

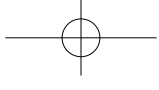
China's New Era

UNIT 1

Youth Talks

Learning Objectives:

- Arouse and cultivate a strong sense of mission and responsibility of Chinese youth in the new era and draw mental nourishment from them.
- Expand knowledge related to the contributions, innovation, and entrepreneurship of Chinese youth.
- Enhance the following skills: listening for specific information such as proper nouns, viewing purposes, expounding a topic from different layers, and making a presentation with exemplification.
- Tell stories of Chinese youth in the new era in the form of mini-presentation.

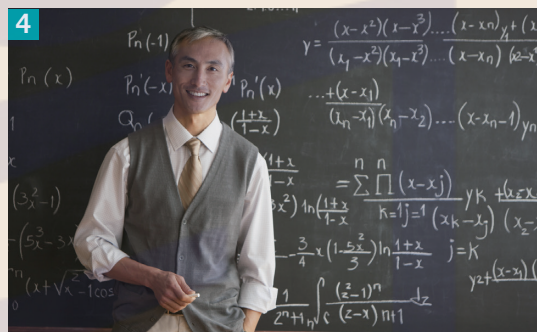


China's New Era

Warming Up

– Getting Ready –

As a college student in the new era, do you have any idea about how to serve our country? Use the provided expressions and templates as guidance to describe the images.



Expressions

- pilot
- e-commerce
- medical workers
- technological advancement

...

Templates

- Some college students aspire to be ...
- Livestreaming e-commerce sites help boost ...
- Medical workers are negotiating ...

...

Listening

– Getting Touch –



Audio Chinese Youth: Future of the Nation

Before Listening

1 Complete the sentences using the expressions in the box.

predecessors

unprecedented

informed

entrust

promising

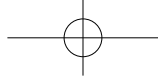
poised

- 1) Teenagers should strive to be more _____ in their actions and words, showing maturity beyond their years.
- 2) It is _____ for today's youth to have such lofty aspirations for the future.
- 3) Our _____ told us about the struggles they faced in achieving their goals, inspiring us to persevere.
- 4) It is crucial for teenagers to stay _____ about current events and social issues to make informed decisions.
- 5) Teachers often _____ their most talented students with leadership roles in school projects.
- 6) Sarah is a _____ young artist, already winning awards for her innovative work in painting.

2 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1) As the most active and energetic group of people in China, what will you do to become a qualified youth in the new era?

- 2) What opportunities do you think globalization has brought to Chinese youth?



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While Listening

Listening Skill

Listening for Specific Information Such as Proper Nouns

Proper nouns mainly include names, titles, geographical names, names of organizations, works, etc.

You can identify proper nouns by listening to definite articles and marker words involved in the listening materials, such as *Mr.*, *president*, *agency*. You can also identify proper nouns by listening to some phrases, such as *as well as*, *compared with*, *for example*, because they sometimes introduce or list proper nouns.

Besides, you can recognize proper nouns by the context in which they appear.

In addition, you need to distinguish the abbreviated forms of proper nouns and master the basic pronunciation rules, such as acronym and initialism (*the Belt and Road Initiative* shown in the listening material is abbreviated as *BRI* according to initialism).

Work through the exercises below to reinforce your understanding of the aforementioned skill.



Listen to the audio clip and choose the best answer to each question.

- 1) Which statement is correct about the Chinese Youth Day?
 - A) China celebrates Youth Day to inform young people of international events.
 - B) China celebrates Youth Day to give young people more opportunities.
 - C) China celebrates Youth Day to inspire young people and promote social development.
 - D) China celebrates Youth Day to boost the development of globalization.
- 2) What is the impact of the Belt and Road Initiative on globalization?
 - A) More open and inclusive.
 - B) More fair and just.
 - C) More peaceful and secure.
 - D) More sustainable and stable.
- 3) Which of the following is NOT mentioned in terms of the Chinese young people's awareness of international events?
 - A) They learn about international events by studying or traveling abroad.
 - B) They learn about international events by interacting with their peers across the world.
 - C) They learn about international events through newspapers and current affairs.
 - D) They learn about international events by communicating with foreigners in China.

