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前言

在跨文化交际中，深入的交流是理解和传播文化的重要前提。随着中外文化交流越来越密切，许多中国学生也有越来越多的机会与以英语为母语的学生以及其他外国友人交流切磋。然而，通常情况下，除了一些客套的寒暄外，双方的对话很难深入下去。当外国朋友对中国传统文化表现出极大的兴趣并想要深入了解时，很多中国人由于传统文化方面词汇的缺乏或表达的限制而无法将对话继续进行下去；当中国学生想了解外国风俗文化时，也不知如何询问，有口难开。

如何才能“看见老外就能聊”，真正做到游刃有余呢？

本书提供的对话和背景阅读就为中国人介绍中国文化和外国朋友了解中国文化搭建了一座桥梁，也是中国人和外国朋友交流外国文化、了解外国文化的纽带。本书包含的信息量大、话题热门新颖，更有丰富的双语材料和情景对话能使读者身临其境，感受文化的交流以及聊天的简单和轻松。本书分为国内篇和国外篇，所选内容都是具有独到见解的文章，可以启发读者更加深入地和外国朋友探讨文化问题，提高时下年轻人和外国朋友用英语交流文化的浓厚兴趣，紧跟时代的步伐和文化的发展。

文化乃对外交流中必不可少的重要元素，在全球化的今天，我们有责任将中国特色文化传播到世界各地，并进一步了解世界文化，增进与世界各地朋友们的相互理解和信任，为彼此的进一步交流打下坚实的基础。基于此，我们编写了本书，希望对读者朋友有较大的帮助。

编者

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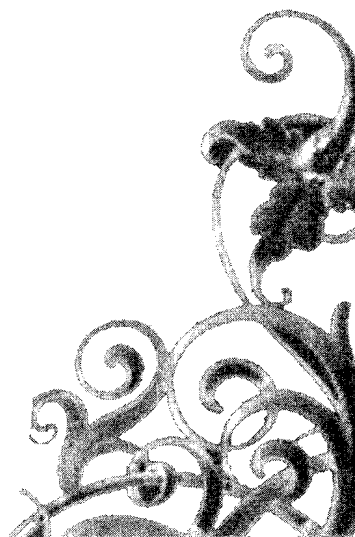
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国内篇

Domestic Section

~ 巍巍大中华,浩浩五千载,
留给世人无尽的震撼与感叹! 龙的传人,礼仪之邦,亿万中华儿女无不为此骄傲和自豪。在这里,我们为您轻轻打开一扇窗,让您尽览中华文明的万千风姿,万丈荣光!





Topic 1

孔子儒学 Confucianism

A: Have you heard that we are going to have a course about Confucius next semester?

B: Really? That's what I always want to have in class.

A: I thought that it must be very difficult for us to understand.

B: A big challenge indeed!

A: How much do you know about Confucius?

B: Just some general facts. Confucius (born Kong Qiu, styled Zhong Ni) was born in the village of Zou in the country of Lu in 551 B. C., a poor descendant of a deposed noble family.

A: Confucius's thoughts have been developed into a system of philosophy known as Confucianism (儒家). What's the main idea of Confucianism?

B: His philosophy emphasized personal and governmental morality, correctness of social relationships, justice and sincerity. These values gained prominence in China over other doctrines, such as Legalism (法家) or Taoism (道家) during the Han Dynasty (206 B. C. - 220 A. D.).

A: Why is it popular again in China now?

B: It has always been very popular in China. People just didn't value it as much as they do nowadays because they all think it hard to understand because Confucius' thoughts were all written in classical Chinese, which is quite different from modern Chinese.

A: How do people find it easy to understand nowadays?

B: When a professor named Yu Dan teaches analects in modern language and plain words on TV, people begin to have interest in it and they find so many valuable ethics which are still practical in modern society.

A: Can you recite some of its golden sentences?

B: Of course. Such as, exploring the old and deducing the new make a

teacher (温故而知新, 可以为师矣。).

A: You already know so much about him and it's unnecessary for you to take the course now.

B: Just some basic facts. There are still a lot to learn about him in the course.

A: 你听说我们下学期就要学孔子了吗?

B: 真的吗? 我一直都很想上这门课呢!

A: 我觉得对我们来说孔子很难理解吧。

B: 确实是一个很大的挑战!

A: 你了解一些关于孔子的什么呢?

B: 只有一些基本的知识。孔子(名丘, 字仲尼)生于公元前 551 年鲁国的陬邑, 是一个没落的贵族家族的贫穷后裔。

A: 孔子的思想发展成一套哲学体系, 那就是有名的儒家学说。那么你知道儒家学说的核心思想是什么吗?

