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United States of America

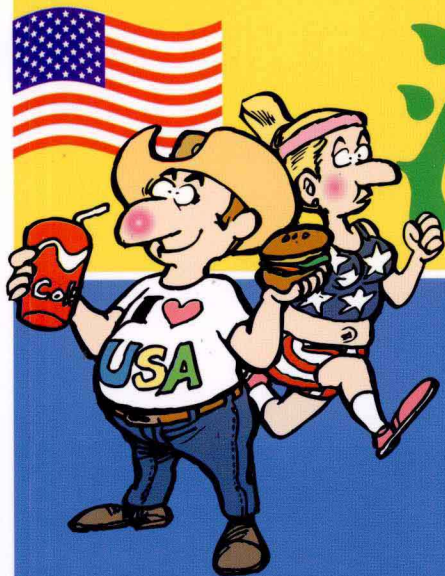
漫话美国

美国人

李元馥 | 文

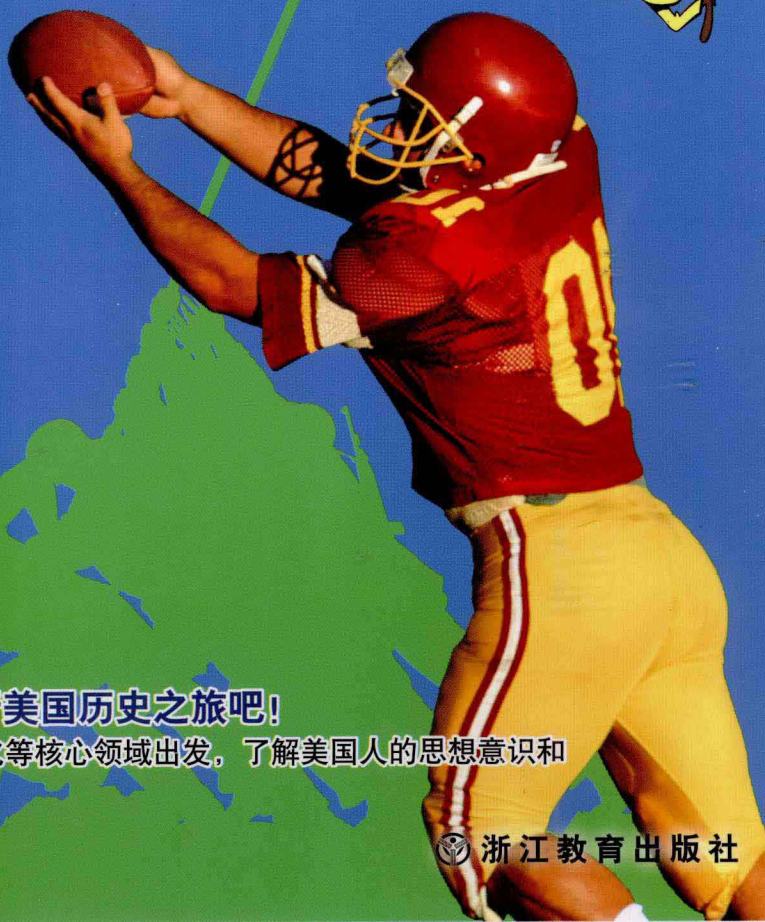
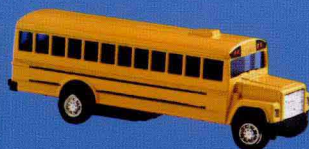
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用英语阅读美国

IN SEARCH OF THE COUNTRY, THE SOCIETY AND THE PEOPLE



the People

1

和本书一起进行美国历史之旅吧!

从政治、经济、文化等核心领域出发,了解美国人的思想意识和
社会文化的形态!