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- 4) Contemporary Chinese youth have more responsibilities than their predecessors because of _____.
A) the national advance in science and technology
B) the responsibility and mission of youth
C) China's ongoing revolution
D) China's important international status

After Listening

Paraphrase the sentences.

- 1) Chinese youth are very well informed about international events and many have interacted with their peers elsewhere across the world.

- 2) With these promising youth poised for future leadership positions, the future of humanity is in good hands.

Viewing

– Getting Involved –



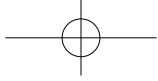
Video One AI Innovators

Viewing Skill

Viewing Purpose

The purpose of viewing is directly related to the intrinsic motivation of students, and is the quality assurance and premise of watching any video.

Therefore, you need to first set a clear goal before viewing. Think about why you need to watch



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the video and what you expect to learn from it. You can also start with questions, topics and tasks given in the before-viewing part, and carry out a series of thinking activities to further specify your viewing purpose. These activities can facilitate a quick grasp of the key content when watching videos, and thus efficiently help you complete subsequent tasks.

Work through the exercises below to reinforce your understanding of the aforementioned skill.

Before Viewing

You will hear the expressions (A–J) in the coming video. Match the expressions with their definitions (1–10).

A. testament

B. flock

C. cutting-edge

D. agile

E. humanoid

F. robotics

G. chores

H. Artificial Intelligence

I. ponder on

J. mundane

_____ 1) A machine or creature that looks and behaves like a human.

_____ 2) To go or gather together somewhere in large numbers.

_____ 3) An area of study concerned with making computers copy intelligent human behavior.

_____ 4) A task that people do regularly.

_____ 5) To think about something carefully for a period of time.

_____ 6) A thing that shows that something else exists or is true.

_____ 7) Being able to move quickly and easily.

_____ 8) The branch of technology that deals with the design, construction, operation and application of robots.

_____ 9) Not interesting or exciting.

_____ 10) Being the newest and the most advanced in a particular field.

While Viewing



1 Watch the video for the first time and choose the best answer to each question.

1) What is the name of the humanoid robot that Xie Zheng's team built?

A) Lynx.

B) Walker.

C) Amazon.

D) Wesley.

2) What was Wesley's previous industry before he switched to robotics?

A) Manufacturing.

B) Gaming.

C) Education.

D) Healthcare.

- 3) Which task can the robot perform?
- A) Playing video games.
 - B) Driving cars.
 - C) Opening doors.
 - D) Cooking meals.
- 4) What is Xie Zheng's company's vision of developing humanoid robots?
- A) Robots will replace all kinds of human jobs such as writing and driving.
 - B) Robots will compete against human beings in sports games.
 - C) Robots will become self-aware and independent.
 - D) Robots will take care of human life and make it more convenient.

2 Watch the video for the second time and judge whether the statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Mentioned (NM).

- _____ 1) Shenzhen is now being well-known as China's Silicon Valley.
- _____ 2) Wesley Wan's team has collaborated with tech giants like The Bank of London.
- _____ 3) Xie Zheng started working in a private company after graduating from university.
- _____ 4) It took 40 members two years to build the robot.
- _____ 5) It is hoped that humanoid robots can do mundane and dangerous work for humans.

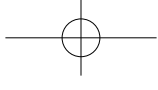
After Viewing

1 Translate the expressions into English.

- 1) 国有企业 _____
- 2) 人工智能 _____
- 3) 语音助手 _____
- 4) 前沿技术 _____
- 5) 人形机器人 _____

2 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1) What are the contributions of the two young innovators to China's artificial intelligence?



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2) As the young generation in this era, what can you learn from the two innovators?

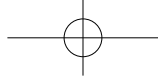


Video Two Young Creators

Before Viewing

Choose the best explanation of the words or phrases in bold.

