

美英报刊阅读教程

(高级本)

*Reading Course
In American & British
News Publications
(Advanced Level)*

主编 端木义万

文化顾问 James R. Jackson [美]
Elaine S. Jackson [美]



北京大学出版社

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内容提要

本书从美、英近期十余种主要新闻刊物精选文章40篇,以专题为线,共分10个单元。书中所选文章质量上乘,内容典型,语言丰富,趣味较强,时效较长。编写突出能力培养。每课设有五个栏目:Ⅰ. 难点注释;Ⅱ. 知识介绍;Ⅲ. 语言简说;Ⅳ. 内容分析;Ⅴ. 问题思考。

“知识介绍”栏目提供与课文相关的社会文化背景,“语言简说”栏目结合课文介绍现代报刊英语特色。本书主要对象是大学英语高年级学生和具有同等水平的自学者。

该书配有教学参考手册,提供“内容分析”和“问题思考”两项练习的参考答案和文章的层次分析。

作者介绍

本书主编端木义万教授现为南京国际关系学院资深教授,担任该院美国语言文化研究中心主任,研究生导师,从事传媒英语研究和外刊教学 30 余年,主要代表著作有《美英报刊阅读教程》(南京大学出版社,1994,迄今已 10 次印刷);《美国社会文化透视》(南京大学出版社,1999);《传媒英语研究》(中国社会科学出版社,2000);《新编美英报刊阅读教程——中级本》(中国社会科学出版社,1999);《新编美英报刊阅读文选——普及本》(学苑出版社,2000);《高校外刊教学论丛》(北京大学出版社,2000)。发表学术论文 40 余篇。

前 言

随着改革开放规模的不断扩大,外刊课越来越受到我国高校的重视。国家教委英语专业教学大纲明确把外刊理解能力列作评定4级、6级、8级英语阅读水平的重要标准。

外刊是了解当今国际风云、外国文化的重要窗口,获取最新科技知识、各种信息的主要手段,同时也是学习和掌握现代英语的理想资料。英语报刊题材广泛,内容新颖;语言现代,地道实用。开设外刊课对于培养宽口径、应用性的复合型人才十分有益。

我所编著的《美英报刊阅读教程》(南京大学出版社,1994)承蒙广大高校师生和自学者的厚爱迄今已连续印刷10次。但是,由于该书文章完全出自10年前的外报外刊,书中多半内容已显过时。

近10年来,世界政治格局、西方经济体制、文教科技、社会文化等方面都出现了重大变化。就拿美国来说:婴儿潮代人(Baby Boomers)正在步入老年;“不可知代”(Generation X)的影响日趋上升;劳力市场结构(labor market structure)正经历着调整;“新经济”(New Economy)带来了较长时间的繁荣;电脑文化(cyberculture)渗透到社会各个领域,电子邮件(e-mail)、网络漫游(Net-surfing)、电子商务(E-business)已是生活中不可或缺的组成部分;“克隆”(cloning)技术得以迅速推广,虚拟大学(virtual university)发挥积极作用。美国社会风尚出现了一些可喜现象:禁烟运动(anti-cigarette drive)、扫黄运动(crackdown on pornography)已取得局部成效。但困扰美国的许多社会问题依然存在:贫富差距拉大(widening of gap between the rich and the poor);少女怀孕(teen pregnancy)数量居高不下;黑人艾滋病(Black AIDs cases)比例上升;校园枪杀事件(school shootings)不断发生。

上述许多新的情况在我所编的“南大版”教材中均未反映出来。此外,原教材中还存在其他一些缺陷。因此,更新和完善原外刊教材势在必行。

本书编著的指导思想除使内容更为现代之外,还有一点是进一步突出能力培养。30余年的外刊教学实践使我深切感到:外刊教学的重点必须放在能力上。外刊种类繁多,内容浩如烟海。教材无论内容有多丰富,也无法囊括一切。事实证明,采用专题为线编排课本,精选各个专题典型文章作为课文,不仅可以提高教材的系统性,而且十分有助于外刊阅读能力培养。此外,我还觉得,要想使学生更快地步入阅读外刊的自如境界,就必须帮助他们熟悉报刊语言,了解相关文化,学会归纳分析。为此,本书每篇课文后均设五个项目:

- 1 知识介绍(Background Information)
- 2 难点注释(Notes to the Text)
3. 语言简说(Language Features)
- 4 内容分析(Analysis of the Content)
5. 问题思考(Questions on the Article)

“知识介绍”项目根据课文内容简明系统地提供相关专题内容,旨在拓宽读者社会、文化、科技等方面的知识面。

“语言简说”项目结合课文语言简要介绍报刊英语和现代英语的常见语言现象,意在帮助读者熟悉外刊语言的规律和特点。

上述两个项目融入我多年来在报刊英语和西方社会文化方面的研究成果。“内容分析”和“问题思考”两种练习的意图在于培养学生融会贯通、深入理解、全面分析外刊文章的能力。

当前,各个高校英语报刊课教师工作负荷很重,为了减轻授课老师的备课负担,本书后面配有教师参考手册,提供“问题思考”和“内容分析”两项练习的参考答案和每篇文章的层次分析。

本书凝结着许多人的深情厚谊和汗水心血。外刊教学界许多同仁为此书编著献计献策;端木栋林和郭荣娣同志帮助搜集了大量资料;我的学术助手张慧承担了部分打字编排工作。

尤为值得一提的是,本书文化点注释方面得到了我在美国北卡罗来纳(查波希尔)州立大学访学期间结识的 James R. Jackson 和 Elaine S. Jackson 两位好友的鼎力相助。他们不仅知识渊博,治学严谨,而且十分热心,有求必应。在长达一年半的艰苦编著过程中,他们总是及时地通过电子邮件传来一批又一批文化背景资料。

在此,谨向为此书编著提供支持和帮助的所有人士表示诚挚而深切的谢意。

由于功力不深,锤炼不足,书中定有不少疏漏和错误,竭诚欢迎并殷切期望高校教师和广大读者提出宝贵意见。

主编 端木义万
2001年3月16日

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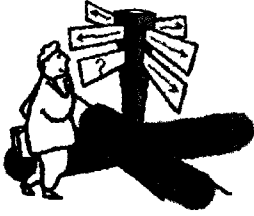
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Lesson 1

Return of the Huddled Masses

To polarize American opinion, there is nothing quite like the subject of immigration.¹ On one side are people who think that the current relatively relaxed policy risks ruining the country. On the other are those who see immigration as the key to America's revitalization. In an election year, the argument between ruiners and revitalisers is going to be sharp.

The argument cuts right across party lines.² California's Republican governor, Pete Wilson, is filing a series of lawsuits against the federal government for the costs to his state (some \$3 billion a year, he estimates) of providing services to illegal immigrants. Florida's Democratic governor, Lawton Chiles, has sued the federal government for \$1.5 billion. Other states may follow.

California is the most popular destination for the 300,000 or so illegal immigrants³ who settle in the United States each year; 1m are now reckoned to live in Los Angeles alone. Mr. Wilson blames the federal government for letting these people in and then compelling state governments to pay for their education, their health care and, sometimes, their incarceration (14% of California's prison population are illegal immigrants). To help pay for such prison costs, President Bill Clinton last month asked Congress for \$350m, to be spread across all states. Mr. Wilson, predictably, calls this an inadequate first step.

Some critics of immigration policy make little distinction between legal and illegal newcomers. However the immigrants come, there are too many of them. Critics speculate grimly about an overcrowded, Balkanised America with, eventually, most of its people of non-European origin.

