

中小学课堂教学实用指南

*A Practical Guidebook  
for Middle School and Primary School  
Classroom Teaching*

杨晓钰◎主编

杨晓钰 黄宇 张翼◎编著

English Culture Notes  
**英语文化背景**

# Culture



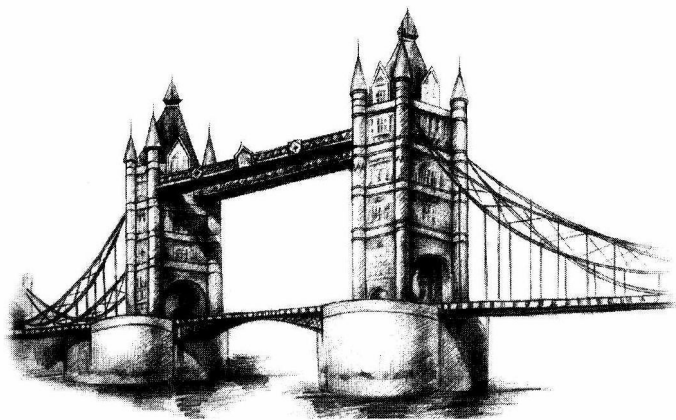
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# 英语文化背景

English Culture Notes

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## 前 言

《国家基础教育阶段英语课程标准》明确指出,教师在传授英语知识和技能的同时,应注重激发和培养学生的学习兴趣,帮助学生树立自信心,培养学生的观察、记忆、思维、想象和创造能力;扩展学生的文化科学知识,丰富他们的文化生活经历。这就要求教师通过听、说、读、写、演、唱、玩、游戏等多种内容和形式组织教学,使学生在轻松愉快的课堂气氛中学习和应用语言,并使学生在情感态度、学习策略和文化意识等方面得到全面的发展,最终实现综合语言运用能力的提高。

但是,在英语教学实践活动中,如何创设愉快的教学环境?如何设计有趣的教学活动?如何更加有效地将教材内容加以补充、拓展、延伸,以激发、保持和发展学生的学习兴趣?这就要求教师除了要具备先进的教学理念和教学技能以外,还要收集和储备大量的有助于教学的参考资料。而教师们却时常因为该方面资料的缺乏而大伤脑筋,因为寻找资料需要耗费大量时间,且往往不尽如人意。为了给广大教师提供方便,我们编辑整理了这套“中小学课堂教学实用指南”丛书,将陆续推出五本,包括《英语游戏和谜语》、《英语课堂用语和绕口令》、《英语文化背景》、《英语小诗与短剧》和《英语课堂简笔画》。这套丛书为英语教师提供了大量的游戏活动、文化知识背景、课堂用语等,旨在帮助教师更加灵活地使用现行的中小学教材。丛书也是对现行中小学教材的有益补充和延伸,可以帮助学生在丰富的实践活动中感知语言、理解语言、掌握语言和运用语言。相信这套丛书能成为教师们进行课堂教学和组织课外活动的实用指南,也成为学生们初步阅读的好材料。

在该书的编辑过程中,我们参考了相关的出版物,也得到了许多专家、同行和一线教师的大力帮助,在此一并向他们表示衷心的感谢。

由于时间仓促,水平有限,书中难免出现错误,望广大同行和读者批评指正。

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## Part I

# Social Life 社会生活

什么是文化? 文化是一种复杂的综合体, 其中包括教育、信仰、文学、艺术、道德、法律、习俗以及人们作为社会成员而获得的一切能力和习惯。文化与语言密切相关, 语言是文化的载体, 因此我们学习一种民族语言, 也就是学习这一民族的文化内涵和文化传统。

## 1. Social Interaction 社会交往

### Meeting and Greeting People 见面和打招呼

初次见面, 十分正式的(formal)场合

—How do you do?

—How do you do?

比较正式的场合

A. —How are you?

—I'm fine, thank you. And you?

—Quite well, thank you.

B. —Nice to meet you.

—Nice to meet you, too.

比较随意的(informal)场合

—Good morning/afternoon/evening!

— Good morning/afternoon/evening!

“Good morning” is used until about lunch time, usually by midday. It is often used informally. Sometimes the word “good” is dropped.

“Good afternoon” is used until tea-time or just after 5 to 6 p.m. “Good noon” does not exist in English; therefore, it cannot be used for greeting.

“Good evening” is used until about 9 p.m. “Good night” is not regarded as greeting. It is normally used at night when people leave each other, shortly before going to bed.

“Good morning”一般用在中午12点以前,在非正式场合我们常常听到以“Morning”来问候。而对中国人来说需要区分“Good evening”和“Good night”。“Good evening”一般用在晚上九点以前,而“Good night”用于晚上睡觉之前的道别。

非常随意的场合

A. —Hello!

—Hello!

B. —Hi!

—Hi!

C. —Morning/Afternoon/Evening.

—Morning/Afternoon/Evening.

