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② 文化之旅

a quick guide to
customs & etiquette

通文化 知礼节 品风土

文化之旅 **法国**
Culture Smart! **FRANCE**

Barry Tomalin (英) 著 江舒桦 注

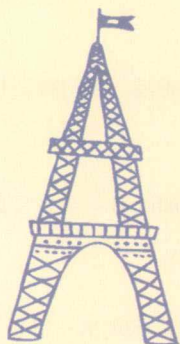


外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



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Culture Smart! France
by Barry Tomalin

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写给读者的话

阅读，是心灵的滋养，是人生版图的拓展；用母语之外的文字阅读，更是体悟异族文化、知识、智慧的最直接方式，往往可以避免隔靴搔痒的尴尬。亲爱的读者，这里我向你们推荐外语教学与研究出版社最新推出的“大学生英语阅读文库”。该文库以原版引进图书为主，涵盖人物传记、西方文化、职业技能等，首批出版“传记人生”和“文化之旅”两个系列。

“传记人生”系列由从国外经典传记系列中精选的人物传记组成，书中的主人公们在政治、经济、科技、教育、体育、艺术等各个领域深具影响力，他们的成长经历、职业生涯、个性魅力、成功与失败的故事在作者生动、浅显、风趣的语言中娓娓道来。“文化之旅”系列则在薄薄书册中浓缩了英国、法国、德国、意大利、美国、澳大利亚等国家的风土人情，对各国地理、历史、政治、国民性格、商业文化、日常生活、跨文化交际等领域的重要事实或所独具的特色进行了详略得当的介绍，文风清新，端庄中不乏善意的调侃，令人会心一笑。这两个系列作为“大学生英语阅读文库”的先行军，很好地融合了知识性、趣味性、启发性与可读性，既能拓宽视野、滋养心灵，又是语言学习的好素材，特别适合成长中的大学生阅读。

大学阶段是人生中最宝贵的学习时光。历经了艰苦的高考、成功进入大学校园的莘莘学子在努力学习各学科知识之余，也将目光投向了更广阔的世界。如何在学习的同时做到启蒙思想、扩展心灵、磨砺人格？聪明的学子选择多读书，读好书。在菁菁校园里，我们忘却了世事的纷扰，品一杯香茗，读一本可心的英文读物，于无声处或漫步于异国街头，或游走于伟人之间。在静谧的阅读中，我们学外语，品人生，看社会，在方寸之间触摸大千世界。

毋庸赘言，课外阅读是外语学习的重要环节。课程学习虽然重要，但课程教材的内容窄、信息量少，语言输入极为有限，而语言学习需要重复，语言素材需要在不同的语境中复现，并在复现中得以强化。大量的课外阅读能够扩大词汇量，使学生在潜移默化中吸收新的语言形式，加强语感，获取相关的文化背景知识，提高对文化差异的敏感度与宽容度。然而，当今社会已经进入一个

泛阅读的时代，人们面对浩如烟海的信息心生焦躁。浅尝辄止的阅读往往徒然浪费时间，深度阅读又对时间和精力要求很高。阅读也需要适当的方法。这里谨就英文课外阅读提供两条原则：控制速度原则；处理难点原则。

1. 控制速度原则

人们的阅读速度往往会根据阅读的目的和时机做出调整。一般说来，控制速度的原则有三条：先慢后快、新慢旧快、主慢次快。

1) 先慢后快。阅读一本新书，开头的章节要慢读。这是全书的开场白，如果没看懂，情节理不出头绪，人物分不清主次，或者是对书的主要内容没有概念，阅读的积极性就会受到影响。

2) 新慢旧快。语言上没有明显的障碍时，就尽量读得快一点。碰到新单词新句型时，就要慢一点，一是要花时间从上下文中猜测其意义，二是要让新的语言知识在脑子里留下印象。

