



# 跨文化交际： 中英文化对比

## INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION:

A Comparison of Chinese and  
English Cultures

• 主编 张桂萍

外语教学与研究出版社  
FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



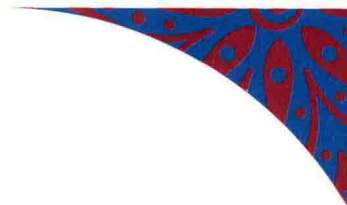
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语言是文化的基石——没有语言，就没有文化；从另一个方面来讲，语言又受文化的影响，反映文化。因此，从英语教学本身来看，英语国家文化是语言教学的一个有机组成部分。同时，推动中国文化走出去也是我国“一带一路”倡议的重要内容。为了使学生适应当前时代发展趋势，英语教学在引导学生了解英语文化的同时，还需要培养学生用英语表述中国文化的能力。

《跨文化交际：中英文化对比》正是针对上述目标编写的一本跨文化交际类英语教材，围绕中国和英语国家两类文化展开介绍与对比，旨在全面提升学生对两类文化的认知程度，培养学生综合运用英语的能力以及跨文化交际能力。

## 一 教材特色

### 1 兼顾中英文化，着眼对比交流

本教材兼顾中国和英语国家两类文化的介绍和阐释，帮助学生深入了解两类文化的内涵；同时通过针对同一主题下两类文化的对比分析，引导学生理解两类文化的异同，提升跨文化交际意识，培养跨文化交际能力。

### 2 主题贴近生活，由小见大

本教材从衣、食、住、行、娱等贴近生活的角度出发选取主题，涵盖中英文化中最富特色的部分，如传统服饰、饮食习惯、节庆活动、医疗健康等，充分展现文化的灿烂多姿，让学生通过领略不同的民俗风情，探索不同文化的丰富内涵。

### 3 选材有趣，活动多样，提升综合能力

本教材每单元选取四篇阅读素材，选材生动有趣，同时兼顾实用性，让学生在学习文化知识、理解文化内涵的同时提升阅读能力；此外，活动设计灵活多样，包括主题词汇表达理解、听力理解以及文化探究等，在夯实语言基础技能的同时，注重思辨能力和跨文化交际能力的培养。



## 二 教材结构与内容

本教材共八个单元，每单元围绕一个主题，共有八个主题。

每个单元分为Section A和Section B两部分。Section A为中国文化部分，包含两篇文章，主要阐述中国文化相关知识与内涵，让学生了解和掌握中国文化相关内容及其英文表达；Section B为英语国家文化部分，同样包含两篇文章，介绍英语国家文化相关知识及内涵。

每篇文章都有配套的课后练习和活动，包含以下三个板块：

### 1 Reading comprehension

本板块主要考查学生对文章的理解，从快速阅读定位信息和仔细阅读深入理解与挖掘细节两方面设置练习，帮助学生了解相关文化知识和内涵，同时提升阅读能力。

### 2 Verbal expression

本板块通过新颖灵活的活动设计，围绕单元主题对文章内容进行拓展，补充相关词汇与表达，同时融入真实交际场景设置练习活动，着重提升学生的文化知识积累、英语语言表达和实际应用能力。

### 3 Critical thinking and cultural exploration

本板块包含两个活动，每个活动基于一篇与单元主题相关的听力材料，保证充足的目标语输入；同时，活动设计引导学生根据之前所学及输入材料内容展开深入思考，对中英文化进行对比，在提高学生基础技能的同时，培养学生的思辨能力和跨文化意识与能力。

此外，教材还配有电子版教师用书，内容包括练习答案以及听力材料脚本等，为教师备课和课堂教学提供有效支持。

中国和英语国家两类文化涵盖内容广泛，编者水平有限，我们期待业内专家和广大师生的批评指正。

2019年1月

编者

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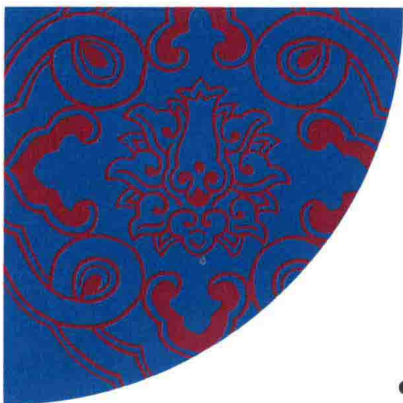
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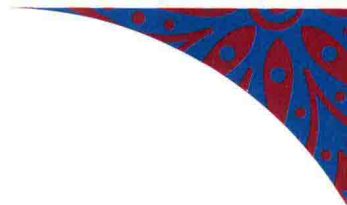
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UNIT

