

英语文学系列教材

英美文学欣赏



華中師範大學出版社

罗良功 刘芳 主编

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英美文学欣赏

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前 言

当历史进入“十二五”规划时期,我国高校英语专业文学课程的教学对象、教学观念发生了变化,对该课程的教学时数、内容、手段和方法、教材编写等提出了新的要求。同时,英美文学随着时代的发展而不断丰富,其在新时代的存在和影响呈现出诸多新的复杂特征,国内外新的文学史观、新的文学理论和社会思潮也进一步丰富了关于英美文学史和文学经典的理解和认知。为适应新时代对高校英语文学课程教学的要求、充分地体现英美文学自身发展的特点和新的学术思想,我们组织编写了本教材。本书的编写遵循以下几项原则。第一,力图体现新形势下探究式学习的特点。本书以作品选读为主,兼顾文学史的梳理和作家作品简介,并针对每一篇选读作品设计了一些问题,既方便学生直观地建构关于英美文学的完整的知识体系,又有利于推动学生在作品研读的基础上进行研讨和探究。第二,注重教材内容的代表性、经典性、时代性。本书力图将浩瀚的英美文学囊括于有限的篇幅容量之内,既强调选取具有代表性的作家和作品来反映英美文学的基本面貌,又注重选用作品的经典性,使之足以反映特定作家甚至特定流派的基本特征;同时,有机地融合新时代的文学观,将长期以来被边缘化的重要的作家作品和文学流派纳入本书的内容体系中,体现出鲜明的个性和时代特色。第三,在结构上适度打破文学史的时间框架,必要时按照文学流派和文学体裁建构章节,帮助学生更好地把握作家作品的共性与个性特征。

全书由“英国文学”和“美国文学”两部分组成,各 13 章。英国文学部分包括:中世纪文学、文艺复兴时期文学、骑士派与玄学派诗歌、小说的兴起、新古典主义文学、浪漫主义诗歌、19 世纪早期的女性小说、现实主义小说、维多利亚时代的诗歌、20 世纪初的戏剧、现代小说、20 世纪诗歌和后现代小说共 13 章,34 位作家的作品。美国文学部分包括:浪漫主义小说、超验主义散文、黑色浪漫主义文学、浪漫主义诗歌、现实主义与自然主义文学、现代小说、女性作家的崛起、迷惘的一代文学、现代诗歌、南方文学、美国戏剧、后现代文学、族裔文学共 13 章,29 位作家的作品。每一章在作品选读之前设有概述(从文学史角度对本章核心问题进行简述)、作者简介(对作者生平及所选作品进行简要介绍)板块,作品选读之后设有 3~4 个问题供研讨。

本书由来自国内七所高校的专业教师共同编写而成。罗良功、刘芳负责全书的

策划、统筹、审校。本书英国文学部分由方亚中负责,李淑春、王定全、阮广红、罗利芳、金蕊、方亚中、罗良功参加了编写;美国文学部分由张甜、姜文泉负责,刘晓燕、王群、刘东霞、张甜、姜文泉、刘芳参加了编写。刘芳默默承担了大量的具体工作,华中师范大学英语文学专业部分研究生参与了部分书稿的校对。本书的编辑出版得到了华中师范大学出版社范军社长、段维主编、曾巍副社长以及第五编辑室刘晓嘉主任、李郭倩编辑等的大力支持。在此,我们一并表示衷心的感谢。

文学选读类教材的编写远比想象的难度大。我们在广泛吸收国内外同类教材和著作的编写经验和优点的同时,力图在结构、体系、作家作品选择、视角、问题设计上体现新时代的特点和我们自己的学术观点。但是由于时间仓促、资料有限、编者学养局限,书中的讹误和不足在所难免,敬请广大师生和学者批评指正。

编者

2012年3月

CONTENTS

British Literature

Chapter 1	Medieval Literature	3
	Geoffrey Chaucer (1343—1400)	4
Chapter 2	English Renaissance Literature	10
	William Shakespeare (1564—1616)	10
	Francis Bacon(1561—1626)	13
	John Milton (1608—1674)	15
Chapter 3	Cavalier and Metaphysical Poetry	21
	Ben Jonson(1572—1637)	21
	John Donne (1572—1631)	23
Chapter 4	The Rise of the Novel	25
	Daniel Defoe (1660—1731)	25
	Henry Fielding (1707—1754)	30
Chapter 5	Neo-Classical Literature	37
	Jonathan Swift (1667—1745)	37
	Alexander Pope(1688—1744)	44
Chapter 6	Romantic Poetry	48
	William Blake (1757—1827)	48
	William Wordsworth (1770—1850)	50
	George Gordon Byron (1788—1824)	52
	Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792—1822)	53
	John Keats (1795—1821)	55
Chapter 7	Women's Literature in the 19th Century	58
	Jane Austen (1775—1817)	58

