

英语语言与文化

安徽师范大学外语系编

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前 言

本书是为高等教育自学考试师范本科英语专业应试者选编的教科书。

全书分二大部分。第一部分介绍英国文化和美国文化;第二部分介绍文化和语言的关系。二大部分系统地介绍英国和美国的民族构成、历史发展、基本国情、政治制度、文学传统、文化教育、风土人情、社会特征以及语言交际中的文化因素。编者在选材时以内容丰富、语言规范和可读性为原则,并兼顾学员的实际情况,多数章节都配有涉及到有关背景的注释和疑难词汇表;为了方便自学,各章还附加了练习题,覆盖重点、难点。

本课程以扩展知识面为宗旨,要求学员通读各章,把握重点,而不要在语句理解方面过于讲究,不能以精读的方法来阅读本书。

限于编者水平,成书仓促,不足之处,恳请读者指正。

编 者

1998年11月

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Part One

British Culture

Chapter 1 Who are the British?

England and English

England is a highly urbanized country, with 80% of its population living in cities, and only 2% of the population working in agriculture. It's largest city is the capital, London, which is dominant in the UK in all fields: government, finance, and culture. England is physically the largest of the four nations, and it has by far the largest population. This dominance in size is reflected in a cultural and economic dominance too, which has the result that people in foreign countries sometimes make the mistake of talking about England when they mean the UK. Significantly, people in England sometimes make that mistake too, but people in the other three nations would not: they might call themselves British (as might the English) or they might call themselves Scottish or Welsh or Irish, but they certainly wouldn't call themselves (or like to be called) English. So oddly, of the four nations, the English feel most British, and therefore have the weakest sense of themselves as a separate "English" culture within Britain.

British history has been a history of invasions. Before the first century AD Britain was made up of many tribal kingdoms of Celtic people: a powerful culture

originating in central Europe. Then in 43AD Britain was invaded by the Roman Empire¹, and England and Wales (though not Scotland or Ireland) became a part of the Roman empire for nearly 400 years. As the Roman empire came under threat from the east, the Roman armies and Roman protection were withdrawn from Britain, and Britain was again divided into small kingdoms, and again it came under threat from outside this time from Germanic peoples: the Angles, and the Saxons.

One of the best-known English legends derives from this time. In the fifth century AD it is said that a great leader appeared, united the British, and with his magical sword, Excalibur, drove the Saxons back. This is the story of King Arthur², and has been embellished by singers, poets, novelists and even filmmakers ever since.

Although King Arthur's real existence is in doubt, you can visit places associated with his legend, such as the cliff-edge castle at Tintagel in Cornwall. According to legend Arthur gathered a company of knights to him, who sat together at Arthur's castle at Camelot (possibly the real hilltop fort at Cadbury Hill in Somerset). Conflict between his knights led to Arthur creating the famous "round table" at which all would have equal precedence³. Perhaps this could be seen as an indicator of the way in which the English have wished to see their monarch as something other than a remote dictator, and have in fact managed to gradually bind the monarchy into a more democratic system, rather than completely rejecting it⁴.

Whatever Arthur's success, legend or not, it did not last, for the Anglo-Saxons did succeed in invading Britain, and either absorbed the Celtic people, or pushed them to the western and northern edges of Britain. Despite the fact that contemporary English people think of King Arthur as their hero, really he was fighting against them, for these Anglo-Saxon invaders were the forefathers of the English, the founders of "Angle-land" or "England" as it has become known.

Two more groups of invaders were to come after the English: from the late 8th century on, raiders from Scandinavia, the ferocious Vikings⁵, threatened Britain's shores. Their settlements in England grew until large areas of northern and eastern England were under their control. By then the English heroes were truly English (Anglo-Saxon), such as King Alfred the Great⁶, who turned the tide in the south against the Vikings. There remains to this day a certain cultural divide between northerners and southerners in England, which, while not consciously "Saxon" versus "Dane", may have its origins in this time⁷. The richer southerners tend to think of northerners as less sophisticated than themselves, while northerners think

southerners arrogant and unfriendly. They are also marked by having distinctly different accents.

