

Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics

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Academic Year 2021 ~ 2022 Semester 1st
Course: British & American Culture Answer Keys & Scoring Criteria
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Section I: Multiple Choices:

1-5 BDBDA

6-10 BDDAA

11-15 DCBAB

16-20 ADBCD

Section II: Short Answers:

1. P. 40; 43 In the UK, a grammar school is a state-funded secondary school attended by pupils aged 11 to 18. It selects students based on their academic achievements and more often than not, a written examination. A state school is a government-run school. Some 93% children between 3 and 18 study in state-funded schools without charge (other than activities such as swimming, field trips, etc.) A public school, in common British usage, is a school usually prestigious and historic, which charges fees, does not restrict admissions, and is financed by bodies other than the state (thus it is a private institution). Often but not always they are boarding schools.
2. P 56 Ofcom is the independent regulator and competition authority for the communication industries in the United Kingdom, including television. It requires that certain television and radio broadcasters fulfill certain requirements as part of their license to broadcast. All of the BBC's television and radio stations have a public service remit, including those that broadcast digitally.
Specification of the Broadcast Code took effect on July 25th, 2005, with the latest version being published October 2008. The Code itself is published on Ofcom's website, and provides a mandatory set of rules which broadcast programmers must comply with. The 10 main sections cover protection of under-eighteens, harm and offence, crime, religion, impartiality and accuracy, elections, fairness, privacy, sponsorship and commercial references. As stipulated in the Communications Act

2003, Ofcom enforces adherence to the Code. Failure for a broadcaster to comply with the Code results in warnings, fines, and potentially revocation of a broadcasting license

3. P. 30+31 In England and Wales a Magistrates' court cannot impose a term of more than 6 months' imprisonment for an individual offence tried summarily. It can impose consecutive sentences for "either way" offences, subject to an overall maximum of 12 months' imprisonment. The Crown Court may impose a custodial sentence for any term up to life. There is no limit to the fine which the Crown Court (and High Court of Justiciary in Scotland) may impose on indictment. The maximum fine that can be imposed by a magistrates' court in England and Wales is 5,000, although many summary offences carry lower maxima.

4. P. 5 Britain has a mild temperature and plenty of rainfall, but areas sharing the same latitude with it have different climates. What are the factors that have a determining influence on the character of the English weather and climate?

The shores of the British Isles, especially the western shores, are bathed by a warm drift of water, the North Atlantic Drift which is a continuation of the Gulf Stream. The existence of this large warm drift of sea water undoubtedly has an important effect in moderating winter conditions in Britain. To the north and north-east of the British Isles, no land barrier exists to prevent the flow of the warm drift. The British Isles thus lie within the warm embrace of this well-known warm stream.

Except, perhaps, for certain periods in winter, the British Isles lie wholly within what has long been called the westerly wind belt. The south-westerly wind is the dominant wind in Britain. Since it comes from the Atlantic Ocean, it is always mild and moist.

The configuration of Britain, particularly the existence of numerous inlets, makes the penetration inland of oceanic influences more effective than would otherwise be the case.

5. P. 134-135 By 1916, the National Association of the Motion Picture Industry was formed to oversee film content, and when that failed, filmmakers created the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, led by former postmaster William H. Hays. The association accepted a Production Code, which came to be known as the Hays Code, in 1930. This self-censorship initiative was responsible for shaping the treatment of sex and violence in Hollywood in the 1930s. Some did not think it went far enough.

The Catholic Legion of Decency was formed in 1934 to combat what it believed was a corruption of morals by the film industry. The list created by the Legion condemned certain movies it deemed inappropriate for anyone. Others it listed as appropriate for children or for adults. The list lasted until 1978 and condemned such movies as *From Russia with Love*, *Rosemarfs Baby*, and *Grease*.

