



大学外语系列丛书
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体验文化教程

(第四册)



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体 验 文 化 教 程

(第 四 册)

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内 容 简 介

《体验文化教程》系列教程旨在为中国的英语学习者和美国文化爱好者提供一幅以美国文化理念和价值观为主线,以美国民族特性和行为方式为内容,以美国社会结构和地区特色为衬托的“美国社会文化全景图”。

本册书分为文学篇和艺术体育篇两部分,分别选取几个不同的话题独立成章。各章内容主体为文化背景知识和课文赏析,同时附有相应的文化小知识和针对大学生的语言测试题。

本教程可作为高等院校的文化教材和辅助课外阅读材料,也可作为准备大学英语四六级等语言测试的绝好教程。

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前 言

PREFACE

著名的萨丕尔-沃尔夫假说的基本思想是语言、思维和文化是相互依存的关系。众所周知,语言的背后是文化,文化的背后是良知,良知的背后是人性。因此,无论是从现实主义或者实用主义,还是从道德良知或者人文精神的角度来说,知晓和领悟美国文化不仅有助于我们对英语的切实掌握和灵活运用,而且有助于我们人文素质的提升和思想情操的修炼。本系列教程旨在为中国的英语学习者和美国文化爱好者提供一幅以美国文化理念和价值观为主线,以美国人民族特性和行为方式为内容,以美国社会结构和地区特色为衬托的“美国社会文化全景图”。

本系列教程共分为四册,每册围绕美国文化的两个方面,分两部分展开。其中,第一册关于风俗与社交,第二册关于历史与地理,第三册关于教育与传媒,第四册关于文学与艺术体育。每部分又选取几个不同的话题独立成章,每章内容主体为文化背景知识和课文赏析,同时附有相应的辅助阅读、文化小知识和针对大学生的语言测试题。本系列教程具有如下特点:

1. 信息量大。每册的“文化链接”部分涉及了大量美国文化不同方面的背景知识,以期帮助同学们拓展视角。

2. 语言学习和文化习得的巧妙结合。本教程中所有背景知识部分和辅助阅读部分都选自原汁原味的英语文章,同时提供译文,并提供生词注释。在提供文化知识的同时,每章都有几篇精心选择的相关话题的课文赏析,并后附大学英语四六级水平的语言测试题,以帮助学生夯实语言基础。

3. 知识性和趣味性相结合。在教程编写中,编者注意遵循学生语言文化习得的过程,每章以文化问答方式激发学生求知欲;同时,每章后附英语小笑话等阅读材料,增加趣味性。

4. 注重实用性。本教程既可作为英语学习的辅助课外阅读材料,又可作为准备大学英语四六级等语言测试的绝好教程。

本系列教程由马冬担任主编,由九位老师共同编写。编者均为长期从事大学英语教学的老师,有丰富的实践经验。本册书主编为马冬,副主编为许向辉和王妍。其中,马冬编写了第一部分的前三章,约9万字;许向辉和王妍合编了第一部分第四章和第二部分,各编写了约8万字。另外,王兰、李岩、李晨等参与编写。



在编写过程中,我们参考了大量的文献资料,在此,我们谨向这些文献资料的作者表示诚挚的谢意。由于编者水平有限,编写中定会存在不当和疏漏之处,敬请广大读者批评指正。

马 冬
2011 年 5 月

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学

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Chapter One The Mirror of Time—Novel

第1章 时代的镜子——小说

1.1 Quiz 文化竞技场

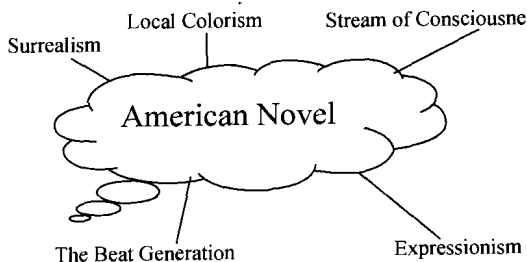
1. Which novel is the most famous novel of Harriet Beecher Stowe?
2. Is the Adventures of Huckleberry Fin the master work of Mark Twain?
3. Is the Gift of Magi (麦琪的礼物) a short story by O. Henry?
4. Who wrote the Sound and the Fury?
5. Who wrote Gone with the Wind?