Yet immigration has plainly brought huge benefits to America in the past: newcomers have injected energy, ambition and fresh ideas. They are still doing so. Joel Kotkin of the Centre for the New West points to California's economic revival. It has been immigrant-driven,⁴ he says. Small, flexible firms and the self-employed — areas in which immigrants excel — have led the way. Six out of the 15 chief executives of the top manufacturers in Orange County are foreign-born⁵. Two out of five engineering students at the University of California at Los Angeles are Asians (hence UCLA's nickname, the University of Caucasians Lost among Asians⁶).

For every study claiming to show that immigrants impose a financial burden on the state pro-immigration people can point to another showing the contrary. The question — especially sensitive in times of economic upheaval — of whether immigrants take jobs from the native-born⁷ is equally controversial. A new study by Richard Vedder and Lowell Gallaway of Ohio University and Stephen Moore of the Cato Institute⁸ found no evidence that increased immigration leads to higher unemployment. If anything, they suggest, the opposite is the case: in the 1980s, in the ten American states with the lowest concentration of immigrants, the typical unemployment rate was nearly a third higher than in the ten states with the most immigration.

Such arguments are not enough to turn all Americans into enthusiasts for immigration. In recent polls, at least 60 % of respondents have said America should be letting fewer people in. Even in the best of times, Americans are not keen to see immigration rise; in nine surveys taken since 1955, no more than 13 % have ever said they favoured an increase. True, a majority says immigration has been good for America — but only the sort that happened in the past.

There's the rub⁹: Past immigration good, present immigration bad. Each new wave of immigration has been greeted by wide-spread suspicion or outright hostility. "Ignorant, unskilled, inert, accustomed to the beastliest conditions," thundered an article about east Europeans in 1892. . . "The arrival on our shores of such masses of degraded peasantry brings the greatest danger that American labour has ever known "

It was opinions such as this that eventually led, from the 1920s, to America's doors being virtually closed to immigrants. The doors opened again in the mid 1960s, and widened admirably with the 1990 immigration act¹⁰. The essence of today's anti-immigration case is that this latest wave of newcomers is likely to be difficult, if not impossible, to absorb. The pro-immigration riposte is that most such arguments have been heard before and proved false.

Both sides in the debate can twist the numbers. The antis point out that the number of people entering America legally or illegally (about 1m a year) is higher than at any time since the early years of the century. The pros reply that, as a proportion of the population, immigration is still relatively low by 20th-century standards.

More controversial is the origin of the new immigrants. Between 1810 and 1960, more than 80 % of immigrants came from Europe. By the 1980s, the European share had dropped to 9 % . The vast majority of America's immigrants today come from Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Does this matter? The antis think the mix is a danger to the fabric of American society. The pros think that view differs little from that of those who wrote darkly about the "alien hordes" from southern and eastern Europe who would "steadily reduce the average intelligence of the country".

Many of the other objections to immigration also have a familiar ring.¹¹ In the past, too, Americans worried (though perhaps not quite as much as they do now) about the effects of the arrival of these people on their environment, about the newcomers' commitment to America and its values. But in a few respects the worries about the current influx are genuinely new.

One concerns the skills of the new arrivals; they are declining compared with those of the native-born population. Lower skills mean more poverty and — because of the second new factor, the growth of the welfare state — greater cost to the taxpayer. In 1970 the typical immigrant had a lower participation in welfare than the American average; by 1990 the participation rate was higher than average (immigrants were 9 % of households but took 13 % of welfare money). If these statistics are true of legal immigrants, they are likely to be even more true of illegal ones. A third worry is that assimilation has become harder with the rise of "multiculturalism" and the new emphasis on group rights.¹²

Some of these worries might be dealt with by adjusting immigration policy. For example, the United States could follow Canada in placing greater emphasis on skills as a criterion for entry. But often immigration is merely a symptom of a wider problem, not the cause. Blame the rising cost to taxpayers on welfare policy and federal mandates, not on immigrants.¹³ The strongest advocates of multiculturalism are to be found among university teachers and blacks whose ancestors came to America hundreds of years ago. There is little reason to believe that today's immi-

grants want anything other than the millions who have come before them — that is, to be part of the American (and not least the Californian) Dream.¹⁴