1

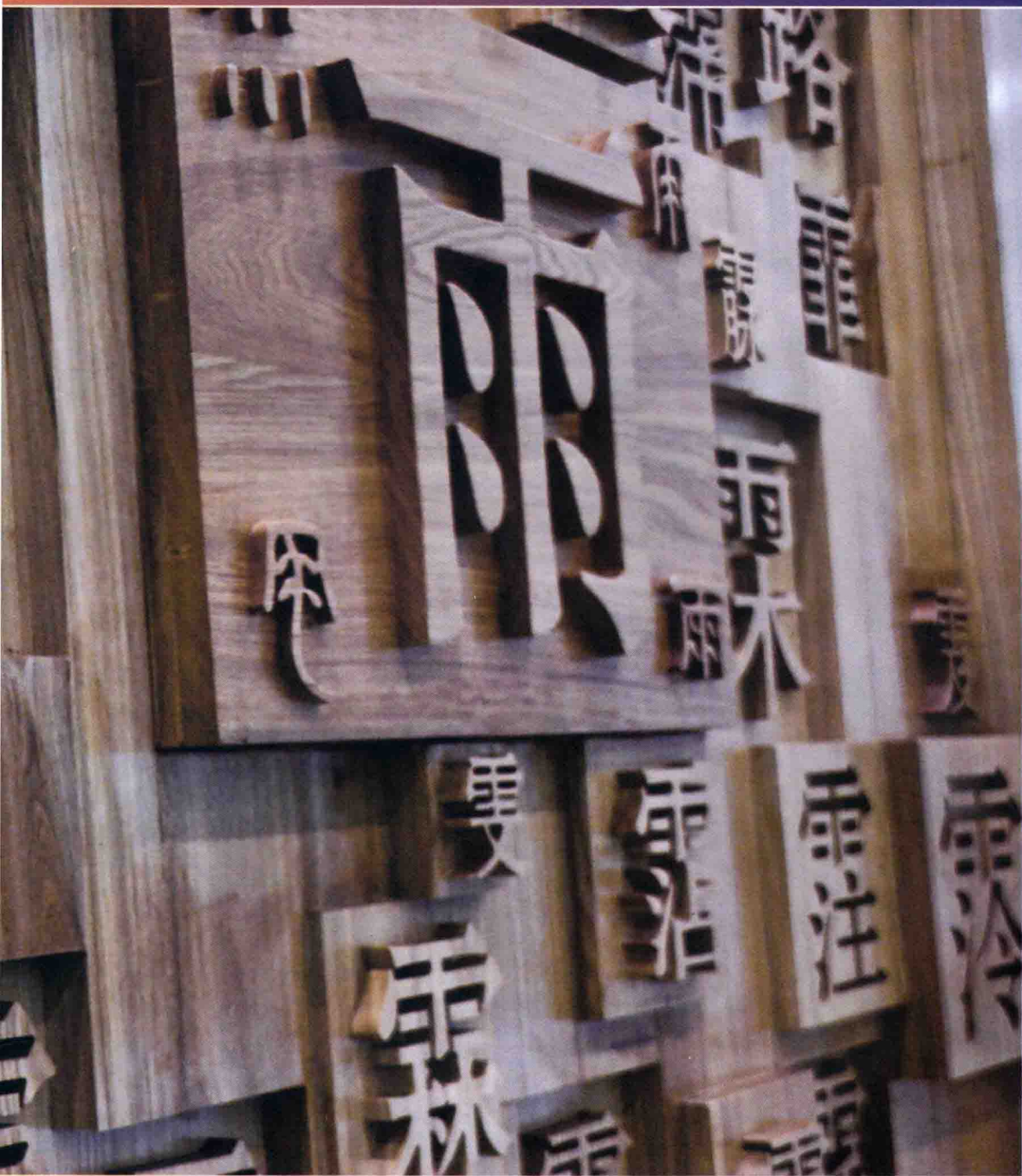
The background of the page features a close-up photograph of Chinese calligraphy. The characters are carved into a dark, textured wooden surface, likely a door or a large sign. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the three-dimensional quality of the characters and the grain of the wood. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds and oranges, with the white text providing a sharp contrast.

