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国内的学生、老师以及家长都对英美国家的课本 充满了好奇,希望能了解这些材料,借助它们来学好 英语。本书就为你揭开国外课本的神秘面纱,让你足 不出户就能与国外学生的学习保持同步。

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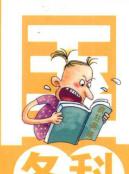






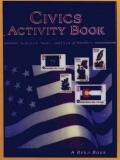


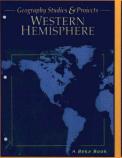


















跟美国学生一起学英语

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PREFACE 前言

目前,英语学习在中国仍然热度不减。然而,读者们可以选择的英语学习读物大多拘泥于对英语语言本身的学习,往往忽略语言背后所蕴涵的文化元素。与此同时,大多数的英语读物都趋于选择经典的文学作品,而忽略了其他文体中语言的特色。《疯狂英语: 跟美国学生一起学英语·中级版》正是致力于填补这几方面的空白。

本书涉及内容广泛, 所有材料均选自美国现行中等学校课本, 包括社会科学、自然科学、文学等多学科领域。就阅读材料本身而言, 文学方面文章的选择比较偏重于语言本身, 在阅读中, 读者可以尽情地领略和体味英语语言的魅力。自然科学的文章都非常有专业性, 不仅为读者提供了大量的相关知识, 更值得一提的是它们所涵盖的大量的专业阅读词汇。社会学科则是在介绍基本常识的基础上较为深入地挖掘了美国一些社会现象所产生的根源和发展趋势, 为读者进一步详细了解美国社会提供了重要参考。

本书的每篇文章后都附有阅读所需的词汇和短语,并侧重于大学英语四、六级词汇的讲解。值得一提的是,在"语句荟萃"部分,所有短语的例句都经过精挑细选,通过学习,读者可以熟练地掌握相关短语的用法。此外,每篇文章后附带的课后练习也对文章中出现的词汇和短语进行了进一步讲解。同时,还考查了读者对文章内容的理解程度。文章所对应的参考译文更是为读者全面了解文章内容提供了方便,同时对于有翻译兴趣的读者来说,参考译文也可以作为检验自己翻译质量的范本。

本书的另一亮点就是与每篇文章内容相关的扩展板块——"美"事一桩。这一板块致力于配合文章本身,扩充读者对相关话题的了解,尤其侧重于与现实生活的联系,期望读者在阅读之后能够更多地体会美国及西方社会的历史背景和人文文化,同时也帮助读者更为深刻地理解前面所阅读的文章。

由于本书涉及学科跨度很大,因此适合有不同兴趣的英语学习者选读,这也打破了普通英语读物多限于文科材料的束缚。学科的侧重点不同,文章的阅读难度对于不同读者来说感受也不同。因此,本书适合各类读者选择。

祝大家阅读快乐!

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Part 1 Social Studies 社会科学

The First Americans and the Land They Found

第一批美洲人及美洲的发现



"美洲"在西半球,位于大西洋与太平洋之间、北濒北冰洋、南隔德雷克海峡与南极洲相望、由北美和南美两个大陆及其附近许多岛屿组成。巴拿马运河一般作为南北美洲的分界线。在政治地理上则把墨西哥、中美洲、西印度群岛和南美洲统称为拉丁美洲、北美洲仅指加拿大、美国、格陵兰岛、圣皮埃尔和密克隆岛、百慕大群岛。面积4200余万平方公里、人口6.47亿(1983年)。

THE FIRST AMERICANS AND THE LAND THEY FOUND

History is the record of what has happened to mankind. It is the true story of what man has done with the time and other resources God has given him. Geography is the study of the earth, including all the continents, islands, oceans, rivers, mountains, and plains that God created. The study of animals and their habitats¹, as well as people and their cultures, is also part of geography. Learning about our planet's history and geography helps us to understand what is happening around us.

During this study we will be learning about the New World—the continents and

islands of the Western Hemisphere². North America, South America, and the many islands rising up out of the Caribbean³ Sea are all part of the New World.

