

Frank Osterhaus

**The American Dream
Goes to
HOLLYWOOD**



ハリウッドのアメリカン・ドリーム

With Notes by

Kōichi Fujino ● ● ● ●

EIHOŠHA

Frank Osterhaus

The American Dream Goes to Hollywood

ハリウッドのアメリカン・ドリーム

With notes by

Koichi Fujino

EIHŌSHA

This text is dedicated to Yuri—she makes it all possible.

Acknowledgements

The following photographs were provided by the US National Archives Records Administration through Double Delta Industries, Inc.:

Thomas Edison. Edison posing behind a movie camera that he had invented. The camera helped to greatly expand the movie industry. Copyrighted by Wide World Photos AP. Unit 5.

Marylin Monroe. Movie actress Marylin Monroe arriving in Korea for USO Campshow "Anything Goes." US Army photo by Cpl. William Steimer 3rd Signal Company. Unit 8.

Hollywood Bowl. A spectacular view of its location within a natural amphitheatre used for centuries by the Native Americans of that area for coming-of-age ceremonies as well as other feasts and celebrations. Photo courtesy of US National Archives. Unit 14.

The following photographs were courtesy of Marilyn Slater, *Looking-for-Mabel Collection*. These and many more wonderful images can be found at her website: <http://looking-for-mabel.webs.com/>

Cover photo: The iconic HOLLYWOOD sign in the Hollywood Hills area of Mount Lee.

Fossil skull of girl found in the La Brea Tar Pit. The skull is considered to be from about 9000 B.C. (about 10,000-11,000 years ago). Unit 1.

The La Brea Tar Pit in 1910. Unit 3.

Mary Pickford. Unit 6.

The HOLLYWOOD sign. Unit 9.

D.W. Griffith on location with camera. Unit 11.

The Cecil B. DeMille Barn photographed in 1956. Built about 1895, it was the first movie studio in Hollywood. Three very important movie producers and directors—DeMille, Goldwyn, and Lasky—sit together on the porch during a ceremony commemorating its designation as “California State Historic Landmark No. 554 representing the birth of the Hollywood motion picture industry.”

Unit 13. (<http://www.hollywoodheritage.org/museum/museum.html>)

1917 Edendale map. Unit 14.

The following photographs were courtesy of the University of Southern California Digital Library.

The map of the Old Spanish and Mexican Ranchos of Los Angeles County. Unit 2.

The map of the Wilcox Hollywood layout, 1887. Unit 4.

Portrait of Charlie Chaplin, dated July 2, 1915, originally shot by Witzel of Los Angeles. Unit 7.

Frank Capra at the airport, 1952. Unit 10.

Movie Premier at the Chinese Theatre, May, 1933. Unit 12.



Introduction

Many times, people who accomplish great things are acting on an inspiration they have had—a dream—that gives them a sense of possibility and purpose. In this text, *The American Dream Goes to Hollywood*, we will explore some of the many dreams that have helped to create the city of Hollywood, California. In a way, Hollywood is the perfect city to illuminate the American dream because it not only was the product of many individual American dreamers, but also its hugely influential film industry continues to attract new dreamers as well as to teach people around the world the powerful nature of the American dream.

The text consists of fourteen units containing short readings (600-700 words) plus exercises. Unit One starts with the first people to travel to California—the original Indians—and speculates about the dreams and motives that drew them to the area. Each subsequent unit continues with this theme of attraction (with its problems and dangers) and traces through history the settlement and development of Hollywood as the showcase of the American dream, especially through the movie-making industry. Generally each unit will do this by focusing on one particular American dreamer who finds his

or her success in Hollywood and in so doing helps to develop Hollywood into an even greater city. This text is meant to serve as a running commentary on various aspects of the American dream, as well as be an interesting source of information and discussion about one of the most iconic cities in the world. I have used a thematic approach in order to help students understand the flow of history and thus appreciate how the American dream—through the microcosm of Hollywood—has brought America and the American people to the position they are in today. I have tried to keep the approach clear and simple without being overly simplistic.

