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《美英报刊阅读教程》 学习辅导

MEI YING BAO KAN YUE DU JIAO CHENG XUE XI FU DAO

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《美英报刊阅读教程》

学习辅导

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前 言

由端木义万教授主编,南京大学出版社出版发行的《美英报刊阅读教程》深受读者的厚爱。多年来畅销不衰,已重印 12 次。该书编排精良,语言考究,经典文章较多,是高校广大师生外刊阅读的首选教材。但在多年的使用过程中,我们发现:由于文章取材于原版美英报刊,语言表达及词汇用法均是原汁原味,理解起来难度稍大。如果对相关的文化背景缺乏了解,那么文章的内涵就更加费解了。针对这种情况,应广大师生的要求,在端木义万教授的倡议、指导下,我们编写了《美英报刊阅读教程》学习辅导一书,以满足广大读者的要求。

全书每一课共分五个部分:

Part A Additional Background Information

本部分我们在查阅了大量有价值的相关资料的基础上,增加了相关的语言文化背景知识,内容丰富,选材考究,可读性强,具有较高的参考价值。

Part B Difficult Words & Phrases

本部分针对课文中出现的生涩难懂、且在特定语言环境下具有特殊含义的词汇及短语给出了中、英文释义,以帮助读者更准确地把握它们的意思。

Part C Additional Notes to the Text

本部分针对课文中结构复杂、且容易产生歧义的句子,首先翻译成中文,尔后进行分析注释,以帮助读者忠实地把握原文的含义。

Part D Outline of the Article

本部分对文章的篇章结构进行综合分析,给出段落大意,使读者清晰明了,一看便知,能够更好地把握文章的中心意思。

Part E Answers to the Questions

本部分针对课后提出的问题,给出了简洁、明确的答案,以帮助读者更好地理解全文的意思。

我们深信,随着这本书的出版发行,读者能够更好、更准确地学习掌握《美英报刊阅读教程》的每一篇文章,也会更加喜爱《美英报刊阅读教程》这本书。同时,我们深知自己的水平有限,在编写过程中,我们对原文的理解还有一定的差距,难免出现一些错误,恳请广大读者批评指正。

最后,我们特别感谢端木义万教授,在百忙中抽出时间对本书逐字逐句认真审校,付出了很大心血。对端木义万教授严谨的治学作风,我们深表钦佩。同时,南京大学出版社对本书的出版发行给予了大力支持,在此我们表示诚挚的谢意。

编著者
2002 年 7 月

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1

Uncle Sam's Islands

Part A Additional Background Information

1. Uncle Sam

Uncle Sam, nickname and cartoon image used to personify the U. S. government. It is derived from the initials U. S. and was first popularized on supply containers during the War of 1812. The first visual representation or caricature of an Uncle Sam figure, attired in stars and stripes, appeared in political cartoons in 1832. The character came to be seen as a shrewd Yankee, possibly after the character Brother Jonathan in the play *The Contrast* (1787) by Royall Tyler. In the 20th century Uncle Sam has usually been depicted with a tall, thin man having a white beard and wearing a blue swallow-tailed coat, red-and-white-striped trousers, and a tall hat with a band of stars. In 1961 the U. S. Congress adopted the figure as a national symbol. Now when people say Uncle Sam, it may mean: the first is the U. S. government personified; the second is the America or the American people and the United States of America.

2. Introduction to the United States of America

History: It is the story of how the republic developed from colonial beginnings in the 16th century, when the first European explorers arrived, until modern times. The 13 colonies they founded along the eastern seaboard became the United States in the late 18th century. As the nation developed, it expanded westward from small settlements along the Atlantic Coast, eventually including all the territory between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans across the middle of the North American continent, as well as two noncontiguous states and a number of territories.

People: The United States began as an immigrant society, and it has continued to be a mingling of immigrants ever since. Even Native Americans, the first people to live in North America descended from people who arrived from Asia many thousands of years ago. Since 1820, 63 million immigrants have arrived in the United States. The population of the United States has grown continuously, from 4 million at the first national census in 1790, to 63 million in 1890, to 250 million in 1990. The estimated U. S. population for the year 2001 is 278 058 880, third in the world behind China and India. Nearly 5 percent of the earth's inhabitants live in the United States. Only 6 percent of Americans in the 1990 census

reported spoke little or no English.

