

Unit 2

Myths and Legends

PART 1

Listening, Understanding and Speaking

Listening I

SCRIPT

Mart Moody from Tupper Lake used to tell this tale. "I went out one day and there was a big flock of ducks out on Tupper Lake. And I had this good dog. I shot at the ducks, and then I sent the dog out there. She was heavy with pups at the time, and I didn't know whether I should send her out there. It was a cold day in the fall. Well, she took right off and away she went. But she didn't show up when it got dark. I began to worry about her. She was a good dog, a really good retriever. She'd get anything I shot at.

So the next morning I woke up and thought I'd better go and see if I could find her. And I got down to the shoreline of the lake and looked out. Suddenly I saw something coming. It was this dog. She came on shore! She had three ducks in her mouth. And behind her she had seven pups. And each of the pups had a duck in his mouth."

Word tips

Mart Moody 马尔特·穆迪 (人名)

Tupper Lake 塔珀湖 (位于纽约州)

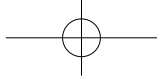
pup 小狗, 幼犬

retriever 经训练会衔回猎物的犬

shoreline (海) 岸线

1 Listen to a story about a dog and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.

- 1 What did Moody go out hunting for? B
 - A Pups.
 - B Ducks.
 - C Sheep.
 - D Dogs.
- 2 Who went with Moody? A
 - A His dog.
 - B His daughter.
 - C His friend.
 - D His pups.
- 3 What was the weather like that day? B
 - A Warm.
 - B Cold.
 - C Rainy.
 - D Dark.



4 Why did Moody get worried when he came back from hunting? D

- A His dog didn't bring any duck back.
- B He could not find the ducks.
- C His dog lost one of her pups.
- D His dog didn't show up.

5 How many dogs had Moody got in the end? C

- A Three.
- B Seven.
- C Eight.
- D Ten.

2 Listen to the story again and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1 The dog refused to get the ducks because of her pregnancy. | <u>F</u> |
| 2 The dog didn't return home with Moody that night. | <u>T</u> |
| 3 Moody went to look for the dog the next morning. | <u>T</u> |
| 4 The dog gave birth to three pups. | <u>F</u> |
| 5 The dog and her pups got ten ducks altogether. | <u>T</u> |

3 Work in pairs to retell the story. Then share with your partner what you think of Mart Moody, his dog, and the ending of the story.

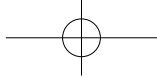
SAMPLE

- Mart told the story to show what a good and reliable retriever the dog was. Even when she was pregnant, the dog would manage to help. Just like their “mother”, the pups were great enough to be able to get ducks for their master right after being born. Of course, the ending of the story sounds incredible. Though it's possible for a dog to have seven pups at one birth, newly-born pups are too weak to carry ducks. Moody was exaggerating and we know it isn't a true story, but it is a fantastic exaggeration.
- Mart felt very proud of his dog. She was a good and dutiful retriever. She accomplished her duty when she was heavy with pups. Without any delay, she took off to get the ducks her master shot. She never forgot her duty even when she had to give birth to the pups. What was most interesting was that her pups followed her example. We know Mart was exaggerating, but it is funny.

Listening II

There was an old man who had a daughter. He told his daughter that he had invited a preacher to his house. He said, “Daughter, I'm going down to the train to meet the Reverend, and I've roasted two ducks for him in the other

SCRIPT



room. Don't you touch them!" The daughter said, "No, I won't touch them." The old man went to the train to meet the Reverend, and the girl began to taste the ducks. The ducks tasted so good that she kept on tasting them until she had eaten them all up, every bit of them.

After the old man came back, he didn't even look in the place where he had left the ducks. He went directly into the other room to sharpen his knife on the oilstone so he could carve the ducks. The preacher was sitting in the room with the girl. She knew that her papa was going to punish her, and she started crying and shedding tears. The preacher asked, "What is the matter with you, girl?" She said, "Papa has this one bad fault: He invites preachers to his house and goes to sharpen his knife to cut off both their ears." And the Reverend asked, "What is that you say, daughter?" The girl said, "Yes, Papa invites preachers here all the time and cuts off both their ears." The preacher said, "Daughter, hand me my hat. Quick!" The girl gave him his hat and he ran out of the door quickly. The daughter called her papa and said, "Papa, the preacher got both the ducks and has gone." The old man ran to the door and yelled to the preacher, "Hey, where are you going in such a hurry? Come back here right now!" But the preacher just kept running and shouted back over his shoulder, "Damned if you'll get either one of these."

Word tips

preacher 传道士

Reverend 牧师（对基督教教士的尊称）

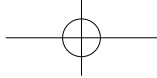
oilstone（磨刀用的）油石

shed 使流出

damned 该死的

1 Listen to a story about a clever girl and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.

- 1 Who did the father go to meet? A
 - A A preacher.
 - B A teacher.
 - C A friend.
 - D A neighbor.
- 2 What did the father tell the daughter NOT to do? A
 - A To eat the ducks.
 - B To cut the ducks.
 - C To roast the ducks.
 - D To prepare the ducks.
- 3 What did the daughter do after her father left? B
 - A Cleaned the room.
 - B Tasted the ducks.
 - C Fixed other dishes.
 - D Set the table.
- 4 What did the father do first after he came back? C
 - A Looked at the ducks.
 - B Cut the ducks.
 - C Sharpened the knife.
 - D Talked to his daughter.
- 5 What would the father do to the preacher according to the daughter? D
 - A He would entertain him with ducks.
 - B He would kill him.
 - C He would cut both his legs off.
 - D He would cut both his ears off.



2 Listen to the story again and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1 The father roasted two ducks. | <u>T</u> |
| 2 The father went to the bus station to meet his guest. | <u>F</u> |
| 3 The daughter ate both the ducks while her father was away. | <u>T</u> |
| 4 The daughter pretended to cry before the guest. | <u>T</u> |
| 5 The daughter said her father seldom invited preachers to dinner. | <u>F</u> |
| 6 The father knew very well why the preacher ran away. | <u>F</u> |

3 Work in groups of three to role-play the story, with each member being "Father", "Daughter" and "Preacher" respectively.

SAMPLE

Father: Daughter, I'm going down to the railway station to meet the Reverend. I have roasted two ducks in the other room.

Daughter: Roasted ducks? How I love them. Dad, I love you.

Father: But they are not for you.

Daughter: Who are they for, then?

Father: They are for the Reverend. Behave yourself. Don't you touch them!

Daughter: OK. I won't touch them.

(After Father leaves, Daughter starts to taste the ducks and soon she finishes both ducks. After a while, Father comes back with the Reverend.)

