

9

Mazu Mania:^{*}

A Great Pilgrimage¹ That Unifies² the People



Mini-Challenge

Task 1: Sharing Your Experience, If Any, of the Mazu Pilgrimage

Task 2: Introducing Religious Festivals around the World

Thinking Ahead

1. Watch the video and write T (true) or F (false) before each of the following statements.



Scan and Watch

- _____ (1) Mazu is believed to have been an actual person named Lin Mo.
- _____ (2) What made Lin Mo special was her extraordinary beauty.
- _____ (3) Lin Mo gave her father chopsticks when he was about to go fishing.
- _____ (4) Lin Mo asked her father to shout her name when he came across trouble at sea.
- _____ (5) Lin Mo led a group of villagers to save her father and other sailors.

2. Look at the pictures and discuss the following question with your partner. What is your favorite festival or ceremony and why?

My favorite festival is... because....



Reading Strategy

Understanding a Descriptive Essay

The structure of a descriptive passage features a main idea, with many details, and a conclusion. There's no cause-and-effect relationship, sequence, or conflict between and among those details. The purpose of this kind of passage is mainly to provide information about something for readers' reference. The tone is usually neutral and objective, without any personal opinions.

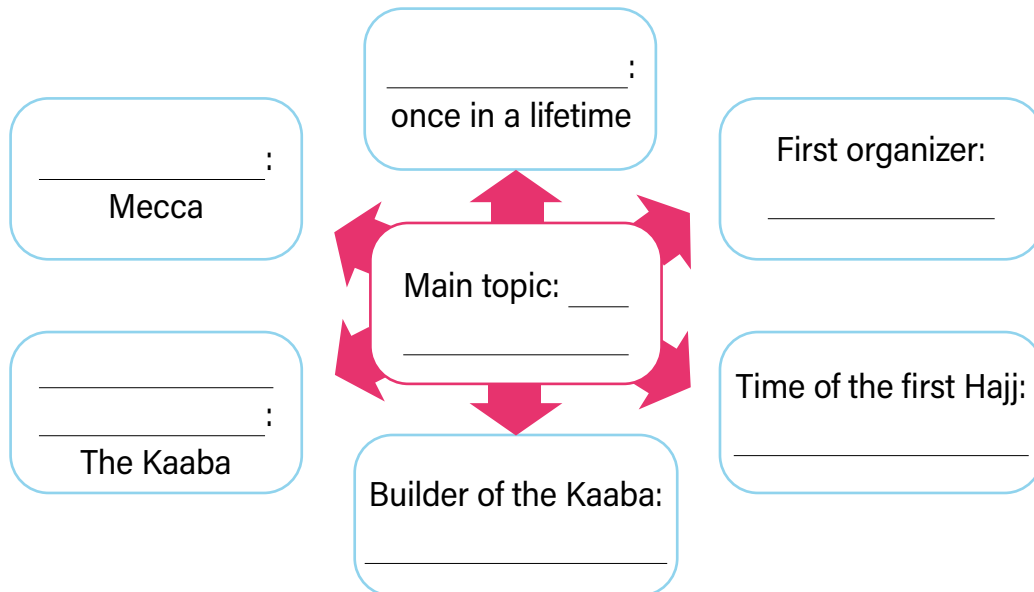
Fill in the blanks in the diagram using the keywords in the box below based on the text on the next page.

