STANDARD CHINESE
A Modular Approach

OPTIONAL MODULE:
Customs Surrounding
Marriage, Birth and Death

SPONSORED BY AGENCIES OF
THE UNITED STATES AND CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS
This publication is to be used primarily in support of training military personnel as part of the Defense Language Program (resident and non-resident). Inquiries concerning the use of materials, including requests for copies, should be addressed to:

Defense Language Institute
Foreign Language Center
Nonresident Instruction Division
Presidio of Monterey, CA 93940

Topics in the areas of politics, international relations, mores, etc., which may be considered as controversial from some points of view are sometimes included in language training for DLIFLC students, since military personnel may find themselves in positions where clear understanding of conversations or written material of this nature will be essential to their mission. The presence of controversial statements—whether real or apparent—in DLIFLC materials should not be construed as representing the opinions of the writers, of the Defense Language Institute, or of the Department of Defense.

In DLIFLC publications, the words “he,” “him,” and “his” denote both masculine and feminine genders. This statement does not apply to translations of foreign language texts.
OPTIONAL MODULE: CUSTOMS SURROUNDING MARRIAGE, BIRTH AND DEATH

Before starting the MBD Module, you should have at least completed the Arranging a Meeting Module.

August 1979

The conference resolved to develop materials which were flexible enough in form and content to meet the requirements of a wide range of government agencies and academic institutions.

A Project Board was established consisting of representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency Language Learning Center, the Defense Language Institute, the State Department's Foreign Service Institute, the Cryptologic School of the National Security Agency, and the U.S. Office of Education, later joined by the Canadian Forces Foreign Language School. The representatives have included Arthur T. McNeill, John Hopkins, and John Boag (CIA); Colonel John F. Elder, III, Joseph C. Hutchinson, Ivy Gibian, and Major Bernard Muller-Thym (DLI); James R. Frith and John B. Ratliff, III (FSI); Kazuo Shitama (NSA); Richard T. Thompson and Julia Petrov (OE); and Lieutenant Colonel George Kozoriz (CFILS).

The Project Board set up the Chinese Core Curriculum Project in 1974 in space provided at the Foreign Service Institute. Each of the six U.S. and Canadian government agencies provided funds and other assistance.

Gerard P. Kok was appointed project coordinator, and a planning council was formed consisting of Mr. Kok, Frances Li of the Defense Language Institute, Patricia O'Connor of the University of Texas, Earl M. Rickerson of the Language Learning Center, and James Wrenn of Brown University. In the Fall of 1977, Lucille A. Barale was appointed deputy project coordinator. David W. Dellinger of the Language Learning Center and Charles R. Sheehan of the Foreign Service Institute also served on the planning council and contributed material to the project. The planning council drew up the original overall design for the materials and met regularly to review their development.

Writers for the first half of the materials were John H. T. Harvey, Lucille A. Barale and Roberta S. Barry, who worked in close cooperation with the planning council and with the Chinese staff of the Foreign Service Institute. Mr. Harvey developed the instructional formats of the comprehension and production self-study materials, and also designed the communication-based classroom activities and wrote the teacher's guides. Lucille A. Barale and Roberta S. Barry wrote the tape scripts and the student text. By 1978 Thomas E. Madden and Susan C. Pola had joined the staff. Led by Ms. Barale they have worked as a team to produce the materials subsequent to Module 6.
All Chinese language material was prepared or selected by Chuan O. Chao, Ying-chi Chen, Hsiao-jung Chi, Eva Diao, Jan Hu, Tsung-mi Li, and Yunhui C. Yang, assisted for part of the time by Chieh-fang Ou Lee, Ying-ming Chen, and Joseph Yu Hsu Wang. Anna Affholder, Mei-li Chen, and Henry Khuo helped in the preparation of a preliminary corpus of dialogues.

Administrative assistance was provided at various times by Vincent Basciano, Lisa A. Bowden, Beth Broomell, Jill W. Ellis, Donna Fong, Judith J. Kieda, Renee T. C. Liang, Thomas Madden, Susan C. Pola, and Kathleen Strype.

The production of tape recordings was directed by Jose M. Ramirez of the Foreign Service Institute Recording Studio. The Chinese script was voiced by Ms. Chao, Ms. Chen, Mr. Chen, Ms. Diao, Ms. Hu, Mr. Khuo, Mr. Li, and Ms. Yang. The English script was read by Ms. Barale, Ms. Barry, Mr. Basciano, Ms. Ellis, Ms. Pola, and Ms. Strype.

The graphics were produced by John McClelland of the Foreign Service Institute Audio-Visual staff, under the general supervision of Joseph A. Sadote, Chief of Audio-Visual.

Standard Chinese: A Modular Approach was field-tested with the cooperation of Brown University, the Defense Language Institute, the Foreign Service Institute, the Language Learning Center, the United States Air Force Academy, the University of Illinois, and the University of Virginia.

The Defense Language Institute printed the preliminary materials used for field testing and has likewise printed this edition.

James R. Frith, Chairman
Chinese Core Curriculum Project Board
CONTENTS

OBJECTIVES ......................................................... i

UNIT 1
   Part I ......................................................... 1
   Part II ......................................................... 7
   Part III ....................................................... 13
   Vocabulary ................................................... 21

UNIT 2
   Part I ......................................................... 23
   Part II ......................................................... 32
   Vocabulary ................................................... 42

UNIT 3
   Part I ......................................................... 44
   Part II ......................................................... 52
   Vocabulary ................................................... 61

UNIT 4
   Part I ......................................................... 63
   Part II ......................................................... 72
   Vocabulary ................................................... 82

UNIT 5
   Part I ......................................................... 84
   Part II ......................................................... 97
   Vocabulary ................................................... 104

UNIT 6
   Part I ......................................................... 106
   Part II ......................................................... 116
   Vocabulary ................................................... 124

APPENDIX
   Unit Vocabulary Characters ............................... 125
OBJECTIVES

General

The purpose of the Module on Customs Surrounding Marriage, Birth and Death is to furnish you with the linguistic skills and cultural background information you need to take part in conversations about changing attitudes and practices with regard to courtship, marriage, birth, divorce, death and funerals in China, and to conduct yourself in a culturally appropriate manner when you come in contact with Chinese people at the time of one of these significant events in their lives.

Before starting the MBD module, you should have at least completed the Arranging a Meeting Module. You may, of course, use this module at any later point in the course.

Specific

When you have finished this module, you should be able to:

1. Ask about the age when most people get married.

2. Ask about how a wedding is celebrated and what differences there are in marriage practices between the city and the country.

3. Ask about the current local customs regarding gifts for weddings, births, and funerals.

4. Ask about the frequency of divorce.

5. Talk about the functions and statuses of the people who play a role in arranging a present-day traditional marriage.

6. Ask questions about the bride, the groom, and the ceremony in a modern-day wedding.

7. Ask about population control efforts, changes in population control policy, restrictions on young people having children, what factors are taken into consideration in family planning, and how old most couples are when they have children.