Father: My dear Reverend, please have a seat. Daughter, get some water for the Reverend. I am going to get things ready for dinner.

Reverend: Please take your time.
(Daughter starts to cry.)

Reverend: What's wrong, my dear girl?

Daughter: You are in trouble, Reverend.

Reverend: What are you talking about? What trouble am I in?

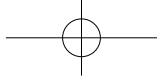
Daughter: Dad is a nice person. But he has this one bad fault: He invites preachers home and goes to sharpen his knife to cut off both their ears.

Reverend: My girl, give me my hat. Quick!
(The preacher runs out of the house without looking back.)

Daughter: Dad, the Reverend got both ducks and has gone.

Father: Hey, why are you leaving in such a hurry? Come back.

Reverend: Dammed if you'll get either one of these.



Listening III

SCRIPT

Jack Storm was the local barrel maker and blacksmith of Thebes, Illinois. He had a cat that stayed around his shop. The cat was the best mouse catcher in the whole country, Jack said. He kept the shop free of rats and mice. But, one day, the cat got caught in a piece of machinery and got a paw cut off. After that, he began to grow weak and thin and didn't take any interest in anything, because he wasn't getting enough to eat.

So, one day, Jack decided to make a wooden paw for the cat. He made it with his pocket knife and fastened it on the injured leg. After that, the cat began to grow sleek and fat again. Jack decided to stay at the shop one night to see how the cat managed with his wooden paw.

After dark, the cat got down in front of a mouse hole and waited. Pretty soon a mouse peered out cautiously. Quick as a flash the cat seized it with his good paw and knocked it on the head with his wooden one. In no time, that cat had 18 mice piled up in front of the mouse hole.

Word tips

Jack Storm 杰克·斯托姆 (人名)

barrel 桶

blacksmith 铁匠

Thebes 底比斯 (地名)

Illinois 伊利诺伊州 (美国州名)

sleek (毛发) 有健康光泽的

peer 凝视, 盯着看

1 Listen to a story about Jack Storm's cat and complete the following passage with the information you get.

Jack Storm was the local barrel maker and blacksmith of Thebes, Illinois. He had a cat that 1) stayed around his shop. The cat was the best 2) mouse catcher in the whole country, Jack said. He kept the shop free of 3) rats and mice. But, one day, the cat got caught in a piece of machinery and 4) got a paw cut off. After that, he began to grow 5) weak and thin and didn't take any interest in anything, because he wasn't getting enough to eat.

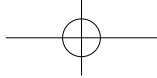
So, one day, Jack decided to 6) make a wooden paw for the cat. He made it with his pocket knife and 7) fastened it on the injured leg. After that, the cat began to 8) grow sleek and fat again. Jack decided to stay at the shop one night to see how the cat 9) managed with his wooden paw.

After dark, the cat got down in front of a mouse hole and waited. Pretty soon a mouse 10) peered out cautiously. Quick as a flash the cat 11) seized it with his good paw and knocked it on the head with his wooden one. In no time, that cat had 12) 18 mice piled up in front of the mouse hole.

2 Work in pairs to retell the story to each other.

SAMPLE

Once there was a man who had a cat. The cat was a good mouse catcher. But unluckily the cat got a paw cut off by a machine. Without enough "food" to live on, the cat grew very thin. The man finally came up with a good idea. He made a wooden paw and fastened it on the injured leg of the cat. The cat soon got fat again. The man was curious and wanted to see how the cat managed with his wooden paw. He found out one night that the cat caught mice with his good paw and knocked them on the head with his wooden paw.



Listening IV

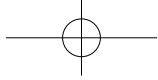
Background information

There have been few characters of American folklore with the stature (身高) of Paul Bunyan. This legendary hero of lumberjacks (伐木工) possessed strength, speed, and skill that matched the vastness of North America.

Johnny Appleseed in real life was John Chapman, born on September 26, 1774, near Leominster, Massachusetts. Little is known of his early life, but he apparently received a good education which helped him in his later years. By the time he was 25 years old, he had become a nurseryman (园丁) and had planted apple trees in the western portions of New York and Pennsylvania.

SCRIPT

- Josh:** Hey, Ken.
- Ken:** Hey, Josh. Where did you get those comic magazines?
- Josh:** When I went home last weekend, I found these old “Superman” magazines that my older brother had bought many years ago.
- Ken:** You don’t have time to read old comics. Why did you bring them here?
- Josh:** In my World Literature class we’ve been talking about the importance of myths, folk tales, and legends to cultures. We have to write a short paper on a legendary figure that we think is the greatest American hero. I think it’s Superman.
- Ken:** Superman? Why? I think it’s someone like Paul Bunyan, the giant woodsman, or Johnny Appleseed, who planted early apple trees in the Midwest. Superman is just a modern comic magazine character.
- Josh:** When I saw these old comics, I started thinking that Superman represents a combination of cultural traditions and beliefs that have been told throughout our American history.
- Ken:** How?
- Josh:** Superman is an orphan who comes by rocket to Earth when his native planet explodes. He lands near a small town and is adopted by Jonathan and Martha Kent, who teach him their American middle-class values of honesty, hard work and consideration for others. As an adult, he migrates to a large city and defends Americans against evil.
- Ken:** What else?
- Josh:** Well, I was thinking that he is a symbol of the American character because he’s an immigrant. We Americans have come from somewhere else, too. My great grandparents came from Germany, and I know your grandparents came from Brazil. They all worked hard and succeeded.



Ken: But how does that relate to Superman?

Josh: He goes to the city, just as many immigrants did, and works as a newspaper reporter. His adopted parents' values of honesty, hard work and helpfulness are a part of him. He uses his super abilities to fight dishonesty and to help the victims of crime and injustice, meanwhile working hard at his newspaper job.

Ken: I understand. As an orphan, Superman becomes a new person in a new land, just as our ancestors did, and succeeds. He also represents our values. Your paper should be interesting. I'd like to read it when it's finished.

Josh: OK.

Word tips

Josh 乔希 (人名)

comic 连环漫画

Paul Bunyan 保罗·班扬
(美国民间故事中的伐木巨人)

woodsman 伐木工

Johnny Appleseed 苹果佬
(John Chapman的绰号)

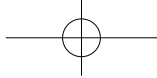
Jonathan 乔纳森 (人名)

Martha Kent 玛莎·肯特
(人名)

migrate 移居

1 Listen to a conversation about Superman and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.

- 1 Why does Josh read comic magazines about Superman? B
 - A For fun.
 - B For his literature class.
 - C For a drama writing course.
 - D For his history course.
- 2 What is Josh going to write about Superman? D
 - A A play.
 - B A poem.
 - C A short story.
 - D A paper.
- 3 What does Josh regard Superman as? A
 - A A hero.
 - B A comic figure.
 - C A legend.
 - D A fictional person.
- 4 What does Superman represent according to Josh? A
 - A American values.
 - B American myths and legends.
 - C The development of science.
 - D Newspaper reporters.
- 5 Why does Josh think Superman is so special to the Americans? C
 - A Because he is a hard-working newspaper reporter.
 - B Because he is powerful when he is fighting against evil.
 - C Because he is an immigrant just like most other Americans.
 - D Because he has much consideration for others.