3) 主慢次快。阅读主要人物及情节或者有关主旨的主线时要慢一点，那些烘托气氛的描写通常可以看得快一些，只要有总体的感受就可以了。

2. 处理难点原则

课外阅读有别于课内的精读，在基本读懂的前提下，所追求的是速度，是阅读量。如果像处理教科书中的难点要点一样，一字一句寻根问底，速度上不去，阅读量就成空谈。如果一味地求快求多，难点疑点一概不理睬，稀里糊涂，走马观花，也达不到阅读的目的。这里有三条恰当处理阅读中难点的原则，它们之间有内在的逻辑关系，需依下列次序运用：分清难点与重点；回避“鱼头”，“粗刺”、“细刺”区别对待；猜测和查字典要有机结合。

1) 分清难点与重点

碰到难点时，不要先急于解决，难点不一定是重点。只有当难点是重点或直接阻碍正常阅读的进行时，才需要着力去解决。

2) 回避“鱼头”，“粗刺”、“细刺”区别对待

读书如同吃鱼，鱼头无肉，吃起来且费时间。鱼刺又分粗刺和细刺。粗刺要剔除不能强吃，否则要出问题，而细刺如混在鱼肉里咀嚼吃下去，虽不舒服，却无大碍。遇到像鱼头一样难读且无关大局的地方可以且放一旁；遇到类似“粗刺”的难点要认真解决；遇到类似“细刺”的难点只需稍加处理就放行。

3) 猜测和查字典有机结合

有人读书不离字典。有人读书不用字典，这两种倾向都不好。阅读过程好

比猜谜，人们通过语言符号，由表及里，层层深入，逐步“猜出”作者所要表达的意思。遇到生词时不急于查字典，先根据上下文猜测一下词义，这是一种阅读技能。我们读书碰到生字时，可用铅笔划一下，不查先猜，如果这个词很重要，它会在上下文中反复出现，或是自然而然地明朗化。稍后再把所有碰到的生词捋一遍，确定需要查词典的生词，并将猜测的意思和词典作比对。这种先猜后查的方法既节省了时间又强化了记忆。

以上所说的阅读方法是一家之言，却也在实践中得到了很好的反响，希望能对读者有所裨益。言之不尽，还是让我们尽快展开令人心驰神往的“大学生英语阅读文库”阅读之旅吧。

文秋芳

中国外语教育研究中心主任 教授

contents

Map of France	1
Introduction	2
Key Facts	4
1 Land and People 彼国彼民	6
• Geographical Snapshot	8
• The French: A Brief History	14
• Government	35
• The Eurozone	37
• France and the United States	37
2 Values and Attitudes 价值观	40
• Changing the Rules of the Game—A “Why” Culture	42
• The Ideas Society	42
• French Style	44
• Being French	45
• Family First	49
• Behaving Correctly	50
3 Custom and Tradition 习俗传统	52
• Church and State	54
• Holidays	57
• The Festive Year	59

contents

4 Making Friends 66 求其友声

- Getting to Meet Expatriates 69
- Getting to Meet the French 69
- Invitations Home 71
- Social Customs 77
- Language 81
- The Art of Conversation 84

5 The French at Home 86 居家图景

- The Home 88
- The Family 92
- Education 95
- Military Service 99
- Daily Life 100

6 Time Out 102 休闲时光

- Shopping 104
- *Les Grandes Spectacles* 106
- *Le Cinéma* 107
- Café Society 108
- Food 110
- Wine 112
- Which Restaurant? 114

• Lunch and Dinner	116
• <i>La Vie Culturelle</i> : Museums and Entertainments	120
• The Art Scene	122
• <i>La Vie Sportive</i> : Leisure and Sport	122
• <i>Le Piquenique</i> and <i>Le Camping</i>	123

7 **Traveling** 124

在路上

• Driving	126
• SNCF	131
• Getting Around in Paris	132
• Where to Stay	136
• Travel Abroad	137

8 **Business Briefing** 138

商务导航

• Business and Government	140
• French Bosses	141
• Women in Management	143
• Making Contact	144
• Formality	145
• Rules for Building Successful Contacts	146
• Time, Agendas, and Deadlines	151
• French Negotiating Style	152
• Contracts	157
• Meals	157

contents

9 Communicating	158
交流与通讯	
• Face to Face	160
• Body Language	162
• <i>La Langue Franglaise</i>	165
• Postal and Electronic Communication	166
• Conclusion	170
 Resources	 171
Further Reading	172
About the Author	174
Acknowledgement	174

Map of France



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introduction

The French are “different.” You’ll often hear this in conversations among the “Anglo-Saxons,” as the French like to call English-speakers. “Different” means charming, challenging, uncooperative, questioning, and doing things in their own way and to their own advantage.

