



新一代大学英语
English

提高篇

视听说教程 1



A taste of culture

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UNIT

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News report 1

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Have you ever heard of “The Monuments Men”? They were a small group of mostly middle-aged men and a few women working hard for the protection and saving of works of art and cultural heritage during WWII.

After Paris fell to the Nazis in 1940 and the following surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, people throughout Europe and the United States began worrying about what was going to happen to those important cultural monuments in the conflict areas. So a US Army unit, known as the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Section, was established to help save pieces of art and other culturally important heritage from being destroyed, and to recover the millions of works of art that had been stolen by the Nazis across Europe.

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Members of “The Monuments Men” were mostly museum directors, art history experts, artists, architects, and educators. They traveled across Europe, often alone and under fire, looking for precious works from great museums, gold and silver treasures from victims of the Holocaust, even bells from ancient church towers. In the last year of the war, they tracked, saved, and in the years that followed returned more than five million artistic and cultural items stolen by the Nazis.

Their brave work was largely forgotten by the general public until a Hollywood movie starring George Clooney and Matt Damon, *The Monuments Men*, was released in February 2014.



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As a city evolves, some of its infrastructures and buildings may lose their initial functions and finally become part of its cultural heritage. Various examples can be found, such as the former Orsay train station in Paris turned into a museum, the former ancient port in Genoa turned into a cultural and entertainment area, or the old police stations in Hong Kong turned into cultural centers.

A typical example is the train stations. In the 19th century, with the rise of railway networks, many train stations were built in cities. But in the second half of the 20th century, with the rise of automobile transportation, many of these train stations were no longer needed. Some were “heritagized,” which refers to the process that leads people to consider something as important to their culture, or heritage.

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Another good example is the transformation in the organic relationship between the port and the city. Many waterfront redevelopment projects have enhanced the industrial heritage of old port areas. Hamburg is a perfect example of such a strategy. A case study from the UNESCO report shows that the city not only managed to enhance the waterfront as a cultural heritage, they also sought to deal with social issues such as the risk of local population's loss of homes.

Having former ports and industrial areas recognized as places of cultural heritage value has been a difficult process. Indeed such areas were rather seen as problematic or difficult because of poverty, crime, and poor services. Their inclusion in heritage lists and heritage programs is still a controversial issue in many cities.



Scripts ▼



Young people in Canberra are invited to put into words what their cultural and family heritage means to them in the “Back to Your Roots” writing competition. Launched on the weekend by Canberra Liberals Youth and Multicultural Affairs spokeswoman Elizabeth Kikkert, the competition encourages young people to introduce their cultural heritage in a creative piece of writing such as a poem, a song, a story, or an essay.

The goal is to encourage young people who live, work or study in the Australian Capital Territory to develop a closer connection with their family histories and better understand the significance of certain parts of their parents’ or even grandparents’ culture. “I hope that many kids in Canberra will be inspired by my ‘Back to

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Your Roots' writing competition to learn more about their cultural heritage and draw closer to their families," Mrs. Kikkert said.

Entries are welcomed until January 26, 2018, and the winners will be announced on February 23, 2018. The winners, and other select entries, will have their work published online.



Scripts ▼



After years of debate between Venetians and the tourism industry, huge cruise ships are to be banned from sailing past St. Mark's Square, the Italian government announced.

The debate over the impact of huge cruise ships has been going on for years in Venice. Locals have demonstrated against the large number of tourists that flood the city and worry that the huge cruise ships that drop anchor in Venice threaten the city's delicate cultural heritage. UNESCO also warned that Venice would be placed on the list of endangered heritage sites if steps weren't taken to move the ships away.

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“We want it to be clear to UNESCO and the whole world that we have a solution,” said the mayor of Venice. He is happy that, after years of study, a workable solution has finally been found for a sustainable route through the waterway that won’t hurt the tourism industry, which is so important for Venice.

Under the new plan, big cruise ships have to stop in the industrial port, and passengers will then be taken to Venice in smaller boats, or in coaches, along the narrow land bridge that connects the city to the mainland.



WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

-  **interior** *a.* 内部的；室内的
-  **chapel** *n.* 小教堂
-  **destruction** *n.* 破坏；摧毁
-  **preserve** *v.* 保护；保存（使免遭破坏）
-  **initiative** *n.* 计划；措施
-  **archeology** *n.* 考古学
-  **fragile** *a.* 脆弱的；易损坏的
-  **endeavor** *n.* 尝试；努力

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PROPER NAMES

-  Scott Lee 斯科特•李（人名）
-  Mount Rushmore 拉什莫尔山（美国南达科他州的一座山，山岩上雕刻有四位美国总统的头像）
-  Tower of London 伦敦塔（英国）
-  Sydney Opera House 悉尼歌剧院（澳大利亚）
-  Templo Mayor 大神庙（墨西哥）



Scripts ▼



We move around sites much like a photographer would, taking pictures from many locations. But with a photographer, you have a single frame. By using our technology, we have now brought that photograph to life in three dimensions.

My name is Scott Lee and I'm the Director of Operations for CyArk. CyArk's mission is to accurately capture, archive and share the world's cultural heritage. What makes the data really unique is, as you can see, we can look at it from every angle, so we can just pop, (and) literally go through the window and let's check out the interior of the chapel. We're documenting the physical evidence of the people (who) came before us and we're documenting it for the people that come after us.

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Sites in general face numerous threats today, whether it's environmental or the intentional destruction of heritage, especially in the Middle East. These sites are being destroyed faster than they can be physically preserved.

Part of this initiative is to digitally document them, so we have a record for humanity and possible reconstruction in the future. CyArk has done over 200 projects on all seven continents from Mount Rushmore in the United States, to the Tower of London in Europe, even the Sydney Opera House in Australia. As we move around these sites, we capture billions and billions of points and we collect, you know, tons of data.

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This is the data set we captured in Mexico City. This is Templo Mayor. What makes this site really unique is it was recently discovered, actually in the 70s, which for archeology is very recent. If you can't come to Templo Mayor in Mexico City, well, pop on your computer and you can virtually access this.

We're working on the archeology; it's very fragile. You need to be careful where you step, where you put your machines, (and) how you document.

Documenting these sites and storing them for future generations is an important endeavor. I come to work every day, knowing I'm doing something good for humanity, because without knowing our past, we won't know our future.



Further listening

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Passage



Further listening

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The two-day “Heritage Now” festival, organized by the Walled City of Lahore Authority (WCLA) in collaboration with the British Council came to an end on October 22.

“Heritage Now” was aimed at promoting the cultural heritage of Pakistan by facilitating a public dialogue on the importance of heritage and engaging the audience with museums, heritage sites and intangible heritage of Pakistan. The two-day festival included several academic sessions and panel discussions involving almost 30 foreign and 25 national representatives, while art exhibitions, musical performances, and other activities at Alhamra Arts Council kept the visitors entertained.

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Further listening

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The festival was a continuation of the two-day International Heritage and Museums Conference held in September by WCLA and the British Council. Similar to the present festival, the aim of the conference was to engage local and international public in a dialogue on heritage and celebrate the cultural and historical identity of Pakistan.



Further listening

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The Heritage Museum & Cultural Center in St. Joseph has launched a campaign to raise money this Monday. The museum was damaged by interior flooding last month and in need of money for necessary capital improvements to the building.

The goal of the effort is to raise \$50,000 by January 21. And any funds raised over this goal will be saved in accounts restricted for use only on capital improvements.

Museum officials stated that funds collected are critical in order to protect the museum's historical collections, stop deterioration, improve energy efficiency, and sustain operating income.

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Further listening

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Those donating \$25 or more will receive the *Heritage Journal* biannual newsletter and will be recognized in the publication. Those giving \$500 or more will be recognized on a plaque inside the Heritage Museum.

“Although insurance will help us recover from the flood, we can only address all of our facilities’ needs with the help of our community,” explained Heritage Museum Executive Director Elizabeth Andrews. “When you donate dollars to fund crucial capital improvements, you are investing in Southwest Michigan’s access to history, arts and culture.”