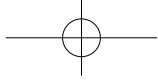
2 Listen to the conversation again and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Josh got the magazines from an old bookstore. **F**
- 2 Paul Bunyan is another legendary figure in American history. **T**
- 3 Johnny Appleseed planted apple trees in the Midwest many years ago. **T**
- 4 Superman was not born on Earth. **T**
- 5 A wealthy couple adopted Superman and taught him American values. **F**
- 6 Superman moved to a large city when he grew up. **T**
- 7 Josh's great grandparents came from Brazil. **F**
- 8 The only job of Superman at the newspaper agency was to fight against evil. **F**

3 Work in pairs to tell your partner what you think of Superman if you have watched the movie. You may also tell your partner other legendary American heroes like Spiderman.

SAMPLE

- A:** You must have watched *Superman*, the movie, I mean.
- B:** Yes. I remember that I was 10 years old when I watched that movie for the first time.
- A:** How do you like the movie?
- B:** I like it very much. I wish I could have the super power like Superman. I could fight evil then.
- A:** Why do you think people like Superman?
- B:** People like him not only because he has super power, but also because he is a nice man. He loves his parents and his girlfriend. He is also a good worker at the newspaper office. What's more, he is always ready to help others.
- A:** You are right. Superman is a role model that kids may look up to.
- B:** Later I watched *Spiderman*. I think, basically, Spiderman is just like Superman. But Spiderman has human weaknesses, which makes him more like us ordinary people. I like him more than Superman.
- A:** I agree. Spiderman seems closer to us. He is just like one of us, except that he possesses certain super power like Superman.



PART 2

Viewing, Understanding and Speaking

Topic

Hero

Characters

King of Qin (male)

Noname (male)

Setting

At Qin Palace

(Over two thousand years ago, there were seven major kingdoms in what is now China. These kingdoms were having wars with each other and people were living a miserable life. Qin was the biggest kingdom and its king was very ambitious. He wanted to take over all the other kingdoms and unite them into one country. He was also a cruel man and was hated by the people in both his own kingdom and the other kingdoms. The other six kingdoms sent many people to Qin Palace to try to kill him; however, none of the killing actions succeeded. Among those who tried, the most well-known were Sky, Sword and Snow. Today Noname came to the king's palace claiming that he had killed Sky, Sword and Snow.)



SCRIPT

King of Qin: What's in your hand?

Noname: The swords that used to belong to Sky, Sword and Snow, Your Majesty.

King of Qin: How did you get them?

Noname: I had a fight with Sky. I killed him and took his sword.

King of Qin: Who are you?

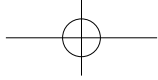
Noname: My name is Noname. I was born in Qin. I've been practicing with my sword for more than 20 years, Your Majesty.

King of Qin: I heard Sky was a very good swordsman.

Noname: Yes, he was, but not as good as me. We met in a chess house and I knew he was one of the killers Your Majesty wanted. We fought all day and finally I killed him, breaking his sword in two pieces.

King of Qin: Good. You will get your reward... Then what about Sword and Snow? I heard they were lovers. They were never apart. I heard they were the best with the sword in their kingdom. And few people ever saw them and nobody knew them. How did you find them?

Noname: It took me three years. Three years after they failed to kill you



they returned to their own kingdom and lived in a house where they practiced calligraphy all day long. They no longer practiced with their swords. I also learned a secret of them.

King of Qin: And what was that?

Noname: They had not talked to each other for three years.

King of Qin: That's strange. Why not?

Noname: Sword believed Snow had betrayed him. No one else knew it. When I heard about it and heard where they were, I went to the calligraphy house and asked Sword to write the word "Sword" for me.

King of Qin: Why did you ask for the word "Sword"?

Noname: If I could find a weakness by the way he wrote the word, I might find a way to beat him.

King of Qin: And did he write the word for you?

Noname: Yes, he did.

King of Qin: Did you find his weakness that way?

Noname: No, I didn't find any weakness in his writing, Your Majesty. However, I realized that the art of swordsmanship lies in a man's heart. Even without a sword, a true master can make people around him feel that they are facing a man with a sword.

King of Qin: How did you manage to kill him then?

Noname: I did not kill him. He was defeated by his own love towards Snow. I made Snow believe that he had already fallen in love with one of his maids. Snow was very angry. She killed Sword.

King of Qin: And then you killed Snow?

Noname: Nobody could have beaten those two if they had worked together. But, left alone, Snow was very easy for me to beat. Besides, she was also wounded during a fight with the maid who wanted revenge for her master's death.

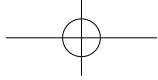
King of Qin: Thank you for killing the three people who were the greatest threat to my life. Your story is beautiful, but you have underestimated one person.

Noname: Who, Your Majesty?

King of Qin: Me!

Noname: Why did you say that?

King of Qin: I had met those people and I would never believe that they could be so foolishly jealous. No one with a jealous mind could become the master of the sword. I would never believe that they could be as narrow-minded as you've described. Now let me tell you my story. Sky, Sword and Snow were good friends. They wanted us to meet because they knew you were a better swordsman than any one of them. They persuaded you that you were the only person who could kill me. Each one of them



fought with you to make you believe that. And that's why you are here with their broken swords.

Noname: How do you know all this?

King of Qin: Your eyes tell me. You must be the greatest swordsman in the world to have killed all three of them. Is this to be my last day? Where are you from?

Noname: I was born in Zhao. My parents were killed by your soldiers when I was a baby. I have not forgotten how they died. I made up my mind long time ago that I would kill you one day. I've been practicing with my sword for more than 20 years now, and I know I can kill you if I'm within 10 steps of you. However, you have also underestimated one person.

King of Qin: Who's that?

Noname: Sword. Before I killed Sword he told me he had already given up trying to kill you. He could see that ordinary people suffered most when kingdoms fought. They lost their homes, their parents, their children and their land. There was no peace anywhere. And then he wrote another word for me.

King of Qin: What was that word?

Noname: WORLD. He wanted me to think of the whole world and peace. He realized that there could only be peace when the seven kingdoms were united.

