

Britannica Student Encyclopedia

with Chinese Annotations

不列颠学生百科全书

中文注释版

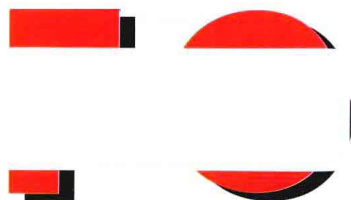
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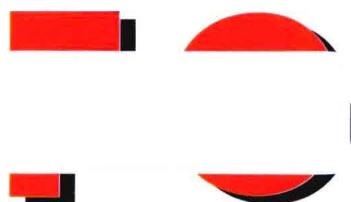
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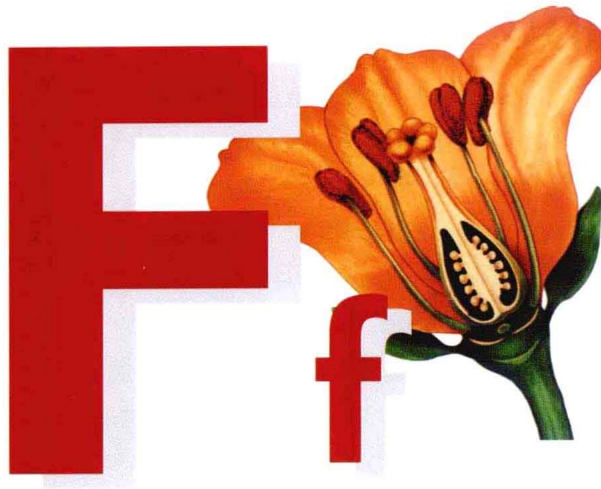
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Figs are called fruits, but they are actually inside-out flowers.

(See Fig.)

Fireflies make light by mixing chemicals in their body with oxygen from the air.

(See Firefly.)

The flower of a plant is where the plant's seeds are produced.

(See Flower.)

A substance called cholesterol can build up in blood vessels and block the flow of blood.

(See Food and Nutrition.)

Fossil fuels, such as petroleum, are the remains of plants and animals that lived long ago.

(See Fossil Fuel.)

Benjamin Franklin said, " Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise."

(See Franklin, Benjamin.)

Did You Know?

Many fables feature a sly fox or a cruel wolf. They teach children to beware of people who are sly or cruel.

1. 印度
2. 希腊
3. 《龟兔赛跑》
4. 《披着羊皮的狼》
5. 伊索
6. 拉封丹
7. 猛禽
8. 猎鹰训练术
9. 游隼
10. 灰背隼
11. 红隼

Fable 寓言

A fable is a kind of story that teaches a lesson. Fables are usually entertaining tales featuring animals that talk and behave as people do. Because they have humanlike qualities, the animals show how foolish or wise people can be. For example, “The Three Little Pigs” teaches that hard work is important: The house built by the hardest-working pig is the only one that survives the wolf’s attacks.

