**《西方文化英语教程》补充翻译练习及参考答案**

**Unit 2**

这些神话故事最初是什么时候以现在的形式被讲述，我们不得而知。但不管始于何时，原始生活早被远远地抛在身后。今日我们看到的神话是伟大诗人的创作。希腊最早的文字记录是《伊利亚特》（*Iliad*）。希腊神话始于荷马（Homer），一般认为不会早于公元前1000 年。《伊利亚特》是或包含最古老的希腊文学，其文辞丰富、精妙、美丽，此时距人类开始试图清晰、优美地表达自己的时期应该已经有好几百年，这种文辞可说是文明进展无可争议的证据。虽然希腊神话故事没有清晰说明早期人类是什么样的，但是对早期希腊人却做了充分的说明。对我们来说，这一点似乎更为重要，因为就知识、艺术与政治而言，我们是他们的后裔。

We do not know when these stories were first told in their present shape; but whenever it was, primitive life had been left far behind. The myths as we have them are the creation of great poets. The first written record of Greece is the *Iliad*. Greek mythology begins with Homer, generally believed to be not earlier than a thousand years before Christ. The *Iliad* is, or contains, the oldest Greek literature; and it is written in a rich, subtle, and beautiful language that must have had centuries behind it when men were striving to express themselves with clarity and beauty, an indisputable proof of civilization. The tales of Greek mythology do not throw any clear light upon what early mankind was like. They do throw an abundance of light upon what the early Greeks were like—a matter, it would seem, of more importance to us, who are their descendants intellectually, artistically, and politically, too.

**Unit 4**

罗马斗兽场（Colosseum）是世界上有史以来最大的古代圆形剧场，被誉为古罗马帝国最著名、最伟大的建筑。它始建于公元 72 年，最终于公元 80 年在意大利首都罗马市中心开放，可容纳约 50,000 名观众。当时主要用于角斗和公共表演，包括斗兽、处决奴隶和重演著名战役，为罗马贵族，奴隶主和自由民提供享乐。 它由拱门、通道和楼梯组成的精妙复杂的蜂巢状结构 (honeycomb) 能够让成千上万的观众进入其中观看血腥残忍的游戏。其雄伟的外观体现了当时帝国的强盛。斗兽场及其相关表演成为古罗马文明的经典象征。

The Colosseum is the largest ancient amphitheater ever built in the world and is acclaimed as the most renowned and greatest architecture in the ancient Roman empire. It was started in 72 AD and eventually opened in 80 AD in the center of the city of Rome, the capital of Italy, and was capable of holding some 50,000 spectators. It was then mainly used for gladiatorial combats and public spectacles, including animal fights, executions, and re-enactments of famous battles, which brought pleasure to Roman aristocrats, slave owners, and free men. Its elaborate honeycomb of arches, passages, and stairways allowed thousands of spectators to get into and watch the bloody and murderous games. The Colosseum’s imposing exterior was then a marvelous monument to Roman imperial power. The amphitheater and its associated shows became the quintessential symbols of Roman culture.

**Unit 6**

餐桌礼仪是进餐时所遵循的礼仪规则，其中还可能包括餐具的使用。不同的文化遵守不同的餐桌礼仪规则。每个家庭或团体都为遵守这些规则的严格程度设定了自己的标准。有时良好的餐桌礼仪变得至关重要，因为在这些用餐场合，您的潜在雇主可能会对您的整体素质进行评判。因此，每天在家庭餐桌上，甚至在独自用餐时，培养良好的举止是个好主意。日常操练能让餐桌礼仪成为第二天性，这样无论您是在家还是在外用餐，都会减少失误的机会，让您专注于与您共同进餐的人，而不是担心自己的饮食方式，从而让您受益匪浅。

Table manners are the rules of etiquette used while eating, which may also include the use of utensils. Different cultures observe different rules for table manners. Each family or group sets its own standards for how strictly these rules are to be followed. There are times when good table manners become vitally important, since your overall finesse may be gauged/judged by your potential employers on these dining occasions. So, it's a good idea to practice good manners on a daily basis at the family dinner table or even when eating alone. When used routinely, table manners become second nature, lessening the chances of any missteps whether you’re dining inside or outside your home, making you focus on the people with whom you’re sharing a meal rather than worry about how you’re eating, which will give you plenty of bonuses/benefits.

**Unit 9**

罗马人享有许多便利设施，包括公共厕所、地下排污(sewage)系统和喷泉。如果没有罗马引水渠/渡槽(aqueduct)，这些水上创新都不可能实现。最早开发于公元前312年左右，这些工程奇迹利用重力将水沿着石头、铅和混凝土管道输送到市中心。引水渠将罗马城市从对附近供水的依赖中解放出来，并在促进公共健康与卫生方面证明其具有极大价值。数百条引水渠最终在整个帝国迅速涌现，其中一些将水输送到60英里开外。也许最令人印象深刻的是，罗马的引水渠建造得非常好，有些至今仍在使用。

The Roman enjoyed many amenities, including public toilets, underground sewage systems, and fountains. None of these aquatic innovations would have been possible without the Roman aqueducts. First developed around 312BCE, these engineering marvels used gravity to transport water along stone, lead and concrete pipelines and into city centers. Aqueducts liberated Roman cities from a reliance on nearby water supplies and proved priceless in promoting public health and sanitation. Hundreds of aqueducts eventually sprang up throughout the empire, some of which transported water as far as sixty miles. Perhaps most impressive of all, Roman aqueducts were so well built that some are still in use to this day.

**Unit 11**

蒸汽机是工业革命取得胜利的保障。18世纪60年代，苏格兰工程师詹姆斯·瓦特(James Watt, 1736-1819)发明了一种以蒸汽为动力的发动机，它从矿井中抽水的速度是以前发动机的三倍。到1783年，瓦特蒸汽机已被充分改进为双动旋转模式（double-acting rotative type），可以直接驱动机器，蒸汽动力因而广泛用于纺纱和织布（spinning and weaving cotton）。不久，使用蒸汽机的棉纺厂在英国遍地开花。因为蒸汽机用煤作燃料，所以工场主们可以更加灵活地选择厂址，不再需要靠河建厂。蒸汽机的应用使棉纺业生产发生了革命性变化，并推动工厂制拓展到其他生产领域，从而确保了全新工业模式的产生。

The steam engine ensured the triumph of the Industrial Revolution. In the 1760s, a Scottish engineer, James Watt (1736–1819), created an engine powered by steam that could pump water from mines three times as quickly as previous engines. By 1783, the Watt steam engine had been fully developed into a double-acting rotative type that could directly drive machinery. Steam power could thus be widely applied to spinning and weaving cotton. Before long, cotton mills using steam engines multiplied across Britain. Fired by coal, steam engines did not need to be located near rivers, so entrepreneurs now had greater flexibility in their choice of location. The steam engine revolutionized the production of cotton goods and allowed the factory system to spread to other areas of production, thereby securing whole new industries.