King of Qin: (*He sighs.*) I didn't expect the person wanting to kill me would actually know me better than my own people. But, that's my fate! If my life is to end here today, kill me now.

Noname: I have to do this, but remember all those people that have died because of you...

(*Noname purposely missed the King because he realized that a united kingdom was more important than his personal revenge. In 221 BC, the King of Qin united the seven kingdoms in China and became the Emperor of China.*)

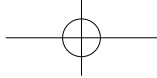
Word tips

majesty *n.* a form of address used when talking to or about a king or queen 陛下
e.g. The ambassador is here to see you, Your Majesty.

calligraphy *n.* the art of producing beautiful writing using special pens or brushes 书法
e.g. Susan won the calligraphy prize when she was at school.

betray *v.* be disloyal to sb. who trusts you so that they are harmed or upset 背叛
e.g. The President betrayed them when he went back on his promise not to raise taxes.

swordsmanship *n.* the skill in fighting with a sword 剑术
e.g. It was during this period that the villagers gathered to study the art of swordsmanship and protect the tower.



underestimate *v.* think or guess that sth. is smaller, cheaper, less valuable, easier, etc. than it really is 对……估计过低

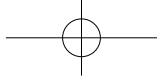
e.g. Don't underestimate your opponent—he is a good fighter.

1 Watch a video about a talk between the King of Qin and Noname and match the names with the descriptions.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1 The King of Qin | A was born in Zhao and was the greatest swordsman of his time; was sent to Qin to kill the king. |
| 2 Snow | B was deeply in love with Snow and was willing to give up personal hatred for the peace of the world. |
| 3 Sky | C was ambitious to unite the seven kingdoms and the existence of the swordsmen was a great threat to him. |
| 4 Sword | D was a great swordsman and had a fight with Noname in a chess house for a whole day. |
| 5 Noname | E had a deep hatred for the King of Qin and would not talk to Sword because of some misunderstanding. |

2 Watch the video again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 — What's in your hand?
— The swords that used to belong to Sky, Sword and Snow, Your Majesty.
- 2 — Who are you?
— My name is Noname. I was born in Qin. I've been practicing with my sword for more than 20 years, Your Majesty.
- 3 — They had not talked to each other for three years.
— That's strange. Why not?
- 4 — Why did you ask for the word "Sword"?
— If I could find a weakness by the way he wrote the word, I might find a way to beat him.
- 5 — How did you manage to kill him then?
— I did not kill him. He was defeated by his own love towards Snow.
- 6 — Why did you say that?
— I had met those people and I would never believe that they could be so foolishly jealous.
- 7 — How do you know all this?
— Your eyes tell me. You must be the greatest swordsman in the world to have killed all three of them.
- 8 — What was that word?
— WORLD. He wanted me to think of the whole world and peace.



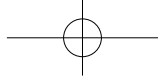
3 Repeat a few important lines and try to imitate the speakers' pronunciation and intonation.

- 1 Good. You will get your reward... Then what about Sword and Snow?
- 2 And few people ever saw them and nobody knew them. How did you find them?
- 3 And did he write the word for you?
- 4 Did you find his weakness that way?
- 5 No, I didn't find any weakness in his writing, Your Majesty. However, I realized that the art of swordsmanship lies in a man's heart.
- 6 Nobody could have beaten those two if they had worked together.
- 7 Your story is beautiful, but you have underestimated one person.
- 8 Now let me tell you my story.
- 9 And that's why you are here with their broken swords.
- 10 I have not forgotten how they died.
- 11 But, that's my fate! If my life is to end here today, kill me now.
- 12 I have to do this, but remember all those people that have died because of you...

4 Work in pairs to discuss why Noname decided not to kill the King of Qin.

SAMPLE

Noname's parents were killed in a war started by the King of Qin, who had the ambition to unite the seven kingdoms and thus engaged in continual fights with the other six kingdoms. Noname never forgot how his parents had died and he practiced with his sword every day for more than 20 years in order to kill the King of Qin. He finally became the best swordsman of his time and had the opportunity to get close to the King. However, his meeting with Sword changed his mind. Though Sword wanted to kill the King of Qin at first to stop the wars, he realized that without a united country, wars would break out anyway. Only in a united country could wars be stopped and ordinary people lead a peaceful life. Personal revenge was nothing compared with the misery of the whole nation. Noname also realized this. Just like Sword, he decided to sacrifice his personal feeling for the interests of a much larger group of people and not to kill the King.



PART 3 Video Appreciation and Singing for Fun

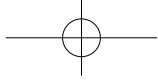
Video Appreciation



■ About the movie:

Braveheart is an epic historical drama film directed by and starring Mel Gibson in 1995. The film won five Academy Awards at the 68th Academy Awards, including the Academy Award for Best Picture and Best Director.

In the 13th century, after the King of Scotland dies without an heir, King Edward I of England, also known as “Longshanks (长腿)”, declares himself King of Scotland and occupies much of southern Scotland. His oppressive rule leads to the deaths of William Wallace’s father and brother. Wallace returns to the highlands after being raised abroad after many years, wishing to live as a farmer and avoid trouble. An English soldier attempts to rape Murron, Wallace’s wife, and he rescues her, fighting off other soldiers while she escapes. However, while he manages to get away, Murron is captured and executed by the local magistrate (地方行政官). Wallace gets revenge on the magistrate by killing him. His actions inspire the local villagers to rebel against the English and capture the town. Wallace then leads an ever-growing army of rebels to successive victories, eventually annihilating (消灭) the English Northern Army and capturing the town of York.



Worried by the threat of the rebellion, Longshanks sends the wife of his son Edward, the French princess Isabelle with peace overtures (前奏曲) to Wallace and the Scots while at the same time secretly planning a full-scale invasion of Scotland. Wallace flatly refuses the offer and Isabelle, sympathetic to his cause, tells him that a large English army has already marched northward into Scotland. Two Scottish nobles, planning to submit to Longshanks, betray Wallace at a battle the following year. The Scots lose the battle. For the next seven years, Wallace goes into hiding, fighting a guerrilla war (游击战) against English forces with his remaining band of Scotsmen. However, Wallace is caught in a trap set by a Scottish noble.

In London, Wallace is brought before the English magistrates and tried for high treason (叛国). During his torture, Wallace refuses to cry out in pain, using the last strength in his body to shout, "Freedom!"

