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1

UNIT

Symbols of Culture





Text A

Introduction

父母倾心养育、儿女感恩尽孝，这情感植根于中华文化。全球化背景下，许多年轻人到世界各地求学、生活，但他们就像高飞的风筝，永远与养育了他们的那片土地紧密相连。

Love and Filial Piety Across Oceans

- 1 I still remember the way Grandma said goodbye to me when I packed my bags and got ready to return to London after spending the summer holiday at home.
- 2 “Work hard and don’t miss home,” she told me at the front door, trying hard to hold back her own tears.
- 3 Then, she limped back inside before I got into Dad’s car. I saw her **frail** and lonely figure slowly disappearing. A sudden feeling of guilt **overwhelmed** me. I longed to call out to her, to see her one more time, but at that moment, I found myself helplessly silent.
- 4 What I wanted was not just to spend a few more minutes, or even days with Grandma. Instead, I longed to make up for the time we could have spent together over the 16 years

I had lived abroad. And that, I know, is never possible.

- 5 Grandma was a guardian and angel in my happy childhood. She knitted my first **jumper**, picked me up from kindergarten every day, and put me to bed with my favorite stories. When I was in a good mood, she was there to play hide-and-seek with me again and again. But whenever I felt off-color, she would sit next to my bed, holding my hand far into the night.
- 6 She has always encouraged her grandchildren to study hard, run after their dreams and not to miss home. In fact, she was always saying goodbye to her grandchildren. One by one, all three of her grandchildren have left, for good universities, promising jobs in big cities, and eventually a settled, overseas life.
- 7 She gave us all her care, love and patience, and never sought anything in return.
- 8 Filial piety, otherwise known as *xiao*, is at the core of our culture. **Originating** from ancient times, filial piety means love and respect for one's elders and obeying their wishes. But there is something else too. To fulfill filial piety, you have to live with them, and look after them in their old age.
- 9 Working abroad, I have put up with the guilt of being not truly filial. I was not there to take Grandma to hospital. I was not there to help her **renovate** her flat. And now, I hate to admit the unspeakable truth that each goodbye could be a last one.
- 10 In the new era, the young have been inspired to pursue their own dreams. They are allowed to **venture** abroad and start their careers on a global stage, which is of course, at the cost of being away from families and **ancestral** homes. Many of my foreign friends say they feel very little connection to their birth countries, after a few significant moves across regions.
- 11 But we are a little different. Although we young generations have embraced new lives in a different place, even a different country, the **unparalleled** strength of our family ties and filial piety deeply **bonds** us to our cultural roots. Like kites flying high in the sky, we will always be connected to the land and the people that have shaped us into who we are.

(520 words)



New Words

frail <i>adj.</i>	(因年老或生病而)瘦弱的, 虚弱的
overwhelm <i>vt.</i>	(感情或感觉)使某人不知所措
jumper <i>n.</i>	(通常穿在衬衣外面的)无袖连衣裙
originate <i>vi.</i>	起源; 发端于
renovate <i>vt.</i>	修复; 翻新
venture <i>vi.</i>	冒风险, 冒险(去某处)
ancestral <i>adj.</i>	祖先的
unparalleled <i>adj.</i>	无比的
bond <i>v.</i>	(使)结合



Phrases and Expressions

filial piety	孝顺; 孝心
make up for	弥补



Notes of the Text

1 I still remember the way Grandma said goodbye to me when I packed my bags and got ready to return to London after spending the summer holiday at home. (Para. 1) 那年我在家过完暑假, 收拾行李准备回伦敦, 奶奶跟我告别时的场景我依然历历在目。

句中 Grandma said goodbye to me 为定语从句, 先行词是 the way, 关系词可以用 in which 或 that, 也可以省略。

e.g. I don't like the way (in which/that) he spoke to his mother. 我不喜欢他跟他母亲说话的方式。

2 What I wanted was not just to spend a few more minutes, or even days with Grandma. (Para. 4)
我想要的不仅仅是和奶奶一起多待几分钟，或是多陪她几天。

句中 What I wanted 是主语从句。

e.g. What the kid wanted was only a new schoolbag. 那个孩子想要的只是一个新书包。

3 But whenever I felt off-color, she would sit next to my bed, holding my hand far into the night.
(Para. 5) 而每当我感觉不太舒服的时候，她会坐在我床边，握着我的手，直到深夜。

句中 holding my hand far into the night 为现在分词短语作伴随状语。

e.g. I stood by the door, not daring to say a word. 我站在门旁，不敢说一句话。

4 Like kites flying high in the sky, we will always be connected to the land and the people that
have shaped us into who we are. (Para. 11) 像空中高飞的风筝，我们将永远与塑造了我们的土地和人民连在一起。

句中 who we are 作介词 into 的宾语，是宾语从句。

e.g. Martha is always thinking of how she can do more for others. 玛莎总是想如何才能为别人做得更多。

Discussion

- 1 In the author's memory, what did Grandma do for him/her during childhood?
- 2 What are young people encouraged to do in the new era?
- 3 Please share with us some stories about how young people in China show their love and filial piety to the old generation.





