**美国历史文化背景**

1. The most thoroughly studied intellectuals in the history of the New World are the ministers and political leaders of seventeenth-century New England.
2. intellectual：知识分子【al结尾的词既可以做形容词，也可以做名词】
3. minister：牧师，宗教领袖
4. New England：新英格兰，指美国东部最早的5个州，不同于英格兰。

According to the standard history of American philosophy, nowhere else in colonial America was “So much importance attached to intellectual pursuits.”

According to many books and articles, New England’s leader’s established the basic themes and preoccupations of an unfolding, dominant Puritan tradition in American intellectual life.

1. theme：理论
2. Puritan：清教徒

pure (adj.) 纯洁的、纯净的

purify (v.) 提纯

1. preoccupations 关注点
2. dominant 占主导地位的
3. The Mayflower Compact（1620.11.11）

constitution 宪法

Bible 圣经

1. A deal is deal-except, apparently, when Entergy is involved.

The company, a major energy supplier in New England, provoked justified outrage in Vermont last week when it announced it was reneging on a longstanding commitment to abide by the strict nuclear regulations.