The Greatest Migration⁴ in History

Over four thousand years ago, after the great Flood of Noah's⁵ day, God caused the people of the world to speak many different languages and scattered⁶ them from the Tower of Babel⁷ "upon the face of all the earth."

Some people stayed in the Middle East, near the site of the Tower of Babel. Others journeyed west and south into Africa, north and west into Europe, or east into Asia. Some went southeast and eventually reached what is today called Australia.

The ancestors of the native Americans (who would eventually speak around 1,000 different languages) left the Tower of Babel to begin what was the greatest migration in history. (A migration is the movement of a group of people or animals from one part of the world to another.) They eventually arrived in North America and South America, the area of the earth that we call the Western Hemisphere, or the New World. During their great migration, these Indians probably became the first people to discover America.

A Land Bridge

How did these Indians get to America? Most people think that they walked over from Asia! This may be surprising if you look at a map or globe¹⁰ and see the lands of the Western Hemisphere separated from Asia by the Pacific Ocean. But if you look more closely, you can find one possible answer to the difficulty. Far to the north, Asia and North America are separated only by a distance of about fifty miles. On the Asian side is Russia, and on the North American side is Alaska, which is part of the United States. The narrow body of water that links the Arctic Ocean to the Pacific's Bering Sea and separates Russia from Alaska is called the Bering Strait¹². A *strait* is a narrow body of water that connects two larger bodies of water. Many people think that what is now the Bering Strait was dry land many years ago. If so, the first Americans <u>could have used</u>, the land as a bridge. Scientists have found evidence—such as campfire¹³ remains¹⁴ and the bones of land mammals¹⁵—that supports the idea that the Bering Strait was once dry land.

The Animals Came First

The people who first came to the New World were probably skilled hunters. They may have followed the trails16 of the animals that had begun to multiply¹⁷ and spread out over the whole earth immediately after the Flood. The animals that left the Ark18 went north, south, east, and west, producing the infinite¹⁹ variety of animal life that now exists on the earth's continents. Some probably traveled east across the vast Asian continent and the Bering Strait as they made their way to North America. Many of these animals, drawn by strong instincts, were not content to, stay in the north. They continued their migration until they reached Mexico, Central America, or South America, where the climate was suited to their physical²⁰ characteristics²¹ and habits.

Other animals that left the Ark may have walked, galloped²², trotted²³, slithered²⁴, crept²⁵, or run west across the African continent to South America. It might have taken many generations to complete the migration. How could they have walked from Africa to South America? They could not today, because 2,000

miles of ocean separate the two continents. Some people believe, however, that South America and Africa were at one time a single landmass²⁶. If you check a world map, you can see how the two continents could have fit together almost like pieces of a puzzle²⁷. The continents could have been divided during the days of Noah's great-great-great grandson Peleg, who was born 101 years after the Flood. Peleg's name means "divided," and the *Bible*

says that in his days the earth was divided (Gen. 10:25).

Today, South America has the widest variety of animals on any continent. The continent has nearly every type of climate and habitat, or setting in which certain types of plants and animals thrive²⁸. South America's large, lush²⁹ rain forests provide the perfect habitat for hundreds of thousands of mammals, reptiles³⁰, birds, and insects.



本文选自美国中学六年级(相当于中国的初一年级)历史与地理课本。



Vocabulary 新鲜酷词

- 1. habitat ['hæbitæt] n. 栖息地
- 2. hemisphere ['hemisfiə] n. 半球
- 3. Caribbean [ˌkærɪ'bi:ən] adj. 加勒比海的
- 4. migration [mai/grei[ən] n. 移居、迁徙
- **5. Noah** ['nəʊə] *n.* 诺亚(《圣经》故事人物, 洪水灭世后人类的新始祖)
- 6. scatter ['skætə] vt. 使分散
- 7. Babel ['beɪbəl] n. (《圣经》中的城市)巴别
- 8. eventually [ɪˈventʊəlɪ] *adv*. 最后地, 最终发生地
- 9. ancestor ['ænsəstə] n. 祖先
- 10. globe [gləub] n. 地球仪
- 11. Arctic ['a:ktɪk] adj. 北极的
- 12. Bering ['berɪn] Strait [streɪt] 白令海峡
- 13. campfire ['kæmpˌfaɪə] n. 营火,篝火
- **14. remains** [rɪ'meɪnz] *n*. [复] 剩余物, 残余, 遗迹