8. Congratulate a new mother. Ask about a new-born infant's health, appetite, and weight, and describe the baby in terms of traditional values.

9. Talk about the traditional beliefs and practices with regard to the mother's health before and after giving birth.

10. Present condolences to someone whose relative has died, comfort and
express concern for that person.

11. Ask, after deciding if appropriate, about the circumstances of the death and the funeral.

12. Apologize for not being able to attend a funeral.

13. Ask what attire and behavior are appropriate when attending a funeral.
PART I

1. Zhōngguó zhāngfū shì bu shì tǐchāng niángqīng rèn wăn jiēhūn? Does the Chinese government advocate that young people marry late?

2. Zhēngfū tǐchāng wǎnliàn wǎnhūn. The government advocates late involvement and late marriage.

3. Nèige niǎngnián, gōngzuò hěn nùlì. That young person is very hardworking.

4. Nóngecūn niángqīng rèn yě shíxíng wǎnhūn ma? Do the young people in the countryside also practice late marriage?

5. Wǎnhūn yǐjīng chéngle yīzhǒng rènguǐ. Late marriage has already become a common practice for young people.

6. Xiǎo Lǐ hé tā liàndài hěn jǐn le, kěshì yǐzhí bù yào jiēhūn. Xiǎo Lǐ has been in love with her for a long time, but he's never wanted to get married.

7. Zhè ge xiǎo chéngshì kě piāo-liáng le! Boy, is this little town pretty!

NOTES ON PART I

Notes on No. 1

tǐchāng: 'to advocate, to promote, to initiate, to recommend, to encourage'

Zhè shì shéi tǐchāngde? Who advocates this?

niángqīng: 'to be young' (literally, 'years-light' or 'years-green'. There are two different characters with the same sound used for the second syllable.)

Tā zhènme niángqīng, zhènme piāoliáng! She's so young and so beautiful!

Wǒ niángqīngde shíhou, bù xǐhuan kān shū. When I was young, I didn't like to read.
Zhèhè xiǎo niánqǐng rén dōu ài kàn diànyīng. These young people all love to go to the movies.

Nèige niánqǐngde Zhōngguó rén, Yīngwén shuōde bù cuò. That young Chinese person speaks pretty good English.

jiēhūn: 'to get married', also pronounced jiēhūn. Notice that in Chinese you talk of 'getting married', while in English we talk of 'being married'. And it follows grammatically that jiēhūn is a process verb, not a state verb. Jiēhūn will always be seen with an aspect marker such as le or will be negated with méi.

Tāmen jiēhūnle méiyou? Have they gotten married yet? (This is the equivalent of 'Are they married?)

Nǐ jiēhūn duō jiǔ le? How long have you been married?

Jiēhūn is a verb-object compound, literally meaning 'to knot marriage'. Jiē and hūn can be separated by aspect markers, such as de or guo.

Nǐ shì shénme shíhou jiéde hūn? When did you get married?
or Nǐ shì shénme shíhou jiēhūn de?

Wáng Xiānshēng jiéguó sāncì hūn. Mr. Wang has been married three times.

To say 'get married to someone' use the pattern gēn ... jiēhūn.

Tā gēn shéi jiēhūn le? To whom did he get married?

Note on No. 2

wǎnlìàn wǎnhūn: 'late involvement and late marriage'. Wǎnlìàn is an abbreviation for wǎn liàn'ài, 'mature love', (liàn'ài means 'romantic love, courtship'), and wǎnhūn is an abbreviation for wǎn jiēhūn, 'late marriage'. This policy has been promoted since the 1960s, but only actively enforced since the 1970s. It is difficult to generalize about the required minimum marriage ages, as they differ from city to city and might be nonexistent in certain rural and national minority areas, where the government is trying to increase the population. The minimum age has been progressively raised over the years, until 1978 when the rules were eased a bit. In general, if the combined ages of the couple exceeds fifty years (or the female's age exceeds the male's), then the marriage is allowable.
qīngnián: 'youth, young person'. Do not confuse this noun with the adjectival verb niǎngqīng, 'to be young'. (See Notes on No. 1)

Zhèiwèi qīngnián lǎoshī yīnggāi dào dàxué qù jiāo shū. This young teacher should go to a university to teach.

In this sentence, the noun qīngnián is used to modify the noun lǎoshī, 'teacher'.

A: Wǒ jíde sānshínián yīqián nǐ tèbié ài chǐ tāng. I remember that thirty years ago you especially loved to eat candy.

B: Shì a, nèi shíhou wǒmen dōu háishi qīngnián. Xiānzài lǎo le, yā bù xǐng le. Yes. Back then we were all young people. Now I'm old, and my teeth aren't good any more.

nǔlì: 'to be hardworking, to be diligent', or as an adverb, 'diligently, hard'.

Tā suírán hěn nǔlì, kěshì tāde Yīngwén háishi bù xīng. Although he's very hardworking, his English is still not good enough.

Wǒ děi nǔlì xué Zhōngwén. I have to study Chinese very hard.

Notes on No. 4

nóngcūn: 'rural areas, countryside, village'.

Nóngcūnde kōngqì bǐ chénglí hǎoduō le. The air in the country is much better than in the city.

Tāmen jiā zài nóngcūn zhù. Their family lives in the country.

shíxíng: 'to practice, to carry out (a method, policy, plan, reform)'.

Nǐ zhèige jīhua hěn hǎo, kěshì wǒ xiǎng bù néng shíxíng. This plan of yours is very good, but I don't think it can be carried out.

Zhèige bānfa yǐjīng shíxíngle sānge xīngqīle, kěshí jiéguò bù hǎo. This method has been in practice for three weeks, but the results aren't good.

Notes on No. 5

chéng: 'to constitute, to make, to become'.
His studies have been good all along, so after he graduates, setting up a job for him won't constitute a problem.

My daughter has become an older sister. She really likes her little sister.

fēngqì: 'established practice, custom; general mood'.

There are a lot of young people now who don't want to sell things in shops. This practice is really bad.

Now in China there is again a general atmosphere of study.

Notes on No. 6

hé: 'with'. You have seen hé used between two nouns or pronouns as a conjunction meaning 'and'. Here you see it used as a prepositional verb meaning 'with'. The word gēn, which you have seen, also has both meanings, 'and' and 'with'.

Formerly, gēn was the most frequently used word for 'with' or 'and' in the Mandarin spoken in North China, and hé was more often written. But hé has come into wide conversational use in pùtōnghuà. In addition to this variation, school children in Taiwan are sometimes taught to say hàn instead of hé, which is the same character with another pronunciation.

Generally speaking, if you use hé or gēn you should not have any problem being understood by any speaker of Standard Chinese.

liàn'ài: 'to fall in love, to be in love; romantic love, courtship'. This is the socially acceptable way to describe a romantic relationship between two people. Notice that liàn'ài can be used both as noun and as a verb. (liàn'ài is written with an apostrophe to show where the syllable division is: liàn'ai, not lià nài.)