Keys:

1. Uncle Tom's Cabin
2. Yes
3. Yes
4. William Faulkner
5. Margaret Mitchell



1.2 Brainstorming 文化热身



1. Local Colorism

Local colorism is a type of writing that was popular in the late 19th century, particularly among authors in the south of the U. S. . This style relied heavily on using words, phrases, and slang that were native to the particular region in which the story took place. The term has come to mean any device which implies a specific focus, whether it be geographical or temporal. A well-known local colorism author was Mark Twain whose works are books *Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

地方特色主义是在 19 世纪晚期在美国南方作家中流行的一种写作风格。这种风格的产生依赖于大量使用故事所发生的特定地区方言、俚语。这个定义也指隐含特定地点或时间的写作策略。著名的乡土文学作家是马克·吐温,作品有《汤姆·索耶历险记》和《哈克贝利·费恩历险记》。

2. Expressionism

In literature, expressionism is often considered a revolt against realism and naturalism, seeking to achieve a psychological or spiritual reality rather than record external events in logical sequence. In the novel, the term is closely allied to the writing of Franz Kafka and James Joyce. The movement, though short-lived, gave impetus to a free form of writing and the development of modern theater.

表现主义:在文学上,表现主义一般被认为是对现实主义和自然主义的反叛。表现主义试图描述心理和精神的现实,而不是记录外部事件的逻辑结果。在小说中,这一概念在弗兰兹·卡夫卡和詹姆斯·乔伊斯的作品中表现得最为明显。这场运动虽然持续时间不长,却促进了一种更自由的写作风格以及现代戏剧的发展。

3. Surrealism

An anti-rational movement of imaginative liberation in European art and literature in the



1920s and 1930s, launched by Andre Breton in his *Manifeste du Surrealisme* (1924) after his break from the Dada group in 1922. Surrealism seeks to break down the boundaries between rationality and irrationality, exploring the resources and revolutionary energies of dreams, hallucinations and sexual desire. Influenced both by the Symbolists and by Sigmund Freud's theories of the unconscious, the surrealists experimented with automatic writing and with the free association of random images brought together in surprising juxtaposition.

超现实主义是20世纪20年代和30年代在欧洲艺术和文学界发起的一场反对理性提倡思想解放的运动。这场运动由安德烈·布利多尼和达达派决裂后发起,他在他的著作《超现实主义宣言》(1924)中提及。超现实主义试图打破理性和非理性之间的界限,探索梦、幻觉以及性欲的源头和动力。由于受到象征主义和弗洛伊德无意识理论的影响,超现实主义将自由联想和自由写作以不可思议的形式并置合并在一起。

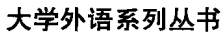
4. Stream of Consciousness

In literary criticism, stream of consciousness denotes a literary technique which seeks to describe an individual's point of view by giving the written equivalent of the character's thought processes. Stream-of-consciousness writing is strongly associated with the modernist movement. Its introduction in the literary context, transferred from psychology, is attributed to May Sinclair. Stream-of-consciousness writing is usually regarded as a special form of interior monologue and is characterized by associative (and at times dis-associative) leaps in syntax and punctuation that can make the prose difficult to follow, tracing as they do a character's fragmentary thoughts and sensory feelings. Stream-of-consciousness writing gained rapid prominence in the twentieth century. Famous writers to employ this technique in the English language include Virginia Woolf, James Joyce and William Faulkner.