- 15. mammal [mæməl] n. 哺乳动物
- **16. trail** [treil] *n*. 痕迹, 足迹
- 17. multiply ['mʌltɪplaɪ] vi. 繁殖
- 18. Ark [a:k] n. 《圣经》中的方舟
- 19. infinite ['ɪnfənɪt] adj. 无限的, 无穷的
- **20.** physical ['fizikəl] adj. 身体的、肉体的
- 21. characteristic [ˌkærəktəˈrɪstɪk] n. 特征
- 22. gallop ['gæləp] v. 飞跑,疾驰
- 23. trot [trot] v. 小跑, 快步走
- 24. slither ['sliðə] v. 滑动、滑行
- 25. creep [kri:p] (crept) vi. 爬行, 匍匐而行
- 26. landmass ['lændmæs] n. 大陆块
- 27. puzzle ['pʌzl] n. 拼图游戏
- **28. thrive** [θraɪv] *vi*. 茁壮生长, 兴旺, 繁荣
- 29. lush [lʌ[] adj. 葱翠的
- 30. reptile ['reptail] n. 爬行动物

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Sentences 语句荟萃

- 1. as well as 也,还。意义上强调前者
 - He's got a car as well as a motorbike.
 他不但有一辆摩托车,而且有一辆小汽车。
 - 2) He publishes *as well as* prints his own books. 他的书是他自己印刷出版的。
 - 3) I am ready to help you *as well as* they are. 不仅他们愿意帮助你,我也愿意帮助你。
- 2. could have done sth.
 - 1)表示本来能够做到某事却没做成。

I didn't go to the cinema yesterday. I *could have gone* if my sister had not been ill. I had to stay at home and take care of her.

昨天我没有去看电影。我本来是要去的,但是妹妹病了,我得在家照顾她。

2) 表示对过去发生事情的推测。

He was not at home last night. He *could have gone* to movies. 他昨晚不在家、可能去看电影了。

- 3. be content to do/with sth. 知足、满足
 - 1) He *is content to* stay in his present job. 他对现在的工作心满意足。
 - 2) Are you content with your present salary? 你对现在的薪水满意吗?



Exercise 牛刀小试

I. Matchin	ng: Put the le	etter repres	enting	the correct	answer in the
blank.					
1. the str	udy of the earth				
2. the se	tting in which certa	ain types of plan	ts and anin	nals thrive	
3. the he	emisphere also kno	wn as the New V	World		
4. the re	gion between the N	North Pole and th	ne northern	timberline	
5. the m	ovement of one gro	oup of people or	animals fr	om one place to	another
6. a narr	ow body of water t	hat connects tw	o larger bo	dies of water	
A. remains	B. strait	C. Eastern Her	nisphere	D. Arctic	E. migration
F. continent	G. geography	H. habitat	I. Wes	tern Hemispher	e J. Caribbean
II. Map L	ocation: Ide	ntify these	location	is on the m	ap below.
7		in the blan	ks acco	ording to th	e information
given in tl	he text.				
11. The New v	vorld is composed	of,		and	of Caribbean Sea.
12. During th	e great migration	, p	robably be	ecame the first	people to discover
America.					
13. The first A	Americans could l	nave used the		which could	have been dry land
many years ag	go as a land bridge	to get to Ameri	ca and scie	entists have four	nd evidence, such as
aı	nd to	support the idea			
14. How could	the animals have	walked from Afi	rica to Sout	th America?	
15. Why does	South America hav	e the widest var	riety of anim	nals on the cont	inent?
	^			~	

参考译文

第一批美洲人及美洲的发现

历史真实地记载了人类利用时间以及上帝赐予的其他资源所进行的一切活动。地理的研究对象是地球,包括上帝创造的所有大陆、岛屿、海洋、河流、山脉与平原。对动物及其栖息地,以及人类与文化的探索也是地理研究的一部分。了解我们星球的历史、地理有助于我们理解周围发生的变化。

