

英语国家概况课后习题（附答案）

Chapter 1

I .Read the following statement and decide whether they are true(T) or false (F).

- F—1.People in different parts of Britain like to use the name England to refer to their country.
- T—2.The Severn River is the longest river of Britain ,which originates in Wales and flows through western England.
- F—3.Today more than half of the people in Wales still speak the ancient Welsh language.
- F—4.In terms of population and area,Northern Ireland is the second largest part of Britain.
- F—5.Although the climate in Britain is generally mild ,the temperature in northern Scotland often falls below-10°C in January.
- T—6.The majority of the people in Britain are descendants of the Anglo-Saxons.
- T—7.The Celtic people were the earliest known inhabitants of Britain.
- F—8.English evolved into what is now described as Modern English from the late 16th century.

II .Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. The two main islands of the British Isles are—A—
 - A.Great Britain and Ireland
 - B.Great Britain and Shcotland
 - C.Great Britain and England
 - D.Great Britain and England
2. —B—is the capital city of Scotland.

A.Belfast
C.London

B.Edinburgh
D.Cardiff

3. Among the four parts of the United Kingdom, —D—is the smallest.

A.England
C.Wales

B.Scotland
D.Northern Ireland

4. English belongs to the —C—group of the Indo-European family of languages.

A.Celtic
C.Germantic

B.Norman
D.Roman

5. The introduction of Christianity to Britain added the first element of —D—words to English.

A.Danish and Finnish
C.French and Italian

B.Dutch and German
D.Latin and Greek

6. The evolution of Middle English was reinforced by the—A—influence.

A.Norman
C.German

B.Dutch
D.Danish

7. Samuel Johnson's dictionary was influential in establishing a standard form of—C—.

8. At present,nearly —C—of the world's populations communicate in English.

A.half
C.one third

B.a quarter
D.one fifth

III.Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. Why do tourist from all over the world like go to Scotland?

1. How many periods can the development of the English language be divided into and what are they?
 2. Why did English become more important after the Black Death?
- IV. State your understanding of the following questions.
1. Who are the British people?
 2. What is Standard English?

Chapter 2

I. Read the following statements and decide whether they are true (T) or false (F).

- T—1. British history before 55 BC is basically undocumented.
- T—2. The Anglo Saxon came to Britain in the 5th century.
- F—3. The chief or king of the Anglo Saxon tribes exercised power at their own will.
- T—4. The Viking began to attack the English coast in the 8th century.
- T—5. Henry II built up a large empire which included England and most of France.
- F—6. The Magna Carta was designed to protect the rights of both the privileged class and townspeople.
- F—7. The Hundred Years' War was a series of wars fought between the British and the Vikings for trade and territory.
- T—8. In an effort to make a compromise between different religious factions, Queen Elizabeth I actually defended the fruit of the Reformation.

II. Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. The —D— attack on Rome ended the Roman occupation in Britain in 410.
A. Norman B. Danish

- C.Celtic D.Germanic
2. By the late 7th century, —D—became the dominant religion in England.
- A. Celtic Christianity B. Anglo Saxons Christianity
C.Germanic Christianity D. Roman Christianity
3. The—C—marked the establishment of feudalism in England.
- A.Viking invasions B. signing of the Magna Carta
C.Norman Conquest D.adoption of common law
4. The end of the Wars of the Roses led to the rule of—C—
- A.the House of Valois B. the House of York
C. the House of Tudor D. the House of Lancaster
5. The direct cause of for the Reformation was King Henry VIII’s effort to—A—.
- A.divorce his wife B.break with Rome
C.support the Protestant D.declare his supreme power over the church
6. The English Civil War broke out in 1642 between —B—
- A.the Protestant and the Puritans B.the Royalist and the Parliamentarian
C.the nobles and the peasants D.the aristocrats and the Christians
7. —A—was passed after the Glorious Revolution.
- A.The Bill of Rights B.The Act of Supremacy
C.The Provisions of Oxford D.The Magna Carta
8. The Industrial Revolution was accomplished in Britain by the middle of the —C—century.
- A.17th B.18th

C.19th

D.20th

III. Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. What were Queen Victoria's major achievements?

2. What were the two camps in the World War I ?

3. Why did Britain cooperate closely with the United States after World War II ?

IV. State your understanding of the following questions.

1. What were the results of the Industrial revolution in Britain?

2. Explain the rise and fall of the British Empire.

Chapter 3

I .Read the following statements and decide whether they are true(T) or false(F).

—T—1. Conventions are regarded less important than the statutory law in the working of the England government.

