

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN SPORTS CULTURE

欧美体育文化
(英文版)

主编 霍传颂 万千 袁彬



 北京理工大学出版社
BEIJING INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PRESS

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内 容 简 介

本书是为了适应体育翻译、体育史等专业学生的需要而编写的一本体育英语专业教材。以欧美体育史和体育文化为切入点,紧密围绕体育运动相关话题,共包括11个单元,每个单元包括体育历史与体育文化相关文章各一篇,课后还配有相关的练习与答案。内容选自欧美体育社会学相关研究文献、英美报纸杂志和新媒体,视角新颖、体系健全,兼具科普性与科研性,既能开阔学生的文化视野,填补学生对欧美体育历史文化知识的空白,还有利于培养学生对体育与历史、体育与社会之间关系的思辨能力,具有较高的出版价值。

本书既可作为英语爱好者的案头读物,同时也可用于体育翻译专业研究生或本科生、体育英语爱好者、体育外事和体育史从业人员、体育文化与体育英语培训机构人员的参考用书。

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《欧美体育文化（英文版）》

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前言

《European & American Sports Culture 欧美体育文化（英文版）》专门为体育高等院校英语专业学生编写，主要供完成基础英语和英美国家文化相关课程后继续学习体育英语相关课程的学生使用，同时也适用于体育翻译专业研究生、体育英语爱好者、体育外事和体育史从业人员、体育文化与体育英语培训机构人员等。本教材以欧美体育史和体育文化为切入点，紧密围绕体育运动相关话题，共包括 11 个单元。内容选自欧美体育社会学相关研究文献、英美报刊杂志和新媒体，视角新颖、体系健全，兼具科普性与科研性。

《European & American Sports Culture 欧美体育文化（英文版）》包括欧洲体育和美国体育两个板块，以历史为线索，包含古希腊罗马体育、中世纪及前现代体育、欧洲现代体育崛起、现代奥林匹克的出现与扩散、全球化时代的欧洲体育、美洲殖民和建国时期的体育形式、镀金主义时期美国体育的形成、进步主义时期的体育与社会、体育与流行文化、体育与主要社会问题、21 世纪的新兴体育形式等 11 个板块。这 11 个板块的选择是基于教材编写团队对于欧美体育运动的发展与体育的社会化议题的认知，即所有板块均反映了明显与独特的历史与文化。古希腊与罗马的体育理念、组织形式和教育哲学对人类现代体育奠定了深厚的基础；中世纪和前现代欧洲的体育和休闲形式为诸多现代体育项目提供了雏形，其时对身体活动的争议成为教育的主要议题；欧洲现代体育的出现展示了现代体育和教育的本质；现代奥林匹克运动的兴起与扩散展示了现代东西方文化的冲突与融合；全球化时代的欧洲体育则从足球和欧美体育对比的视角审视体育与文明之间的深度关联；美洲殖民及建国时期的体育引发人类体育本质的再思考；镀金主义时期的体育阐释了体育运动对于国家文化建构的符号和载体意义；进步主义时期的体育描述了体育对社会改革和文化认同建构的功能；体育与流行文化展示了体育功能转变的图景；体育与主要社会问题重访了体育重要的社会学意义；21 世纪的新兴体育从全球视角展示了新时代人类体育的发展前景。

教材框架设计与素材选择体现出极强的人文性和思辨性。每个单元包括两篇体育历史与体育文化相关文章：TextA 及 TextB。文章后附有文中涉及的体育、历史、文化相关的术语、词汇或注释（Notes），用以帮助读者更好的理解相关的人文背景知识。课后练习分为填空、简答与思辨三种题型，有目的、有重点地考察和培养不同学习层次的学生理解和分析评价能力，考查学生对文章内涵、语言风格、写作意图等的深层理解，并通过开放性问题，提升学生的人文思辨和创新能力。该教材旨在拓展学生的文化视野，填补学生对欧美体育历史文化

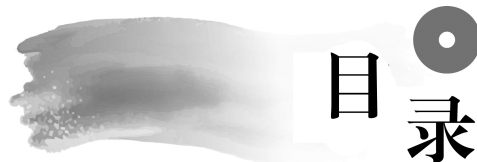
知识的空白,使学生更好地了解欧美体育的现状及由来,同时培养学生对体育与历史、体育与社会之间关系的思辨能力,不仅仅完成语言学习的目的,更要养成将语言应用到对体育和文化的思考当中的思维习惯。

