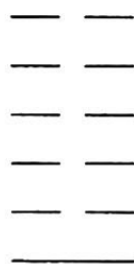


fu/returning 24

*Offering.**Going out or coming in, no illness.**A friend arrives.*

NO MISFORTUNE.

*Returning he doubles his track,
and seven days later he's back.**Favourable when there is somewhere to go.*Base (9): *Returning from not far away. No harm or trouble.*

MOST AUSPICIOUS.

(6) 2: *Returning contented.*

AUSPICIOUS.

(6) 3: *Returning from the water's brink.*

DANGEROUS.

NO MISFORTUNE.

(6) 4: *Returning alone before the journey is done.*(6) 5: *Returning urgently.**No trouble.*Top (6): *Returning and losing the way.*

DISASTROUS.

*There will be a catastrophe.**For a military expedition, the outcome will be a great defeat,
with disaster for the ruler of a state.**No expeditions possible for ten years.*

(24) returning

(Hexagram statement) 'Seven' here means 'between five and ten', as in 63:2 (G230; and see page xx). The time of return might be divined before or during a journey.

(Base) Following Kunst's emendation, reading *qi* 'harm' (D473 No 18) for the closely similar *qi* 'earth spirit' (D473 No 17) or *zhi* 'only' (D832 No 6; K867g,i).

(3) Gao Heng (G230) argued that the root meaning of this oracle was 'returning from the brink of water'; but it also implied the frown of consternation that comes on the face of one startled to find himself on such a brink. The meaning is the converse of the contentment in Line 2.

(5) Kunst (R287) translates this oracle as 'Return from a raid to take captives.'