

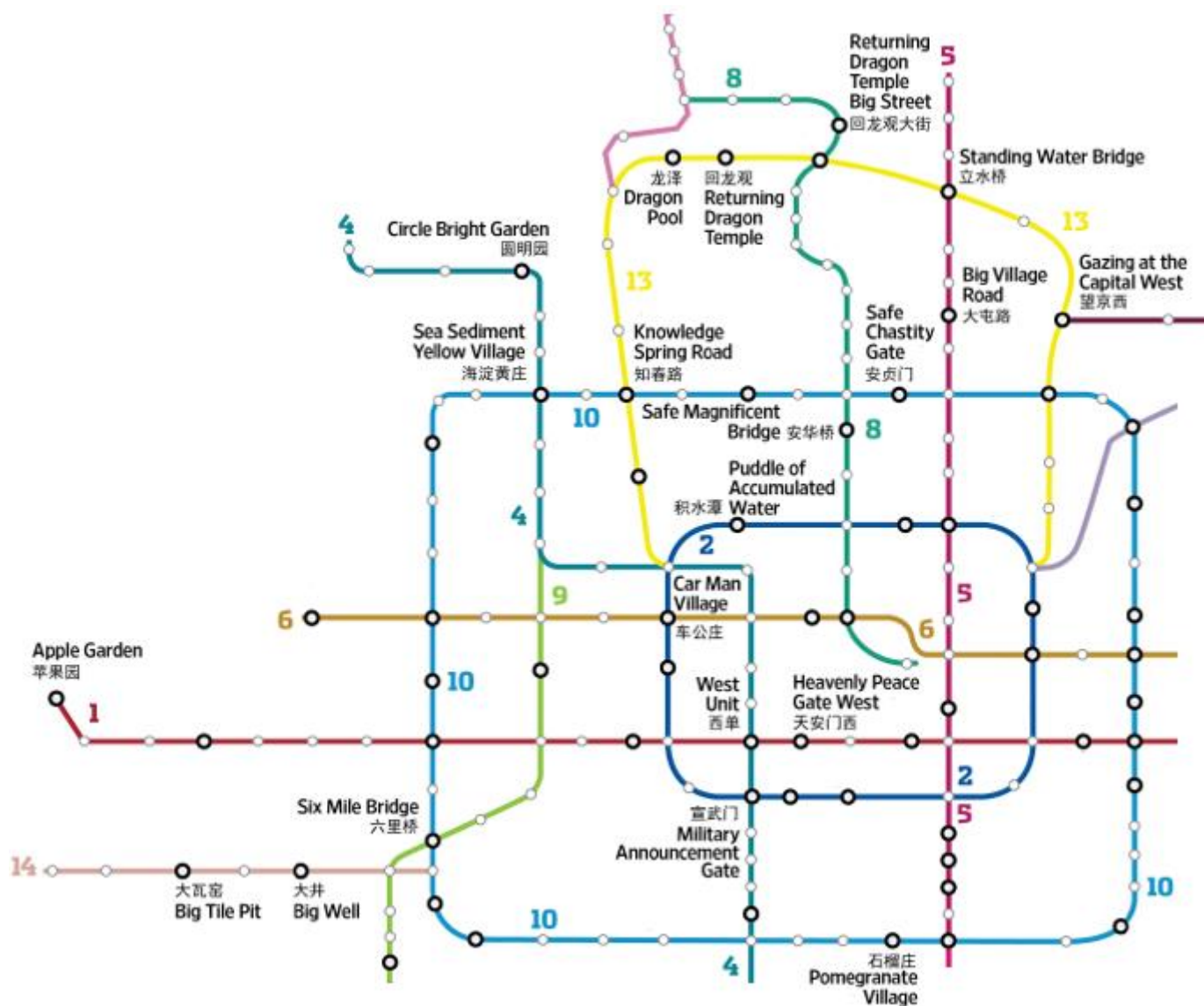
Your name:

The UK Linguistics Olympiad 2016



Problem 4. Beijing underground (10 marks)

The Beijing subway system, which opened in 1969, serves over 10 million people on an average weekday. Below is a map showing some of the stops on the central lines, along with literal translations of the names of these stops. You will see larger copies of some of the Chinese characters on the next page.



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The table below shows some of the Chinese characters found in these names, and the box lists their English translations in alphabetical order. Write the English translation of each character next to it in the table.

