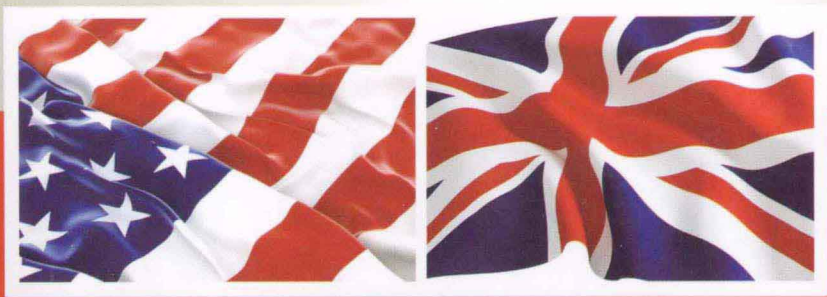




英美国家 社会与文化

◎ 董晓波 主编

*The Society and
Culture of Britain and America*



清华大学出版社 · 北京交通大学出版社



英美国家社会与文化 (英文版)

**The Society and Culture of Britain
and America**

主 编 董晓波
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北京交通大学出版社

内 容 简 介

本书采用真实地道的语言材料,从不同方面向中国学生介绍英美国家社会与文化现象。通过本书的学习可以进一步增进中国学生对英美国家社会与文化的了解,并透过社会的表象了解英美国家文化核心,拓宽中国学生的文化视野,帮助中国学生提高英语表达能力,进一步提高跨文化交际的能力。

本书可以作为英语专业基础课——英美国家概况的专业课教材,也可以作为高等院校非英语专业本、专科学生和研究生公选课教材或课外泛读教材,也可供历史学专业英美史方向和对英美国家问题饶有兴趣的学生及希望通过对英美社会与文化知识的学习来提高英语技能的读者使用。

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英美国家社会与文化:英文/董晓波主编. —北京:清华大学出版社:北京交通大学出版社, 2013. 12

ISBN 978-7-5121-1722-8

I. ①英… II. ①董… III. ①英语-阅读教学-高等学校-教材 ②英国-概况
③美国-概况 IV. ①H319.4:K

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2013)第290776号

策划编辑:王晓春

责任编辑:王晓春

特邀编辑:孙晴霞

出版发行:清华大学出版社 邮编:100084 电话:010-62776969 <http://www.tup.com.cn>

北京交通大学出版社 邮编:100044 电话:010-51686414 <http://www.bjtup.com.cn>

印刷者:北京鑫海金澳胶印有限公司

经 销:全国新华书店

开 本:185×230 印张:22.5 字数:529千字

版 次:2014年1月第1版 2014年1月第1次印刷

书 号:ISBN 978-7-5121-1722-8/H·376

印 数:1~4000册 定价:39.00元

本书如有质量问题,请向北京交通大学出版社质监组反映。对您的意见和批评,我们表示欢迎和感谢。

投诉电话:010-51686043, 51686008; 传真:010-62225406; E-mail: press@bjtu.edu.cn。

Preface

前言

美国著名人类学家萨丕尔指出：“语言不能脱离文化而存在。”（Sapir, 1921）语言是文化的载体，每个民族都有自己独特的风俗习惯和文化背景，人们总是根据自己的文化背景及语言习惯用自己固有的方式去理解别人所写的东西，不熟悉英美国家的社会文化背景知识，就会给跨文化交际造成很大的障碍。例如：

“John, your car is nice. How did you manage to get it?”

“Thanks. But I think yours is nicer.”

答句的根本意义是委婉地告诉对方：“无可奉告”。英美人崇尚个性自由，尊重个人的隐私和秘密，财产价值及获得方式当然属个人秘密。因此，英美人常以答非所问或改变话题的方式对不愿回答的问题加以回避。

又如：Mrs. Black knows that her husband never invites other women to dinner.