意识流,学术界认为意识流是一种通过直接描述人物思维过程来寻求个人视角的文学写作技巧。意识流是现代主义运动的体现。它首先出现在心理学领域,由梅·辛克莱提出的,后引进文学领域。意识流写作通常被认为是一种特殊形式的内心独白,它的特点是联想性,以句法和标点的跳跃、文章的晦涩难懂为特征,来表现人物的片断思维和感官性的直觉。意识流技巧在20世纪得到了很大的发展。英语文学中使用此技巧比较著名的有沃尔夫、乔伊斯以及福克纳。

5. The Beat Generation

The Beat Generation applied to certain American artists and writers who were popular during the 1950s. Essentially, anarchic, members of the beat generation rejected traditional social and artistic forms. The beats sought immediate expression in multiple, intense experiences and beatific illumination like that of some Eastern religions. In literature they adopted rhythms of simple American speech and of jazz. Among those associated with the



垮掉的一代指一个出现在 20 世纪 50 年代的美国艺术家和作家群体。他们骨子里崇尚无政府主义,拒绝传统社会和艺术形式。垮掉的一代寻求直接表达自己经历情感的方式,追求快乐的启迪例如一些东方宗教。在文学上,他们采用简单的美国对话及爵士音乐。著名的有杰克·克鲁亚克、艾伦·金斯堡、威廉·巴罗斯、格雷戈里·柯尔索等,及其他在旧金山周边工作的人。

1. Mark Twin

This great author's true name was Samuel Langhorne Clamens. Mark Twin's life was full of legends. He was born in 1835 which was the most splendid time in American history. At that time the first railway had been built 10 years ago.

Mark Twain was born in a village in Florida. There were seven people and a slave in the house. His mother said: "He was very weak when he was a child. People thought he could not live through that winter. But he lived on and too **naughty**^① to worry me."

On one afternoon two years later, Mark Twain **drifted**^② in the street, he picked up a paper. He found the piece of paper was one page of a book. The thing was trivial, but it became the turning-point in his life. That paper recorded some things about John. These things were so interesting that Mark Twain lost himself in it. But then the 14-year-old Mark





Twin felt angry because he did not know who was John. To know who was John, he read all the books of John and took great interest in his life.

46 years later, he wrote a book of Recalling of John. He was very satisfied and thought that it was the best work of his though the critics did not think so. At that time he was a famous humorous writer. If he signed his name on the book, it was very easy for many people to think of it as a humorous book, so he did not use the name "Mark Twin".

Mark Twin was very smart but in investment he was awkward. After he became famous, his tax on books and income from lectures let him own a lot of money. He began to try investment. But all the trials failed. For example his watch factory only gave him **bonus**^③ only one time then bankrupted. He had managed steam pulley and publishing house, and then failed. Those investments made him owe 160,000 dollars. Other, he invested a lot of money to the makeup company, but lost 200,000 dollars.

But when the chance to be rich came, he lost it. The young inventor Bare had recommended his newly invented telephone and invited him to invest. Mark Twin said: "Only using a thread can talk with the friends miles away? It is unimaginable! Though I am a fool, I am not a big fool." But in fact, if he had invested 50 dollars, the money would have already become several millions. He didn't thought about the words of Bare, but gave 500 dollars to his friend with good thought, but that friend **bankrupted**^④ three years later.

In 1893, the depression came. Mark Twin was in debt and in illness. When he faced the bad situation he decided anyway he would pay the debt. He tried his best to write at the same time he made speech around the whole world. He did not like making speech. But to pay the debt, he spent 5 years to do that. His lectures were very humorous and very striking.

At last he paid off the debt and said: "All the debts were paid. All the worry disappeared. I had not felt so easy as now from then on, working is not the burden to me but a joy."

Mark Twin was very lucky in love. Before he met his wife, he only had a look of her picture then he missed her. The thing happened in the ship to Pakistan. It seemed determined by fate. Mr. Lankusy hung his sister—beauty Orliwere Lankusy's picture in his room. When Mark Twin saw this, he loved her. "She is my lover." He thought: "If one day I can marry her, what a happiness!"