Tāmen liàn'ài hào jìn jiā le. They've been in love for quite a few years now.

Tāmen xiànzài kāishǐ liàn'ài le. They've just started to fall in love.

Wǒmen de liàn'ài zhǐ yǒu sān tiān, jī bù xīng le. Our love is only three days old and already it's over.
The noun  làn'ài  is often used in the phrase làn làn'ài, 'to be romantically involved' or more literally 'to talk of love'.

Tāmen liǎngge làn làn'ài yǐjīng  The two of them have been in love for
tālè hěn jiǔ le.  quite a while now.

Wǒ méiyou hé tā làn làn'ài.  I'm not in love with her.

In China young people tend to go out in groups. When two people are seen going out alone, then it is assumed that they have serious intentions for the future.

Notes on No. 7

kě: 'really, certainly'. This is an adverb which intensifies state verbs. Kě can be used before a negative.

Tāmen liǎngge kě hǎo le!  The two of them are very good friends.

Kě bù shì ma!  Isn't that so! (Really! or No kidding!)

Nà kě bù xíng!  That really won't do!

Nà kě bù shì yíjiàn hǎo shì.  That's really not a good thing.

Nǐ kě yào xiǎoxīn!  You've got to be careful!

Although some Chinese are fond of using the word kě, to other Chinese it may sound too full of local color with which they do not identify.
Peking:

An American exchange student talks with her language teacher. They are both in their late twenties.

A: Wǒ jíde shàngcì nǐ shuō nǐ èrshíbāsuǐ le, hái méilyou jiēhūn.

I remember last time you told me that you're twenty-eight years old and you're not married yet.

B: Duì.

Right.

A: Wǒ yǐzhí xiǎng wènwen ni, Zhōngguó niánqǐng rèn hǎoxiāng sǎnshīsuǐ zuòyǒu cái jiēhūn, shì bù shì?

I've been meaning to ask you all along, it seems as if young people in China don't get married until they're about thirty, is that so?


Right. We young people have a lot of things we have to do. We have to work hard and study hard; we shouldn't get married early! The government also promotes late involvement and late marriage. In the city, young people don't get married before the age of twenty-five or twenty-six.

A: Nóngcūnlǐde niánqǐng rèn yě shíxīng wǎnhūn ma?

Do the young people in the rural areas practice late marriage too?


Yes, they do too. In the rural areas, late involvement and late marriage have already become a new common practice. I have a friend who works in the suburbs of Peking who's getting married next week. Do you want to go see it with me? I'll arrange it for you.

A: Hǎojíle. Nà kě zhēn yǒu yìsi, gǎng dào zhèr jīlì yǒu zhēnme yíge hǎo jīhuì.

Great. That would really be interesting. And such a good opportunity so soon after getting here.

NOTE ON THE DIALOGUE

...zài èrshíwùlǐùsuǐ yīhòu cái jiēhūn: This is quite a change from Imperial times, when females might be married off at age thirteen and males at age six so as to insure the family fortunes or fend off economic difficulties later. Nontheless, regulations are less strict in the countryside today, where one can marry perhaps at age twenty.
PART II

8. Xiànzài Zhōngguó rén jiēhūn yǒu shénme yǐshì? What kind of ceremony do the Chinese have when they get married now?

9. A: Nǐ jiēhūn de shíhou nǐde qīngqī sònggei nǐ shénme líwù? What gifts did your relatives give you when you got married?

B: Tāmen sònggei wǒ yīxiē xiǎo líwù zuò jīniān. They gave me a few small presents as mementos.

10. A: Xīdūo nán qīngnián jiēhūn yīhòu zhídào nǚjiàqu. Many young men now go and live with the wife's family after they get married.

A: Zhè gèn yīqián de fēnggǔ yǒu hěn dàde ɡūbiè. This is very different from the customs of the past.

B: Kě bù shì ma? Zhēnshì ɡǎi-biânlè bù shào. I'll say! It's really changed a lot.

11. Ērqiě zài nónɡcūn yě shǐxǐnɡ wǎnhūn. Furthermore, late marriage is also practiced in rural areas.

NOTES ON PART II

Notes on No. 8

yǐshì: 'ceremony, function' This can be used to refer to a range of different ceremonies, from the signing of a treaty or agreement to the taking of marital vows.

In old China, marriages were celebrated extravagantly. It was not uncommon to find families going into debt because of the joyous occasion, which marked a new generation added to the family line. This elaborate ritual served to strengthen familial bonds and the newlyweds' feeling of obligation owed to the family.

In PRC cities of today, lack of extra money and coupons to purchase food for guests, celebration space, and free time for preparation limit the celebration often to procedural formality alone—registration with the local police bureau. Wedding dinners may still be enjoyed in the countryside, where there are fewer restrictions on time and food.

Notes on No. 9

qīnqī: 'relatives' Qīnqī is slightly different from the English word 'relatives' in that it does not include one's immediate family, that is
parents or children, but is used to refer to all other relatives. (One's immediate family are called jiāi rén.)

Nǐmen jiā qīnqī duō ma? Do you have a lot of relatives in your family?

Wǒmen jiā qīnqī kě duō le! We have lots of relatives in our family.

sònggei: 'give (a gift) to ...' The verb sòng has several meanings. One is 'to send', as in wǒ bā nǐde xīngqī sòngshànggu le, 'I sent your luggage upstairs.' Another is to give someone something as a present.

Here you see sòng with the prepositional verb gěi 'for, to' after it. You have also seen jiāng, 'to hand over to ..., to submit to ...'. When gěi is used after the main verb as a prepositional verb, it must be followed by the indirect object, that is, the person or thing to whom something is given. Gěi can also be used this way with jǐ 'to send', and mài 'to sell'.

Wǒ bā zhèjiān yīfu jīge wǒ mèimei le. I sent this piece of clothing to my younger sister.

Tā bā fángzi mǎige wǒ le. He sold his house to me.

In these examples the direct object, clothing or house, is up front in the sentence, making it necessary to use gěi to put the indirect object after the main verb. This usually happens in sentences where the object is specific and the bā construction is preferred. When sòng is followed by an indirect object, however, the gěi is usually optional.

Wǒ yào sòng ta yīge xiǎo lǐwù. I am going to give him a small present.

Wǒ yào sònggei ta yīge xiǎo lǐwù. I am going to give him a small present.

...sònggei ni shénme lǐwù?: Wedding gifts for friends and relatives in the PRC are generally "useful" items. Common among these are nuǎnpíng, hot water jugs; huàpíng, vases; tǎidēng, table lamps; bǐ, pens; liánpēn, wash basins; or cānjiǔ, kitchen items.

zuǒ: 'to act as, to serve as'. Tāmen sònggei wǒ yīxiē xiǎo lǐwù zuǒ jīnián, is literally 'They gave me a few small presents to serve as mementos.'