This text can work as the beginning of a deeper exploration of the issues involved in the development of the American dream and can work very well for higher-level classes that want to focus on discussion, logical argument, research and/or writing. The units are short (and thus more accessible) so that each can be covered in one class if need be. The vocabulary is designed to challenge the reader so as to offer teaching value both linguistically and culturally. The teacher will thus have a choice of focus: language or content, or some

combination of both. The Cause/Effect and Comparison/Contrast exercises are meant to work as grammar exercises and sentence-building exercises, as well as a means to assess overall comprehension. These particular exercises offer room for expansion and extension, giving the teacher added flexibility in the classroom, depending on student level and need. Pronoun reference exercises can also be approached in terms of grammar or comprehension. Comprehension questions can be used as simple checks or as openings to discussion. All of these exercises are tentative and could easily be supplemented, deleted, or changed.

I think the integrated focus can be a very useful way to study both the language and the culture. This text will

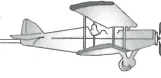
greatly facilitate a comprehensive understanding of the language and themes that have had and continue to have a powerful impact on the development of a city, a country, and the world in general. Each unit thus offers a brief glimpse or window on a continuing historical process, and by the end of the course, instead of merely working through a disconnected series of superficial cultural phenomena, the students will be able to understand how the phenomena are part of a developmental continuity.

The idea of centering a text on the development of a particular place in terms of the American dream may offer a nice perspective on both the dream and the city.

FO

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	iii
Introduction	v
Unit 1 On the Trail of the First Americans	9
Unit 2 Rancho La Brea	15
Unit 3 A Mighty Sticky Business	21
Unit 4 Harvey and Daeida Wilcox Go West	27
Unit 5 The Moviemakers Arrive	33
Unit 6 America's Sweetheart	39
Unit 7 The Little Tramp Follows his Dream	45
Unit 8 Norma Jean Baker	51
Unit 9 Marilyn Monroe	57
Unit 10 Capra-corn	63
Unit 11 Edgy Movies	69
Unit 12 The Hollywood Hero	75
Unit 13 Signs and Symbols	81
Unit 14 Captivating Dreams	87



On the Trail of the First Americans



Fossil skull of girl found in the La Brea Tar Pit. The skull is considered to be from about 9000 B.C. (about 10,000-11,000 years ago). Photo courtesy of Marilyn Slater, *Looking-for-Mabel* Collection.

Did the earliest immigrants to America have dreams? We have no way of knowing for sure, but we have discovered that they were *Homo sapiens* or “wise men” like us. We also know that they arrived at least 11,000 years ago because

5 anthropologists have discovered remains of settlements of that age in New Mexico. Scientists believe ⁽¹⁾ they arrived by traveling across a land bridge connecting Asia and North America—specifically Russia and Alaska—that existed during an ice age that caused lower sea levels than we presently

10 have. It is also possible that they crossed by boat, but ⁽²⁾ that would have been a much more complicated and limited **migration**. Either way, they then spread across North America and down into South America. These immigrants from Asia seem to have **thrived** the most in the warmer and

15 more **bountiful** climates.

A skull proves the passage of these early wanderers. It is from the 10,000-year-old remains of a young woman in her

7 a land bridge connecting ...
「～の大陸間をつなぐ陸橋」

1 **the La Brea Tar Pits** 詳注(1) 参照。

3 **in the clutches of the tar** 「タールの底なし沼にはまる」

8- **grow too numerous** 「ひどく人口が増えて」

12 **hazard** 「危険」

25 **or outcast** 「あるいは社会から追放された者が」

30 **blaze a trail** 「先駆者となる」

31 **like-minded** 「同じ考えの」
the scary unknown 「恐ろしい未知の世界」

37 **lushness** 「豊かな緑」

early twenties that was found in the La Brea Tar Pits in the Hollywood area. Whatever attracted her to her particular **doom** in the clutches of the tar, we will never know—perhaps a covering layer of water reflected a beauty that proved fatally false, but at least she left a mark in the world for us to find. 5

One can only guess at the reasons of these early Asian adventurers. Perhaps they were forced from their own hunting grounds by an invading tribe. Perhaps they simply grew too numerous for that particular area to support, and so some had to leave to find new, more abundant hunting grounds. 10
Maybe the people had to escape from a **pestilence** or environmental hazard that their leader interpreted as the hand of god directing them to leave and start anew elsewhere. Perhaps a change in climate caused their particular area to become unlivable, and ⁽³⁾they needed to search for new sources of food 15 and shelter. Perhaps towards the end of the Ice Age, there was a period of several warm years or even generations that made the passage to North America appear particularly inviting before the ice melted sufficiently to raise the sea level enough to cover the bridge. Or perhaps, as most scientists believe, 20 they simply followed the animals they hunted across the land bridge as the animals wandered and **grazed**.

