

21世纪CBI内容依托系列英语教材

An Introduction to European Culture



欧洲文化入门

常俊跃 黄洁芳 赵永青 主编



北京大学出版社
PEKING UNIVERSITY PRESS

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国家哲学社会科学项目“英语专业基础阶段内容依托式教学改革研究”的研究成果

本书主编:常俊跃 黄洁芳 赵永青

对本项目教材编校有贡献的其他教师:

李雪梅 宋杰 李莉莉 夏洋 赵秀艳 吕春媚 霍跃红
高璐璐 姚璐 李文萍 傅琼 刘晓蕖 范丽雅

前言

《欧洲文化入门》是在内容依托教学理念指导下,依托国家哲学社会科学项目“英语专业基础阶段内容依托式教学改革研究”推出的系列英语教材之一,是大连外国语学院优秀教学成果一等奖、辽宁省优秀教学成果一等奖、第六届国家级优秀教学成果奖的重要组成部分。这套系列教材的推出具有重要的理论意义和现实意义。

随着我国英语教育的快速发展,英语专业长期贯彻的“以技能为导向”的课程建设理念及教学理念已经难以满足社会的需要。专家及教师们密切关注的现行大、中、小学英语教学脱节,语言、内容教学割裂,单纯语言技能训练过多,专业内容课程不足,学科内容课程系统性差,高低年级内容课程安排失衡及其导致的学生知识面偏窄、知识结构欠缺、思辨能力偏弱、综合素质发展不充分等问题日益凸显。

针对上述问题,国家哲学社会科学项目“英语专业基础阶段内容依托式教学改革研究”以内容依托教学(CBI)理论为指导,确定了如下改革思路:

(一)更新语言教学理念,改革英语专业教学的课程结构。在不改变专业总体培养目标和教学时限的前提下,对课程结构进行革命性的变革,改变传统单一的语言技能课程模式,实现内容课程与语言课程的融合,扩展学生的知识面,提高学生的语言技能。

(二)开发课程自身潜力,同步提高专业知识和语言技能。内容依托课程本身同时关注内容和语言,把内容教学和语言教学有机结合。以英语为媒介,系统教授专业内容;以专业内容为依托,在使用语言过程中提高语言技能,扩展学生的知识面。

(三)改革教学方法手段,全面提高语言技能和综合素质。依靠内容依托教学在方法上的灵活性,通过问题驱动、输出驱动等方法调动学生主动学习,把启发式、任务式、讨论式、结对子、小组活动、课堂展示、多媒体手段等行之有效的活动与学科内容教学有机结合,提高学生的语言技能,激发学生的兴趣,培养学生的自主性和创造性,提升思辨能力和综合素质。

本项改革突破了我国英语专业教学大纲规定的课程结构,改变了英语专业基础阶段通过开设单纯的听、说、读、写四种语言技能课提高学生语言技能的传统课程建设理念,对英语课程及教学方法进行了创新性的改革。首创了英语专业基础阶段具有我国特色的内容与语言融合的课程体系;率先开发了适合英语专业基础阶段的内容依托课程;系统开发了英语国家史、地、社会文化、中国文化、欧洲文化、跨文化交际、《圣经》文化教材;以英语为媒介,系统教授专业内容;以内容为依托,全面发展学生的语言技能;扩展学生的知识面,提高学生的综合素质,以崭新的途径实现英语专业教育的总体培养目标。

经过七年的酝酿、准备、实验,内容依托教学改革取得了鼓舞人心的成果。

(一)构建了英语专业基础阶段内容依托课程与语言课程融合的课程体系。新的课程体系改变了传统单一的听、说、读、写语言技能课程模式,实现了内容依托课程和语言技能课程两种模块的融合;语言技能课程包含综合英语、听力、语音、写作,内容课程包含了美国历史文化、美国自然人文地理、美国社会文化、英国历史文化、英国自然人文地理、英国社会文化、澳新加社会文化、中国文化、欧洲文化、跨文化交际、《圣经》文化;语言技能课程密切关注听、说、读、写技能的发展,内容依托课程不仅关注系统的学科内容,而且也关注综合语言技能的培养。在课程外和课程内两个层面把内容教学和语言教学有机结合,通过内容教学培养学生语言综合运用能力,扩展学生的知识面,提高学生的综合素质和多元文化意识,从根本上改变英语专业学生知识面偏窄、综合素