7th Century AD
Ibrahim

Destination of Pilgrimage
Muhammad

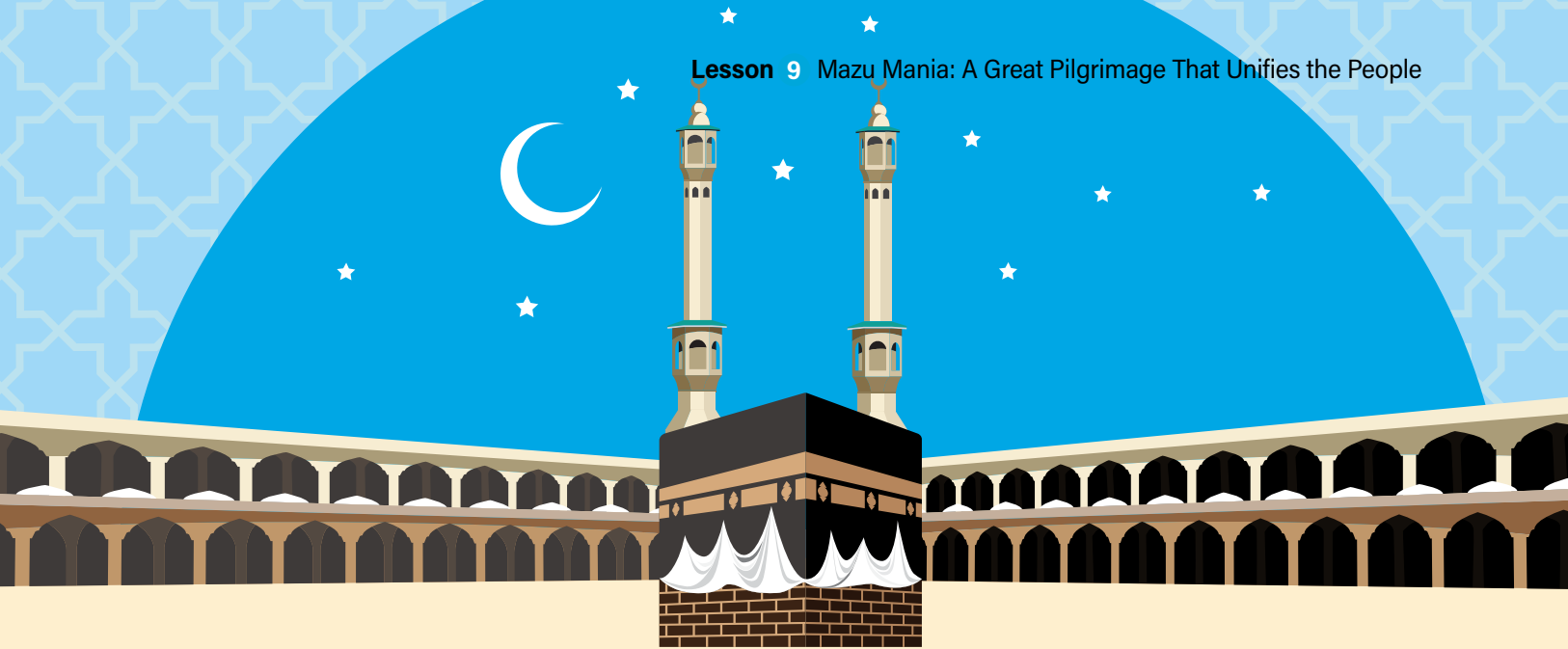
Frequency
Venue City

The Hajj



Reading Comprehension

- _____ Which of the following statements is true?
- (A) Muslims go on the Hajj in order to worship Ibrahim.
 - (B) Young and old Muslims try every way possible to go on a pilgrimage to Mecca.
 - (C) The first Hajj was built according to the instructions from an angel 2,000 years ago.



The Hajj: Islam's Holy Pilgrimage

Every year, over two million Muslims journey to Mecca. Located in Saudi Arabia, Mecca is the holiest city for Muslims throughout the world. There they perform rituals such as circling the cube-shaped Kaaba, the most important site in their religion. This great pilgrimage is called the Hajj and lasts for five days.

The origins of the Hajj date back to 2000 BC. The story goes that Ibrahim's wife and son were lost in the desert. As Ibrahim's wife searched for water, an angel touched the Earth and created a spring. After the miracle, Allah, as God is called in Islam, told Ibrahim to build the Kaaba in that spot. This water allowed the city of Mecca to develop in that area. In the 7th century AD, the founder of Islam, Muhammad, organized the first Hajj to the Kaaba.

Today, all Muslims are encouraged to do the Hajj at least once in their lives. For them, the urge to make the pilgrimage is so strong that they may save money throughout their entire lives to do it. Some walk for hundreds of kilometers to get there, while the elderly may even do the pilgrimage with a cane. The pilgrims believe the Hajj allows them to clean their past sins and strengthen their relationship with Allah, and that it is worth every effort.



Reading Selection



課文動畫
課文朗讀



Language Highlight

In the second and third paragraphs, the author may use a less common word order for emphasis. In this passage, there are two adverbs placed in a less common position. Find these in the passage, and discuss the effect of their usage.

¹ Every year, more than five million people participate in the Mazu pilgrimage. It is no **exaggeration**³ to say that this event might just be the world's largest and wildest birthday party. The **festivities*** do not end until the participants have celebrated for nine days and journeyed over 300 kilometers in central Taiwan. **Undoubtedly**⁴, the Mazu pilgrimage is a can't-miss event for visitors to Taiwan.

The pilgrimage, which honors the sea goddess Mazu, **sets out** from Dajia's **Zhenlan Temple*** around her birthday,

“

The festivities do not end until the participants have celebrated for nine days and journeyed over 300 kilometers in central Taiwan.”





the twenty-third day of the third month on Taiwan's **lunar calendar***. The **exact**⁵ date and time, which vary from year to year, are determined earlier. During the Lantern Festival, temple **authorities**⁶ **cast**⁷ two half-moon-shaped wooden blocks to decide the actual schedule. At the chosen time, some 200,000 pilgrims set out from Zhenlan Temple on foot and visit more than 100 temples over the course of nine days. They are accompanied every step of the way by a statue of Mazu, which is carried in a **sedan chair***. Although the pilgrims' strength may **wane*** during the long journey, never do their passion and dedication **fade**⁸.