Geography: The United States of America is a federal republic on the continent of North America. It has an area of 9 629 047 sq km (3 717 796 sq mi) and is the third largest country in the world after Russia and Canada. The United States consists of 48 contiguous states and the noncontiguous states of Alaska and Hawaii. Each state has a capital, which is the center of the state government. The 50 U. S. states vary widely in size and population. The largest state in area is Alaska at 1 593 438 sq km (615 230 sq mi), followed by Texas, and California. The smallest state is Rhode Island, with an area of 3,188 sq km (1 231 sq mi). The state with the largest population is California (33 871 648 in 2000), followed by Texas, and New York. Only 493 782 people (in 2000) live on the plateaus and rugged mountains of Wyoming, the least populous state. Each state is subdivided into counties, with the exception of Louisiana, where comparable political units are called parishes. In addition, the United States includes a number of outlying areas, such as the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States, which are located on the Caribbean Sea, and the islands of American Samoa and Guam, located in the Pacific Ocean. The national capital is Washington D. C., located along the banks of the Potomac River between the states of Maryland and Virginia.

Part B Difficult Words & Phrases

1. **dot v.** to scatter 星罗棋布于, 散布
2. **wince v.** to shrink or draw back slightly, as in pain, embarrassment, etc. 失态, 发颤, 畏缩(因疼痛)
3. **palpable a.** that can be felt physically or touched; clear to the mind 摸得出的, 容易感觉到的, 明显可知的
4. **resemble v.** (not in progressive or passive) to be similar to 相似, 类似
5. **vote for** to elect or dismiss someone by voting 投票(赞成)
6. **thrive on** to enjoy or be successful in conditions that other people, businesses etc find difficult or unpleasant 成功
7. **stick with** to stay close to someone 忠于
8. **rankle v.** to upset or annoy a lot 恼火
9. **assimilate v.** to think about new ideas, information etc. so that you feel ready to use them or to take food 吸收, 接纳(新思想、新文化等)

Part C Additional Notes to the Text

1. Their citizens are a diverse bunch; Caribbean blacks, Latin Americans, Pacific islanders, mainland expatriates, in all a little under 4m people. (LL1-2, Para. 2, P1) 岛屿上的居民多种多样(加勒比人、南美人、太平洋岛民、还有来自美国大陆的

- 移民),总数接近四百万人。
2. As empires go, this is a democratic one. (L1, Para. 3, P1) 与一般的帝国制度相比,美国岛屿帝国还是民主的。
 ★ as; as far as... be concerned
3. To varying degrees, each possession answers to a branch of the federal government in Washington D. C., and is subject to American laws. (LL3-5, Para. 3, P1) 每一属地都不同程度地成为华盛顿特区联邦政府的一个分支(州),并受美国法律的约束。
 ★ answer to sb/sth: to give an explanation to someone, especially about something that you have done wrong (向某人或对某物)解释
 ★ be subject to: to be dependent on something else 受支配的;隶属于
4. Harder to put figures on, but no less palpable, is the economic benefit of being American. (LL1-2, Para. 3, P2) 作为美国人,(他们)所获得的经济利益很难用数字来衡量,这是有目共睹的。
 ★ 此句为倒装句,正常语序应该是: The economic benefit of being American is harder to put figures on, but no less palpable.
5. The Virgin Islands' GNP per head (\$ 9,750 in 1986) is four times that of independent Antigua and Barbuda nearby. (LL6-7, Para. 3, P2) 维尔京群岛的人均国民生产总值(\$ 9,750, 1986年)是邻近独立的安提瓜岛和巴布达岛的四倍。
6. St Thomas and St Croix, also beautiful, are daiquiri-fuelled, yacht-clogged playgrounds for wealthy Americans. (LL5-6, Para. 2, P3) 圣托玛斯和圣克罗伊克斯也很漂亮,那儿酒香飘逸,快艇云集,是富有的美国人的娱乐天堂。
 ★ Daiquiri: iced drink 代基里酒
 ★ clog: to become blocked 堵塞;妨碍
7. The islands have next to no natural resources beyond their beauty and climate. (L1, Para. 3, P3) 这些岛屿(维尔京群岛)除了风景秀丽、气候宜人外,没有任何自然资源。
 ★ next to: almost 几乎,差不多
8. Among the issues that rankle is Guam's inclusion in the protectionist Jones Act, which requires that American ships be used between American ports. (LL3-4, Para. 8, P3) 使关岛人感到恼火的其中一件事就是美国把关岛纳入其保护主义的《琼斯法案》的影响范畴,按照此法案,美国船只可在任何港口停靠。
 ★ rankle: to cause lasting bitterness or resentment 恼火