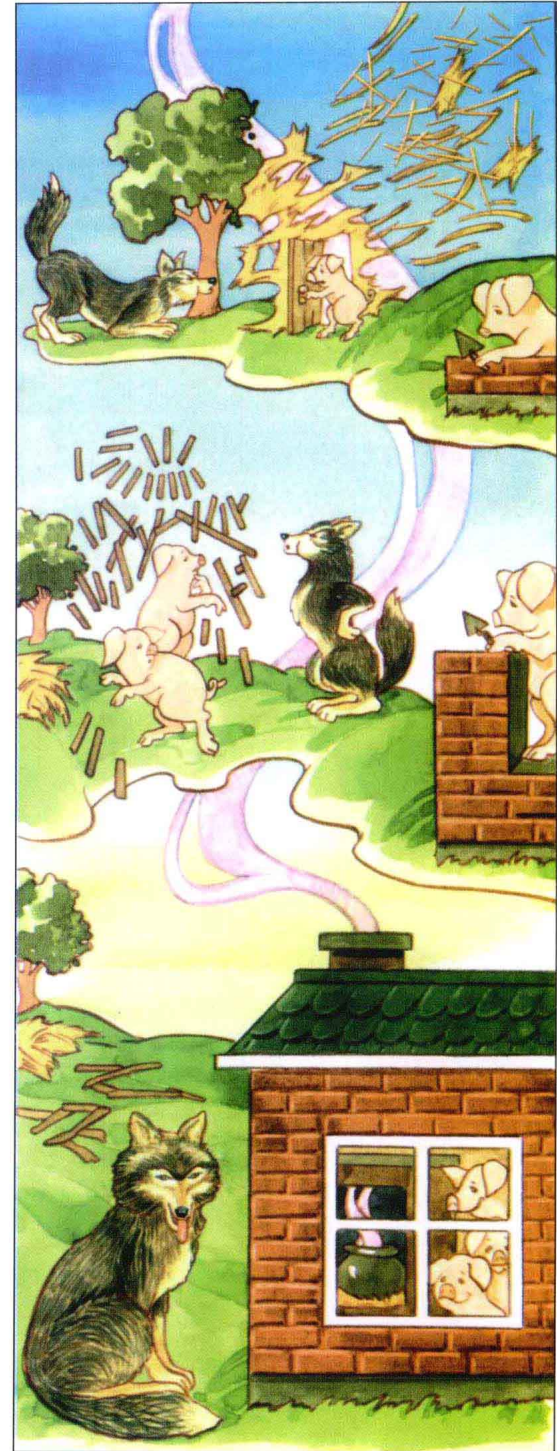
Some of the oldest fables came from India¹ and Greece² thousands of years ago. Many fables that are familiar in English today — including “The Hare and the Tortoise”³ and “The Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing”⁴ — are said to have been written in ancient Greece by a man named Aesop⁵. These tales have been translated into many different languages. Another famous fable writer was Jean de La Fontaine⁶. His books of fables were published in the 1600s in France. They were admired as literature. Today new fables are still written or adapted from older ones for children’s books and movies.

► More to explore

Aesop • Literature for Children
• Storytelling

Falcon 隼

Falcons are birds of prey⁷, meaning that they hunt and eat animals for food. They are swift, powerful fliers. A sport called falconry⁸ dates back to ancient times. It involves training falcons to hunt animals in cooperation with humans. Some common kinds of falcons



“The Three Little Pigs” is a well-known fable. A wolf destroys the houses of two pigs, but he cannot destroy a third house. The third pig worked hard to make a sturdy house.

Judie Anderson/EB Inc.

include the peregrine falcon⁹, the merlin¹⁰, and several types of kestrels¹¹.



A kestrel with a grasshopper in its beak perches on a fence post.

Gail Shumway — Taxi/Getty Images

Falcons are found nearly all over the world. They live in many habitats¹, including forests, deserts, grasslands, and even cities.

Usually the female falcon is larger and bolder than the male. Falcons range in size from about 6 to 24 inches (15 to 61 centimeters). The gyrfalcon² is the largest of the falcons.

A falcon has sharp claws and a short hooked beak³. The beak usually has a small notch⁴ called a tooth. These features help it catch and kill prey animals⁵.

A falcon's shape helps it fly quickly. Its body is shaped like a bullet, while its wings are long and pointed. Unlike hawks⁶ and eagles, falcons rarely soar⁷ and glide⁸. They dive down fast to catch prey. Some falcons capture other birds in midair. Other falcons

kill hares, mice, lizards⁹, and insects on the ground.