注意:中国人习惯的招呼语,例如:

A. 您上哪儿去? (Where are you going?)

西方人会认为你在探听他的私事,会认为你没礼貌。

B. 您吃过饭了吗? (Have you had your dinner?)

西方人可能会认为你想请他吃饭。

Thanking<sup>谢谢</sup>

People in western countries may be more likely to say “Thank you.” than Chinese. When anyone does anything for you, no matter how small it is or no matter he/she is old or young, you would say “Thank you”.

西方人比中国人更频繁地使用“谢谢你”。无论事情多么微小,无论

对方是长者还是幼者,当别人帮助了你时,最好说“谢谢你”。

A. 多种致谢的表达法

There are many expressions for you to say “Thank you”, for example:

Thank you (very much).

Thanks.

Many thanks.

Thanks a lot.

It's very kind/nice of you.

It's so kind/nice of you to do...

I appreciate your help.

I really don't know how to thank you enough.

B. 对别人的感谢应礼貌回答

While you are expressed “Thanks”, you may also reply politely:

I'm very glad if I was of any help.

You are welcome.

Not at all.

My pleasure./It's my pleasure.

It's a pleasure.

That's OK./That's all right.

That's okay.

Don't mention it.

注意:

A. When anything is offered to you, it is not polite to say “I don't want it”, though that's a good manner in China. If you wish it, you should say “Yes, thank you.” or “No, thank you.” if you refuse it.

当他人给你东西时,直接说“我不要”是不礼貌的,虽然这符合中国礼节。如果你要,你就说:“好,谢谢。”如果不要,你应该说:“不,谢谢。”

B. 中国人一般不常用“谢谢”表示对他人的谢意,而以“辛苦了”“您

累了吧”“给您添麻烦了”等话代之。汉语中的致谢答词“没关系”(It doesn't matter./Never mind.)“这是我应该做的”(It's my duty./This is what I should do.)等会让英美人觉得十分奇怪。

### Replying to Compliments 回应称赞

When you are praised for your work or performance of any kind, you should express your thanks by saying "Thanks." or "I'm glad you like it." This is rather different from the custom of Chinese, which requires you to speak depreciatingly of your efforts. Never say "No." or "It is very bad/poor." etc. 当别人赞扬你的时候,你应该致谢。即使中国礼节要求你客气地说自己做得还不够好,也千万不要在别人赞扬你说“不,不”或“做得不好”等表示谦逊。

### Introduction 介绍

When you meet someone you do not know or you want to establish a friendly relationship with, and you would like to show your politeness, you may introduce yourself first. When you introduce people to one another, there are certain rules to follow. A younger person is generally introduced to an older one, a man to a woman, and a person in a lower position to a person in a higher position.

当你想结识不认识的人或表示礼貌时,你首先需要作自我介绍。而在介绍他人认识时,在某些场合应遵从一些规则,即先把年轻者介绍给年长者、男士介绍给女士、地位低的介绍给地位高的。

### Conversation Topics 谈论话题

People like to start a conversation by saying "It's lovely weather today, isn't it?" "Rather cold, isn't it?" or "Very hot today, isn't it?" Weather is one of the favorite topics to start a conversation for people in western countries, especially for British people, because topics about weather does not touch anything personal.

The following is a list of topics and questions that people usually avoid when they do not know each other well or if they are not very close friends:

### A. Money

Although some people will tell you how much money they paid for something, many do not like to be asked such questions as:

“How much did your house cost?”

“What did you pay for your car?”

“How much money do you make?”

### B. Age

Some people will answer questions about age, but many people would feel uncomfortable when answering them. It is, however, a common question to ask a child.

### C. Religion

This is a personal question. Most people don't ask “What is your religion?” when they meet someone at the first time. The subject usually is not discussed until people know each other better.

### D. Weight

People often compliment each other on their physical appearances, for example, “Your hair looks nice.” or “I like your blouse.” However, they usually do not ask questions about weight. For example, many Americans would not like to be asked:

“How much do you weigh?”

“Have you gained weight lately?” (“Have you lost weight?” is usually acceptable, especially if you know that the person wants to lose weight.)

### E. Certain Information about Marriage

There are some questions that are common and acceptable in some countries about marriage, but they are not considered polite in the U.S. They include:

“When are you going to get married?”

“Why aren't you married?”

“When are you going to have children?” (Sometimes it is acceptable to ask,

“Are you planning to have children?”)

Also, people usually don't like to be told:

“You should get married soon.”

“You should have children (or another child).”

英美人喜欢谈论天气,英国人尤善此道。天气是个中性话题,不涉及任何个人隐私。以下是在与初次见面或者还不熟悉的英美人士谈话时应尽量避免的话题。谈话中涉及此类话题时,应当谨慎。

- A. 经济状况
- B. 年龄
- C. 宗教信仰
- D. 体重
- E. 婚姻状况

**Lady First**<sup>女士优先</sup>

In Western countries, it is a communicative tradition to respect and care for women. “Lady first” has always been observed in many social circumstances. For example, a public speech always begins with “Ladies and gentlemen”.

