

# THE DIRECT ENGLISH

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# 第二版

3

#### 综合教在 AN INTEGRATED COURSE 如师田书

教师用于 TEACHER'S BOOK

外语教学与研究出版社 FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



# 接进传播 DIRECT ENGLISH

# Approaching the World

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3

综合教程 AN INTEGRATED COURSE 教师用书

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# 目录 CONTENTS



Unit 1	Red Letter Days	1
Unit 2	What Matters Most?	29
Unit 3	Going Green	55
Unit 4	Lights, Camera, Action!	80
Unit 5	Against All Odds	104
Unit 6	Judge for Yourself	131
Аррх.	VR Lab	156



# Unit 1

# **Red Letter Days**

## WARM-UP

#### Task 1

#### **Teaching steps**

- Focus students' attention on the title of the unit and ask them to tell you what they think it means. (The phrase *red letter day* means a special day. The phrase has its origins in the way people used to mark special days in red on their calendar.)
- Focus students' attention on the pictures. Ask them to describe what they see.
- Ask students to name the four seasons which are pictured.

#### **Answers**

A Spring B Summer C Autumn D Winte

#### Task 2

#### **Teaching steps**

- Read the sentences aloud to students or nominate confident students to read the sentences aloud. Ask students to choose the sentence which best describes their feelings about winter. Encourage them to write their own sentences if none match their feelings.
- Conduct class feedback. Generate as much discussion as possible about which seasons students prefer. Ask students what they like doing in winter.

#### Possible answers

I like the slower pace of life during wintertime.

I hate winter. The cold in winter is annoying.

Winter makes me want to hibernate! It's so dark and gloomy.



利用图片鼓励学生尽可能多用英语表达。可以让学生说说这四张图 片是否很好地概括了四季的主要特点,如果他们认为没有,可以请他们 描述能够诠释这四个季节的图片。

以文化比较为目的,可以在阅读导入阶段请学生思考中国冬天的传统节日及习俗,如从冬至日开始的"数九(冬九九)"和立春日的迎春活动。也可以在阅读后请学生比较中外相似节日的庆祝形式及其异同,与文章最后一段相呼应,最终让学生理解:虽然各地迎春的风俗不同,文化不同,庆祝形式不同,但是却有着相似的意义,即送走黑夜与寒冷,企盼温暖与光明。

# READING FOR LEARNING

#### **More Information**

#### The Shetland Islands 设得兰群岛

The Shetland Islands lie about 80 km to the northeast of Orkney, 170 km from mainland Scotland and 220 km west of Norway. They form part of the border between the Atlantic Ocean to the west and the North Sea to the east. The famous fire festival, Up Helly Aa is annually held from January to March in various communities in Shetland, Scotland, to mark the end of the Yule season.

#### Busójárás (匈牙利的) 狂欢节

The Busójárás is an annual celebration of the Šokci living in the town of Mohács, Hungary, held at the end of the Carnival season, ending the day before Ash Wednesday. The celebration features Busós (people wearing traditional masks) and includes folk music, masquerading, parades, and dancing. Busójárás lasts six days, usually during February.

#### Task 1

- Read the advice aloud in the skill box "Matching pictures to text" to students.
- Focus students' attention on the title of the blog post and the photos.

- Read the question aloud to your class. Organise students into pairs and challenge them to see who can be the first to find the items in the photos. Conduct class feedback.
- Ask students to predict what they think the blog post will be about. Generate as much discussion as possible and write students' suggestions on the board.

#### **Answers**

A burning boat **B** coffin **C** fiery torch **D** mask

#### Language Bank

**1** Don't you just hate winter? I do—it's freezing, dark, and far too long!

你难道不讨厌冬天吗?我可是讨厌——因为冬天又冷又黑,而且时间太长了!

freezing: adj. extremely cold; very low in temperature 极冷的; 冰冻的

e.g. It's absolutely freezing outside, so make sure to wear a warm coat.

外面冷极了,一定要穿一件厚外套。

**Towns and villages all over Europe celebrate the end of these sad, grey months with "farewell-to-winter" festivals.** 

全欧洲的城镇与村庄都会通过各种"告别冬天"的节日来庆祝连续数月令人伤感的灰暗日子结束。

- 1) celebrate: *v*. do something enjoyable in order to show that an occasion or event is special 庆祝;祝贺
  - e.g. Tom celebrated his 24th birthday two days ago.

汤姆两天前庆祝了他的24岁生日。

He returned home each year to celebrate Christmas and New Year with his family. 他每年都回家和家人一起欢度圣诞和新年。

- 2) farewell:
  - ① *n*. an act of saying goodbye, especially when someone is leaving for a long time or permanently 告别;辞行
    - **e.g.** We organised a farewell party for her before she moved to another city. 在她搬到另一个城市之前,我们为她举办了一场告别派对。
  - ② v. say goodbye, especially formally or when leaving for a long time or permanently 告别:辞行
    - **e.g.** He farewelled his colleagues before retiring from the company. 他在退休前向同事们告别。

- ③ say farewell to: say goodbye to someone or something 向……告别
  - e.g. It seems everyone should make his own choice when he says farewell to college life.

告别大学生活时,每个人似乎都该要作出自己的决定了。

3) festival: n. a day or period of celebration, often for cultural or religious reasons 节; 节日 e.g. The city hosts an annual music festival that attracts thousands of visitors.

