

·域外风情丛书·



美国 风情录

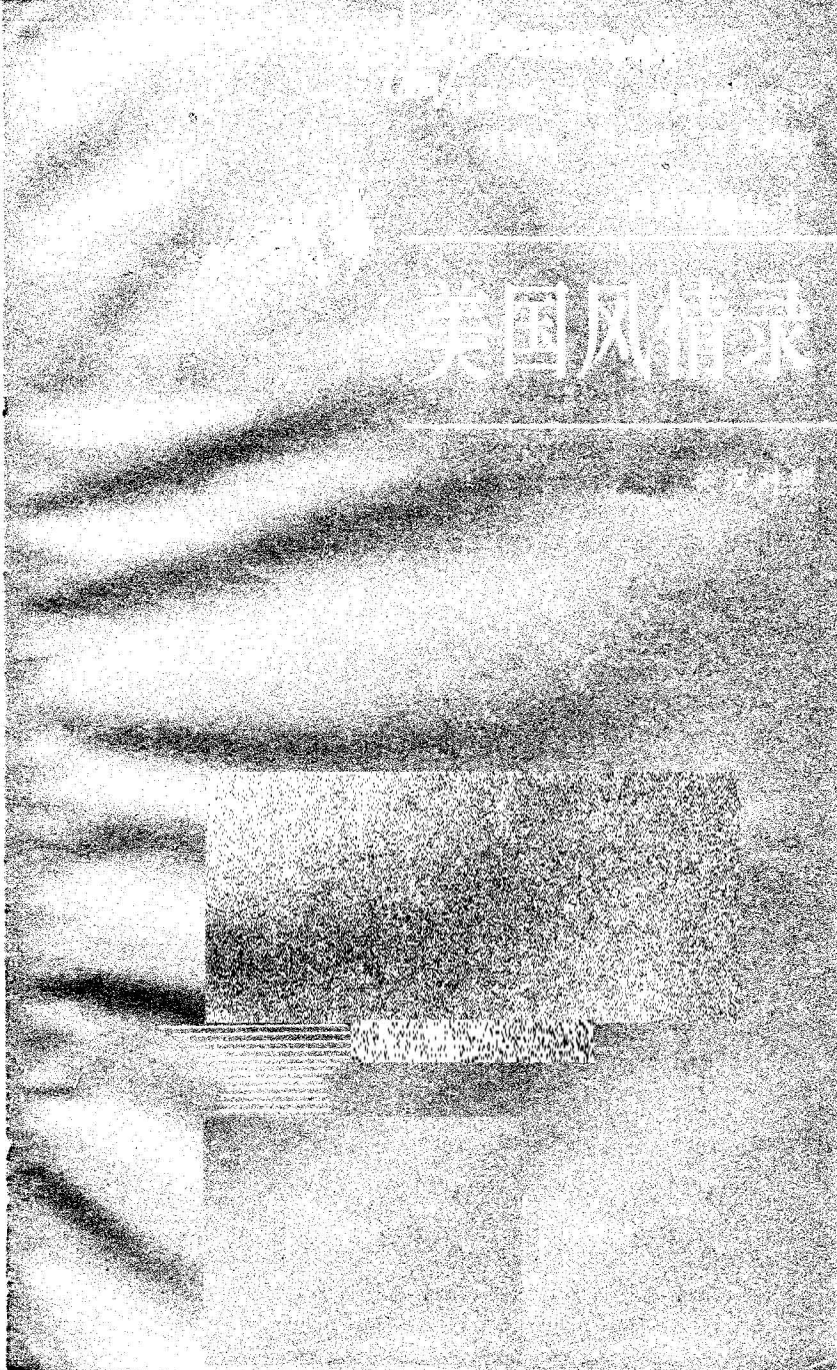
聂雅真 编著

英汉对照



东方出版中心

美国风情录



说 明

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内 容 提 要

《美国风情录》是一本适合中等英语程度读者自习用的英汉对照读物。全书分为十章,分别介绍美国的风土人物、礼仪习俗、历史简况和社会状况等,而以一位虚构的美籍访华学者用第一人称担任主讲。其内容丰富多采,英语简洁流畅,译文准确,并附有详尽的中文注释和国际音标。本书主要读者对象为准备赴美留学、访问或工作的人员和外贸、旅游单位的接待人员,并可作为各大中学英语教学辅助教材及中等程度以上者自学英语的辅助读物。

再 版 说 明

英语读物《美国风情录》(Miscellaneous Talks on American Society)于一九八二年十一月出版以来,深受读者欢迎,并纷纷来信要求将它译为中文。本社现特以汉英对照的形式予以再版。为便于读者对照学习起见,译文以紧扣原文为原则。同时,为争取缩短排印时间、早日与读者见面,再版本保持了英语原书的版式,而将全部译文附置其后。编写本书的目的是用于英语口语的教学或自修。书中通过虚构的美籍教授布朗讲课所介绍的仅为部分美国风土人情,远非全貌;对美国一些社会问题的议论,也多借用一般美国人的看法和口气,未作深入剖析。希读者鉴谅。