《European & American Sports Culture 欧美体育文化 (英文版)》系成都体育学院外国语学院李在辉、李航总编的《体育文化系列教材》之一,由霍传颂、万千和袁彬担任主编,陈晓雅、龚漪璞、唐玥和卢凤仪担任副主编。霍传颂和万千负责教材编写的框架、内容和体例的制定以及样章的编写,袁彬负责教材的初审、修改、终审和定稿。外籍专家 Daniel Aaron Sims 参与审稿。所有参编教师均是长期担任“运动项目英语”“奥林匹克”和“英语体育新闻”课程的骨干教师,对自己所负责编写的教材部分都尽职尽责。

感谢成都体育学院李在辉和李航教授对教材策划、编写与修改提出的宝贵意见;感谢北京理工大学出版社的关心与指导,编辑们在教材的编写、版式设计、插图设计等方面付出了大量心血。

本教材的编写是对西方体育历史文化通识类英语教材的一次尝试,其缺点与不足在所难免,敬请各位专家、学者、教师和广大读者批评指正,以便将来再版时修订完善。

《European & American Sports Culture 欧美体育文化 (英文版)》教材编委会
2020年10月于成都体育学院



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Unit 1 Sports in the Ancient Greece and Rome

Text A Sport culture in ancient Athens and Sparta

Athens is one of the oldest named cities in the world, having been continuously inhabited for at least 5,000 years. Situated in southern Europe, Athens became the leading city of Ancient Greece in the first millennium BC, and its cultural achievements during the 5th century BC laid the foundations of western civilization. The Greeks loved competition, musicians and poets, as well as athletes, were pitted against one another in contests, and even dramatic plays were staged as tournaments with the winner being selected by a jury. There were also competitions for drinking, singing and male beauty. **Socrates**¹ believed that arts and sports were the most important factors in man's development. There were also associations with the gods. Castor and Pollux, the twin sons of **Zeus**², were the gods of boxing, wrestling and equestrian sports.

Ancient Sparta³, famous for its mighty warriors, its dominance around 650 BC and its unique social hierarchy and system. Sparta itself was a city state in Greece throughout ancient times, and moved through various levels of success, failure, dominance, kings and eventually destruction. Sparta and its Spartan warriors are famous for their bravery, battle skills and advanced battle formations and tactics. A subject the Spartans were intrigued with was of course sport. The Spartans literally lived for their physical exercise, and their prowess and perforce was truly testament to that. With huge success at the Olympic Games of ancient Greece the Spartans had many great champions like Chionis who would only further serve to enthuse their interest in physical sports and exercises.

Athletics had been around before original Olympics. Homer describes chariot races, wrestling, weigh throwing and running events sponsored by Achilles to honor a Patroclus. While the Greeks had the Olympics, the Romans had gladiator contests. For the Greeks there was an aesthetic, even sexuality, to sports. "Each age has its beauty," Aristotle wrote. "In youth, it lies in the possession of a body capable of enduring all kinds of contest...while the young man is himself a pleasant delight to behold."



1-1 Castor and Pollux

Purpose of Sport in Ancient Greece

Winning was everything in ancient Greek sports. The Greeks were primarily into individual sports in which there was only one winner. Contestants did not bother to enter events in which they thought they were going to lose. Winners received a crown of wild olives branches and prestige—that was sometimes worth a lot of money. Losers did not shake the hands of the victor and they returned to their hometowns “by back ways...sore smitten by misfortune.”



1-2 The Award of the Winner in Ancient Greek Sport

Sport was seen as more than just sport. In his book *Ancient Greek Athletics* Stephen G. Miller wrote: “Athletics was not simply about competition; it concerned winning a prize. Sport for sport’s sake was not an ancient concept...There was an acceptance at both popular and philosophical levels, of prime imaginative and imitative purpose in play, an understanding, essentially that, all games were war games.”