这座城市每年都会举办一个音乐节,吸引成千上万的游客。

#### 3 I'm always happy to say farewell to my least favourite season!

#### 我总是很高兴告别我最不喜欢的季节!

least 是 little 的最高级,表示"最少的",此处用于修饰 favourite。它经常用在短语 at least 中,表示"至少"。

e.g. She is one of my least favourite actresses.

她是我最不喜欢的女演员之一。

At least 200 people died in the air crash.

至少200人在此次空难中丧生。

4 With months of almost total darkness, strong winds, and heavy rain, everyone looks forward to spring.

由于连续数月里天空几乎完全黑暗,再加上狂风暴雨的天气,所有人都期盼着春天的到来。

- 1) with 在这里表示"由于;因为"。
  - e.g. With the win, the US reclaimed the cup for the first time since 1985.

这次胜利使美国队自1985年后第一次重获此杯。

He is in the hospital with fever.

他因为发烧住院了。

- 2) look forward to: expect or want something to happen 期盼;期待
  - e.g. John was looking forward to working with the new manager.

约翰很期待和新任经理共事。

**15** Men grow long beards, dress up as Vikings, and carry fiery torches through the streets.

男人们都留起长胡子,装扮成维京人,手持燃烧的火把穿过街道。

- 1) dress up: put on clothes that make you look like a particular character or type of person 装 扮成
  - **e.g.** The children dressed up as pirates for the costume party.

孩子们装扮成海盗参加化装舞会。

2) fiery: *adj*. consisting of fire or burning strongly; showing strong emotion, especially anger 燃烧的;易怒的

e.g. The fiery sunset painted the sky in shades of red and orange.

燃烧般的夕阳将天空染成了红色和橙色的色调。

He has a fiery temper and often gets angry over small things.

他脾气很暴躁,经常因为小事而生气。

- 3) torch: *n*. a stick with material that burns at one end, used as a light source; a portable electric light 火把;火炬;手电筒
  - e.g. The explorers carried torches to light their way through the dark cave.

探险者们拿着火把照亮他们穿越黑暗洞穴的路。

Don't forget to bring a torch when we go camping.

我们去露营时别忘了带手电筒。

The torches are thrown onto a beautiful wooden boat, and everyone stands around the huge fire, singing, cheering, and saying farewell to winter.

他们将火把扔上一艘漂亮的木船,然后所有人都围着大火唱歌,欢呼,向冬天告别。

cheer: v. shout loudly to show support 欢呼; 为……喝彩

e.g. The crowd cheered as the team scored the winning goal.

当球队打入制胜球时, 观众欢呼起来。

This is only the beginning of the festival though—a night and a day of partying follows, and the next day is a local holiday.

然而,这仅仅是节日庆祝的开始——接下来是一天一夜的聚会活动,然后第二天是当地 的公休日。

though 在这里为副词, 意为"然而;不过",一般位于句末。

e.g. It's hard work; I enjoy it though.

工作很辛苦,可是我乐意干。

Our team lost. It was a good game though.

我们队输了,但这是一场很好的比赛。

Every year at this festival, the people of Mohács dress up in scary masks and walk through the town.

每年在这个节日期间,莫哈奇镇上的人们都会戴上吓人的面具,盛装打扮一番后在小 镇上游行。

scary: adj. causing fear or making someone feel frightened 骇人的; 恐怖的

**e.g.** The movie was so scary that I couldn't watch it alone.

这部电影太恐怖了,我不敢一个人看。

**9** They entertain and sometimes try to frighten the visiting crowds.

他们会娱乐观众,有时也会试图吓唬他们。

entertain: v.

1) give a performance that people enjoy 娱乐; 使快乐 e.g. To break the silence, he told a joke to entertain us. 为打破沉默,他讲了一个笑话逗我们开心。

2) receive someone as a guest and give them food and drink or other forms of enjoyment 招待;款待

**e.g.** I don't like to entertain guests anymore. 我再也不想招待客人了。

#### 10 A coffin is pushed through the streets, and finally into the river.

人们还将一口棺材推上街道,最后推进河里。

push through: move through a crowd or a tight space by using force; make something pass or be accepted 挤着穿过; 使……通过

e.g. He had to push through the crowd to reach the front of the stage.

他不得不挤过人群到达舞台前面。

They are trying to push through a new policy despite the criticism.

他们正试图使一项新政策通过,尽管有批评声音。

#### 11 Everyone cheers as it floats away.

当棺材漂走时,大家都欢呼雀跃。

float: v.

- 1) rest or move slowly on the surface of a liquid and not sink 漂; 浮 e.g. A fresh egg will sink and an old one will float.
  新鲜鸡蛋会沉下去而不新鲜的会浮上来。
- 2) place something or make it move on the surface of a liquid (使)漂浮;(使)浮动 *e.g. They'll spend some time floating little paper boats on the lake.* 他们打算花些时间在湖上放小纸船玩。

# 12 The party lasts for many days—there is music and dancing, and there are many street stalls selling delicious and warming food.

聚会活动会持续多日——有音乐,有舞蹈,还有很多路边摊兜售可口热乎的美食。 stall: *n*. a small shop or stand in a market, often outdoors, where goods are sold 摊位; 货摊 *e.g.* There's a fruit stall at the market that sells the freshest oranges. 市场上有一个水果摊,卖的是最新鲜的橙子。

II If so, let me know—I'd love to hear about them.