—F—2. The British monarchy has never been interrupted throughout the history.

—F—3. In reality, the British King or Queen is the house of all government powers.

—F—4. The British Parliament is the law making body of the Commonwealth of Nations.

—F—5. The members of the House of Commons are appointed rather than elected.

—T—6. The British Prime Minister is the leader of the minority party in Parliament.

—F—7. Cabinet members are chosen by the Prime Minister from various political parties in Parliament.

—T—8. The legal systems in England ,Wales,Scotland and Northern Ireland are much similar in terms of law,organizations and practice.

II. Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. The British government is characterized by a division of powers between three of the following branches EXCEPT the—C—.
A.judiciary B.legislature C.monarchy D.executive
2. The importance of the British monarchy can be seen in its effect on—D—.
A.passing bills B.advising the governments
C.political parties D.public attitude
3. As a revising chamber ,the House of Lords is expected to—B—the House of Commons.
A.rival B.complement C.criticize D.inspect
4. —A—is at the center of the British political system.
A.The Cabinet B.The House of Lords
C.The House of Commons D.The Privy Council
5. The main duty of the British Privy Council is to —B—.
A.make decisions B.give advice
C.pass bills D.supervise the Cabinet
6. Generally speaking,the British Parliament operates on a —B—system.
A.single party B.two party C.three party D.multi party
7. The politices of the Conservative Party are characterized by pragmatism and—D—.
A.government intervention B.nationalization of enterprises

- C.social reform
8. In Britain,the parliamentary general election is held every—C—years.
D.a belief in individualiam
A.three B.four C.five D.six

III.Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. What are the three functions of the House of Commons?
2. What kind of public image does the Liberal Democrats have in Britain?
3. Why are independent candidates unlikely to win in the general elections?

IV.State your understanding of the following questions.

1. What do British electoral campaigns usually involve during the process of a general election?
2. What is the Commonwealth of Nations?

Chapter 4

I .Read the following statement and decide whether they are true(T) or false (F).

- T—1.Britain was the first industrialized nation in the world.
- T—2.The British economy experienced a relative decline during the postwar period.
- F—3.Limited resources and high unemployment rate were persistent.
- F—4.Thatcher’s revolution turned out to be a great success in dealing with all the British economic and social problems.
- T—5.The economic approach adopted by Tony Blair was different from that of the old Labor Party and the Conservative Party.
- T—6.Blair made the Bank of England independent in order to separate politics from economic policy.

—F—7. Britain is an important oil exporter since its oil industry has a long history.

—T—8. Nuclear power is one of the major energy sources in Britain.

II. Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. The —A— in the early 1970s worsened an already stagnant economy in Britain.

- A. oil crisis
- B. high inflation rates
- C. large imports
- D. unemployment problem

2. Of the following practices, —C— did not belong to Thatcher's social welfare reform.

- A. reducing child benefits
- B. shortening the period of unemployment benefits
- C. reducing unemployment
- D. lowering old age pension

3. The Blair government was successful in the following aspect EXCEPT—D—.

- A. limiting government spending
- B. keeping inflation under control
- C. reducing unemployment
- D. reducing inequality

4. Britain has devoted about—C— of its land area to agriculture.

- A. 50%
- B. 60%
- C. 70%
- D. 80%

5. Britain's important fishing areas include all the following EXCEPT—D—.

- A. the North Sea
- B. the English Channel
- C. the area around the Irish coast

- D.the sea area between Britain and Ireland
6. Coal mining industry in Britain provides—B—of the energy consumed in the country.
A.one third B.one fourth
C.one fifth D.two thirds
7. The car industry in Britain is mostly —A—.
A.foreign owned B.state owned
C.joint owned D.privately owned
8. Of the following sectors in Britain, —C—has experienced spectacular growth since the end of the World War II.
A.agriculture B.the energy industry
C.the service sector D.the manufacturing industry

III. Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. What was the negative aspect of Thatcher's reform in the early 1980s.

2. What are the characteristics of Britain's agriculture?

3. What happened to Britain's beef industry in the mid 1990s?

IV. State your understanding of the following questions.

1. What were the major causes of Britain's relative economic decline in the postwar period?

2. Why do developed nations like Britain encourage the development of the service industry?

Chapter 5

I .Read the following statement and decide whether they are true(T) or false (F).