In 1968, the Motion Picture Association of America created its own voluntary film rating system, which is still in use today

6. P. 11,85 Society in the United Kingdom is markedly more secular than it was in the past and the number of churchgoers fell over the second half of the 20th century. In 2012 about 6% of the population of the United Kingdom regularly attended church, with the average age of attendees being 51; in contrast, in 1980, 11% had regularly attended, with an average age of 37. It is predicted that by 2020 attendance will be around 4% , with an average age of 56. This decline in church attendance has forced many churches to close down across the United Kingdom, with the Church of England alone closing 1, 500 churches between 1969 and 2002. Their fates include dereliction, demolition, and residential, artistic and commercial conversion
Most Americans believe in God; only around 2 or 3 percent of the population are agnostics or atheists. The United States is about 80 percent Christian; data from independent surveys vary from over 76 to 82 percent. Around 13 percent of Americans are nonreligious or secular, and about 2 percent are Jewish.
7. P.2-3 The English are Anglo-Saxons, but the Scots, Welsh and Irish are Celts. The Celts were different groups of ancient people who came originally from Germany and spread through France, Spain and Britain. The Celts came to Britain after 700 B.C. When they came, one group was called Britons and from this group the people of Britain grew. Later they were conquered by the Romans. During the 5th century when the Roman Empire fell, the Germanic Angles and Saxons invaded and conquered Britain. The Germanic conquerors gave England its name " Angle" land. During the 9th century, Britain was invaded by the Danes or Vikings and in 1066 by the Norman French. It was from the union of Norman conquerors and the defeated Anglo-Saxons that the English people and the English language were born.
The ancestors of the Welsh were the ancient Britons who escaped from the invading Angles and Saxons and found shelter in the wild mountains of Wales.
Some Germanic Angles settled in the Scottish lowlands and in the borderlands between Scotland and England, but they never invaded the Highlands, where the Scots remained safe in their mountain glens and on their islands
8. P. 96 Despite the fact that most people marry at some point in their lives, there are other types of relationships and living arrangements, in addition to legal marriages. In actuality, married couples are in the minority these days. According to 2005 census data, out of 111.1 million households, only 49.7 percent of them were composed of married couples—with or without children. There are a number of factors that contribute to this decline. Because of the rising age at first marriage, many young men and women live alone, after finishing their education but before

they get married, accounting for over one-fourth of the remaining households. Additionally, couples increasingly feel free to cohabit without stigma, and that number is rising. These unmarried couples made up 5 percent of the households. There are also households headed only by women or by men as a result of divorce. A fourth factor, the gap in life expectancy between men and women means that women may live for several years as widows.

9. P. 82; 95 Simply put, the U.S. Supreme court is the most powerful court of the country and its main role is to interpret/determine if decisions made by lower courts are aligned with the Constitution. Its decisions apply to all states. A famous example is *Loving v. Virginia* (1967), which overturned anti-miscegenation laws nationwide. The U.S. Supreme Court comprises one chief justice and eight associate justices, who sit as a body and not in panels. Their number is fixed by Congress. It is the only federal court created by the Constitution (Judicial Branch) ; all others are creatures of congressional enactment under a grant of power in the Constitution. It is not only the highest appellate court of the federal system, but also has a limited power of review over the state courts. However, the U.S. Supreme court only reviews about 80 cases per year.

10. P. 51-52 The Romantic period was one of the major social changes in England, because of the depopulation of the countryside and the rapid development of overcrowded industrial cities, which took place in the period roughly between 1785 and 1830. The movement of so many people in England was the result of two forces: the Agricultural Revolution, that involved the Enclosure of the land, drove workers off the land, and the Industrial Revolution which provided them employment, "in the factories and mills, operated by machines driven by steam-power." Indeed, Romanticism may be seen in part as a reaction to the Industrial Revolution, though it was also a revolt against aristocratic social and political norms of the Age of Enlightenment, as well a reaction against the scientific rationalization of nature. The French Revolution had an especially important influence on the political thinking of many of the Romantic poets.
The landscape is often prominent in the poetry of this period

Section III: Long Answers:

1. Unit 11 answer is spread out across unit 11 ; students will have to decide what constitutes an advantage. For example:

Due to its large size and wide range of geographic features, the United States contains examples of nearly every global climate. The climate is temperate in most

areas, subtropical in the Southern United States, tropical in Hawaii and southern Florida, polar in Alaska, semiarid in the Great Plains west of the 100th meridian, Mediterranean in coastal California and arid in the Great Basin. Its comparatively favorable agricultural climate contributed (in part) to the country's rise as a world power, with infrequent severe drought in the major agricultural regions, a general lack of widespread flooding, and a mainly temperate climate that receives adequate precipitation.

