



英语专业
课考试
丛书

A Survey of America

美国概况 习题集

总主编 田 强
主 编 李小红 张 辉

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序 言

近年来,随着我国英语专业在数量上和整体水平上的稳步提高,学习英语专业“综合英语”部分——语言学、英美文学、英美文化——内容的同学越来越多。能够迅速提高水平,进而在各种相应的考试中获得好的成绩,这是同学们的希望,当然也是老师们应该关注和予以帮助的重要方面。

在这一点上,《英语专业课考试丛书》的同仁们做了一件十分有益的事情。内容全面、形式多样、针对性强,这是我读过《丛书》书稿后的印象,从中也足见《丛书》编撰者的良苦用心。我与这些中、青年同事大多都很熟悉,了解他们的素质和业务能力,也了解他们的为人。相信同学们很快就会从书中感受到这一点。

“综合英语”所包含的内容不仅是重要的专业知识,更代表着理论素养和总体语言水平。可以说,一个人如果这些方面能力强、水平高,那么他的英语的整体能力一定也强,水平一定也高;反之,如果他相关领域的知识和能力都很差,他的整体能力不可能强,水平也不可能高。即便是有自称“例外”的人,他的能力和水平也是有明显“缺陷”的。

《丛书》的总主编田强同志嘱我为《丛书》作序,我不想耽搁大家太多的时间来读序言,还是多留些时间来读《丛书》的内容吧。

祝同学们学习和考试获得成功!

贾玉新

乙酉年于哈工大

英语专业的一个特征(代总前言)

近年来越来越多地听到有人谈论这样一个问题:英语专业和英语公共课有什么区别?言下之意,一是英语专业的专业特征越来越不明显了,二是英语专业已经越来越没有优势可言了。其佐证是非英语专业的英语学习者(通过“双学位”等方式)参加英语专业四、六级考试(特别是专业四级)的通过率常常相当高;相反,近年来有相当一批英语专业的学生去参加大学英语四、六级考试结果却常常是铩羽而归。

这样来看待英语专业是很不公平的:

根据之一,获准参加专业四、六级考试的非英语专业同学基本上都是“主动的”,他们大多都是公共课学习的佼佼者,并且都经过了一段时间的英语专业学习或培训,成绩自然“骄人”;而与此同时,那些参加大学英语四、六级考试的英语专业学生则大多是平日成绩不甚理想或专业四级考试未获通过(更不用说八级了)者。用这样两类不同的考生进行对比恐怕有失公允。

根据之二,我们多数人把考试成绩看得过重,为了准备各种考试而耽搁了正常的专业学习。其他专业除了四、六级外还能拿出别的属于自己专业的东西。英语专业本来也不是没有,只不过不是那样“显著”,而且又“老套”了一点而已;但现在大家却把它放弃了。结果仿佛是英语专业除了四、六级什么也没有了。这就是问题的症结所在。

但是,从另外一个角度讲,我们也不能不问自己这样一个问题:英语专业的专业特征究竟是什么呢?

有人曾提出以“守正出新”为英语专业发展的指导思想,通俗地讲就是“站稳脚跟,再伸出一只手去”。无论是“守正”还是“站稳脚跟”,实际上都是强调要保留和坚持英语专业的传统“内核”。这个“内核”的一个非常重要的组成部分就是语言学、英语国家文学(习惯称之为“英美文学”)和英语国家文化(习惯称之为“英美概况”)。

语言学的学习具有多重意义:它既是语言学习的理论框架和认识

基础;从一定意义上说它又应该是我们语言学习实践活动的指导。因而,在一定程度上它代表或折射了现代人的某些思维和行为特征,是人类新的认识高度和水平的体现。

英语国家文学是英语专业的“传统项目”,但近些年来却受到越来越多的“冷落”。但是,作为英语专业的学生,文学的学习至少体现在两个方面:首先,文学是任何一种“成熟”语言——包括古代和现代——的重要组成部分;更准确地说,文学是语言中最具“艺术”性、最“高级”的那部分。任何一部好的文学作品都是艺术化和“升华”了的生活再现,它会帮助我们获得更多的人生经历,取得更多的人生经验。我们的英语学习者大多都是青少年,所缺少的不正是这样的人生经历和经验吗?