Three months later, Mark Twin came back to New York and invited the family of Lankusy to his party. He saw the lady. As to this meeting, he wrote in his book: "From the first time we met to now, she occupied my life." In the end of the party, when thinking about to leave his lover, he worried. To stay with her, he used all his smartness. He asked



Lankusy' servant to top the carriage and make him fall down.

When the party ended, he politely said goodbye to the host and climbed the carriage. The carriage toppled. He fell from it and showed his pain in his face. It stunned the Lankusys. They rushed to him and carried him to the house. In two weeks, he nearly did not let Orliwere leave him. In fact, he was not hurt. He lied in the bed to enjoy the care. Orliwere called him sugar, and he called her were. From then on, they called each other like this.

The year Mark Twin was born, that was 1835, Halley's Comet appeared. The greatest wish in his life was to see the scene again. In 1910, the night before he died, the Halley's Comet went across the sky. His dream came true. But his another wish did not realize. He had hoped that his daughter Soucy could sing a fork of England for him before he died. But unluckily, Soucy was dead before him. Mark Twin had written a poem on his daughter's tomb stone. The poem should be caved on his own tomb stone.

The sunlight, please shine on the tomb;

The moonlight, please shine on the tomb;

Green grass, live happily!

Farewell! Lovely child, rest in peace! Rest in peace!

幽默作家马克·吐温 [1835—1910]

好莱坞一家电影公司花费 200 万美金,把美国一位著名人物的一生拍成了电影,此人是当代最伟大的作家之一,也是一位真正的幽默大师。

这位大作家原名叫塞缪尔·朗赫恩·克莱门,而世人所熟知的马克·吐温是他的笔名。

马克·吐温的一生充满了传奇色彩。他出生于 1835 年,那是美国历史上最为辉煌的时代。那时候,美国的第一条铁路刚建成 10 年。

马克·吐温逝世于 1910 年,他度过了 75 年精彩的人生。他为后人留下了 23 部作品。在一百多年后的今天,它们仍然是孩子们爱不释手的读物。

马克·吐温生于密苏里州佛罗里达的一个小乡村。他们一家七口和一个黑奴生活在一起。“他出生时身体虚弱,大家都认为他活不过那个冬天。不过他活了下来,而且淘气得让人头痛。”他的母亲回忆他的童年时说。

马克·吐温小时候对上学深恶痛绝,在他幼小的心灵里,学校是剥夺自由的地方。他喜欢漫步在森林里,或者去河边探险。马克·吐温 12 岁时,他的父亲去世了,这给他的逃学提供了更好的机会。当他明白父亲永远离开了他时,又为自己的无知悔恨的号啕大哭。

他的母亲安慰他说:“过去的事情就让它过去吧,只要从现在开始,好好地做人……”他



说：“只要不上学，我可以认真做任何事情。”几天后，马克·吐温进了一家印刷厂。他母亲认为他学点印刷技术，也许可以谋条出路。印刷厂管他两年的吃住和提供衣服，但是不发一分钱的工资。

两年后的一个下午,马克·吐温在密苏里州的街上闲逛时,无意中看到地上有一张纸,他捡起来一看,原来是从一本书上掉下来的一页。这件微不足道的小事,却成了马克·吐温人生的转折点。那页书上记载了约翰的一些事迹,这些事迹是如此有趣,连一向讨厌上学的马克·吐温也读得如痴如醉。但接下来,14岁的马克·吐温又感到非常恼火,因为他根本不知道约翰是何许人也。为了解那个“可恶的”约翰,他把约翰写的书读了一个遍,并对约翰的生平产生了浓厚的兴趣。

46年后,他写成了《关于约翰的回忆》一书,他很满意,认为这是自己作品里最好的,虽然批评家们并不那么看。这时的他已是成名的幽默作家。如果在这本书上署上“马克·吐温”这个笔名,很容易使人又把它当作一部幽默作品,所以他就没有署这个笔名。