Apart from being a chance for people to show their devotion to the goddess, this annual festival is a spectacular and heart-warming event. The gathering in front of Zhenlan Temple before the pilgrimage begins is a scene like no other. **Throngs**⁹ of people fill the streets, while the **explosive**¹⁰ sounds of drums, **horns***, **fireworks***, and **firecrackers*** **pierce**¹¹ the air. When the statue of Mazu finally **emerges**¹² from the temple in her sedan chair, the crowd surrounds her, excited to **send** her **off** on her long journey. Along the route, millions of people also join in the celebration and come out

Reading Strategy

Understanding a

Descriptive Essay

- Match the sentences to the corresponding element.
- 1. The Mazu pilgrimage is a great way to experience Taiwan's cultural heritage.
- 2. The Mazu pilgrimage is a can't-miss event for visitors to Taiwan.
- 3. Locals along the route are enthusiastic and generous.
- 4. It takes nine days for participants (around 200,000) to complete this pilgrimage.
- 5. Zhenlan Temple in Dajia is the starting point and endpoint of this 300 km journey.
- 6. The highlight of the parade is the coming of Mazu's statue in her sedan chair.

Element	Sentence Number
Main Idea	
Details	
Conclusion	1

Note the Details

1. What do the temple authorities do to decide the date and time of the pilgrimage?
2. Why do people celebrate Mazu's birthday with a pilgrimage?
3. Why do people kneel or lie face down on the pavement to allow the sedan chair to pass over them?

to receive her **blessing**¹³. Some even **kneel**¹⁴ or lie face down on the **pavement**¹⁵ to allow the sedan chair to pass over them, which is believed to bring good luck. **In the meantime**, locals show their **hospitality**¹⁶ by **enthusiastically**¹⁷ offering free food, washing **facilities**¹⁸, and **accommodations**¹⁹ to passing pilgrims. Rarely can such generosity be seen during a **religious**²⁰ event. It reflects not only the locals' dedication to Mazu but also the warmth and **humanity**²¹ that are characteristic of the Taiwanese people.



Two Mazu Pilgrimages Compared: Baishatun vs Dajia

Baishatun

From Baishatun Gongtian Temple (拱天宮), Miaoli County, to Chaotian Temple, Yunlin County

The third month of the lunar calendar. No fixed duration.

Dama (正殿大媽)

Mazu makes the plans for the routes and dates and rides in a pink sedan.

Routes

Dates & Duration

Mazu(s) on the March

Unique Features

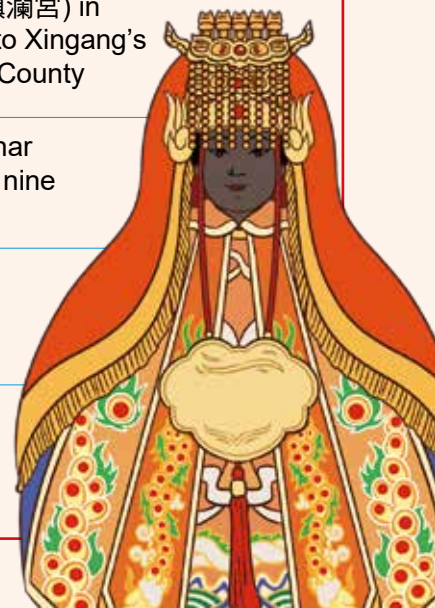
Dajia

From Zhenlan Temple (鎮瀾宮) in Taichung's Dajia District to Xingang's Fengtian Temple, Chiayi County

The third month of the lunar calendar. Always fixed at nine days, eight nights.

Meizhouma (湄洲媽)
Zhengluma (四媽正爐媽)
Fuluma (三媽副爐媽)

It is one of the world's three major religious festivals.



Over the years, the Mazu pilgrimage has transformed
 45 into more than just a religious **ritual**²², and every year it
 attracts **all manner of** people—young and old, foreign and
 Taiwanese. UNESCO* has even recognized Mazu **beliefs**²³
 and customs by **designating**²⁴ them as aspects of a protected
 living culture. For those who **are looking to** experience
 50 Taiwan's cultural **heritage**²⁵, participating in the Mazu
 pilgrimage is essential!

—Written by Nick Kembel

Reading Comprehension

Which of the following posts is most likely talking about the Mazu pilgrimage?

(A)



Ryan Hsu

@ryanhsu

...

