大学英语公共选修课教材

# 欧洲城市文化与文学

EUROPEAN URBAN CULTURE AND LITERATURE

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## **European Urban Culture and Literature**

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欧洲的悠久历史将城市绘制成现代社会高度多元化的产物,柏林墙上的涂鸦、巴黎的路边咖啡馆、伦敦的博物馆、阿姆斯特丹的广场文化……这些城市和文化的发展为文学提供了开放的、社会的、多样的和多视角的研究空间和研究素材。"文化转型"加强了人们对都市的兴趣,为研究现代文化构成与发展带来了新的见解。文学中的城市既是想象构建的结果又是客观现实存在的城市原形的反映。从历史角度,欧洲城市的历史包含着封建制度的衰落、帝国主义和极权主义的兴起,城市的话语承载着历史的乐观和悲观,在生活的喧嚣中证明自己的存在。历史背景的不同造就了概念化城市的不同方式,使城市以不同形象呈现在公众面前和人们的想象中。

本书以文学作品和文化现象为研究目标,探索文学、文化与其相关学科的内在联系。具体从联合国确定的欧洲文化之都中选取十个历史厚重的欧洲城市——阿姆斯特丹、柏林、哥本哈根、都柏林、爱丁堡、伦敦、巴黎、布拉格、罗马和圣彼得堡,以城市为切入点,结合城市文化现象、文艺活动、城市风貌、特色建筑等艺术形式,以历史为背景,依靠城市阅读相关的文学作品,以文学为纽带,将城市和欧洲文化历史的不同方面聚在一起,从历史角度展示城市发展与文化的内在联系。所选的文学作品反映了近两个世纪以来的欧洲文学运动、思潮和流派。阅读这些作品,读者需要思考以下问题:文学中城市的表现形式如何影响作者和读者的城市概念化过程?文学中的城市主题能否、如何赋予城市新的文化内涵和历史意义?怎样利用这些文化内涵和历史意义?文学和城市的动态依存关系能否以及如何激发新的比

较和理论化的模式?这些都是本书关注的重要问题。

本书将阅读范围划定为欧洲文学、文化,一方面,编者的欧洲留学经历使其对当地文化感触颇深,利于开展文学研究;另一方面,欧洲范围内丰富的文学文化内涵无法穷尽,编者在选择文本和视角时可以有多种选择、多种组合,这样的组合可以产生各种无法预料的变数,这种不确定性必然会形成新颖、独特的观点,使阅读变得有趣、神秘;再一方面,欧洲城市文化具备共性与特性兼而有之的特点,为阅读该文化提供了细致入微的比较空间,使阅读深入、全面,所选城市的历史和创新使阅读跨越时间距离,看到城市的文化发展前景。由于篇幅所限,本书不能涵盖所有欧洲主要城市,但编者希望这十个欧洲城市可以起到以点带面的作用,使读者加强对欧洲文学、文化的理解和认识。

本书所选素材包括散文、小说、日记、游记、回忆录等不同文学样式,具有典型性、历史性和现代性的特点。这些作品既有能够代表某一时期、反映某一城市风貌和社会现实的知名作家的名篇、名作,如乔伊斯的《都柏林人》、雨果的《巴黎圣母院》等,也有能够反映当代文化研究发展方向和思潮的当代文化学家如荷兰学者米克•巴尔(Mieke Bal)的文化分析篇章。这些作品虽然体裁不同、时代不同,反映不同的社会现实,但共同特点是它们都起到了确立城市文化身份的作用。有些作品虽然创作于一两个世纪以前,但是即便在科技发展日新月异的今天,这些作品对如何解读城市仍有深远的影响,城市也因为拥有了它们而增加了其历史性和文化性。这些文学文本虽不能涵盖一个城市的所有方面和全部历史,但是为管窥欧洲文化的历史、发展变化和现状提供了一个直观的窗口和全新的视角。

本书对海量文章进行了精挑细选,适合大学本科及以上水平的学生和英语爱好者阅读,希望通过阅读可以向读者展示欧洲文明、文化和文学。

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## Chapter 1 Amsterdam

Amsterdam was a great surprise to me.

—James Weldon Johnson



## **Quotes Featuring Amsterdam**

▶ I had always thought of Venice as the city of canals; it had never entered my mind that I should find similar conditions in a Dutch town.

-James Weldon Johnson

We want to legalize marijuana. But we can't sell it in cafes like in Amsterdam because we'd get all the unemployed Germans coming here.

—J. X. Dolezal

▶ In Amsterdam the water is the mistress and the land the vassal. Throughout the city there are as many canals and drawbridges as bracelets on a Gypsy's bronzed arms.

-Felix Marti-Ibanez

#### **Key Words**

Culture, nightlife, architecture, museums, and Anne Frank's diary.

