



用英语聊

主编/张帆

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石油工業出版社



这是一个最好的时代,信息自由而丰富,全球的大事小情都会通过各种媒介迅速抵达我们的视线范围。面对海量的英文信息,您是否憧憬自己有一天可以流畅地阅读,也可以用流利的英文与朋友讨论各类热点话题?本书将助您一臂之力,让您可以阅读最新鲜的英文,谈论最潮流的话题。

本套图书共分为6册:

《用英语聊货币战争》:揭开货币背后的金融玄机,你也可以拥有经济 学家般的锐利视野,了解你所不知道的金融、经济。

《用英语聊低碳生活》:环保生活新主张,低碳生活从我做起。全球的环境危机、环保政策以及我们举手之劳即可奉献的地毯生活都是本书趣味、实用内容的一部分。

《用英语聊自主创业》:创业去!创业成为了最时髦的话题,而创业的 艰辛您是否了解?创业者应有的素质您是否具备?创业不只是激情,更需 要虚心学习。

《用英语聊奥巴马》: 美国历史上的首位黑人总统, 他的身世、他的奋斗、他的家庭、他的工作, 点点滴滴都在勾勒一位平民总统的励志人生。

《用英语聊美国文化》:麦当劳、好莱坞、迪斯尼,这些美国文化的符号深入人心,透过本书,您将了解一个更真实、全面、深度的美国。

《用英语聊美国大片》:好莱坞经典电影日新月异,那些感动我们、激励我们、震撼我们的,甚至是我们尚未看过的美国大片,正是我们陶醉从而学习英语的最佳素材。

在本套书的编写过程中, 我们突出了以下特色:

1. 精确选材,话题热点,内容丰富,贴近生活。

本书精选自国外著名英文媒体,既保证了内容与全书主题的高度统一, 又确保了英语语言的纯正地道,兼顾学习的趣味性。是您学习英语最棒的 精选套餐。

2. 语言地道, 话题实用, 随读随说, 学以致用。

本套书的每个话题,都由阅读和会话两部分构成,使读者既可以提高阅读能力,还可以学以致用,用英语来谈论这个话题。

3. 生僻词汇,难解语句,标本兼治,彻底突破。

靠内容的简单堆砌,并不能最快地学好英语,只有充分掌握了英语的文 化特征和表现形式,才能真正读懂外国人写的英语,说出外国人倍感亲切 的地道英语。本书将难点生词、句子以及文化特色单独列出,并辅以详细 注解,帮您学得快、记得牢、用得上!

英语学习要找到好方法,学习自己感兴趣的内容,才能事半功倍。本套书会陪您走过一段开心而富有成果的学习历程。学习英语没有捷径,但可以充满乐趣,带着欢乐和轻松的心情,开始学习吧!

编 者 2012年9月北京

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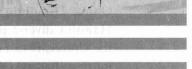
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Chapter 1



GROWN-UP EXPERIENCES

成长经历

Obama's Hometown Hawaii 奥巴马的故乡夏威夷

Joyful Reading 悦读空间

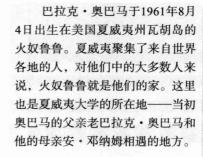
Barack Obama was born on August 4, 1961 in the city of Honolulu on the island of Oahu. Honolulu is home to the majority of Hawaii's diverse population and it was here at the University of Hawaii that Barack's father and mother, Barack Obama Sr. and Ann Dunham, met.

Barack Obama once said "What's best in me, and what's best in my message, is consistent¹ with the tradition of Hawaii." The intellectual and cultural environment nourished Barack Obama. As

Michelle Obama said to B Mendell, her husband's biographer, "You can't really understand Barack until you understand Hawaii."

Hawaii is the newest of the 50 US states, and is the only state made up entirely of islands. The state was admitted to the Union on August 21, 1959. Its capital is Honolulu on the island of Oahu.

The state encompasses nearly the entire volcanic² Hawaiian Island chain, which comprises hundreds of islands spread over 1,500 miles (2,400 km).



奥巴马曾说: "自身 最好的地方以及我个人信息 中的优秀之外莫过于与夏威 夷传统的一致性。"充满智 慧与修养的人文环境滋养了 巴拉克・奥巴马。就像米歇 尔・奥巴马对她丈夫的传记

作者B·门德尔说的那样: "只有 等你了解了夏威夷,你才能真正了 解奥巴马。"

夏威夷是美国50个州里最后加入的一个州,也是唯一一个完全由岛屿组成的州。1959年8月21日,美国承认夏威夷为联邦州。它的首府是位于瓦胡岛上的火奴鲁鲁。

夏威夷州包含了几乎整个夏 威夷火山岛链,包括延伸至1500 英里(2400千米)以外的数百个岛





At the southeastern end of the archipelago³, the eight"main islands" are (from the northwest to southeast) Niihau, Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, Kahoolawe, Maui, and Hawaii. The last is by far the largest, and is often called the "Big Island" or "Big Isle" to avoid confusion with the state as a whole. This archipelago is physiographically4 and ethnologically part of the Polynesian sub region of Oceania.