The possibilities that are especially interesting are based on the idea that personal reports and stories can carry a great deal of power. Perhaps one **intrepid** explorer (or outcast!) 25 discovered the open land bridge and followed it into an uncontested new land teeming with game and filled with delicious wild produce. Seeing an opportunity, ⁽⁴⁾he then returned to his tribe in order to lead a group of young adventurers into the new land and a new life. Perhaps he blazed a trail for 30 many more like-minded people and made the scary unknown knowable. Maybe he told stories that inspired a vast migration—much like what happened in California during the Gold Rush. That way he might have triggered a **flotilla** or a march. Such storytelling would have generated waves of people that 35 crossed the bridge and then expanded in different directions, usually gravitating towards the lushness and warmth of the southern climes.

Of course, probably several of these hypotheses came into play over the centuries to help propel the Asian people to migrate to the Americas. But no matter what particular reason led people to believe, to hope, maybe even to dream that the unknown wilderness that lay before them held the answer to their survival—if not their comfort and prosperity, it had to be an overpowering motive force to entice the people to test unknown territory. The dark clouds of unwritten history shroud the true thoughts and motives of the various peoples undertaking the great migrations, so you can take your pick from among the many hypotheses. However, you can find all of the patterns mentioned above repeated in the dreams and lives of current Americans and those who have immigrated to America since the discovery by Columbus in 1492.

Most importantly for our purposes here, some of these people of Asiatic descent settled in the temperate climate of California along a river that flows through the area that is now known as Hollywood in the city of Los Angeles. They were closely related to the Aztec people that established a vast civilization in Mexico.

1- **come into play**
「作用する」

7 **overpowering**
「非常に強い」
entice ... 「～をその気にさせる」

10- **take your pick from among...**
「～の中から好きなものを選ぶ」

16 **Asiatic descent**
「アジアからやってきた人々の子孫」

19 **Aztec people**
「アステカ族」

詳 注

1. the La Brea Tar Pits

ラブレア・タールピッツ。この場所の低地には約4万年前からタール（どろどろとしたアスファルト）が湧き出して沼のようになっており、そこに落ちて脱出できずに死んだ動物の骨が豊富な化石となって残っていることで知られる。

Exercises

Vocabulary Check

Match the word with its meaning.

migration •	• feed
thrive •	• journey
bountiful •	• pleasant
doom •	• conceal
pestilence •	• disease
graze •	• abundant
intrepid •	• prosper
flotilla •	• death
shroud •	• fleet
temperate •	• bold

Pronoun Reference

Find the words to which the pronouns refer. You may change or summarize the relevant part of the text to make it clear.

(1) they : _____

(2) that : _____

(3) they : _____

(4) he : _____

Comprehension Check

Circle the correct answer.

Where did the first Americans come from?

- a) They came from Asia.
- b) They came from Europe.
- c) They came from Mexico.

What caused the land bridge?

- a) Indians built it.
- b) An ice age occurred that caused lower sea levels.
- c) Russians and Alaskans built it together from boats.

What reports or stories might have caused people to go to a new land?

- a) Reports of cold weather in the southern regions.
- b) Stories about environmental hazards in the new land.
- c) Reports of a new land teeming with game and filled with produce.

What relationship did the Aztecs of Mexico have to the first people who settled in the Los Angeles area?

- a) The Aztecs were enemies who had come from Europe.
- b) Both Indian groups were the same basic descent.
- c) The Aztecs were slaves of the Indians in the LA area.

Cause / Effect

Fill in the blank with a word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

The Ice Age caused the () to drop and a land bridge between North America and () to be exposed.

People were inspired by () about new opportunities and adventure; therefore, they migrated to the Americas from Asia.

Composition

Pick up the main topic sentence in every paragraph, and connect them to create one summary of this story. Add your own comments to the summary as the conclusion. Don't forget to add some words and connect the details to make your summary read more smoothly.

Discussion

Choose key words or proper names that most interest you in this chapter's text, and search for or dig up more information from various resources: dictionaries, encyclopedias, the Internet or other specific books on Hollywood or films. Be prepared to make a short presentation on your key words in front of others.