Text B

Introduction

一方水土养一方人，不同地区人们的饮食习惯反映了不同的文化。因此，美食通常能让同一地区的人们找到认同感，居住在波兰的鞑靼人也不例外。本文介绍的两种鞑靼美食，还真有点像我们中国人常吃的饺子和汤圆呢。

Food That Draws People Together

- 1 We are looking for a European country with a small Tatar presence, and now a Tatar restaurant. Tatars, by the way, are Muslims, and that restaurant is in the northeast part of Poland.
- 2 Then we actually pay a visit to the restaurant chef, Jenata Bogdanovic. Jenata is now busying herself in the kitchen of her restaurant. It is in a restored family farmhouse in a tiny village about a mile from the border with Belarus.
- 3 The smell of onion is strong when we enter the kitchen. Jenata is preparing dishes that would normally only be found in a Tatar home. Jenata entered local cooking contests,

and she won with a cuisine that is unfamiliar to most Poles. Polish food **critics flocked** to her and the tourists followed, so Jenata opened a Tatar restaurant, the first in the country, in 2003.

- 4 Jenata explains, the central theme of Tatar cuisine is meat, lots of meat: mutton, venison and especially beef. All that meat is packaged in **pastry**. These are the dishes you would expect from **nomadic** horsemen, such as meat inside dough, which is easy to carry and eat on the go.
- 5 Today Jenata is making Pyzy and Koldunai. Pyzy looks a bit like a small football. They are dumplings filled with heavily spiced **ground** meat surrounded by a dough made with raw and cooked potato. She boils them in a beef **broth**.
- 6 Koldunai is a **variation** on the same theme, but here the meat is put into a purse of pastry dough gathered up like a closed tulip. Jenata says Koldunai is one of her favorite dishes, because her most treasured family memories are of sitting around the kitchen table with her mom and her sisters preparing the food. It was a time to be together, to talk, and a chance to hear her mom's stories about the past.
- 7 But it is not all meat and potatoes. Butter, honey and flour go into a pot. These are the ingredients for Halvah, a traditional Islamic treat. Jenata has enlisted some help for the final stages. The Halvah is so thick, and two women are stirring together, throwing all their weight into it. It is a dish that takes hours of stirring. The Halvah is sweet, but not too sweet, rich and **velvety** and a little **gooey** as it cools. This is definitely the kind of food that draws people together. And that kind of community is critical to keep the Polish Tatars aware of their culture. There are only about 3,000 of them left in the country. Jenata wants her restaurant to be a **haven** for Tatars. She says Tatar youth around the world can come to her to learn about themselves and their history, and find a place for reunion. (464 words)



New Words

presence <i>n.</i>	风度；风采
critic <i>n.</i>	评论家
flock <i>vi.</i>	蜂拥而至
pastry <i>n.</i>	油酥面团
nomadic <i>adj.</i>	游牧的
ground <i>adj.</i>	(咖啡或坚果用特制机器)磨成粉末(颗粒)的,磨碎的
broth <i>n.</i>	肉汤
variation <i>n.</i>	变化
velvety <i>adj.</i>	柔软的
gooey <i>adj.</i>	软而黏的
haven <i>n.</i>	安全地; 避难所



Phrases and Expressions

on the go	非常忙碌; 十分活跃
be critical to	对……至关重要



Proper Names

Tatar	(生活在俄罗斯、乌克兰和中亚部分地区的)鞑靼人
Poland	波兰
Belarus	白俄罗斯
Pole	波兰人



Notes of the Text

1 They are dumplings filled with heavily spiced ground meat surrounded by a dough made with raw and cooked potato. (Para. 5) 它们是用生、熟两种土豆泥做面团，把调好味道的肉馅儿包起来的土豆团。

句中 filled with heavily spiced ground meat 为过去分词短语作后置定语，相当于定语从句 which are filled with heavily spiced ground meat，修饰 dumplings；同样，surrounded by a dough 修饰 heavily spiced ground meat，made with raw and cooked potato 修饰 a dough。

e.g. In art criticism, you must assume the artist has a message hidden within the work. 在艺术评论中，你必须假定艺术家在作品中隐藏了信息。

2 It was a time to be together, to talk, and a chance to hear her mom's stories about the past. (Para. 6) 那是与家人在一起聊天的时间，也是一次听她妈妈讲述过去故事的机会。

句中动词不定式 to be together、to talk 作 a time 的后置定语。

e.g. Volunteering is a chance to change people's lives, including your own. 志愿者工作是一个改变人们生活的机会，包括你自己的生活。

3 And that kind of community is critical to keep the Polish Tatars aware of their culture. (Para. 7) 那种归属感对于波兰的鞑靼人认识他们的文化至关重要。

句中形容词短语 aware of their culture 作宾语 the Polish Tatars 的补足语。

e.g. The situation then made us desperate. 当时的形势使我们绝望。

Discussion

- 1 What is the central theme of Tatar cuisine according to Jenata?
- 2 Please describe how to make Pyzy.
- 3 What is the relationship between food and cultural identity? And give us an example.



Quotes

If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday.

—Pearl Buck

1

想要懂得今天，就必须研究昨天。

——赛珍珠

Culture has one great passion—the passion for sweetness and light. It has one even yet greater, the passion for making them prevail.

—Matthew Arnold

2

文化有种强烈的渴望，渴望亲和与友善。文化甚至还有一种更强烈的渴望，即渴望这亲和与友善可以蔚然成风。

——马修·阿诺德

The reason why the being the object of men's delight, the possession of beauty, riches, and honors, were not sufficient to remove his sorrow, was that it could be removed only by his getting his parents to be in accord with him.

—Mencius

3

人悦之、好色、富贵，无足以解忧者，惟顺于父母可以解忧。

——孟子

The value of culture is its effect on character. It avails nothing unless it ennobles and strengthens that. Its use is for life. Its aim is not beauty but goodness.

—William Somerset Maugham

4

文化的价值在于它对人性的影响，如果文化不能使人高尚，不能提升人的品格，那么文化就毫无用处。文化的作用在于裨益人生，它的目标不是美，而是善。

——威廉·萨默塞特·毛姆

