



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

THEME SETS™

国家地理

英语阅读与写作训练丛书

Cultures and Celebrations

文化与庆典

[美] Greg Banks 著

适合



高中生及同等英语水平读者使用



北京大学出版社
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致读者

想在快乐阅读中轻松地提高英语写作能力吗？你会发现，这套《国家地理英语阅读与写作训练丛书》（National Geographic Theme Sets, 下称《丛书》）就是一个很好的选择。

《丛书》共14册，涵盖14个主题，每个主题下的4个相关小话题围绕着关键概念，按阅读和写作的易难程度，循序渐进地依次编排。《丛书》的“关键概念+递进阅读+任务型写作”的创新编排体例，帮助学生从培养语感和思维方式开始，在阅读过程中自然习得英语写作的规律和特点，从根本上提高学生的综合语言应用能力。此外，《丛书》紧贴高中英语教学的实际需要，在针对性和实用性方面有着无可比拟的优势：

第一，对生词进行注释。注释生词既为读者创造了猜词空间，也为读者快速查阅提供了方便，不至于被生词破坏了阅读的兴致。考虑到音标对单词记忆，以及培养学生朗读与口语能力的重要作用，我们对所有注释词汇都加注了国际音标。

第二，根据高中英语学习和高考写作的要求，对注释词汇进行三级分类。记忆词汇属于基础词汇，也是高分作文常用词汇，学习者要做到会写、会读、会听、会用；阅读进阶词汇是高中学生提高英语水平需要掌握的英语常用词汇，建议学习者经常使用，熟悉这类词汇有助于作文的表达；阅读参考词汇包括话题所涉及的专业词汇和非常用词汇，学习者了解即可，可以根据自己的实际情况各取所需。在编排中，记忆词汇在文中用加粗的字体表示。为了方便学生集中记诵，“阅读”板块的记忆词汇被放在每一个小话题的开篇页，“任务型写作”板块的记忆词汇则集中编排在书末。阅读进阶词汇和阅读参考词汇在文中分别用绿色和紫色字体表示，注释词条呈现在当前页上，以利于学生查阅。

第三，以丰富多样的主题和体裁系统地介绍了各类英语应用文的写作。写作从阅读开始，即首先了解优秀文章是什么样的。在阅读的基础上，《丛书》介绍了不同范文的体例特点和适用范围，其中包括记叙文、说明文等十几种常用作文体裁。同时，《丛书》以严谨的思路和清晰的操作步骤，把学生带进一个既有阶梯渐进的具体指引，又有充分创意空间的写作训练营。

第四，具有综合教学功能。由于在指导应用文写作方面的独特设计和精心编排，这套丛书不仅适合学生自学，更适用于课堂的写作教学。《丛书》的写作训练案例是英语教师写作教学中难能可贵的参考资料，可直接作为英语写作课程的辅助教材使用。

Try it! 你会发现，英语阅读原来可以这么轻松快乐，英语写作也不总是“头疼”、“痛苦”的代名词。

朱京力

中国人民大学附属中学
2005年6月

TEACHING NOTES

Theme Objectives

Cultures and Celebrations

Key Concepts

1. Every society has a way of life that people share. This way of life makes up its culture.
2. Culture and celebrations help create a sense of national identity among people.
3. Some parts of culture change, but modern and traditional activities can exist side by side.

Sections in the Theme

Mexico
Italy
Japan
Egypt

Literacy Objectives

Vocabulary

ancestor	symbol
celebration	traditional
culture	unity
dialect	value
national identity	work ethic
society	

Genre Study

Photo Essay

Visual Literacy

Comparison Chart

Research & Write

Create Your Own Photo Essay

Comprehension Focus

Making Inferences

Background Information

About the Theme

Cultures and Celebrations explains how groups of people from four different places – Mexico, Italy, Japan, and Egypt – have different ways of life, or cultures. While each section focuses on a different group of people, its values, traditions, clothing, food, and celebrations, the same key concepts are developed across all four sections to help students focus on the big ideas. The theme explores how

cultural practices bring people together. Students use the specific content and vocabulary within each section to discuss and examine these big ideas, or key concepts.