The next invaders were the Normans, from northern France, who were descendants of Vikings. Under William of Normandy (known as “William the Conqueror”⁸) they crossed the English Channel in 1066, and in the Battle of Hastings, defeated an English army under King Harold⁹. This marks the last time that an army from outside the British Isles succeeded in invading. William took the English throne, and became William the First of England. The Tower of London¹⁰, a castle in the centre of London which he built, still stands today.

The Normans did not settle England to any great extent: rather they imported a ruling class. The next three hundred years may be thought of as a Norman (and French-speaking) aristocracy ruling a largely Saxon and English-speaking population. It is this situation which produced another of England’s heroic legends. This is the legend of Robin Hood¹¹, the Saxon nobleman oppressed by the Normans, who became an outlaw, and with his band of “merry men” hid in the forest of Sherwood in the north midlands of England. From this secret place, armed with their longbows, they then went out to rob from the rich to give to the poor. This early English socialist¹² (!) has featured in many television series and films, both British and American. Some writers have seen in the popularity of this legend of a rebellion hidden in the green wood a clue to the English character: a richly unconventional interior life hidden by an external conformity¹³. But, like all stereotypes, this one has its weaknesses, as many English people, especially young people, like to display their unconventionality externally—for example English punk rockers with their vividly dyed spiky hair¹⁴. But it is certainly true that the lifeless fronts of many English houses conceal beautiful back gardens. Gardening is one of the most popular pastimes in England, and the back garden provides a place where people’s outdoor life at home can go on out of the public gaze. This may contrast with people from other countries whose outdoor life might be more social—sitting on the front porch watching passers-by.

The next few hundred years following the Norman invasion can be seen as a process of joining together the various parts of the British Isles under English rule, so that an English identity eventually became swamped by the necessity of adopting a wider British identity, both to unite the kingdom internally, and to present a single identity externally as Britain became an imperial power. At the same time power was gradually transferred from the monarch to the parliament. Charles the

First's attempt to overrule parliament in the 1640s led to a civil war in which parliamentary forces were victorious, and the king was executed. After a gap of eleven years in which England was ruled by parliament's leader, Oliver Cromwell¹⁵, the monarchy was restored. Further conflict between parliament and the king led to the removal of the Scottish house of Stuart¹⁶ from the throne, and William and Mary¹⁷ were imported from Holland to take the throne, thus finally establishing parliament's dominance over the throne.

Scotland and Scots

Scotland is the second largest of the four nations, both in population and in geographical area. It is also the most confident of its own identity because alone amongst the non-English components of the UK it has previously spent a substantial period of history as a unified state independent of the UK. Thus it is not a big leap for the Scottish to imagine themselves independent again.

Physically, Scotland is the most rugged part of the UK, with areas of sparsely populated mountains and lakes in the north (The Highlands), and in the south (The Southern Uplands). Three-quarters of the population lives in the lowland zone which spans the country between these two highland areas. The largest city is Glasgow, in the west of this zone. Scotland's capital city is Edinburgh, on the east coast forty miles away from Glasgow. It is renowned for its beauty, and dominated by its great castle on a high rock in the centre of the city. Both cities have ancient and internationally respected universities dating from the 15th century.

Scotland was not conquered by the Romans, though they did try to, and for a while occupied as far as the edge of the northern highland zone. But the difficulty of maintaining their rule there caused them to retreat to a line roughly equivalent to the contemporary boundary between England and Scotland. Along this line, from sea to sea, they, like the Chinese, built a wall to mark the northern edge of their domain, and to help defend it. It is called "Hadrian's Wall"¹⁸ after the Emperor of Rome at the time of its building, and although ruined, lengths of it can still be seen and walked along.