质偏低的问题。

(二) 系统开发了相关国家的史、地、社会文化以及跨文化交际课程资源。在CBI教学理论的指导下,在实施内容依托教学的关键期——英语专业的第一学年,成功开出了美国和英国的历史、地理、社会文化等课程。第二学年开出澳新加社会文化、中国文化、欧洲文化、跨文化交际、《圣经》文化等课程。内容依托教材改变了传统的组织模式,系统组织了教学内容,设计了新颖的栏目板块,设计的活动也丰富多样,教学实践中受到了学生的广泛欢迎。此外还开发了开设课程所需要的大量资源。在北京大学出版社的支持下,系列教材已经陆续出版。

(三) 牵动了教学手段和教学方法的改革,取得了突出的教学效果。在内容依托教学理论的指导下,教师的教学理念、教学方法、教学手段得到更新。通过问题驱动、输出驱动等活动调动学生主动学习,把启发式、任务式、讨论式、结对子、小组活动、课堂展示、多媒体手段等行之有效的活动与学科内容教学有机结合,激发学生的兴趣,培养学生的自主性和创造性,提高学生的语言技能,提升思辨能力和综合素质。曾有专家及教师担心取消专门的英语泛读课以及缩减基础英语精读课会对语言技能发展产生消极影响。实验数据证明,内容依托教学不仅没有对学生的语言技能发展和语言知识的学习产生消极影响,还产生了多方面的积极影响;在取消专门英语阅读课的情况下,阅读能力发展迅速;内容依托教学对学科知识的学习产生了巨大的积极影响。

(四) 提高了教师的科研意识和科研水平,取得了丰硕的科研成果。项目开展以来,团队对内容依托教学问题进行了系统研究,活跃了整个教学单位的科研气氛,科研意识和科研水平也得到了很大提高。课题组已经撰写研究论文25篇,在国际、国内学术研讨会交流12篇,在国际学术期刊*World Englishes*、国内外语类核心期刊《外语与外语教学》、《中国外语》、《教育理论与实践》等发表研究论文9篇。

教学改革开展以来,每次成果发布都引起强烈反响。在2008年3月的“第三届中国外语教学法国际研讨会”上,与会的知名外语教育专家戴炜栋教授等对这项改革给予关注,博士生导师蔡基刚教授认为本项研究“具有导向性作用”。在2008年5月的“第二届全国英语专业院系主任高级论坛”上,研究成果得到知名专家、博士生导师王守仁教授和与会专家教授的高度评价。在2008年7月的“中国英语教学研究会东北地区年会”上,改革的系列成果引起与会专家的强烈反响,研究论文获得3个优秀论文一等奖,3个二等奖,1个三等奖。在2008年11月在“中国英语教学研究会年会”上,成果再次引起与会专家的强烈反响,博士生导师石坚教授等给予了高度评价。在2008年10月和12月,本项改革成果分别获得大连外国语学院教学研究成果一等奖和辽宁省优秀教学成果一等奖,2009年获得国家级教学成果二等奖。在2009年5月的“第三届全国英语专业院系主任高级论坛”和2010年4月的“第四届中国外语教学法国际研讨会”上,本成果的介绍被确定为主旨发言的内容,向全国外语界的同行们进行介绍后赢得了中国英语教学研究会会长及中国外语教育研究中心主任文秋芳教授、我国外语教学指导委员会主任戴炜栋教授以及与会专家们的高度肯定和赞扬。

目前,该项成果已经在全国英语专业教育领域引起广泛关注。它触及了英语专业的教学大纲,影响了课程建设的理念,引领了英语专业的教学改革,改善了教学实践,必将对未来英语专业教育的发展产生积极影响。

本项改革开展过程中得到了全国各地专家的关注、支持和帮助。衷心感谢戴炜栋教授、王守仁教授、文秋芳教授、石坚教授、蔡基刚教授、杨忠教授等前辈们给予的关注、鼓励、支持和帮助,衷心感谢大连外国语学院校长孙玉华教授、赵忠德教授、杨俊峰教授及其他各位领导的大力支持,感谢大连外国语学院教务处刘宏处长、教务处副处长及高教研究所主任姜凤春博士以及工作人员们在改革实验中给予的大力支持,感谢大连外国语学院科研处张雪处长和工作人员们给予的热情帮助,感谢大连外国语学院英语学院领导的全力支持和同事们的理解、帮助以及团队成员们的共同努力。同时也真诚感谢为我们内容依托教学改革提供丰富教学材料的国内外专家们。特