#### **Questions**

- 1. What surprises you most after reading "Surprising Amsterdam"?
- 2. Do you know some other amazing facts about Amsterdam or the Netherlands?
- 3. How do you understand the statement "Paper has more patience than people" in Anne Frank's diary?

## Surprising Amsterdam 惊人的阿姆斯特丹

Amsterdam is a city of many sides. People are familiar with its rich history, beautiful canals, and many museums. The article offers a general picture of Amsterdam, which helps its reader to discover the secrets of Amsterdam. The amazing aspect lies in Dutch people's liberal attitude towards drugs, sex, gay marriage and euthanasia.

## **Surprising Amsterdam**

## Current Dutch Culture<sup>®</sup>

The Netherlands is a culturally very diverse country, with inhabitants from all over the globe. Especially in the large cities: Amsterdam for instance has people from 170+ nationalities living there.

The original inhabitants are (in)famous for being straightforward,

① 选自 http://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g188553-s202/The-Netherlands:Culture.html。

very direct and speaking their minds, which foreigners sometimes might see as rude. But don't worry! It's (usually) not meant that way! One of the other main characteristics of Dutch people is that they're very down-to-earth. Show-offs and people who brag about how much money they're worth are usually put to their place. There's a Dutch saying (Doe maar gewoon, dan doe je al gek genoeg!) which would literally translate into something like: "Just act normal, then you're acting crazy enough as it is!"

The Dutch are very open to other cultures; something that reflects on the cuisine<sup>©</sup> as well. Traditionally, a standard evening meal would consist of potatoes, vegetables and a piece of meat, but foreign products and ingredients are more and more added to the daily cooking.

As it being such an open and internationally orientated country, almost everyone can make him- or herself understandable in English and/or another language, besides Dutch. That doesn't mean that the residents won't appreciate it when you, as a foreign traveler, try to speak Dutch. You'll probably find though that people tend to rapidly switch to English, since they feel that to be easier and faster.

When meeting a Dutch person, it's very common to shake hands or when you know someone better, to give that person three "kisses" on the cheeks. A big no-no is to ask someone how much money he or she makes in a year! Asking that would be considered VERY rude and would end up in getting a snappy<sup>®</sup> answer like "none of your business."

The Netherlands is also well known for its liberal attitude towards specific subjects, such as gay rights or marriage, euthanasia, soft drugs, freedom of speech, abortion etc. That doesn't mean that locals can't get extremely upset sometimes when it comes to "drug tourism." Smoking a

① 美食。

② 聪明的,生动的。

joint<sup>®</sup> in public is not recommended and could give you a lot of angry faces. Locals in Amsterdam for instance love tourists, but can't stand people who only go there to get stoned<sup>®</sup> and/or drunk. As in all liberal societies, there are two sides of the medal. Yes, you are allowed to do and say a lot but you also have to get along and compromise and be diplomatic to keep the peace.

#### Amsterdam: What It's Like®

As I stepped out of a KLM<sup>®</sup> jet, on my very first trip to Amsterdam, I expected to see a rather sleepy city, populated by plump<sup>®</sup>, red-cheeked people who spent their time strolling along quaint<sup>®</sup> canals.

What a surprise I had in store!

- ⊙ On my first afternoon there, I passed restaurant after restaurant where dark-skinned, turbaned<sup>®</sup> waiters were serving exotic dishes of the East Indies to residents and tourists alike.
- ⊙ I walked through a massive amusement area—the famous "Rembrandtplein"—where literally scores of cafes and cabarets<sup>®</sup> were offering the kind of entertainment you expect to find only in Paris—but available here for one-third the price!
- I sat at sidewalk cases in the student section where bearded existentialists were excitedly holding forth on the world's problems and philosophies.
  - ⊙ I saw the shops of chic couturiers<sup>®</sup> standing side-by-side with

① 含有麻醉剂的香烟。

② 在软毒品支配下的,吸食大麻后身不由己的。

③ 选自 Surprising Amsterdam, by Arthur Frommer, 1966, New York: The Frommer/Pasmantier Publishing Corporation。

④ 荷兰皇家航空,即 Royal Dutch Airlines。

⑤ 丰满的。

⑥ 诱人的, 古怪的。

⑦ 戴头巾的, 戴小帽的。

⑧ 餐馆中的歌舞表演。

⑨ 裁缝店, 女装店。

open-air herring<sup>®</sup> stands, at which lovely Dutch girls, in modern bouffant hairdos, were dipping chunks of raw fish into bowls of chopped-up onions and chomping away!

⊙ I sipped cocktails in a cafe on the 13th floor of a futuristic skyscraper overlooking the port of Amsterdam, and then descended in an elevator to an area, several square miles in size, where scarcely a building had changed since the 17th and 18th Centuries!