浙江教育出版社

用英语阅读美国

IN SEARCH OF THE COUNTRY, THE SOCIETY AND THE PEOPLE

United States of America

漫话美国

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The People ①

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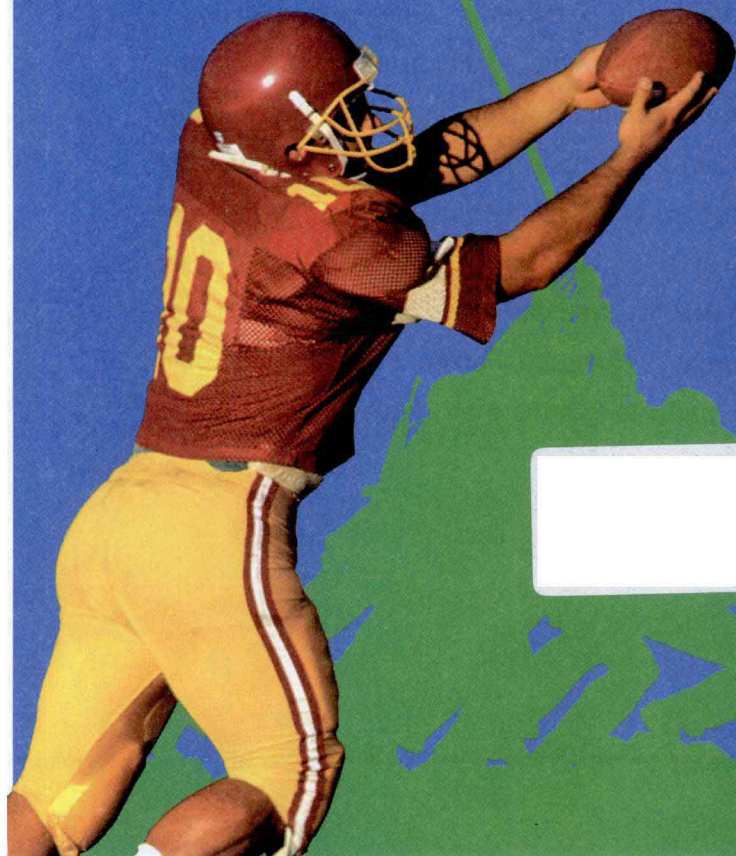
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FOREWORD

Many people have truly complicated—and often polarized—feelings toward America. Due to these mixed feelings, it is difficult to objectively view America, but perhaps those feelings are evidence that these people have a very strong interest in America. It is unfortunate that neither those who like or dislike America seem to accurately understand the nation. Based on nationalism, one side cries out for the rejection of America; while the other side embraces America. In this sense, it is now more important than ever to strive to objectively view America in the era of globalization.

I had always wanted to create a series of books on America decades ago. However, back then, I didn't know much about America, nor did I have the confidence to write about America as I felt that I would be scorned by the many experts on America. But after deciding that the time has come for me to write about America, I published this three-volumed series after working on it for two years. Even though I lived in America—as a visiting professor—for only about a year and a half, I encountered topics on America on a daily basis from the media over a 10-year period while I lived in Europe. Whether I wanted it or not, I have had significant exposure to America, and I take pride that I have worked hard to

understand its society and people. This three-volumed series on America is based on such experience and knowledge.

The series consists of these three volumes: Volume 1: *The People*—from America's democracy and constitution to its social problems, and from the immigration history to American life style, this volume tries to give a full picture of American life; Volume 2: *The History*—it tells about the history of the U.S. from Columbus' discovering America to its growing to be the only superpower in the world; and Volume 3: *The Presidents*—the volume shows how American presidents, from Washington to Obama, influences the U.S. and even the world. Volume 3 was added because it's difficult to understand America without understanding the various aspects and characteristics of the U.S. presidents and the U.S. presidency.

I hope that these books will not only help dispel any wrong illusions about America but also enable my readers to accurately view America, free from any unreasonable prejudices. I am grateful to my dear readers and those who contribute to the editing and publishing of the series!

Won-bok Rhie

前 言

许多人确实对美国怀有复杂的情感，这种情感往往分化为两个极端。因此，很难客观地看待美国，但也许这些情绪恰恰证明了这些人对美国有着强烈的兴趣。不幸的是，不论是喜欢还是讨厌美国的人似乎都没能准确地认识这个国家。一派基于民族主义，呼吁抵制美国；另一派则对美国敞开胸怀。因此，在当今这个日益全球化的时代，我们比以往任何时候都更需要努力去客观地看待美国。

