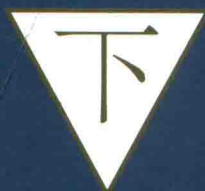


主 编：王 焱 马晓奕

跨文化 大学英语阅读 与翻译教程



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下

主 编：王 焱 马晓奕
编 委：王 欣 孙 宏 吴 菲
金 虹 谭跃越

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前言

《跨文化大学英语阅读与翻译教程》是根据《大学英语课程教学要求(试行)》提出的培养目标、课程设置、教学要求和教学原则为指导,结合当前大学英语教学改革的发展趋势,以提高学生英语阅读的兴趣、培养学生跨文化交际能力和语言运用能力为宗旨而设计编写的一套文化阅读教材。

一、教材特色

本教材针对的学生群体是具有高中英语基础的大学生,适用于英语专业和非英语专业的学生,以及有一定基础的英语爱好者学习。本教材具备以下主要特色:

1. 遵循全新的教学理念

本教材改变了“为学语言而学语言”的传统教材建设理念,以跨文化交际为主线,按主题将不同国家的文化知识融入其中,选材力求体现各国的文化差异,教材中所选的文章注重科学性、知识性、趣味性和可读性,使学生在学习与文化相关的知识内容的同时,英语综合应用能力得到充分训练和提升。

2. 设计了新颖、实用的教材板块

本教材版块设计独特,内容新颖活泼,生词标注的编排方式便于学习阅读。每一单元的主体内容均包括词汇拓展、篇章阅读、跨文化交际、翻译技巧、文化拓展等五大板块,既有利于教师系统地开展教学活动,又方便学生自主获得知识,培养学生积极思考,发现问题和解决问题的能力。

3. 题目设计紧扣四级题型

本教程在编写时充分考虑到学生对通过大学英语四级考试的需求,紧紧围绕大学英语四级新题型编写练习题目。在篇章阅读部分的五篇文章后设置的题型有四级考试中传统的多项选择题和选词填空题,以及2013年8月改革后的新题型段落匹配题等,在翻译技巧后也配有与中国社会、经济、文化相关的段落翻译练习题。

二、教材内容

本教材分为上、下两册,每册可供一个学期使用。

下册内容按照主题分为十四个单元,每单元由以下五部分组成:

第一部分:引言及相关词汇拓展。由一段言简意赅的引言阐释本单元主题,然后是与主题相关的词汇拓展,供学生参考。

第二部分:篇章阅读及习题。包括五篇课文,每篇课文后不仅对生词、习惯用法与词组和专有名词作了注释,而且编有不同形式的阅读理解题,如多项选择、选词填空、段落匹配题、简答题、英译汉或概述内容等。

第三部分：跨文化交际。包括案例分析和与本单元主题相关的话题讨论。

第四部分：翻译技巧及段落翻译练习。包括翻译技巧的简要介绍和与中国社会、经济相关的段落翻译练习。

第五部分：文化拓展。包括著名国外经典作品赏析及社会礼仪介绍。

另外，本教材附有各个部分练习的参考答案，以及课文中重要单词短语汇总，所以本教材既适用于大学英语的课堂教学，也是一套很好的英语自学课本，也是广大学生在学习英语的过程中，了解和掌握外国文化知识，提高文化素养和跨文化交际能力的理想教材。

本教材编者均为从事英语教育多年并具有丰富教学经验的大学英语教师。虽然为此书付出巨大努力，但由于水平有限，难免会有疏漏和不足，敬请读者批评指正，以期不断完善。

编者

2015年1月

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1

Folk Customs

UNIT



Leading In

Folk customs, or folklore, are a cultural phenomenon created and inherited by the general public. It is the lifestyle and the cultural activity followed by people during the long-term social life, and it is the foundation and an important part of the traditional culture. Folk customs, whose content is constantly changing or expanding, are the fruit of the folks' life strategies, wisdom and knowledge.

Useful Words and Expressions

cross-talk <i>n.</i> 相声	put up window paper-cut 糊窗花
ancestor worship 祭祖	shadow play 皮影戏
Chongyang pastry 重阳糕	Spring Festival Gala 春节联欢晚会
dragon lantern dance 舞龙灯	tea ceremony 茶道
enjoy the full moon 赏月	tea serving performance 茶艺表演
folk custom parade 民俗大游行	the Eight Immortals 八仙
geomantic omen 风水	the Three Gods of Fortune, Prosperity and Longevity 福禄寿三星
Laba porridge 腊八粥	visit a temple fair 赶庙会
lion dance performance 舞狮表演	visit a grave 扫墓
longevity noodles 长寿面	vocal imitation 口技
monologue story-telling 说书	wedding and funeral 红白喜事
opera performance 戏曲表演	witty skit 小品
puppet show 木偶戏	

Intensive Reading

Text A

The Custom of Clinking Glasses While Drinking

Many explanations have been advanced to account for our custom of clinking glasses when participating in toasts. Some believe that early Europeans felt the sound helped to drive off evil spirits. Some hold that by clinking the glasses with one another, wine could be sloshed from glass to glass, thereby serving as a proof that the beverages had not been poisoned. Others **assert**¹ that the "clink" served as a symbolic acknowledgment of trust among **imbibers**² who did not feel the need to sample each others' drinks to prove them **unadulterated**³.