So what makes them so distinctive? And how do you get through to them? What is obvious is that the French have a keen sense of national identity, which comes from their history and their language. France was a considerable colonial power, with interests around the world. French was the language of international diplomacy from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries. The French Revolution changed the course of history. Above all, France sees herself as one of the foremost contributors to civilized life—through her cuisine, her monuments, her authors, artists, composers, scientists, explorers, and mathematicians. No list of world literature can be compiled without French names in it, and few other countries contain such regional richness, both cultural and physical. France’s continuing cultural influence is due largely to her consistent attempt to dominate the intellectual high ground, reflecting an insistence on logical thought, and a love of philosophical speculation.

France punches above her weight in world affairs, and carefully guards her interests and prestige, often in opposition to world opinion. Yet the French are constantly asking what it means to be French, even while asserting their difference from and

essential superiority to all other nations.

For many foreigners, the essence of Frenchness is their commitment to their quality of life. To be French means knowing instinctively where work ends and pleasure begins, and never allowing the one to take over the other. Indeed, the idea that the French may become workaholics inspires deep dismay among sympathetic observers.

By looking at the attitudes and values of the French, and explaining how French life and business works, *Culture Smart! France* shows you how to fit in as a foreigner. It gives practical advice on how to avoid the pitfalls and how to do things the French way, and to get results as you do so. It takes you through French history, festivals and traditions, the French at home, on the road, in the restaurant, and at work. The French in love we leave to your imagination! Above all, we show you how the French communicate, and how to get the best out of this utterly frustrating yet totally charming and brilliant people.

Key Facts

Official Name	République Française. France is a full member of NATO and of the European Union, and one of the five permanent members of the UN security council.
Capital City	Paris. Population, 9.8 million.
Main Cities	Lyon, Marseille, Lille, Toulouse, Bordeaux.
Area	210,026 sq. miles (543,965 sq. km.)
Climate	Temperate, varying with terrain, to Mediterranean in the south.
Currency	Euro. The Franc was replaced by the Euro on January 1, 2002.
Population	59 million
Ethnic Makeup	86 percent French, of Celtic and Latin descent. Basque minority in the southwest. 14 percent foreign (including other EU national and North African immigrants).
Language	French. Regional languages include Basque, Breton, Catalan, and Provençal.
Religion	Roman Catholic 90% Muslim 5% Protestant 2% Jewish 1% Other 2%

Government	<p>A unitary republic with an elected President and an elected Prime Minister. Two houses of Parliament, the Assemblée Nationale, and the Sénat. France is a multiparty democracy.</p> <p>Metropolitan France is divided into twenty-two regions, containing ninety departments. There are four overseas departments, two territorial collectivities, and four overseas territories.</p>	
Media	France has a number of state radio and television channels, supplemented by a variety of commercial channels.	Both a national and a regional press. The best-known newspapers are <i>Le Monde</i> , <i>Le Figaro</i> , and <i>La France à la Une</i> .
Media: English Language	<i>Le Monde</i> carries a weekly English-language supplement from the <i>New York Times</i> .	
Electricity	110 volts or 220 volts. Two-prong adaptors are used. Adaptors needed for U.S. appliances.	
Video/TV	SECAM system	NTSC TV does not work in France.
Telephone	France's country code is 33. To dial out of France, dial 00.	





LAND AND PEOPLE

彼国彼民

*Brief is hardly a word to apply to French history,
which has had an unparalleled influence on world
thought and culture.*

简明一词很难和法国历史扯上关系，因为该国历史对整个世界的思想和文化产生了不可比拟的深远影响。