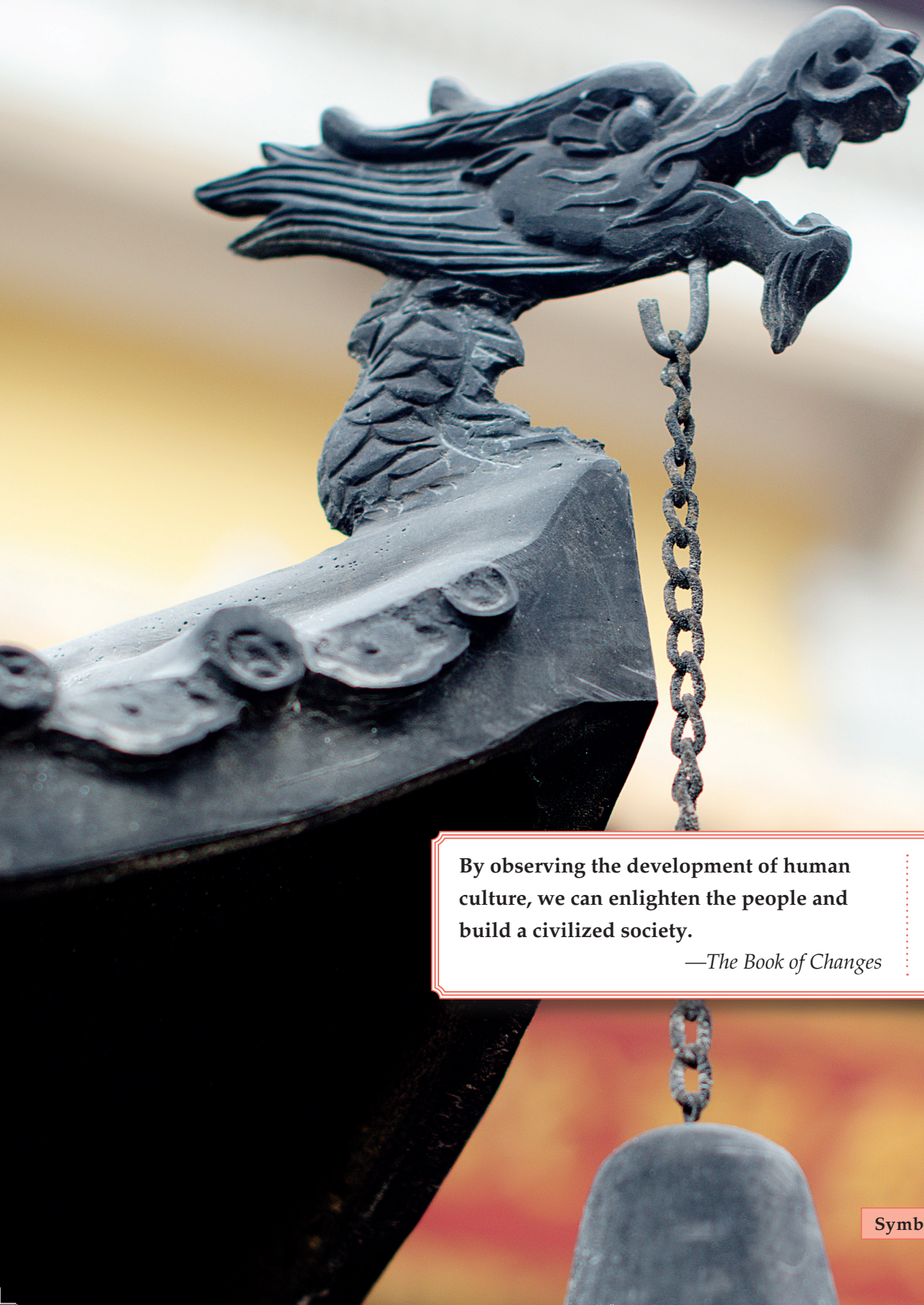# Symbols of culture

By observing the development of human culture, we can enlighten the people and build a civilized society.