It's one of the most popular pilgrimage routes in Asia. To get a certificate, I walked more than 100 kilometers today. It's a tiring but absolutely memorable trip.

19:22 28 Nov 21

10 Retweets 36 Likes

(B)



Eva Stone

@evastone

...

It's the biggest religious festival I've ever joined. After walking for two days in a row, I came home exhausted with sore legs. However, my stomach was always full. Love the warmth of the locals! ❤️❤️

23:50 18 Apr 21

5 Retweets 56 Likes

(C)



Phoebe Lin

@phoebelin

...

The route passes through many temples that are scattered around the island. You can start from anywhere and travel by any mode of transportation. As for the best time to go, I'd suggest winter, when the weather is a lot cooler. 👍

19:22 28 Sep 21

20 Retweets 33 Likes

(D)



Joey Ellis

@joeyellis

...

Every year, millions of people from across the world make the journey to this holy city, and I'm glad that I finally paid a visit here. This is where the religion started.

19:22 8 July 21

18 Retweets 99 Likes

Graphic Organizer

5W1H questions can be used to analyze an event. Use the graphic organizer to review what the Mazu pilgrimage is. Complete the graphic organizer by completing the following statements with details from the passage.

Who	<p>Who takes part in the pilgrimage?</p> <p>All manner of people—young and old, foreign and Taiwanese—do.</p> <p>How many people take part in the pilgrimage?</p> <p>More than ¹_____ participate in the pilgrimage.</p>
Why	<p>What is the pilgrimage for?</p> <p>People attend the pilgrimage to show their dedication to ²_____.</p>
When	<p>When is the pilgrimage?</p> <p>It sets out around Mazu's birthday, ³_____ _____. During the Lantern Festival, temple authorities cast ⁴_____ to decide the exact starting date and time.</p> <p>How many days does the pilgrimage take?</p> <p>It runs for ⁵_____ days.</p>
Where	<p>Where does the pilgrimage take place?</p> <p>It takes place in ⁶_____ Taiwan and sets off from Zhenlan Temple in Dajia.</p>
What	<p>What do people do during the pilgrimage?</p> <p>They ⁷_____ when the statue of Mazu emerges from the temple in her sedan chair. → Along the route, people come out to receive her blessing, and some even kneel or lie face down on the pavement to ⁸_____. → Local people offer ⁹_____ to passing pilgrims.</p>
How	<p>How do the pilgrims do the pilgrimage?</p> <p>They are accompanied by ¹⁰_____ carried in a sedan chair. They walk over 300 kilometers on foot and visit more than 100 temples.</p>

Comprehension Practice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

General Understanding

- (A) Mazu developed a religion that is practiced in Taiwan.
- (B) Mazu beliefs are not yet recognized by UNESCO.
- (C) The Mazu pilgrimage is a religious tradition dating back to the year 300 AD.
- (D) The Mazu pilgrimage is an annual event that brings many people together.

2. Which of the following is true about Mazu?

Key Details

- (A) She is the goddess of the sea.
- (B) She is thought to protect soldiers at war.
- (C) She is believed to have been born in autumn.
- (D) People celebrate her birthday every two years.

3. What can be inferred about Zhenlan Temple in Dajia?

Inference

- (A) It is located in northern Taiwan.
- (B) It is a temple devoted to Mazu.
- (C) It rules more than 100 temples.
- (D) It was built 200 years ago in the Qing dynasty.

Think and Reflect

1. What religious activities or ceremonies in Taiwan have you, your family member(s), or your friend(s) taken part in? Share what you have heard or what your own experiences were.

I (or someone I know) have/has taken part in.... It was..., because....

2. Why is the Mazu pilgrimage important to people in Taiwan?

The Mazu pilgrimage is important to people in Taiwan because....

Vocabulary & Phrases



字彙朗讀

Words for Production

1. pilgrimage

[ˈpɪlɡrɪmɪdʒ]

pilgrim

[ˈpɪlɡrɪm]

▶ *n.* [C] 朝聖之旅 a journey to a holy place for religious reasons

- There are two main Mazu pilgrimages in Taiwan, and they usually take place in January and April, depending on Mazu's will.

▶ *n.* [C] 朝聖者；香客

- Every year, millions of pilgrims travel to the ancient city of Mecca out of devotion to Allah.

2. unify

[ˈjuːnəˌfaɪ]

▶ *vt.* 使……成為一體；凝聚 to bring individuals or groups together to form one unit

- The country's first president unified the people and is considered the founding father of the nation.

3. exaggeration

[ɪɡˌzædʒəˈreɪʃən]

exaggerate

[ɪɡˌzædʒəˌret]

▶ *n.* [U, C] 誇張；誇大 when a speaker describes things as far more, less, greater, smaller, better, worse, etc. than they really are

- Newspaper reports should be written without exaggeration and personal opinions.
- "It's such an exaggeration to say you've answered that question a thousand times. I've only asked you twice!" said James.