B: 孔子的思想哲学重在“仁”, 既是对个人又是对政府的道德要求, 还强调社会关系、公平和诚实的正确性。这些价值观在汉朝(公元前 206 年—公元 220 年)比其它的学说像法家、道家等都要受到更多的重视。

A: 那为什么儒学又在中国流行起来了?

B: 它在中国一直都很流行。现在人们更重视它是因为更理解它的内涵了。儒学思想都是用文言文写的, 现代的人们理解起来有点困难。

A: 现在人们怎么会又发觉理解起来简单些了呢?

B: 当于丹教授开始在电视上用通俗易懂的现代语言讲解论语时, 人们发现很多儒学思想在现代社会仍有它的实际意义, 因而更感兴趣了。

A: 你能背诵一些孔子的名言吗?

B: 当然可以。像“温故而知新, 可以为师矣。”

A: 你已经对孔子了解这么多了, 看来都没必要再上这门课了。

B: 我只略知其一二。还有很多关于孔子的知识需要在课堂上汲取。



Descendant n. 后裔, 子孙

Doctrine n. 学说

Legalism n. 法家

Taoism n. 道家

Confucianism n. 儒家

Analects n. 论语

Golden sentence n. 名言

Words: 词汇扩展

背景知识——孟子及孔子名言

Mencius was a Chinese philosopher of the fourth century B. C., whose influence on intellectual tradition is roughly equivalent to the joint influence of St. Paul and Aristotle on Western thought. Mengzi thought of himself as merely defending the teachings of Confucius against rival philosophical doctrines. However, Mengzi was actually a very original thinker, whose doctrine of the goodness of human nature went far beyond anything Confucius had said. Long after his death, Mengzi's interpretation of Confucianism became orthodoxy, which means that generations of Chinese intellectuals literally memorized his work.

孟子是中国公元前四世纪的哲学家，他对思想传统上的影响等同于西方思想界的圣·保罗和亚里士多德。孟子仅仅认为他自己在为儒家思想同其它的哲学学说思想辩驳。但是，孟子实际上是一位非常有创造性的思想家，他的关于“性本善”的讨论是孔子的任何思想所没有提及的。在孟子去世后很久，他的儒家思想成为正统思想，意味着世代的中国知识分子都记得他的著作。

To learn and to practice what is learned time and again is pleasure, is not it? To have friends from afar is happiness, is not it? To be unperturbed when not appreciated by others is gentlemanly, is not it?

子曰：学而时习之，不亦说乎？有朋自远方来，不亦乐乎？人不知而不愠，不亦君子乎？

To acknowledge what is known as known and what is not known as not known is knowledge.

子曰：知之为知之，不知为不知，是知也。

Knowledge is not equal to devotion. Devotion is not equal to joy.

子曰：知之者不如好知者，好知者不如乐知者。

To do a good job, one must first sharpen one's tools.

子曰：工欲善其事，必先利其器。

Not to do to others as you would not wish done to yourself.

子曰：己所不欲，勿施于人。

Learning without satiety, instructing others without being wearied.

子曰：学而不厌，诲人不倦。

Wishing to be established himself, seeks also to establish others, wishing to be enlarged himself, he seeks also to enlarge others.

子曰：己欲立而立人，己欲达而达人。

文化点滴

孔子生平简介

孔丘（前551年9月28日<农历八月廿七>~前479年4月11日<农历二月十一>），字仲尼。孔子排行老二，汉族人，春秋时期鲁国人。孔子是我国古代伟大的思想家和教育家，儒家学派的创始人，世界最著名的文化名人之一。编撰了我国第一部编年体史书《春秋》。据有关记载，孔子出生于鲁国陬邑昌平乡（今山东省曲阜市东南的南辛镇鲁源村）；孔子逝世时，享年73岁，葬于曲阜城北泗水之上，即今日孔林所在地。孔子的言行思想主要载于语录体散文集《论语》及先秦和秦汉保存下的《史记·孔子世家》。



孔子像



Topic 2

四大发明 The Four Great Inventions

A: There are so many people that the tickets are all sold out!

B: Luckily we got the last two.

A: Look, B. The Four Great Inventions!

B: Gunpowder, compass, the paper making, and the printing.

A: I really admire those who made such great inventions!

B: Yeah, ancient Chinese were really smart!

