

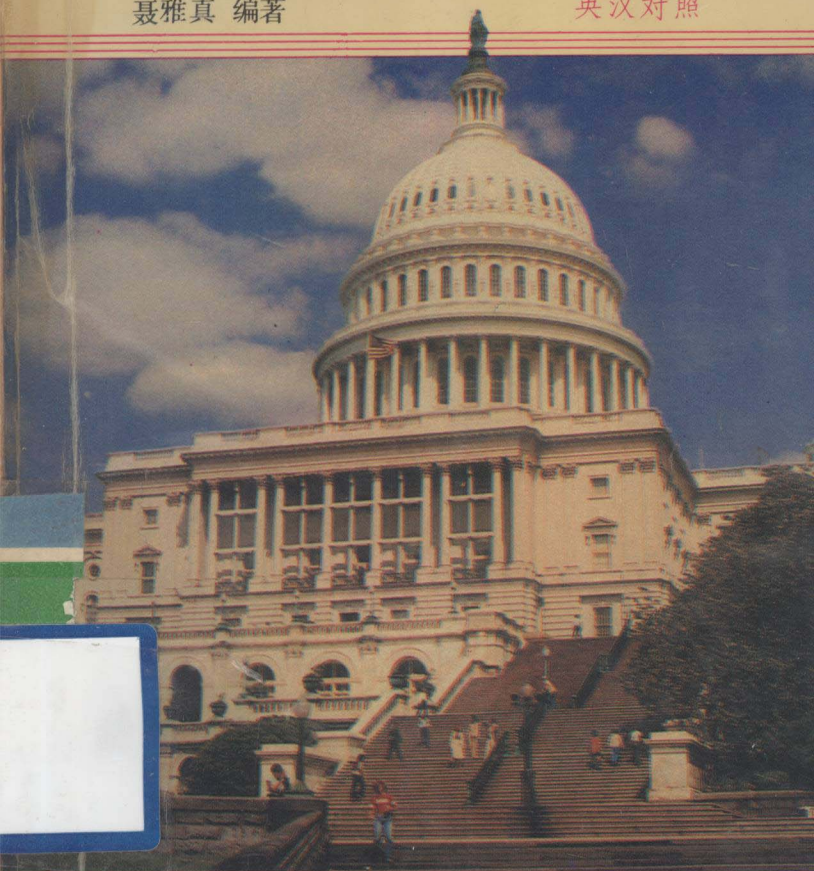
· 域外风情丛书 ·



美国 风情录

聂雅真 编著

英汉对照



东方出版中心

聂雅真 编著 唐振邦 校订

聂雅真 刘光华 译文校订

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说 明

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内 容 提 要

《美国风情录》是一本适合中等英语程度读者自习用的英汉对照读物。全书分为十章,分别介绍美国的风土人物、礼仪习俗、历史简况和社会状况等,而以一位虚构的美籍访华学者用第一人称担任主讲。其内容丰富多采,英语简洁流畅,译文准确,并附有详尽的中文注释和国际音标。本书主要读者对象为准备赴美留学、访问或工作的人员和外贸、旅游单位的接待人员,并可作为各大中学英语教学辅助教材及中等程度以上者自学英语的辅助读物。

再 版 说 明

英语读物《美国风情录》(Miscellaneous Talks on American Society) 于一九八二年十一月出版以来, 深受读者欢迎, 并纷纷来信要求将它译为中文。本社现特以汉英对照的形式予以再版。为便于读者对照学习起见, 译文以紧扣原文为原则。同时, 为争取缩短排印时间、早日与读者见面, 再版本保持了英语原书的版式, 而将全部译文附置其后。编写本书的目的是用于英语口语的教学或自修。书中通过虚构的美籍教授布朗讲课所介绍的仅为部分美国风土人情, 远非全貌; 对美国一些社会问题的议论, 也多借用一般美国人的看法和口气, 未作深入剖析。希读者鉴谅。

本书汉译翻译者为蔡永明(第一章)、王乃玲(第二章)、葛葆英(第三章)、李荣秋(第四章)、倪正律(第五章)、陆人骊(第六章)、黄惠民(第七章)、聂雅真(第八章、第十章)、李初民(第九章)。译文校订者为聂雅真和刘光华。

一九八四年八月

前 言

编者多年来从事有关出国人员、口译工作者及高校英语师资的英语培训工作，深感缺乏一种程度深浅合宜、内容较为生动，既符合快速培训的要求，又能适当介绍一些美国风土人情的口语教材。为此，特地编写了这本《美国风情录》(Miscellaneous Talks on American Society)。全书分为十讲，分别介绍美国的风土人情、礼仪习俗、各地风光、历史简况和社会问题等。为了求得情景逼真、语言生动，编者在书中虚构了一位来我国访问的美籍教授布朗先生担任主讲。书中文字力求浅显实用、符合美国人的口语习惯，并附有详尽的中文注释和国际音标，一则可用于口译训练，再则便于中等程度的英语自修者自学。附录中还选收了一些与课文有关的资料以备参考。

