

考生之友系列丛书

美国文学学习指南

美国文学史及选读综合练习

李翠亭 李正栓 编著 郭群英 孙志成 审阅



*A
Companion
to
American
Literature*



清華大學出版社

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内 容 提 要

本书为美国文学史及选读课程的参考用书,针对美国文学史各部分内容及整个课程提供了 Blank Filling, Identification, Analysis 等多种形式的综合练习。本书附全部习题的参考答案,同时在附录里收录了术语解释和主要作家、作品汉译名。

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致 读 者

目前,在考试竞争日趋激烈,命题日趋精细的形势下,考生迫切需要在临考前对所学知识进行高度概括的回顾,迅速准确地了解考试动向,对答题思路和方法进行有效的强化训练,以加深对所考科目的理解和掌握,将基础知识与实际应用最终结合起来。考生之友系列丛书正是为此目的而组织编写。

本系列丛书的编著者均系多年从事教学工作的优秀教师,具有丰富的迎考指导经验。在本套丛书的编写过程中,他们既使用了教学中行之有效的多年积累,也收集了相关科目的最新资料;既注重系统性与实用性相结合,又力求针对性与覆盖面并重。

我们相信,本套丛书将帮助考生掌握答题思路与技巧,明显提高知识实用水平,从而大大增强考生的应试信心与能力!

清华大学出版社外语室

1998年2月

前 言

我国大学英语专业高年级、高等教育自学考试英语专业本科段、英语专业函授本科和三沟通本科均开设英美文学史及选读课。全国各级各类出版社已出版大量有关教材,给学生提供了方便。但是,学生常常感到文学课难学,最难是没有相应的练习,不能检验学习效果,考前复习时也不方便。基于这种情况,我们编写了《美国文学学习指南》。

本书以外语教学与研究出版社出版的吴伟仁教授编写的教材《美国文学史及选读》为基本蓝本。我们根据原教材内容设计了各种各样的练习。全书内容共分: Blank Filling, Decide Whether the Statements Are True or False, Multiple Choice, Identification, Analysis, Comprehensive Guide to the Whole Book, Key to the Exercises, Appendix I, Appendix I。最后两个附录分别是术语解释和主要作家、作品汉译名。

在编写本书时,我们参考了杨岂深、常耀信、Booz, Mednick, Untermeyer, Kearns 等专家的著作,对吴伟仁教授的教材内容进行了适当补充。

本书部分练习曾在学生中使用,很受欢迎。这也是我们编写此书的动因之一。

编写文学练习尚属尝试,我们希望我们的工作对英语专业本科生、自学考试英语专业本科生、英语专业函授本科生和

三沟通本科生以及报考英美文学专业研究生的同学有所帮助。

本书承英语语言文学专业硕士生导师郭群英、孙志成两位教授审阅,在此特表谢意。

由于经验不足,错误或不当之处在所难免,希望读者不吝指正。

编者
1997年7月

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Part 1 The Literature of Colonial America

I. Blank Filling.

1. Among the members of the small band of Jamestown settlers was _____, an English soldier of fortune, whose reports of exploration, published in the early 1600s, have been described as the first distinct American literature written in English.
2. Almost a hundred years earlier the Caribbean Islands, Mexico, and other parts of Central and South America had been occupied by the _____.
3. The term "Puritan" was applied to those settlers who originally were devout members of the Church of _____.
4. _____ College was established in 1636, with a printing press set up nearly in 1639.
5. Among all the settlers in the New Continent, _____ settlers were the most influential.
6. The first permanent English settlement in North America was established at _____, Virginia.
7. _____ was a famous explorer and colonist. He established Jamestown.
8. In the book _____ John Smith wrote that "here nature and liberty afford us that freely which in England we want, or it costs us dearly."