Chapter 8	Realistic Novels	65
	Charles Dickens (1812—1870)	65
	Thomas Hardy (1840—1928)	73
Chapter 9	Victorian Poetry	79
	Alfred Tennyson (1809—1892)	79
	Robert Browning (1812—1889)	81
	Matthew Arnold (1822—1888)	82
Chapter 10	English Drama at the Turn of the 20th Century	85
	Oscar Wilde (1854—1900)	85
	George Bernard Shaw (1856—1950)	92
Chapter 11	Modernist Novels	99
	Joseph Conrad (1857—1924)	99
	James Joyce (1882—1941)	106
	Virginia Woolf (1882—1941)	111
	D. H. Lawrence (1885—1930)	115
Chapter 12	The 20th-Century Poetry	125
	William Butler Yeats (1865—1939)	125
	T. S. Eliot (1888—1965)	127
	W. H. Auden (1907—1973)	134
	Dylan Thomas (1914—1953)	136
	Philip Larkin (1922—1985)	137
	Ted Hughes (1930—1998)	139
Chapter 13	Novels in the Postmodern Period	142
	William Golding (1911—1993)	142
	Doris Lessing (1919—)	149
	John Fowles (1926—2005)	159
American Literature		
Chapter 1	Romantic Novels	167
	Washington Irving (1783—1859)	167

	Herman Melville (1819—1891)	178
Chapter 2	Transcendentalist Essays	184
	Ralph Waldo Emerson(1803—1882)	184
	Henry David Thoreau (1817—1862)	189
Chapter 3	Dark Romanticist Literature	193
	Edgar Allan Poe (1809—1849)	193
	Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804—1864)	196
Chapter 4	American Romantic Poetry	203
	Walt Whitman(1819—1892)	203
	Emily Dickinson(1830—1886)	205
Chapter 5	Realistic and Naturalistic Novels	207
	Mark Twain (1835—1910)	207
	Theodore Dreiser(1871—1945)	214
Chapter 6	American Modern Novels	222
	Henry James (1843—1916)	222
	Stephen Crane (1871—1900)	229
Chapter 7	The Rise of Women Literature	234
	Kate Chopin(1851—1904)	234
	Edith Newbold Wharton(1862—1937)	238
Chapter 8	The Lost Generation Literature	243
	Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald (1896—1940)	243
	Ernest Hemingway (1899—1961)	249
Chapter 9	American Modern Poetry	256
	Ezra Pound (1885—1973)	256
	William Carlos Williams (1883—1963).....	259
	Robert Frost (1874—1963)	261
Chapter 10	Southern Literature	264
	William Faulkner (1897—1962)	264
	Robert Penn Warren (1905—1989)	274

Chapter 11	American Drama	283
	Eugene O'Neill (1888—1953)	283
Chapter 12	Postmodern Literature	291
	Joseph Heller (1923—1999)	291
	Allen Ginsberg (1926—1997)	299
	Sylvia Plath (1932—1963)	302
Chapter 13	Ethnic Literature	305
	Langston Hughes (1902—1967)	305
	Saul Bellow (1915—2005)	307
	Toni Morrison(1931—)	317
	Maxine Hong Kingston(1940—)	322



英国文学

British Literature

Chapter 1 Medieval Literature

中世纪英国文学

英国文学源远流长,起源于盎格鲁—撒克逊文学,即古英语时期文学(约 5 世纪至 11 世纪),最著名的作品是头韵诗《贝奥武甫》,被誉为盎格鲁—撒克逊民族史诗。公元 8 世纪,英语书写文字的出现有力地推动了文学的发展,口头文学逐渐转向书面文学,诗歌呈现多种载体并存的局面,散文开始出现,《盎格鲁—撒克逊编年史》成为英语散文发展的重要见证和推动力。