Further listening

Scripts ▼



Host: Mr. Shan, in your speech delivered earlier today, you mentioned that we should make the cultural relics “alive.” What do you mean by that?

Shan: By saying making the cultural relics “alive,” I mean reconsidering the value of the cultural relics, and infusing cultural elements into today’s modern life. Chinese museums should no longer just be agents for the collection of art and the display of history and heritage. Instead, I would like to see these institutions collectively evolve into a role more fitting for modern China, marrying her unique cultural heritage with her rapid development.

Host: Yeah. But how could we connect tradition with modernity in practice? Could you share some of your experience concerning the Palace Museum with us?

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Shan: Sure. Actually in recent years, we are trying every possible way to encourage people to take home the culture of the Palace Museum. By now it seems that one good way is to design and produce cultural creative products. So far, we have designed and developed a total of around 10,000 kinds of appealing and useful cultural creative products.

Host: What else have you done to “modernize” the almost 600-year old museum of countless cultural heritages?

Shan: With the help of modern technology, we managed to construct the “Digital Palace Museum,” which helps make cultural heritage more interesting and interactive. For instance, the Duanmen Digital Exhibition opened to the public last year displayed the real ancient architecture and treasures in front of the visitors in a new, digital format.

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Host: Thank you, Mr. Shan. I believe that by enhancing their architecture, scientific research, services, and so on, Chinese museums will play an increasingly important role in education, cross-cultural understanding, and more.



Further listening

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We're living in a modern world. New technologies seem to appear almost every day, and with them, new and generally much simpler ways to do the same things we humans have been doing for centuries. Unfortunately though, this often means the traditional ways of doing these things are at risk of disappearing. This is where UNESCO and other similar organizations step in to save these endangered skills and preserve them for future generations. A great idea in theory, but is it really realistic to expect ordinary people to keep a skill alive?

One problem is that many of these skills are traditionally passed on through the generations, which means that there may be an expectation that the next generation also want to maintain this

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skill. But what happens if they have other ideas about what they'd like to do with their lives?

Another problem is that many of the skills that fall under the definition of intangible cultural heritage are not economically practical. It is simply impossible to earn a living from them. China's embroidery industry, for example, would certainly come under the intangible cultural heritage category, but with poorly-paid apprenticeships lasting until middle-age, even the most skilled men and women have to abandon the traditional craft in favor of better paid professions.

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What makes intangible cultural heritage worth protecting is also what makes it so difficult to protect. While it is important that many traditional skills do not get lost over time, we must be careful that protecting the skills does not come at the cost of our freedom to choose what kind of life we'd like to live.



Additional listening

News report

Conversation

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Additional listening

News report



Listen to a news report and choose the best answer to each of the questions you hear.



- 1 A veteran.
- B. A movie producer.
- C. A manager at an advertising company.
- D. A traveller.

Question 1

What does Zhang Dongbo do?

“...the manager at an advertising company...”



Additional listening

News report



Listen to a news report and choose the best answer to each of the questions you hear.



- 2 A. In 2013.
B. In 2016.
C. In 2014.
D. In 2010.

Question 2

When did he set out to create "Finding China's Most Lovable Veterans"?

"... in 2013 he set out to create 'Finding China's Most Lovable Veterans...' "



Additional listening

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A man from Mianchi county in Sanmenxia has travelled the length and breadth of the country, seeking out military veterans in order to feature them in a self-funded documentary series. Zhang Dongbo, 36, has been fascinated with the army and China's military history and stories since he was a child, and in 2013 he set out to create "Finding China's Most Lovable Veterans". Over the course of the next three years, the manager at an advertising company, spent 800,000 yuan of his own money and travelled more than 20,000 kilometers in search of some of China's war heroes. Initially the documentary series was aired online, but over the course of its



Additional listening

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current run of 25 episodes (Zhang wants to make 100) it proved so popular that it was purchased by terrestrial broadcaster Henan TV. To prepare for the series Zhang had to tirelessly sift through information online in order to ensure the series' accuracy. Once that was done, the arduous task of tracking down, contacting, and then arranging an interview with a veteran began.