All of the Hawaiian islands were formed by volcanoes erupting from the sea floor from a magma⁵ source described in geological theory as a hotspot. As the tectonic plate beneath much of the Pacific Ocean moves in a northwesterly direction, the hot spot remains stationary, slowly creating new volcanoes. The climate of Hawaii

is typical for a tropical area, although temperatures and humidity6 tend to be a bit less extreme than other tropical locales due to the constant trade winds blowing from the east. Most of Hawaii has only two seasons: the dry season from May to October, and the wet season

from October to April. Local climates vary considerably on each island, grossly divisible into windward and leeward areas based upon location relative to the higher mountains. Windward sides face cloud cover. This fact is utilized by the tourist industry, which concentrates7 resorts on sunny leeward8 coasts.

Compared with the mainland United States, Hawaii's rating on the air quality index is ranked among the best. The groundwater and drinking water quality is considered good, but the waters surrounding the Hawaiian Islands are affected

屿。群岛从西北部开始延伸至东南 部,八个"主岛"分别是你好岛、 可爱岛、瓦胡岛、摩洛凯岛、拉奈 岛、卡胡拉威岛、茂宜岛与夏威夷 岛。到目前为止最后一个岛面积最 大, 为了避免和整个夏威夷州混 淆,这个岛常常被称为"夏威夷大 岛"。夏威夷群岛从地质学上和人 种学上来看都属于大洋洲波利尼西 亚分区的一部分。

夏威夷的所有岛屿都是由于 海底火山爆发而形成的,这一切来 自于在地质学上被称为热点的岩 浆源。由于太平洋板块向西北方向 移动,这些热点依旧缓缓地创造出 新火山。由于受持续的东部信风影 响,相比其他热带地区,这里的温



度和湿度没有那 么极端。夏威夷 的气候是典型的 热带气候夏威夷 大部分地区只有 两个季节:干季 (5月至10月)

与湿季(10月至次年4月)。每个 岛上的气候都大不相同。根据与高 山的相对位置可大致分为向风区与 顺风区。向风区面向云层。人们在 旅游业中很好地利用了这一点,将 休闲度假地集中在了顺风的阳光海 岸。

和美国本土相比, 夏威夷的 空气质量指数排名是最好的。地下 水和饮用水的水质好, 但是围绕 夏威夷群岛周边的水质却受到了岛 屿自身产生并释放出的排出物的影

by effluents generated and released from the islands themselves. Floating plastic garbage is a problem, and refuse from the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is affecting beaches in Hawaii, such as Kamilo Beach.

Hawaii is also home to numerous cultural events. The annual Merrie Monarch Festival is an international Hula competition. Hula is a dance form accompanied by chant⁹ or song. It was developed in the Hawaiian Islands by the Polynesians who originally settled there. The chant or song is called a mele¹⁰. The hula dramatizes or comments on the mele.

Mark Twain called Hawaii "that beautiful land... the climate, one long delicious summer day, and the good that die experience no change, for they but fall asleep in one heaven and wake up in another." Mark Twain's depictions of Hawaii are as true today as they were in 1889.

Hawaii has produced one US President, the incumbent¹¹, Barack Obama. Hawaii will always be home for President Barack Obama. There can be no doubt that growing up in this idyllic¹², multicultural setting was a major influence in shaping who Obama is today.

Key Words 生词点睛

- 1. consistent [kən'sistənt] adj. 一致的
- 3. archipelago [,a:ki'peləgəu] n. 群岛
- 4. physiographically [ˌfiziəˈgræfikli] adv. 从地质学上
- 6. humidity [hju:'midəti] n. 湿度
- 8. leeward ['li:wed, 'lu:ed] adj. 顺风的
- 10. mele ['mele] n. 夏威夷歌曲 (或旋律)
- 12. idyllic [i'dilik] adj. 田园般的

响。漂浮的塑料垃圾就是一个问题,来自太平洋垃圾场的废物也正影响着夏威夷的海滩,例如卡米洛海滩。

夏威夷也是众多文化活动的 发源地。一年一度的莫里君主节 是一个国际性草裙舞竞赛。草裙舞 是一种伴随着歌曲的舞蹈,是由 最早定居在夏威夷群岛的波利尼 西亚人传下来的。唱的歌被称作 "mele",草裙舞就是用来演绎或 者评论夏威夷歌曲的。