# Languages: Chinese vs English

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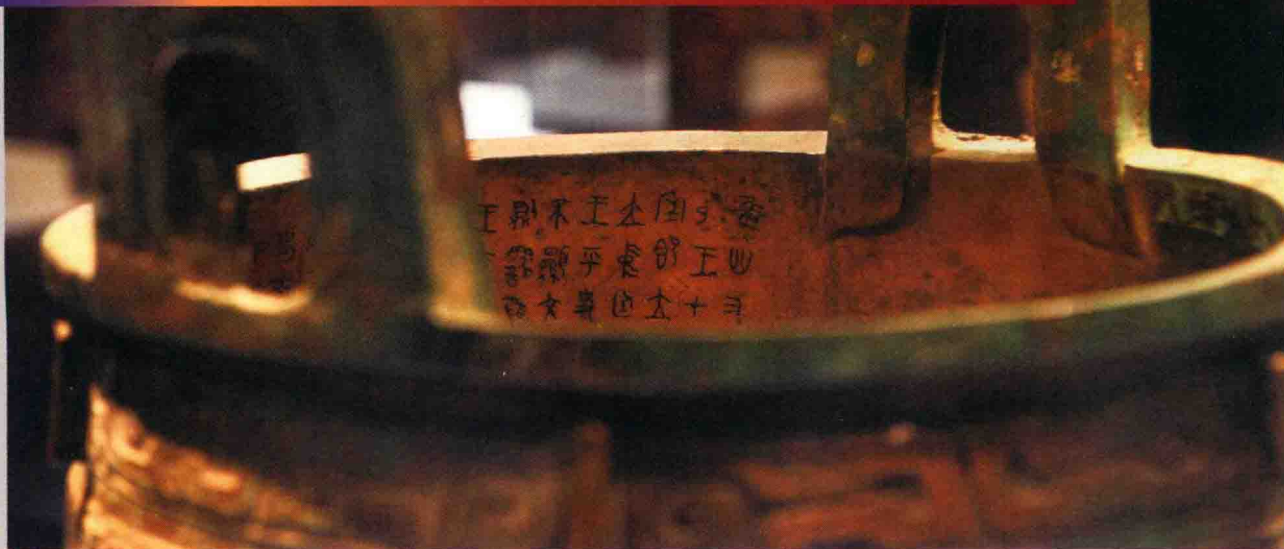


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If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.

—— Nelson Mandela

# The Chinese language



## Passage 1 Aspects of the Chinese language

- 1 Chinese, a branch of the Sino-Tibetan family of languages<sup>1</sup>, consists of hundreds of local language varieties, many of which are not mutually intelligible. It is estimated that more than one billion people speak some form of Chinese as their first language.

### History

- 2 Old Chinese is the oldest attested stage of Chinese, and is the ancestor of all modern varieties of Chinese. It was used from the pre-Qin days to the Jin Dynasty. The first Chinese written records appeared over 3,000 years ago, the earliest examples of which are divinatory inscriptions on oracle bones in the late Shang Dynasty. Bronze inscriptions became plentiful during the following Zhou Dynasty. The latter part of the Zhou Dynasty saw a flowering of literature, including classical works such as *The Analects*, *The Works of Mencius*, and *The Spring and Autumn Annals*. These works served as models for classical Chinese.

1 The Sino-Tibetan family of languages (汉藏语系) is a family of more than 400 languages spoken in East Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia. The family is second only to Indo-European in terms of the number of native speakers.



- 3 Middle Chinese is the language used during the Northern and Southern Dynasties and the Sui, Tang and Song dynasties. It can be divided into an early period, marked by the rhyme book, *Qieyun*<sup>2</sup>, and a late period, signified by the rhyme tables<sup>3</sup> — a guide to the *Qieyun* system. Middle Chinese is the traditional starting point for efforts to recover the sounds of early forms of Chinese.
- 4 After the fall of the Northern Song Dynasty, and during the reign of the Jin and Yuan dynasties in northern China, a common speech (now called Old Mandarin) developed. Officials of the Ming and Qing dynasties carried out the administration of the empire using a “language of officials” based on Mandarin varieties. For most time of the Ming and Qing dynasties, this language was based on dialects spoken in the Nanjing area, though not identical to any single dialect. By 1909, the dying Qing Dynasty had established the Beijing dialect as the “national language.”
- 5 The People’s Republic of China continued with the promotion of a common national language, and in 1956, the standard language of China was officially defined. *Putonghua* is the standard form of Modern Chinese with the Beijing phonological system as its norm of pronunciation, and northern dialects as its dialect base, and it looks to exemplary modern works in vernacular literary language for its grammatical norms. *Putonghua* is now used in education, the media and formal situations in China. Chinese is one of the six official languages of the United Nations<sup>4</sup>.