In addition to sport there was athletics for exercise. This was carried out at gymnasiums and the primary purpose was preparing and training and keeping them in shape afterwards (every citizen under 60 could be called up for military service). Physical fitness was only viewed as something one did for himself; it was a civic duty integral to preservation of the state. At the gymnasiums, older men taught boys about their duties to the community, proper behavior and how to carry oneself as a man.

Olympics in Ancient Greece

Informal games had been held for several centuries before the Olympics began. The Olympics themselves grew out of funerary games held in honor of the Greek god Zeus. The ancient Olympic games were held every four years for over 1,000 years—from 776 B. C. to A. D. 393., quite a remarkable feat when one considers the modern Olympics have been around for slightly over a century and the Mediterranean region experienced great changes and upheavals during the time the ancient Olympics were conducted.

The ancient Olympics games lasted for five days—three days of major competition, and a day

each for an opening and closing ceremony. Running and field events were held the first day. Horse and chariot races were on the second day and the wrestling and boxing events were held on the fourth day. The number of contestants varied from year to year in each event and it was not unusual to have over 40 racers flying around the narrow track in the chariot races.

There were usually about 300 athletes competing in 15 to 18 events. Athletic and running competitions were held in the stadium and horse and chariot races were held in the hippodrome. Since athletic contests began as part of a religious ceremony no admission was charged. Money for the construction of buildings and temples was supplied by donations from rich patrons and from booty claimed in wars with neighboring city states.

The golden age of the Olympics was the late 6th century to the early 5th century B. C. with the peak was perhaps in 476 and B. C. After that the games were marred by refusal of the city states to accept Olympia's authority over the games, divisions within Greece and war. The games went through a period of ups and downs after the Romans took over Greece in 146 B. C.

Contrary to myth wars were not called off during the Olympics but there appeared to have been times when truces were called during fighting to accommodate the Olympics. For a brief period in the 5th century an Olympics appeals board settled disputes involving the city states that participated in the Olympics.

Many of the political problems that have tarnished the modern Olympics were present in the ancient Greek games. In 424 B. C. , during the **Peloponnesian War**⁴, the Spartans were banned. Once during a wrestling match, spectators had to run for cover when a military force from **Elis**⁵ chose that moment to launch an attack. Fighting went into the night in the middle of some of Olympia's most sacred temples with spectators cheering the combatants. But no matter how bad things got the Olympics were never canceled, not even as the Persians prepared to invade and Athens and Sparta fought in the Peloponnesian War.

The Olympics were revived in Athens in 1896 due to the efforts of Frenchman Baron **Pierre de Coubertin**⁶ who felt his country needed to shape up after their defeat by the **Prussians**⁷ in 1870. Thirteen countries competed in mostly track and field events. Greece was without a winner until the marathon. The modern games now feature more than 10,000 athletes from more than 200 countries competing in more than 300 events.

Notes:

1 Socrates

Socrates was a classical Greek philosopher credited as one of the founders of Western philosophy, and as being the first moral philosopher of the Western ethical tradition of thought. An enigmatic figure, he made no writings, and is known chiefly through the accounts of classical writers writing after his lifetime, particularly his students Plato and Xenophon.

2 Zeus

Zeus is the sky and thunder god in ancient Greek religion, who rules as king of the gods of Mount Olympus. His name is cognate with the first element of his Roman equivalent Jupiter.

3 Ancient Sparta

Sparta was a prominent city-state in ancient Greece. In antiquity, the city-state was known as Lacedaemon, while the name Sparta referred to its main settlement on the banks of the Eurotas River in Laconia, in south-eastern Peloponnese. Around 650 B. C. , it rose to become the dominant military land-power in ancient Greece.

4 Peloponnesian War

The Peloponnesian War was an ancient Greek war fought by the Delian League led by Athens against the Peloponnesian League led by Sparta.



1-3 Peloponnesian War

5 Elis

Elis, ancient Greek region and city-state in the northwestern corner of the Peloponnese, well known for its horse breeding and for the Olympic Games, which were allegedly founded there in 776 B. C. The region was bounded on the north by Achaea, on the east by Arcadia, and on the south by Messenia.

6 Pierre de Coubertin

Pierre de Coubertin (January 1, 1863—September 2, 1937) was the founder of the modern Olympics. His campaign to promote athletic activities began as a lonely crusade, but it slowly gained support and he was able to organize the first modern Olympics in Athens in 1896.