▶ *vi.* 誇張；誇大

- When Carol said her husband always forgets her birthday, she was definitely exaggerating. It only happened once.

4. undoubtedly

[ʌnˈdaʊtɪdli]

▶ *adv.* 無疑地 without question; definitely; for sure

- Physical contact, especially in the form of a hug, is undoubtedly one of the best ways to comfort someone feeling miserable.

5. **exact**

[ɪg`zækt]

▶ **adj. 精確的** specific or precise

- Though the travel agent couldn't give us the exact price for an economy class seat, she promised it would be under \$30,000.

6. **authorities**

[ə`θɔrətɪz]

▶ **n. pl. 當局；掌權者** the person, group, organization, or body that is in control and makes the rules

- Ashley has to contact the transportation authorities, namely the police or the Traffic Department, to get her towed car back.

authority

[ə`θɔrətɪ]

▶ **n. [U] 權力**

- As sales manager, Richard has the authority to sign contracts with clients on behalf of his company.

7. **cast**

[kæst]

▶ **vt. 擲；拋** (cast—cast—casting) to throw, usually with care and for a specific purpose

- In one quick movement, the cowboy cast the rope around the pole and pulled it tight.

cast

[kæst]

▶ **n. [C] 擲；拋**

- With a powerful cast, the fisherman sent the net flying, and it splashed into the water some distance from the boat.

▶ **n. [C] (一齣戲劇或一部電影的) 全體演員**

- The latest *Iron Man* movie has a splendid cast that includes Hollywood superstars Robert Downey, Jr., and Gwyneth Paltrow.

8. **fade**

[fed]

▶ **vi. 逐漸消失** to disappear or grow weaker, lighter, or fainter as time goes by

- Elle watched as the ice cubes slowly faded away in the steaming cup of coffee.

9. **throng**

[θrɒŋ]

▶ **n. [C] 聚集的人群；一大群人** a crowd of people

- The politician was surrounded by a throng of reporters asking about his recent shocking statements, but he refused to reply to them.

10. **explosive**

[ɪkˈsplosɪv]

explode

[ɪkˈsplod]

explosion

[ɪkˈsploʒən]

▶ *adj.* 震耳欲聾的 sudden and loud

- The explosive sounds coming from the stadium where a famous pop singer was putting on a concert really angered the nearby residents.

▶ *vi. vt.* 爆炸；引爆

- If you take a bottle of soda on an airplane, there is a good chance it will explode during the flight.
- The US Army exploded many weapons of mass destruction in remote areas in order to test them.

▶ *n. [C]* 爆炸；爆裂

- There was a horrible explosion in the chemical factory, but fortunately no one was injured.

11. **pierce**

[pɪrs]

▶ *vt. vi.* (光線、聲音等) 穿過 (of light, sound, etc.) to suddenly cut through the darkness or silence

- With no power supply during the storm, villagers spent the evening watching flashes of lightning pierce the dark sky above.
- Victims of the car crash waited in the dark tunnel until they finally saw lights piercing through the thick darkness.

▶ *vt.* 扎；刺穿

- My father is using a machine to pierce some holes in the hard wood.

12. **emerge**

[ɪˈmɜːdʒ]

▶ *vi.* 出現 to appear or come out of somewhere

- A sharp cry of fear pierced the night air as Nicholas saw two large bears emerge from the dark cave.

13. **blessing**

[ˈblesɪŋ]

▶ *n. sing.* 神的祝福 help, generosity, or protection prayed for or received from a god

- In their prayers, the devoted nuns always ask for the Lord's blessing so that He may guide and protect them.

bless

[blɛs]

vt. 祝福

- “May God bless you,” said the priest with an earnest gesture of his hand, “and always keep you safe.”

14. **kneel**

[nil]

vi. 跪 (knelt—knelt—kneeling) to bend down and place a knee or both knees on the ground, usually to pray, propose, or beg for mercy

- Megan was stunned when Pat knelt down right then and there in the street and asked her to marry him.

15. **pavement**

[ˈpevmənt]

n. [U] (鋪過的) 路面 the surface of a road

- Any vehicle which will go up the mountain this week should be equipped with snow chains to prevent sliding on the icy pavement.

16. **hospitality**

[ˌhaspɪˈtæləti]

n. [U] 好客 generous and welcoming treatment shown by a host or hostess to guests or visitors

- On the way out, the guest thanked the hosts again for offering her such warm hospitality during her stay.

hospitable

[ˈhaspɪtəbl̩]

adj. 好客的

- Norman and his wife are very hospitable to guests and even welcome complete strangers with open arms.