该句若按字母理解成“布莱克夫人知道她丈夫从不邀请别的女人吃饭”就错了。按照英美习俗，invite sb. to dinner/cinema 是男女之间“约会”的委婉说法。

再如：Hello, Kuwait, Goodbye, Vietnam. 由于美国在解放科威特的海湾战争中的辉煌胜利，Kuwait 一词已成为美国人“胜利”的代名词；而越战中的失败，Vietnam 则成为美国人“失败、屈辱”的同义词。因此，这句可理解为“欢迎你，海湾战争的胜利捷报，见鬼去吧，越战失败的屈辱。”

The manager finally came to know that precious oil painting on show was a white elephant. There were no skillful measures to prevent it from being stolen. (经理最后意识到展出的这幅珍贵的油画成了一个沉重的负担，他没有高明的防盗措施。)

在西方 white elephant 不是“白象”，而是“外表华贵却是累赘，给人带来不幸的事物”。中国某外贸公司曾经将 white elephant 牌电池推销到欧美市场，它的命运就可想而知了。

2004 年，国家教育部高等教育司公布的《大学英语课程教学要求》明确

地把学生“文化意识”的培养列入到英语教学中，认为在英语教学中培养学生的文化意识与培养学生的语言意识、语言技能同等重要。语言教学不仅包括语言知识的教学，而且包括文化知识的教学。只有充分了解目标语言国的历史文化，学习者才能真正有效地掌握语言知识，提高语言能力，更加有效地将这门语言运用于实践。《英美国国家社会与文化》（英文版）将了解英美国国家社会文化知识与学习英语语言技能很好地结合在一起，是为高等学校英语专业学生和非英语专业本、专科学生、研究生编选的融文化、历史与社会知识为一体的新型英语教材。

本书遵循“以人为本”的理念，从中国学生实际出发，从不同方面向中国学生介绍英美国国家社会与文化现象。全书共24章，分英国篇和美国篇两部分，每章开头有简要的中文概述，结尾对文中涉及的重要背景知识作了较详细的注释。正文主要涵盖了英国、美国这两个典型英语国家的地理、历史、政治、经济、教育、家庭生活、社会风俗和传统等文化知识。全书采用真实地道的语言材料，主要取材于国外报刊杂志以及相关历史文献资料，穿插图表、照片等真实的视觉材料，表现手段活泼，效果生动直观。无论对广大学生还是对英美国国家社会与文化感兴趣的其他学习者来说，本书都是一本了解英美社会、积累文化知识、开阔视野、启发思路的良好读物。通过本书的学习可以进一步增进中国学生对英美国国家社会与文化的了解，并透过社会的表象了解英美国国家文化核心，拓宽中国学生的文化视野，帮助中国学生提高英语表达能力，进一步提高跨文化交际的能力。

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本书由董晓波任主编，陈尚军、沈蒙任副主编，洪雨杏、顾苏川、季丹丹、侯丽娟、杨灿参加编写。在整个编写过程中，我们力求完美，但是限于水平及一些不可避免的因素，定不乏偏颇和疏漏之处，恳请广大读者朋友和同行不吝指正，以臻完善。

董晓波

2013年12月

写于南京东方城紫金山麓

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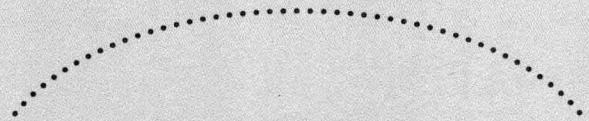
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Part One
British Society and Culture

Chapter 1 History and Territory

Text Introduction to British Empire

导读： 联合王国(英文为 United Kingdom, 缩写为 UK, 全名为大不列颠与北爱尔兰联合王国)的历史发展以英格兰王国为核心, 逐次并入威尔士公国、苏格兰王国和爱尔兰王国。目前联合王国的领土包含英格兰、威尔士、苏格兰和北爱尔兰。1535 年, 英格兰王国以《联合法案》合并威尔士公国, 再以《1707 年联合法案》合并苏格兰王国成为大不列颠联合王国, 再以《1800 年联合法案》合并爱尔兰王国成为大不列颠与爱尔兰联合王国。1922 年, 爱尔兰自由邦脱离联合王国, 但北爱尔兰留下。