From *The Economist*, May 7th 1994

I . New Words

anti	[æntɪ, -taɪ, -tə]	<i>n</i>	a person who is opposed to something; an opponent
assimilation	[əsimɪleɪʃən]	<i>n</i>	the process of becoming part of a country or being accepted by it
Balkanize, also -ise	[bɔːlkənaɪz]	<i>v</i>	<i>BrE</i> to divide a region into small, often hostile states; to divide into small units
beastly	[biːstli]	<i>adj</i>	very unpleasant; nasty
degraded	[dɪgreɪdɪd]	<i>adj</i>	reduced to lower rank, position; debased
enthusiast	[ɪnθʊːziæst]	<i>adj</i>	someone who is very interested in a particular activity or subject
excel	[ɪksəl]	<i>v</i>	to do something much better than most people
fabric	[ˈfæbrɪk]	<i>n</i>	the basic structure of a society
huddle	[ˈhʌdl]	<i>v</i>	to gather closely together in a group
incarcerate	[ɪnˈkɑːsəreɪt]	<i>v</i>	to imprison
incarceration	[ɪnˈkɑːsəreɪʃən]	<i>n</i>	
inert	[ɪnəɪt]	<i>adj</i>	slow; sluggish
influx	[ɪnˈflʌks]	<i>n</i>	the arrival of large numbers of people
mandate	[ˈmændeɪt]	<i>n</i>	an official command
multiculturalism	[mʌltɪkʌltʃərəlɪzəm]	<i>n</i>	the belief that it is important and good to have and blend many distinct cultures
optimum	[ˈɒptɪməm]	<i>adj</i>	the best or most suitable for a particular purpose
outright	[ˈaʊtraɪt]	<i>adj</i>	clear and direct
polarize also -ise	[ˈpɒləraɪz]	<i>v</i>	<i>BrE formal</i> to divide into clearly separate groups with opposite beliefs, ideas or opinions
pro	[prɒ]	<i>n</i>	a person who votes in favor of something; a supporter
revitalize also -ise	[rɪˈvaɪtəlaɪz]	<i>v</i>	<i>BrE</i> to put new strength or power into something
riposte	[rɪˈpɒst]	<i>n</i>	<i>formal</i> a quick, clever, and amusing reply
rub	[rʌb]	<i>n</i>	a difficulty
speculate	[spekjuleɪt]	<i>v</i>	to think carefully; to form theory or conjectural opinion

II. Background Information

移民之国

美国基本上是移民和他们的后裔组成的国家。美国共有三次移民高潮(three big waves of immigrants)。

第一次移民高潮(1680—1880) 这一时期移民,除英格兰人之外,还有其他西欧和北欧国家的人。1846—1851年期间,100多万爱尔兰人为了逃避本土的饥荒与疾病纷纷移居美国。与此同时,许多欧洲人为了逃避政治迫害而来到美国。

第二次移民高潮(1900—1920) 美国历史上一般把1896年以前称为“老移民时期”(the old immigration period),1896年后美国步入了“新移民时期”(the new immigration period)。这一时期美国进入了工业化、城市化阶段,需要大量劳力。据统计,1900—1910年移民人数多达880万,美国人口由8,400万增长了10%左右。这一时期移民主要来自南欧、中欧和东欧,以意大利、匈牙利、波兰和俄国移民为主体。

第三次移民浪潮(1965—) 1965年美国通过了移民和归化法(Immigration and Naturalization Law)。1961—1984年之间还通过了一系列难民法(refugee law)。移民政策的放宽(liberalized)带来了第三次移民浪潮。第三次浪潮期的移民来自更广的地域,更多的国家。据统计,有34%来自亚洲(如中国、越南、菲律宾、印度、老挝、柬埔寨和泰国),34%来自拉丁美洲(如墨西哥、危地马拉、萨尔瓦多、尼加拉瓜、洪都拉斯),16%来自加拿大和世界其他地区,而来自欧洲的移民所占比例下降到16%。与早期移民相比,新移民的教育水平较高,其中有许多是已获得学位者,高科技人员比例较大。