Nor was most of Scotland conquered by the Anglo-Saxons, although an Angle Kingdom was established in the southeast—hence Edinburgh's Germanic name. British celts displaced from the south by Saxon invasion occupied the area around what is now Glasgow, and in this same period (around the sixth century AD) people from northern Ireland invaded the south-west. They were called the Scots, and

it is they that gave the modern country of Scotland its name. The original Scottish celts, called the Picts, were left with the extensive but unproductive highland Zone. The division between highland and lowland Scotland remains a cultural divide today, in much the same way as north and south England see themselves as different from each other. There are even areas in the highlands where (in addition to English) people speak the old Celtic language, called “Gaelic”.

Like England, Scotland began to experience Viking raids in the ninth century, and it was the pressure from this outside threat that led Scottish kings to unify, forming an independent singular Scottish state at just about the same time that Anglo-saxon England was also unifying. The presence of this larger powerful kingdom on its southern doorstep was the key factor in Scottish politics from that time on, with frequent wars between the two. William Shakespeare’s play “Macbeth¹⁹” is set in the Scotland of this period. The town of Berwick upon Tweed near the Scottish border in present day England is said to have changed hands thirteen times as a result of Anglo-Scottish conflict. Despite the conflict, there were close ties between the two countries with extensive intermarriage between the two aristocracies, and even between the royal families. A recent Hollywood movie, *Braveheart*, told the story of William Wallace’s²⁰ uprising in 1298, which was quelled by the English. But only a few years later the Scots, under the leadership of Robert Bruce²¹, were victorious at the Battle of Bannockburn²², leading to 300 years of full independence.

In 1603, however, Queen Elizabeth²³ the First of England died childless, and the next in line to the throne was James the sixth of Scotland²⁴, so he also became James the First of England, uniting the two thrones. But for another hundred years Scotland maintained its separate political identity. However, in 1707 by agreement of the English and Scottish parliaments, Scotland joined the Union. There followed two rebellions in 1715 and 1745 in which the heir to the Stuart claim (deposed in 1688 by the English parliament) to the British throne attempted to reassert his right to rule Britain, gathering support in Scotland then marching with an army into England. In 1745 this led to a brutal military response from the British army. The rebel army was destroyed at the Battle of Culloden²⁵ (the last battle on British soil) in northern Scotland. Scottish highland clan (extended family group) culture was effectively destroyed at this time, and today exists largely as a way of parting tourists from their money by selling them “tartan” souvenirs or histories of “their” clan. For following Culloden, and even more importantly, the agricultural changes of the 18th century which led to depopulation of the highlands, many Scots sought

their fortune outside Scotland—in England, America, Canada, or Australia. So that there are more people of Scottish descent outside Scotland than in it, and many of those come back to find their “roots”, forming a good target for the sellers of such souvenirs.

The dream of an independent Scotland has not vanished, but it does not seem to be one shared by most Scots. Scotland elects its members of parliament to the London parliament in just the same way as the English do. It sends 72 representatives to London, but at the last election (in 1992), of those 72 only 3 were elected from the Scottish Nationalist Party—a political party which wants an independent Scotland. However, the largest group of MPs(49) was from the Labour Party, which has said that if they are elected as the UK government at the next election they will set up a regional parliament for Scotland to manage its own internal affairs within the UK.

Scotland has a great tradition of innovation in the arts, philosophy and science. The inventor of the telephone was a Scot, and the first man to transmit a television picture was another. Its writers have given the world such well-known work as Walter Scott's²⁶ romances of highland Scotland, and “*Auld Lang Syne*”²⁷ (by Robert Burns, who wrote in the Scots dialect). But the work which many consider to best sum up Scotland's position is the famous novel *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, by Robert Louis Stevenson²⁸, which describes how the civilised scientist Dr Jekyll transforms periodically into the crude and violent Mr Hyde. This description of the dual nature of man is perhaps a good way to think of Scotland: superficially fully integrated into the UK, but concealed beneath this is a still-strong Scottish identity²⁹.