Main characters

**William Wallace**

a Scottish, whose father and brother were killed in fighting English soldiers, and he leads an uprising demanding justice that leads to the Wars of Scottish Independence

**Princess Isabelle of France**

wife of the son of King Edward I of England, who sympathizes with the Scottish and admires Wallace

About the video clips:

William Wallace leads the Scottish nobles and people in the uprising against King Edward I of England. The King sends his daughter-in-law, Princess Isabelle of France (Princess of Wales), with some soldiers (including Hamilton) to lure Wallace into a peace talk with promise of title and money.

SCRIPT

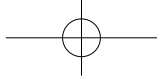
Princess of Wales: Hamilton... Leave us.

Hamilton: My Lady?

Princess of Wales: Leave us! Now, let us talk plainly. You invade England. But you cannot complete the conquest so far from your shelter and supply. The King desires peace.

Wallace: Longshanks desires peace?

Princess of Wales: He declares it to me, I swear it. He proposes that you withdraw your attack. In return he grants you title, estates and this chest of gold, which I am to pay to you personally.



Wallace: A lordship and titles, gold... that I should become Judas.

Princess of Wales: Peace is made in such ways.

Wallace: Slaves are made in such ways! The last time Longshanks spoke of peace, I was a boy. And many Scottish nobles who would not be slaves were lured by him, under a flag of truce, to a barn where he had them hanged. I was very young. But I remember Longshanks' notion of peace.

Princess of Wales: I understand you have suffered. I know about your woman.

Wallace: She was my wife. We married in secret because I would not share her with an English lord. They killed her to get to me. I have never spoken of it. I don't know why I tell you now, except... I see her strength in you. One day, you'll be a queen. And you must open your eyes. You tell your King that William Wallace will not be ruled, and nor will any Scot while I live.

Word tips

title *n.* the legal right to ownership or possession (尤指) 财产所有权

e.g. Has he any title to the land?

estate *n.* a large area of land in the country which is owned by a person, family, or organization 大片土地

e.g. They are planning a shooting party on Lord Wyville's estate in Yorkshire.

chest *n.* a large, heavy box used for storing things 箱子

e.g. At the very bottom of the chest were his carving tools.

lordship *n.* 贵族身份; 勋爵爵位

Judas *n.* sb. who is not loyal to a friend 出卖朋友的人; 叛徒

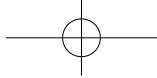
e.g. People denounced him as Judas because he betrayed them.

lure *v.* persuade sb. to do sth., especially sth. wrong or dangerous, by making it seem attractive or exciting 引诱, 诱惑

e.g. The campaign is designed to lure tourists back to the province.

truce *n.* an agreement between enemies to stop fighting or arguing for a short time, or the period for which this is arranged 休战, 停战

e.g. They should call a truce while negotiations are given a chance.

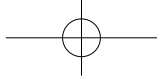


1 Watch a video clip of *Braveheart* and choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- 1 Why did the Princess of Wales come to see Wallace? D
 - A To discuss with Wallace a secret plan.
 - B To tell Wallace what had happened to his wife.
 - C To show her support to Wallace in his efforts to defend his homeland.
 - D To persuade Wallace to enter into a peace talk on behalf of the King.
- 2 What did the Princess of Wales bring with her? C
 - A Some valuable things and a Scottish flag.
 - B A chest of gold and a letter from the King.
 - C Some valuable things and promises from the King.
 - D A proposal of peace from the Scottish noblemen.
- 3 What did the King do to the Scottish nobles who would not be slaves? A
 - A He put them to death.
 - B He declared peace to them.
 - C He shut them up in the barn.
 - D He showed them the flag of truce.
- 4 What did Wallace think the Princess of Wales had in common with his wife? B
 - A They were both pretty.
 - B They were both strong-willed.
 - C They both had suffered a lot.
 - D They both were loyal to their husbands.
- 5 What did Wallace want the Princess of Wales to tell the King? A
 - A That he would not give in.
 - B That he desired nothing but peace.
 - C That he would withdraw his attack in due course.
 - D That he would consider the King's proposal carefully.

2 Watch the video clip again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 Let us talk plainly. You invade England.
- 2 But you cannot complete the conquest so far from your shelter and supply. The King desires peace.
- 3 He proposes that you withdraw your attack.
- 4 And many Scottish nobles who would not be slaves were lured by him, under a flag of truce, to a barn where he had them hanged. I was very young. But I remember Longshanks' notion of peace.
- 5 She was my wife. We married in secret because I would not share her with an English lord.
- 6 One day, you'll be a queen. And you must open your eyes.



3 Work in pairs to tell your partner whether you think Wallace is a hero or not and why.

SAMPLE

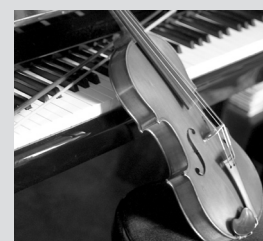
I think Wallace is a hero. As a noble man from Scotland, Wallace realizes Scotland is mistreated by England and stands against it. He defeats England in several battles with passion and brilliant tactics. Although the King of England proposes peace by offering him title, estates and gold, he refuses without any hesitation. When he is finally caught in a trap and tried for high treason before English magistrates, he endures the great pain and with the last strength in his body to shout “Freedom”, which is paramount to him and his country.

Singing for Fun

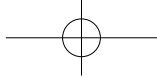
■ About the song:

“Viva la Vida”, meaning “Long Live Life” in Spanish, is a song written by all the members of a British band Coldplay for their fourth album, *Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends* in 2008. The title of the song is taken from a painting by a 20th-century Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. The lyrics of this song contain historical and Christian references. For instance, “pillars of sand” refers to the Biblical parable given by Jesus about the fool who built his house on sand, and the wise man who built it on solid rock. However, there is a great deal of debate about the meaning of the song. Some people claim it is about the French Revolution, and “I” in “I used to rule the world” refers to Napoleon Bonaparte. But the band members themselves say it refers only to kings and revolutionaries in general, rather than any particular king. Bass guitarist Guy Berryman said: “It’s a story about a king who’s lost his kingdom, and all the album’s artwork is based on the idea of revolutionaries and guerrillas. There’s this slightly anti-authoritarian viewpoint that’s crept into some of the lyrics and it’s some of the pay-off between being surrounded by governments on one side... and the stupidity of what we have to put up with every day. Hence the album title.”

“Viva la Vida” is a great commercial success, reaching the top spot of the U.K. Singles Chart and Billboard Hot 100. It became the band’s first No.1 single in both the U.S. and U.K. and won the Grammy Award for Song of the Year at the 51st Grammy Awards in 2009.



Listen to the song “Viva la Vida” and learn to sing it.



LYRICS

Viva la Vida

I used to rule the world
Seas would rise when I gave the word
Now in the morning I sleep alone
Sweep the streets I used to own

I used to roll the dice
Feel the fear in my enemy's eyes
Listen as the crowd would sing:
"Now the old king is dead! Long live the king!"