► More to explore

Bird • Bird of Prey • Eagle • Hawk

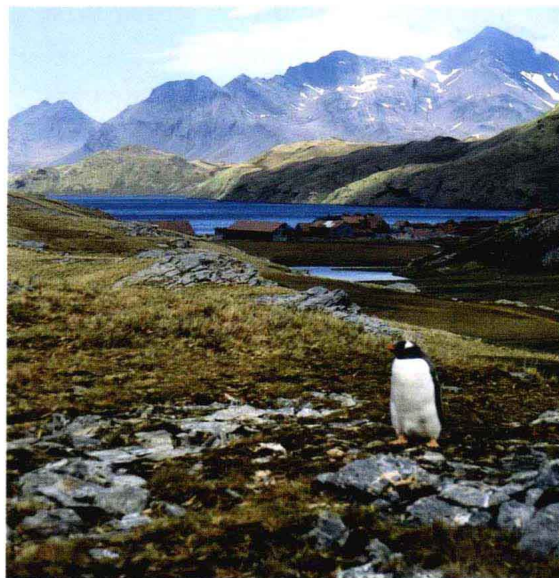
Falkland Islands

福克兰群岛

The rocky and nearly treeless Falkland Islands lie 300 miles (480 kilometers) northeast of the southern tip of South America. The islands are an overseas territory¹⁰ of the United Kingdom¹¹. Argentina¹² also claims the islands. It calls them the Malvinas Islands¹³. The capital of the Falklands is Stanley¹⁴.

Geography 地理

The Falklands include two main islands — East Falkland and West Falkland — and about 200 smaller islands in the South Atlantic Ocean. Hills stretch across the



Many penguins live on the Falkland Islands and nearby islands.

Anne Wesp — Time Life Pictures/Getty Images

1. 栖息地
2. 矛隼
3. 喙
4. 槽口
5. 被捕食的动物
6. 鹰
7. 高飞
8. 滑翔
9. 蜥蜴
10. 海外领土
11. 联合王国
12. 阿根廷
13. 马尔维纳斯群岛
14. 斯坦利

1. 寒冷的
2. 晒太阳
3. 海豚
4. 黑眉信天翁
5. 企鹅
6. 繁育
7. 祖先
8. 居留地
9. 入侵
10. 自然灾害
11. 旱灾
12. 家畜

northern parts of both main islands. The climate is chilly¹, rainy, and windy.

Plants and Animals 动植物

Grasses cover much of the land. Seals and sea lions bask² on the beaches, while dolphins³ and whales swim offshore. Black-browed albatrosses⁴ and other seabirds soar overhead. Millions of penguins⁵ breed⁶ on the islands.

People and Economy 人民与经济

Only about 3,000 people live on the islands. Most of them speak English and have British ancestors⁷. Most live in Stanley, which is the only town of any size. The main jobs are fishing and sheep raising. Tourism is also important to the economy.

History 历史

The known history of the Falkland Islands begins with visits by European explorers in the 1600s. The French founded the islands' first settlement⁸ on East Falkland in 1764. In 1765 the British settled West Falkland. The Spanish soon took over these settlements. The British returned in 1771 but left in 1774.

Argentina — the South American country closest to the Falklands — claimed the islands in 1820. In 1833, however, the British took over the islands. Argentina never accepted British rule of the Falklands. On April 2, 1982, the Argentines invaded⁹ the Falklands. This started the Falkland Islands War. The British defeated the Argentines 10 weeks later. Despite its defeat, Argentina continued to claim the islands.

► More to explore

Argentina • United Kingdom

Famine 饥荒



Donations of food from the United States have helped to protect many countries from famine.

Reuters/Corbis

A famine exists when large numbers of people cannot get enough food for long periods of time. People in a famine may die from starvation or disease. There have been famines throughout history and in all parts of the world.

Natural disasters¹⁰, including drought¹¹, earthquakes, and floods, can cause famines by destroying crops or by making it difficult to distribute food. Other causes include insects that destroy crops, very cold weather, too much rainfall, and diseases that harm crops or livestock¹².

Did You Know?

Sheep outnumber people on the Falklands by about 200 to 1.

Wars also may cause famines. Armies may call farmers away. Stored food may go to soldiers. Blocked roads may make it hard to transport food easily.

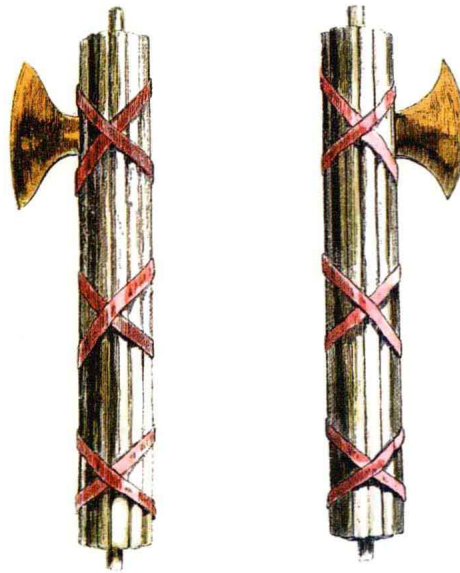
Some countries have too many people for the amount of available food. These countries tend to be poor. This makes it even harder to deal with famine because they do not have the money to buy food from other countries for their people.