7 Prussians

Prussia, in European history, any of three historical areas of eastern and central Europe. It is most often associated with the kingdom ruled by the German Hohenzollern dynasty, which claimed much of northern Germany and western Poland in the 18th and 19th centuries and united Germany under its leadership in 1871.

Text B The gladiators of Rome: blood sport in the ancient empire

The ancient Romans were well known for many things—their engineering marvels, their road networks, and the establishment of Roman law throughout the empire. They were, however, also renowned for their war-like nature. After all, this allowed the Romans to build an empire in the first place. This appetite for violence not only manifested itself in Rome's imperialist policy, but also in its most well-known sport—the gladiatorial combats.



1-4 Gladiatorial Combats

It has been suggested that the concept of gladiatorial games has its roots in the **Etruscans**¹, the predecessors of the Romans. In Etruscan society, gladiatorial games were supposed to be part of the funerary rituals honoring the dead. Thus, gladiatorial combats originally possessed a sacred significance. Over the centuries, however, these funerary games came to be a form of entertainment, and the earliest Roman gladiatorial combat is said to have taken place in 264 BC.

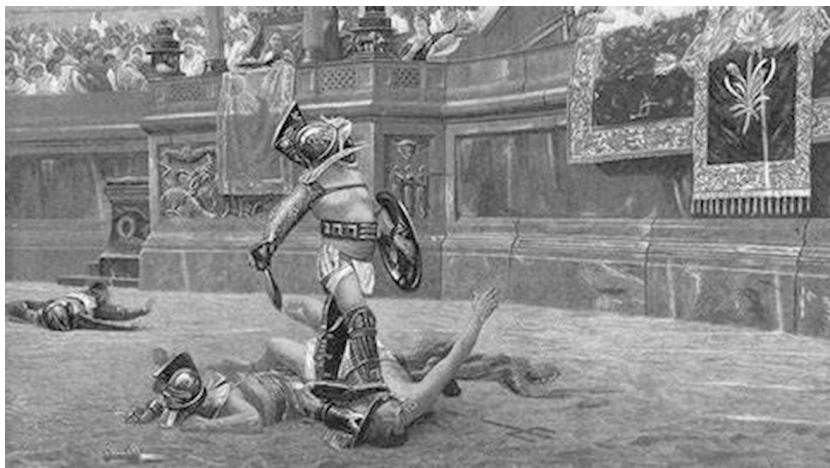
The gladiators were often prisoners of war, slaves, or criminals with a death sentence. Despite the hard and precarious life, gladiators were the superstars of their day. The benefits to be found in fighting in the arena—fame, glory and fortune, were strong enough to entice some people to become gladiators voluntarily. However, the evidence of such citizen gladiators is extremely slim. It is also recorded that some Roman emperors even participated in gladiatorial games themselves, the most famous of whom was probably the **emperor Commodus**². The participation of emperors in these games, however, was scorned by some, as gladiators belonged to the lowest of social classes.

Studies analyzing the teeth of supposed gladiators which have been found in **Driffeld Terrace**³, York, UK have also suggested that gladiators generally came from harsh backgrounds. The research shows most of the men were extremely malnourished as children and likely came from disad-

vantaged homes. Their remains show the poor men were well fed and adapted to battle later in life—possibly so they would be stronger and more impressive looking combatants in the gladiatorial games.

Lightly armed and armored fighters would tire less rapidly than their heavily armed opponents; most bouts would have lasted 10 to 15 minutes, or 20 minutes at most. In late Republican **munera**⁴, between 10 and 13 matches could have been fought on one day; this assumes one match at a time in the course of an afternoon.

Spectators preferred to watch highly skilled, well matched paired gladiators with complementary fighting styles; these were the costliest to train and to hire. A general combat of several, lower-skilled gladiators was far less costly, but also less popular. Even among the paired gladiators, match winners might have to fight a new, well-rested opponent, either a *tertiarius* (“third choice gladiator”) by prearrangement; or a “substitute” gladiator who fought at the whim of the editor as an unadvertised, unexpected “extra”.