1066 年的诺曼征服标志着英国中世纪时期(11 世纪中期至 15 世纪后期)的开始。这一时期的英国文学深受法国文学传统和主导社会生活的宗教的影响,宗教文学和骑士文学(传奇文学)成为当时主流社会的两大文学样式。此外,处于社会边缘的劳动民众也创造出了辉煌的民间文学,尤以民谣的成就最为突出,并且对 18、19 世纪浪漫主义诗歌产生了重要影响。传奇文学是封建骑士制度的产物,主要用于宣传贵族阶层的理想,以头韵诗写成的《高文爵士和绿衣骑士》是最著名的传奇文学作品。杰弗里·乔叟是英国 14 世纪最重要的民族诗人、英国文学的奠基人,其杰作《坎特伯雷故事集》展现了英国资本主义摇篮时期欣欣向荣的景象。托马斯·马洛礼爵士以其《亚瑟王之死》(1469)成为英国第一位散文家。以《罗宾汉民谣集》为代表的英格兰和苏格兰民谣,诗歌风格简朴且具有强烈戏剧性效果,成为 15 世纪英国文学中的瑰宝。

中世纪时期,诗歌艺术形式在法国和欧洲大陆文学的影响下进一步丰富,散文趋于成熟,戏剧也开始起步。同时,以杰弗里·乔叟为代表的作家立足于本土文化和社会生活,大胆引进意大利文艺复兴的人文主义精神,运用本土语言写作,对艺术形式进行嫁接和创新,使英国文学逐渐摆脱宗教文学和骑士文学的航线,为文艺复兴时期的文学繁荣奠定了厚实的基础。

Geoffrey Chaucer(杰弗里·乔叟 约 1343—1400)

【作者简介】

乔叟是英国中世纪伟大诗人,被称为“英国诗歌之父”。他出生于伦敦富商家庭,出任过国王侍从等要职,出使过许多欧洲国家,死后葬于伦敦威斯敏斯特大教堂(即西敏寺)的“诗人角”。

乔叟的创作在经历了两个模仿探索阶段(即法国影响和意大利影响时期)之后,从中世纪的梦幻和寓言形式中走出,踏上了现实主义的坚实道路。他的早期作品有《公爵夫人之书》、《声誉之宫》、《贤妇传说》和《特洛伊斯与克丽西达》等。

《坎特伯雷故事集》的创作(1386—1400)出现在乔叟的第三个文学时期,也是他毕生创作的顶峰。《坎特伯雷故事集》以香客前往坎特伯雷朝圣途中讲故事的形式,展现了一幅富有生活气息与时代特征的精美画卷,各阶层的生活习俗和情趣理想跃然纸上。《坎特伯雷故事集》表现了较强的人文主义思想。作者创造性地运用中世纪叙事诗、骑士诗、动物寓言、讽刺诗等丰富多彩的文学体裁;首创英雄双韵体,奠定了英语诗体形式;以伦敦方言进行创作,奠定了近代英语文学的基础。



【作品选读】

Canterbury Tales (excerpt)

On their way to Canterbury, the pilgrims meet at the Tabard Inn in a London suburb. The host of the inn suggests entertaining themselves on the journey to and from Canterbury by telling stories, which is accepted by all. The Prologue provides a framework for the tales. The twenty-nine pilgrims, representing almost all the classes and social groups of the 14th century England, are portrayed very vividly by combining humor with satire. The following is the beginning part of the General Prologue.

The General Prologue

Whan that April with his showres soote
The droughte of March hath perced to the roote,

And bathed every veine in swich licour.
Of which vertu engendred is the flour;
5 Whan Zephyrus eek with his sweete breath
Inspired hath in every holt and heeth
The tendre croppes, and the yonge sonne
Hath in the Ram his halve cours yronne,
And smale fowles maken melodye
10 That sleepen al the night with open ye—
So priketh hem Nature in hir corages—
Thanne longen folk to goon on pilgrimages,
And palmeres for to seeken straunge strondes
To ferne halwes, couthe in sondry londes;
15 And specially from every shires ende
Of Engelond to Canterbury they wende,
The holy blisful martyr for to seeke
That hem hath holpen whan that they were seke.
Bifel that in that seson on a day,
20 In Southwerk at the Tabard as I lay,
Redy to wenden on my pilgrimage
To Canterbury with ful devout corage,
At night was come into that hostelrye
Wel nine and twenty in a compaignye
25 Of sondry folk, by aventure yfalle
In felaweshipe, and pilgrims were they alle
That toward Canterbury wolden ride.
The chambres and the stables weren wide,
And wel we weren esed at the beste.
30 Arid shortly, whan the sonne was to reste,
So hadde I spoken with hem everichoon
That I was of hir felaweshipe anon,
And made forward erly for to rise,
To take oure way ther as I you devise.
35 But nathelees, whil I have time and space,