Zhēng xuéxiào bīyède xuēshèng, hěn duō dōu zuǒ lǎoshī le. A lot of students who graduated from this school have become teachers.

Yòng zhēiběn xīn shū zuǒ lǐwù, hǎo bu hǎo? Would it be okay to use this new book as a present?
zuò, 'to act as, to serve as' is often seen used with yòng, 'to use' as in the example above, yòng ... zuò ..., 'to use (something) as (something) else'.

jìniàn: 'memento, remembrance; to commemorate'.

Wǒ gěi ta yīzhāng zhàopiàn zuò jìniàn.

I'll give him a photo as a memento.

Notes on No. 10

xūduō: 'many; a great deal (of), lots (of)'. Xūduō is used as a number (it can be followed by a counter) to modify other nouns.

A: Hái yǒu duōshao qián? How much money is there left?
B: Hái yǒu xūduō. There's still a lot left. or There's a lot more.

Tā měile xūduō (zhāng) huār. He bought a lot of paintings.

Xūduō has several things in common with hěn duō, in addition to similarity of meaning. Used as modifiers in front of nouns, both xūduō and hěn duō can (1) be used alone, (2) be used with de, and (3) be followed by a counter, but not usually -ge.

Tā rènshì xūduō rén. He knows a lot of people.
Tā rènshì hěn duō rén.

Tā jiānle xūduō(de) rén. He saw (met with) a lot of people.
Tā jiānle hěn duō(de) rén.

Bǐchùlǐ yǒu hěn duō (jiàn) dàyī. There are a lot of overcoats in the closet.
Tā xiěle xūduō (běn) shū. He wrote a lot of books.

Hěn duō is probably more common than xūduō. Some speakers feel that they do not use xūduō in conversation; many speakers, however, do not feel any restriction about using it in conversation.

...zhùdào nüèjiār qu: 'to go live with the wife's family'. You've seen the prepositional verb dào used after main verbs, as in nádào lóushàng qu, 'take it upstairs'. Following verbs expressing some kind of motion, the use of dào is fairly straightforward. But in the above example from the Reference List, dào is used with a verb which is not usually thought of as expressing motion, zhù, 'to live, to inhabit'. Here is another example of zhù used in a phrase expressing motion:

Tā shì zuōtiān zhùjīnlái de. He moved in yesterday.
The verbs zhàn 'to stand' and zuò 'to sit' can also be used in phrases expressing motion.

Qīng ni zhàndào néibian qu, hǎo bu hǎo? Would you please go stand over there.
Qīng ni zuòdào qiánbian qu, hǎo bu hǎo? Would you please go sit up front.

Due to the lack of housing, which might involve a wait of from one to three years for newlyweds, it is not infrequent now to find the groom join the household of his new bride. This is in contrast to former tradition, which stated that the woman became part of the man's family, and of course, moved into his family's house.

In the past, for the groom to join the household of his new bride carried special significance. It was called rù zhǔfū and might take place when a family had only female children and the father wanted his daughter's husband to take his last name in order to carry on the family line.

qūbié: 'difference' When expressing the difference between two things, use ... gèn ... yǒu qūbié.

Zhèběn zìdiān gèn nèiběn yǒu hěn dà de qūbié. There is a big difference between this dictionary and that one.
Zhèige xuéxiào gèn nèige xuéxiào yǒu shénme qūbié? What is the difference between this school and that one?
Zhèlǐliàngge bànfāde qūbié zài nǎr? What is the difference between these two methods?

Kě bù shì ma!: 'Yes, indeed!, I'll say!', or more literally, 'Isn't it so!' Kě bù shì ma! is often used in northern China to indicate hearty agreement, or to indicate that something makes perfect sense to the speaker, something like English 'Well, of course!' or 'Really!'.

bù shǎo: Literally 'not a little', in other words, 'quite a lot'.
Tā yǒu bù shǎo huà yào gèn ni shuō. He has a lot he wants to say to you.
Zài Měiguó bù shǎo rén yǒu qùchē. In America a lot of people have cars.

érqìě: 'furthermore, moreover'
Jīntiān tiānqì bù hǎo, érqìě hǎoxiǎng yào xià xuě. The weather is bad today, and furthermore it looks as if it's going to snow.
 Ērqìě is often used in the pattern bù dàn... ērqìě..., 'not only... but also...'.

Zhèzhòng huār bù dàn hǎo kàn, ērqìě fēichánɡ xiānɡ.
This kind of flower is not only pretty, but it's also very fragrant.

Wǒ bù dàn ăi chǐ tānɡ, ērqìě shénme tián dònɡxì dōu ăi chǐ.
I not only like to eat candy, (moreover) I like to eat anything sweet.

Tā bù dàn xuéguō Zhōnɡwén, ērqìě xuéde bù cuò.
Not only has he studied Chinese, but moreover he has learned it quite well.

Wǒ bù dàn méiyǒu tê tā tán liàn'ài, ērqìě wǒ yě bù dâ xǐhuān ta.
Not only am I not in love with her, moreover I don't like her very much.
The American exchange student and her language teacher continue their conversation:

A: Zhōngguó rén jiēhūnde shíhou yǒu shēnme yángde yǐshì?

B: Méiyǒu shénme yǐshì, jiù shì qīng qǐnqi péngyou lái hē diànhrán chá, chī diànrán táng, diànxìn, shěnme de.

A: Qǐnqi péngyou sòng bu song lǐwù?

B: Yǒude rén sòng yídiǎnr xiǎo lǐwù zuò jīniàn.

A: Wǒ tīngshuō yǐqián nóngcūnli náihái jiēhūnde shíhou, nánjiā yào sòng xǐduō lǐwù. Zhèige tángsū shì bu shì yě gǎibiān le?


A: Kě bù shì ma! Zhēn shì gǎibiānle bù shǎo.

What kind of ceremony is there when the Chinese get married?

There is no ceremony, we just invite friends and relatives to come and have some tea, candy, snacks, and so on.

Do the friends and relatives give gifts?

Some people give small gifts as a memento.

I've heard that it used to be that in the country, when a girl got married, the man's family would have to give a lot of gifts. Has this custom changed too?

Yes! In many regions, this kind of thing doesn't exist any more. Furthermore, now there are also young men who go to live with the wife's family after they get married. This is also very different from the customs of the past.

I'll say! It has really changed a lot.
12. Nimen jièhūn yǐqián shuāngfāng dōu hén liǎojiē ma?  
Before you were married, did you both know each other very well?

13. Xiànzáì Zhōngguó lǐhūn de bù tài duō.  
There aren't many people getting divorced in China now.

That married couple doesn't work in the same region.