1-5 A Well Trained Gladiator

Combats between experienced, well trained gladiators demonstrated a considerable degree of stagecraft. Among the *cognoscenti*, bravado and skill in combat were esteemed over mere hacking and bloodshed; some gladiators made their careers and reputation from bloodless victories.

A match was won by the gladiator who overcame his opponent, or killed him outright. Victors received the palm branch and an award from the editor. An outstanding fighter might receive a laurel crown and money from an appreciative crowd, symbolized by the gift of a wooden training sword. A gladiator could acknowledge defeat by raising a finger, in appeal to the referee to stop the combat and refer to the editor, whose decision would usually rest on the crowd's response.

Despite the low social status of gladiators, they had the potential to gain the patronage of the upper classes, even that of the emperor himself. According to Suetonius, the **emperor Nero**⁵ awarded a gladiator, Spiculus, with houses and estates worthy of generals returning triumphantly from a war. Regardless of the authenticity of his claim, Suetonius intended to highlight the extravagant nature of the emperor by demonstrating that Nero was willing to shower a presumably lower classed individual with such expensive gifts.

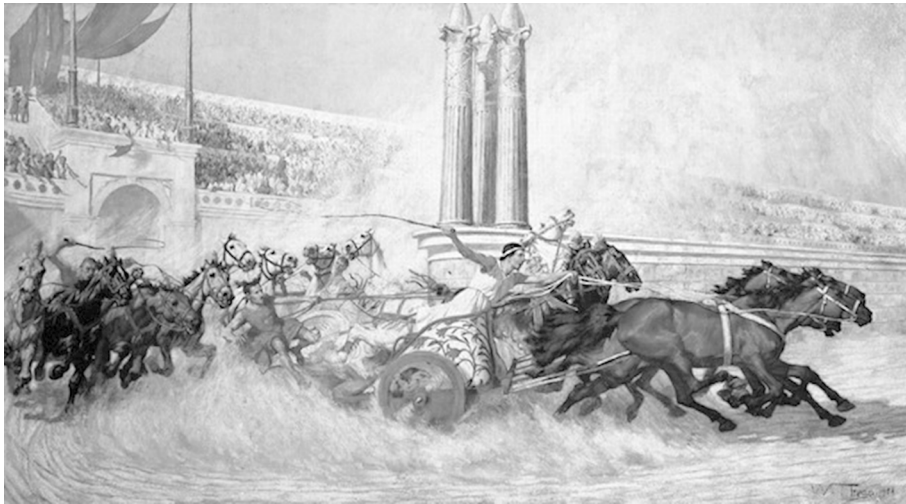
By the 4th century AD, the popularity of gladiatorial games was in a decline, as the Roman Empire adopted Christianity as its official religion. It was, however, only in 404 AD that gladiatorial games were altogether banned by the **emperor Honorius**⁶ due to the martyrdom of St. Telemachus. According to the historian Theodoret, Telemachus was a monk who came to Rome from Asia Minor. During one of the gladiatorial games in the city, Telemachus leapt into the arena to stop two gladiators from fighting. The spectators, who were obviously unhappy with Telemachus' action, proceeded to stone the monk to death. However, one form of gladiatorial games, the *venationes* (wild animal hunts), continued for another century.



1-6 The Arena Telemachus Leapt Into

Apart from gladiator fighting, ancient Romans played a variety of sports which included both indoor and outdoor sports. Rome also took various sports from Ancient Greece and changed their ritualistic nature into a display of physical strength and endurance. The wealthy Romans had large playing fields and structures known as gymnasia and **palaestrae**⁷ in their villas. The sports were often played at these places since it was considered a status symbol for the rich. Eventually the patronage of the empire for sports came about in the era of Emperor Nero when the first public gymnasium was built, followed by giant amphitheaters. With the passage of time, violent sports and large amphitheaters became one of the symbols of Roman power.

One of the most popular among the ancient Roman sports was **chariot racing**⁸. Chariot racing existed in Greece which was probably the inspiration for Roman chariot racing. It was one of the main events of ancient Olympics and other Pan-Hellenic Games. In ancient Rome, chariot racing took place between different teams and each team was financially backed by different groups. The intense interest of Romans in this game often resulted in clashes between the supporters of different teams and even caused political conflicts. Due to these problems, later Roman and Byzantine emperors appointed officials to ensure the peaceful nature of the game.

