

<<英语国家社会与文化简明教程>>

图书基本信息

书名：<<英语国家社会与文化简明教程>>

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### 前言

本书自2003年出版发行以来，至今已有五个年头。这期间书中述及的五个英语国家在政治、经济、教育、社会和文化等各方面都发生了很大的变化。美国的“次贷危机”所引发的全球经济衰退就是突出的例证。变化了的形势会直接影响到人们的生活方式和行为规范，影响一个国家的文化价值观。作为教材，理应为学生提供最新的知识素材，摒弃那些过时的或不太适用的内容。基于这种想法，我们进行了全面修改。

修改后的教程突出了以下几个特点。

1. 以“适度、够用”为原则。

教育部对高职高专课程建设的要求中以知识的“适度、够用”为原则。

按此原则，结合近年来学生的英语水平，教学课时数等实际情况，从丰富纷繁的资料中加以筛选，在覆盖面的取舍上做到优化，在每一章节的内容上做到简化，不求详尽。

修订后的教程仍由三部分构成。

英国部分十二章，美国部分十三章，第三部分包括加拿大、澳大利亚和新西兰三个国家共十七章。

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### 内容概要

全书简明介绍了英国、美国、加拿大、澳大利亚和新西兰五个英语国家的地理、历史、政治、经济、教育、家庭生活、社会风俗和传统等文化知识，旨在引导学生将语言学习与文化知识紧密结合起来，提高学习英语的效果并为培养学生的跨文化交际能力打下一定基础。

书中内容新颖、文字通俗易懂。

对新词、难词、专门术语等作了汉语标注。

全书分三个部分，英国、美国各为一部分，另外三个国家为一部分，共计42章，可供高职高专英语专业的学生使用，也可作为自学者的参考用书。

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## 章节摘录

The American wedding is often an expensive affair ( average cost about \$10,000 ). It is usually paid for by the bride ' S parents , although the groom and his parents help prepare the guest list . The day ' S festivities begin with the marriage ceremony , which may be held in a church , synagogue ( 会堂 , 犹太教会堂 ) , home , or hotel . Guests are seated on either side of an aisle , and the wedding starts with a procession down the aisle . The procession includes the bridal couple and their closest relatives and friends . There are usually bridesmaids ( 女宾相 ) and a maid of honor ( all wearing matching dresses ) and the groom ' S best man ( 男宾相 ) , who carries the bride ' S wedding ring . Walking immediately in front of the bride is a young girl ( the flower girl ) , who decorates the bride ' S path with flower petals dropped from her straw basket . The bride walks down the aisle with her father , who leads her to the altar and " gives her away " to the groom . The bride and groom then face a cleric or judge conducting the service , as the traditional service is recited . The double ring ceremony is quite common today , with bride and groom placing identical rings on each other ' S fingers . The ring, a circle with no beginning and no end , is a familiar symbol of unending love and loyalty . It is worn on the fourth finger of the left hand because of a very old idea that a vein or nerve ran from this finger directly to the heart . Toward the end of the wedding ceremony , the bride and groom promise to love each other " until death do us part . " They are pronounced husband and wife , and are invited to kiss each other . Then , the entire wedding procession walks back up the aisle , and the ceremony is over . Often , after a church wedding , guests throw rice , rose petals , or confetti ( 五彩碎纸 ) at the newlyweds as they leave the church .

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