The history of the United Kingdom as a unified sovereign state began with the political union of the kingdoms of England, which included Wales and Scotland on 1 May 1707 in accordance with the Treaty of Union, as ratified by the Acts of Union 1707. The Union created the United Kingdom of Great Britain, which shared a single constitutional monarch and a single parliament at Westminster. Prior to this, the kingdoms of England and Scotland had been separate states, though in personal union following the Union of the Crowns in 1603, with political, administrative and cultural institutions including representative governance, law systems, and distinguished contributions to the arts and sciences, upon which the United Kingdom was to be built. On the new, united kingdom, historian Simon Schama said: "What began as a hostile merger would end in a full partnership in the most powerful going concern in the world...it was one of the most astonishing transformations in European history." A further Act of Union in 1800 added the Kingdom of Ireland to create the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

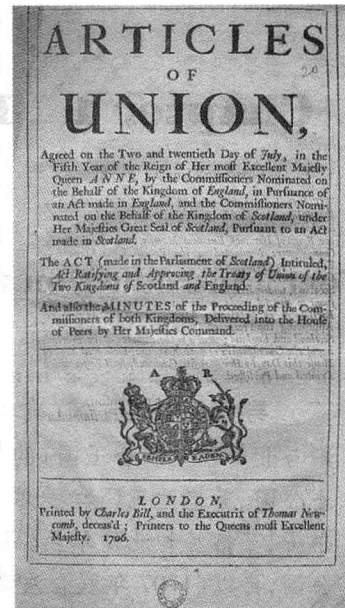
The early years of the United Kingdom were marked by Jacobite risings which ended with defeat at Culloden in 1746. Later, victory in the Seven Years' War, in 1763, led to the dominance of the British Empire which was the foremost global power for over a century and grew to become the largest empire in history. By 1921, the British Empire held sway over a population of about 458 million people, approximately one-quarter of the world's population. And as a result, the culture of the United Kingdom, and its industrial, political and linguistic legacy, is widespread.

In 1922 and following the Anglo-Irish Treaty, Ireland seceded from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland to become the Irish Free State, a dominion of the British Empire but a day later, Northern Ireland seceded from the Free State and rejoined the United Kingdom. As a result, in 1927 the United Kingdom changed its formal title to the "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland," usually shortened to the "United Kingdom", the "UK" or "Britain", but the Monarch remained "By the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas King/Queen, Defender of the Faith" until 1953.

Following World War II, in which the UK was an allied power, most of the territories of the British Empire became independent. Many went on to join the Commonwealth of Nations, a free association of independent states. Some have retained the British monarch as their head of state to become independent Commonwealth realms. In its capacity as a great power, and as a leading member of the United Nations, European Union and NATO, the United Kingdom remains a strong economic, cultural, military and political influence in the 21st century.

Birth of the United Kingdom

Main articles: History of the Formation of the United Kingdom, Union of the Crowns, Treaty of Union, and Acts of Union 1707.



A published version of the Articles of Union, agreement that led to the creation of the Kingdom of Great Britain in 1707

The United Kingdom of Great Britain came into being on 1 May 1707, as a result of the political union of the Kingdom of England (which included Wales) and the Kingdom of Scotland. The terms of the union had been agreed in the Treaty of Union that was negotiated the previous year and then ratified by the parliaments of Scotland and England each approving Acts of Union.