One minute I held the key
Next the walls were closed on me
And I discovered that my castles stand
Upon pillars of salt and pillars of sand

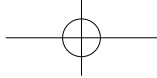
I hear Jerusalem bells a ringing
Roman Cavalry choirs are singing
Be my mirror, my sword and shield
My missionaries in a foreign field

For some reason I can't explain
Once you go there was never
Never an honest word
That was when I ruled the world

It was the wicked and wild wind
Blew down the doors to let me in
Shattered windows and the sound of drums
People couldn't believe what I'd become

Revolutionaries wait
For my head on a silver plate
Just a puppet on a lonely string
Oh who would ever want to be king

I hear Jerusalem bells a ringing
Roman Cavalry choirs are singing
Be my mirror, my sword and shield
My missionaries in a foreign field



For some reason I can't explain
I know Saint Peter won't call my name
Never an honest word
But that was when I ruled the world

I hear Jerusalem bells a ringing
Roman Cavalry choirs are singing
Be my mirror, my sword and shield
My missionaries in a foreign field

For some reason I can't explain
I know Saint Peter won't call my name
Never an honest word
But that was when I ruled the world

PART 4

Further Speaking and Listening

Further Speaking

Work in groups to do the following activities.

Read the following situation.

Several groups of college students from Japan, the U.S., Russia, Greece, etc. are visiting your school and students from China are having a culture exchange with them.

Step
ONE

Divide the class into two groups, with one group acting as Chinese and the other as Japanese (Americans, Russians, Greeks, etc.).

Step
TWO

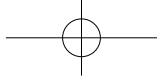
Each group tell a myth or legend from your culture.

Words and expressions you may use

Jingwei Filling the Sea Yugong Removing the Mountains
Legend of the White Snake Prometheus
King Arthur Robin Hood storm revenge drown
magical herb Chinese medicine imprison

Step
THREE

(to be continued)



(continued)

SAMPLE

1 Jingwei Filling the Sea

Nvwa (meaning “little girl”) is the youngest and most favored daughter of the Sun God (Yan Di). She is very pretty and she dreams to see the sea. When she finally comes to the sea, she is greatly impressed by its vastness and beauty. But a sea storm comes suddenly and takes her away with its huge tides. Nvwa is drowned by the sea. Her spirit becomes an angry bird named Jingwei. She wants to revenge the sea so she takes stones from the West Mountain and drops them into the sea day and night. She wants to fill up the sea.

2 Yugong Removing the Mountains

Yugong (meaning “foolish old man”) is an old man of almost 90 years old. There are two big mountains in front of his house which makes it inconvenient for his family to come and go. One day, Yugong said to his family, “I am going to remove the mountains.” His wife thinks it is too hard to remove a mountain but Yugong and his sons and grandsons say if they work hard, they will certainly be able to do it. They will take all the stones on the mountains and put them into the sea. On the second day, Yugong and his family start out to work. His neighbors hear this and join them happily. They work every day, regardless of rain or sun. Another old man named Zhisou (meaning “wise old man”) who sees what they are doing and thinks it is ridiculous. He says to Yugong, “You are so old, and how can you possibly remove the mountains?”

Yugong replies, “If I die, my sons will continue, and when they die, my grandsons will. We will remove the stones on the mountains little by little and they will become smaller. If we work every day, why can’t we remove the mountains?” Zhisou is speechless.

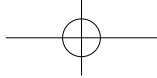
3 Legend of the White Snake

The story is set in the Southern Song dynasty in Hangzhou, one of the most beautiful cities in China. A young scholar named Xu Xian falls in love with a beautiful lady, Bai Suzhen, who is actually a thousand-year-old white snake. They get married, open a medicine shop and live happily together. However, a monk named Fahai from Jinshan Temple opposes the marriage because he maintains that coexistence of human and evil spirit is unallowable. He sets a trap on the fifth day of the fifth month of lunar calendar which is the Duanwu Festival, or the Dragon Boat Festival. Xu falls into Fahai’s trap and makes his wife drink the wine with a special medicine that turns her into the shape of a snake. It scares Xu to death. In order to save him, Bai Suzhen goes to the heaven searching for a magical herb. Finally she saves Xu’s life. But Fahai takes Xu to Jinshan Temple. Bai Suzhen and her sister Xiaoqing, a green snake, come to fight with Fahai in Jinshan Temple and flood the temple. But Fahai imprisons Bai Suzhen under Leifeng Pagoda in Hangzhou for eternity.

4 Prometheus

Prometheus was from the Titan family who ruled the Earth until overthrown by the Greek gods of Olympus. He created humans by shaping lumps of clay into small figures resembling the gods. Athena admired these figures and breathed on them and the clays came to life. Prometheus taught humans many useful skills, including navigation, writing, and architecture. Prometheus gave fire to man which enraged Zeus. To punish Prometheus, Zeus chained him to a rock on a mountain peak. Every day an eagle came to tear at his body and ate his liver, and every night the liver grew back. Prometheus suffered endlessly. He remained chained for thousands of years.

(to be continued)



(continued)

5 King Arthur

King Arthur is a legendary British leader of the late fifth and early sixth centuries, who led the defence of Britain against Saxon invaders in the early sixth century. Subsequently, he conquered a wide empire and eventually went to war with the Romans. The Round Table is the place where his knights sat, to avoid quarrels over precedence. The Knights of the Round Table were King Arthur's closest friends and men of courage, honor, and dignity. They followed a strict code of chivalry, which stated that they needed to be courteous, truthful, honest, chaste, loyal, and honorable.

6 Robin Hood

Robin Hood is a legendary English outlaw of the 12th century. As a highly skilled archer and swordsman, he is known for "robbing from the rich and giving to the poor", assisted by a group of fellow outlaws known as his "Merry Men". Traditionally, Robin Hood and his men are depicted wearing Lincoln green clothes.

Teaching tips

Before letting students make a short speech, teachers may encourage them to prepare an outline for their speeches, which will make the speaking task easier. An outline usually has the following structure:

- Introduction
- Main point 1
- Main point 2
- ...
- Conclusion

Let's take the exercise in Further Speaking for example. Suppose Student A tells Student B the story of Yugong Removing the Mountains. After Student A finishes telling the story, he may also want to discuss what he has learned from the story with his partner. He may give a short speech on the topic of "One needs to keep trying in order to succeed". Here is a simple outline for him.

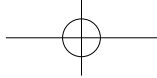
Introduction: If one keeps working on something, he will succeed one day.