For more detailed teaching notes and assessment options, see the online Teacher's Guide at www.ngschoolpub.org



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Cultures and Celebrations

Culture is the way people in one group live that makes them different from other groups. Culture is made up of many different things. These include traditions, language, dress, **ceremonies**, and other ways of life that a group of people share. **Celebrations** are also an important part of culture. By looking at countries such as **Mexico**, Italy, Japan, and **Egypt**, you can see how cultural **practices** bring people together.



Key Concepts

1. Every society has a way of life that people share. This way of life makes up its culture.
2. Culture and celebrations help create a sense of national **identity** among people.
3. Some parts of culture change, but modern and **traditional** activities can exist side by side.

阅读参考词汇

Mexico /meksɪkəʊ/
n. 墨西哥
Egypt /'i:dʒɪpt/
n. 埃及

记忆词汇

add /æd/ v. 加
celebration /,selɪ'breɪʃən/
n. 庆祝
ceremony /'serɪməni/ n. 仪式
costume /'kɒstjəm/ n. 服装
flat /flæt/ n. 扁平的

flavor /'fleɪvə/ n. 味道
identity /aɪ'dentɪti/ n. 认同
practice /'præktɪs/ n. 习俗
religion /rɪ'lɪdʒən/
n. 宗教, 信仰
replace /rɪ'pleɪs/ v. 取代

stand for 代表
style /stɑɪl/ n. 式样
suit /su:t/ v. 适合
traditional /trə'dɪʃənəl/
adj. 传统的
value /'vælju:/ n. 价值观

In this section you will learn about the customs and celebrations that make up the culture of Mexico.



The Culture of Mexico

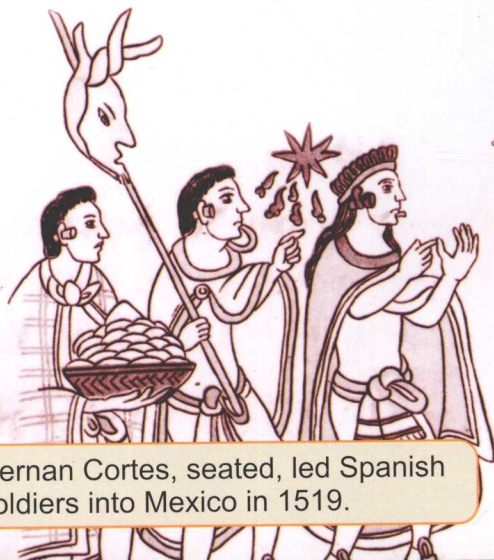


Step into Mexico. What do you see? You see people that are a mix of **Spanish** and Mexican Indian. You may see children playing soccer or **marbles**. Listen to the children speak. You hear mostly Spanish, but also Mexican Indian languages. Can you see churches? Most Mexicans are **Roman Catholic**, but some follow other **religions**. Look and listen. What else can you see and hear?

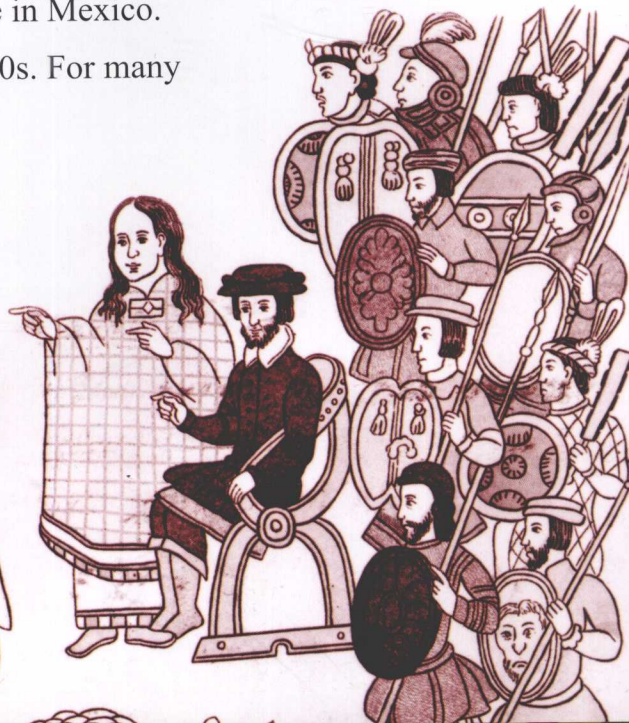
阅读参考词汇

marble /'mɑ:bəl/
n. 弹球游戏
Roman Catholic
罗马天主教
Spanish /'spæniʃ/
n. 西班牙人

People have lived in Mexico for a very long time. Mexican Indians were the first people in Mexico. Then Spanish people came in the 1500s. For many years, Mexico was ruled by Spain.



