

<<英语史>>

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作者：弗里伯恩

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前言

随着我国经济的飞速发展，社会对以研究生为主体的高层次人才的需求日益增长，我国英语语言文学专业的研究生教育规模也在不断扩大。

要使研究生教育持续健康地发展，培养学生创新思维能力和独立研究与应用能力，必须全面系统地加强基础理论与基本方法的训练。

而要实现这一目标，就必须有一套符合我国国情的、系统正规的英语语言文学专业研究生主干教材。

基于这一认识，上海外语教育出版社于21世纪之初邀请全国英语语言文学专业各研究领域中的知名专家学者，编写了“高等院校英语语言文学专业研究生系列教材”，迄今已陆续出版了二十余种。这套系列教材集各高校之所长，优势互补，形成合力，在教材建设方面，把我国英语语言文学专业的研究生培养工作推上了一个新的台阶，规范了我国英语语言文学专业的研究生课程，为高校培养基础扎实、知识面广、富有开拓精神、符合社会需要的高质量研究生提供了条件。

该系列教材的编写结合了我国英语语言文学专业研究生教学的实际情况与需要，强调科学性、系统性、先进性和实用性，力求体现理论与应用相结合，介绍与研究相结合，史与论相结合，原创与引进相结合，全面融会贯通。

每一种教材都能够反映出该研究领域的新理论、新方法和新成果。

系列教材推出后不仅被作为我国英语语言文学专业研究生的主干教材，也被作为中国语言文学专业的教师与学生的参考用书。

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内容概要

本书是一部以历史文献为核心的英语史教程。

它通过大量原汁原味的选文，从语音词汇、语法、书写法和社会背景等方面全方位地展现了英语的演变过程。

选文来自各时期的经典文献，大多附有原文扫描图片、转写文本（包括用古英语字体和当代英语书写体转写的文本）以及现代英语译文（包括逐词翻译及意译）。

本书还配有专门的网站，提供选文的词汇表、文本详解和文本朗读，丰富了书本内容，而且具有很高的资料价值。

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章节摘录

1.1 English today Four hundred years ago, at the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries, English was spoken almost exclusively by the English in England, and by some speakers in Wales, Ireland and Scotland, and this had been so for hundreds of years since the language was first brought to Britain in the 5th century. English today is a worldwide international language. It is spoken as a mother tongue by about 400 million people in the British Isles, Canada, the United States of America, Australia and New Zealand. It is a second language for many others in, for example, India and Pakistan and in some African states, where it is used as an official language in government and education. New Englishes Many different national and regional varieties of English have therefore developed, and will continue to do so. They have been called new Englishes, with their own characteristics of vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation, in the different states of Africa, India and Pakistan, Singapore and the Philippines for example. Standard English In Britain there are many regional and social dialects, but there is one variety which is not confined to any geographical region. It originally developed as a common system of writing, but it is also the dialect of what is called educated speech: Educated English naturally tends to be given the additional prestige of government agencies, the professions, the political parties, the press, the law court and the pulpit - any institution which must attempt to address itself to a public beyond the smallest dialectal community. It is codified in dictionaries, grammars, and guides to usage, and it is taught in the school system at all levels. It is almost exclusively the language of printed matter. Because educated English is thus accorded implicit social and political sanction, it comes to be referred to as STANDARD ENGLISH ... (Quirk et al., Longman 1985 A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language, p 18)

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