the Year:	1988
All NBA Defensive First Team:	1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 1998
NBA MVP:	1988, 1991, 1992, 1996, 1998
NBA Finals MVP:	1991, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 1998
NBA Slam Dunk Champion:	1987, 1988



After You Watch

1. Complete the biography of Michael Jordan based on the video *Ultimate Jordan*.

Jordan is the _____ of five children, having two older brothers and an elder and younger sister. As a child, Jordan played _____. His preferred sport at the time was _____ but because his older and taller brother, _____, continuously kept beating him when they played one-on-one, he was determined to become a better basketball player.

Ironically, in 1978, when Jordan attended _____ in Wilmington, North Carolina, he was cut from the varsity team. By the time Jordan was finishing his senior year at Laney, he attained a basketball scholarship from the University of _____. Jordan's ever-growing popularity began at _____ where he made a last minute game-winning shot in the _____ championship game.

In the summer of _____, Jordan played on the U.S. Men's Olympic Basketball Team under head coach _____. Two months after the Olympics, Jordan played his first regular-season game with the _____. He led _____ to three consecutive World Championships (1991, 1992 and 1993).

Jordan's acrobatic moves and hang-time won him the infamous nickname _____. His basketball skills and allure made him the perfect key figure to market both _____ products and the NBA.

After proving that he was the best basketball player in the world, Jordan sought a new challenge and decided to try his hand at _____ but he quickly realized that he was not

cutout for _____ after a disappointing season. In 1995, Jordan made a surprise return to basketball. But he decided to retire after winning his last Championship in _____.

After partly returning to the game as president of basketball operations with the _____ (he owned a stake in the team), Jordan announced his return to the NBA, this time, as a Wizard. In 2002 he suffered a _____ that kept him on the sidelines for the rest of the season, and experienced stormy wedded bliss when wife Juanita announced her desire to file for _____ (the couple are now still happily married).

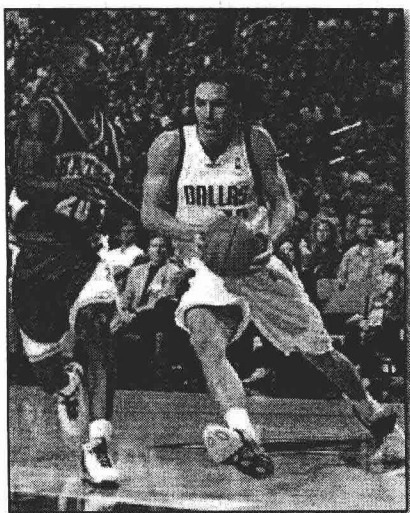
2. Questions for thought and discussion.

- 1) Why is Michael Jordan so famous?
- 2) What do you think of Jordan's retirement and return during his long career?

PART C Supplementary Reading

Basketball in America

Before You Read



Glossary

hoop /hu:p/ *n.* 篮圈

collegiate /kə'li:dʒiət/ *a.* relating to a college 学院的

sip /sip/ *v.* to drink in small quantities 小口喝

rivalry /'raɪvlri/ *n.* competition; (a case of) being rivals 竞争, 竞赛

arena /ə'ri:nə/ *n.* a large modern building for the presentation of sports events and spectacles 竞技场

elimination /i,limi'neiʃn/ *n.* remove from consideration by defeating, as in a contest 淘汰

rim /rim/ *n.* the border, edge, or margin of sth. 边, 圈

backboard /'bækbɔ:d/ *n.* the board behind the basket in the game of basketball 篮板

opaque /əu'peɪk/ *a.* not able to be seen through 不透明的

sink /sɪŋk/ *v.* to hit (a ball) into a hole or basket 远投

bounce /baʊns/ *v.* to cause to strike an object or a surface and rebound 使反弹

dribble /'dribl/ *v.* to move the ball along with several short kicks 运球; 带球

intercept /,ɪntə'sept/ *v.* to take possession of by catching (an opponent's ball) 截球

expire /ɪk'spaɪə/ *v.* to come to an end; terminate 终止