本书汉译翻译者为蔡永明(第一章)、王乃玲(第二章)、葛葆英(第三章)、李荣秋(第四章)、倪正律(第五章)、陆人骊(第六章)、黄惠民(第七章)、聂雅真(第八章、第十章)、李初民(第九章)。译文校订者为聂雅真和刘光华。

一九八四年八月

前 言

编者多年来从事有关出国人员、口译工作者及高校英语师资的英语培训工作，深感缺乏一种程度深浅合宜、内容较为生动，既符合快速培训的要求，又能适当介绍一些美国风土人情的口语教材。为此，特地编写了这本《美国风情录》(Miscellaneous Talks on American Society)。全书分为十讲，分别介绍美国的风土人情、礼仪习俗、各地风光、历史简况和社会问题等。为了求得情景逼真、语言生动，编者在书中虚构了一位来我国访问的美籍教授布朗先生担任主讲。书中文字力求浅显实用、符合美国人的口语习惯，并附有详尽的中文注释和国际音标，一则可用于口译训练，再则便于中等程度的英语自修者自学。附录中还选收了一些与课文有关的资料以备参考。

本书完稿后曾在上海市高教局主办的高校英语教师进修班以及其它英语培训班试用，受到学员们的欢迎。由于编者水平所限，谬误在所难免，尚祈诸前辈及同行老师指正。

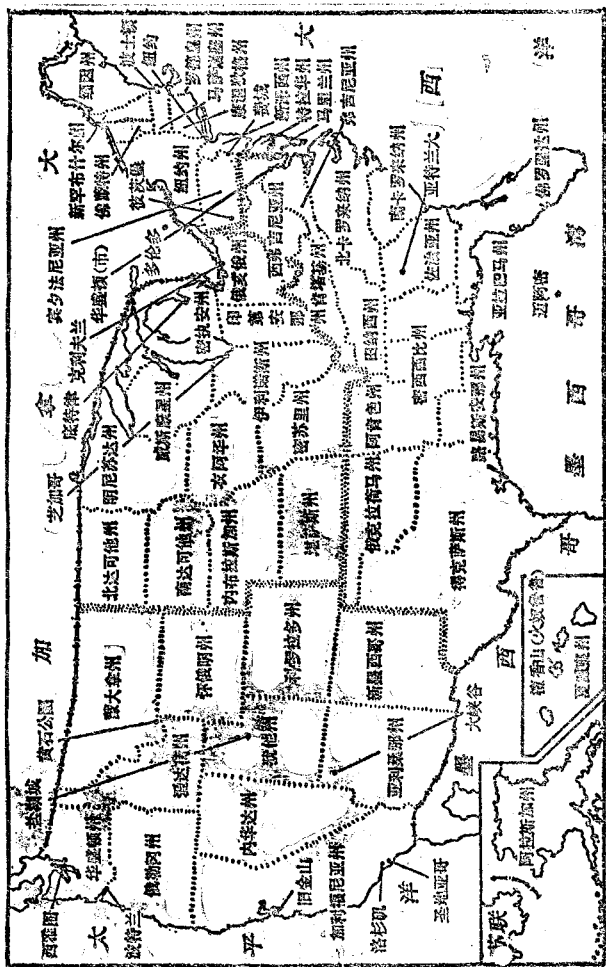
全书承上海师范学院外语系唐振邦副教授校订，谨在此表示谢意。

聂雅真

一九八二年一月

國情圖

NO. 13
 SKETCH MAP OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



CANADA 加拿大
MEXICO 墨西哥
• • •
WASHINGTON 华盛顿州
OREGON 俄勒冈州
IDAHO 爱达荷州
CALIFORNIA 加利福尼亚州
NEVADA 内华达州
UTAH 犹他州
ARIZONA 亚利桑那州
MONTANA 蒙大拿州
WYOMING 怀俄明州
COLORADO 科罗拉多州
NEW MEXICO 新墨西哥州
NORTH DAKOTA 北达可他州
SOUTH DAKOTA 南达可他州
NEBRASKA 内布拉斯加州
OKLAHOMA 俄克拉荷马州

TEXAS 德克萨斯州
MINNESOTA 明尼苏达州
IOWA 爱阿华州
MISSOURI 密苏里州
ARKANSAS 阿肯色州
MISSISSIPPI 密西西比州
LOUISIANA 路易斯安那州
WISCONSIN 威斯康星州
ILLINOIS 伊利诺斯州
MICHIGAN 密执安州
INDIANA 印第安那州
OHIO 俄亥俄州
KENTUCKY 肯塔基州
TENNESSEE 田纳西州
ALABAMA 亚拉巴马州
NEW HAMPSHIRE
新罕布什尔州
VERMONT 佛蒙特州