Hernan Cortes, seated, led Spanish soldiers into Mexico in 1519.



Mexico Today

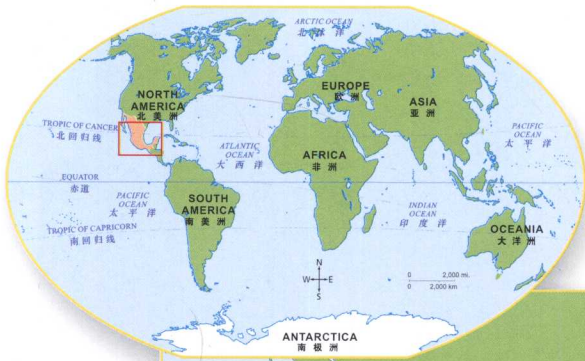
Mexico is a country in North America. Its people have a way of life that mixes the past with the present.

Some parts of this way of life come from Mexican Indian groups. Some parts of this way of life come from the Spanish.

阅读进阶词汇

locate
/ləu'keɪt/ v. 位于

Look at the map below. It shows you where Mexico is **located**.



Mexico 墨西哥



Key 图例

- some major cities
部分主要城市



Key Concept 1 Every society has a way of life that people share. This way of life makes up its culture.

Societies and Their Cultures

Every society has its own way of life, or culture. Some parts of culture are easy to see. You can see how people dress and what they eat.

Others are not so easy to see. You cannot see what people believe. You cannot always see what their **values** are.



These girls are dressed in traditional Mexican dancing **costumes**.

Mexican Food

Have you ever eaten a **tortilla**? A tortilla (tore-tee-yuh) is a **flat** bread made of corn meal or wheat flour. Tortillas are a food that is part of Mexican culture.

Frijoles (free-hoh-les), or beans, are another important food in Mexico. Frijoles can be eaten with tortillas or alone. Mexicans often **add** **spices** to frijoles.



Chilies are an important **flavor** in Mexican food.

阅读进阶词汇

chili /'tʃɪli/ *n.* 红辣椒
spice /spaɪs/ *n.* 香料

阅读参考词汇

frijole /'fri:həʊl/
n. 菜豆
taco /tɑ:kəʊ/
墨西哥玉米薄卷饼
tortilla /tɔ:'ti:jə/
n. 玉米粉圆饼

Meat and vegetables can be wrapped in a wheat-flour tortilla to make a **taco**.



This woman is cooking tortillas made of corn meal.



Mexican Values

Spending time with family and friends is important to Mexicans. This is one of their values. Mexican people like to invite guests to their homes. It is a sign of friendship. Mexicans like to say, “*Mi casa es tu casa.*” This means, “My house is your house.”

阅读进阶词汇

occasion

/ə'keɪʒən/

n. 场合, 时刻



Family and friends enjoy celebrating special **occasions** together.



Key Concept 2 Culture and celebrations help create a sense of national identity among people.

Culture and National Identity

Certain things bring the people of Mexico together.

One of these things is the Mexican flag. Other things are Mexican art and language. Celebrations also bring Mexicans together. These things give the people a national identity.

阅读进阶词汇

bravery /'breɪvəri/

n. 勇敢

purity /'pjʊərɪti/

n. 纯净, 纯洁

remind (of) 使... 意识到

stripe /straɪp/ *n.* 条纹

Flag

The colors of the Mexican flag **stand for** values that are important to Mexicans. The green **stripe** stands for hope and victory. It **reminds** Mexicans of their fight with Spain to be a free country. The white stripe stands for the **purity** of Mexico's values. The red stripe stands for the **bravery** of Mexico's national heroes.