如果参加过,请告诉我——我很想听听。

if so 和 if not 通常指两种相反的情况:

- 1) if so 指如果前面所说的都成立, 意为"如果是那样的话"。
  - e.g. I may be free this evening. If so, I'll come round and see you.

今晚我可能有空。要是有空, 我会过来看你。

If so, your points of view are bound to conflict with his.

如果这样的话,你的观点一定会和他的相冲突。

- 2) if not 指后面跟的从句与前面提到的情况相反, 意为"如果不这样的话"。
  - e.g. I might see you tomorrow. If not, then it'll be Saturday.

我可能明天去看你。如果不是明天,那就是周六。

有时 not 后还可跟一个词语。

- **e.g.** *If not today, tomorrow I'm sure you'll get an answer.* 如果今天得不到回信,明天准能得到。
- 3) 注意 if so 与 if not 连用的情形。
  - **e.g.** He may be busy. If so, I'll call later. If not, can I see him now? 他要是正忙,我就以后再来拜访。要是他不忙,我可以现在见他吗?

#### **Translation**

#### 告别冬天的节日: 最精彩的两个

你难道不讨厌冬天吗?我可是讨厌——因为冬天又冷又黑,而且时间太长了!好像不止我一个人这么想。全欧洲的城镇与村庄都会通过各种"告别冬天"的节日来庆祝连续数月令人伤感的灰暗日子结束。在这些盛大的聚会上,人们相聚在一起欢送寒冷,喜迎更温暖、更晴朗的日子到来。我总是很高兴告别我最不喜欢的季节!下面是我旅行中经历过的最精彩的两个告别冬天的节日。

#### 设得兰群岛圣火节

对于生活在苏格兰北部设得兰群岛的人们来说,冬天十分难熬!由于连续数月里天空几乎完全黑暗,再加上狂风暴雨的天气,所有人都期盼着春天的到来。举世闻名的篝火节——设得兰群岛圣火节在每年的一月末举行,设得兰群岛的居民要花整整一年时间为圣火节作准备。男人们都留起长胡子,装扮成维京人,手持燃烧的火把穿过街道。他们将火把扔上一艘漂亮的木船,然后所有人都围着大火唱歌,欢呼,向冬天告别。然而,这仅仅是节日庆祝的开始——接下来是一天一夜的聚会活动,然后第二天是当地的公休日。

#### 匈牙利狂欢节

如果你二月去匈牙利的莫哈奇小镇旅游,你将看到欧洲最令人激动、最多姿多彩的节日之一——匈牙利狂欢节。每年在这个节日期间,莫哈奇镇上的人们都会戴着吓人的面具,盛装打扮一番后在小镇上游行。他们会娱乐观众,有时也会试图吓唬他们。人们还将一口棺材推上街道,最后推进河里。当棺材漂走时,大家都欢呼雀跃。谁在棺材里面呢?当然是冬天!聚会活动会持续多日——有音乐,有舞蹈,还有很多路边摊兜售可口热乎的美食。

你参加过告别冬天的节日吗?如果参加过,请告诉我——我很想听听。

#### Reading and Understanding

#### Task 2

#### **Teaching steps**

- Give students a few minutes to read the blog post. Ask them whether their predictions about the blog post were correct.
- Focus students' attention on the photos in Task 1 and the sentences in this task. Ask students to read the sentences carefully and match them to the photos. Check the answers orally.
- Ask students to complete the sentences according to the blog post.
- Conduct class feedback.

#### **Answers**

- **1**—C (fiery torches)
- 2—A (farewell)
- **3**—D (scary)
- **4**—B (pushed through)

#### Task 3

#### **Teaching steps**

- Read the questions aloud and ask students to find answers in the blog post.
- Allow students to check their answers with their partner before collecting answers around the class.

#### **Answers**

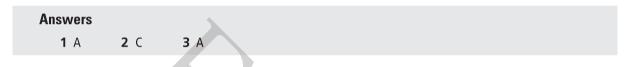
- **1** Because winter is freezing, dark, and far too long.
- **2** They are dark, windy, and rainy.

- **3** The Up Helly Aa starts at the end of every January.
- **4** They dress up in scary masks and walk through the town.
- **5** It is winter.

#### Task 4

#### **Teaching steps**

- Give students a few minutes to read the questions and answers.
- Organise students into pairs. Allow them to discuss with each other and to choose the best answer to each question.
- Conduct class feedback.



#### **Vocabulary Focus**

#### Task 1

#### **Teaching steps**

- Focus students' attention on the adjective in the centre of each spider diagram and nominate students to read them aloud. Drill pronunciation, checking that students understand the meanings of the words.
- Ask students to cross out the nouns which the adjectives do not normally describe. Do the first one together as an example. Monitor as students complete the task.
- · Conduct class feedback.

Answers						
<b>1</b> animal	2 bird	<b>3</b> heat	<b>4</b> hair	<b>5</b> subject	<b>6</b> garden	

#### Task 2

- Read the words in the boxes aloud to students, drilling pronunciation chorally and individually.
- Ask students to complete the sentences with the correct form of the words from the boxes.
- Check the answers around the class.