	English		English		English
大		安		海漳	
门		庄		黄	
井		西		街	
水		园		泽	
石榴		单		路	
龙		桥		贞	

**big, bridge, chastity, dragon, garden, gate,
pomegranate, pool, road, safe, sea sediment, street,
unit, village, water, well, west, yellow**

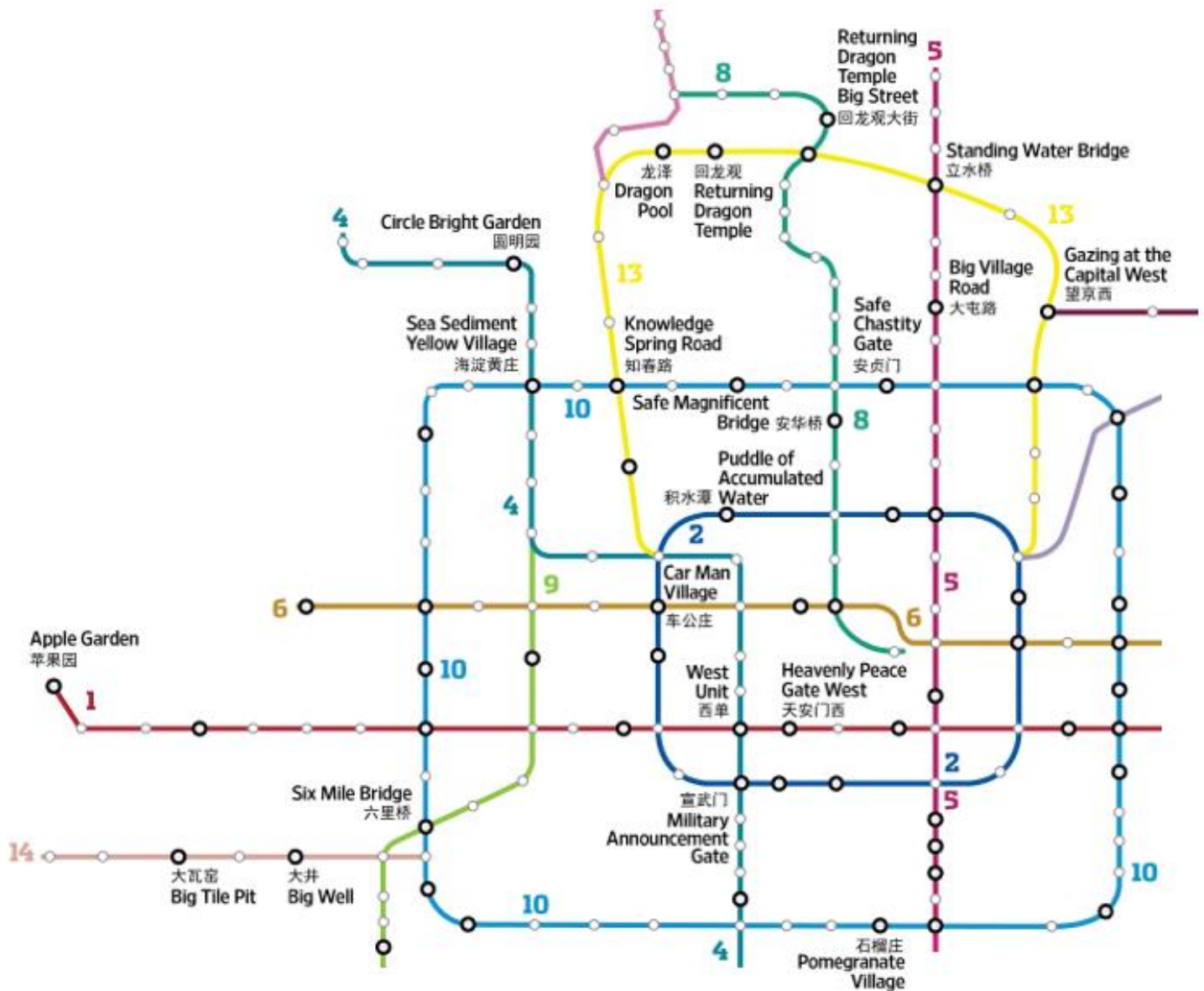
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The table below shows some of the Chinese characters found in these names, and the box lists their English translations in alphabetical order. Match each character with its English translation.

Chinese	English	Chinese	English	Chinese	English
大	big	安	safe	海泽	sea sediment
门	gate	庄	village	黄	yellow
井	well	西	west	街	street
水	water	园	garden	泽	pool
石榴	pomegranate	单	unit	路	road
龙	dragon	桥	bridge	贞	chastity

big, bridge, chastity, dragon, garden, gate, pomegranate, pool, road, safe,
sea sediment, street, unit, village, water, well, west, yellow

Scoring: One point for each completely correct answer (max 18)

- ignore spelling errors

Comment

This problem is intended as an introduction to Chinese characters, because competitors are forced to pay close attention to their internal structure in order to distinguish them from one another. The grammar is easy because the characters follow the same order within each name as the words in the English translations.

It's easy to get started. For instance, the two English names in the bottom left of the map both share *big*: *Big tile pit* and *Big well*. Their Chinese names also share a character, so this must mean 'big'. And so on.