本书完稿后曾在上海市高教局主办的高校英语教师进修班以及其它英语培训班试用，受到学员们的欢迎。由于编者水平所限，谬误在所难免，尚祈诸前辈及同行老师指正。

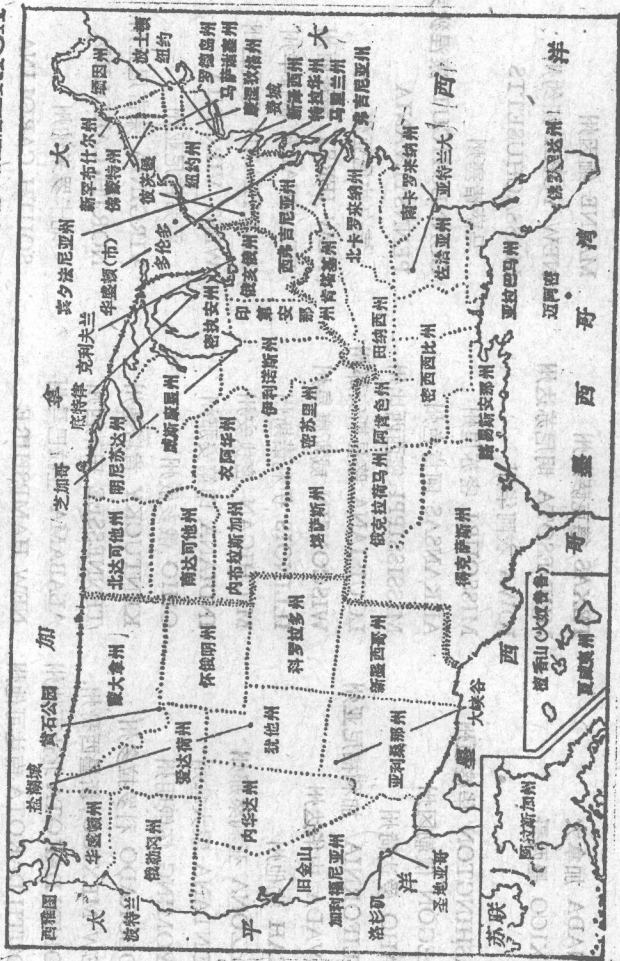
全书承上海师范学院外语系唐振邦副教授校订，谨在此表示谢意。

聂雅真

一九八二年一月

美国简图

SKETCH MAP OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



CANADA 加拿大	TEXAS 德克萨斯州	MAINE 缅因州
MEXICO 墨西哥	MINNESOTA 明尼苏达州	NEW YORK 纽约州
• • •	IOWA 衣阿华州	MASSACHUSETTS
WASHINGTON 华盛顿州	MISSOURI 密苏里州	马萨诸塞州
OREGON 俄勒冈州	ARKANSAS 阿肯色州	CONNECTICUT 康涅狄克州
IDAHO 爱达荷州	MISSISSIPPI 密西西比州	PENNSYLVANIA
CALIFORNIA 加利福尼亚州	LOUISIANA 路易斯安那州	宾夕法尼亚州
NEVADA 内华达州	WISCONSIN 威斯康星州	NEW JERSEY 新泽西州
UTAH 犹他州	ILLINOIS 伊利诺斯州	DELAWARE 特拉华州
ARIZONA 亚利桑那州	MICHIGAN 密执安州	MARYLAND 马里兰州
MONTANA 蒙大拿州	INDIANA 印第安那州	WEST VIRGINIA
WYOMING 怀俄明州	OHIO 俄亥俄州	西弗吉尼亚州
COLORADO 科罗拉多州	KENTUCKY 肯塔基州	VIRGINIA 弗吉尼亚州
NEW MEXICO, 新墨西哥州	TENNESSEE 田纳西州	NORTH CAROLINA
NORTH DAKOTA 北达可他州	ALABAMA 亚拉巴马州	北卡罗来纳州
SOUTH DAKOTA 南达可他州	NEW HAMPSHIRE	SOUTH CAROLINA
NEBRASKA 内布拉斯加州	新罕布什尔州	南卡罗来纳州
OKLAHOMA 俄克拉荷马州	VERMONT 佛蒙特州	GEORGIA 佐治亚州

FLORIDA 佛罗里达州

ALASKA 阿拉斯加州

HAWAII 夏威夷州

RHODE ISLAND 罗德岛州

• • •

Boston 波士顿

New York 纽约

Washington D. C.