Additional listening

Conversation



Listen to a conversation and choose the best answer to each of the questions you hear.



- 1 A. They are talking about the origin of zongzi.
B. They are talking about the story of Qu Yuan.
C. They are talking about the Double Fifth.
D. They are talking about the legend of Qu Yuan.

Question 1

What do the two speakers mainly talk about?

“...the origin of Dragon Boat Festival...; ... It is also known as the Double Fifth.”



Additional listening

Conversation



Listen to a conversation and choose the best answer to each of the questions you hear.



- 2 A. Indonesia
B. Singapore
C. Japan
D. Korea

Question 2

What country also celebrates the Dragon Boat Festival and sets it as national holiday?

“...Japan has even set it as a national holiday...”



Additional listening

Conversation



Listen to a conversation and choose the best answer to each of the questions you hear.



- 3 A. Qu Yuan was a high official of the ancient state of Chu.
B. People in Japan and Singapore also celebrate the Double Fifth.
C. The Double Fifth is a celebration for harvest.
 D. People use zongzi to scare fish on the Double Fifth.

Question 3

Which of the following is NOT true?

“The people sat on the dragon boats to scare the fish away.”



Additional listening

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M: Mum, I like to eat zongzi very much. Do you know how it comes about?

W: Hmm, well. Let me tell you the origin of zongzi. People eat zongzi in memory of the poet Qu Yuan's death.

M: Mummy, who is Qu Yuan?

W: Qu Yuan is a high official of the ancient state of Chu. He committed suicide by drowning himself in a river.

M: Huh? Why would people memorize someone who committed suicide?

W: Qu Yuan is a patriotic person who drowned himself in a river because Chu had lost a vital battle. The people sat on the dragon boats to scare the fish away so that Qu Yuan's



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body would not be eaten.

M: Oh, I see.

W: My dear, that is how the Dragon Boat and the zongzi originate. There is also another legend regarding the origin of Dragon Boat Festival.

M: Tell me, please!

W: The festival is a traditional Chinese celebration for the harvest of winter wheat. People sat on the dragon boats to visit their friends and family after a bumper harvest.

M: Mummy, you are great! You know so much about the Dragon Boat Festival. Who told you all these stuff?



Additional listening

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W: My father told me. Well, today, many people celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival which falls on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese calendar. It is also known as the Double Fifth.

M: How popular is this festival?

W: Many countries also celebrate this festival.

M: What countries?

W: Japan and Singapore. Japan has even set it as a national holiday.

M: Thank you mummy for your detailed explanation. Now I finally understand the story behind the Dragon Boat Festival.



Additional listening

Passage



Listen to a passage and complete the following table according to what you hear.

Factfile	
Name of city	Washington DC
Type of museum discussed	museum of news
Number of theatres	15
Number of galleries	14
Number of international newspapers from which front pages are taken	More than 80
Location	opposite National Gallery of Art
Opening hours	9 am – 5 pm
Cost of tickets for adults	\$ 19.95



Additional listening

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W: Well, no visit to the capital of the US, Washington DC, would be complete without a visit to all the amazing museums ...

M: Like the National Gallery of Art or the National Air and Space Museum.

W: But for those of you who are interested in the news, you may like to know about the Newseum ...

M: The museum of news ...

W: It's an exhibition of news and journalism.

M: It's got 15 theatres and 14 galleries, containing daily front pages from more than 80 international newspapers ...

W: ... the story of how news is gathered and the way it moves



Additional listening

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through different means of communication, such as television, radio, the press and the Internet ...

M: ... the 9/11 room, which describes how the attack on the Twin Towers was reported ...

W: ... the Berlin Wall Gallery, with sections of the Berlin Wall ...

M: ... and a display of the day's latest news, which is regularly updated.

W: You can even find out if you'd make a good TV news reporter in the Interactive Newsroom. The Newseum is on Pennsylvania Avenue, opposite the National Gallery of Art ...

M: ... and just round the corner from the White House.

W: It's open from 9 am to 5 pm daily ...

M: ... and tickets are \$19.95 for adults.