别感谢的是北京大学出版社富有远见的张冰主任和刘强副主任,没有他们对新教学理念的认同,没有他们对英语专业教育的关注和支持,这套教材不可能如此迅速地面世。

《欧洲文化入门》的出版具有它特殊的背景。自改革开放以来,我国大学生对西方社会的兴趣与日俱增。英语专业的学生对主要英语国家的社会和文化都有所涉及,对这些国家的风土人情也不陌生。但是,欧洲文化知识一直是中国英语学习者的弱项。对于哺育了欧洲文化的两河文明、古希腊文明和罗马文明,对于西方社会从中世纪、文艺复兴以来的文化发展历程,对于近现代欧洲社会的主要文化思潮,知道的往往不是很多。但以英语这门国际性的语言和欧洲国家人民交往,了解欧洲文化知识又非常必要。为了更好地让广大英语爱好者系统、深入地了解西方文明的发展进程,我们特地编写了《欧洲文化入门》这本教材。

本教材针对的学生群体是具有中学英语基础的大学生。适用于英语专业一、二年级学生,也适用于具有中学英语基础的非英语专业学生和英语爱好者学习。总体来看,本教材具备以下主要特色:

(一)打破了传统的教学理念

本教材改变了“为学语言而学语言”的传统教材建设理念,在具有时代特色且被证明行之有效的内容依托教学理论指导下,改变了片面关注语言知识和语言技能、忽视内容学习的做法。它依托学生关注的欧洲文明发展的内容,结合知识内容组织学生进行语言交际活动,在语言交流中学习有意义的知识内容,既训练语言技能,也丰富相关知识,起到一箭双雕的作用。

(二)涉及了系统的相关内容

《欧洲文化入门》共分十六单元。从欧洲文明发展的源头两河文明与古埃及文明开始,以历史发展的时间先后为序,一直延伸到20世纪当代欧洲社会的主要文艺动向,基本涵盖了欧洲文化的主要发展历程。

(三)引进了真实的教学材料

英语教材是英语学习者英语语言输入和相关知识输入的重要渠道。本教材大量使用真实、地道的语言材料,为学生提供了高质量的语言输入。此外,为了使课文内容更加充实生动,易于学生理解接受,编者在课文中穿插了大量的插图、表格、照片等真实的视觉材料,表现手段活泼、形式多种多样,效果生动直观。

(四)设计了新颖的教材板块

本教材每一单元的主体内容均包括 Before You Read, Start to Read, After You Read, Read More 四大板块,不仅在结构上确立了学生的主体地位,而且系统的安排也方便教师借助教材有条不紊地开展教学活动。在 Before You Read 部分,读者可以对本单元的主要内容进行自测,通过自测激发自己对单元内容的好奇心和学习热情。Start to Read 是每个单元的重点,通过对主课文的学习,读者可以对每单元的内容有一个总体了解。然后,在 After You Read 部分对课文练习的完成,进一步深化对单元内容以及英语语言知识的学习。除主课文之外,每单元 Read More 还配有两篇辅助阅读材料,这些阅读材料有助于读者对单元内容的进一步了解和掌握。这种设计改变了教师单纯灌输、学生被动接受的教学方式,促使学生积极思考、提问、探索、发现、批判,培养自主获得知识,发现问题和解决问题的能力。

(五)提供了多样的训练活动

为了培养学生的语言技能和综合素质,本教材在保证知识体系完整的前提下,在关注英语语言知识训练和相关内容传授的基础上精心设计了生动多样的综合训练活动。教材在每一单元都精心设计了旨在针对学生在语法、词汇、篇章结构、语言功能等方面进行全面严格的基本技能练习。同时,编者通过参阅大量国外资料,设计出与欧洲文明相关的、学生参与度极高的课堂和课外活动。多样化的活动打破了传统教材单调的训练程式,帮助教师设置真实的语言运用情境,组织富于挑战性的、具有意义的语言实践活动,培养学生语言综合运用能力。这些活动的设