In some other cases, this tradition is also respected. For instance, when a man intends to smoke in a woman's presence, he should ask her for permission first by saying “Would you mind my smoking here?” When a woman enters a room, it is polite for a gentleman to stand up to show his respect for her.

英美人都有尊重女性、礼让女性的社交习惯。例如,在诸多社交场合,人们常常可以听到“Lady first”这句话;在对公众讲话时总是以“Ladies and gentlemen”开始。

人们也常常看到体现这种精神的做法。例如,男士在女士面前抽烟要先问女士是否介意 (Would you mind my smoking here?);女士走进房间,男士一般要起立;当女士欲走出房间时,男士要替女士开门;去餐厅进餐时,男士应让女士走在前面等。

## Handshaking<sup>握手</sup>

In many European countries, handshaking is a social courtesy whenever people meet. The custom of shaking hands in the United States varies in different parts of the country and among different groups of people. It is difficult to make a set rule. When men are introduced, they generally shake hands. Women shake hands less frequently. If a man and a woman are introduced, they may or may not shake hands.

在许多欧洲国家，人们见面时互相握手是一种社交礼节。在美国，握手的习惯则因时因人而异，很难说有什么明确的规定。一般情况下，男士之间要握手，女士之间握手要少一些。如果被介绍的是一男一女，他们有可能握手，也可能不握手。

## Invitations<sup>邀请</sup>

“Drop in anytime”（随时来玩）and “Come and see me soon” are idioms often used in social settings but seldom taken literally. It is wise to telephone before visiting someone.

Never accept an invitation unless you really plan to go. You may refuse by saying “Thank you for inviting me, but I may not be able to come.” If you are unable to attend after accepting, be sure to tell those expecting you in advance that you will not be there apologetically.

When you have accepted the invitation to a party or a dinner, it is polite to bring small gifts such as bottles of drink, flowers, chocolate with you. Sometimes Westerner may take you out to dinner in a restaurant and it does not necessarily mean that he is going to pay the bill at the end of the meal. He might expect you to “go Dutch”, which means each person pays his own bill.

如果人们说“随时来玩”“欢迎来玩”，通常只是客套话而已，不用太认真。如果要去别人家拜访，最好在去之前电话联系。

应邀参加聚会，如果不能前行，可以明确告诉主人并表达歉意。如果接受了邀约，客人最好带一小瓶酒或其他小礼物给主人。有时，西方人会

邀请你外出用餐,但这并不意味着他会替你结账。西方人通常是平摊餐费或各自付账。

### Table Manners 餐桌礼仪

In Western countries, when eating with other people, you are always expected to:

chew with your mouth closed and swallow all the food in your mouth before taking more or taking a drink.

say "Thank you." when served something.

keep your elbows away off the table.

ask for the item to be passed instead of reaching over someone's plate for something.

Remember:

never talk with food in your mouth.

never pick food out of your teeth with your fingernails or without covering.

it is impolite to eat noisily.

not to wave a fork or a knife in another's direction.

never blow your nose on a napkin, as napkins are for dabbing your lips only.

在西方国家,当与别人一起用餐时,礼貌的方式是:

闭嘴咀嚼食物,食物未咽完,不能再吃别的或喝水。

上餐时务必表示感谢。

用餐时勿将手肘支在餐桌上。

如欲取用摆在其他客人面前的调味品,应请邻座客人帮忙传递,不可伸手横越,长驱取物。

此外,用餐时应注意:

口内有食物,应避免说话。

切忌用手指掏牙,应用牙签,并以手或手帕遮掩。

不要大声咀嚼食物。

不要用刀或叉指着他人。



不要用餐巾擤鼻涕,餐巾只能用于擦嘴上的油渍。

**Giving and Receiving Gifts** 送礼和收礼

In some countries, there are many rules about giving gifts. When do you give a gift? To whom do you give a gift? For what reasons do you give a gift? The list below includes occasions when many people give gifts and the types of things people give in the U.S. Remember that rules and customs about gift-giving in the U.S. are general. It is up to the individual to decide when to give a gift and what to give.

Occasions	Typical Gifts
A meal at someone's home	A bottle of wine, flowers, candy
An overnight stay at someone's home	An object from your country (a vase or dish), gifts for the children
Friends' birthdays, particularly the "big" birthdays (21, 25, 30...70, 80, etc.)	Books, records, clothing, decorations for the house, photo albums
Showers (baby showers, wedding showers)	Baby showers: sheets, blankets, diaper bags, baby toys Wedding showers: usually small things for the kitchen
Birth of a baby	Clothes, toys, stuffed animals, things for the baby's room

It is usually the case that Americans open the gifts in the presence of their friends to show their thanks and interest.

在许多国家,人们送礼都有一定的规矩和礼仪,比如何时送礼,送什么样的礼品,因为什么原因而送礼等。下面是通常情况下需要送礼的场合和常见的礼品:

**送礼场合**

在别人家吃饭  
在别人家留宿

**常见礼品**

一瓶酒、一束鲜花或者糖果  
自己国家带来的特色工艺品,如花瓶、盘