

<<英美文学简明教程>>

图书基本信息

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作者：张伯香，刘世理 主编

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前言

文学教学是语言教学中十分重要的一部分，它不仅可以帮助学生拓宽视野，提高分析鉴赏能力，而且可以熏陶学生的思想情操，加强他们对人类社会的认识与了解。

教育部新近修订的《高等学校英语专业教学大纲》指出：文学课程的目的在于培养学生阅读、理解、欣赏英语文学原著的能力，掌握文学批评的基本知识和方法；通过阅读和分析英美文学作品，促进学生语言基本功和人文素质的提高，增强学生对西方文学及文化的了解。

《英美文学简明教程》的出版正是为了这一目的。

在教材编写过程中，我们广泛比较了国内外现有的同类教材，按照选取适合学生阅读又具代表性的常见作品为原则，并结合编者自己多年的教学和研究体会，以英美文学发展的历史为顺序，编选了各个历史时期主要作家的代表作品。

在体裁上，我们注意了诗歌、小说、戏剧与散文的适当比例。

每章的内容包括历史文化背景、作者简介、作品选读、注释和思考题等。

《英美文学简明教程》是普通高等院校英语专业教材，也可供独立学院、教育学院、广播电视大学、成人高等教育及社会上英语自学者学习使用。

与《英美文学选读》（张伯香主编，1998年外语教学与研究出版社出版）相比，本教程吸收了近几年国内外英美文学研究的最新成果，扩大了入选作者，大幅调整了选读作品，增加了学习思考题，从而使教材内容更加充实，语言叙述更加简明，选读作品的难度也相对降低；我们相信这将更加有利于学生的理解与掌握。

为方便英语专业教学计划的执行，我们将本教程分为上、下两册：上册为英国文学，下册为美国文学，意在用一年的课时，通过阅读原汁原味的英美诗歌、小说、戏剧和散文作品，让学生对英美文学发展的历史脉络、各个时期的主要文学流派及其创作特点有一个基本的了解，从而提高学生对文学作品的感受能力、分析能力和鉴赏能力。

《英美文学简明教程》的问世与华中科技大学出版社领导的关心与支持密不可分，更是杨鸥等编辑们辛勤劳动的结晶。

在此，我谨代表所有编者向他们表示诚挚的谢意。

参加《英美文学简明教程》上册编写工作的有江宝珠、余永锋、何洁、路璐、姚岚、邹凌等老师，参加下册编写工作的有左广明、刘莹、鄢畅、雪莲、杨开杰、黄守刚等老师，他们在选材、撰稿、注释、录入、校对等方面做了大量的工作。

全书的内容设计、章节安排、文字修改和最后的通读定稿都由主编负责。

由于多人执笔，风格难以统一，各种错漏也在所难免，敬请广大读者批评指正。

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内容概要

本书广泛比较了国内外现有同类教材，吸收了近几年国内外美国文学研究的最新成果，按照选取适合学生阅读又具代表性的常见作品为原则，并结合编者自己多年的教学和研究体会，以美国文学发展的历史为顺序，编选了各个历史时期主要作家的代表作品。

在体裁上，注意了诗歌、小说、戏剧与散文的适当比例。

每章的内容包括历史文化背景、作者简介、作品选读、注释和思考题等；与其他同类书相比，本书扩大了入选作者，调整了选读作品，增加了学习思考题，从而使教材内容更加充实，语言叙述更加简明，选读作品的难度也相对降低，这将有利于学生的理解与掌握。

本书为普通高等院校英语专业教材，也可供独立学院、教育学院、广播电视大学、成人高等教育及社会上英语自学者学习使用。

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The phase of New England Transcendentalism is the summit of American Romanticism. It was, in essence, romanticism on Puritan soil. This transcendental movement, based on a fundamental belief in the trinity of the world and God, was first flourished in New England from the 1830s to the Civil War. Transcendentalism emphasized the power of intuition, believing that people could learn things both from the outside world by means of the five senses and from the inner world by intuition. As romantic idealism, it placed spirit first and matter second. It believed that spirit transcended matter, and the permanent reality was the spiritual one. It took nature as symbolic of spirit of God. All things in nature were symbols of the spiritual, of God's presence. It believed that the individual was the most important element in society and that the ideal kind of individual was self-reliant and unselfish. Transcendentalism was also an ethical guide to life for the young nation of America. It preached the positive life and appealed to the best side of human nature. Therefore, it advocated the tolerance of difference in religious opinion and the free control of its own affairs by each congregation, and to go forward to the development of a new and distinctly American culture. The two greatest advocates of the movement were Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau. In this romantic period, there came up a great number of important writers, among whom the better known are poets such as Philip Freneau, William Cullen Bryant, Henry Wordsworth Longfellow, Edgar Allan Poe, and, especially, Walt Whitman, whose *Leaves of Grass* established him as the most popular American poet of the 19th century. The fiction of the American Romantic period is an original and diverse body of work. It ranges from the comic fables of Washington Irving to the Gothic tales of Edgar Allan Poe, from the frontier adventures of James Fenimore Cooper to the narrative quests of Herman Melville, from the psychological romances of Nathaniel Hawthorne to the social realism of Rebecca Harding Davis. American Romanticists also differed in their understanding of human nature. To the transcendentalists such as Emerson and Thoreau, man is divine in nature and therefore forever perfectible; but to Hawthorne and Melville, everybody is potentially a sinner, and great moral courage is therefore essential for the improvement of human nature, as is shown in Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*.

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