置成为本教材的亮点之一,它使课堂教学得以延伸,也能激发学生的学习热情,这也是CBI教育理念在本教材中的最好体现。

(六)推荐了经典的学习材料

教材的这一特色在于它对教学内容的延伸和拓展。在每个单元的For Fun部分,编者向学生推荐相关网站、经典的影视作品等学习资料。读者对某一方面的内容产生了兴趣,可以轻松地浏览每单元最后提供的参考网站,欣赏推荐的电影,对自己感兴趣的内容进行更深层次的挖掘。这不仅有益于学生开阔视野,也使教材具有了弹性和开放性,方便不同院校不同水平学生不同层次的需求。

作为一项探索,我们团队成员虽然为打造这套精品教材做出了巨大努力,但由于水平所限,教材中难免存在疏漏和不足,希望全国各地的同仁不吝赐教,希望亲自体验内容依托教学的同学积极提出改进意见和建议,以期不断完善教材,为提高英语专业教育的质量共同努力。

编者

2011年1月

于大连外国语学院

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Unit 1

The First Civilizations

The history of civilization, if intelligently conceived, may be an instrument of civilization.

—Charles Beard, US historian

Unit Goals

- To have a general understanding of the early civilizations in the world
- To appreciate the cultural achievements of the Mesopotamians and ancient Egyptians
- To learn the useful words and expressions that describe the early civilizations
- To improve language skills through the content of this unit

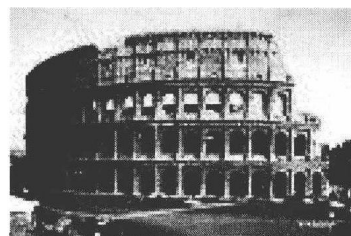
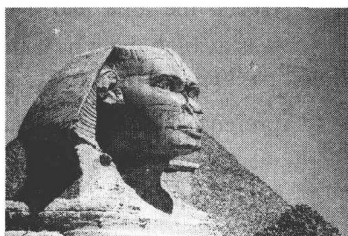
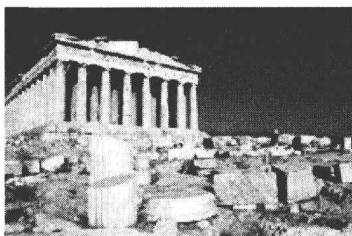
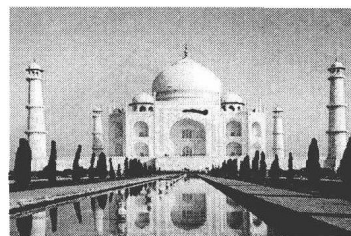
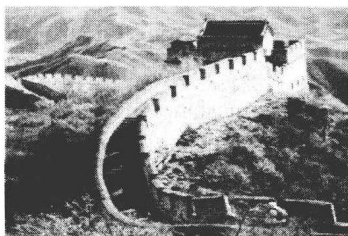
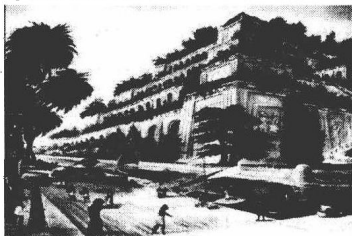
Before You Read

1. What do you know about ancient civilizations of the world?

The ancient civilizations I know are:

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____

2. Do you know the following architectural constructions? What civilization does each of them symbolize?



3. Form groups of three or four students. Try to find, on the Internet or in the library, more information about the constructions in the pictures above. Choose one as your topic and prepare a five-minute classroom presentation.

Start to Read

Text A The Cradle of Civilization

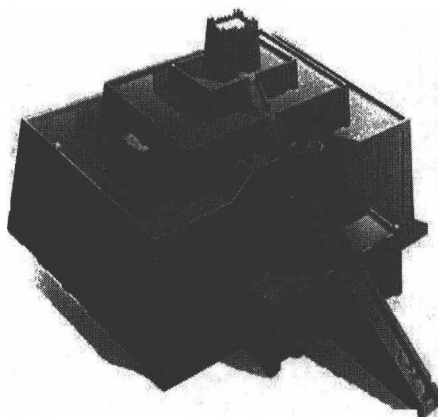
The word civilization comes from Latin *civis*, meaning a citizen or resident of city. This term is similar to and often interchangeable with culture, but the former refers mostly to cultures that have complex economic, governmental, and social systems. That is, a civilization is technologically more advanced than other cultures of its time, whereas a culture, as a body of learned behaviors common to a given human society, acts rather like a template, shaping behavior and consciousness within a human society from generation to generation.