纵观美国移民史,我们不难发现美国人仇外情绪(xenophobia)源远流长。每一大批新移民的到来总会引起美国人的怀疑。每当美国处于经济兴盛、劳力匮乏时期,反移民情绪就会低落。而在经济形势看糟时,敌对情绪便会高涨。60年代后半期以来的第三次移民浪潮也同样遇到美国人的怀疑和仇视情绪。

主张严格控制者列举了大批移民所带来的一系列严重问题。突出的有以下三点:

1. 低薪外来者抢走本地出生(native-born)美国人的工作。
2. 新移民素质差,构成社会福利负担。
3. 移民不想融入社会,对美国传统观念形成威胁。

然而许多美国学者持相反观点,他们认为“移民入境越多,意味着给美国人带来越多的经济增长——更多的财富、更大的进步。”在高科技领域中,新移民所起的作用举足轻重。对此美国加州一家半导体公司总裁罗杰斯感受很深,他说:“移民对本公司有多重要?没有他们,公司便要关门!”

III. Notes to the Text

1. To polarize American opinion, there is nothing quite like the subject of immigration. — The subject of immigration is a topic most likely to divide Americans.
2. The argument cuts right across party lines. — The argument is not affected by party lines. It

exists in both the Republican Party and the Democratic Party

3. California is the most popular destination for the 300,000 or so illegal immigrants — California is the most attractive place for the 300,000 or so illegal immigrants.
4. It has been immigrant-driven. . — Immigrants have helped to bring about the economic revival.
5. foreign-born — born in foreign countries
- 6 . . . hence UCLA's nickname, the University of Caucasians Lost among Asians — 因而获得亚裔人多于白人的大学绰号, 简称 UCLA。(Caucasian — referring to the white race)
7. native-born — born in the native country, i. e. the U. S.
8. the Cato Institute — a libertarian organization dedicated to reducing government spending and lowering taxes
9. There's the rub — It is used when saying that a particular problem is the reason why a situation is so difficult.
- 10 the 1990 immigration act — 1990 年移民法。该法是美国政府自 1965 年移民法以来对移民政策做出的重大修订, 规定在没有改变原先移民法中的家庭团聚原则的前提下, 尽量增加有专业移民的限额, 同时还增加多样化移民的限额。其主要目的是更多吸收美国缺少的专业技术人才, 照顾移民人数少的地区(主要指欧洲)。
11. Many of the other objections to immigration also have a familiar ring. — Many of the reasons cited by opponents against immigration sound familiar. You feel you have heard them before
12. A third worry is that assimilation has become harder with the rise of “multiculturalism” and the new emphasis on group rights. — 第三个担心的问题是伴随多元文化情绪的上涨和对群体利益的进一步强调, 同化变得更为困难。(①assimilation — the process by which immigrants become like the people around them, adopting the attitudes and cultural patterns of the society ②multiculturalism — the belief that it is important and good to include people and ideas from many different countries, races or religions ③group rights — referring to the equal rights for different minorities)
13. Blame the rising cost to taxpayers on the welfare policy and federal mandates, not on immigrants. — 纳税人负担的增加应归罪于福利政策和联邦政府的政策, 而不应怪罪移民。
14. . . . to be part of the American (and not least the Californian) Dream. — . . . take part in the American (and especially the Californian) Dream. (①American Dream — 美国梦, 美国式理想, “美国梦”一语是由美国历史学家亚当斯于 1931 年在其著作《美国历史文集》中首先使用。其意为“对所有美国人更好、更富裕、更幸福和更自由的生活的希望”。美国梦体现了美国国民精神的理念, 对平等、自由、宽容、进取和不懈追求的理想主义信念。②the Californian Dream — a nonce word based on the American Dream, which stresses California's attraction to immigrants for its better opportunities and higher chance of achieving success)

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