Each of those explanations is false. To get the real reason for the clinking of glasses on glasses, we have to first look at why and how we toast, and where the practice originated.



The custom of regarding drinking as expressions of good wishes for the health of others dated back so far that its origin is now lost to us, but in numerous cultures such an act of showing friendship often involved shared drinking vessels⁴. The clinking of individual cups or glasses as a proof of trust wouldn't have meant much when everyone drank from the same bowl. Indeed, in those cultures where sharing drinking containers was the norm, to use one's own vessel in such company was to communicate an unmistakable message of hostility⁵ and distrust; it would have been regarded similar to bringing along a food taster to sample the meal.

"Toasting", our term for the pronouncement of **benedictions**⁶ followed by a swallow of alcohol, is believed to have taken its name from practice involving a shared drinking vessel. In modern times, toasting has become a matter of imbibing from individual drinking vessel rather than from one shared flagon. In order to compensate for the sense of unity lost in quitting the sharing of the same cup, we have **evolved**⁷ the practice of simultaneously drinking from our own glass when a toast is made, thus a way to maintain a **communal**⁸ connection to others emerged by speaking kind words.

The clinking of glasses has been added to the practice of offering toasts for a few reasons, but none has anything to do with poison. Due to the clinking of glasses, toasts please the atmosphere greatly; by adding the "clink", a pleasant sound is made part of the experience, and wine glasses have come to be praised not only for their appearance but also for the tones they produce when struck. Yet beyond mere aural pleasure, the act of touching your glass to that of others is a way of emphasizing that good wishes are expressed. The practice also serves another purpose that we unite the individuals taking part in the benediction into a **cohesive**⁹ group: as the wine glasses are brought together, symbolically the people are holding each other.

Etiquette experts say one need not clink glasses with everyone present when participating in toasts among large **assemblies**¹⁰. Rather than reach across vast expanses of wide tables at the risk of losing your balance, simply raise your glass and make eye contact with the group.

(Words: 514)

▶ Notes

1. assert: 断言
2. imbibor: 喝酒的人
3. unadulterated: 没有掺杂的
4. vessel: 容器

5. hostility: 敌意 6. benediction: 祝福
 7. evolve: 使发展 8. communal: 公共的
 9. cohesive: 紧密结合的 10. assembly: 集会

After You Read

Multiple Choice Questions

Directions: This passage is followed by five questions. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should make the best choice according to your understanding of the passage.

- Which of the following statements is TRUE about clinking glasses while drinking according to the passage?
 - The ritual of clinking glasses evolved from efforts to prove that the drinks were not poisoned.
 - People clinked glasses for the purpose of scaring off demons.
 - When people shared drinking containers, it was meaningless to prove trust by clinking glasses.
 - Clinking glasses symbolized faith among imbibers.
- It can be inferred from the third paragraph that _____.
 - we are clear about the origin of expressing blessings while drinking
 - drinking has nothing to do with friendship
 - it is advisable if we ask a food taster to sample food in order to guard against poison
 - using one's own drinking container was considered offensive in some cultures
- The author suggests that the purpose of toasting in modern society is to _____.
 - forget all the troubles and misfortunes
 - get acquainted with business partners
 - entertain guests
 - create a sense of belonging to certain groups
- According to the passage, clinking glasses has all of the following benefits EXCEPT that _____.
 - it is seen as a mark of politeness and hospitality
 - it makes individuals members of a group

- C) it is an aural delight
 D) it makes the drinkers more joyous and cheerful
5. What does the author imply in the last paragraph of the passage?
- A) It is sensible to take part in as many assemblies as possible.
 B) It is acceptable to raise one's glass and look at others instead of clinking glasses in a large assembly.
 C) It is worthwhile to clink glasses and develop friendship at the risk of falling to the ground among large assemblies.
 D) It is definitely reasonable to follow what experts say.

Text B

Wedding Traditions

Everyone is familiar with wedding staples like tossing the bouquet and the first dance. But what are the traditions of other countries and cultures like?

Blackening of the Bride and Groom: Scotland

The bride and groom are **slathered**¹ from head to toe with every disgusting substance their friends can get their hands on: rotten eggs, spoiled curry, fish sauce, mud, flour, sausages, and every **nasty**² thing you can imagine. As if that weren't enough, the couple is then paraded about, with well-wishers making as much noise as possible. Depending on the region, sometimes it's just the bride or groom alone who is the victim of this particular pre-wedding tradition.

Crying Ritual of the Tujia People: Sichuan Province, China

Starting 30 days before the wedding, the bride spends an hour a day crying. 10 days later, she is joined by her mother, and then 10 days after that, her grandmother. This is actually used as an expression of joy and deep love.