—*The Book of Changes*
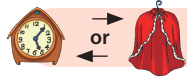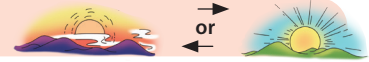
观乎人文，以化成天下。

——《周易》

Telling apart

Five groups of sounds: /ɔː//aʊ/, /ɒ//əʊ/, /ɪə//eə/, /k//g/, /j//dʒ/

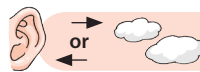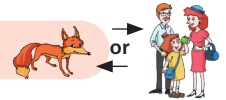**1** 🎧 **Listen to the sentences and circle the word you hear in each of them.**

1. Can you draw a **horse**/**house**?

2. It's almost **down**/**dawn**.

3. How do you like that **clock**/**cloak**?

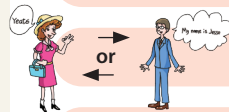4. Tomorrow she will come to see my **fox**/**folks**.

5. There is a small bug in the **ear**/**air**.

6. A great **cheer**/**chair** went up in the hall.

7. When did you buy the **coat**/**goat**?

8. Don't sit on my **back**/**bag**.
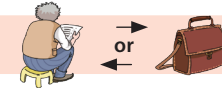
9. My name is **Yeats**/**Jesse**.

10. Why don't you like such a beautiful **yam**/**gem**?
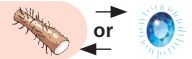
2 🎧 **Read the sounds and words after the recording, then compare them.**

Vowels

[ɔː]ᵛˢ[aʊ]   [ɒ]ᵛˢ[əʊ]   [ɪə]ᵛˢ[eə]

horse/house	clock/cloak	ear/air
dawn/down	fox/folks	cheer/chair
short/shout	rod/road	dear/dare
nor/now	want/won't	peer/pair
lord/loud	got/goat	fear/fair

Consonants

[k]ᵛˢ[g]   [j]ᵛˢ[dʒ]

coat/goat	Yeats/Jesse
back/bag	yam/gem
dock/dog	yell/gel
buck/bug	yump/jump
pick/pig	yet/jet

3 🎧 **Read the proverbs and sayings after the recording, then practice by yourself.**

Proverbs & sayings

Don't cry over spilt milk.	覆水难收。
Don't let the cat out of the bag.	不要泄露秘密。
Love me, love my dog.	爱屋及乌。
Don't put the cart before the horse.	不要本末倒置。
Everybody's business is nobody's business.	三个和尚没水喝。

4 🎧 **Read the tongue twister after the recording, then practice by yourself.**

Tongue twister

Betty Botter bought some butter.

"But," she said, "this butter's bitter.

If I put it in my batter, it will make my batter bitter."

So she bought a bit of butter better than her bitter butter.

And she put it in her batter.

And her batter wasn't bitter.

So it was better Betty Botter bought a bit of better butter!

Word bank

caffè latte *n.* 拿铁咖啡
cappuccino *n.* 卡布奇诺咖啡
commemoration *n.* 纪念
cuisine *n.* 饭菜，菜肴
documentary *n.* 纪录片
hit *n.* 风行一时的事物
impressed *adj.* 印象深刻的
influential *adj.* 有影响力的
nourishing *adj.* 有营养的
regional *adj.* 地区的，区域的
reunion *n.* 团聚，团圆
science fiction *n.* 科幻小说
seasoning *n.* 调味品，佐料
soy sauce *n.* 酱油
stir-fry *v.* 爆炒，炒（菜）
takeout *n.* 外卖餐馆
vinegar *n.* 醋

equate to 相当于，等于
to name (but) a few 略举几例

A Bite of China 《舌尖上的中国》
（纪录片）
Dezhou-stewed Chicken 德州
扒鸡
Double-stewed Soup 老火靓汤
Dragon Boat Festival 端午节
Kung Pao Chicken 宫保鸡丁
Mapo Tofu 麻婆豆腐
Peking Roast Duck 北京烤鸭
Sichuan Hotpot 四川火锅
White Cut Chicken 白切鸡
**Yellow River Carp in Sweet and
Sour Sauce** 糖醋黄河鲤鱼

Listening strategy Try to listen for the **main idea** of a conversation.
Don't concentrate on details until you have understood the main idea.

1 🎧 **STATEMENTS** **Listen to the statements and choose the one that is closest in meaning to each of them. The statements will be spoken twice.**

> **Example**
>
> **You will hear:** Only a third of the 30 students passed the exam.
> **You will read:** A. Twenty students passed the exam.
> B. Twenty students failed the exam.
> C. Ten students took the exam.
> D. Ten students failed the exam.
>
> B. Twenty students failed the exam. is closest in meaning to the
> statement. Therefore, B is the correct answer.