9. *General History of Virginia* contains Smith's most famous tale of how the Indian princess named _____ saved him from the wrath of her father.
10. Hard work, thrift, piety and sobriety, these were the _____ values that dominated much of the early American writing.
11. The American poets who emerged in the seventeenth century adapted the style of established European poets to the subject matter confronted in a strange, new environment. _____ Bradstreet was one such poet.
12. Bradford himself used a word " _____ " to describe the community of believers who sailed from Southampton England, on the Mayflower and settled in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1620.
13. In 1620, _____ was elected Governor of Plymouth, Massachusetts.
14. From 1621 until his death, _____ probably possessed more power than any other colonial governor.
15. Bradford's work _____ consists of two books.
16. Bradford's work consists of two books. The first book deals with the persecutions of the Separatists in Scrooby, England, the second book describes the signing of the " _____ Compact".
17. *The History of New England* is a priceless gift left us by _____.
18. _____ wrote his most impressive work *The Magnalia*

Christi America.

19. The writer who best expressed the Puritan faith in the colonial period was _____.
20. The Puritan philosophy known as _____ was important in New England during colonial time, and had a profound influence on the early American mind for several generations.
21. Many Puritans wrote verse, but the work of two writers, Anne Bradstreet and Edward _____, rose to the level of real poetry.
22. A representative sermon *A True Sight of Sin* is _____'s main work.
23. Before his death, Jonathan _____ had gained a position as America's first systematic philosopher.
24. Jonathan Edwards's masterpiece is _____.
25. *The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America* is a collection of poems composed by _____.
26. _____'s best verse is to be found in a series called "Preparatory Meditations".
27. *The Day of Doom*, a long-standing best-seller both in America and in England, was written by _____ Wigglesworth.

I. Decide Whether the Statements Are True or False.

1. Early in the seventeenth century, the English settlements in Virginia and Massachusetts began the main stream of

what we recognize as the American national history.

2. The first writings that we call American were the narratives and journals of the early settlements.
3. The colonies that became the first United States were for the most part English.
4. Among the earliest settlers were Frenchmen who settled in the Northern Colonies and along the St. Lawrence River.
5. In 1620 a number of Puritans came to settle in Virginia.
6. American literature is the oldest of all national literature.
7. Georgia, Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, New York, New England, all were named after French monarchs and lands.
8. John Winthrop's reports of exploration, published in the early 1600s, have been regarded as the first distinct American literature written in English.
9. Captain John Smith's descriptions of America were filled with themes, myths, images, scenes, characters, and events that were a foundation for the nation's literature.
10. John Smith portrayed North America as a land of endless bounty.
11. The writers of the Southern and Middle Colonies who followed John Smith also made their great contribution to early American literature, especially in the 18th century.
12. In 1612, William Bradford published in England a book

called *A Map of Virginia; with a Description of the Country*.

13. Captain John Smith usually was regarded as the first American writer.
14. Captain John Smith's book *A Map of Virginia; With a Description of the Country* was a guide to the country and invitation to the bold spirits.
15. Smith published eight books in all, *A Description of New England* is one of them.
16. The Puritans in New England embraced hardships, together with the discipline of a harsh church.
17. The seventeenth century American poets adapted the style of established European poets to the subject matter confronted in a strangely-new environment.
18. *Mayflower* in American history is the name of a flower.
19. The early history of Plymouth Colony was the history of Bradford's leadership.
20. "Mayflower Compact" was a civil covenant designed to allow the temporal state to serve the godly citizen.
21. Cotton Mather was an inexhaustible writer, producing more than five hundred books on an incredible variety of subjects.
22. Most of the religious writing in the colonies was done by persons who lived in New England.
23. The Puritans were originally a group of people who separated from the church of England in the reigns of

Queen Elizabeth and King James I .