MAINE 缅因州
NEW YORK 纽约州
MASSACHUSETTS
马萨诸塞州
CONNECTICUT 康涅狄克州
PENNSYLVANIA
宾夕法尼亚州
NEW JERSEY 新泽西州
DELAWARE 特拉华州
MARYLAND 马里兰州
WEST VIRGINIA
西弗吉尼亚州
VIRGINIA 弗吉尼亚州
NORTH CAROLINA
北卡罗来纳州
SOUTH CAROLINA
南卡罗来纳州
GEORGIA 佐治亚州

FLORIDA 佛罗里达州
ALASKA 阿拉斯加州
HAWAII 夏威夷州
RHODE ISLAND 罗德岛州
• • • •
Boston 波士顿

New York 纽约
Washington D. C.
Philadelphia 费城
Atlanta 亚特兰大
Toronto 多伦多
Detroit 底特律

Chicago 芝加哥
Los Angeles 洛杉矶
San Diego 圣地亚哥(圣迭戈)
Seattle 西雅图
San Francisco 旧金山
Honolulu 檀香山(火奴鲁鲁)

PROFESSOR BROWN'S¹
LECTURE SERIES

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1. American Manners⁽¹⁾ and Customs⁽²⁾ I

My young friends:

I'm very glad to have the chance of making your acquaintance⁽³⁾. This chance, I can assure⁽⁴⁾ you, is something most other Americans are eagerly⁽⁵⁾ looking forward to⁽⁶⁾. The Chinese people, especially the younger generation⁽⁷⁾, I believe, are also trying to find more and more friends on the other side of the Pacific Ocean. This trend⁽⁸⁾ is good for both nations — for the development of friendly relations between the two countries. Therefore, it is my pleasure and good fortune to be able to contribute⁽⁹⁾ something to all this by sharing⁽¹⁰⁾ with you the little bit of knowledge of English, and of our history and geography and a few other things about my country which you may find interesting. I would provide you with some information⁽¹¹⁾ about the American people — about the way they live, the things they like and those they dislike, and their manners and customs. I will also talk about some problems that we are facing back at home. These topics will be dealt with in a series of lectures. Today, in my first lecture, I'd like to talk about manners and customs.

I Hi^s, Folks

I believe the first thing you ought to know about American customs is how introductions are made in the United States. A great difference between American social customs and those of other countries lies in the way in which names are used. Most Americans don't like using Mr., Mrs. or Miss. They find these terms too formal. In the United States, people of all ages may prefer to be called by their first names. For example, one may say, "My name is Wilson — James Wilson. Call me James." "Glad to meet you. I'm Miller. But call me Paul." "How do you do?" "How do you do?" Sometimes the ladies that you first meet will also say, "Don't call me Mrs. Smith, just call me Sally."

So, as you can see, using only first names usually indicates friendliness. Very often, introductions are made using both first and last names; for example "Mary Smith, this is John Jones." In this situation, you are free to decide whether to call the lady "Mary" or "Miss Smith". Sometimes both of you will begin a conversation using family names, that is, surnames⁽¹²⁾: Mr. Smith, Miss White, and after a while one or both of you may begin using first names instead. Of course, foreigners who come to the States may feel uncomfortable using only first names. For them it is quite acceptable⁽¹³⁾ to be more formal. You just smile and say, "Excuse my being formal when

meeting new friends. I am accustomed to⁽¹⁴⁾ it. After a while I'll use first names too."

So, if your American friends do not use your last names or titles⁽¹⁵⁾, that really doesn't mean any lack of respect. They are used to being informal. I can give you another example of their informality⁽¹⁶⁾. Yesterday, some members of an American delegation and I came across a few American tourists here in Shanghai. One of the tourists asked, "Hi, folks⁽¹⁷⁾, where from?" "Los Angeles", answered one delegate⁽¹⁸⁾. So you can see how informal we are.

2 How Titles are Used

In addition to Mr., Mrs. and Miss, there is one more term, Ms⁽¹⁹⁾, which is becoming more and more popular in the United States. Ms is used either for a married or unmarried woman. So when you are not certain whether to call the lady "Miss" or "Mrs." you may just call her Ms. But be sure that the four terms, Mr., Mrs., Miss and Ms, are followed by the last names.

When you first meet an American and want to be respectful, you can always use "sir" or "madam" in place of their names. The person you address⁽²⁰⁾ will probably realize that you are not sure of the proper title to use and will help you by telling you the correct term. However, you'll find formal titles very seldom used in the United States, except in some special occupations⁽²¹⁾ —