Amsterdam—as you've undoubtedly grasped from the above exposition—is a city of fantastic surprises, a place crammed with sights and activities that seem to bear not the slightest resemblance to the picture of tulips, cheese, and wooden shoes that most visitors expect to find.

That's not to say, of course, that the famed quaintness of Amsterdam doesn't still exist. There will be times when you round a corner to come upon one of the city's 50 canals, and to view one of its 500 bridges, and as you gaze upon the vista® of quiet waters that flow between an unbroken line of trees and gabled old mansions, you will catch your breath at the sheer beauty of it all. And indeed, the massive central section of Amsterdam, whose architecture has been maintained unaltered for centuries, has been called "the largest open-air museum in the world."

But the predominant impression of Amsterdam is that of an active, throbbing, cosmopolitan city. In that regard, it mirrors the prosperity and progress of Western Europe—to such an extent that if I were asked to describe Amsterdam in a single phrase, I'd say that it has become a microcosm of everything that modern-day Europe represents. It is, of course, one of the chief trading ports on the continent, and all of the ships and trains and planes that every day pour into Amsterdam, in staggering numbers, make it a true crossroads city—a Europe in miniature—and therefore an unbelievably exciting place.

① 鲱鱼。

② 远景。

## 惊人的阿姆斯特丹

#### 当代荷兰文化

荷兰是个文化多样的国家,居民来自世界各地。尤其在大城市,比如 阿姆斯特丹,有一百七十多个民族的居民生活在那里。

荷兰本地人以简单、率真、直接表达自己的想法而著名(或者说,以此而声名狼藉),有时在外国人看来这有些粗鲁。但是,别担心!(通常)不会那样!荷兰人另一重要特点是他们非常朴实。喜欢炫耀和吹嘘自己身价之人通常哪来哪去。荷兰语中有句谚语,字面翻译类似为:"像普通人那样做事,那么你就会表现得足够疯狂!"

荷兰人对其他文化很开放,这也反映在美食方面。荷兰传统的晚 餐包括土豆、蔬菜和少量的肉,但是,现在荷兰人的日常烹饪中越来 越多地加入了外国产品和原料。

因为荷兰是个开放、面向世界的国家,所以,除了荷兰语,如果 说英语和/或另一种语言,几乎每个人在这里都可以找到能听懂自己语 言的听众。如果你是外国游客想尝试说荷兰语,当地居民还是会很高 兴的。但是,你可能会发现,人们往往会迅速切换到英语,因为他们 觉得这样交流更方便、更快捷。

遇到荷兰人时,通常可以握手,或者熟人之间可以亲吻对方的面颊三下。一定不要问别人的年收入!这将被视为非常没有礼貌,而且对方立马会像这样回答:"这不关你的事。"

荷兰还以其对一些特定事情的开放态度而出名,例如同性恋权利或同性婚姻、安乐死、软毒品、言论自由、堕胎等。但这并不是说如果你此行的目的是"毒品旅游",当地人会对此欣然接受。不建议你在公共场所吸食大麻烟卷,那样,许多人会很生气地看着你。比如,阿姆斯特丹当地人喜欢游客,但是不能容忍那些到这里来只为吸毒和/或喝酒之人。正如在所有开放社会一样,事物存在两方面。是的,你可以做许多事情,说许多话,但是,你还必须与他人和睦相处,必要

时作出妥协,有礼有度,实现和平。

#### 感受阿姆斯特丹

走出荷航飞机,第一次来到阿姆斯特丹,我想自己应该会看到一个相 当懒散的城市,那里,身材丰满、面颊红润的人们悠闲地沿着古色古 香的运河漫步。

而等待我的却是莫大的惊喜!

- ① 在阿姆斯特丹的第一天下午,我走过一家家餐厅。那里,肤色 黝黑、包着头巾的服务员正在为当地居民和外地游客端上一些充满异 国情调的东印度群岛菜肴。
- ① 我走过一处大型的休闲娱乐区——著名的"伦勃朗广场"。那里,多家咖啡厅和夜总会提供只能在巴黎才能享受到的娱乐形式,但价钱只有巴黎的三分之一。



Rembrandtplein 伦勃朗广场

- ① 我坐在路边咖啡馆的学生区,那里,胡子拉碴的存在主义者们 滔滔不绝地大谈世界问题和哲学。
  - ⊙ 我看到优雅的女装店与露天鲱鱼摊并排而立;鲱鱼摊前,留着

现代蓬松发型的可爱荷兰女孩将大块的生鲱鱼蘸着碗里的碎洋葱放进 嘴里,大快朵颐。

① 我在一座俯瞰阿姆斯特丹港的未来派摩天大厦十三楼咖啡厅喝着鸡尾酒,然后,乘电梯下来,来到一处方圆几平方英里大小的区域:那里,自十七、十八世纪以来,几乎没有一座建筑发生任何改变。