The United States abounds with natural resources. Ore resource like coal, oil, natural gas, iron ore, potash, phosphate and sulphur are among the highest in the world. Strategic mineral resources titanium, manganese, cobalt and chromium are mainly imported. Proven coal reserves are 35,966 million tons. Proven crude oil reserves are 27 billion barrels. The natural gas reserves were 56,03.4 billion cubic meters. The forest area is about 4.4 billion mu, with a coverage rate of 33% .

Take oil for example. U.S. proven oil reserves were 26.5 billion barrels as of 2011. The 2011 data represent a 39% increase in proved reserves since 2008.

They may also consider its size and location an advantage as it is easy to defend.

2. P. 131-138 The movie industry is one of the most vibrant and powerful sectors in the United States, generating about 600 films each year. The sound era began with the release of the *Jazz Singer* in 1927, the first feature-length movie with synchronized dialogue. Dominated by powerful studios such as Paramount, Warner Brothers and 20th century Fox, Hollywood had to adapt to this groundbreaking cinematographic reality: The era of the “Talkies”, which introduced more dialogues into movies as well as more realistic acting practices. Actors with unpleasant voices or not photogenic enough for the new needs of Hollywood vanished into oblivion. The period from the 1910s to the 1960s marked the “Golden Age of Hollywood”, the birth of the “star system” and the popularization of color movies, and a tight control of what could be shown on screen (censorship via The Hays Code, until 1968). Audiences flocked to see *Gone with the Wind* and *the Wizard of Oz* in 1939, showcasing the industry’s storytelling and techniques in color, despite the Great Depression. In the 1930s, Walt Disney introduced the first feature-length animated movies such as *Pinocchio* (1940) and *Sleeping Beauty* (1959). After his death, the Disney Studios kept their dominant position in the animation industry with *The Lion King* (1994) and *Tarzan* (1999), to name a few. The new genre of the musical reached a peak in the middle of the century with classics such as *Singing in the Rain* (1952) and *The Sound of Music* (1965). With his crime-centered, nail-biting movies such as *Psycho* and *Vertigo*, Alfred Hitchcock became the “Master of suspense”, while director John Ford and actor John Wayne exemplified the Western genre. The period of the 1970s to present saw the popularization of science-fiction movies with

George Lucas' *Star Wars* series and Steven Spielberg's *E.T* and *Jurassic Park*. Other notable contemporary directors include Martin Scorsese, Quentin Tarantino, Woody Allen and James Cameron, to name but a few. Actors (Keanu Reeves, Tom Cruise) now receive millions of dollars in compensation for their work (*The Matrix*, *Mission Impossible*, respectively) and various awards have been created (The Oscars, The Golden Globes, etc.) to recognize those who contribute to the "seventh art", on or off the screen.

3. Unit 15 students can choose from:

New years day
Martin Luther King day
Memorial day
Presidents day
Juneteenth
Independence day
Labor day
Columbus day
Veterans day
Thanksgiving
Christmas
New years day

4. P. 34-36. The evolution of the British economy since the Second World War falls into to following three periods: The Second World War devastated Europe. The Britain economy suffered a great deal from the war, but it suffered less direct war damage than other European countries and Japan. With help from the United States, the British economy quickly recovered. The consumer demand checked by the war soon became an important factor in contributing to the development of the economy. By the end of 1947, the British economy had returned to its pre-war levels. In 1950 Britain's GDP and its foreign trade ranked second (only after the U.S.) and its per capita income third in the world. The British economy in this period is characterized by slow but steady growth, low unemployment and great material prosperity with rising standards.

2, Towards the end of the 1960s the rate of inflation began to rise. This further eroded business confidence and competitiveness. The end of 1973 witnessed the first oil shock. As a result the cost of oil imports skyrocketed. The rate of inflation rose to 9.1% in 1973 and to 16% in 1974. To combat high inflation, restrictive fiscal policies were adopted, which reduced growth. Between 1973 and 1979, GDP growth averaged 1.4% per year and the rate of inflation 15.6% . The second oil shock in 1977 caused inflation to rise still further. It reached a rate of 22% in 1980.

In the 1970s among the developed countries Britain maintained the lowest growth rate and the highest inflation rate. In some years of the period Britain even had a minus growth and the trade deficits were the highest among the Western countries.

3. However, by 1982 the downswing in world commodity prices together with the government's anti-inflationary policies led to dramatic falls in the rate of inflation to 8.6% in 1982 and to 5% in 1983. Between 1981 and 1987 the GDP growth rate averaged 2.7%. Meanwhile Britain had become a sizable oil exporter and the economy had become more integrated with the global economy as well as with the EC economy.