Depending too much on one kind of food can also lead to famine. Ireland used to depend heavily on potatoes. When that crop failed during 1845–49, more than 1 million people died. Producing a variety of foods can help countries avoid famine.

Famines rarely start suddenly. There is usually a warning time during which steps can be taken. Government leaders can store extra food and later give it to hungry people. They can also ask other countries for help.

Fascism 法西斯主义

In ancient Rome¹, the fascēs²—a bundle of rods³ strapped together⁴ around an ax⁵—was a symbol of power. In 1919 the Italian leader Benito Mussolini⁶ named his forces *fasci*, after this symbol. Later, Mussolini's style of government became known as fascism. Fascist leaders believe that the strength of the country is more important than the well-being⁷ of the people. They rule as dictators⁸, or rulers with unlimited power. They often use violence.



1. 古罗马
2. 权标
3. 一捆棍棒
4. 捆绑在一起
5. 斧子
6. 墨索里尼
7. 幸福
8. 独裁者
9. 违抗
10. 威胁
11. 少数派

The fasces of ancient Rome consisted of a bundle of rods and an ax strapped together. The Italian leader Benito Mussolini compared his followers to the rods of the fasces. Each rod by itself may be weak, but when many rods are bound together they are strong.

The Granger Collection, New York

Characteristics of Fascism

法西斯主义的特征

Experts disagree about the exact meaning of the term fascism. However, the governments that have been called fascist in the past had certain characteristics in common. Under these governments, the people had few freedoms. They had no voice in the government. Instead, a strong leader controlled everything and became a symbol of the country. The leader built up the police force to punish people who disobeyed⁹. The leader also built up the army and threatened¹⁰ other countries. The leader blamed minority¹¹ groups for the country's problems.

History 历史

European writers began to introduce fascist ideas in the 1800s. After World

1. 希特勒
2. 纳粹德国
3. 葡萄牙
4. 奥地利
5. 阿根廷
6. 利比亚
7. 伊拉克
8. 新法西斯主义
9. 轻量的
10. 生长物
11. 爬行动物
12. 鳞片
13. 使羽毛脱落
14. 换羽
15. 角质
16. 硬的
17. 柄
18. 羽干
19. 羽根
20. 羽轴

War I (1914–18) many countries faced economic problems. In some, the people were unhappy with the results of the war. Fascists came to power by promising the people power and glory. Mussolini took power in Italy. Adolf Hitler¹ led Nazi Germany². These countries began to build up strong armies. They used the armies to take over other countries. These actions resulted in World War II (1939–45). Italy and Germany fought on the same side during the war. They lost the war, however, and their fascist governments fell.

After the war, the major fascist movement was dead. However, rulers in such countries as Spain and Portugal³ continued to follow some fascist ideas. Some political groups in other countries — for example, Austria⁴, France, Argentina⁵, South Africa, Libya⁶, and Iraq⁷ — also used some fascist ideas. This development was called neofascism⁸, or new fascism.