- F—1.The Britain government has been responsible for education since the early 1800s.
- F—2.Education in Britain is compulsory for all children between the ages of 6 and 15.
- F—3.The National Curriculum is compulsory in both the states system and the independent system.
- T—4.When children finish their schooling at 16,they are required to take a national GCSE examination.
- T—5.Graduates from state schools in Britain have a less favorable chance to enter famous universities than those from independent schools.
- F—6.The Times is the world oldest Sunday newspapers.
- F—7.The BBC World Service broadcast only in English throughout the world.
- T—8. Some British holidays are celebrated to mark important events in the Christian calendar,and some others are related to local customs and traditions.

II .Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. In Britain,the division between grammar schools and vocational schools was ended by the introduction of comprehensive schools in the —D—.

- A.1930s
- B.1940s
- C.1950s
- D.1960s

2. Over—C—of British children receive primary and secondary education through the independent system.

- A.5% B.6%
C.7% D.Partially funded 8%

3. Partially funded by central government grants,most of the British universities receive the remaining funds from all the following sources EXCEPT—B—.

- A.tuition fees B.loans
C.donations D.corporate contributions

4. To be admitted to the Open University, one needs—B—.

- A.some educational qualificatons
B.no educational qualifications
C.the General Certificate of Education Advanced level.
D. the General Certificate of Secondary Education

5. Among Britain's quality press,the following newspapers are regarded as the "Big Three"EXCEPT—C—.

- A.The Times B.The Guardian
C.The Observer D.The Daily Telegraph

6. Life On Earth is a kind of —C—program produced by the BBC is popular worldwide.

- A.radio B.drama
C.documentary D.soap opera

7. —D—is Britain's top pay television provider.

- A.BSB B.SkyTV
C.BBC D.BSkyB

8. The following Christmas traditions are particularly British EXCEPT—A—.

A. Trooping the Color
message

B. the Queen's Christmas

C. Boxing Day

D. the Christmas pantomime

III. Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. What used to be the major functions of grammar schools and vocational schools in Britain.

2. What kind of subjects do British comprehensive schools provide?

3. In what ways do British universities enjoy complete academic freedom?

4. What role does the media play in Britain leisure culture?

IV. State your understanding of the following questions.

1. What are the general features of Britain's independent schools?

2. What are the "Quality Press" and the "tabloids" in Britain?

Chapter 6

I. Read the following statement and decide whether they are true (T) or false (F).

—F—1. The Canterbury Tales is representative work of the old English period.

—T—2. The Renaissance is characterized by admiration of the Greek and Latin classic works.

—T—3. As a great English poet, Alexander Pope also translated Homer's Iliad.

—F—4. Jonathan Swift is probably the foremost prose satirist in the English language, and Robinson Crusoe is his masterpiece.

—F—5. William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge brought the Romantic Movement to its height.

- C.Adam Bede
D.The Return of the Native
6. —A—is not included in the modernist group.
A.Oscar Wilde
B.Virginia Woolf
C.William Bulter Yeats
D.T.S.Eliot
7. Of the following writers, —B— is NOT a Nobel Prize winner.
A.Samuel Beckett
B.James Joyce
C.William Golding
D.V.S.Naipual
8. Waiting for Godot is written by—A—.
A.Samuel Beckett
B.Geroge Orwell
C. William Golding
D.D.H.Lawrance

III.Give brief answers to the following questions.

1.What are the three catergries of Shakespeare's plays and their representatives?

2.What is Critical Realism?

3.What are the two new literary trends prevailing at the end of 19th century?

4.What is the stream of consciousness?

IV.State your understanding of the following questions.

1.What is Romanticism?

2.What are the characteristics of English literauture in the 20th century?

Chapter 7

I .Read the following statement and decide whether they are ture(T) or false (F).

—F—1.The Republic of Ireland occupies the entire area of the island of Ireland.

- F—2.The earliest inhabitants in Ireland were Celtic tribes from Europe.
- F—3.In the 1800s, Ireland gained in prosperity because it became a part of Britain.
- T—4.In the 1930s, Ireland was not indeed a republic, but belonged to the British Commonwealth of Nations.
- F—5.Ireland’s economy wasn’t affected by World War II because it remained neutral during the war.
- F—6.In 1949, Britain recognized the independence of the Irish Republic and returned the six northern counties.
- F—7.English is the only official language in Ireland because the majority of people speak it as their mother tongue.
- T—8.Catholicism in Ireland is more than a mere matter of private faith, but of public identity.