1. A. Chinese people use chopsticks as tableware.
   B. Chopsticks are popular with Chinese people.
   C. Chopsticks were invented in China.
   D. Chopsticks are part of Chinese culture.
2. A. Fast food is easily prepared and cheap.
   B. Fast food is easily prepared and expensive.
   C. Fast food is quickly served and cheap.
   D. Fast food is quickly served and expensive.
3. A. The Chinese celebrate their birthdays by eating noodles.
   B. The Chinese eat noodles on their birthdays in the hope of living longer.
   C. The Chinese eat noodles on their birthdays in the hope of good luck.
   D. The Chinese like to eat noodles because noodles are delicious.
4. A. No one likes the food in that restaurant.
   B. Some people like the food in that restaurant.
   C. Everyone likes the food in that restaurant.
   D. Some people are noisy in that restaurant.
5. A. Generally, I take care of the fish.   B. It's hard to eat a whole fish.
   C. In general, I don't like fish.   D. I got a fish from the hole.
6. A. I like to eat there because they serve food quickly.
   B. I like to eat there because it's always open.
   C. I like to eat there because there are many kinds of food.
   D. I like to eat there because it's large and spacious.

2 🎧 **SHORT CONVERSATIONS** **Listen to the short conversations and decide on the best answers. Both the conversations and the questions will be spoken twice.**

> **Example**
>
> **You will hear:**   W: Are you catching the 10:15 flight to New York?
>   M: No. I'm leaving this evening.
>   Q: What are the man and woman talking about?
> **You will read:**   A. New York City.   B. An evening party.
>   C. A plane trip.   D. The man's job.
>
> From the conversation, we learn that the man is to take a flight to New York. Therefore, <u>C. A plane trip.</u> is the best answer.

1. A. In a café.   B. In a bookstore.
    C. At a railway station.   D. At home.
2. A. She doesn't like Chinese food.   B. She likes nothing.
    C. She likes all kinds of food.   D. She likes Chinese food.
3. A. This documentary series has been criticized recently.
    B. This documentary series has been in trouble recently.
    C. This documentary series has been very popular recently.
    D. This documentary series has been the subject of a heated
        discussion recently.
4. A. The dishes are too delicious to be true.
    B. He has just seen a science fiction film.
    C. He doesn't believe what the woman says.
    D. The scene is as impressive as what is in a science fiction film.
5. A. Different people have different characters.
    B. Different people are interested in different things.
    C. Meat and poison do not differ much for some people.
    D. Some people do not like meat because they believe it is unhealthy.
6. A. Stir-frying.   B. Steaming.   C. Boiling.   D. Stewing.
7. A. She will recommend some other typical Chinese dishes.
    B. There are some Chinese dishes which are even more popular.
    C. The dishes mentioned by the man are not typical of Chinese cuisine.
    D. There are many other popular dishes in China besides those mentioned.
8. A. She entirely agrees with the man.
    B. She does not agree with the man.
    C. Chinese people prefer flavored food.
    D. Chinese people put many things in their kitchens.

Tip

There are eight well-known regional cuisines in China, namely Shandong Cuisine, Sichuan Cuisine, Guangdong Cuisine, Fujian Cuisine, Jiangsu Cuisine, Zhejiang Cuisine, Anhui Cuisine, and Hunan Cuisine.

3 🎧 **CONVERSATIONS**

1. **Listen to the conversation and match the information in the two columns. The conversation will be spoken twice.**

Column A	Column B
1) Sichuan Cuisine ○	○ A. Dezhou-stewed Chicken
2) Guangdong Cuisine ○	○ B. Double-stewed Soup
3) Shandong Cuisine ○	○ C. Kung Pao Chicken
	○ D. Yellow River Carp in Sweet and Sour Sauce
	○ E. Mapo Tofu
	○ F. White Cut Chicken

2. **Listen to the conversation and decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F). The conversation will be spoken twice.**
   - ☐ 1) The man has been studying Chinese food for a long time.
   - ☐ 2) The man found Chinese food is related to Chinese culture.
   - ☐ 3) Chinese food is not only delicious, but also has cultural connotations.
   - ☐ 4) Chinese people have dumplings during the Spring Festival in the hope of fortune and prosperity.
   - ☐ 5) The woman will study Chinese food soon.

