

# AMERICAN EDUCATION

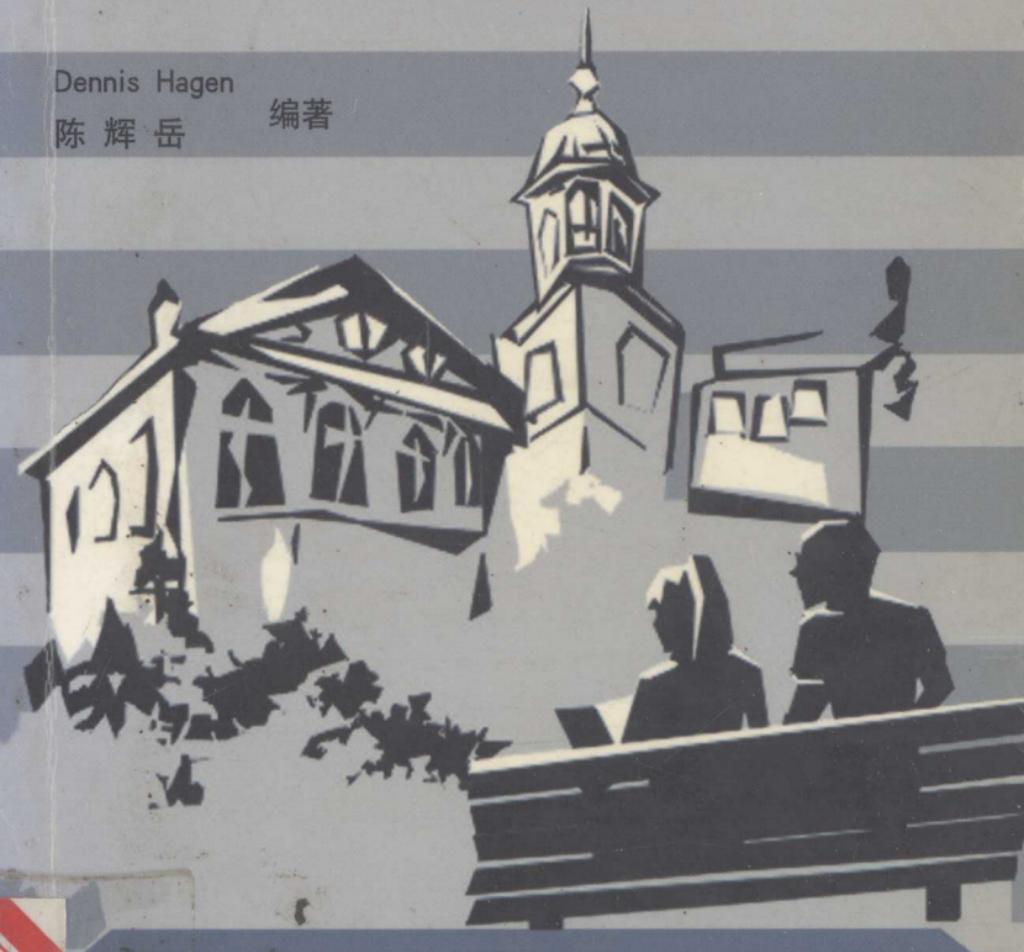
## 美国教育

# 小故事

Dennis Hagen

陈辉岳

编著



中学生英语文库

上海外语教育出版社

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### 小志



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The manuscript for *American Education* was typed by Zhang Ping of Wuhan University of Technology, Yu Jia Tou Campus. Final preparation and editing was by Janet Hagen, wife of the author.

The intense desire of the Chinese students who wish to explore every educational opportunity was the inspiration for writing this book. As they improve themselves for future careers, they will enjoy personal achievement, praise from their parents, and the pride of their country.

## **Forward**

One of the most important decisions in life is the choice of a university or college. In China, the best 100 universities have been identified so students know where all the best schools are in the country.

In America, the magazine called *U. S. News & World Report* produces an annual listing of more than 1,400 schools where students from around the world can know the best universities. You can imagine the difficulty of the editors in trying to compare all these schools with each other.

Each school is sent a questionnaire and 16 categories are compared. However, the schools have different missions so all universities and colleges are put into four different categories defined by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

The "national universities" offer a full range of undergraduate majors, masters and Ph. D. degrees as well as emphasizing faculty research.

The “national liberal arts colleges” are concerned mostly with only undergraduate education with 40 per cent of their degrees in the liberal arts. The “regional universities” have undergraduate and master’s degrees but few Ph. D. degrees. The “regional liberal arts colleges” focus on undergraduate programs.