Wales and Welsh

The capital of Wales is Cardiff, a small city of about 300 000 people on the south coast. This southern area was an important element in Britain's industrial revolution, as it had rich coal deposits. Coal-mining became a key industry for the Welsh, employing tens of thousands at its height. So its recent disappearance has been a major economic and cultural blow. But South Wales has been very successful in attracting investment from abroad—particularly Japan and the United States, which has helped to create new industries to replace coal and steel.

Wales is the smallest among the three nations on the British mainland, though larger than Northern Ireland. It is very close to the most densely populated parts of central England. Though it is hillier and more rugged than adjacent parts of En-

gland there is no natural boundary. So Wales has been dominated by England for longer than the other nations of the union. Nevertheless, what is remarkable is that despite this near-ness and long-standing political integration Wales retains a powerful sense of its difference from England. It also retains its own language, Welsh. This is a Celtic tongue completely different from English, spoken by 19% of the population, a much higher proportion of the population than speak Gaelic in Scotland. Again, all those Welsh-speakers are also fluent in English.

Like the rest of Britain, before the arrival of the Roman empire, Wales was a land of Celtic peoples, living in a number of small tribal kingdoms. Wales was conquered by the Romans eventually, though with difficulty. The Welsh chieftain Caradoc fought a long guerrilla campaign from the Welsh hills against the invader. When the Romans left Britain Wales was again a Celtic land, though again divided into separate kingdoms, but unlike England it did not fall to the Anglo-Saxon invaders of the fifth century.

But Wales was always under pressure from its English neighbours, particularly after the Norman conquest, when Norman barons set up castles and estates in Wales under the authority of the English Crown. Thus there was a need to unify Wales to successfully resist the English. This did not happen until Llywelyn ap Gruffudd³⁰ brought a large portion of Wales under his rule, and by a military campaign forced the English to acknowledge him as Prince of Wales in 1267. But when he died, the English king, Edward the First, set about conquering Wales, building a series of great stone castles there from which to control the population. These castles stand today as one of Wales' greatest tourist attractions (along with its beaches, cliffs and mountains), and tourism is now an important industry.

Edward the First named his son the Prince of Wales, and the first son of the monarch has held that title ever since (including the present day Prince Charles) to try to bring Wales into the British nation. The last real attempt to resist that process was in the early 15th century when Owain Glyndwr³¹ led an unsuccessful rising against the English. Today Glyndwr and Llywelyn are more than simple historical figures for the Welsh, they are the almost legendary heroes of Welsh nationalism. Their brief campaigns are the only times in history when Wales has existed as a unified independent nation.

A hundred years after Glyndwr, in 1536, Wales was brought legally, administratively, and politically into the UK by an act of the British parliament. This close long-standing relationship means that modern Wales lacks some of the outward

signs of difference which Scotland possesses—its legal system and its education system are exactly the same as in England. Often official statistics are given for “England and Wales”. However, Wales is different, and one of the key markers of that difference is the Welsh language—the old British Celtic tongue which is still in daily use. But as a source of the Welsh identity this is sometimes divisive, because 80% of the Welsh don't speak the language, and yet feel Welsh. Since most of the Welsh speakers are in the north, this deepens a cultural division between the more populated, industrial south, and the rural north of Wales.

As in Scotland the Welsh people elect their MPs to the London parliament. The Welsh too have nationalist party, “Plaid Cymru”³² (The Party of Wales), which campaigns for an independent Wales. Of the 38 Welsh MPs, 4 are members of this party. Under a Labour government Wales will probably gain its own parliament to manage its own internal affairs.