4 🎧 **PASSAGE** **Listen to the passage and fill in the blanks. The passage will be spoken three times.**

Have you ever realized that we often stamp a cultural identity on food? Just as the 1) _____ goes, "You are what you eat!" You may hear people say that "English food is terrible!" Is that true? 2) _____ English food, compared with food of some other countries, may be not that rich in variety. Nowadays, however, things have changed. You can find Indian food and Italian food 3) _____ in England. You can also get Chinese food easily. Almost every town has a Chinese restaurant or takeout. In big cities such as London, you can visit Chinatown, where there are 4) _____ Chinese restaurants and even Chinese supermarkets. Even the 5) _____ are written in both Chinese and English. So, is English food terrible? No, because it isn't English food!

Opening your mouth
Showing likes and dislikes

Reading out

1 🎧 **EXCHANGES** Read the short conversations after the recording, then practice them with your partner.

① M: What do you think of the movie?
W: It's great.

② M: How do you like the weather here?
W: I hate it.

③ M: The house is nice, isn't it?
W: Yes, it's great.

④ M: Are you fond of pop music?
W: Yes, I'm crazy about it.

⑤ M: What's your favorite subject?
W: I enjoy history very much.

⑥ M: Do you like sports?
W: Yes, I'm keen on playing table tennis.

2 🎧 **CONVERSATION MODELS** Read the conversations after the recording. Pay attention to the expressions for showing likes and dislikes.

①
M: Do you have any plans for the coming holiday?
W: No, not really.
M: Which do you prefer, going to the seaside or to the mountains?
W: Well, I love the seashore.
M: Why?
W: Sailing, swimming, and fishing sound great to me. What about you?
M: I'm not very interested in those things.
W: So you prefer going to the mountains?
M: Sure. To me, climbing mountains is more interesting. I love the fresh air in the mountains.
W: That is interesting.

②
M: What do you prefer to do in your spare time?
W: I love to do t'ai chi.
M: Wow! I thought it was only popular among old people.
W: Not any more. Nowadays, people of all ages can be seen doing t'ai chi in parks.
M: I don't like sports at all. I'm mad about music, though.
W: Ah, I remember you play the flute wonderfully.
M: Thanks. I enjoy it very much.
W: Well, if you ever want to take up a gentle sport, I can teach you t'ai chi.
M: That's really kind of you.

Speaking up

1 🎧 **CONVERSATION 1** Complete the conversation, then listen to the recording and check your answers.

W: Steven, 1) _____ your part-time job?

M: Yes, I do. The work 2) _____.

W: Then what do you do in your free time?

M: Oh, nothing special. Usually, I prefer to read novels.

W: What kind of novels do you prefer to read?

M: Historical novels are 3) _____.

W: Why are you 4) _____?

M: Because I can learn a lot from the historical characters.

W: Do you 5) _____?

M: Just one—playing golf. It's expensive, but it's a lot of fun.

It's your turn! Make up your own conversation following **CONVERSATION 1**. The language notes are for your reference.

SITUATION

You and your friend are discussing whether you should go to the movies or watch TV at home.

Language notes

- cinema, TV programs, channels, visual effects, sound effects
- Do you like… or…?/What do you prefer, … or…?
- Of… and…, I love… better.
- I still prefer… to…
- I find… dull.
- I can't stand/bear…
- The advantage of… is that…
- If you choose…, you can…
- … is better in terms of…

2 🎧 **CONVERSATION 2** **Rearrange the order of the sentences to form a conversation, then listen to the recording and check your answers.**

1. I haven't been abroad yet. Most of the time I travel in China.
2. Yes, I like it a lot. And you?
3. I think traveling around the world can change your opinions on many things.
4. Me, too. It's very interesting to travel in another country.
5. Last spring, I went to Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand. Those places really left me with good memories.
6. Amy, do you like traveling?
7. Which countries have you been to?
8. Hope you have a nice trip.
9. If I have time this year, I'll travel abroad.

☐ ⟹ ☐ ⟹ ☐ ⟹ ☐ ⟹ ☐ ⟹ ☐ ⟹ ☐ ⟹ ☐ ⟹ ☐

It's your turn! Make up your own conversation following **CONVERSATION 2**. The language notes are for your reference.