- 1) The young artists are leading a cultural **renaissance** of a different kind.
 - A) The situation when people are interested in something again.
 - B) The situation when people are bored of something again.
 - C) The situation when people are indifferent to something again.
- 2) Their **innovative** interpretation of ancient Chinese art shaped the nation's identity.
 - A) Outdated and old.
 - B) Creative and brand-new.
 - C) Traditional and influential.
- 3) He was the **animation** director.
 - A) Cartoon.
 - B) Science fiction.
 - C) Movies.
- 4) Each Qin **terracotta warrior** has a unique face.
 - A) Soldier statues made of clay.
 - B) Soldier statues made of stones.
 - C) Soldier statues made of iron.
- 5) I want to **revive** the Qin Culture in this modern era.
 - A) Make something alive again.
 - B) Use something again.
 - C) Waste something again.
- 6) The figure had his **debut** on New Year's Eve of this year.
 - A) The first public appearance.



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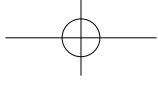
- B) The second public appearance.
C) The last public appearance.
- 7) He is marching **majestically** towards the audience.
A) In a way with great passion.
B) In a way with great admiration and respect.
C) In a way with great depression.
- 8) He **embodies** the Chinese spirit.
A) Represent.
B) Conceal.
C) Imitate.
- 9) He became the **icon** of the whole province.
A) A person that people admire.
B) A person that people look down upon.
C) A person that people often overlook.
- 10) This form of art **resonates** with the young generation.
A) Arouse a different feeling.
B) Arouse a particular feeling.
C) Arouse a similar feeling.

While Viewing



1 Watch the video for the first time and choose the best answer to each question.

- 1) The culture of a nation is about the people's _____.
A) identity
B) style
C) future
D) life
- 2) In _____, Qin Feng was invited to the Silk Way Rally hosted by Russia.
A) 2015
B) 2016
C) 2017
D) 2023
- 3) What does Qin Feng symbolize?
A) The designer's personal dream.
B) An icon of Shaanxi.
C) China on the international stage.
D) All of the above.
- 4) The stunning beauty of Tang Girl took us back to a prime age of _____.
A) wars and conflicts
B) peace and glory
C) economic recession
D) boom of diverse culture



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2 Watch the video for the second time and fill in the blanks with what you have heard.

When a 1) _____ disappears, so does its people. In Xi'an, the 2) _____ capital of China, there are many young artists who are leading a cultural renaissance of a different kind. By transforming historical figures into modern icons, they're shaping the nation's 3) _____ through innovative interpretation of ancient Chinese art.

Animation director Yan He wanted to create a 4) _____ that the younger generation in China could relate to. Yan found the answer in his hometown of Xi'an, from a 5) _____ two thousand years old. Qin Dynasty is the most significant age of our history. Each Qin terracotta warrior has a unique face. Yan would like to make Qin Culture 6) _____ and revive it for this modern era.

Qin Feng had his debut on New Year's Eve in 2017. Over the past six years, Yan and his team have been 7) _____ the cultural features of Qin warriors.

In 2017, Qin Feng was invited to the Silk Way Rally hosted by Russia. It was a touching moment when the Chinese flag was raised and Qin Feng marched majestically towards the audience from the 8) _____. Qin Feng is not just one's personal dream. He embodies the Chinese spirit. He is not simply an icon of Shaanxi. He is representing China on the international stage.

Another young artist Qiao Qiao was searching for a form of art that 9) _____ with the way his generation understands local art and culture. In 2015, Qiao Qiao finally found his muse: Tang Girl, the stunning beauty of her took people back to a prime age of 10) _____.

After Viewing

Translate the sentences into Chinese.

- 1) By transforming historical figures into modern icons, they're shaping the nation's identity through innovative interpretation of ancient Chinese art.

- 2) Over the past six years, Yan and his team have been digging into the cultural features of Qin warriors.

- 3) At that time I suddenly realized Qin Feng is not simply an icon of Shaanxi. He is representing China on the international stage.

- 4) I'm inspired by the youth culture, which is unlocking the overall creativity of the society, reaffirming the distinctive identities of their nation.

Speaking

– Getting Across –

Group Discussion

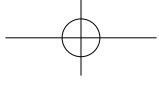
Critical Thinking Skill

Expounding a Topic from Different Layers

To develop your ability to think systematically and comprehensively, it is essential to know how to expound a topic from different layers. In other words, you need to learn how to present an idea from different perspectives. There are generally three ways: parallelism, contrast and progressive method.