毫无疑问,正如你已经从上面的叙述中了解的那样,阿姆斯特丹 是座令人惊喜的梦幻城市,是个充满美丽风景和精彩活动的地方,这 些风景和活动完全不同于大多数游客希望看到的郁金香图片、奶酪 和木鞋。

当然,这并不是说阿姆斯特丹名震四方的古朴风雅不复存在了。 有时,你转过拐角,一下子来到城市五十条运河其中一条的面前,看 到五百座桥中的一座,当你凝视着流经连排绿树和山墙环绕的老式豪 宅的平静水域,你会屏住呼吸享受所有这一切的纯粹美。确实,阿姆 斯特丹城市中心的大片区域,其建筑结构几个世纪以来不曾改变,被 誉为"世界上最大的露天博物馆"。

但是,对阿姆斯特丹最主要的印象是它是座活跃、跳动的国际化城市。这从一方面反映了西欧的繁荣和进步——如此繁荣和进步以至于如果让我用一个短语描述阿姆斯特丹,我会说,它已经成为现代欧洲所代表的一切的缩影。当然,阿姆斯特丹还是欧洲大陆最重要的贸易港口之一,每天,船舶、火车和飞机涌入阿姆斯特丹,阿姆斯特丹以惊人的数字使自己成为真正的枢纽城市——小欧洲,因此,成为令人震惊、令人兴奋的地方。

## Amsterdam in Diary 日记中的阿姆斯特丹

In her diary, Anne Frank set her family relationship, boyfriends, worries, hopes and dreams for the future against fears of being discovered. She thought a lot about life, and recorded her thoughts in her diary.

## The Diary of a Young Girl®

#### O Anne Frank

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1942

Writing in a diary is a really strange experience for someone like me. Not only because I've never written anything before, but also because it seems to me that later on neither I nor anyone else will be interested in the musings<sup>®</sup> of a thirteen-year-old schoolgirl. Oh well, it doesn't matter. I feel like writing, and I have an even greater need to get all kinds of things off my chest.

"Paper has more patience than people." I thought of this saying on one of those days when I was feeling a little depressed and was sitting at home with my chin in my hands, bored and listless<sup>®</sup>, wondering whether to stay in or go out. I finally stayed where I was, brooding<sup>®</sup>. Yes, paper does have more patience, and since I'm not planning to let anyone else read this stiff-backed<sup>®</sup> notebook grandly referred to as a "diary," unless I should ever find a real friend, it probably won't make a bit of difference.

Now I'm back to the point that prompted me to keep a diary in the first place: I don't have a friend.

Let me put it more clearly, since no one will believe that a thirteenyear-old girl is completely alone in the world. And I'm not. I have loving parents and a sixteen-year-old sister, and there are about thirty people I

① 选自 The Diary of a Young Girl: The Definitive Edition, edited by Otto H. Frank and Mirjam Pressler, translated by Susan Massotty, New York: Bantam Books, 1997。

② 沉思, 冥想。

③ 无精打采的, 倦怠的。

④ 沉思。

⑤ 硬皮的。

can call friends. I have a throng<sup>®</sup> of admirers who can't keep their adoring<sup>®</sup> eyes off me and who sometimes have to resort to using a broken pocket mirror to try and catch a glimpse of me in the classroom. I have a family, loving aunts and a good home. No, on the surface I seem to have everything, except my one true friend. All I think about when I'm with friends is having a good time. I can't bring myself to talk about anything but ordinary everyday things. We don't seem to be able to get any closer, and that's the problem. Maybe it's my fault that we don't confide in each other. In any case, that's just how things are, and unfortunately they're not liable to change. This is why I've started the diary.

To enhance the image of this long-awaited friend in my imagination, I don't want to jot down<sup>®</sup> the facts in this diary the way most people would do, but I want the diary to be my friend, and I'm going to call this friend Kitty.

Since no one would understand a word of my stories to Kitty if I were to plunge right in, I'd better provide a brief sketch of my life, much as I dislike doing so.

My father, the most adorable father I've ever seen, didn't marry my mother until he was thirty-six and she was twenty-five. My sister Margot was born in Frankfurt am Main in Germany in 1926. I was born on June 12, 1929. I lived in Frankfurt until I was four. Because we're Jewish, my father immigrated to Holland in 1933, when he became the Managing Director of the Dutch Opekta Company, which manufactures products used in making jam. My mother, Edith Hollander Frank, went with him to Holland in September, while Margot and I were sent to Aachen to stay with our grandmother. Margot went to Holland in December, and I

① 群。

② 爱暴。

③ jot down: 草草记下。