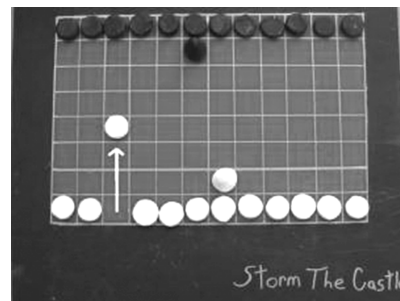


1-7 Chariot Racing

Boxing in ancient Rome, known as **Pugilatus**⁹, was also one of the most popular sports. However, the rules were different from the modern day boxing since the players in this sport could strike any part of the body including the back and genitals. Like various other Roman sports, this was a wild display of physical strength and endurance.

Not all sports in ancient Rome were bloody and violent and there were various quite peaceful sports that were mainly enjoyed by the children. One of the sports most popular with the children was hoop rolling that has remained more or less the same through the ages. This sport, like many other things, was taken by the Romans from the Greeks and the hoop was often referred to as “Greek Hoop”, although the dominant Latin term for the hoop was *trochus*. The stick, on the other hand, was known as *clavis* or *radius* and was usually made of metal with a wooden handle. According to the Greek historian Strabo, the most popular venue in Rome for this game was *Campus Martius*. Other than that, Sarmatian boys also rolled hoops on the frozen **Danube River**¹⁰.

Other than the outdoor sports, various indoor sports and games were also popular. One such game was Roman Chess which was known as **Ludus latruncolorum**¹¹. It was not exactly similar to modern day chess but resembled it to some extent and was considered a game of military tactics. Considering that the evidence is little, not much is known about the exact rules of this game.



1-8 Ludus latruncolorum 1

Ancient Roman society put a lot of emphasis on physical fitness and agility. The sports in ancient Rome were designed for considerable physical exertion, although there were various indoor sports as well. Among the most popular outdoor sports we can include the bloody fights of the gladiators, chariot racing which often ended in clashes between the supporters of opposite teams, and others. Before Emperor Nero, these sports were mainly played in the villas of rich people and it was Nero who constructed the

grand amphitheaters and brought these games under the official patronage. With the passage of time, these sports became one of the symbols of Roman power.

Notes:

1 Etruscans

The Etruscan civilization is the modern name given to a civilization of ancient Italy in the area corresponding roughly to Tuscany, western Umbria, northern and central Lazio, with offshoots also to the north in the Po Valley, in the current Emilia–Romagna, south–eastern Lombardy and southern Veneto, and to the south, in some areas of Campania.

2 Emperor Commodus

Commodus, Roman emperor from 177 to 192 (sole emperor after 180). His brutal misrule precipitated civil strife that ended 84 years of stability and prosperity within the empire. He was also known for imagining that he was the god Hercules.

3 Driffield Terrace

Driffield Terrace is an impressive address situated above The Mount which leads out of the city center past the racecourse. Convenient for both the city center and station (0.7 miles), the historic city walls are just half a mile distant.

4 munera

In ancient Rome, munera (Latin plural) were the provision of public works and entertainments provided for the benefit of the Roman people by individuals of high status and wealth. The word munera singular munus (cf. English “munificence”) means “duty, obligation”, expressing the individual’s responsibility to provide a service or contribution to his community.

5 Emperor Nero

Nero (15 December 37—9 June 68 AD) was the last Roman emperor of the Julio–Claudian dynasty. He was adopted by his great–uncle Claudius and became Claudius’ heir and successor. Like Claudius, Nero became emperor with the consent of the Praetorian Guard.

6 Emperor Honorius

Honorius, in full Flavius Honorius, (born September 9, 384—died August 15, 423), Roman emperor in the West from 393 to 423, a period when much of the Western Empire was overrun by invading tribes and Rome was captured and plundered by the Visigoths.

7 palaestrae

As Vitruvius describes, the palaestra was square or rectangular in shape with colonnades along all four sides creating porticoes. The portico on the northern side of the palaestra was of double depth to protect against the weather. Big halls were built along the single depth sides of the palaestra with seats for those enjoying intellectual pursuits, and the double depth side was divided into an area for youth activities, a punching bag area, a room for applying powders, a room for cold bathing, and an oil storeroom.