Words & Expressions

urbanized/'ɔ:bənaɪzɪd/ *a* 都市化的

by far 更,显然地

Welsh/welʃ/ *a* 威尔士人的;威尔士语

Celtic/'keltɪk/ *a* 凯尔特人的;凯尔特语

originate/'ɔ:rdʒɪneɪt/v *i* 开始;起始于某地

Angles/'æŋɡlz/ *n*. 盎格鲁人(5世纪由德国北部移居英国)

Saxon/'sæksn/ *n*. 撒克逊人(原住德国,一部分于5世纪中叶至6世纪上半叶移居英国)

derive/dɪ'reɪv/v *i*. 由来

Excalibur/eks'kælibə/ *n*. 亚瑟王之魔剑

embellish/ɪm'belɪʃ/v *t*. 传颂;歌颂

legend/'ledʒənd/ *n*. 传说;神话

Tintagel/tɪn'tædʒəl/ *n* 廷塔哲岬(在英格兰西南部,传说中的King Arthur诞生处)

Cornwall/'kɔ:nwəl/ *n*. 康瓦尔(英国西南部之一郡,首府Bodmin)

knight/nait/ *n* (中古时的)骑士;武士

Camelot/'kæmɪlət/ *n*. 传说中Arthur王之宫殿朝廷所在地

Somerset/'sʌəəsɪt/ *n* 索美塞得郡(英格兰西南部一郡)

conflict/'kɒnflɪkt/ *n* 冲突

precedence/'pri:si:dənz/ *n* 上席;较高位置

monarch/'mɒnək/ *n* 君主;帝王

contemporary/kən'tempərəri/ *a*. 当代的

Scandinavia/skændi'neɪvjə/ *n* 斯勘的纳维亚(北欧国家的原称,指:瑞典、挪威、丹麦、芬兰、冰岛)

ferocious/fə'rəʊʃəs/ *a*. 凶残的;野蛮的

versus/və'sʌs/ *prep*. 对(多用于诉讼或竞技等之中,缩写作 *v.* 或 *vs.*)

sophisticated/sə'fɪstɪkeɪtɪd/ *a*. 世故的;城府深的

arrogant/'ærəgənt/ *a*. 骄傲自大的,傲慢的

throne/θrəʊn/ *n*. 帝王的宝座

aristocracy/ærɪs'tɒkrəsi/ *n*. 贵族;贵族阶层

outlaw/'aʊtlɔ:/ *n*. 被流放者;罪犯

interior/ɪn'tiəriə/ *a*. 内部的

display/dɪs'pleɪ/v *t*. 展示

externally/eks'tɜ:nəli/ *ad*. 外表;外貌

punk/pʌŋk/n. 朋克,小阿飞,小流氓
 dyed/daid/a. 染色的
 spiky/'spaiki/a. 竖起的;直立的
 conceal/kən'si:l/vt. 隐瞒
 porch/pɔ:tʃ/n 门廊
 identity/'aɪdɪntɪti/n 特征
 eventually/i'ventʃəli/ad. 最后;终于
 execute/'eksɪkjʊt/vt 处决
 overrule/,'əʊvə'ru:l/vt. 推翻
 component/kəm'pəʊnənt/n. 组成部分
 substantial/sʌb'stænsjəl/a 相当(长)的
 rugged/'rʌɡɪd/a 崎岖的;不平坦的
 sparsely/'spɑ:sli/ad 稀少地
 span/spæn/vt. 跨越
 retreat/ri'tri:t/vt. 撤回
 equivalent/i'kwɪvələnt/a 相等于

domain/də'meɪn/n. 领土;领地
 change hands (财产等)转换所有者;易手
 intermarriage/ɪntə'mæri:dʒ/n. 异族通婚;近亲通婚
 quell/kwel/vt 镇压
 depose/di'pəʊz/vt. 废黜(国王等)
 reassert/ri:ə'sæt/vt 再申明
 tartan/tɑ:tən/a. 用格子呢制的
 souvenir/'su:vənɪə/n. 纪念品
 dual/'djuəl/a. 双重的
 deposit/di'pəzɪt/n 贮布
 adjacent/ə'dʒeɪsənt/a. 邻近的
 long-standing a. 长期的;长年累月的
 Gaelic/'geɪlɪk/n 盖尔语
 baron/'bærən/n. 男爵