英语专业学生学习英语国家文化的一个“通病”就是把英语国家文化当成《英美概况》这门“课程”来学习——就像许许多多的英语学习者硬要把英语“分解”和“简化”成词汇和语法来学习一样。结果是学得很“累”,效果也不尽如人意。正确的方法是要把英语国家的文化当作一个整体、系统的知识结构来学习和掌握。一种语言学习的最终目标应该是文化的交融,英语学习过程中的乐趣和目的都存在于文化层面。由于历史和现实因素的影响,很多人都把英语学习看成是一个“独立”的东西:要先“学会”英语,然后再拿英语去做事情。可怕的是我们一直把这事倍功半的做法当成是正常的。

* * * *

以上赘言只是想告诉大家:无论是“求生存者”——为了课程考试能够顺利通过的同学,还是“求发展者”——准备“考研”的同学,切记:欲要“出新”,必先“守正”;英语专业有“正”(而不是“证”)可“守”,这是十分重要的。

这就是本丛书成书的主要动机。

总主编
于红森林工作室

前 言

“美国概况”是英语专业自学考试及研究生入学考试的必考内容。由于这门课跨度大,涉及面广,很多学生感觉很难把握。为了帮助学生攻克这一难关,我们根据《美国概况》的权威教材所涉及的内容,精心编写了本书。

本书共分 14 章,内容涉及土地和资源、人口、文化、经济、政府和政治、殖民时期的美国、独立战争、宪法和新政府、领土扩张及社会发展、内战、战后重建和工业化、一战与美国、二战与美国、战后的美国、美国历史中的重要人物等。使用本书前,建议读者至少阅读一本有关美国概况的权威教材。

本书的特点有三:一是内容全面。本书参考并综合了多本《美国概况》权威教材中所涉及的内容。二是覆盖面广。本书每一章节都尽力覆盖了该章节标题下可能涉及的方面。三是题型多样化,难易搭配平衡。本书设计有选择题、填空题、正误辨析题、连线题、名词解释题、简答题和问答题。

希望读者通过本书的学习和训练,能有效地加强对美国概况知识的理解,并能够提高该方面的应试能力,增强应试信心,取得好成绩。如果读者在读本书之后能够更加全面深入地了解美国概况及其测试题型和测试内容,取得一个比较满意的分数,我们编写此书的目的也就达到了。

本书主编是李小红、张辉,副主编是费茜、程杰,主审是刘爱华、刘玲。由于编者水平和经验有限,书中难免有不足之处,敬请专家和读者批评指正。

编者
2005 年 6 月

Contents

1 Land and Resources

Introduction	(1)
Exercises	(4)
Keys	(11)

2 American People

Introduction	(17)
Exercises	(20)
Keys	(31)

3 American Culture

Introduction	(45)
Exercises	(48)
Keys	(65)

4 American Economy

Introduction	(90)
Exercises	(92)
Keys	(103)

5 Government and Politics

Introduction	(119)
--------------------	-------

	Exercises	(123)
	Keys	(132)
6	American History—The Colonial Period	
	Introduction	(141)
	Exercises	(143)
	Keys	(147)
7	American Revolution	
	Introduction	(152)
	Exercises	(154)
	Keys	(159)
8	The Constitution and the New Government	
	Introduction	(163)
	Exercises	(165)
	Keys	(169)
9	American Expansion and Social Development	
	Introduction	(172)
	Exercises	(174)
	Keys	(182)
10	The Civil War	
	Introduction	(188)
	Exercises	(190)
	Keys	(198)
11	Reconstruction, Industrialization, Imperialism and Progressivism	
	Introduction	(204)