在学习过程中,我们将要了解由北美洲、南美 洲以及加勒比海上的众多岛屿所构成的新大陆, 即西半球的大陆与岛屿。

历史上最大规模的迁徙

4000 多年前,人类经历了灭世洪灾,此后上 帝将人们从巴别塔遣散至世界各地,并让其使用 不同语言。

一些人留在离巴别塔不远的中东,另一些则分别从西、南两个方向前往非洲,西、北两个方向前往欧洲,以及向东前往亚洲,还有部分人向东南方向前行,最终抵达今天的澳大利亚。

美洲人的祖先(最终将使用 1000 种左右不同语言) 离开巴别塔并开始历史上最大规模的迁徙(迁徙指的是一群人或动物从世界的一个地方移居至另一个地方)。他们最终抵达南北美洲,即我们所谓的西半球或新大陆。在他们的迁徙过程中,这些印第安人成为最早发现美洲的族群。

大陆桥

这些印第安人是怎样抵达美洲的?大多数 人认为他们是穿越了亚洲而来,这一想法势必令 你惊奇,因为你可以在地图或是地球仪上发现西半球与亚洲之间隔着太平洋。但是,如果你看得更仔细些,问题便会迎刃而解。在最北面,亚洲和北美洲之间的距离仅约50英里。亚洲部分为俄罗斯,北美洲部分为美国的阿拉斯加,两地间连接北冰洋与太平洋白令海的狭窄水域名为白令海峡(它也是阿拉斯加与俄罗斯的分界)。海峡指的是连接两大海域的狭窄通道。许多人认为白令海峡所在地曾是陆地。如果是这样的话,那么第一批美洲人可能将其作为通行桥梁。科学家已经找到相关证据来支持这一观点,例如营火遗迹和陆地哺乳动物骨骼等。

动物最早迁徙

最早抵达新大陆的人可能是循着动物踪迹的 经验丰富的猎人。经历了灭世洪灾后,这些动物 已经开始繁殖并且迅速分布到世界各地。它们离 开了诺亚方舟,分别向着东、南、西、北不同方向迁 徙,繁衍出如今地球陆地上大量的物种。其中一 些可能穿越了亚洲大陆和白令海峡,抵达北美洲。 趋于本能,它们继续南迁至墨西哥、中美以及南美 洲,它们的身体特征和习性更适应那里的气候。

其他离开诺亚方舟的动物可能以不同方式,或疾驰,或小跑,又或滑行,朝着西方穿越非洲大陆抵达南美洲。这个过程也许历经了好几世代才完成。它们是怎样从非洲抵达南美洲的?今天肯定无法做到,因为两块大陆被长达 2000 英里的海洋分离。但是,一些人认为,南美洲和非洲曾经同

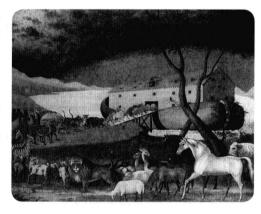
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如今,南美洲是世界上物种最为丰富的大陆,这块大陆几乎拥有所有气候类型以及适合某些特定动植物繁衍的栖息地或生存环境。南美洲广阔、葱郁的雨林为成百上千种哺乳动物、爬行动物、鸟类及昆虫提供了极佳的栖息场所。

"美"事一桩

诺亚方舟

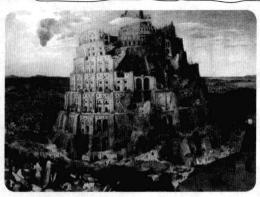
诺亚方舟 (Noah's Ark) 是《圣经•旧约》里的经典故事。上帝创造亚当和夏娃后,代代繁衍,子孙遍布世界各地。此后,该隐诛弟,揭开了人类互相残杀的序幕,人世间的暴力和罪恶到了无以复加的地步。上帝对人类的种种罪孽深感失望。他说:"我要将所造的人和走兽、昆虫以及空中的飞鸟都从地上消灭。" 但是他又不舍将其造物全部毁掉,他希望新一代的人和动物能够悔过自新,建立一个理想的世界。于是上帝选中了仁义本分的诺亚,令其用歌斐木建造一只方舟。120