15. Tā měinián yǒu duōshǎo tiāndè tàngjīnjiā?  
How many days of leave does he get every year to visit family?

16. Fùfù zōngshì nènggòu zài yīqi bǐjiāo hǎo.  
It's always better if married couples can be together.

17. A: Tāmen shì jīngguò xiāngdāng—de kāolū yǐhōu cái jièhūn.  
They gave it quite a bit of consideration before they got married.

A: Dànsì bù zhīdào wèishénme, tāmen háishi yǒu hěn duō wèntí.  
But for some reason or other they still had a lot of problems.

18. Nān'ěr yīngdāng bǐcǐ liǎojiē yǐhōu zài jièhūn.  
A man and woman should know each other well before they get married.

19. Nǐ xiǎng tā hùi bù hùi bāng wǒ jièjué zhēige wèntí?  
Do you think he will help me solve this problem?

NOTES ON PART III

Notes on No. 12

shuāngfāng: 'both sides, both parties'

Zhèijiànr shìqìng shì Zhōngguó hé Méiguó shuāngfāng dōu zhīdáode.  
This matter is known to both America and China.

bǐcǐ: 'the one and the other; each other, mutually'

Suírán wǒmen mèiyǒu shuō huà, kěshì bǐcǐ dōu zhīdào, tāde bǐng mèiyǒu bānfa le.  
Although we didn't say anything, we both knew. There was nothing that could be done for his illness.
Yǒu duō dàxuéshēng xǐhuàn zài
biyède shíhou bǐcǐ sōng
lǐwǔ.

A: Zhōumō hǎo!
B: Bǐcǐ, bǐcǐ!

liǎojiē: 'to understand; to acquaint oneself with, to try to understand'.

Zhèjiè shì, wǒ bù dǒng, hái
děi qù liǎojiē yíxià.

Wǒ liǎojiē ta.

Tā juéde tā méiyou yīge
péngyou zhēnde liǎojiē tā.

I don't understand this, I have to
go back and try to understand it
again.

I understand her.

He feels that he doesn't have a
single friend who really knows him.

Notice that when you want to say 'to know someone' meaning 'to understand
someone', the Chinese word to use is liǎojiē, not rènshì (which simply means
to have made someone's acquaintance).

Note on No. 13

... lǐhūnde bù tài duō: 'There aren't many people getting divorced ...'
Lǐhūnde, 'those (people) who get divorced', is a noun phrase in which lǐhūn
is nominalized by -de.

Notes on No. 14

fūfù: 'husband and wife, married couple'.

Tāmen fūfù liǎngge dōu fēicháng
hǎo.

bú zài yīge dìqiū gōngzuò: 'do not work in the same region'. Yīge,
'one', is frequently used to mean 'one and the same'. Here are some more
examples:

Wǒmen dōu zài yīge xuéxiào
nián shū.

Tāmen liǎngge dōu shì yīge
lǎoshī jiāochulaide.

All of us go to the same school.

They are both the product of the
same teacher.

Note on No. 15

tāngbǐnjī: 'leave for visiting family'. Tǎng bǐn means to visit one's
closest relatives, usually parents, a spouse, or children.

Míngtiān tā jiù qù Shānhǎi tān qīn le. Tomorrow he's going to Shanghai to visit his family.

Note on No. 16

zōngshī: 'always, all the time'. This adverb may also occur as zōng.

Tā zōngshī ài qù Huáméi kāfēitiēng. He always loves to go to the Huáméi Coffeehouse.

nénggōu: 'can, to be able to'. This is a synonym of néng.

Notes on No. 17

Jíngguō: 'to pass by or through, to go through'. Jíngguō can mean 1) to pass by or through something physically, or 2) to go through an experience.

Jíngguō zhècì xuéxi yǐhōu wǒ kě qǐngchu duō le. As a result of this study, I see things a lot more clearly.

wǒ měitiān xià bān huí jiā de shíhou, dōu jíngguō Bāihuǒ Dālóu ...dōu jíngguō Bāihuǒ Dālóu.)

Nǐ jíngguō zhāi ěr wǔzǐ de shíhou, nǐ méiyǒu kànjiān wǒmen zài lǐtou gōngzuò ma? When you passed by this room, didn't you see us working inside?

xiāngdāng: 'quite, pretty (good, etc.); considerable, a considerable degree of'.

Tā de shēntǐ xiāngdāng hǎo. His health is quite good.

kǎolǜ: 'to consider; consideration'.

wǒ yǐ jīng kǎolǜguō le, tā hálǐ shí yīnggāi shàng dàxué. I have already given it consideration, he should still go to college.

dānshī: 'but', a synonym of kěshī.

wǒ yǐ jīng qùguō le, dānshī wǒ méiyōu kàn dào ta. I already went there, but I didn't see her.
Nánnū: 'male and female'.

Nánnūde shìqìng zuì nán shūō. Matters between men and women are the hardest to judge.

Yīngdāng: 'should, ought to'. Yīngdāng is a less-frequently heard word for yīnggāi. These two words share in common the following meanings:

(1) 'should' in the sense of obligation or duty.

Zànmen shì tóngzhī, yīngdāng (or yīnggāi) bīcǐ bāngmáng. We two are comrades, we should help each other.

(2) 'ought to' in the sense of 'it would be suitable to'.

Wàitōu lěng, nǐ yīnggāi (or yīngdāng) duō chuān yǒudiǎnr. It's cold out, you should put on some more clothing.

(3) 'should' in the sense of 'it would be desirable to'.

Nǐ yīnggāi (or yīngdāng) shìyíshi, zhēn hǎo wānr. You should try this, it's fun.

(4) 'should' in the sense of 'it is expected'.

Shídān zhōng le, tā yīnggāi (or yīngdāng) kuài dào le. It's ten o'clock, he should be here soon.

Tā xué Zhōngwén xuéle sānnián le, yīnggāi xuéde bù cuò le. He's been studying Chinese for three years, he should be pretty good by now.

Bǐjiāo: 'relatively, comparatively, by comparison'. Also pronounced bǐjiāo.

Jīntiān bǐjiāo rě. It's hotter today.

Zhëi jiān yīfú gāile yīhòu, bǐjiāo hǎo yǐdiǎnr. After this article of clothing is altered, it will be better.

Zhāi liǎngtiān tā bǐjiāo shūfū yǐdiǎnr, bù zěnme fā shǎo le. The past couple of days he's been feeling better, he doesn't have such a high fever any more.

You may sometimes hear Chinese speakers use bǐjiāo before other adverbial expressions like bù tài 'not too', bù zěnme 'not so', bù nàme 'not so' or hěn 'very'. Careful speakers, however, feel that bǐjiāo should not be used in such cases.
Notes on No. 19

huì: 'will; might; be likely to'. The auxiliary verb huì is used to express likelihood here.

Míngtiān tā huì bu huì lái? Will he come tomorrow?

Wǒ qù bā mén guānhǎo, nǐ huì bu huì juéde tài rè? If I go close the door, will you feel too hot?

jiējué: 'to solve, to settle (a problem), to overcome (a difficulty)'.