The development of writing is a prerequisite for civilization. Therefore, the first civilizations were those highly organized societies in which the only efficient way of communication between individuals and groups across larger space and time was writing. In this sense, the four earliest civilizations were Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Indian and Chinese.

By western civilization we mean the civilization that has consummated in the most industrially advanced regions in the world today, mostly in Europe and North America. Nevertheless, it is not a geographically defined concept. Western civilization belongs to no particular place, and the origin of western civilization was oriental rather than occidental. The civilization that later spread to and left its legacy for the West appeared first outside the “West”, in Mesopotamia at the Tigris and Euphrates river basins in present-day Iraq and Iran, a region that westerners today call the Middle East. At every stage of its growth, western civilization drew heavily on heritages of oriental civilizations in Egypt, Asia Minor, the Middle East, Indus and China.

Civilization in Mesopotamia

Mesopotamia is a region in the Middle East lying between the rivers Euphrates and Tigris in what is Iraq today. This region was the birthplace of the first civilizations. The name “Mesopotamia” comes from Greek, which means “between rivers”. The most important ancient civilizations in the region were the Sumerian, the Babylonian and Assyrian.



It was the two rivers that became the basis of the wealth of the region. Through relatively easy irrigation, the agriculture could yield heavy crops. There were fish in the rivers, the area had a diversified agriculture and wildfowl was available out near the coast.

Hence, there was an easy surplus of food products—a prerequisite for urbanization, so cities developed. The cities were centers of trade, as well as production of handicrafts, state administration and military defense. Mesopotamia also

had other important raw materials available although stone and wood was rare, and they had to be imported. The most important local raw material was clay, which was used to build houses and create tablets to write on.

The Mesopotamian people made great cultural achievements. Much mathematical and astronomical science owes its beginnings to the Mesopotamians. They developed the sexagesimal system, which was used for all types of calculations and is still used for the clock all around the world.

Architecture and art are often impressive, but cannot be compared to what is found in Egypt. However, one achievement is among the greatest found in antiquity: The Ziggurat, a temple structure of impressive size and high esthetical values.

It was in Mesopotamia that cuneiform writing was developed, and with this, much literature of high value was produced. *Enuma Elish* and *Gilgamesh* are examples of great religious literature, while the *Code of Hammurabi* is one of the greatest early examples of juridical literature. Still, much of the available literature remains untranslated.

Ancient Egyptian Culture

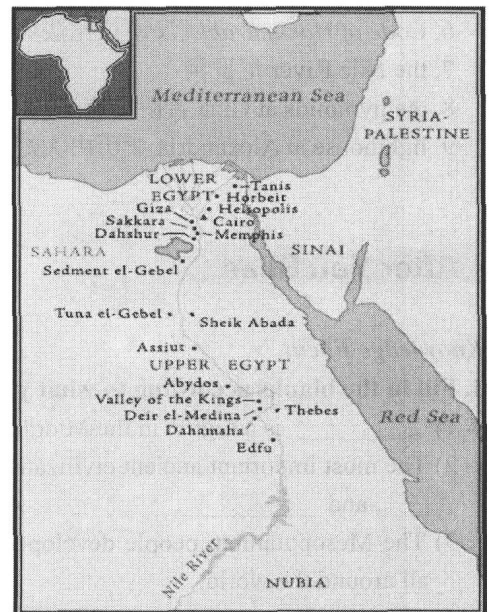
Ancient Egypt is a civilization that thrived along the Nile River in northeastern Africa for more than 3,000 years, from about 3300 BC to 30 BC. It was the longest-lived civilization of the ancient world.

The Nile River, which formed the focus of ancient Egyptian civilization, originates in the highlands of East Africa and flows northward throughout the length of what are now Sudan and Egypt. Northwest of modern-day Cairo, it branches out to form a broad delta, through which it empties into the Mediterranean Sea. Because of seasonal rains farther south in Africa, the Nile overflowed its banks in Egypt every year. When the floodwaters receded, a rich black soil covered the floodplain. This natural phenomenon and its effects on the environment enabled the ancient Egyptians to develop a successful economy based on agriculture.