Part D Outline of the Article

Part 1 (Para. 1): Nature of the islands

Part 2 (Para. 2): Total population and size of the islands

Part 3 (Para. 3): Political status of the islands

Part 4 (Paras. 4-8): Overall feelings of the colonials

1. Showing little enthusiasm over independence
2. Contented with economic benefits

Part 5 (Paras. 9—10): Puerto Rico

Part 6 (Paras. 11—13): The Virgin Islands

Part 7 (Paras. 14—16): Samoa

Part 8 (Paras. 17—19): Guam

Part 9 (Paras. 20—22): The Northern Marianas Islands

Part 10 (Paras. 23—25): Washington D. C.

Part E Answers to the Questions

1. The people on those islands enjoy the rights of American citizenship including the rights to live and work on the mainland and the economic benefits.
2. On Virgin Islands, people drive on the left and in America on the right.
3. The economy of tourism brings the Virgin Islands the greatest benefit.
4. American Samoa is the least assimilated.
5. Tiny Wake Island, a place where America's day begins.
6. The Northern Marianas have had a long colonial history. The Spanish held them for 300 years. Then in 1898, Germany took over the islands. After WWI, they were entrusted to Japan. Finally in 1945, they became an American trust territory.
7. Japanese. Because plenty of Japanese visit here every year.
8. The people in the District of Columbia can vote for the federal president (and pay federal taxes).

2

The Wild West's Legacy of Shame

Part A Additional Background Information

1. Removal Act of 1830

The Indian Removal Act was passed in May 1830; it empowered the president of the United States to move eastern Native Americans west of the Mississippi, to what was then "Indian Territory" (now essentially Oklahoma). Although it was supposed to be voluntary, removal became mandatory whenever the federal government felt it necessary. The memory of these brutal forced marches of Native Americans, sometimes in the dead of winter, remained vivid for years to come in the minds of those who survived.

2. The History of American Indians

Native Americans are the peoples who are indigenous to the Americas. They also have been known as American Indians. The name Indian was first applied to them by Christopher Columbus, who believed mistakenly that the mainland and islands of America were part of the Indies, in Asia.

Chickasaw 契卡索人(美国马斯科吉印第安人一个部落成员), Native North American tribe of the Muskogean linguistic family, closely related to the Choctaw. They formerly occupied what are now northern Mississippi and the adjacent parts of Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama. The Chickasaw, who lived in dwellings constructed alongside streams and rivers rather than in villages, obtained food by hunting, fishing, and farming. Originally they were a warlike people, controlling a large territory and raiding nearby tribes such as the Choctaw, Creek, Cherokee, and Shawnee. Conquered people of other tribes, as well as some African American slaves, were absorbed into the Chickasaw tribe.

Throughout the colonial period the Chickasaw supported the English against the French, who tried unsuccessfully to subdue them. During the American Revolution (1775—1783), the Chickasaw gave support to the British Army. Afterward the Chickasaw established friendly relations with the new nation. In the early 19th century the Chickasaw ceded most of their territory to the United States in various treaties. In the 1830s the entire 5000-member tribe was forcibly relocated to Indian Territory (now Oklahoma). There they set up a system of self-government modeled on that of the United States; because of this system they were included as one of the so-called Five Civilized Tribes. When Oklahoma was

made a state in 1907, new settlers flooded Chickasaw lands. In 1990 the Chickasaw and their descendants numbered 20 631.