Notes

1 the Roman Empire: 罗马帝国。始于公元前 31 年,公元 192 年进入全盛时期,政治、经济和文化都得到充分发展。进入 3 世纪之后,罗马奴隶制社会陷于全面危机,经济衰败,政治混乱,基督教逐渐流行和传播。至帝国后期(284—476)戴克里先建立君主统治,各地爆发了广泛的人民起义,给帝国的统治以严重打击。395 年帝国分裂为西罗马帝国和东罗马帝国。

2. King Arthur: 亚瑟国王,6 世纪时英格兰统治者,圆桌武士的领袖。有关他的传说很多。

3. ...creating the famous "round table"... equal precedence: 亚瑟的骑士们经常为开会时座位问题而争吵,致使亚瑟采用著名的圆桌,这样,骑士们就无法分出地位的高低主次了。

4. Perhaps this completely rejecting it; 或许这可以被看作是象征着英国人如何看待其君主的一种愿望,他们不希望把他们的君主看作是一位可望而不可及的统治者。事实上,英国人已逐渐将君主制融入一个更为民主的体制之中,而不是完全的拒绝。

5. the ferocious Vikings: 指第 8 世纪至第 10 世纪残暴地掠夺欧洲西海岸的北欧海盗。

6. King Alfred the Great: 阿尔弗雷德国王(849—899),英格兰撒克逊民族的一位国王。

7. There remains . . . origins in this time: 直到今天英格兰的北方人和南方人之间还存在着一定的文化差异,这种差异虽不象撒克逊与丹麦人之间的差异那样明显,但是到现在来看还是有其根源的。

8 William the Conqueror: 威廉一世征服者(约 1028—1087.9.9),法国诺曼底公爵,英格兰第一位诺曼人国王(1066—1087 在位)。1066 年 9 月 27 日引兵渡海对英格兰开战,获全胜。同年圣诞节,威廉在威斯敏斯特大教堂加冕为英格兰国王。

9. King Harold: 哈罗德国王, 英格兰最后一位撒克逊民族的国王, 1066 年诺曼底法国人入侵英格兰时, 在关键的 Hastings 战斗中被杀。从此英格兰被征服, 诺曼底统治者当了英国国王, 即威廉一世。

10. the Tower of London: 伦敦塔, 位于泰晤士河北岸, 伦敦塔桥附近, 是伦敦著名古迹之一。威廉一世于 11 世纪为保卫和控制整个伦敦城而建造了该塔, 占地 18 英亩。经过历代君主的扩建和修整, 整个建筑反映了英国不同朝代的建筑风格。9 个世纪以来, 曾作过堡垒、王宫、监狱、皇家铸币厂和伦敦档案馆。现在是王冠、王袍、兵器和盔甲陈列馆。

11 Robin Hood: 罗宾汉, 英国传说中的一位著名的绿林好汉, 在森林里盘踞, 以劫富济贫杀害贪官污吏为宗旨。

12 this early English socialist: 这位早期的英格兰社会主义者。此处作者把劫富济贫, 宣传平等思想的农民起义者及绿林好汉称为社会主义者。

13 Some writers .by an external conformity: 在这个广为流传的绿林反叛神话中, 一些作家看到了体现英国人个性的迹象: 表面上似乎一致, 但实际上保持着一种强烈的独特的生活方式。

14 for example English punk rockers . dyed spiky hair: 例如英国的一些朋克把头发理成鸡冠状, 并染成很鲜艳的颜色, 以此来表达他们的反叛心理。