Philadelphia 费城

Atlanta 亚特兰大

Toronto 多伦多

Detroit 底特律

华盛顿(市)

Chicago 芝加哥

Los Angeles 洛杉矶

San Diego 圣地亚哥(圣迭戈)

Seattle 西雅图

San Francisco 旧金山

Honolulu 檀香山(火奴鲁鲁)

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1. American Manners⁽¹⁾ and Customs⁽²⁾ I

My young friends:

I'm very glad to have the chance of making your acquaintance⁽³⁾. This chance, I can assure⁽⁴⁾ you, is something most other Americans are eagerly⁽⁵⁾ looking forward to⁽⁶⁾. The Chinese people, especially the younger generation⁽⁷⁾, I believe, are also trying to find more and more friends on the other side of the Pacific Ocean. This trend⁽⁸⁾ is good for both nations — for the development of friendly relations between the two countries. Therefore, it is my pleasure and good fortune to be able to contribute⁽⁹⁾ something to all this by sharing⁽¹⁰⁾ with you the little bit of knowledge of English, and of our history and geography and a few other things about my country which you may find interesting. I would provide you with some information⁽¹¹⁾ about the American people — about the way they live, the things they like and those they dislike, and their manners and customs. I will also talk about some problems that we are facing back at home. These topics will be dealt with in a series of lectures. Today, in my first lecture, I'd like to talk about manners and customs

1 Hi³, Folks

I believe the first thing you ought to know about American customs is how introductions are made in the United States. A great difference between American social customs and those of other countries lies in the way in which names are used. Most Americans don't like using Mr., Mrs. or Miss. They find these terms too formal. In the United States, people of all ages may prefer to be called by their first names. For example, one may say, "My name is Wilson — James I Wilson. Call me James." "Glad to meet you. I'm Miller. But call me Paul." "How do you do?" "How do you do?" Sometimes the ladies that you first meet will also say, "Don't call me Mrs. Smith, just call me Sally."

So, as you can see, using only first names usually indicates friendliness. Very often, introductions are made using both first and last names; for example "Mary Smith, this is John Jones." In this situation, you are free to decide whether to call the lady "Mary" or "Miss Smith". Sometimes both of you will begin a conversation using family names, that is, surnames⁽¹²⁾: Mr. Smith, Miss White, and after a while one or both of you may begin using first names instead. Of course, foreigners who come to the States may feel uncomfortable using only first names. For them it is quite acceptable⁽¹³⁾ to be more formal. You just smile and say, "Excuse my being formal when

meeting new friends. I am accustomed to⁽¹⁴⁾ it. After a while I'll use first names too."

So, if your American friends do not use your last names or titles⁽¹⁵⁾, that really doesn't mean any lack of respect. They are used to being informal. I can give you another example of their informality⁽¹⁶⁾. Yesterday, some members of an American delegation and I came across a few American tourists here in Shanghai. One of the tourists asked, "Hi, folks⁽¹⁷⁾, where from?" "Los Angeles", answered one delegate⁽¹⁸⁾. So you can see how informal we are.

2 How Titles are Used

In addition to Mr., Mrs. and Miss, there is one more term, Ms⁽¹⁹⁾, which is becoming more and more popular in the United States. Ms is used either for a married or unmarried woman. So when you are not certain whether to call the lady "Miss" or "Mrs." you may just call her Ms. But be sure that the four terms, Mr., Mrs., Miss and Ms, are followed by the last names.

When you first meet an American and want to be respectful, you can always use "sir" or "madam" in place of their names. The person you address⁽²⁰⁾ will probably realize that you are not sure of the proper title to use and will help you by telling you the correct term. However, you'll find formal titles very seldom used in the United States, except in some special occupations⁽²¹⁾ —

by judges⁽²²⁾, high government officials, certain military officers, medical workers, doctors, professors and religious leaders. Most of these titles are followed by surnames. For example Judge Harley, Senator⁽²³⁾ Smith, General Clark, Dr. Brown (medical), Dr. Green (professor), Bishop⁽²⁴⁾ Gray. But for a professor, who is nearly always a university professor, you may call him professor, with or without his surname.

One more point about "sir" and "madam". They are not followed by either the first names or the last names. Don't say "Sir Ford", "Madam Smith" except when "sir" is used as the title of a knight or baronet in England, e.g. Sir John. His wife is addressed as Dame or Lady Smith.

"Sir" and "madam" show respect for position and seniority⁽²⁵⁾, but there is some slight difference in actual usage. For instance, at school, students address their man teacher "sir", but seldom address their woman teacher "madam".

In China, I often hear students address their teacher "Teacher Wang", "Teacher Li". This is not practiced in the United States. And administrative⁽²⁶⁾ titles like director, manager, principal⁽²⁷⁾, dean⁽²⁸⁾, chancellor⁽²⁹⁾, etc. are not used as forms of address.

I have noticed here in China that people often shake hands after being introduced to each other. In the United States, there may also be a handshake, if it is formal. But very often the two would just smile and say "Hi" or