The 50 best “national colleges” are listed in the appendix and the top six will be discussed in the first chapters of the book. If you want to research America’s Best Colleges, you should log on to the Internet at HYPERLINK <http://www.usnews.com>, or [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com).

Most Chinese students are interested in graduate programs so the “national universities” will be the emphasis of this text. However, the full story of American education is very diverse so a study of all levels of education and major fields will give you the full story of how Americans learn.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Dennis Hagen

## 前　　言

《美国教育小故事》(American Education)是继《美国文化小故事》(American Culture Stories)、《美国名人小故事》(Famous Americans)之后,我们为《中学生英语文库》(English Library for High School Students)编写的第三本书。本书有短文 58 篇,每篇长度约 400 词左右,从以下 5 个方面对美国的教育较系统地进行了简要的介绍:

(一) 美国大学的排名,并列举了几所最著名大学的情况。

(二) 美国大学本科的文、理、工、商、医、教育等各专业及研究生院的情况。

(三) 美国基础教育的托儿所、幼儿园、小学、初中、社区专科学院及特殊类型学校的概况,还特别介绍了图书馆在各级、各类学校中的重要作用。

(四) 美国大中小学的课外活动及主要活动内容。

(五) 美国教育、教学及教师的管理;学监及校长的产生及职责;学校经费的筹措、分配及教师收入等。

为帮助读者检查自己的理解程度,在每篇短文后附有三个理解测试题(Comprehension Check)。本书所用的词汇凡超出目前高中课本及高考英语词汇表的,均有中文注释并标出国际音标。本书共有生词、词

组 747 个(见所附词汇表),平均生词率为 3%。读者在听读本书的同时可熟悉并掌握有关教育方面的常用词语及专业术语。

教育部新颁布的《国家英语课程标准》,要求高中毕业生一门外语基本过关,在词汇量上普通高中毕业生应达到英语八级水平(3,000 词以上),重点学校、外语学校毕业生应达到九级水平(5,000 词)。由此可见,按课程标准的要求我们所标出的生词大部分都是高中生应该掌握的。为此,我们建议读者充分利用本书所提供的词汇来扩大词汇量,并在实践中积极运用,以适应形势发展的需要。

英语作为一门世界通用的语言,在 21 世纪信息技术迅猛发展的时代,其重要性已越来越明显。据统计世界上 80% 以上的网页是用英语制作的,因此可以说掌握英语就大大增强了掌握大量信息,参与国际竞争的能力,在未来的各种竞争中占有很大的优势。通晓英语已是 21 世纪青年人必须具备的一种基本素质。在此,我们期望广大读者通过听读本书来提高自己的英语水平,锻炼自己用英语直接获取信息的能力。

为本书配套的录音带由上海外语音像出版社制作出版。

2001 年 10 月 1 日  
陈辉岳于上海

## **CONTENTS**

<b>Famous Colleges .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1. University Study .....	3
2. Harvard .....	7
3. Yale .....	11
4. Princeton .....	15
5. Stanford .....	19
6. Massachusetts Institute of Technology .....	22
7. California Institute of Technology .....	26
8. George Fox University .....	30
<b>Humanities Majors .....</b>	<b>35</b>
9. American Studies .....	37
10. Anthropology and Sociology .....	41
11. Art .....	45
12. Asian Program .....	49
13. Communication .....	52
14. Criminal Justice .....	56
15. Drama or Theater .....	60
16. English .....	64

17. European Languages and Culture .....	68
18. History .....	71
19. Music .....	74
20. Philosophy and Religion .....	78
21. Political Science .....	81
22. Psychology .....	85
<b>Science Majors</b> .....	<b>89</b>
23. Biology .....	91
24. Botany .....	95
25. Chemistry .....	99
26. Geology .....	103
27. Mathematics .....	107
28. Physics .....	111
29. Zoology .....	115
<b>Special Majors</b> .....	<b>119</b>
30. Business .....	121
31. Education .....	124
32. Engineering .....	128
33. Medicine .....	132
34. Graduate School .....	135
<b>Schools through Community College</b> .....	<b>139</b>
35. Nursery School .....	141
36. Kindergarten .....	144
37. Elementary School .....	148
38. Middle School, Junior High and High School .....	151
39. The Library .....	154
40. Community College .....	157