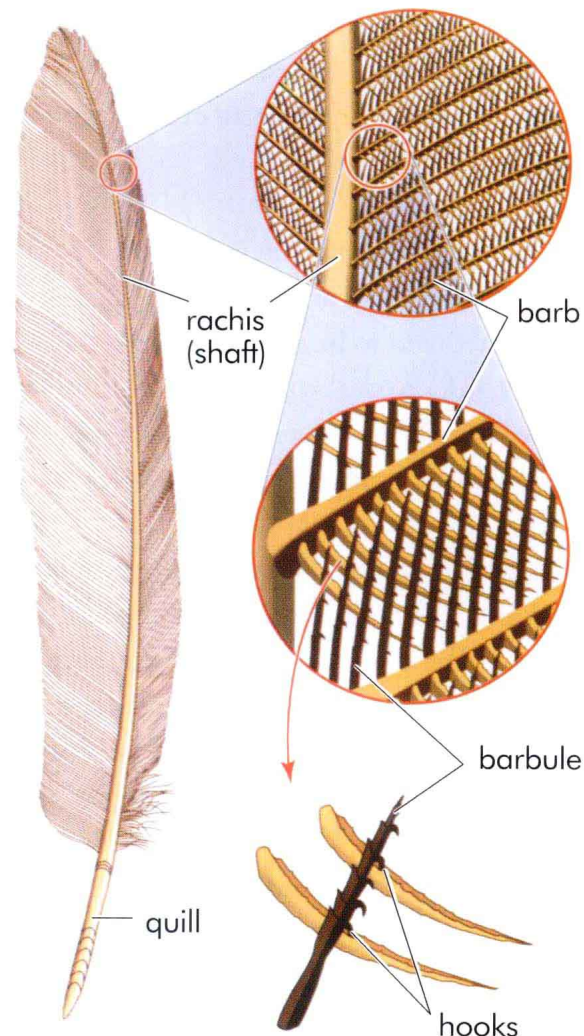
► More to explore

Dictatorship • Hitler, Adolf • Nazi Party

Feather 羽毛

Feathers are lightweight⁹ growths¹⁰ that cover a bird's body. All birds have feathers, but no other animals have them. According to many scientists, birds developed from reptiles¹¹ millions of years ago. As the reptiles became birds, their scales¹² became feathers.

Feathers are important to survival, so birds spend a lot of time cleaning and taking care of them. At least once a year birds shed



Tiny hooks hold together the feathers on a bird's body.

Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

their feathers¹³ through a process called molting¹⁴. Then new feathers grow in.

Structure 构造

Like hair, fingernails, and claws, feathers are made of a substance called keratin¹⁵. Keratin is both lightweight and strong.

All feathers have a stiff¹⁶ stalk¹⁷, called a shaft¹⁸, in the center. One end of the shaft, called the quill¹⁹, sticks into the bird's skin. The rest of the shaft is called the rachis²⁰.

Did You Know?

One hundred years ago women decorated their hats with large feathers. Some kinds of birds were almost wiped out by hunters collecting such feathers.



Pairs of stiff branches, called barbs¹, stick out in both directions all along the rachis. From these barbs grow smaller barbs, called barbules². The barbules have hooks on them. The hooks attach themselves to other nearby barbules so that the feathers hold together on the bird's body.

Some birds do not have these barbules and hooks holding the feathers in place. The feathers of these birds look more like hair.

Types and Uses 种类与用途

Different kinds of feathers have different purposes. Straight, stiff feathers give birds their ability to fly. Tail feathers help with steering³, balance, and braking. Small, fluffy⁴ feathers, called down⁵, keep a bird's body from getting too cold and its skin from getting wet.

People in many cultures also use feathers. They decorate hats, clothing, and jewelry⁶ with colorful feathers. They fill clothing, pillows, and comforters⁷ with down for softness and warmth. Some governments protect rare birds from hunters who would kill them for their feathers.

► More to explore

Bird • Hair

Federalist Papers

联邦党人文集

The Federalist papers are a series of 85 essays published in 1787 and 1788.

Alexander Hamilton⁸, James Madison⁹, and John Jay¹⁰ wrote the essays to explain why the new Constitution would be good for

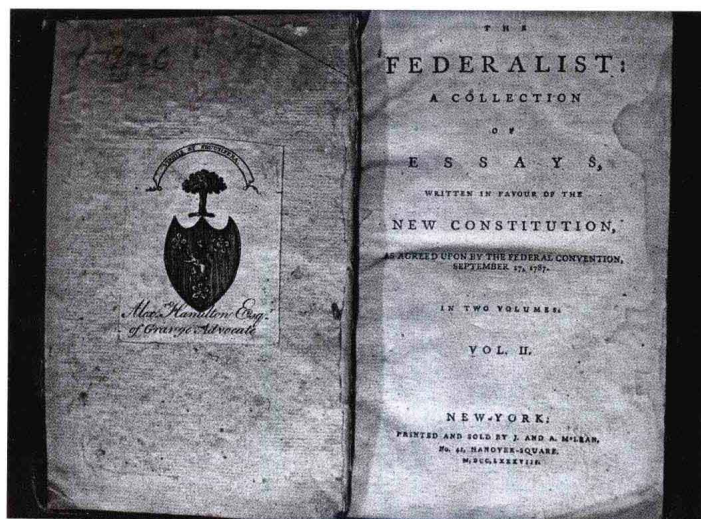
the United States. Scholars still recommend the Federalist papers to anyone who wants to understand the Constitution.