24. Many of the Puritans migrated to the colonies in order to find freedom from religious persecution.
25. Today colonial religious writing is of no great value.
26. Somewhere in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean Winthrop delivered his sermon *A Model of Christian Charity*. It became his important work.
27. John Cotton was regarded as the most eminent and admired minister in the first generation of New England Puritans.
28. Cotton Mather was the grandson of John Cotton.
29. Like John Eliot, who translated the Bible into the Indian tongue, Roger Williams was interested in the Indian language.
30. One of Roger Williams's works was *A Key into the Language of America*.
31. Roger Williams is important not only for his political views but also for his religious beliefs.
32. The best of Puritan poets was Edward Taylor, whose complete edition of poems appeared in 1960, more than two hundred years after his death.
33. The writer who best expressed the Puritan sense of the self is Thomas Hooker.
34. Wigglesworth's poetic output was sizable, and much of it was crowded with dire warnings.
35. Before 1750 the American newspapers were cultural and

literary in nature, but after 1750, they became more political.

■. Multiple Choice.

1. English literature in the America is only about more than _____ years old.
A. 500 B. 400 C. 200 D. 100
2. The establisher of Jamestown was the famous explorer and colonist _____.
A. John Winthrop B. John Smith
C. William Bradford D. John Goodwin
3. The Puritan dominating values were;
A. hard work B. thrift C. piety D. sobriety
4. The early history of _____ Colony was the history of Bradford's leadership.
A. Plymouth B. Jamestown
C. New England D. Mayflower
5. Choose those names which were named after English monarch or land.
A. Georgia B. New York
C. Carolina D. New Hampshire
6. _____ usually was regarded as the first American writer.
A. William Bradford B. Anne Bradstreet
C. Emily Dickinson D. Captain John Smith
7. Which statement about Cotton Mather is not true?

- A. He was a great Puritan historian.
 B. He was an inexhaustible writer.
 C. He was a skillful preacher and an eminent theologian.
 D. He was a graduate of Oxford College.
8. Jonathan Edwards' best and most representative sermon was _____.
- A. *A True Sight of Sin*
 B. *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*
 C. *A Model of Christian Charity*
 D. *God's Determinations*
9. Which writer is not a poet?
- A. Michael Wigglesworth B. Anne Bradstreet
 C. Edward Taylor D. Thomas Hooker
10. The common thread throughout American literature has been the emphasis on the _____.
- A. Revolutionism B. Reason
 C. individualism D. Rationalism
11. Anne Bradstreet was a Puritan poet. Her poems made such a stir in England that she became known as the "_____" who appeared in America.
- A. Ninth Muse B. Tenth Muse
 C. Best Muse D. First Muse
12. The ship "_____" carried about one hundred Pilgrims and took 66 days to beat its way across the Atlantic. In December of 1620, it put the Pilgrims ashore at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

A. Sunflower

B. Armada

C. Mayflower

D. Pequod

IV. Identification of Fragment.

I heard the merry grasshopper then sing,
The black-clad cricket bear a second part;
They kept one tune and played on the same string
Seeming to glory in their little art.
Small creatures abject thus their voices raise,
And in their kind resound their Maker's praise,
Whilst I, as mute, can warble forth no higher lays?

1. This is the ninth of the *Contemplations* written by an early American woman writer. What is her name?
2. Make a brief comment on this short poem.

Part 2 The Literature of Reason and Revolution

I. Blank Filling.

1. The War of Independence lasted eight years till _____.
2. The United States of America was founded in _____.
3. Franklin also edited the first colonial magazine, which he called _____.
4. Franklin's best writing is found in his masterpiece _____.
5. Thomas Paine, with his natural gift for pamphleteering and rebellion, was appropriately born into an age of _____.
6. On January 10, 1776, Paine's famous pamphlet _____ appeared.
7. A series of sixteen pamphlets by Paine was entitled _____.
8. Paine's second most important work _____ was an impassioned plea against hereditary monarchy.
9. The most outstanding poet in America of the 18th century was _____.
10. Philip Freneau's famous poem _____ was written about his imprisoned experience.
11. _____ was considered as the "poet of the American Revolution."