SITUATION

You and your classmate are talking about sports. You are telling each other about your favorite sport and the reason(s) why you like it.
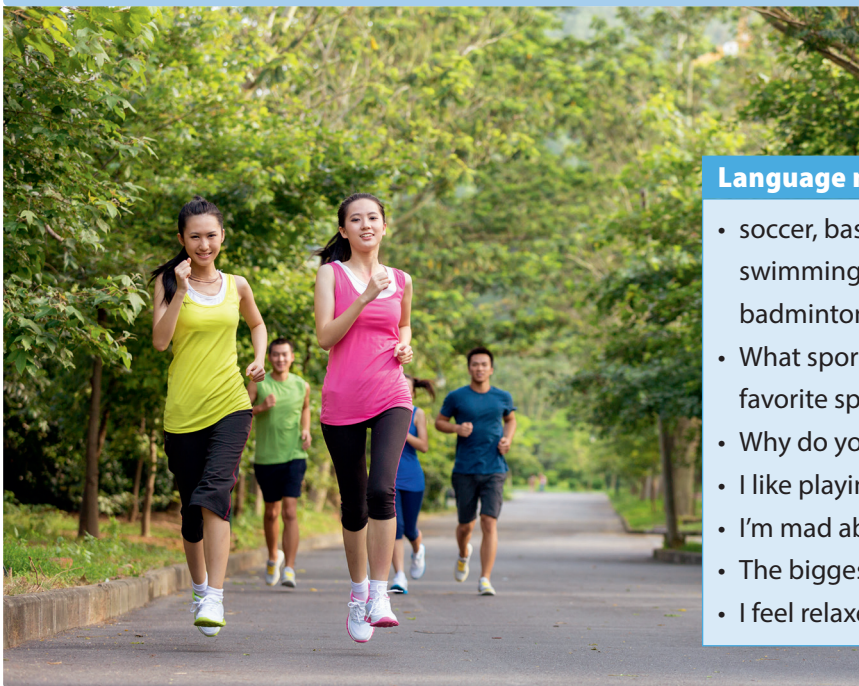
Language notes

- soccer, basketball, volleyball, running, swimming, skiing, skating, tennis, badminton
- What sport do you like best?/What's your favorite sport?
- Why do you like…?
- I like playing…, though I'm not good at it.
- I'm mad about…
- The biggest reason is that…
- I feel relaxed when I play…

3 CONVERSATION 3 Act out a conversation with your partner based on the clues.

A Ask B if he/she likes hotpot.

Reply A. **B**

A Ask B for the reason(s) for his/her liking or disliking hotpot.

Give your reason(s). **B**

A Ask B about his/her favorite food.

Make a response. **B**

A Tell B you like it too and explain your reason(s).

Show agreement. **B**

It's your turn! Make up your own conversation following **CONVERSATION 3**. The language notes are for your reference.

SITUATION

You and your friend are talking about what kind of food you'd like to have tonight.

Language notes

- Chinese food, Italian food, noodles, fish and chips, salad, spicy food, sweet food
- What's your favorite food?/What kind of food do you like best?
- Do you like/love/enjoy…?/Are you fond of…?
- I like/prefer…
- I'm crazy about/fond of/keen on…

Acting out

1 🎧 **LISTENING** Listen to the conversations. Match each conversation (shortened as "C") with a picture, then listen again and complete the table. Finally, practice the conversations with your partner.

	Favorite	Reason
C1 ○ ○ **A**	1) _____	I get very 2) _____ when my team scores a(n) 3) _____. It's 4) _____ playing soccer with friends.
C2 ○ ○ **B**	purple	It makes me feel 5) _____.
C3 ○ ○ **C**	6) _____	It's so 7) _____. I love walking 8) _____, and I love swimming 9) _____, too.

2 **SPEAKING** Work in groups. Check (✔) your likes and dislikes first, then talk about your reason(s) together.

	Love	Like	OK	Hate	Reason
Japanese food					
Going to the movies					
Swimming					
Traveling					
Pop music					
Studying English					

Viewing together

Peking Opera facial make-up

Word bank

aesthetics *n.* 美学
classical *adj.* 经典的，传统的
crafty *adj.* 狡猾的，诡计多端的
date *n.* 枣
extended *adj.* 延长的
fate *n.* 命运
immortal *n.* 不朽的人物，永生之神
inspiration *n.* 灵感
loyalty *n.* 忠诚，忠贞
morality *n.* 德行，品行
narrative *n.* 讲述
pattern *n.* 图案，式样
personality *n.* 人格，个性
represent *v.* 表示，象征
rough *adj.* 粗野的，粗暴的
steadiness *n.* 可靠，稳重
suspicious *adj.* 怀疑的，猜疑的
tragic *adj.* 悲剧的

depending on 根据
facial make-up 脸谱
stand for 代表

Dingjunshan《定军山》（由《三国演义》片段改编的京剧）
Peking Opera 京剧

Before viewing

1 **WARM-UP** Different colors of Peking Opera facial make-up usually have different meanings. Match the different colors of facial make-up with their meanings.