年之后,诺亚方舟造毕。上帝说:"看哪,我要使洪水在地上泛滥,毁灭天下,凡地上有血肉、有气息的活物无一不死。我却要与你立约,你同你的妻子、儿子、儿媳都要进入方舟。凡洁净的畜类,你要带了公7母;不洁净的畜类,你要带1公1母;空中的飞鸟也要带7公7母。这些都可以留种,将来在地上生殖。"诺亚遵其行事。7天之后洪水自天而降,一连下了40个昼夜,一切生灵陷入没顶之灾,唯有诺亚家人与方舟中的生命得以存活。40天后大水开始渐渐退去,方舟停靠在了亚拉腊山附近,诺亚放出一只鸽子,黄昏时分,鸽子衔回了橄榄枝,诺亚由此判断陆地洪水已退,便与家人与各种动物走出方舟,开始新的繁衍。后世的人们就用鸽子和橄榄枝来象征和平。

巴别塔

据《圣经》记载:灭世洪灾之后,诺亚的子孙开始繁衍,他们讲着同样的语言,拥有相同的口音。由于人口越来越多,遍布地面,他们开始向东迁移。在示拿地(古巴比伦附近),他们遇见一片平原,定居下来。由于平原上用做建筑的石料很不易得到,他们彼此商量说:"来吧,我们要做砖,把砖烧透了。"于是



他们拿砖当石头,又拿石漆当灰泥。他们又说:"来吧,我们要建造一座城和一座塔,塔顶通天,为要传扬我们的美名,免得我们分散在全地上。"由于大家语言相通,同心协力,建造中的高塔直插云霄,似乎要与天公一比高低。此举惊动了上帝,上帝深为人类的虚荣和傲慢而震怒。他无法容忍人类冒犯他的尊严,决定惩罚这些狂妄的人们,就像惩罚偷吃了禁果的亚当和夏娃一样。于是,上帝悄悄地离开天国来到人间,改

变并区别开了人类的语言,使他们因为语言不通而产生思想差异与文化分歧,并将他们分散在各处,巴别塔 (Tower of Babel) 于是半途而废了。

相关链接: http://www.mtime.com/movie/44726/ (美国电影《通天塔》影评资讯)

I. 1. G 2. H 3. I 4. J 5. E 6. B

- II. 7. Atlantic Ocean 8. North America 9. Pacific Ocean 10. Arctic Ocean
- III. 11. North America South America islands 12. Indians
 - 13. Bering Strait campfire remains and the bones of land mammals
- 14. South America and Africa could have been a single landmass at one time, so it was possible for the animals' migration to South America.

15. Because the continent has nearly every type of climate and habitat, or setting in which certain types of plants and animals can thrive.

How the American Indians Lived

印第安人如何生存



印第安人,又称美洲原住民,是除爱斯基摩人外的所有美洲土著居民的总称。印第安人即美洲土著居民。此人种分布于南北美洲各国,属蒙古人种美洲支系。使用印第安语,包括十几个语族,至今没有公认的语言分类。

HOW THE AMERICAN INDIANS LIVED

God provided well for the people who migrated to North and South America. The land, plants, and animals that they discovered were more than, sufficient to meet their needs for food, clothing, and shelter, and God was faithful in keeping the promise He gave to all mankind after the Flood:

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease³.

-Genesis 8:22

No matter where the new Americans settled—whether in the frozen north or in the deserts, in the mountains or along the

seashores, on the prairies⁴ or in the forests—all nature <u>bore witness⁵ to</u>, them of the faithfulness of their Creator. The Western Hemisphere Indians developed different cultures depending on where they settled. Although there were many differences among the tribes⁶, in many ways they were much alike.

Education

The children of most Indian tribes did not go to school. Instead, the girls were taught to be good housekeepers, food gatherers, and mothers, and the boys were trained to be brave, strong warriors⁷. The boys learned how to fish, hunt animals for food, and use

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