Answers					
<b>1</b> torch	2 stalls	<b>3</b> farewell	4 celebration	<b>5</b> entertains	<b>6</b> float

#### Task 3

#### **Teaching steps**

- Ask students what they know about Sweden. (It is a Scandinavian country in Northern Europe which borders Norway and Finland.)
- Tell students that they are going to read about a Swedish festival. Focus students' attention on the words in the boxes and drill their pronunciation.
- Give students a few minutes to read the passage and fill in the gaps with the words from the boxes. Allow them to check their answers with their partner before conducting class feedback.

#### **Answers**

1 entertain 2 northerly 3 celebrated 4 festival 5 freezing

# Extra Activity!

- Play a quick vocabulary game with students on the subject of "Red Letter Days".
- Organise students into groups of four or five. Tell students that you are going to give them a topic-related category.
- Students should race with their team to think of five words or phrases which fit this category and write them down.
- When everyone in the team has written their words or phrases down, they should raise their hands.
- The first team to raise their hands (with all correct answers) wins a point. Repeat this five or six times.
- Possible categories:

Birthday: candle, cake, party, balloon, etc.

Valentine's Day: heart, flower, romance, candlelit meal, etc.

Spring Festival: lantern, red envelope, party, procession, etc.

Grammar Focus: Passive Voice (被动语态)

#### Task 1

#### **Teaching steps**

 Ask students to read the three comments. Ask them what kind of festival each comment is describing.

- Ask students to work with their partner to underline the examples of the passive voice.
- Conduct class feedback. Elicit why the passive voice has been used in each case.

#### **Answers**

- **1** An enormous straw bear is made and worn by a person.
- 2 ... the last days of winter have been celebrated for 500 years!
  - ... all the children are given sweets to eat.
- **3** ... a bag full of words about winter <u>being set alight and burned</u>. Lots of pancakes are eaten...

#### Task 2

#### **Teaching steps**

- Focus students' attention on the sentences. Explain that they need to complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Do the first one as an example if necessary.
- Let students complete the task. Allow them to check their answers with their partner before conducting class feedback.

Answers		
<b>1</b> woken	2 written 3 celebrated	<b>4</b> eaten

#### Task 3

- Ask students to think about again how the passive voice is formed.
- Fill in the first blank together with students as an example. Elicit that the sentence is about past and about a singular subject, so they will need to use the auxiliary verb was.
- Students should complete the rest of the conversation alone. Allow them to check their answers with their partner before conducting class feedback.

Answers				
<b>1</b> was born	<b>2</b> is spoken	<b>3</b> are filled	4 are dressed	
<b>5</b> is played	<b>6</b> dances	<b>7</b> be sold		

# Extra Activity!

Explain that the passive voice is often used in general knowledge quizzes.
 Write the following quiz questions on the board and ask students if they know the answers.

Who was Romeo and Juliet written by? (William Shakespeare)

- Organise students into pairs and ask them to write one quiz question using the passive voice. Monitor as students do this, offering support where necessary.
- Divide the class into two teams. The two teams should take it in turns to ask the other team questions.
- Award points for correct answers. The team with the most points at the end of the quiz is the winner.
- Conduct class feedback at the end of the quiz and address any issues which students are having with the passive voice.

#### **Beyond the Text**

#### Task 1

#### **Teaching steps**

- Ask students to read the description.
- Give them a few minutes to think about the answer and jot down some ideas.
- Circulate as students do this, offering support where necessary.

#### Answer

the Mid-Autumn Festival



我国很多传统节日在不同地区会有不同的庆祝方式,还有一些独 具地方色彩或民族特色的节日。所以,在这个环节,可以要求学生尽 量发现和解释各种节日文化习俗,如"二月二"、"三月三"等。

#### Task 2 and Task 3

- Ask students to think about their favourite festival and write some ideas down.
- Organise students to work in pairs.

- Let students take in turns to read their notes aloud. Their partner should listen carefully and try to guess which festival their partner is describing. Once they have guessed which festival their partner is describing, they should suggest words and phrases to add to their partner's list.
- Conduct class feedback.

#### Possible answers

What to eat: dumplings, fish, pork, beef, chicken, etc.

What to wear: red clothes (to bring good luck)

Special traditions: visit family and friends to wish them a happy new year, set off fireworks, give children

lucky red packets full of money, stay up late, buy new clothes

When to celebrate: starting on the 30th day of the 12th lunar month of the Chinese calendar

#### Task 4

#### **Teaching steps**

- Organise students into groups so that they are working with someone who has chosen the same
  festival as they do. Ask them to describe their festival and share the words and phrases they
  have collected.
- Circulate as students complete this task, offering support and helping to generate topic-related language where necessary.
- Nominate a few students to report back on their festival to the rest of the class.

#### Possible answers

I've chosen the Spring Festival, because it's my favourite celebration. In my family, we usually spend time cleaning the house. We put up red decorations all over the house because red brings good luck.

The most important food during this festival is the meal we have as a family. We usually cook it together. We eat dumplings, beef and chicken dishes, etc.

A special tradition is giving and getting red envelopes filled with money. At the moment I'm still a student, so my older relatives give me money. When I have a job I will give money to my younger relatives. At the end of the New Year celebrations, there is the Lantern Festivals. Lantern are hung all over the streets—it's really beautiful.

#### **Useful Expressions**

#### **Describing food**

We usually eat dumplings.

We have a big family meal together.

It's a good opportunity to enjoy a family feast.

#### **Describing clothes**

I like to look my best on this day—I usually go to the hairdresser's and buy a new outfit.

I don't wear anything special—maybe warm clothes if I'm going out to watch the procession.