## Pronunciation

- 7 Chinese characters do not reliably indicate their pronunciation. It is therefore useful to transliterate Chinese into the Latin alphabet for those who cannot read Chinese characters. The *pinyin* system was developed in the 1950s by many linguists based on earlier forms of Romanization of Chinese. It was published by the Chinese government in 1958 and has been revised several

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2 *Qieyun* (《切韵》) is a Chinese rhyme dictionary, published during the Sui Dynasty. It was a guide to proper reading of classical texts, using the *fanqie* method to indicate the pronunciation of Chinese characters.

3 A **rhyme table** (韵图) is a Chinese phonological model, tabulating syllables by their rhyme groups, tones and other properties.

4 The **official languages of the United Nations** (联合国官方语言) are the six languages that are used in UN meetings, and in which all official UN documents are written. In alphabetical order, they are: Arabic (Modern Standard Arabic), Chinese (Standard Chinese with simplified Chinese characters), English (British English), French, Russian, and Spanish.



times. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO)<sup>5</sup> adopted *pinyin* as an international standard in 1982, followed by the United Nations in 1986.

- 8 In *pinyin*, initials and finals form the fundamental elements. Every Mandarin syllable can be spelled with one initial followed by one final, or in some cases with one final only, except for the special syllable *er* or when a trailing *-r* is considered part of a syllable. The system includes four diacritics denoting tones. *Pinyin* without tone marks is used to spell Chinese names and words in languages written with the Latin alphabet, and also in certain computer input methods to enter Chinese characters.

### Classification

- 9 Chinese varieties, or dialects, are conventionally classified into seven dialect groups:
- Mandarin: A group of related varieties of Chinese spoken across most of northern and southwestern China, based on the Beijing dialect.
  - Wu: Varieties spoken in Shanghai, most of Zhejiang and the southern parts of Jiangsu and Anhui, with the Suzhou dialect being usually taken as representative. The Shanghai dialect features several atypical innovations.
  - Gan: Varieties spoken in Jiangxi and neighbouring areas, with the Nanchang dialect being taken as representative.
  - Xiang: Varieties spoken in Hunan, divided into the New Xiang varieties represented by the Changsha dialect and Old Xiang varieties represented by the Shuangfeng dialect.
  - Min: The most diverse varieties spoken in Fujian, Guangdong, Hainan, Taiwan, as well as parts of Southeast Asia and other parts of the world, with Hokkien being the most widely spoken.
  - Hakka: Varieties spoken by the Hakka, a group of Han Chinese living in the hills of northeastern Guangdong, southwestern Fujian, Taiwan, and many other parts of southern China, as well as parts of Southeast Asia, with the Meizhou dialect being the prestige form.
  - Yue: Varieties spoken in Guangdong, Guangxi, Hong Kong and Macao, as well as parts of Southeast Asia and many other parts of the world, with the representative variety being Cantonese.

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5 The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (国际标准化组织) is an international standard-setting body composed of representatives from various national standards organizations. Founded on 23rd February 1947, the organization promotes worldwide proprietary, industrial and commercial standards.

## Reading comprehension

### 1 Skimming and scanning

Read Passage 1 quickly and decide whether each of the following statements is true (T) or false (F).

- ( ) 1 Old Chinese refers to the Chinese language used before the Qin Dynasty.
- ( ) 2 Middle Chinese can be divided into two periods.
- ( ) 3 The endeavor to unify the Chinese language can be traced back to the Ming and Qing dynasties.
- ( ) 4 After the founding of the People's Republic of China, Beijing dialect became standard Chinese.
- ( ) 5 There was no Romanization system of the Chinese language before the 1950s when it was developed by Chinese linguists.
- ( ) 6 Paragraph 8 mainly introduces the formation and rules of *pinyin*.
- ( ) 7 The conventional classification of the Chinese language is region-based.

### 2 Careful reading

Read Passage 1 carefully and answer the following questions.

- 1 What materials were used for recording Old Chinese in the pre-Qin days according to Paragraph 2?
- 2 What marked the late period of Middle Chinese?
- 3 What was the basis for the grammar of *putonghua*?
- 4 What was the measure taken in the Ming and Qing dynasties to promote the use of standard language in China?
- 5 Why was *pinyin* developed?
- 6 On what occasions is *pinyin* without tone marks used?
- 7 What do you learn about Cantonese from the last paragraph?

## Verbal expression

### 1 The dialect in your home town

There are various dialects across China. Is there a dialect in your home town? To which variety does it belong and what characteristics does it have? Think about these questions and introduce the dialect in your home town to your partner(s).