17. **enthusiastically**

[ɪnˌθuːziˈæstɪklɪ]

adv. 熱情地 exhibiting a lot of excitement, warmth, passion, eagerness, or interest

- Fans cheered enthusiastically when the singer emerged onto the stage.

enthusiastic

[ɪnˌθuːziˈæstɪk]

adj. 熱情的

- Both kids were enthusiastic about the trip to the beach and had got all their toys and towels ready the night before.

enthusiasm

[ɪnˈθuːziˌæzəm]

n. [U] 熱情；熱忱

- After a series of failures, the basketball player didn't give up; he maintained his enthusiasm and kept trying to improve his skills.

18. **facilities**

[fəˈsɪlətɪz]

facility

[fəˈsɪlətɪ]

▶ **n. pl. 設施** equipment, furniture, buildings, or services that enable the user to do something

- Princeton University boasts a splendid range of sports facilities that include football stadiums, a rowing center, and a nine-hole golf course.

▶ **n. [C] 場所**

- Did you know that your iPhone was probably manufactured at a facility in China?

19. **accommodations**

[əˌkaməˈdeɪʒənz]

accommodate

[əˈkaməˌdeɪt]

▶ **n. pl. 住宿** a place to stay, usually for a short time

- The hotel offers small but clean rooms to travelers seeking cheaper accommodations.

▶ **vt. 容納**

- Aunt June's cabin near the lake is quite large and can easily accommodate up to eight people.

20. **religious**

[rɪˈlɪdʒəs]

religion

[rɪˈlɪdʒən]

▶ **adj. 宗教的** because of or connected to one's faith

- It's not that the monks don't enjoy meat or fish dishes. They're vegetarian for religious reasons.

▶ **n. [C] 宗教**

- In the Buddhist religion, it is believed that after one dies, one is reborn in a new form.

21. **humanity**

[hjuˈmænəti]

▶ **n. [U] 人道；仁慈** kindness, consideration, concern, or mercy shown to fellow humans or creatures

- If that country's leaders had any humanity, they wouldn't let so many innocent women and children suffer as a result of the war.

22. **ritual**

[ˈrɪtʃuəl]

▶ **n. [C] 宗教儀式** religious or traditional process or routine that's usually repeated many times

- Before the tribe offers the slaughtered beast to the gods, they perform an ancient ritual to clean and bless the flesh.

23. **belief**

[bəˈlif]

▶ *n. usually pl.* 宗教信仰 something a person believes, usually for religious reasons

- Many people hold the religious beliefs that life after death exists, even though they cannot prove it.

▶ *n. [U]* 相信；信心

- Jim doesn't have any belief in souls, ghosts, or any other supernatural beings; he just believes what he actually sees.

24. **designate**

[ˈdeɪzɪɡˌneɪt]

▶ *vt.* 指定；認定 to formally give a person or place a certain position, title, etc.

- The country's water supply is now so vulnerable that its government has officially designated the crisis a national emergency.

25. **heritage**

[ˈherətɪdʒ]

▶ *n. usually sing.* (一國家或社會所形成的) 遺產 the history, traditions, and qualities of a country or society

- Folk songs appear to be an important part of this country's national heritage.

Idioms and Phrases

1. **set out** 出發 to start on a journey; to leave for a certain destination

- After enjoying the family's hospitality for three nights, the pilgrim set out again for his final destination.

2. **send...off** 送行 to accompany someone setting out on a journey, usually to say goodbye
 - When Harold set out on a trip across Europe alone, his whole family came to the airport to send him off.
3. **in the meantime** 期間；同時 in the period of time between two times or events
 - I am going out to do some grocery shopping later. In the meantime, you can help finish the chores.
4. **all manner of** 各式各樣的 all sorts of; all kinds of
 - As the visitors strolled up and down the night market, they feasted on all manner of delicious local snacks.
5. **be looking to...** 試圖…… to try to find ways of doing something
 - Ryder had been looking to open his own company for years, and this year his dream finally came true.

Words for Recognition

1. **Mazu** [ˈmazu] *n.* 媽祖
2. **mania** [ˈmeniə] *n. [C]* 瘋狂；狂熱
3. **festivity** [fɛsˈtɪvəti] *n. [C]* 慶典
4. **Zhenlan Temple** [ˈzɛn,lænˈtɛmpl] *n.* 鎮瀾宮
5. **lunar calendar** [ˈlunəˈkæləndə] *n. [C]* 陰曆；農曆
6. **sedan chair** [sɪˈdænˌtʃɛr] *n. [C]* 轎座
7. **wane** [wen] *vi.* 衰退；下降
8. **horn** [hɔrn] *n. [C]* (樂器) 號角
9. **firework** [ˈfaɪr,wɜ:k] *n. [C]* 煙火
10. **firecracker** [ˈfaɪr,krækə] *n. [C]* 爆竹
11. **UNESCO** [juˈnɛsko] *n.* 聯合國教育、科學、文化組織 (The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)

Sentence Pattern

As many of you know, Henry and I started dating when we were in high school. Never did I think that I would marry my high school sweetheart. When we started dating, we had no idea if our



relationship would last. But after years of helping each other, we finally got married.



