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英文选98第

广东高等教育出版社

# 英文文选 98 篇

叶雪梅 罗玉琴 钟小萃

黎秀石审校

广东高等教育出版社

## 序 言

广东人民广播电台教育台外语组编辑了这一套关于美国社会概况的《英文文选98篇》，配合该台定期的英语节目广播，这给我们提供了学习英语和了解美国的一个好机会。

《英文文选98篇》的原文资料和录音资料是由美国驻广州总领事馆文化处提供的。文字用语流畅明朗，都是出自美国第一流的广播撰稿员之手，电台播出的也是V.O.A.电台播音员播讲的原音。阅读材料与听力训练配合成套，相辅相承，对我们英语学习阶段不同的读者和听众，都能收到良好的学习效果。听力在中级阶段的不妨先收听广播，从中提高用听力学习英语的能力，然后才细读原文，以补听力之不足。听力在初级阶段的，也可先听播讲，测试自己能否听懂大意，然后才读原文，这样会有助于我们收听重播时，解决疑难点，收获会较大。每篇阅读材料之后附有注释，供读者参考。

本书所选文章，题材多种，包括美国社会生活的多方面，有民间传说、社会侧影、历史人物、科技新闻、工农业动态、音乐艺术、计划生育等等中外人士都感兴趣的话题，并且提供颇有价值的信息。例如，在科技新闻中有一篇介绍西方营养学家发现以玉米为主食的地区，如南美和非洲一些地方，人民健康水平较低，此中原因之一是玉米所含蛋白质

仅占食用部分的9.5%，并缺少维生素B。西方农业科学家为了提高玉米的营养价值，进行试验多年，现已培育出高蛋白质的玉米新品种 quality protein maize。六两多这样的玉米所含的蛋白质，可供一个成年人一天所需。我国一些地区仍有不少以玉米为主食的同胞，这段信息对我们增强民族健康的工作很有参阅价值。

这套材料的作者看来下笔比较客观。例如，在陈述北美土著印第安人 Nez Perce 族被迫害、欺凌，甚至大规模残杀的事件中，作者没有掩饰美国政府这个阴暗面。

本书收集的材料也有轻松的一面。音乐部分，听与读配合得很好，我们既可以在收听中直接欣赏美国当代几位歌星的演唱，又可翻阅本书，细读歌星奋斗成名的经历。例如，读者有想知道著名音乐故事片《音乐之声》是否真有其事其人的，可以在本书找到很有兴趣的解答。

除了美国之外，世界各地还有几个英语国家。为了与他们交往，我们需要学会听懂他们带地方口音的英语，也要了解他们的社会概况。我们预祝广播电台今后在这方面继续作出贡献。

中山大学教授 黎秀石

1992年于康乐园

## 目 录

序言.....	( 1 )
1. Mount Clare .....	( 1 )
2. Kenaf Paper .....	( 6 )
3. The Hopi Indians .....	( 11 )
4. Janet Evans .....	( 18 )
5. Surrogate Mama Sheep .....	( 19 )
6. Doctor Mudd .....	( 23 )
7. Colds .....	( 27 )
8. AIDS Virus .....	( 30 )
9. AIDS — a Worldwide Health Crisis .....	( 33 )
10. The Mysteries of Ice Age .....	( 43 )
11. Vision correction .....	( 47 )
12. Skylab .....	( 50 )
13. Environmental Refugees .....	( 55 )
14. A Bone Substitute .....	( 59 )
15. Battle of Gettysburg Recreation .....	( 63 )
16. American Bandstand .....	( 68 )
17. Von Trapp Family .....	( 71 )
18. Ultralight Plane .....	( 75 )
19. An Unusual Competition .....	( 79 )
20. Best Boxer .....	( 83 )
21. Smoking and Stroke .....	( 86 )

22. Cycling in U.S.A .....	( 89 )
23. Dolphins .....	( 92 )
24. The First Persons in Americas .....	( 97 )
25. American Weddings .....	(100 )
26. America's Most Wanted .....	(104 )
-27. May Day .....	(109 )
28. Friday the 13th .....	(112 )
29. Race Walking .....	(115 )
30. Career Guidance .....	(119 )
31. Louis L'Amour .....	(123 )
32. Suntans .....	(127 )
33. New Test for Lung Cancer .....	(130 )
34. Learning Disabilities .....	(133 )
35. BioSphere TWO .....	(143 )
36. Cajuns .....	(148 )
37. Ancient Burial Place .....	(153 )
38. China Pandas .....	(158 )
39. Old Ship .....	(163 )
40. Kodak Camera .....	(167 )
41. Daylight Savings Time .....	(172 )
42. Gravity Experiment .....	(176 )
43. Iowa Fossil .....	(181 )
44. Ancient Air .....	(185 )
45. Sea Turtles .....	(189 )
46. Biological Clocks .....	(193 )
47. Lizard Man .....	(198 )