1. ○ ○ A. seriousness and roughness

2. ○ ○ B. craftiness and suspiciousness

3. ○ ○ C. loyalty and courage

4. ○ ○ D. violence and cruelness

5. ○ ○ E. firmness and steadiness

While viewing

2 ▶ **UNDERSTANDING** Watch the video clip and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

1. How long is the history of Peking Opera?
    A. About 100 years.   B. About 200 years.
    C. About 300 years.   D. About 400 years.
2. What function does the facial make-up in Peking Opera perform?
    A. Showing characters' features.
    B. Indicating characters' appearance.
    C. Making characters more attractive.
    D. Promoting cultural exchanges.
3. Which of the following statements is true?
    A. Facial make-up has different patterns.
    B. The patterns of facial make-up are made up of dots.
    C. The patterns of facial make-up are usually intense.
    D. The facial make-up of the characters does not change throughout a
       story.
4. What influence has Peking Opera facial make-up had?
    A. It has promoted cultural exchanges.
    B. It has influenced modern aesthetics in different ways.
    C. It has spread traditional Chinese cultures to other countries.
    D. It has provided fresh insights into and inspirations for Peking Opera.

After viewing

3 **CRITICAL THINKING** Discuss the questions in groups. The language notes are for your reference.

1. How do you understand that Peking Opera facial make-up "has influenced popular culture and modern aesthetics"?
2. In your opinion, how can the younger generation be taught to appreciate and protect Peking Opera?

Language notes

- lines and dots, colors, oriental beauty, traditional aesthetics
- Peking Opera facial make-up is used in…
- People give colors meanings when…
- Make good use of… to strengthen the publicity of Peking Opera.
- Familiarize kids with Peking Opera by…
- Carry out communication activities about Peking Opera with other countries through…

Voice of China

Chinese porcelain: the Chinese ambassador of cultural exchanges

Word bank

ambassador *n.* 大使
artisan *n.* 工匠，手艺人
attractive *adj.* 有吸引力的
celadon *n.* 青瓷；灰绿色
civilization *n.* 文明
crackle *n.* 碎裂花纹，冰裂纹
decorative *adj.* 装饰性的
elegant *adj.* 高雅的
exquisite *adj.* 精致的，精美的
glaze *n.* 釉，上光层
high point *n.* 顶点，最佳状态
invention *n.* 发明
kiln *n.* 窑
masterpiece *n.* 杰作，代表作
originate *v.* 发源，开始
porcelain *n.* 瓷器
pottery *n.* 陶器
primitive *adj.* 原始的，初级的
tableware *n.* 餐具（总称）
ware *n.* 物品，器皿

Belt and Road Forum for
　International Cooperation
　　"一带一路"国际合作高峰论坛

1 ▶ **UNDERSTANDING** Watch the video clip and match the pictures with their descriptions.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

A.　Sui and Tang dynasties: Single-colored porcelain became the most popular.

B.　Shang Dynasty: The "primitive porcelain" appeared in China.

C.　Qing Dynasty: Decorative porcelain was well known.

D.　Ming Dynasty: Porcelain with white glaze and blue flowers became famous.

E.　Song Dynasty: Porcelain with ice crackles on the glaze was popular.

F.　Yuan Dynasty: Jingdezhen produced the famous blue-and-white porcelain.

2 **CRITICAL THINKING** Discuss the questions in groups. The language notes are for your reference.

1.　Why do you think porcelain is so popular throughout the world?
2.　Besides porcelain, what else can be considered a symbol of Chinese culture? Explain your reasons.

Language notes

- From the aesthetic perspective, porcelain is…
- From the practical perspective, porcelain can be used as…
- Porcelain is cherished because of…
- Chopsticks/Silk… can be considered a symbol of China.
- It was invented/developed… in China.
- It has influenced Chinese culture and lifestyle till now.