

Housing 住房

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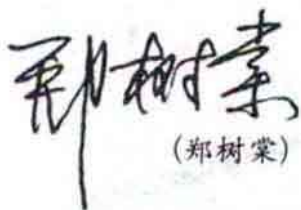
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序 言

英语学习，除了在课堂内下工夫外，课外的阅读也很重要。课外除了读文学类的文章，也要读一些非文学类的文章。这套“小书”就是非文学类的文章，涉及文学以外的许多领域和学科。每本书都由一两个相关的主题构成，图文并茂，融知识性和可读性于一体。这些“小书”谈到的很多东西都和我们的日常生活息息相关；更重要的是“小书”体现了人类要与自然和谐发展的思想，这与我们社会和时代的发展是吻合的。读一些这方面的书不仅有利于学生提高英语水平，拓宽自己的视野，也符合当今大学生要全面发展的要求。在“复合型”人才越来越受重视的今天，我很乐意向大学生朋友推荐这套“小书”。

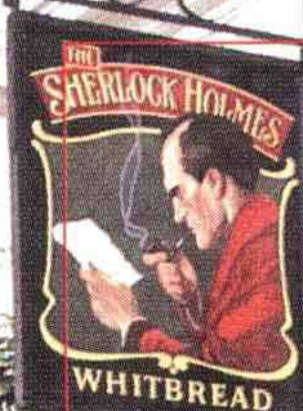


(郑树棠)

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Introduction

A large number of people throughout the world do not have safe and healthy places to live. The groups of people without adequate housing differ from country to country. In the United States a surprising number of the homeless are unmarried women with children. Poverty, privilege, unemployment, mental health, age, and ethnic discrimination all play a role everywhere in the world when it comes to government policy and consumer preference in housing. An understanding of local cultural conditions as well as environmental planning contributes to good public policy on housing.



THE SHERLOCK HOLMES

LOUNGE

Prepared
by
Mrs
BLOSSOM
PANTRY

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Housing

住房

Housing includes the assembly of materials to make a structure that can be inhabited. Housing fulfills a broad range of functions. Distinctions can be made between functions for users and producers of housing. Users have several needs. A good house should provide shelter from the cold, heat, rain,



and other uncomfortable climatic conditions. It should offer protection from intruders as well. Good housing provides access to neighbors, friends, and relatives through its location. It also provides access to jobs, shops, and community facilities and services that support the household's activities.



住房是指把建筑材料集中在一起，建成一座可以住人的建筑物。住房有许多功能，而对于居住者和建造者来说，其功能存在差异。居住者有几种需求。首先，一所好的住房应该能够将严寒、酷热、风雨及其他不利的气候状况隔绝在外。此外，它应能保护居住者，拒入侵者于门外。好

的住房选址也是有讲究的，
要能为居住者拜访邻居、走
亲访友提供便利，而且离工
作场所、周边商店以及各类
社区服务设施也不远。





Housing producers are typically concerned with the cost of building houses. This is particularly so in market systems such as those found in the United States, Canada, Australia, and Japan. In these systems, developers, builders, real estate agencies, lending institutions, and others try to profit from the construction of houses. Because of the driving profit motive in this industry, certain groups of people find it difficult—if not impossible—to attain adequate housing.

住房建造者主要关心的是房子的造价。对于美国、加拿大、澳大利亚和日本这样一些实行市场经济体制的国家来说更是如此。在这些市场体系

里，开发商、建筑商、房地产商、贷款机构等各方均希望通过盖房子获利。正是由于这个行业获利动机的驱使，一些群体才觉得很难或根本无法拥有合适的住房。

Providing housing for people has rarely been a high priority for governments. More often, governments treat housing as a tool to attain other public policy objectives that are considered more important. The construction of houses has an effect on national economies, for example, because it can be a powerful tool to influence levels of unemployment and inflation. Industrialized countries initiated house building schemes for economic development following World War II. The aim was to create



and strengthen consumer demand, as well as direct it.

为老百姓提供住房很少是政府优先考虑的问题。更多情况下，政府只是把解决住房问题看作实现其他更重要的公共政策目标的一种手段。住房建设对国民经济是有影响的。比方说，它对失业和通货膨胀水平来说就是很重要的影响因素。第二次世界大战后，工业化国家为了发展经济，开始进行住房建设规划，旨在创造、加强和引导消费者的需求。

Governments have also used housing as a tool in population-related policies.





These policies have included plans to redistribute populations of people. Such plans have been pursued in Great Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, Israel, Egypt, Tanzania, India, Cuba, often as part of broad strategies for the development of cities and regions. One reason behind these efforts has been to prevent overurbanization—unwanted urban growth. They have also been enacted to protect scarce farmland and for various



other reasons. Attempts have also been made to bring different population groups together through housing policies. In the United States in the 1950s there were limited attempts made to bring blacks and whites together. In other countries, housing has been used as an instrument of government control to stop dissent. In South Africa it was used to enforce apartheid—government sponsored racial discrimination.

政府还把住房作为实施人口政策的工具。这些政策中包括重新进行人口分布。英国、荷兰、瑞典、以色列、埃及、坦桑尼亚、印度、古巴都曾实施过重新分布人口的

计划。这一计划往往是城市和地区发展大战略的组成部分。努力实施这一计划的原因之一在于防止过度城市化，也就是不必要的城市增长。此外，实施这一计划也是为了保护稀缺的农田资源以及达到其他各种目的。有些国家也曾经努力通过住房政策把不同种族的群体融合到一起。20世纪50年代，美国曾为了让白人和黑人住到一起而进行了有限的尝试。在其他一些国家，住房政策曾是政府用来压制人民不满情绪的一种工具。在南非，住房曾被用来强化种族隔离制度——一种由政府支持的种族歧视。



Evolution of Housing Provision

住房供给的演变



Before the Industrial Revolution in the nineteenth century, house builders had close relationships with their materials and building techniques. This is still the case in many parts of the less industrialized world. Builders usually lived within the houses they produced and changed them as needed.