48. Arthritis .....	(202 )
49. Tracy Chapman .....	(206 )
50. Athletes' Hearts .....	(208 )
51. Randy Travis .....	(212 )
52. Jerome Kern .....	(215 )
53. Jean Fritz .....	(221 )
54. The Songs of Irving Berlin .....	(225 )
55. Crazy Horse .....	(232 )
56. Travelers' Diarrhea Treatment .....	(243 )
57. Space Calls .....	(246 )
58. Armadillo Pregnancy .....	(250 )
59. Fibrinogen and Heart Disease .....	(255 )
60. African Locusts .....	(259 )
61. Genes and Breast Cancer .....	(263 )
62. Video Display Terminals .....	(267 )
63. AIDS Treatment .....	(271 )
64. Computer Virus .....	(275 )
65. New AIDS Test .....	(280 )
66. Woody Herman .....	(284 )
67. Predicting Earthquakes .....	(287 )
68. Eastern U.S. Earthquake .....	(290 )
69. Specialty Farming .....	(293 )
70. Quality Maize .....	(298 )
71. Rubber .....	(302 )
72. Barbara Mandrell .....	(307 )
73. TDD .....	(311 )

74. Computer Games .....	(316)
75. Cassava Mealybug .....	(320)
76. Harmful Insects Control .....	(324)
77. Emmylou Harris .....	(328)
78. Willie B. ....	(331)
79. Killer Bees .....	(335)
80. Prince .....	(339)
81. Birth Control Vaccine .....	(342)
82. The Drug Helping to Treat Baldness .....	(345)
83. Van Halen .....	(348)
84. Attempts to Save Rare Animals .....	(351)
85. Wild Animal Protection .....	(360)
86. Diane Schuur .....	(370)
87. Daedalus Flight .....	(373)
88. Ozone .....	(378)
89. Buffy Sainte Marie .....	(387)
90. Scientist Sentenced .....	(391)
91. Best Basketball Player .....	(394)
92. Showboat .....	(398)
93. A Hero of American Indian People .....	(401)
94. World Temperatures .....	(418)
95. Jesse Owens .....	(422)
96. Marian Anderson.....	(431)
97. Treatments of High Blood Pressure.....	(446)
98. The Jets .....	(451)
编后语.....	(454)



## 1 Mount Clare

Two hundred years ago, the present city of Baltimore, Maryland, was a small port town on the Chesapeake Bay. Just outside the little town was a huge farm, or plantation, owned by a rich lawyer, Charles Carroll.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Carroll built a big house on a hill south of the town. He called the house Mount Clare. Today, the town is a big city and the plantation has a park inside it. The house is still there, and Announcer's name takes us for a visit.

In the late 1700s, Mount Clare was considered the finest house in the Baltimore area.<sup>2</sup> Looking at it now, after more than two hundred years, Mount Clare is still a fine house. It is here, high on a hill in Carroll Park, about 2.5 kilometers from the port of Baltimore. The house is built of brick. Many years ago, the main house was connected by covered walkways to other buildings that extended like wings for almost fifty meters on each side.<sup>3</sup> Most of those buildings are gone now. Only the main house has

survived.

Steps lead us to the front door. Inside, the walls are painted in the colors of two-hundred years ago. Oil paintings hang on the walls. There are tables, chairs and other pieces of furniture that belonged to the Carroll family.

Mount Clare was the Carroll's summer home, and the books in the library on the first floor seem to confirm this.<sup>4</sup> Most of the books here are for pleasure reading, not serious study.<sup>5</sup> Many of the books are in English. But some are written in Latin or French.

In the dining room, the table appears ready for dinner.<sup>6</sup> It is covered with dishes of food that the Carrolls might have eaten. The foods are the kinds that the family would have grown on the plantation.

Mr Carroll's study and the bedrooms are on the second floor.

Martha Washington slept in one of the bedrooms when she stopped for the night at Mount Clare.

She was traveling to New York to see her husband, George Washington, be sworn in as the first President of the United States.

Scientists have been working at Mount

Clare for the past four years to learn more about early life on the plantation. Their goal is to make the plantation house look exactly as it did two-hundred years ago.<sup>7</sup> They hope to complete the job in the next ten years.

## New Words

present	a. 现在的; 目前的
Baltimore	n. 巴尔的摩(美国城市)
Maryland	n. 马里兰(美国州名)
port	n. 港口
Chesapeake Bay	n. 切沙比克湾
plantation	n. 种植园, 大农场
own	v. 拥有
lawyer	n. 律师
consider	v. 认为
connect	v. 连接
covered walkway	n. 有上盖的走廊
extend	v. 延伸
brick	n. 砖、砖块
wing	n. 翅膀
survive	v. 生存
hang	v. 挂、悬挂
furniture	n. 家具
belong	v. 属于

confirm	v. 证实
Latin	n. 拉丁文
appear	v. 看来
president	n. 总统
goal	n. 目的
exactly	ad. 准确的
complete	v. 完成