15 Oliver Cromwell: 奥利弗·克伦威尔 (1599 4. 25—1658. 9. 3)。英格兰军人和政治家, 生于英格兰东部的亨廷顿, 曾两次当选国会议员, 由于反对国王, 捍卫公民自由和宗教自由, 他很快成为英国资产阶级革命的领袖。1649 年国王查理一世被处死后, 议会宣布英伦三岛成立共和国, 克伦威尔成为共和国首领, 称为“护国公”。1649 年他又征服了爱尔兰人。

16 the Scottish house of Stuart: 苏格兰斯图亚特王室。1371 年罗伯特二世成为第一代斯图亚特国王, 为苏格兰王室。1603 年, 詹姆斯六世继承英格兰王位, 斯图亚特从此成为英格兰王室。

17 William and Mary: 威廉和玛丽。英国资产阶级革命王朝复辟时期的第二个国王是詹姆斯二世。他和他的妻子都是天主教徒, 他的统治遭到议会中资产阶级势力和新教徒的强烈反对。因此, 英国议会于 1687 年底邀请詹姆斯二世的女儿、新教徒玛丽和他的丈夫、荷兰国王威廉(新教徒)到英国联合执政。威廉的军队在英国登陆时未遇任何反抗, 詹姆斯二世逃跑, 这就是英国历史上 1688 年的“光荣革命”, 又称“不流血革命”。1689 年, 议会通过“权利法案”, 限制国王权力, 从而开始了延续至今的君主立宪制。

18. Hadrian's Wall: 哈德良长城。罗马人保卫不列颠北疆的屏障, 长 118 公里, 不列颠总督尼波斯监造, 136 年竣工。

19. Macbeth: 《麦克白》, 莎士比亚创作的四大悲剧之一。现实生活中的麦克白在 1040 年杀死堂兄, 自立为苏格兰国王。1057 年在一场战争中被英格兰支持的一方人杀死。他大起大落的生平构成了莎翁创作的基本情节。

20. William Wallace's: 威廉·华莱士(约 1270—1305. 8. 23), 苏格兰最伟大的民族英雄之一。1298 年 7 月 3 日爱德华一世的军队入侵苏格兰。华莱士率领苏格兰人民奋起反抗, 在斯特灵的福尔柯克战役中被爱德华的军队打败。华莱士继续带领游击队在苏格兰各地进行斗争, 1305 年被捕, 后在伦敦被处决。

21 Robert Bruce: 罗伯特·布鲁斯(1274. 7. 11—1329. 6. 7)。14 世纪苏格兰争取国家独

立的斗士,1306年成为苏格兰国王。1314年,他率领苏格兰军队在班诺克本大败英格兰军队,迫使英格兰政府承认他的地位。根据北安普敦条约(1328),英王承认他为苏格兰国王并完全放弃英格兰对苏格兰宗主权的要求。

22 the battle of Bannockburn:班诺克本战役(1314.6 23—1314.6 24)。苏格兰历史上的一次大决战。在这次决战中,由罗伯特·布鲁斯统帅的苏格兰军队打败了爱德华二世统帅的英格兰军。苏格兰军在敌强我弱的情况下,巧妙利用地形,粉碎了敌人的优势兵力。通过这次战争,苏格兰重新获得独立。

23 Queen Elizabeth:伊丽莎白一世(1533.9 7—1603 5 24)。英格兰历代最伟大的君主之一。在位45年中,她不愿发动战争,因而保证国家稳步走向繁荣。伊丽莎白时代是英国最辉煌的年代,以莎士比亚文学为标志的英国文学达到鼎盛。此外,英国航海业在这一时期开始发展,繁荣了对外通商。伊丽莎白实行了一系列强国政策,使英国成了海上霸王,走上了殖民主义道路。

24. James the Sixth of Scotland:苏格兰詹姆斯六世(1566 6 19—1625 3)。1567年起统治苏格兰,称詹姆斯六世。生于爱丁堡,1岁继承苏格兰王位。成年后,竭力与英格兰女王伊丽莎白保持良好关系,因为伊丽莎白无嗣,他可继承英格兰王位。1603年,伊丽莎白逝世后,立即继位。