A group of men wrote the Constitution in Philadelphia¹¹, Pennsylvania¹², in 1787. The Constitution set up a federal system of government. In a federal system the national government and the state governments share power. People who supported the federal system were called Federalists. Other people feared that the new national government would be too strong. They were called Anti-Federalists.

Anti-Federalists were powerful in New York. To get the people of New York to approve the Constitution, Hamilton began writing articles in New York newspapers. Madison and Jay soon joined him.

The Federalist papers argued that the new

1. 羽支
2. 羽小支
3. 控制方向
4. 绒毛状的
5. 绒羽
6. 首饰
7. 盖被
8. 汉密尔顿
9. 麦迪逊
10. 杰伊
11. 费城
12. 宾夕法尼亚州



Most scholars believe that Alexander Hamilton wrote most of the Federalist papers. There is some uncertainty because the authors signed their essays with a made-up name, Publius.

1. 制衡
2. 天主教君主
3. 天主教会
4. 哥伦布
5. 新大陆
6. 卡斯蒂利亚
7. 阿拉贡
8. 公主
9. 王子
10. 葡萄牙
11. 天主教
12. 非天主教徒
13. 严酷地
14. 西班牙宗教法庭
15. 犹太人
16. 穆斯林

federal government would not be too strong. They explained how the national government would share power with the states. They also explained that the Constitution divided the power of the federal government into three branches. The system called checks and balances¹ would prevent any of the branches from becoming too powerful.

► More to explore

Hamilton, Alexander • Madison, James
• United States Constitution

Federated States of Micronesia

密克罗尼西亚联邦

► see Micronesia, Federated States of.

Ferdinand and Isabella 费迪南德与伊莎贝拉

Ferdinand and Isabella were the first king and queen of Spain. They were called the



Ferdinand and Isabella

The Granger Collection

Catholic Monarchs² because they strongly supported the Roman Catholic church³. They are also known for sending Christopher Columbus⁴ to explore the New World⁵.

Background 背景

Isabella was born on April 22, 1451.

Ferdinand was born on March 10, 1452.

At that time the land that is now Spain was divided into several kingdoms. Isabella's father was the king of Castile⁶, a kingdom in central Spain. Ferdinand's father was the king of Aragon⁷, in northeastern Spain. Princess⁸ Isabella married Prince⁹ Ferdinand in 1469.

Isabella became queen of Castile in 1474, but the king of Portugal¹⁰ also wanted to rule there. Isabella defeated him in war in 1479.

In the same year Ferdinand became king of Aragon. Castile and Aragon were then joined under the rule of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. The combined kingdom was the beginning of Spain.

Reign 统治时期

Ferdinand and Isabella banned all religions other than Roman Catholicism¹¹. In 1478 they established a court that treated non-Catholics¹² very harshly¹³. The court was called the Spanish Inquisition¹⁴. In 1492 Ferdinand and Isabella forced all Jews¹⁵ who would not become Catholics to leave Spain.

Ferdinand and Isabella also fought to drive Muslims¹⁶ from Spain. Muslims from North Africa had controlled much of the area since the 700s. Over hundreds of years Christians gradually took land back from the Muslims. In 1482 Ferdinand and

Isabella went to war with Granada¹, the last Muslim kingdom in Spain. They defeated Granada in 1492. Spain was then a united Christian country.

Later in 1492 Ferdinand and Isabella supported Columbus' first voyage across the Atlantic Ocean. The places where Columbus landed became colonies² of Spain. Isabella died on November 26, 1504. Ferdinand died on January 23, 1516.