马克·吐温有着过人的机智,但在投资方面却很笨拙。

他成名后,靠着版税和演讲的收入拥有了不少财富,他又开始踌躇满志地发挥自己的“投资天赋”,但是种种尝试无不以失败告终。比如,他投资的钟表工厂只拿了一次红利,接着就宣告破产了;他还经营过蒸汽式滑车和出版社,最后全都遭到了惨败。这些投资最终使他欠下了 16 万美元的债务。另外,他在自动活字排版公司的巨额投资,又使他损失了 20 万美元。

但是,当千载难逢的发财机会到来时,他又与它失之交臂。年轻的发明家亚历山大·贝尔曾经热情地向他推荐自己新发明的电话,并邀请他投资。马克·吐温说:“仅凭一条电线,就能在家里和几英里外的朋友说话?这也太匪夷所思了吧!我虽然是个傻瓜,但绝对不是个大傻瓜!”可事实上,如果他当时能在电话公司投上 500 元的话,那么现在这 500 元已经变成了几千万。他对贝尔的邀请毫不动心,而是很“慎重”地把 500 元借给了一位朋友,结果那个朋友三年后就破产了。

1893年,美国经济出现了萧条,这时的马克·吐温不仅负债累累而且疾病缠身。面对困境,他决定无论如何也要还清债务。那么,他又是靠什么来还清巨额债务呢?他一面拼命写作,一面到世界各地演讲。他并不喜欢演讲,但是为了还债,他整整作了五年的巡回演讲。他的演讲不仅风趣,而且极富震撼力。

他终于还清了最后一分钱后,不禁感慨地说:“所有的债都还清了,所以的忧愁都没有了,我从来没有像今天这样轻松过,从此以后,工作不再是我的负担,而是一种乐趣。”

马克·吐温虽然在投资方面屡屡遇挫,但爱神却对他格外青睐。他在尚未见过他妻子前,只看到了她的一张照片,就陷入了单相思。事情发生在他赴巴基斯坦的船上(这次旅行为他日后创作《汤姆·索亚历险记》提供了丰富的素材)。仿佛是命中注定,同船



的查理士·朗库斯先生的舱房里,挂着他妹妹——美人奥莉维·朗库斯的一张照片。马克·吐温一见到照片就立即爱上了她。“这就是我爱的人!”他在心里想,“如果我能得到她该是一种多大的幸福啊!”

三个月后,马克·吐温回到了纽约,并到朗库斯家参加他的宴会。他终于见到了活生生的奥莉维。关于这一次见面,他在晚年的一本书中这样写道:“从第一次见面到现在,她始终牢牢地占据着我的心。”宴会快结束时,想到自己就要离开心上人,马克·吐温不禁心急如焚。为了能够留在她身旁,他运用了自己全部的聪明才智。他暗中吩咐朗库斯的佣人,在赶马车时故意把马车颠翻,使他能从车上摔下来。

晚宴结束时,他彬彬有礼地和主人道别,然后从容地登上马车。当马车开始奔驰时,由于事先的约定,马克·吐温果然从车上摔了下来。他立刻做出痛苦的样子,这可吓坏了朗库斯一家人,他们急忙跑过去,把他抱到屋里疗伤。此后的两个星期,他几乎没有让奥莉维·朗库斯离开过自己一步。

事实上,他并没有受伤。“摔伤”后,他躺在床上享受着心上人无微不至的照料。奥莉维叫他“甜心”,他叫奥莉维“维”。从那时起,他们就始终这样称呼对方,直到34年后奥莉维离开人世。

马克·吐温出生那年,也就是1835年,天上曾出现过哈雷慧星,他平生的一大愿望是在有生之年能再次见到这76年一现的景观。1910年,在他临死的那天夜晚,哈雷慧星再次划过天际,他的这个愿望实现了。不过他的另一个愿望没有得到满足,他曾希望女儿苏茜能在他临终前,为他唱一首英格兰民歌。但不幸的是,苏茜先他而去。马克·吐温在女儿的墓碑上题了一首短诗。这首诗也应该由热爱他的美国人刻在他的墓碑上:

阳光啊,请温暖地照在墓上;
月光啊,请轻柔地照在墓上;
青翠的小草,快乐地生长吧!
再见了!可爱的孩子,安息吧!安息吧!