Exercises	(205)
Keys	(213)
12 World War I and the Great Depression	
Introduction	(220)
Exercises	(222)
Keys	(228)
13 America during and after World War II	
Introduction	(237)
Exercises	(239)
Keys	(246)
14 Important Figures in American History	
Introduction	(258)
Exercises	(259)
Keys	(270)
Appendix I 美国政府结构图	(276)
Appendix II 美国历届总统	(277)
Appendix III 美国各州概况	(280)
Index	(292)
Reference	(296)



Land and Resources

Introduction

The official name of the United States is the United States of America. People often call it the United States, the USA, or simply America. The main landmass of the United States lies in central North America with Canada to the north, Mexico to the south, the Atlantic Ocean to its east and the Pacific Ocean to the west. Consisting of 50 states, the United States has a total area of 9 400 000 square kilometers which makes it the fourth largest country in the world in size after Russia, Canada and China. Of all the 50 states, Alaska is the largest in area and Rhode Island is the smallest. Apart from the 50 states, the United States includes some outlying areas, such as Puerto Rico and Virgin Island in Latin America and Guam, American Samoa in the Pacific Ocean. The national capital is Washington, DC, located along the banks of the Potomac River between the states of Maryland and Virginia.

The mainland America can be divided into three geographic areas: the Atlantic Seacoast and the Appalachian Mountains in the east; the great Mississippi River Basin in the middle; and the Rockies west to the Pacific Ocean. The Appalachians are lower than the Rockies because they are older with average altitude of 800 meters above sea level. The Atlantic Seacoast and Appalachian Mountains, covering a distance of 1 200 miles, begins from north Maine and stretches to central Alabama, taking up one sixth of the national territory. The Rockies, known as the "backbone of the continent", include several mountain ranges, such as the Sierra Nevada ranges, the Cascade ranges, the Rocky Mountains and the Coast ranges. The whole area of this part holds one third of the country's territory on the continent. Between the Appalachians and the Rockies lies the Mississippi River Basin which occupies one second of America's territory, extending from Canada in the north to the Gulf of Mexico in the south.

The United States is mainly situated in the northern temperate zone. But owing to its large size and varied landforms, the climate in the US varies from warm wet conditions of the Appalachian Mountains to the warm, wet conditions of some of the western states; it ranges from almost winterless climates in Southern Arizona and Southern Florida to long, very cold winters in Alaska. A humid continental climate is found in the north-eastern part of the country (New England). The weather is hot in summer and cold in winter in that region with plenty of rainfall and snow. The south-eastern United States enjoys a humid subtropical climate. The summers are usually hot and winters mild. The southern part of the Florida peninsula is favored with tropical humid weather. There is no winter here and Miami Beach attracts over a million tourists every year. Semi-arid and arid conditions prevail in the inland plateaus including much of the area between the Cascade-Sierra Nevada ranges, the Rockies, and parts of Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, southeastern California and southwestern Texas. Normally, the weather in those regions is dry and the annual rainfall is less than 500 millimeters.

The United States is rich in natural resources. It abounds in coal,

petroleum, natural gases, iron ore, copper, lead, zinc, phosphates, aluminium, silver and gold. Most of America's oil reserve is found along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, in the northern part of Texas, the northwestern part of Louisiana, Kansas, Oklahoma and the southern part of Arkansas. America has a large deposit of iron ore, estimated at more than 80 million tons of iron ore a year. Most of it is mined in the Appalachians and the Great Lakes region of Minnesota and Michigan. One fourth of the country's territory is covered with forests scattering over the Rockies, the Cascade Range, the Nevada Mountains, the Appalachians and the Peninsula of Florida and Alaska. The country also has a potential source of hydroelectric power mainly coming from the Columbia River, the Colorado River, the Ohio River, the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes.