Nǐ bù yào jí, qián de wèntǐ yǐjīng jiējué le. Don't get anxious, the problem of money has already been solved.
Washington, D. C.

A graduate student in Chinese studies talks with an exchange student from Peking.

A: Wǒmen rènshī zhī yǒu liǎngge duō xǐngqī, kěshì yǐjīng shì lǎo péngyou le.

B: Duì. Wǒmen tiāntiān zài yǐkuāir, zhēn hǎo xiāng shì lǎo péngyou le.

A: Wǒ yǐzhī xiǎng wènwen nǐ nǐ shì shénme shíshì jiēhūn de ne?

B: Ō! Wǒ shì qiānnián jiēhūn de.

A: Kě ěrshìbāsuī le. Nǐ qù lèi ne?

B: Tā sānshíèr le.

A: Wǒmen jiēhūn de shíhou kě bù xiǎo le! Zhōngguó niánníng rěn dōu shì zhēge yángzi ma?


A: Chéngshīlǐ nǚde duō dà jiēhūn?

B: Chàbùduō ěrshìwǔsuī zuòyǒu.

A: Nándé ne?

B: Dàgài ěrshìbāsuī zuòyǒu.

A: Jiēhūn de shíshì yǒu shénme yǎngde yíshǐ?

B: Mǎiyòu shénme yíshǐ. Búguó jiēhūn niètiān qǐng qǐng péngyou lái hēhe chá, chī diǎnr táng, diǎnxīn shenme. Yě yǒu rèn sòng diǎnr xiǎo lǐwū zuò

We've only known each other for two weeks or so, but we're old friends already.

Yes. We're together every day; it really is as if we're old friends.

I've been meaning to ask you all along when you were married.

Oh. I was married the year before last.

You're twenty-eight years old. How about your spouse?

He's thirty-two.

You certainly weren't young when you were married! Is it this way for all Chinese young people?

Yes. The government promotes late involvement and late marriage. Also, all young people should study hard and work hard, and shouldn't get married early.

At what age do most women get married in the cities?

After about twenty-five.

And men?

After about twenty-eight.

What kind of ceremony is there when someone gets married?

There is no ceremony. But on the day of the marriage relatives and friends are invited to come and drink tea, eat a little candy, snacks and so forth. Some people also give a
jìniàn.

A: Nóngcúnlìde niánqìng rén yě shíxíng wǎnhún ma?

B: Duì. Zài nóngcúnlí wǎn liàn'ài wǎn jiēhūn yě yǐjīng chéngle yǐzhǒng fēngqiě.

A: Nóngcúnlí nànzì jiēhūndé shíhou nànjiā hái yào sòng xiǎoō liùwǔ ma?

B: Bú yào le. Òrqǐè xiànzài yǒu xiē nán qǐngqián jiēhūn yǐhòu hái zhǎodào nǚjiār qu. Zhè gèn yǐqián de fēngǔ yǒu hěn dà de qūbiè.

A: Kě bù shì ma! Zhēn shì gāibiānle bù shǎo.

Xiànzài Zhōngguó línhūné duō bu duō?

B: Yǒu, kěshì bǐjiāo shǎo. Yīnwéi jiēhūn yǐqián nán nǚ shuāngfāng bǐ yǐbǐjiāo liǎojī, yǒu jīngguò xiǎngdǎngde kǎolǜ, suǒyì láihūndé bù tài duō.

A: Wǒ tǐngshuō Zhōngguó yǒu yīxì fūfù bù zài yīge dīqū gōngzuò, bù zhùzai yīge dīfang, zhè hui bù hui yǒu wèntí ne?

B: Fūfù bù zài yīge dīfang gōngzuò, suírán mèinían yǒu bāngé yuède tàmǎnjià, dānshì hái yǒu hěn duō bù fǎngbiàn. Suǒyì wéile ràng tāmén gěng hǎode gōngzuò hě xuékí, yǐng-dǎng bāng tāmén jiējué zhègè wèntí.

A: Míjìe. Fūfù zǒngshì nénggōu zài yīqí bǐjiāo hǎo.

small gift as a memento.

Do the young people in rural areas also practice late marriage?

Yes. Late involvement and late marriage have already become a common practice in the rural areas.

In the farm villages does the family of the husband still have to give a lot of presents when a girl gets married?

Not any more. Furthermore now there are even young men who live with the wife's family after they get married. This is very different from the customs of the past.

I'll say! It's really changed a lot.

Are there many people who get divorced in China now?

Yes, there are, but relatively few. The man and the woman know each other rather well before they get married, and they give the matter quite a bit of consideration, so not too many people get divorced.

I hear there are some couples in China who don't work in the same place. Do problems ever come about because of this?

If the husband and wife don't work in the same place, even though they get half a month's leave every year to visit family members, it's still very inconvenient. So in order to let them work and study even better, we should help them solve this problem.

You're so right. It's always better if the husband and wife can be together.
...nánjiā hài yào sòng xūduō lǐwù ma?: In traditional China, the groom's family gave gifts to the bride's family to compensate for the loss of their daughter. (For the loss of the daughter might also entail a substantial loss of property and servants.) In Taiwan, it is still the man's family who in most cases pays for the wedding arrangements. In the PRC today, these customs no longer exist.

Xiànzài Zhōngguó lǐhùndé duǒ bu duǒ?: Although allowed by law with the mutual consent of both parties, it is not easy to obtain a divorce in the PRC. With the exceptions of one party being either politically questionable or terminally ill, the majority of couples are asked to resolve their differences via study and group criticism.

...yǒu yìxiē fūrù bù zài yīge dìfāng gōngzuò: Many couples still have to be split up in order for each to have work. (Jobs are arranged for and assigned by the local government.) This is, of course, a great hardship since it is improbable that either will be able to arrange a transfer of job to the other's work-place. The splits are arranged in order to increase rural population and provide labor for rural jobs. The partner left in the city, usually the woman, can go to the countryside to join her spouse, but rural life is so difficult that this is not likely.