25. the battle of Culloden: Culloden 战役。1745年苏格兰王子查尔斯·爱德华·斯图亚特带领他的部下与英格兰军队发生的一场战斗,最后以苏格兰的失败而告终。

26. Walter Scott:沃尔特·司各特(1771 8 15—1832 9. 21)。英国小说家,历史小说的首创者。他著名的作品都是写苏格兰和英格兰的历史,许多材料取自民间传说。其中有《苏格兰编唱歌谣集》、《爱丁堡评论》、《威弗利》等。

27. Auld Lang Syne:著名苏格兰民歌“友谊地久天长”。

28 Robert Louis Stevenson:罗伯特·路易斯·斯蒂文森(1850. 11. 13—1894 12. 3)。英国著名冒险故事和散文作家。他的作品种类繁多,构思精巧。他著名的著作有:《新天方夜谭》故事集、《金银岛》、《黑箭》、《绑架》、《卡特琳娜》等。

29. superficially .. Scottish identity:表面上(苏格兰)已完全与英国融为一体,但实际上仍然保持了强烈的苏格兰特征。

30 Llywelyn ap Gruffudd:卢埃林·阿普·格鲁菲德(? —1282. 12. 11)。威尔士北部圭内斯的诸侯。1262年他曾以武力反对威尔士南部英格兰贵族。1272年,他再次公开反抗英格兰人。1282年,卢埃林和他的兄弟戴维又发动一次争取民族独立的起义,以卢埃林被杀,起义被英格兰军队镇压而告瓦解。

31. Owain Glyndwr:欧文·格林道瓦尔(1354—1416)。自称为威尔士王子。率威尔士人反抗英格兰人的统治,但未成功。人们称他为威尔士的民族英雄。1400年9月,他在威尔士北部发动起义,起义很快就发展成为威尔士的民族斗争。1404年,格林道瓦尔控制了威尔士大部分地区,建立了独立的威尔士议会,并开始制订自己的外交及基督教会政策。1405年,他遭到亨利王子的围剿,不久起义即告失败。

32. “plaid Cymru”:威尔士党,1925年8月成立。要求威尔士有更大的自治权,同时希望与英格兰保持紧密的关系。

Exercises

I . Explain each of the following in English:

- 1 the British Isles
2. Robin Hood
3. the Anglo-Saxons
4. the Vikings
- 5 King Arthur
6. King Harold

II Fill in the blanks:

- 1 Britain Consists of _____ nations, including England, _____ , _____ and _____.
- 2 Britain is a country with a history of invasions. In 43 AD Britain was invaded by _____, in the late 8th century they experienced _____ raids from Scandinavia and in the 11th century they suffered invasions from _____.
3. The Anglo-Saxons began to settle in Britain in _____ century.
- 4 The capital of Britain is _____, which has great influence on the UK in all fields including _____, _____ and _____.
- 5 Charles the First, king of Britain, was executed, because he attempted to _____ in the English Revolution.
- 6 Name two Scottish cities which have ancient and internationally respected universities: _____ and _____.
- 7 The battle of Bannockburn led by Robert the Bruce succeeded in winning the full independence of _____.
8. Both the Scottish and Welsh people elect their members of parliaments to the London Parliament and each holds _____ and _____ seats respectively.
9. The capital of Scotland is _____, which is well-known for its natural _____.
- 10 Although Wales is the smallest of the three nations on the _____ mainland, it's good at getting _____ from abroad, particularly Japan and _____.

III Tick the correct answer in each of the following:

- 1 Three of the following are characteristics of London Which of the four is the exception?
 - A London is a political, economic and cultural centre of the country.
 - B London has a larger population than all other cities in England.
 - C London is not only the largest city in Britain, but also the largest in the world.
 - D. London has played a significant role in the economic construction of the country.
- 2 The Tower of London, a historical sight, located in the centre of London, was built by
 - A. King Harold