A: They were milestones in their times. They have profound significance in Chinese traditional culture and the world development. For example, the invention of papermaking is one of China's special contributions to the spread and the development of human civilizations.

B: What about the movable type printing?

A: Movable type printing began with engraving printing of Sui Dynasty (581 A. D. – 618 A. D.). Bi Sheng of Song Dynasty (960 A. D. – 1276 A. D.) improved the movable type printing by making the baked clay into movable characters for type – setting printing; thus he accomplished a significant revolution in printing history.

B: Well, I know that the compass was introduced to Europe approximately in the 12th century. Its application to the navigation resulted in the voyage of Columbus' discovery of the New World and Magellan's global navigation.

A: That's true. And the Gunpowder was invented in the Song Dynasty (960 A. D. – 1276 A. D.) in China. It is the mixture of potassium nitrate, sulfur and charcoal—elements that people took as medicine in ancient times, hence the name “gunpowder” in Chinese means “burning medicines”.

B: It really opened my eyes today, thank you!

A: You're welcome, my pleasure.

A: 人太多了, 票都卖完了。

B: 幸好我们买了最后两张。

A: 看, B, 四大发明!

B: 火药、指南针、造纸术和印刷术。

A: 我真崇拜这些伟大的发明者。

B: 古代的中国人真得很聪明!

A: 它们是那个时代里的里程碑, 因为这些发明对中国的传统文化和世界发展都产生了深远的影响。例如, 造纸术的发明是中国对人类文明传播和发展的特别贡献。

B: 那活字印刷术呢?

A: 活字印刷术是以隋朝(公元 581 - 618 年)的雕版印刷术为基础发展起来的。宋朝(公元 960 - 1276 年)的毕升通过制成胶泥活字改进了活字印刷, 完成了印刷史上一次重大的革命。

B: 是的, 我了解到直到 12 世纪才传到欧洲的指南针被应用到航海, 帮助哥伦布发现了新大陆并且实现了麦哲伦的环球航行。

A: 说得很对。火药是在宋朝时发明的。火药由硫磺、硝石、木炭混合而成——古人用作药材的元素, 因此“火药”在中文里是“燃烧的药品”的意思。

B: 我今天真是大开眼界, 太感谢了!

A: 不客气, 我很乐意。

Milestone n. 里程碑

Papermaking n. 造纸术

Movable type printing n. 活字印刷术

Engraving printing n. 雕版印刷术

Compass n. 司南

Gunpowder n. 火药

Potassium nitrate n. 硝石

Sulfur n. 硫磺

Charcoal n. 木炭



Words: 词汇扩展

背景知识——中国古代四大发明

Papermaking

In papermaking a dilute suspension of fibers in water is drained through a screen such that a mat of randomly interwoven fibers is laid down. Water is re-

moved from this mat of fibers by pressing and drying to make paper. Most paper is made from wood pulp, but other fiber sources such as cotton and textiles may be used.

The history of papermaking can be traced to China about 105 A. D., made by Cai Lun. Modern papermaking began in the early 1800s in Europe with the development of the Fourdrinier machine, which produces a continuous roll of paper rather than individual sheets.

造纸术

在造纸中，由经过制浆处理的植物纤维的水悬浮液，在网上交错的组合，初步脱水，再经压缩、烘干而成。大多数纸是由木浆制成，其它的纺织材料例如棉和织物也可用来作制纸原料。

造纸术的历史可以追溯到约公元 105 年中国的蔡伦发明的造纸术。现代的造纸术则随着福德林尼尔造纸机的发展开始于 18 世纪早期的欧洲，可以连续不断的生产纸张而不只是生产单个的几张。

Movable Type Printing

Different from the old – fashioned wood – block printing, it involves the making of clay types, one for each character. This method proved to be very scientific, for the clay types could be dismantled and thus used again. Bi Shen's technique was the most remarkable achievement in printing.

活字印刷术

与旧的雕版印刷不同的是，活字印刷术是分体刻字模。这种方法非常的科学，因为它最大的特点是字模可以拆分并重复使用。毕升这项技术的发明是对印刷方法的一次革命性创新。

Compass

Referred to as a “South – pointer”, the spoon or ladle – shaped compass is made of magnetic lodestone, and the plate is of bronze. The circular center represents Heaven, and the square plate represents Earth. The handle of the spoon points south. The spoon is a symbolic representation of the Great Bear. The plate bears Chinese characters which denote the eight main directions of north, north – east, east, etc.

司南

被称作是“指南针”，勺形的司南是由天然磁石和铜盘制成的。圆形的中心