II .Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. --B-- established a unified Irish culture and language in the 6th century BC.
 - A. Hunter-gatherers from Britain
 - B. Celtic tribes
 - C. British invaders
 - D. The Vikings
2. Divergent views about --C--resulted in the Irish Civil War.
 - A. the Act of Union
 - B. the Unilateral Declaration of Independence
 - C. the Anglo-Irish Treaty
 - D. the Anglo-Irish Agreement
3. --C---was the first Irish President to visit Queen Elizabeth II .

- A. Eamon de Valera B. John A. Costello
C. Mary Robinson D. Albert Reynolds
4. ---D--brought Anglo-Irish relations to a new height.
A. The British recognition of the Irish Republic
B. The signing of the Downing Street Declaration
C. The signing of the Belfast Agreement
D. The IRA's formal declaration of the disarmament in 2005
5. In Ireland, the head of state is--B---
A. the Prime Minister B. the President
C. the British monarch D. the General Governor
6. ---C---has been the dominant party in Ireland since 1930s and supports peaceful reunification of the island of Ireland.
A. Fine Gael B. The Labor Party
C. Fianna Fail D. The Progressive Democrats
7. Emigration in Ireland started since the --A--
A. medieval period B. 17th century
C. Great Potato Famine D. early 18th century
8. Ireland now has a --B-- economy.
A. agriculture-based B. knowledge-based
C. industry-based D. foreign investment-based

III. Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. Why was Cork given the nickname "the Rebel County"?

2. Who were the first groups of people that came to Ireland?

3. Why did Ireland remain neutral in World War II ?

IV.State your understanding of the following questions.

1. What is the significance of the following documents: the Act of Union, the Anglo-Irish Treaty, the Anglo-Irish Agreement and the Belfast Agreement?

2. What are the goals of the main political parties in Ireland?

Chapter 8

I .Read the following statement and decide whether they are true(T) or false (F).

—F—1.The eastern highlands formed by the Appalachian Range hold one-third of the country's continental territory.

—T—2.The climate in the United States can be classified as temperate, with some mild subtropical and tropical zones.

—T—3.A 50-centimeter rainfall line runs through the middle of the United States.

—T—4.New York is composed of five boroughs, including Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Staten Island and Queens.

—F—5.San Francisco is the second largest city after New York and the world-famous Hollywood is located here.

—T—6.During the 1830s and the 1840s, many Northern Europeans and Irish immigrants came to America.

—T—7.Almost half of the immigrants coming to the United States in the 1980s were Asians.

—T—8. Basic American cultural values are freedom, equality and desire to work hard for a higher standard of living.

II. Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. The U.S. lies in --B--North America, with Canada to the north, Mexico to the south, the Atlantic to its ----and the Pacific to its -----.

- A. northern, east, west B. central, east, west
C. southern, west, east D. western, west, east

2. The continental United States has--C---states.

- A. 50 B. 49
C. 48 D. 35

3. The state of --A--- is the largest in area of all the U.S. states.

- A. Alaska B. Hawaii
C. Texas D. Florida

4. The longest river in the U.S. is ---B---

- A. the Missouri River B. the Mississippi River
C. the Ohio River D. the Lake Itasca

5. Some of the world-famous universities like Harvard, Yale and MIT are located in--C--.

- A. the South B. the West
C. New England D. the Midwest

6. San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego all belong to --D--

- A. Montana B. Utah

- C. Maine D. California
7. The Immigration Act of 1924 restricted further immigration into the United States, particularly from--A----.
- A. Europe B. Asia
C. Africa D. South America
8. The characteristics of the dominant American culture are--D-
- A. English-speaking, Northern European, Roman Catholic and middle-class
B. English-speaking, Western European, Roman Catholic and upper-class
C. English-speaking, Northern European, Protestant and upper-class
D. English-speaking, Western European, Protestant and middle-class

III. Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. How is the American population distributed?
2. Why was the Immigration Act of 1924 instituted?

IV. State your understanding of the following questions.

1. Why is the United States regarded as a “melting pot” and a “salad bowl”?
2. What do you think is the best way to help assimilation in a multicultural society?

Chapter 9

I .Read the following statement and decide whether they are true(T) or false (F).

- T—1.American was named after Amerigo Vespucci,who arrived on the new continent after Columbus.

- F—2. The Second Continental Congress was held in Philadelphia, and the Continental Army and Navy was established under the command of Thomas Jefferson.
- T—3. The American Civil War not only put an end to slavery, but also made America a single, indivisible nation.
- F—4. Most American people approved of the Vietnam War.
- T—5. In 1990, American troops and the troops from allied nations took joint military action in order to drive Iraqi troops out of Kuwait.
- F—6. According to the American government, Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden were responsible for the terrorist event on September 11, 2001.
- T—7. The Bush administration regarded Iraq a nation among the “axis of the evil”.
- F—8. On March 20, 2003, American and United Nations’ troops, supported by several other countries, began an invasion of Iraq.

II. Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. The first successful English colony in North America was founded at—C—in—.

- A. Jamestown, Louisiana
- B. Boston, Massachusetts
- C. Jamestown, Virginia
- D. Plymouth, Georgia

2. The Seven Years’ War occurred between—C—.

- A. the French and the American Indians
- B. the French and the Spanish
- C. the French and the British

D. the British and the American Indians

3. "No taxation without representation" was the rallying slogan of—D—.

- A.the settlers of Virginia B.the people of Pennsylvania
C.the colonists in New England D.the people of the 13 colonies

4. In May 1775, —B—was held in Philadelphia and began to assume the functions of a provisional government.

- A.the First Continental Congress B.the Second Continental Congress
C.the Boston Tea Party D.the Congress of Confederation

5. Abraham Lincoln issued the —C—to grant freedom to all slaves.

- A.Declaration of Independence B.Constitution
C.Emancipation Proclamation D.Bill of Rights

6. The policy of the United States was —A—at the beginning of the two World Wars.

- A.nuetrality B.full involvement
C.partial involvement D.appeasement

7. President —C— introduced the New Deal to deal with the problems of the Great Depression.

- A.Wilson B.Truman
C.Roosevelt D.Kennedy

8. The Vietnam War was a long time suffering for Americans,and its continued throughout the terms of president—D—.

- A.Johnson,Nixon and Ford B.Truman,Eisenhower and Kennedy

C.Kennedy,Johnson and Nixon D.Eisenhower,kennedy and Johnson

III.Give brief answers to the following questions.

- 1.Why did American change its policy and enter World War II ?
- 2.What were Nixon's well known contributions during his presidency?
- 3.What were the measures of Reagan's economic program?

IV.State your understanding of the following questions.

- 1.What was the course of the American Civil War?
- 2.What made the United States a powerful country by the end of World War II ?

Chapter 10

I .Read the following statement and decide whether they are true(T) or false (F).

- F—1.The Bill of Right was written into the Constitution in 1787.
- T—2.The form of the American government is based on three main principles: federalism, the separation of powers and respect for the Constitution and rule of law.
- F—3.The US Congress consists of two houses: the House of Commons and the House of Lords.
- T—4.The judicial branch of the US federal government consists of a series of courts: the supreme court, the courts of appeals and the district courts.
- F—5.The Democratic Party is conservative in terms of its ideology.
- T—6.The American presidential campaigns adhere to the "winner-takes-all" practice.
- F—7.The American foreign policy throughout World War 2 was neutrality.
- T—8.The American foreign policy during the Cold War period was containment and intervention.

II. Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements.

1. The US Constitution came into effect in **-B-**
 - A. 1787
 - B. 1789
 - C. 1791
 - D. 1793
2. The Constitution of the United States **--C--**
 - A. gives the most power to Congress
 - B. gives the most power to the president
 - C. tries to give each branch enough power to balance the others
 - D. gives the most power to the Supreme Court
3. The Bill of Rights **-B-**
 - A. defines the rights of Congress and the rights of the President
 - B. guarantees citizens of the US specific individual rights and freedom
 - C. is part of the Declaration of Independence
 - D. has no relationship with the Constitution.
4. The terms for a Senator and Representative are **_D_** and **_** years respectively.
 - A. 2;4
 - B. 2;3
 - C. 2;6
 - D. 6;2
5. All the following can make legislative proposals EXCEPT **-C-**
 - A. the senator
 - B. the Representative
 - C. the secretary of state
 - D. the president
6. The following are all powers of the President EXCEPT C

- A. vetoing any bills passed by Congress
B. appointing federal judges when vacancies occur
C. making laws
D. issuing executive orders
7. The Supreme Court is composed of D justices
A. 6
B. 7
C. 8
D. 9
8. The president is directly voted into office by C
A. all citizens of America
B. the citizens over 18 years old
C. electors elected by the voters
D. the senators and the representatives

III. Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. what are the two characteristics of the us constitution?

2. what are the qualifications for a senator and a representative respectively?

3. what are the major powers of the Supreme Court?

4. what are the differences between the Democrats and the Republicans in terms of political ideology.

IV. State your understanding of the following questions.

1. How is the American President voted into office? What are your ideas about the American election?

2. what was President Eisenhower's foreign policy and what were the consequences?

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