An outstanding feature of the economic recovery in the 1980s was its length. By 1988 the recovery had lasted seven years. The previous two cycles lasted only two and four years. Another feature was the improved financial position of the government, with stronger current account of the balance of payments. An important factor in the recovery was the surge in labor productivity. In the 1980s only Japan recorded higher productivity figures than Britain.

5. P. 110-111 Traditional American cuisine is, however, regional, based on what is available. It is differentiated generally by method and by national origin. The Germans and the English had the biggest effect on the development of American cooking because they represented the largest groups of America's first immigrants. It should not be forgotten, however, that the United States began its existence as 13 English colonies inhabited mostly by English men and women. The development of the jambalaya that became called American food can be seen, therefore, as a gradual liberation from simple English home cooking. Midwest cuisine is based heavily on the movement and settlement first of Germans and then Scandinavians. Southern cuisine is inextricably mixed with the legacy of slavery, as black slaves over time turned high-table English plantation cooking into flavorful dishes no longer English or African, but completely American. Southwestern cuisine can no longer be broken down into its component native Indian, Mexican, Spanish, and Anglo components. California, with its incredible ethnic diversity, has developed a regional cuisine that is consciously based on fusing the culinary arts of various cultures with locally produced goods. The Pacific Northwest is a developing cuisine but is most certainly based on regionally available fresh food.

"That's American as apple pie." This often heard American expression is meant to refer to anything an American thinks is really American. The fact is, of course, that apple pie is not American at all. Recipes for apple pies showed up in Elizabethan England and were even stowed away on the ships bringing the first colonists to American shores. Typically, apple pies became so ubiquitous that Americans appropriated them as their own. To most Americans, apple pie is a national emblem

of American cuisine. Yet in spite of the American preoccupation with uniformity in food—a Big Mac is a Big Mac in Boston, Kansas City, and Los Angeles—even apple pies are susceptible to regional variation. Germans and Amish in Pennsylvania may toss in some sour cream and raisins or ice the top pastry layer. In Massachusetts, some cranberries may find themselves baked with the apples. Apple chiffon pie is popular in upstate New York. In Illinois, apples and pumpkin might be pureed together in a pie. An old California recipe cooked the apples first and laid them on a bed of caramel sauce before baking.

The case of the lowly bean illustrates even better the regional nature of American cuisine. Beans, no matter the variety, have always been a staple in American diets. Boston has proudly accepted the appellation " Bean Town „since the 1700s thanks to its great northern baked beans flavored with brown sugar and molasses. In south Texas, however, barbequed baked pink beans get spiced up with chilies. In Vermont, baked navy beans get a treatment of apples and maple syrup. Hoppin' John in the southern Low Country pairs rice with black-eyed peas and ham. In the Southwest, Pueblo Indians combined chorizos, a legacy of Spain, beef, hot peppers, cumin, corn, and tomatoes with Anasazi beans for a local delicacy.

6. P. 20; 23-25 The United Kingdom is a Constitutional Monarchy established by the Bill of Rights (1689). There is no written constitution in the United Kingdom, that is, unlike the constitutions of most other countries, the British constitution is not set out in any single document. It is made up of statute law, common law and conventions. The head of State and of the Church of England is a king or a queen. The present Sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II, was crowned on June 2nd, 1953. Since 1700, only Protestant descendants of a granddaughter of James I| of England and VI of Scotland (Princess Sophia, the Electress of Hanover) are eligible to succeed. The monarchy is the oldest institution of government, going back to at least the 9th century. In practice, the Sovereign reigns, but does not rule: the United Kingdom is governed, in the name of the Sovereign, by His or Her Majesty's Government — a body of Ministers who are the leading members of whichever political party the electorate has voted into office, and who are responsible to Parliament. A Parliament, whose main functions are to pass laws, levy taxes and debate major issues, has a maximum duration of 5 years and is formed based on the results of a general election. All four countries of the UK are represented in the parliament of Westminster, and according to the devolution principle, all but England have their own representative assemblies (a Scottish Parliament, a Welsh and Northern Irish Assembly). The continuity of the monarchy, which has had only a few changes in the direct line of succession in the past 1,000 years, has been broken only once when, between 1649 and 1660, a republic was established by Oliver Cromwell, following the British Civil War.