马克·吐温评价夏威夷称: "美丽的土地……在这个气候宜 人、芳香的夏日长假里,死亡的经 历在这里不会导致任何变化,因为 对他们来说只是在一个天堂里睡 去,在另一个天堂里醒来。"如今 这里和马克·吐温在1889年对夏威 夷的描绘一样真实。

夏威夷已经出了一位美国总统——现任总统巴拉克·奥巴马。 夏威夷将会是奥巴马总统永远的家。毫无疑问,在这样田园般的、 多文化的背景下成长,对塑造出如今的奥巴马的确有着重要的影响。

- 2. volcanic [vol'kænik] adj. 火山的
- 5. magma ['mægmə] n. 岩浆
- 7. concentrate ['konsentreit] v. 集中
- 9. chant [tʃa:nt, tʃænt] n. 圣歌
- 11. incumbent [in'kʌmbənt] n. 现任者

Free Talk

畅聊时刻

- A Do you know where was Mr. Obama born?
- Well, let me see. He maybe born in Indonesia, I guess. I remember that his mother remarried there.
- A No, not at all. Actually, he was born in the city of Honolulu, on the island of Oahu. Later in his life, he moved to Indonesia and lived there for five years or so and then returned to Hawaii. Since then he lived with his grandparents before he went to continue his study in Los Angeles.
- Wow, in Hawaii? That's really a nice place. I once went there for a trip and had a good time. Surfing there is very exciting.
- A Yeah, I always hope to have a nice house near the coastal beach in Honolulu.
- B That's a nice travelling place. In other words, it's the most beautiful pearl, shining in the Pacific Ocean.
- A Yeah, he's from a idyllic and multicultural place.

 This kind of circumstances has shaped little

 Obama into who it is today.
- You're right. One's personality is cultivated and developed in the specific settings. Obama himself is just like a melting pot.

- 你知道奥巴马先生是在哪 出生的吗?
- B 恩,让我想想。我猜他可能在印度尼西亚出生的。 我记得他母亲是在那里再婚的。
- A 不是,一点儿都不对。事实上,他出生在夏威夷瓦胡岛的火奴鲁鲁。之后,他搬到印度尼西亚生活了大概五年时间,然后又回到了夏威夷。在去洛杉矶上学之前,他就一直和外公外婆住在一起。
- B 哦,他出生在夏威夷?那 真是个好地方,我曾经到 那旅游而且玩得很不错。 那里的冲浪很刺激呢。
- A 是呀,我一直梦想着有一 天能在火奴鲁鲁的海边拥 有一处漂亮的宅院。
- 那是个旅游的好去处。换 句话说,夏威夷就是太平 洋里最漂亮的一颗珍珠, 闪闪发亮。
- 同时,夏威夷有着田园般 的景致,还有多元文化的 社会背景。这种环境也造 就了今天的奥巴马。
- 说得对!特定的环境能够 培养和发展一个人的性格 品质,奥巴马就是这个大 熔炉的产物。

4

The Short Life in Indonesia

印度尼西亚的短暂生活

Joyful Reading 悦读空间

"Oh, I need to come to Indonesia soon," said Obama. "I expect to be traveling to Asia at some point within the next year, and I would be surprised if when I came to Asia I did not stop by my old home town of Jakarta."

Obama was speaking during a briefing with a handful of Mideast and Asian reporters

just after his major address from Cairo to the Islamic¹ world in June, 2008. Obama was responding specifically to an Indonesian reporter who asked why the president didn't deliver his speech from Indonesia, which has more Muslims than Egypt.

去。"奥巴马说,"我期待在明年的某个时间访问亚洲,如果我到亚洲那我肯定会去老家雅加达。"

"哦,我需要尽快到印尼

继2008年6月,开罗到伊斯 兰世界的主要演讲之后,奥巴马

> 又与少数中东和亚 洲记者的新闻简报 会上如是说。奥巴 马专门回应了一名 印尼记者关于他为 什么不在比埃及有 更多穆斯林的印尼 发表讲话的问题。

He engaged in an exchange with the Indonesian reporter, who informed the president he lived 300 meters from the house Obama grew up in. ...

It was not clear whether Soetoro adopted Obama, either in Hawaii or in Indonesia, but there is strong circumstantial evidence² that he did as far as Indonesian law was concerned.

他参与了一个与印尼记者的 交流活动,这位记者告诉总统, 他住的地方与总统奥巴马曾经成 长的屋子仅隔300米。

目前还不清楚索尔特罗是 否收养过奥巴马(无论是在夏威 夷还是在印尼),但依据印尼法 律,间接的证据表明他确实这么 做了。

6