Bathroom Moratorium³: Tidong Community, Indonesia/Malaysia

After the wedding, the bride and groom are not allowed to use the bathroom for 3 whole days. They cannot leave the house, clear their bowls or urinate. The couple is watched



over and is allowed minimal amounts of food and drink. If the custom is not practiced, people believe it will bring bad luck to the couple, with consequences such as a broken marriage, infidelity or death of their children. After 3 days, the couple is allowed to return to normal life and begin their marriage.

Spitting on the Bride: Massai Nation, Kenya

At a wedding ceremony held by the Massai people, the father of the bride blesses his daughter by spitting on her head and breasts. She then leaves with her husband and does not look back for fear of turning into stone.

Kissing Tradition: Sweden

If the groom leaves the room for any reason, all the other men at the wedding are allowed to kiss the bride. The same will go for the groom and female guests if the bride leaves the room.

La Soupe: France

In the past, the couple would be sent to their bed while the bridal party cleaned up the mess after the reception. This was done by dumping all the leftover food, drink and trash into a chamber pot. They would then barge into the couple's room with a **toilet**⁴ full of garbage and would not leave until the couple drank it. Today, the soup is more commonly made up of chocolate and champagne, but it's still served out of a toilet.

No Smiling: Congo

Wedding is considered as a thoughtful affair in this part of Africa, and the couple cannot smile during or after the ceremony to show that everything is taken seriously. Nor are they allowed to smile in any wedding day photo.

Beating of the Groom's Feet: Republic of Korea

After the wedding, before he can leave with his bride, the groom must endure a beating of his feet. It can be painful, but it's over quickly and is intended to be more funny than **harsh**⁵. The groom has his shoes and socks removed and his ankles bound by his groomsmen or family members. They then take turns beating the soles of his feet with a stick, cane or dried fish. The reason for beating a groom on his wedding day is to test his knowledge, since he is usually quizzed during the beating.

Polterabend: Germany

Guests arrive on the night before the wedding, usually at the home of the bride, and break any **porcelain**⁶ they can get their hands on. This act is

thought to bring good luck to the couple. However, they can't break glass, as it symbolizes happiness. After the porcelain has been broken, the couple cleans it up, which is supposed to teach them that married life will not be easy, but by working together, they can overcome any challenge. Today, the new generation breaks the porcelain on the wedding day rather than the night before.

(Words: 669)

Notes

1. slather: 涂抹
2. nasty: 令人厌恶的
3. moratorium: 暂停
4. toilet: 马桶
5. harsh: 严厉的
6. porcelain: 瓷器

After You Read

Blank Filling

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the words in the table. Change the form where necessary.

disgusting	victim	ritual	minimal	amount
dump	thoughtful	endure	harsh	symbolize

1. It is a(n) _____ that a child follows his/her father's surname in China.
2. He was quiet and had a(n) _____ look on his face.
3. She wrote a letter of complaint and expressed her _____ at the TV show.
4. I can not _____ her rudeness any longer.
5. Thanks to the help of the rescue teams from many parts of the world, many _____ of the earthquake survived the terrible natural disaster.
6. You will be fined if you _____ your rubbish into the river.
7. The prisoners quickly became accustomed to the _____ conditions.
8. Fortunately, the storm only did _____ damage to the crops.
9. White has always been a(n) _____ of purity in Western cultures.
10. A large _____ of money is spent on advertisements every year.

Text C

What Are Russian Nesting Dolls?

- A) Matryoshka, as Russian nesting dolls are called in their native country, is a name that has its roots in the Latin word “mater”, which means mother. The **allusion**¹ to motherhood well befits this symbolic folk craft. Russian nesting dolls are **figurines**² carved of wood that open in the middle to bear a series of similar, smaller figurines; each larger “mother” doll contains a smaller “daughter” doll inside. In shape, Russian nesting dolls resemble squat **bowling pins**³. There are no **three-dimensional**⁴ limbs and all the details of its body and face are painted on the doll. There are a potentially **infinite**⁵ number of dolls possible within a set, but generally Russian nesting dolls contain between 4 and 12 dolls.
- B) The creation of the first Russian nesting doll was a union of Japanese and Russian traditions. In the 1890s, the craftsman Sergei Maliutin was inspired by a set of Japanese nesting dolls which depicted the Buddhist figure Fukurama. The Japanese nesting dolls were reminiscent of the Russian tradition of carved nesting Easter eggs, also known as Faberge eggs. Maliutin, an illustrator of children’s books, **sketched**⁶ the first Russian nesting doll; Vasilii Zvezdochkin carved it and Maliutin painted it. The first matryoshka contained 8 nested dolls.
- C) Craftsmen most frequently employ lime wood to create Russian nesting dolls. The wood must be dried in the air for approximately two years before it is suitable to be put on a lathe for carving. Early on, many considered the carving rather than the painting to be the art of the dolls’ creation.

Skilled craftsmen carve each matryoshka by hand without the aid of measurement devices or complex machinery. Each half of a doll must be sized **precisely**⁷ in order to fit together with its match and the shell of each doll must be quite thin in order to **accommodate**⁸ the volume of the many other dolls that will fit inside of it.