#### **Special traditions**

We usually decorate the house.

We always clean the house from top to bottom before the festival.

In my family, we usually exchange gifts.

## READING FOR DOING

#### **More Information**

Almost every day of the year now comes with its own special theme to celebrate or commemorate. For people who don't find traditional celebrations appealing, there is a Make Your Own Holiday Day (26 March). On this day, you can choose to celebrate Christmas again, or you can name your own festival.

Some special days are set up to help people who find everyday life challenging. So there is International Left-Handers Day, where left-handed people gather together to play left-handed games.

Other special days celebrate well-loved films or characters. People all over the world celebrate "Star Wars" Day on 4 May by dressing up as their favourite characters from the film.

#### Language Bank

- Check out our bizarre awareness days—we humans like to celebrate the strangest things!
  看一看我们各种稀奇古怪的节日吧──我们人类就喜欢庆贺那些最奇怪的事情!
  - 1) bizarre: *adj*. strange and difficult to explain 稀奇古怪的; 奇异的 *e.g.* bizarre behaviour 古怪的行为 a really bizarre character 十分古怪的性格
  - 2) awareness day: a date usually set by a major organisation or government to commemorate a public health or ethical cause of importance on a national or international level 纪念日; 节日

**e.g.** Mental Health Awareness Day aims to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health issues. 心理健康关注日旨在减少围绕心理健康问题的偏见。

#### 2 It celebrates our beloved pets while promoting the pet fashion industry.

它既让我们庆祝我们心爱的宠物,同时也推动了宠物时尚业的发展。

- 1) beloved: adj. dearly loved or cherished 心爱的; 钟爱的
  - e.g. She wrote a poem about her beloved pet.

她写了一首关于她钟爱的宠物的诗。

- 2) promote: v. actively support or advance the development or success of something 推动; 促进
  - **e.g.** Education plays a key role in promoting social equality. 教育在推动社会平等方面起着关键作用。

#### **3** Random Acts of Kindness Day: 17 February

随意行善日: 2月17日

- 1) random: *adj*. chosen or happening without any particular method, pattern, or purpose 随意的;随机的
  - **e.g.** The competitors will be subject to random drug testing. 参赛者要接受随机药检。
- 2) at random: without any specific plan, order, or purpose; by chance 随机地; 偶然地 *e.g.* We received several answers, and we picked one at random. 我们收到了一些答复,并从中随机挑选了一个。

# 4 He decided that ice cream was wholesome and delicious, and that it should have its own special celebration day.

他认为冰淇淋有益健康又美味可口,应该有属于它自己的特殊庆祝日。

wholesome: *adj*. good for your health or morally good and beneficial 有益健康的;有益的 *e.g.* She prepared a wholesome meal with fresh vegetables and whole grains.

她准备了一顿用新鲜蔬菜和全谷物制作的有益健康的饭菜。

The book promotes wholesome values for young readers.

这本书为年轻读者传递了有益的价值观。

#### Well, you can't have too much of a good thing, can you?

当然,好东西也不能吃太多,不是吗?

too much of a good thing: used to describe a situation where something enjoyable or beneficial becomes unpleasant or harmful because of excess 好事太多也腻味;凡事适可而止

**e.g.** Eating chocolate is delightful, but too much of a good thing can lead to health problems. 吃巧克力令人愉快,但过量则可能导致健康问题。 **6** Have you ever wondered why some people press harder on the remote control when the batteries are dying?

你有没有想过,为什么有的人在遥控器快没电的时候会更使劲地按?

die: v. stop working 非正式用法, 意为 "(机器或设备)完全停止运行"。

e.g. The electric train stopped when the batteries died.

电池组一断电, 电车就停了。

Suddenly, the engine coughed, spluttered, and died.

发动机突然咔咔地响着,发出一阵噼啪声,接着就彻底熄火了。

Maybe they did it so that they could get all their students' weird questions over with in one day, instead of having to deal with them all year long.

他们这样做也许是为了集中在一天回答完学生所有稀奇古怪的问题,而不用花整整一 年来应付它们。

- 1) weird: *adj*. unusual or strange, often in a way that is difficult to understand or explain 古怪的;不同寻常的
  - e.g. He heard a weird noise coming from the attic late at night.

深夜里,他听到从阁楼传来一种古怪的声音。

*She has a weird sense of humour that not everyone understands.* 

她有一种不同寻常的幽默感,并不是所有人都能理解。

- 2) get sth over with: finish something unpleasant or difficult as quickly as possible 尽快结束 (不愉快的事)
  - **e.g.** I decided to get the dentist appointment over with before the weekend.

我决定在周末前赶紧完成看牙医的预约。

#### **Translation**

#### 不只是另一天

又是一个无聊的周一?绝对不是——因为每天都应该是特别的!看一看我们各种稀奇古怪的节日吧——我们人类就喜欢庆贺那些最奇怪的事情!

全国宠物装扮日: 1月14日

为什么不通过为你的狗狗穿上可爱的雨衣和靴子来表达你的关爱呢?这个特殊的节日是由一位动物行为学家创立的。它既让我们庆祝我们心爱的宠物,同时也推动了宠物时尚业的发展。如果你的宠物没有衣服也不用担心———条简单的丝带就能使它感到与众不同!