It is estimated that at the time of first European contact, North and South America was inhabited by more than 90 million people; about 10 million in America north of present-day Mexico; 30 million in Mexico; 11 million in Central America; 445 000 in the Caribbean islands; 30 million in the South American Andean region; and 9 million in the remainder of South America. These population figures are a rough estimate (some authorities cite much lower figures); exact figures are impossible to ascertain. When colonists began keeping records, the Native American populations had been drastically reduced by war, famine, forced labor, and epidemics of diseases introduced through contact with Europeans.

Part B Difficult Words & Phrases

1. **color** *vt.* to influence 影响
2. **stuff** *n.* the basic matter of which a thing consists 资料, 内容
3. **dark** *adj.* hopeless; sad 无希望的, 悲伤的
4. **desensitize** *vt.* to render insensitive or less sensitive 使无情, 使麻木不仁
5. **momentum** *n.* (*fig. , of events*) impetus gained by movement 趋势, 趋向
6. **outnumber** *vt.* to be greater in number than 比……多
7. **reprisal** *n.* (常用复数) acts of retaliation, esp. of one country on another during a war 报复行为
8. **admonish** *vt.* to give a mild warning or a gentle reproof to 告诫, 劝告
9. **enlightened** *adj.* free from ignorance, prejudice, superstition 文明的, 开明的
10. **relentless** *adj.* without pity, cruel 不留情的, 残忍的
11. **exempt** *vt.* to free (from an obligation) 使免除
12. **ratify** *vt.* to confirm (an agreement) by signature or other formality 批准
13. **quintessential** *adj.* 典型的
14. **romanticize** *v.* to make an event sound more romantic by adding interesting and exciting details 使浪漫化, 使传奇化
15. **encroachment** *n.* sth gained by encroaching 侵占, 蚕食
16. **fragile** *adj.* easily broken 脆弱的
17. **valiant** *adj.* brave 勇猛的
18. **ruthlessness** *n.* being cruel 无情的
19. **bloodthirsty** *adj.* cruel and eager to take life 残忍的
20. **remnant** *n.* small part that remains 剩余物, 剩余
21. **wither** *vt.* to (cause to) become dry, faded 枯萎, 凋零
22. **bountiful** *adj.* bounteous 慷慨的
23. **exalt** *vt.* to make greater in power or dignity 提高地位
24. **genocide** *n.* extermination of a race or community by mass murder 种族灭绝

25. **discharge** *v.* to fire a gun 开(炮), 放(枪)
26. **brave** *n.* a warrior of a North American Indian tribe 北美印第安部落的勇士, 斗士

Part C Additional Notes to the Text

- Certainly, America's western expansion was in many ways an epic of courage and endurance. (LL1-2, Para. 2, P8) 当然, 美国西扩在很多方面都可以说是一部勇气和耐力的史诗。
★ in many ways: 在许多方面
- In the early days of settlement along the Atlantic shore the colonists and the Indians got along together. Their ways of life were different, but there was room for both. (LL1-2, Para. 4, P8) 初期大西洋沿岸的殖民者还能与土著印第安人和睦相处。尽管双方的生活方式不同, 但双方拥有足够的空间。
★ get along: to manage 过活, 生活; 融洽相处
- The various tribes were often confederations or nations, and at first, the new settlers treated them as independent powers. (LL1-2, Para. 5, P8) 不同的部落常常结为同盟或国家, 刚开始时, 新的移居者还把它们看成独立的国家。
- "We are more enlightened and more powerful than the Indian nations. It behooves our honor to treat them with kindness and even generosity." (LL3-4, Para. 9, P8) "我们比印第安人更文明、更强大, 为了我们的荣誉, 我们对他们要仁慈甚至要慷慨相待。"
★ behoove: (主语用 it) 对(某人)说来应该(做)
- The white man's concept of land ownership was alien to the Indians. (L1, Para. 11, P8) 白种人拥有土地的观念与印第安人拥有土地的观念是完全不同的。
★ be alien to: 与……相反的
- None were to be exempted—even those tribes who had made an effort to learn the white man's ways were forced to move. (LL1-2, Para. 3, P9) 没有人能幸免——甚至那些曾努力学习白种人的生活方式的部落也被迫迁徙。
★ make an effort to do sth: 努力做某事
★ be forced to do sth: 被迫做某事
- One in four Cherokees died during the forced winter migration along what become known as the "Trail of Tears". (LL2-3, Para. 4, P9) 在强制性的冬季迁徙途中, 有四分之一的彻罗基人死去了, 这条迁徙之道就是世人皆知的“泪水之路”。
- The Plains tribes were the quintessential storybook Indians—proud, fierce, magnificent horsemen, skillful hunters and fearless warriors. (LL1-2, Para. 8, P9) 大平原上的部落居民是故事书中描述的典型的印第安人——他们自豪、强悍、马术精湛、猎术高超、骁勇善战。
- Yet most still choose to live apart, preserving what they can of their way of life.