Other natural factors combined to give rise to a great civilization in the Nile region. In the relatively cloudless sky in Egypt, the Sun almost always shone, consistently providing heat and light. The Nile served as a water highway for the people, a constant source of life-giving water, and the sustainer of all plants and animals. In addition, natural barriers provided good protection from other peoples. The desert to the west, the seas to the north and east, and the Nile's rapids to the south prevented frequent hostile attacks.

In this setting, a sophisticated and creative society came into being. That society was the only one in the area to endure for thousands of years. It was in this land that two of the Seven Wonders of the World were found: the pyramids at Giza and the lighthouse at Alexandria.

The ancient Egyptians processed thin flat sheets from the papyrus, a plant that grew along the Nile, and



on these paperlike sheets they wrote their texts. Their earliest script, now known as hieroglyphs, began as a type of picture writing in which the symbols took the form of recognizable images. They originated many basic concepts in arithmetic and geometry, as well as the study of medicine and dentistry. They devised a calendar on the basis of their observations of the Sun and the stars.

Although the ancient Egyptians worshiped many gods, Egypt is also often recognized as the origin of the first recorded monotheist (worshiper of one god). Egypt also developed one of the first religions to have a concept of the afterlife. No culture before or since paid as much attention to preparations as the Egyptians for what was to come after death. Both royalty and private individuals built, decorated, and furnished tombs, which the ancient Egyptians understood to represent their eternal existence.

Politically, Egypt was a major power in the ancient world. Its kings governed the land through an elaborate bureaucratic administration. At certain periods, ancient Egypt's influence extended even farther south and west in Africa as well as east into Asia.

Great pyramids, hieroglyphs, elaborately decorated underground burial chambers, sprawling temple complexes, and statues combining human and animal forms are only a few of the many remnants that survive from ancient Egypt. These relics of an extinct world raised numerous questions during the centuries after the civilization died out and still fascinate people today.

Proper Nouns



1. the Tigris-Euphrates 底格里斯河—幼发拉底河流域
2. Mesopotamia 美索不达米亚
3. Ziggurat 古巴比伦之金字型神塔
4. *Enuma Elish* 美索不达米亚史诗《埃努玛—埃利什》
5. *Gilgamesh* 古巴比伦史诗《吉尔伽美什》
6. *Code of Hammurabi* 《汉谟拉比法典》
7. the Nile River 尼罗河
8. the pyramids at Giza 吉萨金字塔
9. lighthouse at Alexandria 亚历山大灯塔

After You Read



Knowledge Focus

1. Fill in the blanks according to what you have learned in the text above.

- 1) _____ is a region in the Middle East lying between the Euphrates and Tigris.
- 2) The most important ancient civilizations in the Mesopotamian region were _____, _____, and _____.
- 3) The Mesopotamian people developed the _____ system, which is still used for the clock all around the world.
- 4) The most famous architectural construction in the Mesopotamian time was called _____.

- 5) The writing system invented by the Mesopotamian people was called _____.
- 6) The *Code of Hammurabi* is one of the greatest early examples of _____ literature.
- 7) It was in ancient Egypt that two of the Seven Wonders of the World were found: _____ and _____.
- 8) The writing system adopted by the Egyptians is called _____.
- 9) Egyptians devised a calendar on the basis of their observations of _____ and _____.
- 10) Egypt developed one of the first religions to have a concept of _____.

2. Discuss the following questions with your partner.

- 1) What are the four ancient civilizations in the world?
- 2) What does the term "Mesopotamia" refer to?
- 3) Which two rivers are related to the Mesopotamian culture?
- 4) Why did civilization develop from the Mesopotamian region?
- 5) What cultural achievements were made by the Mesopotamian people?
- 6) Why is Egypt often called "the gift of the Nile"?
- 7) What else contributed to the emergence of a great civilization in the Nile region?
- 8) What cultural legacy has been left by the people in the ancient Egypt?

Language Focus

1. Fill in the blanks with the words or expressions you have learned in the text.

prerequisite	diversified	cradle	give rise to	devise
remnant	consistently	recede	eternal	sophisticated

- 1) The company is engaged in the _____ search for a product that will lead the market.
- 2) In many Third World regions, land reform remains a _____ for development.
- 3) China _____ holds that economic development should be coordinated with environmental protection.
- 4) What is learned in the _____ is carried to the tomb.
- 5) Managerial economics is becoming a _____ art.
- 6) International support has _____ a new optimism in the company.
- 7) He is good at _____ language games that you can play with students in class.
- 8) Like marriage dance, funeral dance is also varied and _____.
- 9) His hair is beginning to _____ from his forehead.
- 10) It matters little where we pass the _____ of our days.

