



LESSON A.5

IDIOM STORIES

成语故事

CHÉNGYǔ GÙSHÌ



- Share with the class a **memorable word or phrase** you have learned from the last lesson.
- Working as a pair, make up a **simple but meaningful dialogue** that must consist with the memorable words or phrases given by both of you.
- Below is an example:

fruit

水果
shuǐguǒ

eat egg friend rice

吃鸡蛋炒饭
chī jīdàn chǎofàn

我喜欢水果。
wǒ xǐhuān shuǐguǒ

我们先吃鸡蛋炒饭吧！
wǒmen xiān chī jīdàn chǎofàn ba

然后吃水果。
ránhòu chī shuǐguǒ



OPPOSITE WORDS



3

反义词
fǎnyìcí

安静
ānjìng

安全
ānquán

单独
dāndú

无聊
wúliáo

容易
róngyì

干净
gānjìng

相对
xiāngduì

吵闹
chǎonào

危险
wéixiǎn

一起
yīqǐ

有趣
yǒuqù

困难
kùnnán

脏
zāng



CLASSROOM EXERCISE: OPPOSITION



4

- 用反义词描述下面的图片。 *yòng fǎnyìcí miáoshù xiàmiàn de túpiàn*

相反.....
xiāngfǎn

2



反过来说.....
fǎn guòlái shuō

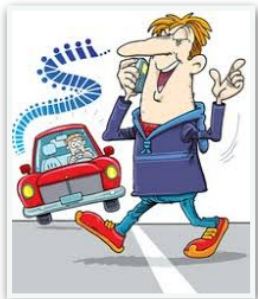
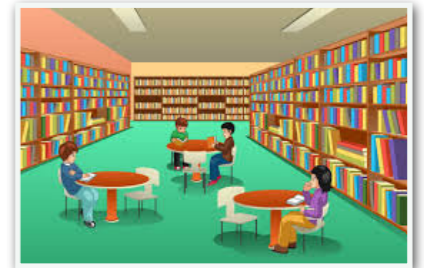
1



3



4



另一方面.....
lìng yī fāngmiàn

5



$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt[3]{n + \sqrt{n^2 + 8}} + \\ & \sqrt[3]{n - \sqrt{n^2 + 8}} \\ & = 8 \end{aligned}$$

不过.....
bùguò

但是.....
dànshì

IDIOM: FROG IN THE WELL



5

《井底之蛙》 jǐngdǐzhīwā

故事主角：
gùshì zhǔjiǎo

青蛙
qīngwā



海龟
hǎiguī

一只青蛙住在井底，
yī zhī qīngwā zhù zài jǐng dǐ,

它只可以见到井口的天空。
tā zhǐ kěyǐ jiàn dào jǐngkǒu de tiānkōng.

有一天，青蛙在井边碰上了海龟，
yǒu yītiān, qīngwā zài jǐng biān pèng shàngle hǎiguī.

它就对海龟夸口说：「你看，我住在这里多快乐！
tā jiù duì hǎiguī kuākǒu shuō: `nǐ kàn, wǒ zhù zài zhèlǐ
duō kuàilè!

自由自在，誰也比不上我。」
zìyóu zìzài, shuí yě bǐ bù shàng wǒ.'

boast

夸口
kuākǒu

海龟对青蛙说：「你看过海吗？
hǎiguī duì qīngwā shuō: `nǐ kànguò hǎi ma?

海又大又深。」
hǎi yòu dà yòu shēn.'

青蛙这才知道，井外还有这么大的天地。
qīngwā zhè cái zhīdào, jǐng wài hái yǒu zhème dà de
tiāndì

他惊讶地呆在那里，
tā jīngyà de dāi zài nàlǐ,

再没有话可说了。
zài méiyǒu huà kě shuōle.

surprisingly

惊讶地
jīngyà de



进退两难 *jìntuìliǎngnán*



在井底的青蛙有多安全啊!
zài jǐng dǐ de qīngwā yǒu duō ānquán a

海龟最终可能会因海洋污染而死!
hǎiguī zuìzhōng kěnéng huì yīn hǎiyáng wūrǎn ér sǐ



pollution

污染
wūrǎn

CLASSROOM EXERCISE: IDIOMS WITH NUMBERS



7

- Can you 猜猜 cāi cāi the following 四字成语 (sì zì chéngyǔ) by completing each with a number:

Example:

例子:
lizi

1 ♥ 1 🇮🇹

wholehearted

一心一意
yīxīnyīyì

3 ♥ 2 🇮🇹

half-hearted

三心兩意
sān xīn liǎng yì

1



__海为家
__hǎi wéi jiā

2



__全__美
__quán__měi

3



__光__色
__guāng__sè

4



__干__净
__gān__jìn

5



__长__短
__cháng__duǎn

6



__手__脚
__shǒu__jiǎo

7



__模__样
__mú__yàng

8



胡说__道
húshuō__dào

零 一 二(兩) 三 四 五 六 七 八 九 十
líng yī èr(liǎng) sān sì wǔ liù qī bā jiǔ shí

Grammar – Comparative Words



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- In English, we use more, less, most, least, or the suffix "-er" or "-est" to denote the comparative degree of a word.
- Similarly, we have the comparative words in Chinese.

most/least/"-est"

最
zuì

+

many

多
duō

few

少
shǎo

more/less/"-er"

更(加)
gèng(jiā)

+

fast

快
kuài

slow

慢
màn

to compare

比
bǐ

- To "compare", we have few expressions based on the word 比 (*bǐ*).
 - 西班牙比英国更暖。 *xībānyá bǐ yīngguó gèng nuǎn*
 - 相比之下，我最喜欢中国菜。 *xiāng bǐ zhī xià, wǒ zuì xǐhuān zhōngguó cài*
 - 对我来说，点心比寿司更好吃。 *duì wǒ lái shuō, diǎnxīn bǐ shòusī gèng hào chī*

GRAMMAR EXERCISE: COMPARISON



- Compare the below images using the grammatical structure from the previous slide.

1



2



3



4



5



6



CLASSROOM LISTENING EXERCISE: BREAKING NEWS



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- 1. 这则新闻是关于什么的? zhè zé xīnwén shì guānyú shénme de?
- 2. 发生什么事了? fāshēng shénme shìle?
- 3. 你觉得Hannah是怎么样的人? nǐ juéde Hannah shì zěnmeyàng de rén?
- 4. In 2011, before his death, British Airways gifted Captain Moore and his family flights to Barbados. 如果是你, 你会去吗? rúguǒ shì nǐ, nǐ huì qù ma?



captain

上尉
shàngwèi

admit

承认
chéngrèn

profit

利润
lìrùn

in addition

另外
lìngwài

foundation (monetary)

基金会
jījīn huì

investigation

调查
diàochá

salary

薪水
xīnshuǐ

spa

水疗中心
shuǐliáo zhōngxīn

SUMMARY EXERCISE: DIALOGUE



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- 完成以下的对话： *wánchéng yǐxià de duìhuà:*

爸爸，《井底之蛙》的寓意是什么？
bàba, jǐngdǐzhīwā de yùyì shì shénme

XXX



APPENDIX: Grammar – Tone Change



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- There are few tone changes in Mandarin. They are there to make it easier to pronounce as a sentence. With practice, you may find yourself make the changes naturally without even thinking about it!
- If unsure, simply use the original tone.
- Note, the printed tone mark does not change.

—
yī

- **yī** spoken as 1st tone

- when used in isolation, e.g. 一 yī (one)
- at the end of a word or phrase e.g. 十一 sī'yī (eleven)

- **yí** spoken as 2nd tone

- when preceding 4th tone, e.g. 一輛车 yíliàng chē (a car)

- **yì** spoken as 4th tone

- when preceding all the other 3 tones, e.g. 一本书 yìběn shū (a book), 一头牛 yìtóu niú (a cow)

不
bù

- **bù** spoken as 4th tone

- when used in isolation, e.g. 不! bù (No!)
- in “normal” situations, e.g. 不喜欢 bù xǐ huan (not like)

- **bú** spoken as 2nd tone

- when preceding 4th tone, e.g. 不是 bú shì (not to be), 不要 bú yào (not want)

- **bu** spoken as neutral tone

- when used in the middle of a set phrase, and the “verb-not-verb” structure, e.g. 对不起 duì bu qǐ (I'm sorry), 行不行? xíng bu xíng (is it okay?)

Tone Change: 3+3 → 2+3

- If a 3rd tone is followed by another 3rd tone, the first 3rd tone is spoken as 2nd tone, e.g. 很好 hén hǎo (rather well)
- For a series of 3rd tones, change all the former ones to 2nd, e.g. 展览馆 zhán lán guǎn (exhibition hall)
- Sometimes, it is necessary to break the sequence into separate units. Then only change first tone of the unit, e.g. 我很好 wǒ (pause) hén hǎo (I'm rather well), 小老虎 xiǎo lǎohǔ (little tiger)