Though previously separate states, England and Scotland had shared monarchs since 1603 when James VI of Scotland became James I of England on the death of the childless Elizabeth I, an event known as the Union of the Crowns. The Treaty of Union enabled the two kingdoms to be combined into a single, United Kingdom with the two parliaments merging into a single parliament of Great Britain. Queen Anne, (reigned 1702 – 1714), who had favored deeper political integration between the two kingdoms, became the first monarch of the United Kingdom of Great Britain. The union was valuable to England from a security standpoint, since it meant that the European powers could no longer use Scotland for backdoor invasions of England.

Though now a united kingdom, certain aspects of the former independent kingdoms remained separate in line with the terms in the Treaty of Union; Scottish and English law remained separate, as did the Presbyterian Church of Scotland and the Anglican Church of England, as well as the separate systems of education.

The creation of the United Kingdom happened simultaneous with the War of the Spanish Succession, where William III had reactivated the Grand Alliance against France just before his death in 1702. His successor, Anne, continued the war. The Duke of Marlborough won a series of brilliant victories over the French, England's first major battlefield success on the Continent since the Hundred Years War.

France was nearly brought to its knees by 1709, when Louis XIV made a desperate appeal to the French people. Afterwards, his general Marshal Villars managed to turn the tide in favor of France. A more



George I in 1714, by
Godfrey Kneller

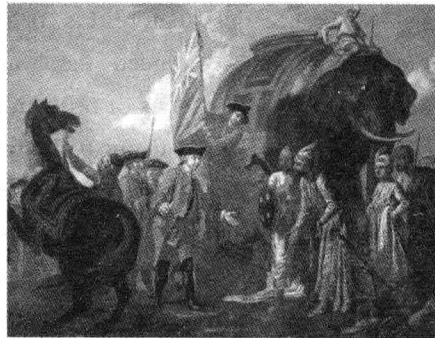
peace-minded government came to power in Great Britain, and the treaties of Utrecht and Rastadt in 1713 – 1714 ended the war.

Queen Anne died in 1714, and the Elector of Hanover, George Louis, became king as George I. Jacobite factions remained strong however, and they instigated a revolt in 1715 – 1716. The son of James II planned to invade England, but before he could do so, John Erskine, Earl of Mar, launched an invasion from Scotland, which was easily defeated. George II succeeded to the throne in 1727 and ruled until his death in 1760. During his reign, the rising power of Prussia led to two major conflicts in Europe, the War of the Austrian Succession from 1740 to 1748, and the Seven Years War from 1756 to 1763. Both spilled over into the American colonies, and when the latter ended, Britain gained all of Canada and France was destroyed as a colonial power in North America.

Although British sea power proved decisive in the wars, the French navy had become a serious challenger by the middle of the 18th century and an invasion of Britain nearly took place in 1759. After the death of George II in 1760, his grandson became king as George III at the age of 22. Unlike his two predecessors, he was born in Britain and English was his first language. Frequently reviled by Americans as a tyrant and the instigator of the U.S. War of Independence, he ruled for 60 years. George had 15 children with his queen Charlotte of Mecklenburg; two of his nine sons became kings themselves. Beginning in the 1780s, he suffered recurrent fits of insanity due to being afflicted with porphyria and became totally insane by the last decade of his life.

British Empire

The Seven Years' War, which began in 1756, was the first war waged on a global scale, fought in Europe, India, North America, the Caribbean, the Philippines and coastal Africa. The signing of the Treaty of Paris (1763) had important consequences for Britain and its empire. In North America, France's future as a colonial power there was effectively ended with the ceding of