2. Fill in the blanks with the proper form of the word in the brackets.

- 1) The school has received _____ (vary) grants from the education department.
- 2) The city's first _____ (inhabit) arrived in the 16th century.
- 3) _____ (urban) is the process by which more and more people leave the countryside to live in cities.
- 4) Scientists concluded that ancient people probably built the ledge as an _____ (astronomy) observation platform.
- 5) He constructed his house with an eye to _____ (architecture) beauty.
- 6) The town relies on the _____ (season) tourist industry for jobs.
- 7) The reform program was greeted with _____ (hostile) by conservatives.
- 8) A dentist is a person who is trained and licensed to practice _____ (dentist).
- 9) The _____ (extinct) of the dinosaurs occurred millions of years ago.
- 10) The Eiffel Tower in Paris is an instantly _____ (recognize) landmark.

3. Fill in the blanks with the proper prepositions or adverbs that collocate with the neighboring words.

- 1) The kings of ancient Egypt governed the land _____ an elaborate bureaucratic administration.
- 2) Let me cite an incident that happened last semester _____ an example.
- 3) Having failed my French exams, I decided to concentrate _____ science subjects.
- 4) It is mutual respect that their relationship was based _____.
- 5) A surplus of exports _____ imports will boost employment.
- 6) He owes his life _____ the staff at the hospital.
- 7) These lights are used _____ illuminating the playing area.
- 8) She was torn _____ loyalty to her father and love for her husband.

4. Error Correction: Each of the following sentences has at least one grammatical error. Identify the errors and correct them.

- 1) Ancient Egypt is the civilization that thrived along Nile River in northeastern Africa for more than 3000 years from about 3300 BC to 30 BC.
- 2) The river branches out to form into a broad delta, which it empties into Mediterranean Sea.
- 3) By western civilization we mean civilization that has consummated in the most industrially advanced regions in the world today, mostly in the Europe and the North America.
- 4) At every stage of its growth, western civilization drew heavy on heritages of oriental civilizations in Egypt, Asia Minor, the Middle East, Indus and China.
- 5) Mesopotamia is a region in the Middle East lied between the rivers Euphrates and Tigris in that is Iraq today.
- 6) It was the Tigris and the Euphrates which became the basis upon which the wealth of the region was based.
- 7) Much mathematical and astronomical science owe its beginnings to the Mesopotamians.
- 8) Architecture and art are often impressive, but cannot be compared to that is found in Egypt.
- 9) Much of the available literature in the Mesopotamian culture remains to be untranslated.

- 10) The Nile River was the long-lived civilization of the ancient world.
- 11) Many natural factors combining to give rise to a great civilization in the Nile region.
- 12) In the relatively cloudless sky in Egypt, the Sun almost always shone, consistently provide heat and light.
- 13) It was in this land where two of the Seven Wonders of the World was found: the pyramids at Giza and the lighthouse at Alexandria.
- 14) The ancient Egyptians processed thin flat sheets that they wrote their texts.
- 15) No culture before or since paid as many attentions to preparations as the Egyptians for what was to come after death.

Comprehensive Work

1. Sharing Ideas: Code of Hammurabi

The following statements are taken from the *Code of Hammurabi*. Read carefully and discuss the following questions with your partner.

25. *If fire breaks out in a house, and some one who comes to put it out casts his eye upon the property of the owner of the house, and takes the property of the master of the house, he shall be thrown into that self-same fire.*

Question:

Is the punishment fair? Why or why not?



196. *If a man has destroyed the eye of another man, his eye shall be destroyed.*

198. *If he has destroyed the eye of a freed man, or broken the bone of a freed man, he shall pay one mina of silver.*

199. *If he has destroyed the eye of a man's slave, or broken the bone of a man's slave, he shall pay one-half of its value.*

Question:

What do these rules say about the social structure of the Mesopotamian society?

2. Seven Wonders of the Ancient World

The *Seven Wonders of the Ancient World* is the first known list of the most remarkable man-made creations of classical antiquity, and was based on guide-books popular among Ancient Greek sight-seers and only includes works located around the Mediterranean rim. Search the Internet for related information about the seven wonders, and complete the following tasks.