#### 随意行善日: 2月17日

你上一次毫无理由地行善是什么时候?帮助老人穿过繁忙的马路,去病人家里探视,这 些都是小小的善举,但却真的可以带来改变。看看 2 月 17 日这一天,你能够做多少善事,然 后享受内心那份美好而温暖的感觉吧!

#### 全国冰淇淋日:7月的第三个星期日

这个节日是一位美国总统的主意。他认为冰淇淋有益健康又美味可口,应该有属于它自己的特殊庆祝日。最后,他觉得一天不够,便将整个7月变成了全国冰淇淋月!当然,好东西也不能吃太多,不是吗?

#### 问愚蠢问题日: 9月28日

你有没有想过,为什么有的人在遥控器快没电的时候会更使劲地按?在9月28日这一天你就可以问问。问愚蠢问题日是由一群在校教师在20世纪80年代设立的。他们这样做也许是为了集中在一天回答完学生所有稀奇古怪的问题,而不用花整整一年来应付它们。

#### Task 1

#### **Teaching steps**

- Focus students' attention on the title of the text and the photos. Ask students if they can predict what the special days are about without reading the text.
- Give students a few minutes to read the text.
- When students have read the text, direct their attention to the phrases and the meanings. Explain that students need to match the phrases in italics to their meanings. Do the first one together as an example. Encourage students to find the phrases in the text in order to help them guess the meanings according to the context.
- Allow students enough time to match the phrases with their meanings. Check the answers orally.

#### Answers

1 e 2 d 3 a 4 b 5 c

#### Task 2

- Focus students' attention on the conversation.
- Ask students to complete the conversation with the words from the boxes. Monitor as students do this, offering support where necessary.
- Nominate two confident students to act out the conversation to the rest of the class.

#### Red Letter Days

Ask students to tell you what Ella thinks of the National Dress Up Your Pet Day. (She thinks
it is unfair to animals.) Ask students whether they agree with Ella and encourage them to give
reasons for their answers.

Answers
(1) boots (2) weird (3) cute (4) ribbon (5) beloved

#### Task 3

#### **Teaching steps**

- Read the questions aloud to students. Ask them to read the text again and answer the questions.
- Conduct class feedback.

#### **Answers**

- 1 National Dress Up Your Pet Day.
- 2 Random Acts of Kindness Day.
- 3 National Ice Cream Day.
- 4 Ask a Stupid Question Day.



- Ask students to choose three of the words they have learned from the text and write true sentences about themselves.
  - e.g., My mum cooked dumplings last night and had too much of a good thing.

    My baby cousin is only three—she's very cute!
- Collect the sentences and choose a few to read out to your class. Students should listen and try to guess who wrote each sentence.

#### Task 4

- Ask students to tell you which day they prefer. Go around the class, asking students to tell you their preferences and encouraging them to give reasons for their answers.
- Tell students that they are going to make a poster for one of the days they have read about.
- Work through the steps one by one. Organise students to work with their partner. They should decide on their choices and list what people should know about their day.
- Ask students to write sentences about the day they have chosen. Circulate as students do this,
  offering support where necessary. Nominate a couple of students to read their sentences aloud
  to the rest of the class.
- Distribute paper and pens/coloured pencils to students. Tell them that they are now ready to make their posters. Remind them to include the most important information on their posters.

- Ask a few students to share and talk about their posters. In larger classes, organise students into groups of four or five. Ask them to take turns talking about their posters.
- Choose the best posters to decorate your classroom.

#### Model answer

# 28 September is Ask a Stupid Question Day the most curious day of the year

Unleash your curiosity and embrace the power of asking questions—no matter how **SILLY** they might seem!

#### Here's how to celebrate:

- Get together with your friends and take turns asking funny or strange questions.
- Ask your teacher or classmates questions you've always wanted to know the answers to.
- Make a "Question Board" in your classroom where everyone can share their silliest questions.
- Play a game where you answer the funniest questions you can think of.

  Did you know? Asking questions helps you understand more and can make learning exciting. So don't hold back—every question is important!

  Let's make 28 September a day full of laughter, learning, and curiosity!

### **GUIDED WRITING**

#### A Greetings Card for a Special Day (节日贺卡)

#### Task 1

- Check that students understand what a greetings card is. Ask them when they would send a greetings card. Elicit that we usually send cards to friends and relatives on special days, such as birthdays, etc.
- Ask students to read the messages on greetings cards and match them to the correct special days.
- Conduct class feedback. Ask students what they know about the different celebrations which are mentioned.