Example 1: Yugong removing the two huge mountains

Example 2: Kuafu Chasing the Sun

Conclusion: So we should never give up if we believe it is the right thing to do.

With an outline prepared ahead of time, it is easier to give a talk or tell a story, and to be involved in the discussion with group members.



Further Listening

Listening I

SCRIPT

Almost seven centuries ago, in Central Asia, there lived a great king called Tamerlane. He was a mighty, powerful, conquering soldier, and his greatest ambition was that one day he would rule a massive empire stretching from the Atlantic Ocean in the west to the Pacific Ocean in the east. He made his imperial capital in the oasis city of Samarkand, which he planned to make the most beautiful city on Earth. Many magnificent mosques were built and they were decorated with exquisite blue ceramic tiles on the outside, and with pure gold on the inside.

Tamerlane, like other kings, had many wives, including a Chinese girl called Bibi Khanyim. Bibi Khanyim was the most beautiful of all Tamerlane's wives, and she was also the youngest. She was his favorite wife and was deeply in love with him.

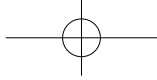
In order to demonstrate her great love of Tamerlane she decided to build a magnificent mosque to honor him, while he was away fighting in a distant war. She engaged the best architect, who designed for her the most magnificent mosque you could imagine. And then she found the best master builder, who began work immediately. But as the weeks and months passed by, the master builder began to fall in love with Bibi Khanyim. She resisted all his advances, but at last he threatened to leave the mosque unfinished unless she allowed him to kiss her just once. Bibi Khanyim wanted the beautiful mosque finished more than anything else. She was expecting Tamerlane to return any day. So at last she agreed to let the master builder kiss her, just once.

But that was her terrible mistake. For so powerful was the master builder's love for Bibi Khanyim that when he kissed her he left a mark on her face.

King Tamerlane returned and saw the guilty mark on his wife's face. The master builder was executed immediately, and then, thinking that a woman's beauty can be a dangerous thing, Tamerlane ordered that from that day on all the women in the kingdom should never be seen in public without a veil to cover their face.

1 Listen to a story about women wearing a veil to cover their face and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.

- 1 Where did the story take place? B
 - A In Central America.
 - B In Central Asia.
 - C In Central Europe.
 - D In Central Africa.
- 2 What was King Tamerlane's greatest ambition? C
 - A Having as many beautiful wives as possible.
 - B Building a magnificent mosque.
 - C Ruling a massive empire.
 - D Traveling from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.



- 3 Why was Bibi Khanym special to Tamerlane? B
A She was the oldest and smartest.
B She was the most beautiful and youngest.
C She was most in love with him.
D She was Chinese.
- 4 What did Bibi Khanym decide to do for Tamerlane while he was away at war? A
A To build a mosque to honor him.
B To decorate the palace for him.
C To look for another girl for him.
D To rebuild the capital for him.
- 5 What did the master builder threaten to do if he couldn't kiss Bibi Khanym? D
A To kill the king. B To spoil her face.
C To destroy the mosque. D To leave the mosque unfinished.
- 6 What did the kiss leave on Bibi Khanym? A
A A mark on her face. B A hole on her face.
C A strange disease. D A permanent veil.

2 Listen to the story again and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 The story happened 900 years ago. F
2 The city of Samarkand was the most beautiful city on Earth at that time. F
3 The master builder made many attempts to express his love for Bibi Khanym. T
4 The master builder was killed immediately by the king. T
5 Every woman except Bibi Khanym was forced to wear a veil in public. F

Word tips

Tamerlane 泰摩兰 (人名)

mighty 强大的, 强有力的

conquer 征服, 攻击

oasis (沙漠中的) 绿洲

Samarkand 撒马尔罕 (俄罗斯乌兹别克东部城市)

mosque 清真寺

exquisite 精美的

ceramic 陶瓷的

tile 瓷砖

Bibi Khanym 比比·哈内姆 (人名)

engage 聘, 雇

advances (尤指对异性的) 挑逗, 勾引

execute 将……处死

veil 面纱

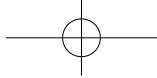
Listening II

At one time animals and people lived together in peace and talked with each other. But when mankind began to multiply rapidly the animals were crowded into forests and deserts.

Man began to destroy many animals for their skins and furs instead of only for food. Animals became angry at this treatment by man and decided that mankind must be punished.

The animals held a meeting, but they could not decide how to punish mankind. Finally the animals agreed that because deer were the animals most often killed by man, deer should decide how man should be punished.

SCRIPT



Deer decided that any Indian hunter who killed deer without asking pardon in a suitable manner would be made to suffer from painful stiffness in their bodies. After this decision was made, the leader of the deer sent a message to the nearest people, the Cherokee Indians. "From now on, your hunters must first offer a prayer to the deer before killing him. You must ask his pardon, telling the deer you are forced to kill him only because your people are hungry and need meat. Otherwise, a terrible disease will come to you."

The spirits of the deer would run to the place where a deer had been killed and these spirits would ask the dead deer, "Did you hear the hunter's prayer for pardon?" If the answer was "Yes", the spirits would be satisfied. But, if the answer was "No", then the deer spirits would track down the hunter to his house and strike him with the terrible disease of stiffness in his body, making him crippled so that he could not hunt deer again.

Soon all of the animals agreed that this was a fair and just punishment. Each type of animal decided that they would also cause a disease to the people who mistreated them.

When the friendly plants of the world heard what the animals had decided as punishment for mankind, the plants decided that this punishment was too harsh. They had a meeting of their own. Finally they decided that each type of plant should provide a cure for one of the diseases which animals had caused for mankind.

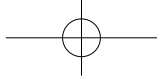
This was the beginning of plant medicines from nature among the Cherokee Indians a long, long time ago.

Word tips

multiply 繁殖
stiffness 僵硬
Cherokee 彻罗基人 (属北美印第安人)
crippled 跛脚的; 残疾的
mistreat 虐待
harsh 严酷的

1 Listen to a legend about the beginning of plant medicines and match the corresponding information together.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1 Indians | A They decided how man should be punished. |
| <u>CDJ</u> | B They would provide medicine for mankind's illnesses. |
| 2 Deer / Animals | C They hunted deer for food and clothing. |
| <u>AEGH</u> | D They would suffer painful stiffness in their bodies. |
| 3 Plants | E Their spirits would track the hunter to his home. |
| <u>BFI</u> | F They were friendly to man. |
| | G They were angry at their treatment by man. |
| | H Their leader sent a message to the Cherokee Indians. |
| | I They had a meeting of their own to help man. |
| | J They had mistreated animals. |



2 Listen to the legend again and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.

- 1 Which of the following words can best describe the man-animal relationship a long time ago? A
A Peaceful. B Complex.
C Hateful. D Indifferent.
- 2 Why did man start to destroy animals? B
A For space. B For food and clothes.
C For treatment of diseases. D For punishment.
- 3 Why were deer chosen to decide how to punish man? D
A Because they were the smartest animals.
B Because they were the kindest animals.
C Because they lived closest to man.
D Because they were most often killed by man.
- 4 Who would be punished by deer? C
A Those who killed baby deer.
B Those who forced people to kill deer.
C Deer killers without asking for pardon first.
D The nearest deer hunters.
- 5 What was the punishment? B
A The hunter would be killed too.
B The hunter would be made crippled.
C The hunter would be hit hard.
D The hunter's whole family would die.
- 6 Why did the plants decide to help man? D
A Because they were the enemy of deer.
B Because they were planted by man.
C Because they needed human care.
D Because they thought the punishment was too severe.