Interesting fact: The skull of the young woman discovered in the tar pit, indicated that she died from a blow to the head. Speculate on what might have happened to her 10,000 years ago.

Interesting web links:

Page Museum Homepage (La Brea Tar Pits):

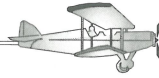
<http://www.tarpits.org/>

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County:

<http://www.tarpits.org/education/guide/index.html>

Fossils–Rocks–Minerals (Includes report of fossil remains of girl murdered some 10,000 years ago):

<http://www.fossils-rocks-minerals.com/Locations/Labreatarpits.html>



Rancho La Brea



The map of the Old Spanish and Mexican Ranchos of Los Angeles County. Photo courtesy of USC Digital Library.

The Native American dreams, built on a culture of hunting and gathering in the open wilderness, **evaporated** in the highly charged European **onslaught**. The Spanish dream of conquest, expansion, and empire overpowered the less aggressive and more nature-based dreams of the indigenous peoples. In 1770, when the Spanish missionaries were about to arrive among the Gabrielino Indians in the Los Angeles / Hollywood area, the population was about 5000. By 1800, ⁽¹⁾ it had dropped to 4000. Over the next 100 years the population would **plummet** to 50.

10 The Indians were systematically removed from their villages and hunting grounds and placed in the mission barracks that

- 4- **less ... nature-based**
「それほど戦いを好まず、より自然を尊重する」
- 5 **indigenous** 「土着の」
- 7 **Gabrielino** 「ガブリエレーニョ族」

- 2 **basin** 「流域」
section off... 「～を区分けする」
- 5 **a bit out of the way** 「少々人里離れたところにあった」
the foothills 「山裾の丘陵地帯」
- 6 **the La Brea Pits** Unit1 の「ラブレア・タールピッツ」と同じ。
- 7 **grazing** 「放牧」
- 12 **Antonio Jose Rocha** 「アントニオ・ホセ・ローシヤ」
- 12- **Nemisio Dominguez** 「ネメシオ・ドミンゲズ」
- 18 **vessel** 「船」
- 19 **jump** 「(船など)からこっそり抜け出す」
- 20 **prosecution** 「起訴」
desertion 「脱走」
- 26 **naturalized** 「(メキシコに)帰化した」
- 28 **adobe hacienda** 「レンガ作りの館」
- 33 **ranchero** 「牧場主」
- 34- **indentured servants** 「年季奉公人」

were **tantamount** to labor camps. Meanwhile, the Spanish/Mexican colonists in the Los Angeles River basin sectioned off the newly emptied land and raised cattle and sheep as well as established a **lucrative** trade in produce. Since the Hollywood area was a bit out of the way in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains and the site of the La Brea Pits, the colonists used this land mostly for grazing and as a source of tar for waterproofing boats and houses.

Spain ruled California until 1822 when it turned **jurisdiction** over to Mexico. During this period of time Mexico **granted** the area that would include Hollywood to a colonist by the name of Antonio Jose Rocha, as well as Nemisio Dominguez about ⁽²⁾ **whom** not much is known. Rocha named his property Rancho La Brea after the La Brea Pits that were located on his ranch.

Rocha was a **prototypical** American dreamer. A native Portuguese, he worked as a sailor on an American ship as a young man. When his vessel stopped in Monterey near San Francisco in 1815, he jumped ship and headed down to Los Angeles to escape prosecution for desertion. The local people accepted him, and Rocha started a blacksmith shop. He worked hard and was soon so successful that he was able to build a beautiful house in town. It wasn't long before he was one of the leading residents and was the **recipient** (along with Dominguez) of that land grant from the governing authorities in Mexico. He became a naturalized citizen of Mexico in 1831.

Rocha built an adobe hacienda on the land but never lived there. Instead, he stayed in his spacious town home. This was customary since according to Mexican law, the **ranchero** had to build a structure on his property within the first year of ⁽³⁾ **it** being granted. Usually the ranch managers occupied these ranch houses while the **ranchero** enjoyed society in town. Using some of the remaining Indians as indentured servants or slaves to work his **sprawling** ranch, he lived his dream of prosperity and comfort.

After two years of war with the United States from 1846-48, California became a territory of the U.S. With the discov