Answers					
<b>1</b> d	<b>2</b> c	<b>3</b> b	<b>4</b> e	<b>5</b> a	

#### Task 2

#### **Teaching steps**

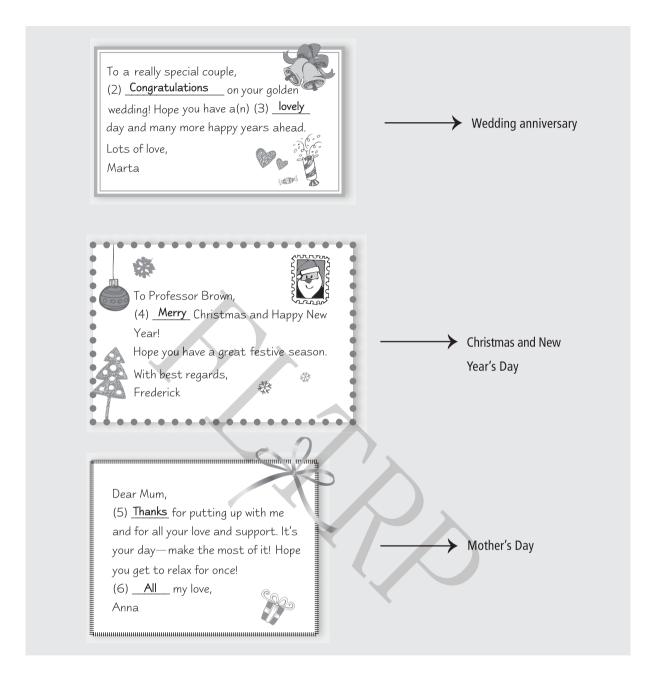
- Focus students' attention on the words in the boxes.
- Direct students' attention to the greetings cards. Ask them to complete the cards with the words from the boxes.
- Check the answers around the class.

Answers			
<b>1</b> wishes	<b>2</b> Congratulations	<b>3</b> lovely	
<b>4</b> Merry	<b>5</b> Thanks	6 All	

#### Task 3

- Focus students' attention on the greetings cards from Task 2.
- Ask them to decide which special days they are written for.
- Allow students to check their answers with their partner.
- Conduct class feedback.





Task 4

- Focus students' attention on the two halves of the sentences.
- Ask students to match the two halves to complete each sentence.
- Ask students to read their sentences to their partner and discuss who is writing to whom.
- Conduct class feedback.

#### Possible answers

- 1—e (from a lover to his/her loved one)
- 2—c (from one friend to another)
- 3—d (between friends or from a child to his/her parent)
- 4—a (to friends who are getting married)
- **5**—b (from a child to his/her parent)

#### Task 5

#### **Teaching steps**

- Ask students to choose a special day. They should write a greetings card to someone they know using language from the previous tasks and the writing profile to help them.
- Ask students to decorate their cards. Display the best ones on your classroom wall.

#### Model answer

To the very special couple,

Wishing you every happiness on your wedding anniversary. Hope you have a wonderful day!

All my love,

Natalie

## **AUDIO/VIDEO LAB**

#### Audio

#### Task 1

#### **Teaching steps**

- Explain to students that they will listen to a radio show and answer questions based on the information they hear. Emphasise the importance of identifying key details while listening.
- Read the three questions aloud to the class. Ensure students understand all the options by briefly discussing unfamiliar terms, such as "singletons" or "interviewers".
- Play the radio show. Ask students to listen carefully and choose the best answers.
- Ask students to compare their answers with their partner before conducting class feedback.

#### **Answers**

1 A 2 B 3 A

#### Task 2

#### **Teaching steps**

- Focus students' attention on the questions. Ask them to listen to the radio show again and fill in the blanks.
- Allow students to check their answers with their partner before conducting class feedback.

Answers				
(1) celebration	<b>(2)</b> even if	<b>(3)</b> in case	(4) wonderful	(5) attached

#### Task 3

#### **Teaching steps**

- Focus students' attention on the table and the questions in it.
- Read the advice in the skill box "Taking notes while listening" together.
- Play the audio (twice if necessary) and allow them to complete the table.
- Organise students into groups and allow them to check their answers.
- Conduct class feedback.

Possible answers	
	Plans for Valentine's Day
Lisa	<ul> <li>going out and having an amazing time</li> <li>with a group of friends who are also single</li> <li>not sitting at home crying about not having a boyfriend</li> </ul>
Dan	<ul> <li>watching one TV series and eating pizza, not answering the phone in case it's his mum</li> <li>his mum always asking why he doesn't have a girlfriend</li> </ul>
Jane	<ul> <li>going to the cinema</li> <li>watching the new romantic comedy and having a nice and normal day</li> <li>with a group of friends</li> </ul>

#### Task 4

- Read the question aloud to students.
- Organise students into groups and ask them to discuss their ideas.
- Nominate a few students to report back on their groups' ideas.

#### Possible answers

I think that certain festivals and special days can be really tough for some people. For example, some people live alone and have no family nearby. They have no one to celebrate with and enjoy a nice meal with. Other people don't have enough money to spend on special food, clothes, and presents. Therefore, festivals and celebrations can be quite difficult for them.

Extra Activity!

- Write the following quote from the audio on the board:
   I don't need greetings card companies to tell me when to celebrate. Life is wonderful and every day should be a celebration!
- Organise students into pairs. Ask them to decide whether or not they agree with this opinion, and give a reason for their answers.
- Bring the class together. Generate discussion by asking questions.
   e.g., Are celebrations too commercial?
   Should we concentrate on making every day special?

Do celebrations put pressure on people who do not have families?

#### Script

Radio host: Hello and welcome to this morning's programme. It is, as I'm sure you know, a special day today. Valentine's Day is the most romantic celebration of the year for happy couples, but it is a lonely non-event for singletons. So, we've asked all you single people to phone in and tell us about your plans for the day. We have Lisa on the line now. Hi, Lisa! What will you be doing this evening?

**Lisa:** Well, I'll be going out with a group of friends who are also single and we'll be having an absolutely amazing time. Thank you very much! I'm certainly not going to sit at home crying about not having a boyfriend, even if that's what everyone else wants me to do!

