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作者：（澳）ANNA WIERZBICKA 著

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内容概要

本书是“自然语义元语言(NSM)”理论的一本重要著述。
作者通过大量的文献分析和实例论证，向我们阐释了NSM理论及“文化脚本”法在语义描述上所具有的卓越功能。
作者在书中提出了“盎格鲁英语”的概念，指出要分析和发现蕴含在复杂语言现象背后的文化特质和语义共性，就要运用NSM理论来分析。
同时，作者运用“艾化脚本”法分析了一些“盎格鲁文化”关键词，并探讨了“盎格鲁文化”的父键价值及其在英语语法中的反映，强调了承载历史的英语语言和文化在当今世界的重要地位。

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章节摘录

In her memoir New York （zoox）, the Australian writer Lily Brett （who was raisedin Australia） writes: "Some untruths are essential. For example, compliments thatare not entirely accurate, and other forms of kindness or flattery. Sometimes it doesntmake sense to tell the truth. Sometimes it would be just plain stupid" . Brett contrasts these cultural assumptions, which she accepts, with those of her father——aPolish Jewish Holocaust survivor, of whom she says that "he is fond of the truth."Present at an interview given by his daughter, the father embarrasses her by inter-rupting and contradicting what she has said. Brett writes: "I couldnt believe it. Itdidnt happen the way you said it did, my father said. I didnt want to start a familyargu ment in front of the journalist. I glared at my father. He deflected my glare. The truth is the truth, he declared" （p. 84）. This saying corresponds to the Polish expres-sion "co prawda to prawda" （lit. "what truth that truth"）, which may have been at theback of her fathers mind; from a contemporary Anglo perspective, however, it seemstoo inflexible and too absolute: "facts" are "facts" （because facts are "plain," "simple,"and "hard"）, but "truth" is no longer simply "truth."

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