## Notes

1. Just outside the little town was a huge farm, or plantation, owned by a rich lawyer, Charles Carroll. 就在这个小镇的近郊, 有一个大农场, 它的主人是富有的律师, 名字叫查尔斯·卡罗尔。这个句子是个倒装句, 它的主语是 a huge farm. owned by a rich lawyer 过去分词短语作定语修饰 plantation.
2. Mount Clare was considered the finest house in the Baltimore area. Mount Clare在巴尔的摩地区被公认为最漂亮的房子。  
to be considered “被认为”; “被公认为”。
3. Many years ago, the main house was connected by covered walkways to other buildings that extended like wings for almost fifty meters on each side. 在很多年以前, 房子的主体部分与其他建筑物由几条走廊连接起来, 左右各延伸了差不多50米。

covered walkways to other building 通向其他建筑  
(有上盖)的走廊。

4. Mount Clare was the Carroll's summer home,  
and the books in the library on the first  
floor seem to confirm this. Mount Clare 是卡罗  
尔的避暑别墅,在第一层的图书室里的书籍似乎能证  
实这一点。

confirm 证实, 证明。

5. Most of the books here are for pleasure reading,  
not serious study. 这里的大部分书籍适合于消遣的  
阅读,而不是用来进行严谨的研究的书籍。

to be for... 适合于……一般指用途等。

6. In the dining room, the table appears ready  
for dinner. 在饭厅里,饭桌看上去像已经准备好吃  
饭。

appear 在这里是连系动词,是“看来”、“似乎”  
的意思。

7. Their goal is to make the plantation house  
look exactly as it did two-hundred years ago.  
他们的目的是,想使这个大农场的房子看起来和二百年  
前一模一样。

to make the plantation house look exactly as  
it did two-hundred years ago. 动词不定式短语在  
句中作表语。

it 指的是 house.

## 2 Kenaf Paper

Industry experts say that within the next eight years, more than fourteen-and-one-half-million tons of paper will be needed to publish American newspapers.

Newsprint, as this paper is called, is costly.<sup>1</sup> Imported newsprint alone cost four-thousand-million dollars last year.

Today, newsprint is made from hardwood trees. But a new crop plant could change that. The plant is similar to bamboo. It is called kenaf.

In 1966, government agricultural scientists began looking for a less costly way to make newsprint. Five-hundred different fiber plants were studied. kenaf was chosen as the best candidate.<sup>2</sup>

There are several reasons why kenaf was chosen.<sup>3</sup>

One is that it grows very fast. Kenaf plants reach a height of about five meters in four

months. Ten tons of dry-weight kenaf fiber can be produced on a little less than one-half hectare in that time.

Another reason is that newsprint made from kenaf is as strong as newsprint made from hardwood trees. Yet it is brighter. And it does not turn yellow as quickly. Finally, ink does not rub off kenaf paper as easily as it rubs off hardwood paper. <sup>4</sup>

In Africa and parts of Asia, kenaf is used to make clothing, rope and cigarette paper. Research in the United States has shown that kenaf can be used for other things, too. <sup>5</sup> Cattle feed. Paper-board. Roofing material. Firewood.

An American company, Kenaf International, has begun clearing land to build a factory in Willacy County, Texas. The factory will produce newsprint made only from kenaf plants. The company expects to produce about two-hundred-twenty-five-thousand tons of newsprint each year.

To make this much newsprint, sixteen-thousand hectares of kenaf will have to be planted. Supply is expected to come from local farmers. <sup>6</sup>

Fifteen percent of the people in Willacy County, Texas, do not have jobs right now. <sup>7</sup>

Experts believe kenaf will help improve the unemployment situation.<sup>8</sup> They say kenaf will provide a good cash crop for farmers. And the kenaf paper factory will provide jobs for as many as four-hundred workers.

## New Words

industry	n. 工业
expert	n. 专家
newsprint	n. 白报纸
publish	v. 出版
costly	a. 昂贵的
crop	n. 一批
similar	a. 相似的
bamboo	n. 竹
agricultural	a. 农业的
scientist	n. 科学家
~ fiber	n. 纤维; 纤维质
height	n. 高度; 海拔
~ hectare	n. 公顷
cattle	n. 牛(总称)
feed	n. 饲料
supply	v. 提供; 供给
unemployment	n. 失业
situation	n. 状况; 处境



candidate

n. 候选者

## Notes

1. Newsprint, as this paper is called, is costly.  
被称为白报纸的纸是昂贵的。  
as this paper is called 修饰 Newsprint, 作定语。
2. Kenaf was chosen as the best candidate. “凯奈”被挑选为最合适的代用品。  
as 担任, 作为(介词)。
3. There are several reasons why kenaf was chosen. “凯奈”会被选上有几个原因。
4. Finally, ink does not rub off kenaf paper as easily as it rubs off hardwood paper. 最后一个原因是“凯奈”纸不会像硬木纸那样容易磨掉。  
to rub off 磨损, 擦掉。
5. Research in the United States has shown that kenaf can be used for other things, too. 在美国的研究表明“凯奈”也可有其他方面的用途。  
to be used for sth, use 和 for 的固定搭配, 这里是被动语态。
6. Supply is expected to come from local farmers.  
(kenaf的) 供应可望来自当地农民。  
local farmers 当地农民。
7. Fifteen percent of the people in Willacy County, Texas, do not have jobs right now.