Focus: the Appalachian; the Rockies; the Great Lakes; the Mississippi River; New England; immigrants; Pilgrim Fathers; American climate

【译】美国的官方名称是美利坚合众国,但人们常常把它称作美国。美国主要部分位于北美洲中部,东临大西洋,西濒太平洋,北接加拿大,南靠墨西哥。美国有 50 个州,国土总面积为 9 400 000 平方千米,仅次于俄罗斯、加拿大、中国,为世界第四位。在 50 个州中,阿拉斯加是面积最大的州,而罗得岛是最小的州。除了 50 个州之外,美国还有在拉丁美洲的波多黎各和美属维尔京群岛,以及在太平洋上的关岛和美属萨摩亚。国家首都是华盛顿,位于波托马克河两岸,马里兰州和维吉尼亚州之间。

美国大陆按地形分可以分为三部分:东部的大西洋海岸和阿巴拉契亚山;中部的密西西比河流域;西部落基山系直到太平洋沿岸。阿巴拉契亚山的平均海拔要比落基山脉低 800 米,因为它比落基山形成得更早。大西洋海岸和阿巴拉契亚山北起缅因州直到中部的阿拉巴马州,全长 1200 英里,占国土面积的六分之一。落基山系——“美国大陆的脊梁”,由几个群山组成:如内华达山脉、卡斯卡达山脉、落基山脉和西部海岸山脉,这一地区的总面积占整个大陆的三分之一。在阿巴拉契亚山和落基山系之间是密西西比河流域,占美国面积的二分之一,北至加拿大,南至墨西哥海湾。

美国的气候大部分地区属温带和亚热带气候,但由于美国幅员辽阔,地形复杂,各地气候差异较大。阿巴拉契亚山和一些西部的州气候温暖湿润,南部的亚利桑那州和佛罗里达州几乎没有冬季,而在阿拉斯加冬季却漫长寒冷。东北部地区

















(新英格兰)是湿润的大陆性气候,夏季炎热,冬季寒冷,降雨量丰富。东南部地区属湿润的亚热带气候,夏季炎热,冬季温和。佛罗里达半岛南部属湿润的热带气候,在这儿没有冬季,迈阿密海滨每年都吸引了上百万的游客。中部的高原地区为干旱半干旱气候,包括内华达山脉和落基山脉之间的大部分地区,还包括内华达州、犹他州、亚利桑那州、新墨西哥州的一部分,加利福尼亚州的东南部、得克萨斯州的西南部。通常情况下,这些地区的气候干燥,年降雨量小于 500 毫米。

美国自然资源丰富,蕴藏大量的煤炭、石油、天然气、铁矿石、铜矿、锌、磷酸盐、铝、银和金。美国大部分的石油储藏在墨西哥海湾沿岸、得克萨斯的北部、路易斯安那的西北部、堪萨斯州、俄克拉荷马州和阿肯色州的南部。美国铁矿石储藏丰富,估计年生产超过 8 亿吨铁矿石,其中大部分开采于阿巴拉契亚山脉、明尼苏达州和密歇根州的大湖地区。国土的四分之一被森林所覆盖,散布在落基山脉、卡斯卡达山脉、内华达山脉、阿巴拉契亚山脉、佛罗里达和阿拉加斯加半岛。美国还有丰富的水力资源,主要来自哥伦比亚河、科罗拉多河、俄亥俄河、圣劳伦斯河和大湖区。

Exercises

I. Choose the correct answer.

1. The total area of America is about _____ million square kilometers, which makes it the _____ largest country in the world.
A. 9.4...third B. 9.4...fourth
C. 9.6...third D. 9.6...fourth
2. To the west of mainland America lies the _____.
A. Atlantic Ocean B. Pacific Ocean
C. Indian Ocean D. Arctic Ocean
3. The river that serves as the dividing line between the South and the North of the United States is _____.
A. the Columbia River B. the Potomac River
C. the Ohio River D. the Colorado River
4. The national flag of the United States is known as _____.
A. the Star-Spangled Banner B. Uncle Sam
C. Hot Dog D. Union Jack
5. The term "Father of Waters" is used to refer to _____.
A. the Amazon River B. the Mississippi River