- Parallelism is a method of elaborating ideas in parallel structure, regardless of the primary and secondary. For example, you can introduce your college life from the perspectives of study, fitness, competitions, and public welfare.
- Contrast is to use two opposing sides to explain an idea such as positive and negative structure, true and false description.
- Progressive method means that different layers are interlocking and gradually deepening. For example, the role of youth can be illustrated from the following four levels: individual, family, society, and country. These four levels are gradually progressive from micro to macro levels.

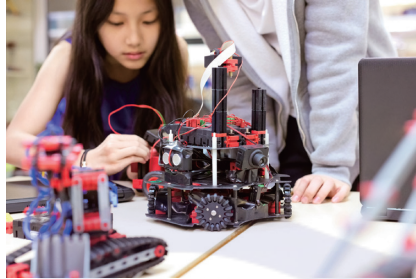
Work through the exercises below to reinforce your understanding of the aforementioned skill.



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- 1** As a college student, what is your plan for campus life? Your ideas can include but not limit to the following points.

Campus Life



- 2** “Lying flat” (*tangping*) or forging ahead, which one do you prefer? Show your reasons. The following paragraph may help sort out your thoughts.

The ideals and beliefs of youths have a bearing on the future of a country. Young people with great ideals and firm beliefs are the driving force that builds an invincible nation. High ambitions can stimulate your potential to forge ahead, so that you will not drift aimlessly like a boat without a rudder. It is said that “a person who aspires to be a saint will become a saint; and a person who aspires to be a sage will become a sage.” Young people have different life goals and career choices. But only when you integrate your goals with those of the nation and the people, advance with the times, and share the aspirations of the people will you live up to your values and realize the lofty goals of life. Disregarding the needs of the country and the interests of the people, those who are self-centered will find a narrower path ahead.

(Xi Jinping: The Governance of China III)



Theme-Based Project

Group work: Give a three-minute mini-presentation on the topic *Don't dream your life, but live your dream.*

Suggested Steps

1. Guide your audience on how to start the presentation

- Start with a strong and compelling hook to engage your audience such as raising a question and telling a story.
- Show your point early to grab the audience's attention and ensure your message is clear.

2. Unfold the main body

- Exemplify your point with relevant anecdotes, cases, or statistical evidence to help your listeners visualize your point. (Tips for making a presentation with exemplification are attached in the Speaking Skill box below.)
- Demonstrate the value of your point by highlighting its practical implications, potential benefits, or long-term impacts.

3. Suggest your audience on what to do next

- Show specific suggestions for living their dreams and empower your audience to make a difference.
- Finish the presentation strong by calling them to action with persuasive language.

Speaking Skill

Making a Presentation with Exemplification

When crafting a presentation with exemplification, it is crucial to carefully select and integrate examples. Here are three key principles to follow:

- The examples should be closely related to the topic of your presentation, and can intuitively demonstrate the credibility and logic of the ideas.
- The examples shown in your presentation should be representative and influential so as to effectively back up your argument.
- The audience's background and their likes and dislikes should be taken into consideration. If the target audience are college students, the speaker may choose examples that are closely related to college life to promote the audience's participation and understanding.



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Self-Reflection

Reflect on what you have learned in the unit and complete the following table.

Cultivating a sense of mission and responsibility	Information about young people in the new era	Acquisition of skills	Storytelling about Chinese youth of the new era
<input type="checkbox"/> Understanding the mission of Chinese youth.	<input type="checkbox"/> Getting a glimpse of the inspiring stories of Chinese youth.	<input type="checkbox"/> Listening for specific information such as proper nouns.	<input type="checkbox"/> Organizing a mini-presentation on Chinese youth of the new era.
<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing spiritual nourishment from them.	<input type="checkbox"/> ...	<input type="checkbox"/> Viewing purposes.	<input type="checkbox"/> Presenting the speech with examples.
<input type="checkbox"/> ...	<input type="checkbox"/> ...	<input type="checkbox"/> Expounding a topic from different layers.	<input type="checkbox"/> ...
		<input type="checkbox"/> ...	