



Unit 1 Language in mission

Unit theme

非学无以广才，非志无以成学。

——诸葛亮《诫子书》

One cannot enhance one's ability and wisdom if one does not work hard; neither can one succeed without ambition.



Unit theme

大学的青春时光，人生只有一次，应该好好珍惜。为学之要贵在勤奋、贵在钻研、贵在有恒。

——习近平2014年五四青年节在北京大学师生座谈会上的讲话

A person enjoys only once the youthful days at college, so you should cherish them. To acquire knowledge, one has to study diligently, intensively and persistently.



Lead-in

1. Please read quotes from Chinese classics or speeches, discuss with your partner and help each other understand the real meaning of "great learning".

- The Dao of great learning lies in making bright virtue brilliant, in making the people new, in dwelling at the limit of the good. Only after wisdom reaches this dwelling does one possess certainty; only after one possesses certainty can one become tranquil; only after one becomes tranquil can one become secure; only after one becomes secure can one contemplate alternatives; only after one can contemplate alternatives can one comprehend. Affairs have their roots and branches, situations have their ends and beginnings. To know what comes first and what comes after is to be near the Dao.

大学之道，在明明德，在亲民，在止于至善。知止而后有定，定而后能静，静而后能安，安而后能虑，虑而后能得。物有本末，事有终始。知所先后，则近道矣。

——曾子《大学》



Lead-in

Step 1: Do you know how to express President Xi's quotations from Chinese poems in English? Please discuss with your partner and match them with their English counterparts.

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|----------------------|---|
| • 故不积跬步，无以至千里。 | • Time stops for no one, and the seasons keep changing. |
| • 岁月不居，时节如流。 | • A long journey can be covered only by taking one step at a time. |
| • 安得广厦千万间，大庇天下寒士俱欢颜！ | • Building a high-rise begins with mounds of soil. |
| • 九层之台，起于累土。 | • Not angling for compliments, I would be content that my integrity fills the universe. |
| • 不要人夸颜色好，只留清气满乾坤。 | • How I wish I could have ten thousand houses, to provide shelter for all who need it! |

Text study



A dream starts with learning, and careers with practice. In the world today, knowledge and information are quickly updated, and if one slackens even a little in study, one is likely to fall behind. **Some say that the world is a circle for everyone, with the amount of knowledge as the radius. He who has a bigger radius has a broader scope to act within.**

梦想从学习开始，事业从实践起步。当今世界，知识信息快速更新，学习稍有懈怠，就会落伍。有人说，每个人的世界都是一个圆，学习是半径，半径越大，拥有的世界就越广阔。

——《创新正当其时，圆梦适得其势》
(习近平在欧美同学会成立百年庆祝大会上寄语留学人员)

Text study

2) You have learnt people in different life stages demand differently, what is the ideal life of the traditional Chinese views on that?

Reference

The life stages in China

At 15, I was fond of learning.
At 30, I was established.
At 40, I did not waver.
At 50, I knew my sacred mission.
At 60, I had a discerning ear.
At 70, I could do what I would
without going beyond what is right.

吾十有五而志于学，
三十而立，
四十而不惑，
五十而知天命，
六十而耳顺，
七十而从心所欲，
不逾矩。



——《论语·为政》

Text study

In the video, we have learned about the stories of young people in the past who chose to dedicate their lives to the rejuvenation of the country.

Q: 1) Fang Zhimin, Zhao Yiman, Yang Jingyu and so on, there are many outstanding young people in the past mentioned in the video, who moves you most? Please share his or her story with your classmates.

2) How can we make the best of our own youth?



Text study



2. Please read the sentences from Paragraph 8, watch the video and answer the following questions.

In the experiment, the price was easily measured in lost cash. In life, the corresponding costs are often less obvious such as wasted time or missed opportunities. **Para. 8**

Video



Lead-in



Step 3: Niu Lang and Zhi Nu's meeting date — the seventh day of the seventh month of the Chinese lunar calendar — has been called Qixi, which has become the only Chinese festival devoted to love. In 2016, the State Council added the Qixi Festival to China's Intangible Cultural Heritage List along with the Spring Festival and the Dragon Boat Festival.

Do you have any idea of how the Qixi Festival was celebrated in ancient times? The picture on the left may give you a clue.

Text study

Task 2: Is “Po Fu Chen Zhou” a reasonable strategy or a gamble? Please discuss with your classmates about the reasons why Xiang Yu succeeded on the battlefield.



Reference

The success of Xiang Yu is not a gamble, but a wise choice out of huge courage and confidence. On the one hand, the enemy Xiang Yu faced was very powerful. Only by cutting off all means of retreat could Xiang Yu encourage his soldiers to fight to the end. Such behaviors showed his confidence in the loyalty and the capability of the troops. The trust from the commander could also encourage soldiers.

On the other hand, in such condition, the enemy could not be defeated in normal ways. The soldiers had to move faster to seize the opportunity before the enemy was ready. In this case, boats and cooking pots were no longer resources but burdens. Only if the troops gave up these burdens could they catch a fighting chance.

Research



Step 1: In 2020, many young medical workers went to assist in epidemic control in Hubei.

Please read the following passage and search the Internet for more information about those young medical workers, then name one of them who impresses you most and share his or her story with your classmates.



Spring Festival



Spring Festival

(1) It falls on the first day of the first lunar month (阴历正月).

- (2) People follow many national and local customs.
- (3) We paste spring poems (贴春联) with luck words on the door.
- (4) We eat delicious food with symbolic values (有象征意义的美味食品), for example, chicken for good luck.
- (5) We exchange greetings with friends and relatives.
- (6) People may give children lucky money in red paper.

the Lantern Festival



the Lantern Festival

(1) It comes on the 15th of the first lunar month.

(2) It marks the end of the Spring Festival.

(3) On that day, people eat sweet dumplings for good luck.

(4) Special activities include the display of lanterns (灯笼) and riddle solving (猜灯谜).

A decorative graphic for the Lantern Festival. It features a red lantern in the top right corner, a gold dragon in the bottom right corner, and colorful fireworks in the bottom center. The Chinese characters '元宵' (Yuanxiao) and '猜灯谜' (Cāi dēng mí) are prominently displayed in the center.

Tomb-Sweeping Day



Tomb-Sweeping Day

(1) It is also called Tomb-Sweeping Day. It comes on April 4th or 5th.

(2) In Chinese Qingming means "clear and bright".

(3) It is a day for the living to show love and respect to dead friends, relatives and ancestors.

(4) People will sweep the tombs, light incense, put meats, vegetables, wine in front of the tomb.

(5) Besides, people burn paper money for the dead to use in afterlife.

Dragon Boat Festival

- (1) It is on the fifth of the fifth lunar month.
- (2) It honours the famous ancient poet, Qu Yuan.
- (3) People gather to watch the colorful "Dragon Boat Races" (龙舟比赛).
- (4) People eat rice dumplings on that day.



Dragon Boat Festival



Mid-Autumn Festival



Mid-Autumn Festival



the Chinese Valentine's Day



the Chinese Valentine's Day