► More to explore

Columbus, Christopher • Inquisition
• Spain

Fermentation 发酵

Fermentation is a chemical change that happens in vegetable and animal substances. For thousands of years people have used fermentation to make bread, wine, beer, cheese, and other foods.

Fermentation often happens through the work of tiny living things called yeasts³, bacteria, and mold⁴. These living things create substances called enzymes⁵. The enzymes break down food into chemicals.

When bakers⁶ add yeast to bread dough⁷, the yeast breaks down the sugars in the dough. While this happens, carbon dioxide gas is released. The escaping carbon dioxide makes the bread rise.

When winemakers add yeast to grape juice, the yeast changes the juice's sugar into alcohol. Beer is another drink made



At a soy sauce factory in Japan, soybeans ferment in huge containers called vats.

Katsumi Kasahara/AP

through the fermentation caused by yeast.

People eat many other fermented⁸ foods. Cheese comes from milk or cream that has been fermented by bacteria. Soy sauce⁹ is made from fermented soybeans¹⁰. As meat ages it becomes more tender¹¹. This is also due to fermentation.

In addition, scientists use fermentation to make certain drugs and vitamins. The drug penicillin¹² is made through fermentation caused by mold.

► More to explore

Enzyme

Fern 蕨

Ferns are flowerless green plants. They are usually easy to recognize by the featherlike shape of their leaves, which are called fronds¹³. Ferns reproduce¹⁴ by spores¹⁵ rather than by seeds. Some plants

1. 格拉纳达
2. 殖民地
3. 酵母
4. 霉菌
5. 酶
6. 面包师傅
7. 生面团
8. 发酵的
9. 酱油
10. 大豆
11. 柔软的
12. 青霉素
13. 蕨叶
14. 繁殖
15. 孢子



A type of fern known as a shield fern grows in a rocky crevice.

Ingmar Holmasen

that are called ferns, such as asparagus ferns¹, reproduce by seeds and are not true ferns.

There are about 12,000 different species², or types, of fern throughout the world. Some types first appeared on Earth more than 360 million years ago. Ferns commonly grow in tropical rain forests³. They also grow in other warm, moist⁴ places where there is plenty of shade. Very few species of fern are found in dry, cold places.

Many fern species grow on the trunks and branches of trees. Others grow in bogs⁵ and marshes or float on the surface of ponds. Some types of fern, called bracken⁶, spread like a weed through

fields and pastures.

Ferns come in a wide variety of sizes and shapes. The smallest ferns are only a fraction⁷ of an inch tall. The largest ferns measure from 30 to 80 feet (10 to 25 meters) tall. Young fern leaves are tightly curled⁸. When they grow and begin to unfurl⁹, they resemble the neck of a violin.

Ferns grow millions of cells called spores on the underside¹⁰ of their leaves. These spores scatter¹¹ into the air. A small number of them fall on damp surfaces and soils. They grow into tiny, kidney-shaped¹² structures¹³. These structures produce male and female cells, which together produce a new fern.

People often use ferns to decorate their homes and gardens. Such animals as deer eat ferns, and some birds use them to line their nests.

► More to explore

Plant

Fertile Crescent

新月沃地

The Fertile Crescent is a part of the Middle East where some of the world's first civilizations began. In ancient times the land there was fertile¹⁴, or good for growing crops. On a map, the land forms the shape of a crescent moon¹⁵. The Fertile Crescent extends from the Persian Gulf¹⁶ to the Nile River¹⁷ valley. It includes the areas known

1. 文竹
2. 种
3. 热带雨林
4. 潮湿的
5. 沼泽
6. 欧洲蕨
7. 一部分
8. 蜷曲的
9. 展开
10. 下面
11. 散布
12. 腰子形的
13. 结构
14. 肥沃的
15. 新月
16. 波斯湾
17. 尼罗河

as Mesopotamia¹ and Palestine².

The people of Mesopotamia (now Iraq) may have settled in villages as long ago as 8000 BC. They farmed the land near the Tigris and Euphrates rivers³. By about 3500 BC they may have built cities. They also developed governments, laws, and writing. Historians⁴ describe such a society as civilized⁵.