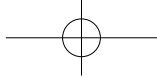
Listening III

Moon was sad. She had spent many years looking at the people on Earth and she saw that they were afraid. They were afraid of dying. To make them feel better she decided to call on her friend Spider to take a message to them.

"Spider," she said. "The people on Earth are afraid of dying and that makes me very sad. Please tell them that they will all die sooner or later but it is nothing to be scared of."

So Spider slowly made his way to Earth, carefully picking his way down on moonbeams and sunbeams. On his way he met Hare.

SCRIPT



“Where are you going, Spider?” asked Hare.

“I am going to give the people of Earth a message from Moon,” he said.

“Oh, it’ll take you too long. Tell me the message and I’ll take it there for you,” replied Hare.

“OK! Moon wants the people of Earth to know that they will all die...” Spider started.

“Right! Tell the people of Earth that they will all die,” said Hare. And with that, Hare disappeared off to Earth.

Spider gloomily made his way back to Moon and told her what had happened. Moon was very angry with Hare when she heard what he had said to the people, and hit him on the nose! That is why, to this day, Hare has a split lip.

“You should have taken the message yourself,” said Moon to Spider.

And to this day, Spider is still carefully carrying Moon’s message and spinning webs in the corner of our rooms—but how many of us listen?

Word tips

moonbeam 月光

sunbeam 日光

gloomily 忧伤地

spin (蜘蛛) 结(网)

Listen to a legend about Moon, Spider and Hare and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

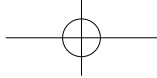
- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1 Moon was sad to see the people on Earth were afraid of death. | <u>T</u> |
| 2 Moon sent Hare to Earth with a message for the people there. | <u>F</u> |
| 3 The message said people on Earth could live forever if they remained happy. | <u>F</u> |
| 4 Spider volunteered to take the message for Hare. | <u>F</u> |
| 5 Only half of the message was passed down to the people on Earth. | <u>T</u> |
| 6 Moon was angry with Hare and hit him on the mouth. | <u>F</u> |
| 7 Hare’s lip split as a result of Moon’s hit. | <u>T</u> |
| 8 Spider was sent again by Moon with the message but few people listen to him. | <u>T</u> |

Listening IV

SCRIPT

We don’t often know how a word or a legend associated with that word started; however, in the case of the American “cowboy” we do. The cowboy legend began in 1867 when the first transcontinental railroad was being built across the American west.

A branch line of the new railroad went to Abilene, Kansas. In Abilene a 29-year old cattle merchant, Joseph McCoy, had a plan that made him a millionaire and put his name in dictionaries. His plan was simple. He knew that in the high grasslands of southern Texas there were large herds of cattle. If these cattle could be brought to Abilene, they could be put on trains and shipped to cities in the North and East, where they would bring good prices. He bought a lot of land close to the railroad in Abilene, where cattle could be



kept before being shipped, and put his plan into action.

McCoy advertised for ranchers and cow-handlers to bring their herds of cattle to his new railway cattleyard in Abilene. He offered \$40 for each of the cattle, 10 times more than anyone else did. One hundred days after his offer was made, the first herds arrived from the South. Each herd had two or three thousand cattle in it. In the next four years, McCoy shipped more than two million cattle to the North and East. He soon became a millionaire.

McCoy referred to the men bringing the cows to Abilene as “cowboys”. Soon there were at least 5,000 cowboys bringing cattle up to Kansas from Texas. Because the camera had recently been developed, many photos were taken of the cowboys and their long trips with the cattle. These photos were published in eastern newspapers and the cowboy became an American folk hero. Soon writers, such as Zane Gray, were writing books about the cowboys and their adventures. Thus the legend of the cowboy grew and developed into the 20th century.

Listen to a passage about the start of the cowboy legend and complete the following passage with the information you get. For blanks numbered 1 to 7, fill in the exact words you have heard. For blanks numbered 8 to 10, fill in the missing information.

We don't often know how a word or a legend 1) associated with that word started; however, in the case of the American “cowboy” we do. The cowboy legend began in 1867 when the first transcontinental 2) railroad was being built across the American west.

A branch line of the new railroad went to Abilene, Kansas. In Abilene a 29-year old cattle 3) merchant, Joseph McCoy, had a plan that made him a millionaire and put his name in 4) dictionaries. His plan was simple. He knew that in the high 5) grasslands of southern Texas there were large herds of cattle. If these cattle could be brought to Abilene, they could be put on trains and shipped to cities in the North and East, where they would 6) bring good prices. He bought a lot of land close to the railroad in Abilene, where cattle could be kept before being shipped, and put his plan into 7) action.

McCoy advertised for ranchers and cow-handlers to bring their herds of cattle to his new railway cattleyard in Abilene. He offered \$40 for each of the cattle, 10 times more than anyone else did. 8) One hundred days after his offer was made, the first herds arrived from the South. Each herd had two or three thousand cattle in it. In the next four years, McCoy shipped more than two million cattle to the North and East. He soon became a millionaire.

McCoy referred to the men bringing the cows to Abilene as “cowboys”. 9) Soon there were at least 5,000 cowboys bringing cattle up to Kansas from Texas. Because the camera had recently been developed, many photos were taken of the cowboys and their long trips with the cattle. 10) These photos were published in eastern newspapers and the cowboy became an American folk hero. Soon writers, such as Zane Gray, were writing books about the cowboys and their adventures. Thus the legend of the cowboy grew and developed into the 20th century.

Word tips

transcontinental 横贯大陆的

Abilene 阿比林（堪萨斯州中部城市）

Kansas 堪萨斯州（美国州名）

Joseph McCoy 约瑟夫·麦科伊（人名）

herd 牧群（尤指牛群）

Zane Gray 赞恩·格雷（人名）