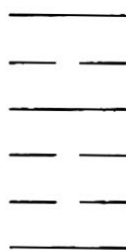


21 *shike*/biting

*Sacrifice.
Favourable in disputes.*

- Base (9): Shackled with leg-fetters:
mutilating the feet.
NO MISFORTUNE.
- (6) 2: Biting flesh:
mutilating the nose.
NO MISFORTUNE.
- (6) 3: Biting dried meat:
getting poison to eat.
Little distress.
NO MISFORTUNE.
- (9) 4: Biting ham in the rind:
a bronze arrow to find.
Favourable in hardship augury.
AUGURY AUSPICIOUS.
- (6) 5: Biting pemmican:
finding golden bronze.
Augury DANGEROUS.
NO MISFORTUNE.
- Top (9): Shouldering a cangue:
mutilating the ears.
DISASTROUS.

(21) biting

Most of the eating involved would have been in sacrificial, especially ancestral, rites. Three different kinds of preserved meat are mentioned. The translations given are derived from Waley (A129) and Gao (G221–3).

(4) Ham means meat cured on the bone. The arrowhead suggests that the meat came from a beast killed during a hunt.

(5) Gao thinks that golden bronze was considered especially dangerous to swallow. Finding a piece in one's food would be equivalent to being saved from death (G223).

(Top) 'Shouldering' (*he*) means receiving a load. The same word is used of receiving blessings in 26:top. The cangue was a heavy plank of wood with a hole near one end, through which the neck of a criminal could be inserted. He could walk only if he could bear the weight of the plank in his hands.