在此語境中，新娘想表達自己從未想過會嫁給高中便開始交往的男友，為了引出並強調此出人意表的訊息，因此將 never 置於句首，形成否定副詞的倒裝句。

Never/Seldom/Hardly/Rarely/Barely + be + S/aux. + S + V....

1. 此句型為將否定副詞置於句首的倒裝句。當要強調某事件的罕見或稀有程度，並引出此出人意表的訊息時，常將否定副詞移至句首，形成倒裝句。此類否定副詞有 never (未曾)、seldom/rarely (很少)、hardly/barely (幾乎不)等。
2. 直述句改為此類倒裝句的改寫步驟如下：

(1) S + be/aux./have/has/had +

A. 將否定副詞移至句首。

B. 將 be 動詞、情態助動詞、助動詞 have/has/had，與主詞對調。

Ted **would** never lie to his girlfriend.

Never **would** Ted lie to his girlfriend.

(2) S + V/V-ed +

A. 將否定副詞移至句首。

B. 在主詞前加上助動詞 do/does/did，並將動詞還原成原形。

Melissa **rarely** **goes** out after dark.

Rarely **does** Melissa **go** out after dark.

Examples

1. Although the pilgrims' strength may wane during the long journey, never do their passion and dedication fade. (line 19)
2. Rarely can such generosity be seen during a religious event. (line 39)

Practice A

Rewrite the following sentence using the above pattern. The first one has been done for you.

1. Natalie rarely stays up late before a test.

Rarely does Natalie stay up late before a test.

2. The coach of the team seldom yells at his players.

3. The police hardly believed what the witness said.

4. My brother is never late for company meetings.

5. The teacher was rarely harsh to his students.

6. Students should never miss any class.

Practice B

Read the sentences and describe the pictures using the given words. The first one has been done for you.



1. Jacob usually stays up playing video games until two o'clock in the morning. During the day, he doesn't have very much energy. (seldom / Jacob / wide awake / in class)

Seldom is Jacob wide awake in class.

2. Mandy likes to gossip and spread rumors. (barely / Mandy / keep a secret)



3. The water in the river is moving fast, and there are many undercurrents. (never / it / safe / swim near the rapids)

4. Jenny has three reports to finish this weekend. (Hardly / Jenny / have time / take a break)



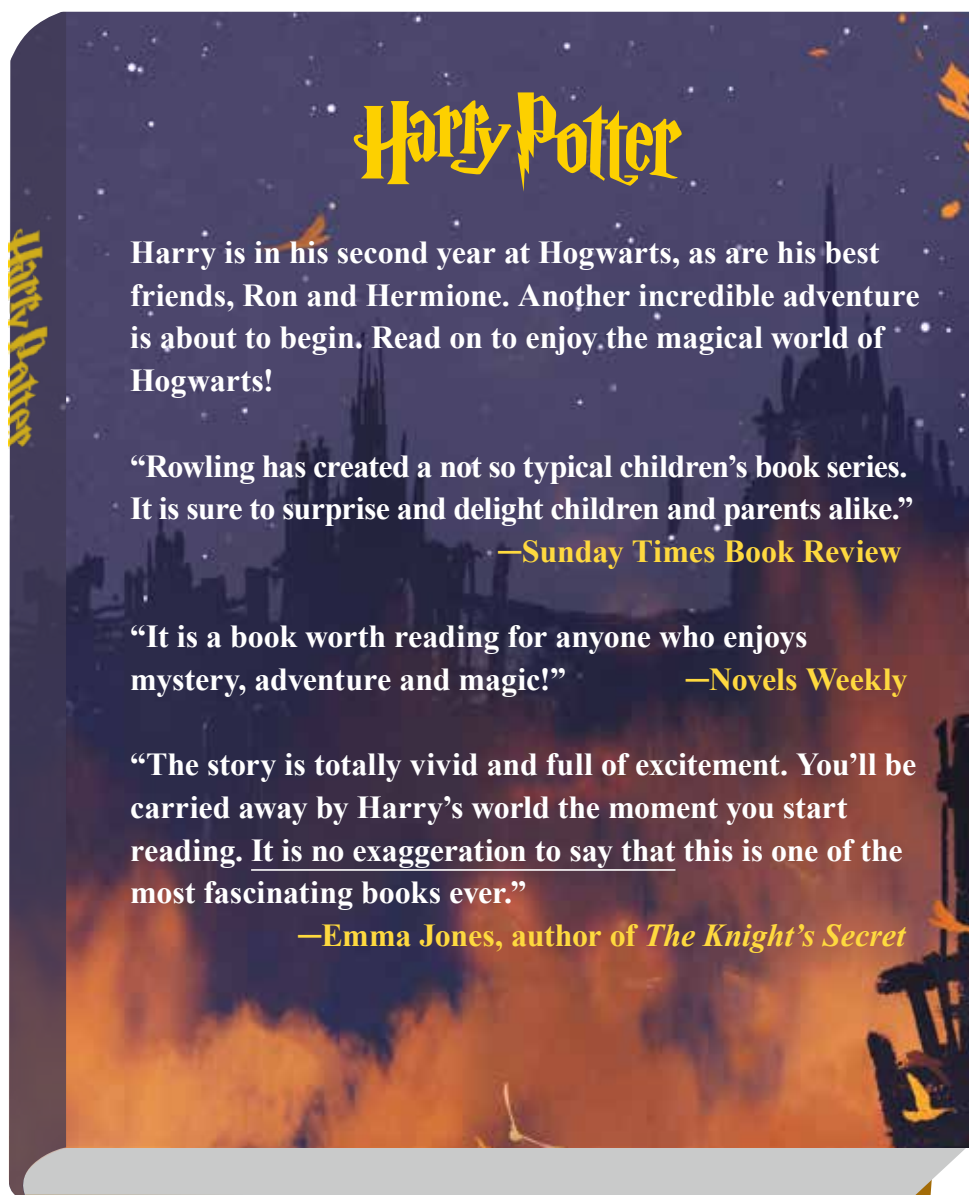
5. The weather has been fine for a long time. (Barely / it / rain / in this area / last week) However, a typhoon will approach next week, so residents have to watch out for heavy rain.