几十年前我就想创作一套有关美国的书，但是，当时我对美国还不够了解，而且我没有信心写美国，因为我担心被诸多熟知美国的人耻笑。但是，当我认为时机已经成熟，决定开始写写美国时，我花了两年时间，写成并出版了这套包含三册的丛书。虽然我作为客座教授在美国只居住了大约一年半，但在欧洲生活的十年期间，我每天都能在媒体上接触到有关美国的话题。不论是否愿意，我都深受美国的影响，而且我为自己努力研究美国的社会和民众而自豪。这套有关美国的丛书就是基于我的这些经历和知识而创作的。

这套书包括以下三册：第一册是《美国人》，从美国的民主和宪法到美国社会的问题，从美国的移民历史到美国人的生活习惯，力求全面展现美国人的生活图景；第二册是《美国历史》，深入阐述了美国从哥伦布发现新大陆直至发展成为今天世界唯一的超级大国的历史；第三册是《美国总统》，从华盛顿到奥巴马，看历任总统如何影响了美国乃至世界。写第三册是因为，如果不理解美国总统和总统制的各方面及其特点，就很难理解美国。

我希望这套书不仅能帮助大家消除对美国的错误观念，也能使我的读者准确地认识美国，而不带有任何荒谬的偏见。衷心感谢亲爱的读者们以及为这套书的编辑出版付出心血和劳动的人们！

李元馥

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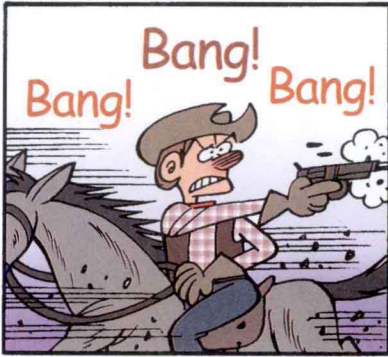
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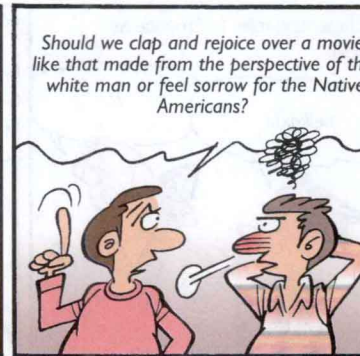
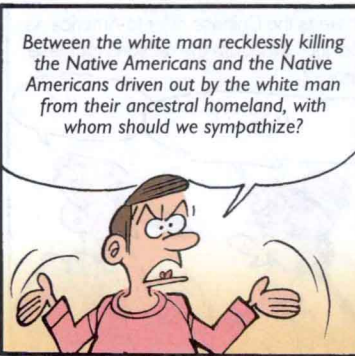
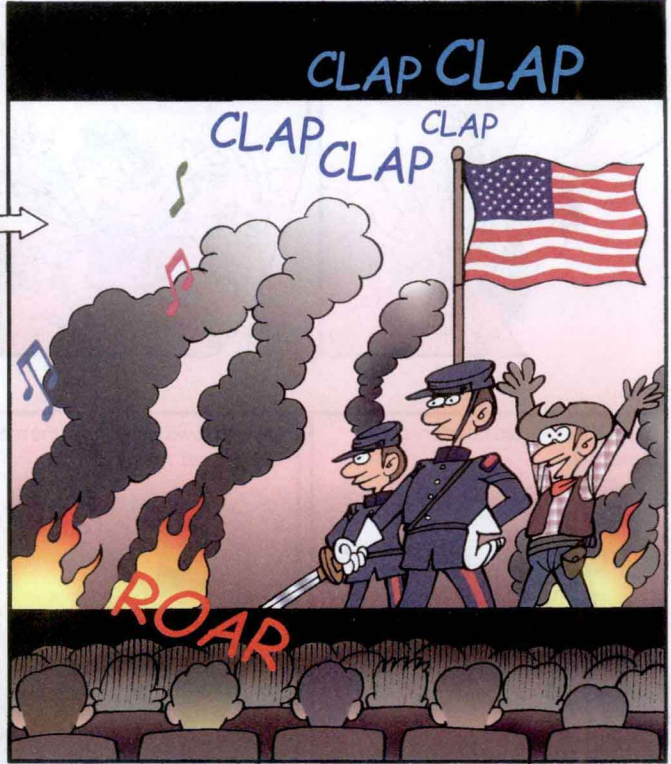
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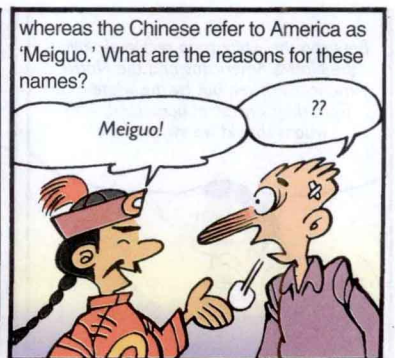
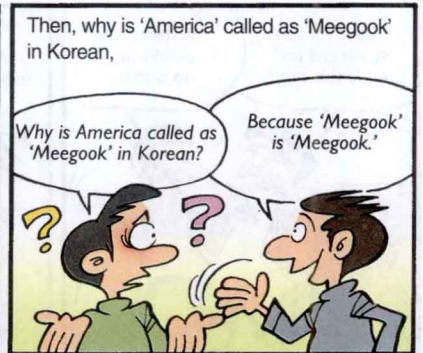
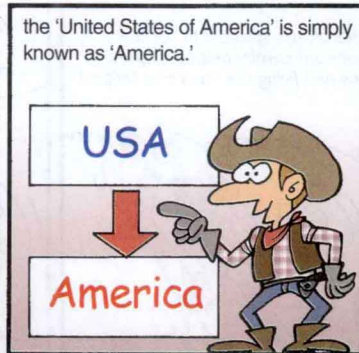
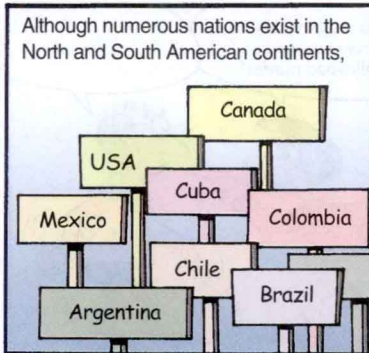
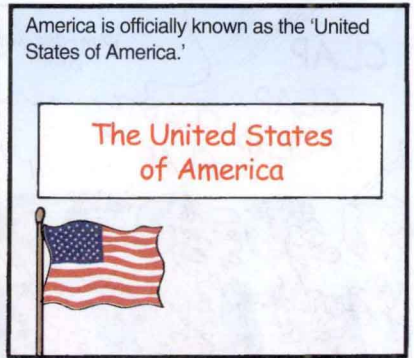
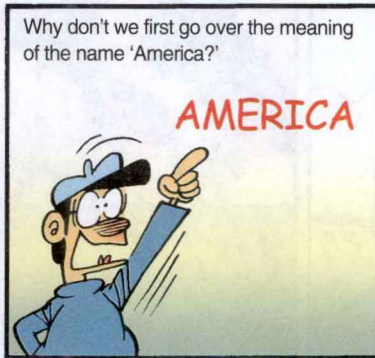
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The Greatest Experiment of Mankind — The Identity of the American Nation