Military band performing in the Zocalo, Mexico city, Mexico.

Art

Mexico's art is an important part of its culture. People in Mexico have made **pottery** for thousands of years. They often paint their pottery with bright **patterns**.

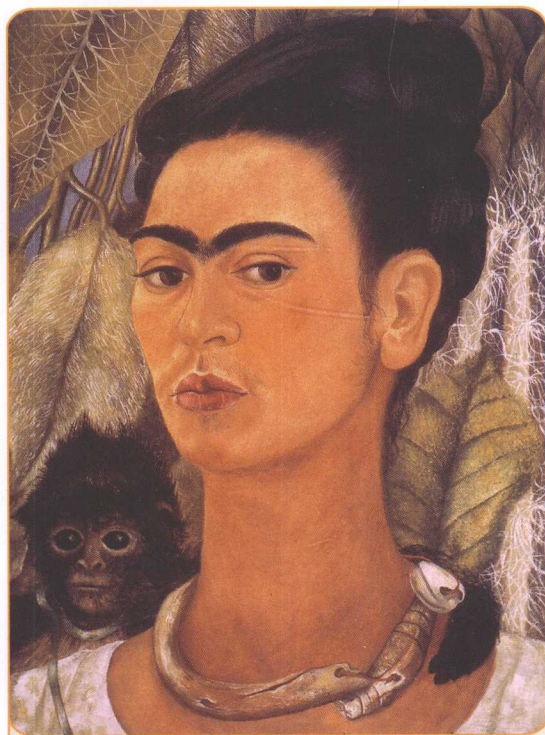
Do you know what a **mural** is? A mural is a large painting on a wall. One of Mexico's most famous artists was Diego Rivera. He lived from 1886 to 1957. Rivera painted murals about Mexican life. His wife, Frida Kahlo, was also a well-known Mexican painter.



A Mayan plate made in Mexico more than 1,000 years ago



Mexican artist Diego Rivera painted this mural in Mexico City.



Frida Kahlo painted this **portrait** of herself in the 1930s.

阅读进阶词汇

pattern /'pætən/ *n.* 图案
portrait /'pɔ:trɪt/ *n.* 肖像

阅读参考词汇

mural /'mjʊərəl/ *n.* 壁画
pottery /'pɒtəri/ *n.* 陶器

Music

Music is important in Mexican culture. Have you ever heard a *mariachi band*? Mariachis are men who sing. They also play guitars, *trumpets*, and violins. Mariachis often wear *frilly* shirts and hats called *sombreros* when they play. Mariachi bands are a colorful part of Mexican culture.

阅读参考词汇

frilly /'frɪli/ *adj.* 镶褶边的
mariachi band
墨西哥流浪乐队
sombrero /sɒm'breərəʊ/
(墨西哥男子的) 阔边草帽
trumpet /'trʌmpɪt/ *n.* 喇叭

Language

Spanish is the official language of Mexico. Most Mexicans speak Spanish every day. However, many Mexicans speak Mexican Indian languages as well as Spanish. These languages are all part of Mexico's culture and national identity.



A mariachi band plays for dancers in a park.

Celebrations

Mexican people have many national celebrations that stand for their values. One of these is the Day of the Dead. On this day, Mexicans remember their **ancestors** and other relatives who have died. Often, the Mexican people build **altars** for this celebration. An altar is a **platform** on which food, flowers, and other objects are placed. Then family members gather together to honor their dead ancestors.

阅读进阶词汇

ancestor /'ænsəstə/
n. 祖先
firework /'faɪəwɜ:k/
n. 焰火
parade /pə'reɪd/
n. 游行
platform /'plætfɔ:m/
n. 平台

阅读参考词汇

altar /'ɔ:lteɪ/
n. 祭坛
skeleton /'skelɪtən/
n. 骷髅

Cinco de Mayo is a celebration about Mexican history.

Cinco de Mayo celebrates a Mexican victory over the French in 1862. Today, people celebrate *Cinco de Mayo* with **parades** and **fireworks**. They sometimes wear costumes and act out the Mexican victory.



Toy **skeletons** made for the Day of the Dead