6. Kenny's parents put great emphasis on giving their children a healthy diet. (Hardly / Kenny / eat junk food / ever / during his childhood) Even now he stays away from fast food.



Language in Use

Explore & Discover



Read the following sentences and answer the question.

1. It is no exaggeration to say that Jeff Bezos is one of the richest men on earth.
2. It is not too much to say that many people around the world are crazy about football.
3. It is no exaggeration to say that J.K. Rowling is one of the best writers of fantasy novels.
4. It is not too much to say that everyone would be influenced by this new policy.

From the sentences, we can infer that the above pattern is used to ____.

- (A) emphasize that something is true
- (B) explain that something is very complicated
- (C) describe something that goes beyond our expectations

Example

It is no exaggeration to say that this might just be the world's largest and wildest birthday party. (line 2)

Apply & Practice

Step 1: Form groups of four. Each group chooses a celebrity and makes several sentences to describe this person. Use "It is no exaggeration to say that..../It is not too much to say that...." in your description. You can refer to the following example.

Step 2: The groups take turns reading their sentences aloud. The rest of the class must guess who the celebrity is. The first group that makes the right guess gets one point. The group with the most points wins.

Example:

Malala Yousafzai

This young lady has been fighting since her teens for girls' right to receive an education. In 2013, she set up a non-profit organization focusing on supporting girls' education around the globe. **It is no exaggeration to say that** she is one of the most famous advocates of female education.

L

Listening Strategy



Vocabulary Preview

Listen and repeat.

- | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1. tradition | 2. take part in | 3. procession | 4. statue | 5. celebrate |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|

Work with a partner and use the words or phrases above to complete the following passage.



On this day, my family _____ the traditional religious festival, the Mazu _____, in which people _____ Mazu's birthday. We follow the _____ that the believers have to lie face down on the ground to pray for health and peace when the Mazu _____ passes by.

Listening Strategy

Note-Taking: Using Icons, Symbols, and Abbreviations

When listening to a passage with a lot of information in it, you may need some note-taking skills to remember longer words or complicated ideas. Icons, symbols, and abbreviations are useful ways to jot down important messages quickly. The following are some examples for reference.

Icons



temple



birthday

Symbols

> more than
< less than
~ about, approximately
@ at

↑ many, increase, up
↓ not so many, decrease, down
number
K thousand

Abbreviations

AM/PM morning/afternoon
ppl people
E to the east
W to the west

15th the fifteenth
N to the north
S to the south

Listen for the Gist

Listen and choose the correct answer.

_____ Under what circumstances would you hear this?

- (A) A reporter is doing a live interview.
- (B) A salesman is presenting a product.
- (C) A host is conducting a talk show.

Listen for Details

Listen again and complete the following mind map with icons, symbols, and abbreviations.