- C. the Nile River D. the Hudson River
6. The largest freshwater lake in the world is _____.
 A. Lake Superior B. Lake Erie
 C. Lake Ontario D. Lake Michigan
7. The Niagara Falls is located on the US and Canadian boundary between Lake _____ and Lake _____.
 A. Superior... Huron B. Michigan... Huron
 C. Huron... Erie D. Erie... Ontario
8. Which of the following is NOT United States' primary suppliers of foreign oil?
 A. Saudi Arabia B. Venezuela
 C. Israel D. Canada
9. The largest seaport of the United States is _____.
 A. San Diego B. San Francisco
 C. Chicago D. New York
10. New York City is made up of _____ boroughs: Manhattan, Brooklyn, etc.
 A. three B. four
 C. five D. six
11. Which of these examples show the American flag in chronological order?
 A.    
 B.    
 C.    
 D.    
12. _____ has the largest land area of all the states, and _____ has the smallest land area.
 A. Alaska; Hawaii B. Alaska; Rhode Island
 C. Texas; Hawaii D. Texas; Rhode Island
13. _____ is the largest and busiest port on the Great Lakes and the largest

industrial and commercial centre of the Midwest.

- A. Chicago
- B. Detroit
- C. St. Louis
- D. Cleveland

14. The high, sharp and rugged Rocky Mountains to the east of the Pacific Ocean are called _____.

- A. the "Father of Mountains"
- B. "the backbone of the continent"
- C. the "Barn of America"
- D. the "King of Mountains"

15. The most important and largest river in the United States is _____.

- A. the Ohio River
- B. the Colorado River
- C. the Missouri River
- D. the Mississippi River

16. What forms a natural boundary between Mexico and the United States?

- A. The Rio Grande River.
- B. The southern Rocky Mountains.
- C. The Colorado River.
- D. The Gulf of California.

17. The major Hispanic groups in the United States are _____.

- A. the Mexicans and Haitians
- B. the Puerto Ricans and Cubans
- C. the Mexicans and the Puerto Ricans
- D. the Mexicans and the Spanish

18. Occasionally people use the Pentagon, a large building with five sides and five angles, to represent _____.

- A. the US Congress
- B. the US Federal Bureau of Investigation
- C. the US Department of Defense
- D. the US Press

19. In the United States, _____ is a leading commercial crop in the South.

- A. cotton
- B. tobacco
- C. peanut
- D. apple

20. The community college embodies _____ belief that an education should be practical as well as liberal.

A. George Washington's

B. Thomas Jefferson's

C. Abraham Lincoln's

D. Franklin Roosevelt's

21. The functions of institutions of higher education in the US are _____.
A. research and teaching
B. teaching and degree awarding
C. professional training, teaching and public service
D. teaching, research and public service
22. A trend that occurs at the same time with the movement to the South and the West of the United States is _____.
A. the flow of people to sunbelt area
B. the flow of people from small cities to big cities
C. the growth of small towns
D. the outflow of city residents from the core cities to the suburbs
23. The United States is _____.
A. the most populous country in the world
B. the second most populous country in the world
C. the third most populous country in the world
D. the fourth most populous country in the world

II . Decide whether the following statements are true[T] or false[F] .

- ___ 1. The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service is empowered to grant citizenship to legal immigrants who have been residence in America for over four years.
- ___ 2. The so-called "green card" is a permanent residence permit. The holder is an American citizen.
- ___ 3. In 1607, Britain planted its first colony, Jamestown, in what is now Virginia.
- ___ 4. Boston has been called the "Cradle of American Liberty".
- ___ 5. People often use the Pentagon to represent the US Department of Defense.
- ___ 6. Those who came to the US in the 1840's and 1850's were largely Irish