Lord Clive meeting with Mir Jafar after the Battle of Plassey, by Francis Hayman

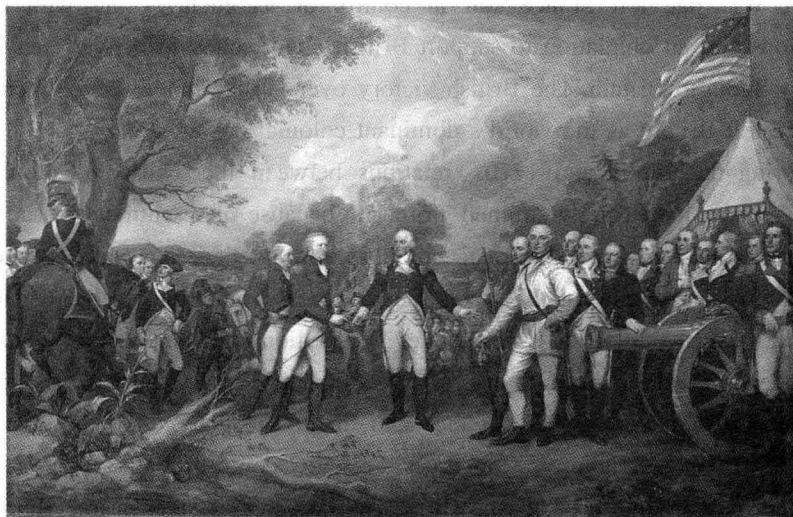
New France to Britain (leaving a sizeable French-speaking population under British control) and Louisiana to Spain. Spain ceded Florida to Britain. In India, the Carnatic War had left France still in control of its enclaves but with military restrictions and an obligation to support British client states, effectively leaving the future of India to Britain. The British victory over France in the Seven Years War therefore left Britain as the world's dominant colonial power.

During the 1760s and 1770s, relations between the Thirteen Colonies and Britain became increasingly strained, primarily because of resentment of the British Parliament's ability to tax American colonists without their consent. Disagreement turned to violence and in 1775 the American Revolutionary War began. The following year, the colonists United States Declaration of Independence declared the independence of the United States. For the first few years, the British populace supported the war, but by 1779 France and Spain had entered on the side of the United States and Britain no longer had secure control of the seas. Its army controlled only a handful of coastal cities. The French and Spanish intervention had the effect of turning the American Revolution into a foreign conflict, which meant that the war itself could not be criticised, only the conduct of it.

1780 – 1781 was a low point for Britain. Taxes and deficits were high, government corruption was pervasive, and the war in America was entering its sixth year with no apparent end in sight. The Gordon Riots erupted in London during the spring of 1781, in response to increased concessions to Catholics by Parliament. In October 1781 Lord Cornwallis surrendered his army at Yorktown, Virginia. The Treaty of Paris was signed in 1783, formally terminating the war and recognizing the independence of the United States. However, the British continued to maintain forts along the Canadian border until 1796 and the Great Lakes remained militarized until 1815.

The loss of the Thirteen Colonies, at the time Britain's most populous colonies, marked the transition between the "first" and "second" empires, in which Britain shifted its attention to Asia, the Pacific and later Africa. Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, published in 1776, had argued that colonies were redundant, and that free trade should replace the old mercantilist policies that had characterized the first period of colonial expansion, dating back to the protectionism of Spain and Portugal. The growth of trade between the newly independent United States and

Britain after 1783 confirmed Smith's view that political control was not necessary for economic success.



British general John Burgoyne surrenders at Saratoga (1777), painting by John Trumbull in 1822

During its first 100 years of operation, the focus of the British East India Company had been trade, not the building of an empire in India. Company interests turned from trade to territory during the 18th century as the Mughal Empire declined in power and the British East India Company struggled with its French counterpart, the *La Compagnie française des Indes orientales*, during the Carnatic Wars of the 1740s and 1750s. The British, led by Robert Clive, defeated the French and their Indian allies in the Battle of Plassey, leaving the Company in control of Bengal and a major military and political power in India. In the following decades it gradually increased the size of the territories under its control, either ruling directly or indirectly via local puppet rulers under the threat of force of the Indian Army, 80% of which was composed of native Indian sepoys.

On 22 August 1770, James Cook discovered the eastern coast of Australia while on a scientific voyage to the South Pacific. In 1778, Joseph Banks, Cook's botanist on the voyage, presented evidence to the government on the suitability of Botany Bay for the establishment of a penal settlement, and in 1787 the first