2. Nathaniel Hawthorne

Hawthorne (1804—1864), son of a sea captain, was born in Salem, Massachusetts, and raised by his mother. He was five generations removed from his Puritan American forebears^⑤, one of whom had been among the judges who condemned the “witches” of Salem in 1692. After graduating from Bowdoin College, where he made a friend of Longfellow and late President of U. S. Franklin Pierce, he was drawn back to Salem. The next twelve years in his mother's Salem home were years of literary apprenticeship^⑥. He read widely, preparing himself to be the chronicler of the antiquities and the spiritual temper of colonial New England. He published his first novel, Fanshawe (1828) at his own expense and other



stories followed, like *Twice-Told Tales* (1837), *The Whole History of Grandfather's Chair* (1841), *Famous Old People* (1841) and *Mosses from an Old Manse* (1946). Then since his stories were not gaining popular support and came in financial crisis, he secured employment in the Boston Custom House. Hawthorne lost this position in 1849, but in 1850 he published *The Scarlet Letter* (1850), which made his fame, changed his fortune, and gave the literature its first symbolic novel. After a short time in the Berkshires, Hawthorne settled in 1852 at the Wayside, Concord, which became his permanent home. He was at the height of his creative activity. *The House of the Seven Gables* (1851) was followed by *The Snow Image* (1851) and *The Blithedale Romance* (1852). From 1853 to 1857, Hawthorne again was appointed as United States consul in Liverpool, England. There Hawthorne faithfully performed the duties, while seeing much of England and recording his impressions in many books including the novel *The Marble Faun* (1860). Hawthorne died on May 18, 1864, at Plymouth, New Hampshire.

纳撒尼尔·霍桑

纳撒尼尔·霍桑(1804—1864)生于马萨诸塞州的塞勒姆镇,父亲是位船长,霍桑由母亲养大。霍桑家族往前五代可以追溯到殖民时期的清教徒祖辈,其中一人曾是1692年参与过审讯塞勒姆审巫案的法官。霍桑进入博多因学院学习,并在其间认识了朗费罗以及后来的美国总统富兰克林·皮尔斯。毕业后,他又回到家乡塞勒姆。接下来的12年里,霍桑在他家老屋里阅读、沉思、练笔。他广泛阅读,寻找素材,他对殖民时期新英格兰的历史传统精神趋向很感兴趣。1828年他自费出版了第一部小说《范肖》,后来出版了《故事新编》(1837)、《祖父业绩全传》(1841)、《名人轶事》(1841)以及《古屋青苔》(1946)。由于这故事并没有收到好评,霍桑陷入了前所未有的经济困难中,后来他在海关获得了一个任职的机会,在1849年被撤职。但在1850年他发表了《红字》,霍桑因此成名,财政状况也得到了很大缓解。这部小说成为文学史上第一部象征主义小说。在波克夏镇短暂居住后,霍桑于1852年永久定居在维塞德。而这段时期成为他的创作高峰期。《带七个尖角阁的房子》(1851)之后他发表了《雪的意象》(1851)以及《福谷传奇》(1852)。从1853到1857年,霍桑再次被任命为美国驻英国利物浦领事。在此期间他不但忠实地执行他的义务,而且利用闲暇时间游历了英国和欧洲,做了大量的采访和笔记,回国发表了包括《玉石雕像》(1860)在内的许多小说。霍桑于1864年5月18日在新罕布什尔州普利茅斯去世。

3. Jack London

Few American writers knew working-class life as well as Jack London (1876—1916) did, and few have written about it with London's immediacy. London's early years were spent in poverty. He had little formal education and worked at a series of odd jobs as he wandered