Another early civilization arose in ancient Egypt⁶. Soon after 5000 BC people were raising crops using water from the Nile.

► More to explore

Civilization • Egypt, Ancient
• Mesopotamia • Middle East

Festival and Holiday 节日与假日

People everywhere celebrate special days known as festivals or holidays. Although each festival and holiday has a different purpose, they tend to have some things in common. Many are associated with traditions. These include decorating a tree at Christmas or lighting menorah⁷ candles during Hanukkah⁸. Festivals and holidays also bring people together in a variety of ways. For some holidays people join together for solemn⁹ ceremonies — such as honoring the war dead on Memorial Day. Other holidays, such as Mardi Gras¹⁰, are occasions¹¹ for joyous celebrations.

The word festival comes from the word feast (an elaborate¹² meal). Many festivals



During the Harbin Ice Festival in China, people visit huge ice structures that are lit up with colored lights.

Goh Chai Hin — AFP/Getty Images

were originally connected with the planting or harvesting of crops. Food still plays a major role in many of today's festivals and holidays. The Thanksgiving turkey is an example of a traditional food linked to a holiday.

The word holiday originally meant “holy day”. Many holidays are still religious occasions — for example, the Muslim holy month of Ramadan¹³. Other holidays are not religious. For instance, national holidays, such as the Fourth of July in the United States, help citizens to remember their nation's history.

Feudalism 封建主义

Feudalism was a social system that developed during the period called the Middle Ages¹⁴ in Europe. It probably began after the rule of Charlemagne¹⁵, the leader of a mighty¹⁶ European empire. After Charlemagne's death in 814 his empire

1. 美索不达米亚
2. 巴勒斯坦
3. 底格里斯河和幼发拉底河
4. 历史学家
5. 文明的
6. 古埃及
7. 大烛台
8. 献殿节, 光明节
9. 庄严的
10. 肥美星期二
11. 场合
12. 精心制作的
13. 斋月
14. 中世纪
15. 查理曼
16. 强大的



1. 北欧海盗
2. 军阀
3. 勇士
4. 骑士
5. 誓言
6. 忠诚
7. 封臣
8. 封地
9. 发誓
10. 封建社会
11. 农奴
12. 君主制
13. 痕迹

A painting shows serfs giving animals to their lord.

The Granger Collection, New York

broke into several pieces. No one central government replaced it. Instead people lived in smaller local units or kingdoms. The individual kingdoms faced attacks by Vikings¹ and other people, including nearby kingdoms. The people established relationships within their units that allowed them to live in relative peace.

How Feudalism Worked 运作机制

To protect themselves, local warlords² built castles. They also depended on warriors³ on horseback called knights⁴.

A lord and his knights formed a bond by swearing oaths⁵ of loyalty⁶. The lord gave each knight, also called a vassal⁷, land that was known as a fief⁸. In exchange, the knights vowed⁹ to perform military service whenever the lord asked. Eventually the lords themselves became vassals of a king.

Common people, called peasants, were at the bottom of the feudal society¹⁰. They farmed the land and did the other work that supported the lords and vassals.

Peasants called serfs¹¹ lived in a village near the lord's castle. They were not slaves, but they were not free to move away. They owed the lord work and payments of food. In return they got protection from outside attackers.

The End of Feudalism 封建主义的结束

Feudalism developed in times of violence and disorder. The new system brought safety and order. This allowed people to travel and to establish trade. People became more wealthy, and money was used more frequently. Eventually, vassals started to pay rent to their lords instead of giving military service. Many lords used the money to hire professional soldiers instead of depending on knights.

By the 1300s feudalism had disappeared almost completely. Europeans created new forms of government that were not based on the fief. Monarchies¹², or rule by kings, grew stronger.

However, traces¹³ of feudalism stayed on in Europe for hundreds of years. Peasants in France owed duties to large landowners until the French Revolution, which started in 1789. In Russia the serfs did not gain freedom until 1861.

► More to explore

Knight • Middle Ages

Fiber Optics 纤维光学

Fiber optics is a way of sending information through thin fibers, or threads. The information may be sound, pictures, or