(L1, Para. 7, P 10) 然而大多数印第安人还是喜欢分开居住,他们尽可能保留他们自己的生活方式。

10. The bountiful and practically empty New World had ample room for both peoples to work out their differences peacefully. (LL1-2, Para. 8, P10) 丰足空旷的“新世界”对双方都有足够的领土,彼此纷争就可以通过和平的方式解决。

★ work out: 解决

Part D Outline of the Article

Part 1 (Paras. 1—7): Two different views on the Westward March

1. An epic of courage and endurance
2. A bitter tale of misunderstanding, greed and betrayal

Part 2 (Paras. 8—18): Indians' sufferings at the hands of the colonists

1. Used as pawns in the white colonists' internecine wars
2. Cheated out of the land ownership
3. Driven into ever-shrinking reservations
4. Deceived by colonists' promises and treaties

Part 3 (Paras. 19—21): Indians' reaction to the maltreatment

1. Repeated concessions
2. Resisting when cornered

Part 4 (Paras. 22—28): Evaluation of the Indian War

1. Hollywood's portrayal: a valiant struggle
2. Author's view: a vicious war

Part 5 (Paras. 29—31): Present conditions of the Indians

1. Confined to reservations
2. Loss of identities of many tribes
3. Living in isolation and desperation

Part 6 (Paras. 32—38): Principles that should have been observed in treating Indians

1. Lofty principles of freedom and justice
2. Principle of righteousness

Part E Answers to the Questions

1. America's western expansion was in many ways an epic of courage and endurance. Dogged pioneers opened up new territory and forged a nation from the wilderness.
2. The Westward Movement was a sad, bitter tale of misunderstanding, greed and betrayal to the Indians.
3. The Indians and the colonists in the early days of their settlement got along together. Their ways of life were different, but there was room for both.

4. They became pawns in the white man's struggle to control North America. Those who found themselves on the losing side suffered reprisals by the victors.
5. No, the Indians were not treated kindly as advised by George Washington. They were exploited, forced from their homelands by the relentless European expansion.
6. The Indian Removal Act of 1830 gave the president power to relocate all the Eastern Indian tribes west of the Mississippi.
7. No, the white colonists did not observe the act strictly.
8. At first, the Plains Indians tried to accommodate the relentless encroachment on their hunting rounds.
9. To the mind of the author, the real heroes were those voices of reason on both sides who tried to stop the bloodshed.
No, I do not agree with him. There are two kinds of wars... a just war and an unjust war. Indians' resistance was a just struggle in defending their land and property.
10. It is unfortunate that the conquest of the Wild West is universally regarded as a glorious saga of courage and opportunity. It was rather, just another sad, violent chapter in the long history of man's inability to share with, cooperate with and love his neighbor as himself.

3

A Lot of Rubbish

Part A Additional Background Information

1. Pollution in the United States

Although the United States has only 5.5% population of the total in the world, this country has been using up 28% energy of the world. It is reported that the USA produces rubbish occupying the first place in the developed countries. So the central government of the USA and states have passed the following main laws: *Water Pollution Control Act* (1948), *Water Quality Act* (1965), *Natural Environmental Policy* (1970), *Clean Air Act* (1970. 11), *Noise Control Act* (1972).