Er that I ferther in this tale pace,
Me thinketh it accordant to resoun
To telle you al the condicioun
Of eech of hem, so as it seemed me,
40 And whiche they were, and of what degree,
And eek in what array that they were inne:
And at a knight thanne wol I first biginne.
A Knight ther was, and that a worthy man,
That fro the time that he first bigan
45 To riden out, he loved chivalrye,
Trouthe and honour, freedom and curteisye.
Ful worthy was he in his lordes werre,
And therto hadde he riden, no man ferre,
As wel in Cristendom as hethenesse,
50 And evere honoured for his worthinesse.
At Alisaundre he was whan it was wonne;
Ful ofte time he hadde the boord bigonne
Aboven alle nacions in Puce;
In Lettou had he reised, and in Ruce,
55 No Cristen man so ofte of his degree;
In Gernade at the sege eek hadde he be
Of Algezir, and riden in Belmarye;
At Lyeis was he, and at Satalye,
Whan they were wonne; and in the Grete See
60 At many a noble arivee hadde he be.
At mortal batailes hadde he been fifteene,
And foughten for oure faith at Tramissene
In listes thries, and ay slain his fo.
This ilke worthy Knight hadde been also
65 Sometime with the lord of Palaty
Again another hethen in Turkye;
And everemore he hadde a sovereign pris.
And though that he were worthy, he was wis,

- And of his port as meeke as is a maide.
 70 He nevere yit no vilainye ne saide
 In al his lif unto no manere wight;
 He was a verray, parfit, gentil knight.
 But for to tellen yoo of his array,
 His hors were goode, but he was nat gay.
 75 Of fustian he wered a gipoun
 Al bismotered with his haubergeoun,
 For he was late come from his viage,
 And wente for to doon his pilgrimage.

(Selected from *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* (5th Edition).
 Ed. by M. H. Abrams. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1986.)

【Modern English Version】

- When in April the sweet showers fall
 And pierce the drought of March to the root, and all
 The veins are bathed in liquor of such power
 As brings about the engendering of the flower,
 5 When also Zephyrus with his sweet breath
 Exhales an air in every grove and heath
 Upon the tender shoots, and the young sun
 His half-course in the sign of the *Ram* has run,
 And the small fowl are making melody
 10 That sleep away the night with open eye
 (So nature pricks them and their heart engages)
 Then people long to go on pilgrimages
 And palmers long to seek the stranger strands
 Of far-off saints, hallowed in sundry lands,
 15 And specially, from every shire's end
 Of England, down to Canterbury they wend
 To seek the holy blissful martyr, quick
 To give his help to them when they were sick.
 It happened in that season that one day

20 In Southwark, at *The Tabard*, as I lay
Ready to go on pilgrimage and start
For Canterbury, most devout at heart,
At night there came into that hostelry
Some nine and twenty in a company
25 Of sundry folk happening then to fall
In fellowship, and they were pilgrims all
That towards Canterbury meant to ride.
The rooms and stables of the inn were wide;
They made us easy, all was of the best.
30 And, briefly, when the sun had gone to rest,
I'd spoken to them all upon the trip
And was soon one with them in fellowship,
Pledged to rise early and to take the way
To Canterbury, as you heard me say.
35 But none the less, while I have time and space,
Before my story takes a further pace,
It seems a reasonable thing to say
What their condition was, the full array
Of each of them, as it appeared to me,
40 According to profession and degree,
And what apparel they were riding in;
And at a Knight I therefore will begin.
There was a Knight, a most distinguished man,
Who from the day on which he first began
45 To ride abroad had followed chivalry,
Truth, honor, generousness, and courtesy.
He had done nobly in his sovereign's war
And ridden into battle, no man more,
As well in Christian as in heathen places,
50 And ever honored for his noble graces.
When we took Alexandria, he was there.
He often sat at table in the chair
Of honor, above all nations, when in Prussia.