I presume you know why China is called 'China' in English.

China first became known to the West during the Qin Dynasty, which was the first unified feudal dynasty in Chinese history.

秦 Shi Huang

221~207BC

'秦' is pronounced as 'Qin' in Chinese.

秦

Qin

唐

Tang

When the name 'Qin' spread to Europe,

秦 → Qin

Chinese pronunciation

various countries pronounced 'Qin' as 'Cina,' 'China,' 'Hina,' and 'Chine,' among others, in their own way.

China

- Cina (Italian)
- China (English)
- Hina (German)
- Chine (French)

Among those names, the English-style 'China' became most well known.

CHINA TOWN

Likewise, in the case of Japan, the English name 'Japan' originated from the Chinese name '日本.'

日 本

The Chinese characters '日本,' read as Nippon or Nihon in Japan, were read as 'Riben' in Chinese.

日本 = Riben!

Japan?

This spread to the West and eventually got to be known as Japan.

Japan!

JAPAN!

Since the name 'Japan' originated from the Chinese pronunciation of '日本,'

Japan!

Japan!

it tends to be a very disagreeable name to the Japanese, especially among those who are very prideful of their nation.

We don't feel good about it!

This is perhaps why some Japanese insist on using the name 'Nippon' or 'Nihon' internationally.

NIPPON!

Nihonjin!

Nihon!