2. The Explosion of Cities

After millennia of growth so slow that each generation hardly noticed it, the cities are suddenly racing off in every direction. The world population goes up by two per cent a year, city population goes up by four percent a year, but in the big cities the race may be as much as five and six percent a year. There is no reason to believe that this pace will slacken. As technology gradually swallows up all forms of work, industrial and agricultural, the rural areas are going to shrink, just as they have shrunk in the United States, and the vast majority of their people will move into the city. This enormous increase will go ahead whatever we do, and we have to remember that the new cities devour space.

Part B Difficult Words & Phrases

1. **refuse** *n.* waste or worthless material 垃圾, 废物
2. **affluence** *n.* wealth 富裕
3. **contentious** *adj.* likely to cause contention 可能引起争议的
4. **skyrocketing** *adj.* 猛涨的, 飞涨的
5. **landfill** *n.* 掩埋式垃圾处理场
6. **mandatory** *adj.* of covering a command, compulsory 强制性的, 必须履行的
7. **haul** *vt.* to pull (with effort or force) 拖, 拉
8. **shred** *vt.* to tear or scrape into pieces 撕扯成碎片
9. **debris** *n.* scattered broken pieces; wreckage 散乱的碎片

10. **harbinger** *n.* sb or sth that foretells the coming of sb or sth 先驱,前兆
 11. **ubiquitous** *adj.* present everywhere or in several places at the same 无所不在的
 12. **polyester** *n.* 多元酯纤维
 13. **hike** *vt.* to raise (prices, etc.) 使……上涨

Part C Additional Notes to the Text

- Our production of refuse, now about 160 million tons a year, will rise to 193 million tons by the end of the century if nothing is done. (LL1-2, Para. 1, P 14) 如果不采取措施,我们的垃圾产量将会猛增,现在是1.6亿吨,到本世纪末将上升到1.93亿吨。
- Old dumps, which now get 80 percent of all garbage, are filling up, and new ones have become virtually impossible to build—the result of skyrocketing land costs, increasingly stringent environmental regulations and shrill public opposition to new landfills “in my back-yard”. (LL3-6, Para. 2, P 14) 80%的旧垃圾场现已填满,而修建新垃圾场几乎是不可能的——其原因是地价暴涨、环保规定越来越严以及公众激烈反对在“自己的后院”建造新的垃圾场。
 ★ virtually: almost or nearly
- With this grim prospect, new methods are required, all variations on the only four ways available to deal with garbage. (LL1-2, Para. 3, P 14) 由于前景令人担忧,必须采取新的(垃圾处理)办法,共有四种变化的方法可供选择。
- Trash that can't be recycled, another 2,200 tons a day, will eventually be burned in three waste-to-energy plants. (LL4-5, Para. 2, P 15) 每天有2,200吨不能回收利用的垃圾最终在三个垃圾发电厂焚烧。
- The public strongly supports recycling programs, as shown by high participation rates where curbside pickup is available. (LL4-5, Para. 3, P 15) 公众非常支持垃圾回收计划,这一点可从路边收旧项目很高参与率体现出来。
 ★ curbside pickup: curbside recycling programs... Residents are required to place recyclable things in a separate container and place it at the curbside for pickup.
- So many old newspapers are now being set out at the curb that prices have collapsed. (L2, Para. 4, P 15) 那么多的废旧报纸堆在路边从而导致旧报纸的回收价格暴跌。
 ★ set sth out: to show, to put on display 陈列,展示
- “Recycling doesn't pay for itself,” Wright says. “if it was profitable, you would not need the government to get involved.” (LL5-6, Para. 4, P 15) 怀特说:“废品回收本身并没有什么利润,如果有的话,那就不需要政府介入了。”
 ★ pay for: to give sb money for goods, service 付还,偿付(某人)
- The EPA is also taking steps to force recycling and raise standards sharply for burning and landfilling. (L1-2, Para. 6, P 15) 环保局也正在采取措施迫使人们参与废品回收工作,且为焚烧和填埋垃圾制定了更为苛刻的标准。
- These new rules will hike dumping costs substantially and force small towns to band