41. Special Schools .....	160
<b>Extra-Curricular Activities .....</b>	<b>163</b>
42. Inter-school Athletics .....	165
43. Intramurals .....	168
44. Cheerleaders and Mascots .....	171
45. Choral Music .....	175
46. Instrumental Music — Band .....	179
47. Instrumental Music — The Orchestra ...	183
48. High School Drama .....	186
49. Children's Community Clubs .....	190
50. Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. ....	193
<b>Educational Administration .....</b>	<b>197</b>
51. State Superintendent .....	199
52. Local Superintendent .....	203
53. Principal, Vice Principal .....	206
54. Teachers .....	209
55. Practice Teaching and Salary of Teachers .....	212
56. Lesson Plans .....	215
57. An Educational Taxonomy .....	219
58. School Funding .....	223
<b>Answer Keys .....</b>	<b>227</b>
<b>Vocabulary .....</b>	<b>229</b>
<b>Appendix I Course Completion for Ele- mentary, Middle and High School</b> .....	<b>260</b>
<b>Appendix II Course Description for Uni- versity Students .....</b>	<b>263</b>
<b>Appendix III Evaluation and Testing</b>	

of Learning: Elementary School —	
University .....	266

<b>Appendix N 50 Famous Universities</b>	
<b>in the States .....</b>	<b>269</b>

# 目 录

<b>名牌大学</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1. 大学学习 .....	3
2. 哈佛 .....	7
3. 耶鲁 .....	11
4. 普林斯顿 .....	15
5. 斯坦福 .....	19
6. 麻省理工大学 .....	22
7. 加州理工大学 .....	26
8. 乔治·福克斯大学 .....	30
<b>人文专业</b> .....	<b>35</b>
9. 美国研究 .....	37
10. 人类学及社会学 .....	41
11. 艺术 .....	45
12. 亚洲研究 .....	49
13. 交际及演讲 .....	52
14. 犯罪审判 .....	56
15. 戏剧与剧院 .....	60
16. 英语 .....	64
17. 欧洲研究 .....	68
18. 历史 .....	71
19. 音乐 .....	74

20. 哲学 .....	78
21. 政治科学 .....	81
22. 心理学 .....	85
<b>理科专业 .....</b>	<b>89</b>
23. 生物学 .....	91
24. 植物学 .....	95
25. 化学 .....	99
26. 地质学 .....	103
27. 数学 .....	107
28. 物理学 .....	111
29. 动物学 .....	115
<b>特殊专业及研究生院 .....</b>	<b>119</b>
30. 商业 .....	121
31. 教育 .....	124
32. 工程 .....	128
33. 医学 .....	132
34. 研究生院 .....	135
<b>初级学校——社区专科 .....</b>	<b>139</b>
35. 托儿所 .....	141
36. 幼儿园 .....	144
37. 小学 .....	148
38. 初中及高中 .....	151
39. 图书馆 .....	154
40. 社区专科 .....	157
41. 特殊类型学校 .....	160
<b>课外活动 .....</b>	<b>163</b>
42. 校际体育活动 .....	165
43. 校内活动 .....	168
44. 啦啦队长 .....	171
45. 合唱音乐 .....	175
46. 器乐——管乐队 .....	179
47. 器乐——管弦乐队 .....	183

48. 高中戏剧.....	186
49. 儿童社区俱乐部.....	190
50. 男、女青年基督教会 .....	193
<b>教育管理及教师.....</b>	<b>197</b>
51. 州学监.....	199
52. 地方学监.....	203
53. 校长及副校长.....	206
54. 教师.....	209
55. 教学实习与薪金.....	212
56. 课堂计划.....	215
57. 布鲁姆的教育分类学.....	219
58. 学校资金的筹措.....	223
<b>答案 .....</b>	<b>227</b>
<b>词汇表 .....</b>	<b>229</b>
<b>附录 I 小学、初中及高中课程学习情况 .....</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>附录 II 大学生课程描述 .....</b>	<b>263</b>
<b>附录 III 学习的评估与测试:小学——大学 .....</b>	<b>266</b>
<b>附录 IV 美国五十所著名大学 .....</b>	<b>269</b>

## Famous Colleges

The name of a famous college on a student's graduation diploma guarantees a certain respect for that student in his or her future. The value of a superior education is inestimable which means it cannot be estimated. Someone has said that the choice of a college might be the most important choice in a student's career. It is the college that shapes the mind to strive for excellence and the better the college faculty, the better the college graduate.

The colleges in this book have each achieved a certain distinction based on a recent evaluation that is used for all American universities. The explanation of their curriculum strengths will be a guide for analysis of other universities in America.