...suīrán měinián yǒu bāngē yuède tāngānjì: There are two types of leave for visiting one's family in the PRC. One is for unmarried children to return home to see their parents, the other is for couples who are assigned to different places for work. These trips are paid for by one's work unit (but communes have no family leave provisions). If the person on leave is working relatively near his home, he is allowed a fifteen day visit once per year and a worker who is located relatively far from home can take a thirty day visit once every two years.
bǐ cǐ
each other, mutually; you too, the
same to you
bǐ jiào (bǐ jiǎo)
relatively, comparatively; fairly, rather
bú dàn
not only
bù shǎo
quite a lot, quite a few
chéng
to become, to constitute, to make
city
chéng shì
but
èr qǐ
fù fù
fēng guǐ
custom
fēng qǐ
married couple, husband and wife
gǎi biān
to change
hé
with; and
hùi
might, to be likely to, will
jì hūn (jì hūn)
to get married
jì jū
to solve
jīng guǐ
jīn iān
to go through, to pass by or through
memento, memorial
kǎo lù
kě
kě bú shì ma!
I'll say, yes indeed, that's for sure
liàn'ài
to be romantically involved with; love
liǎo jī ě (lǐ āo jie)
to understand; understanding
lí hūn
to get divorced
lí wù (lǐ wu)
gift, present
nán jīā(r)
the husband's family
nán nü
male and female
néng gōu
can, to be able to
nián qǐng
to be young
rén wù
rural area, countryside
nóng gùn
the wife's family
nü jīā(r)
to be hardworking, to be diligent;
nū lī
diligently, hard
qingnian  youth, young person
qinqi  relatives
qubie  difference, distinction
shixing  to practice, to carry out (a method, policy, plan, reform, etc.)
shuangfang  both sides, both parties
song  to give (something as a gift)
tan Qin  to visit family
tanqin  to visit relatives (usually means immediate family)
tanqinjia  leave for visiting family
tichang  to advocate, to promote, to initiate
wanliang wanhun  late involvement and late marriage
xiangdang  quite, pretty, very
xudu  many; a great deal (of), a lot (of)
yingdang  should, ought to
yishi ceremony
yizhi  all along, all the time (up until a certain point)
zhengfu  government
zhudao  to move to, to go live at
zongshi  always
zuo  to serve as, to act as; as
1. Hòutiān shì nǐmen xiāojie dàxīde rìzǐ.
   The day after tomorrow is your daughter's wedding day.

2. Xīnláng zài Táiwān Yǐnháng gōngzuò, rèn hěn lǎoshi, yě hěn shāngjǐn.
   The bridegroom works at the Bank of Taiwan. He's very honest and very ambitious.

3. Wǒmen Xiùyún gēn tā jiāowǔng yǐjīng yīniándùo le, duì tā hěn mǎnyì.
   Our Xiùyún has been seeing him for over a year now, and she's very pleased with him.

4. A: Nǐmen gēn nánfāngde rùmǔ shǒu bù shǒu?
   Did you know the groom's parents very well before?

   B: Bù tài shǒu. Kěshì zǎo jiù tīngshūōguo.
   Not too well. But we'd heard of them long before.

   B: Tāmen yǐ lái tíqín wǒmen jiù dà yìng le.
   As soon as they came to propose the marriage we agreed to it.

5. A: Tāmen tānlái tǎngqu tánle hěn jiǔ bù néng juédìng.
   They talked and talked for a long time and couldn't decide.

   A: Kěshì hòulái hǎishí wǒ gāosu tāmen yīnggāi zěnmè bàn.
   But later it was I who told them what they should do, after all.

6. Wǒ nüèrde hūnlǐ zài Óméi Cān-
   My daughter's wedding will be held tīng jùxīng.
   at the Omei Restaurant.

7. Tīngshūō jiēhūn lǐfù shì xīnniándǎo zìjǐ zuòde, tā zhēn nénggān.
   I hear that the wedding gown was made by the bride herself. She's really capable.

8. Wǒ zhù yìyuàn de shíhou nǐmen hái sòng huā lái, ài, zhēn shì tài xièxiè le.
   When I was in the hospital you even sent flowers. Thanks so much.
NOTES ON PART I

Notes on No. 1

xiǎojie: 'daughter'. You have seen xiǎojie meaning 'Miss' or 'young lady'. Here it is used to mean 'daughter'. Note, however, that it is used only in referring to someone else's daughter, not in referring to one's own daughter(s).

Tā yǒu jīwěi xiǎojie? How many daughters does he have?

Nǐmen xiǎojie zhēn piàoliang. Your daughter is really pretty.

xiǎojie, meaning either 'Miss' or 'daughter', is not in current usage in the PRC.

dà xiáde rìzi: 'wedding day', literally 'big joyful day'. xiă 'to be glad, joyful', is used in several expressions having to do with weddings. The character for xiă is often used as a decoration. For weddings, two xiă characters together are used as a decoration.

Notes on No. 2

rén hěn lăoshi: 'he's very honest'. Rén, 'person', can be used to refer to a person's character. It can be used with a noun or pronoun before it, for example Tā rén hěn lăoshi, literally 'As for him, his person is very honest'. The wording Tā rén... is often used to talk about the way someone truly is:

Tā rén hěn ài bāngzhū biē rēn. He (is the sort of person who) likes to help others.

Liú Xiānshēng rén hěn tèbiē, shěnme shīqīng dōu yào wèn yīge wēishènmé. Mr. Liú is a different sort of person, he has to ask 'why' about everything.

Tā rén hěn kěqǐ. He's a very polite sort of person.

Sometimes rén refers to a person's mental state of being:

Wǒ hēde tài duō, rén hái yǒu diăn bu qīngchú. I had too much to drink and I'm still a little foggy.

Rén also sometimes refers to a person's physical self. This meaning is mostly used in situations where a contrast is implied, something like 'And
as for the person himself, ...'. For example:

Wǒ yǐzhí zhǐ shì hě tā tōng diànhuà, jīntiān zāoshāng, cái dìyīcì jiān miàn, tā rēn fēichāng piāoliàng.

All along I had only talked to her over the phone, but this morning I met her for the first time. She's very beautiful.

Tāmen jiéhūn bù dào yīge yuè, xiānshēng jiù dào Jiāzhōu nián shū qu le, rēn zài Měiguó, xīn zài Tāiwān, shū zěnme niāndehǎo ne?

They hadn't even been married for one month when her husband went to California to go to school. He was in America, but his heart was in Taiwan, how could he possibly study well?

Notes on No. 3

jiāowāng: 'to associate with, to have dealings with', often said of boyfriend-girlfriend relationships.

Wǒ hé tā méiyǒu shěnme tèbiéde jiāowāng.

There's no special relationship between him and me. (Said by a daughter in explanation to her mother.)

In the PRC jiāowāng is not used this way; use rènshì, 'to know (a person)' or jiāo péngyou, 'to make friends' instead. In the PRC, you will hear jiāowāng used in phrases such as "Yīngguó rènmín de jiāowāng", 'the contact (association) between the peoples of these two countries'.

Notes on No. 4

nándāng: "the bridegroom's side", a phrase which often refers to the bridegroom himself, and sometimes refers to the bridegroom's family, relatives, and friends collectively. Nándāng, "the bridegroom's side", happens to be a homonym of nándāng, 'the South'.

Zhōngguó rèn jiéhūnde shíhou, nándāng dà qǐng kè.

When Chinese get married, the groom's family hosts a big feast.

Jiéhūn yīqián nándāng nǚfāng bǐcǐ sòng lǐ.

Before a marriage, the groom's side and the bride's side give each other gifts.