**Radio host:** Sounds like a great plan, Lisa! Have fun. Now, next up we have Dan. What are your plans, Dan?

Dan: I've got the box set of *The Big Bang Theory* and I'm planning on phoning for my favourite kind of pizza to go with it! I will not be answering the phone though just in case it's my mum! She likes to use Valentine's Day as an excuse to ask me endless questions about why I don't have a girlfriend, when I'm thinking of getting married... Nightmare!

Radio host: I know how you feel, Dan! Enjoy your night. And finally we have Jane on

the line. Jane, what will you be doing this Valentine's Day?

Jane: Hi. I'm single, yes, but I'm not going to let that ruin my day. I don't need

greetings card companies to tell me when to celebrate. Life is wonderful and every day should be a celebration! I'm planning a nice, normal day. I'm going to the cinema tonight with a group of friends to see the new

romantic comedy!

Radio host: Thank you to all those who phoned in. Now, whether you're single or

happily attached, this song is for you.

#### Video

#### Task 5

#### Teaching steps

- Write *dragon boat race* on the board.
- Organise students into pairs and ask them to list what they already know about this festival.
- Conduct class feedback. Generate as much language and discussion as possible, focusing students' attention on the pictures.

#### Task 6

#### **Teaching steps**

- Give students a few minutes to read the questions and answers. Play the video, twice if necessary.
- Check the answers around the class.

Answers						
<b>1</b> C	<b>2</b> C	<b>3</b> A	<b>4</b> B	<b>5</b> C	<b>6</b> C	<b>7</b> A

#### Task 7

- Explain to students that boat racing festivals are celebrated in many places around the world. Their task is to work with a partner, search the Internet for information about such festivals outside of China, and share their findings with the class.
- Emphasise the importance of finding specific details, such as the location, type of boats used, traditions, and significance of the festival.

• Write guiding questions on the board to help students focus their research:

Where is the festival held?

What type of boats are used?

What is the history or cultural significance of the festival?

Are there any special traditions or activities during the festival?

- Discuss possible keywords for online searches, such as "dragon boat racing outside China" or "international boat racing festivals."
- Divide students into pairs and ask them to decide how they will divide the research tasks. For example, one student could focus on the location and history, while the other looks for details about the traditions and activities.
- Circulate around the classroom as students conduct their research, offering support where necessary.
- Encourage students to summarise their findings in their own words rather than copying directly from sources.
- Ask each pair to share their findings with the class. Encourage them to describe the festival they have researched and explain why they think it's interesting.

#### Model answer

Festival name: Penang International Dragon Boat Festival

Location: Penang, Malaysia

Type of boats: traditional dragon boats, decorated with dragon motifs

**History and significance:** The festival has been held annually in Penang since the 1970s and attracts international teams from countries such as Singapore, Thailand, and Australia. It is inspired by the Chinese Dragon Boat Festival but has become a multicultural event celebrating teamwork and sportsmanship.

**Special traditions:** The main event is the dragon boat races, where teams compete in vibrant and energetic races. The festival also features cultural performances, local food stalls, and exhibitions showcasing Penang's heritage.

Why it's interesting: The Penang International Dragon Boat Festival combines the excitement of competitive racing with the celebration of Penang's diverse cultural heritage, making it a unique and colourful event.



本课涉及了中外的各种节日, 教师可以引导学生重新回顾和总结这些节日, 并请学生进一步思考几个问题, 让学生在思考中了解节日文化的内涵: 1. 节日的意义; 2. 我国节日中你最喜欢哪一个? 为什么? 3. 你对我国节日的庆祝形式有什么期待?

#### Script

Over 200 teams, with more than 4,000 paddlers took part in the annual dragon boat races at Hong Kong's Stanley Beach on June 19th.

Many dressed up in eye-catching costumes and hats, including some rather unusual outfits.

Preparation for the races involved energetic warm-ups and chanting. And supporters cheered, creating an exciting atmosphere along the beach.

The Dragon Boat Festival is a common name for the Tuen Ng Festival, which is a traditional Chinese celebration held on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese calendar. It is a public holiday in Hong Kong and commemorates the death of a popular Chinese national hero, Qu Yuan, who drowned himself over 2,000 years ago to protest against a corrupt government.

Legend says that people attempted to rescue him by beating drums to scare fish away and threw dumplings into the sea to keep the fish from eating his body.

During the festival period, people eat rice-and-meat dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves to symbolise trying to save him.

The highlight of the festival is the fierce dragon boat race. Wooden boats decorated with banners and a dragon head at the front are rowed by dozens of paddlers. Sitting two abreast, with a steersman at the back and a drummer at the front, the paddlers race to reach the finishing line, urged on by the pounding drums and the roar of the crowds.

### WRAP-UP

#### Task 1

Answers				
1 is admired	2 was delivered	3 has been made	4 were huilt	

#### Task 2

#### **Answers**

1 tough2 float3 torch4 wholesome5 random6 farewell

#### Task 3

#### **Answers**

Open-ended.

#### Task 4

#### **Possible answers**

- 1 班里组织了一个派对,送别我们即将退休的英语老师。
- 2 节日里会有很多售卖当地水果和蔬菜的摊位。
- 3 考试的日子真的很难熬,你是如何处理这种压力的?
- 4 她看着很精神,不是吗?她的新发型真是影响很大。

#### Task 5

#### **Possible answers**

The Mid-Autumn Festival is celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth lunar month. Families enjoy spending time together and appreciating the bright, full moon. During this festival, mooncakes are given as presents to relatives and friends.