### 2 Differences between Chinese and English verb-object collocations

Chinese and English are poles apart in many ways. You may have not realized how simple differences between the two languages could create problems for learners until you see the different verb-object collocations in the two languages. Fill in the table with the English equivalent for each of the Chinese verb-object collocations, and then discuss the differences between the verb-object collocations in Chinese and English with your partner(s).

Chinese	English
看书	
吃饭	
喝汤	
吃药	
坐车	
开灯	
写作业	
打电话	



# Critical thinking and cultural exploration

## 1 Wade-Giles: a Romanization system for Chinese

You may have noticed that some Chinese words or phrases have entered English vocabulary, but the Romanization system used to represent them is different from the modern *pinyin* we are using, for example, Sun Yat-sen (孙中山), Ching Ming Festival (清明节), and Kung Pao chicken (宫保鸡丁). These words and phrases are from Wade-Giles, sometimes abbreviated Wade, an old Romanization system for Chinese. Listen to an introduction to the Romanization system and talk about it in terms of its origin and use.



## 2 Chinese names vs English names

The differences between Chinese names and English names often confuse both the Chinese and people from English-speaking countries. Listen to an introduction to Chinese names, and talk about the differences between Chinese names and English names with your partner(s).







## Passage 2 Written Chinese: Character formation and the layout

- 1 Written Chinese comprises Chinese characters used to represent the Chinese language. From the oracle bone script in the late Shang Dynasty, Chinese writing evolved into bronze ware script found on Chinese ritual bronzes made during the Western Zhou Dynasty and the Spring and Autumn Period. Later, in the Warring States Period, the script became still more regular, and settled on a form, called “the six categories of Chinese characters.” These characters were later embellished and stylized to form the seal script, which represents the oldest form of Chinese characters still in modern use. Following the seal script, the clerical script was developed in the Qin Dynasty. Clerical script characters are wider than the seal script and “flat” in appearance.
- 2 Then, in the late Eastern Han Dynasty, a semi-cursive form, called “running script,” was formed, which reached its prime in the Eastern Jin Dynasty. In running script, the character elements begin to run into each other, although the characters themselves generally remain separate. Running script eventually evolved into cursive script, in which the characters are often entirely unrecognizable by their canonical forms. The most widely recognized script is regular script, a non-cursive form, in which each stroke of each character is clearly drawn out from the others. Regular script is considered the archetype of Chinese writing, and provides the basis for most printed forms. In addition,



regular script imposes a stroke order on writing regular characters. There are two sets of canonical forms in contemporary Chinese written language: traditional and simplified Chinese characters. The former is currently used in China's Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan, while the latter is officially used in the mainland of China as well as in Singapore and Malaysia.

### Character formation

3. Chinese characters are composed of strokes which fall into eight main categories: dot (丶), horizontal (一), vertical (丨), left-falling (丿), right-falling (㇇), rising (㇇), turning (㇇), and hook (丨). There are seven basic rules of stroke order in writing a Chinese character:
  - Horizontal strokes are written before vertical ones (eg, 十).
  - Left-falling strokes are written before right-falling ones (eg, 人).
  - Characters are written from top to bottom (eg, 亏).
  - Characters are written from left to right (eg, 孔).
  - If a character is framed from above, the frame is completed first (eg, 月).
  - If a character is framed from below, the frame is completed last (eg, 日).
  - In a symmetrical character, the middle is drawn first, then the sides (eg, 小).
4. In addition, there are also some supplementary rules such as “character-spanning strokes last.” According to this rule, vertical strokes that pass through many other strokes are written after the strokes through which they pass, as in 弗. There is also a “dots and minor strokes last” rule requiring that minor strokes are usually written last, such as the small “dot” in 玉.
5. All Chinese characters are logograms, but several different types can be identified based on the manners in which they are formed. There are a handful which derive from pictographs in which the character is a graphical depiction of the object it denotes (eg, 木). Many are ideographic, in which the character represents an abstract notion (eg, 上), including compound ideographs in which two or more parts are used for their meaning (eg, 尘). However, the vast majority originated as pictophonetic characters in which one part indicates the general semantic category of the character, and the other part is another character, used for its phonetic value, such as 晴, which is composed of 日 for its meaning and 青 for its pronunciation. Another category in the traditional system of classification is phonetic loan characters, in which a character is used, either intentionally or accidentally, for some entirely different purposes. For example, 难 originally indicates a kind of bird, but now is used for the meaning of “hard” or “difficult.”