[Nǚfāng means "the bride's side, referring either to "the bride" herself, or to 'the bride's family, relatives, and friends collectively'.]

shǒu: 'to be familiar with ...' Also pronounced shū. Shǒu is used with hé for people and with duì for places.

Wǒ hé tā hěn shǒu. I know him very well.
Tā duì Táiběi hěn shǒu. She knows Taipei very well.

Shǒu also means 'to be cooked sufficiently' and 'to be ripe'.

zǎo: You've learned this as the verb 'to be early', now you see it used to mean 'long ago'.

Wǒ zǎo zhīdāo nǐ bù huílái. I knew long ago that you wouldn't come back.

Wǒ zǎo tīngshuō le. I heard about it long ago.

Zǎo is usually followed by jiù to stress the idea of 'as early as that'.

Wǒ zǎo jiù gāosu tā nèijīān shì le. I told him that long ago. (Said to correct an impression that he didn't actually know it so early.)

Wǒ zǎo jiù xiǎng lái kàn nǐ, yǐzhí méi shǐjiān. I've been meaning to come see you for a long time, but I never had the time.

tíqīn: 'to bring up a proposal of marriage'. Traditionally, the man's parents would visit the parents of the woman they wished their son to marry in order to bring up the subject of marriage. The situation in Taiwan is changing rapidly today, but some marriages are still proposed in this way. More frequently, however, the children simply inform their parents of their own arrangement.

dāyīng: 'to agree (to something), to consent, to promise'.

Tā dāyīng gěi wǒ nèijīān dōngxi, zěnme tā xiànzài yǒu bù gěi le? He agreed to give me that thing. How is that now he won't give it to me?

Nǐ dāyīng ta le, dāngrán yīnggāi péi ta qù. You promised him, of course you should go with him.

Nǐ dāyīng zuòde shì, yídīng yào zuòdào. You must do what you promise to do.

Nǐ dāyīnglede shì, wèishénme bù zuò? Why don't you do this thing that you have promised?

Nǐ dāyǐngguòde shì, jiù yīnggāi zuòdào. You ought to do things that you promise.

Wǒ méi dāyīng gěi nǐ yīge hùzhāo. I didn't promise to give you a passport.

Dáyīng can also mean 'to answer'.
Tâ jiào ni, nǐ zěnme mèi dâying? He called you, how come you didn't answer?

Notes on No. 5

tânlái tânqu: 'to talk over'.
Tánlái tânqu, yě bù néng jiéjué zhēge wèntí. We discussed it for a long time, but still couldn't solve the problem.
Tánlái tânqu, tânde hěn yǒu yīsì. It got very interesting, conversing back and forth.

juédìng: 'to decide'.
Wǒ juédìng yào qù. I've decided that I'm going.
Wǒ yǐjīng juédìng jiù zhènme bàn. I've already decided that it'll be this way.
Wǒ hái méi juédìng gāi zěnme bàn. I haven't yet decided what should be done.

Notice that when you want to say 'I can't decide whether (to do something)' or 'I haven't decided whether (to do something)', the object of juédìng is a choice-type question.

Wǒ hái méi juédìng qù bu qù. I haven't yet decided whether to go or not.
Wǒ bù néng juédìng wǒ qù bu qù. I can't decide whether to go or not.
Wǒ hěn nán juédìng ràng bu ràng ta qù. I'm having a hard time deciding whether to let him to or not.
Wǒ shì bu shì gāi huíqu, hěn nán juédìng. It's hard to decide whether or not I should go back.

hòuluâi: 'afterwards, later'. You have already learned another word which can be translated as "afterwards" or "later": yīhòu. Yīhòu and hòuluâi are both nouns which express time. Here is a brief comparison of them.

(1) Yīhòu can either follow another element 'in which case it is translated as "after ...") or it can be used by itself.

Tā lâile yīhòu, wǒmen jiù zōu le. After he came, we left.
Yīhòu, tā méiyǒu zài lâiguó. Afterwards, he never came back again.
Hóulái can only be used by itself.

Hóulái, tā shuì jiào le. Afterwards, he went to sleep.

(2) Both yīhòu and hóulái may be used to refer to the past. (For example, in the reference list sentence, yīhòu may be substituted for hóulái. But if you want to say "afterwards" or "later" referring to the future, you can only use yīhòu. When it refers to the future time, yīhòu can be translated in various ways, depending on the context:

Yīhòude shì qíng, dèng yīhòu zài shuō. Let's wait until the future to see about future matters.

Yīhòu nǐ yǒu kòng, qǐng cháng lái wàn. In the future when you have the time, please come over more often.

Wǒ yīhòu zài gào su nǐ. I'll tell you later on.

Tāde háizi shuōle, yīhòu tā yào gēn yīge Rìběn rèn jiēhūn. His child said that someday, he wants to marry a Japanese.

Usage Note: Yīhòu has the meaning of "after that". It can imply that some past event functions as a dividing point in time, as a sort of time boundary, and yīhòu refers to the period from the end of that time boundary up to another point of reference (usually the time of speaking). In this usage it is often translated as "since".

Tā zhǐ xiě le yīběn shū, yīhòu zài méi xiěguo. He only wrote one book, and hasn't written any since.

Hánhòu stresses the succession of one event upon the completion of a prior event.

Wǒ shāngwǔ zhǐ yǒu liǎngjié kè, ránhòu jiù méi shuǐ le, wǒmen kěyī chuǎn qù wānr. I have only two classes in the morning, and after that I don't have anything else to do, so we

hái shí: 'in the end, after all' You have seen hái shí meaning 'still', that is, that something remains the same way as it was. Here hái shí is used to mean that the speaker feels that, all things considered, something is the case after all.

Hái shí tā dū. He is right, after all.

Note on No. 6

jǔxíng: 'to hold (a meeting, banquet, celebration, ceremony, etc.)' For this example you need to know that diǎnliè means 'ceremony'.
Notes on No. 8

hái: 'even, (to go) so far as to' You have seen hái meaning 'still' as in Nǐ hái zài zhèr!, 'You're still here!'. You've also seen hái meaning 'also, additionally', as in Wǒ hái yào mǎi yīpíng qǐshuǐ., 'I also want to buy a bottle of soda.' Here you see hái meaning additionally in the sense of additional effort. The sentence Nǐmen hái sòng huār lài, hái expresses the speaker's feeling that sending flowers went beyond what was expected or necessary.

zhēn shì tài xièxié le: 'I really thank you so much!' You have seen tài used to mean 'very, extremely', as in Tài hǎo le!, 'Wonderful!'. Notice that here it is used with xièxié.
Taipei:

A woman goes to visit her old friend and to present her with a gift for her daughter and future son-in-law.

A: Gōngxi, gōngxi! Zhège Xīngqītiān jiù shì nǐmen èr xiàojie dàxiède rìzi! Zhālí shì sòngguì xīnláng xīnniàngde lǐwǔ.

B: Xièxiè! Xièxiè! Nǐ tài kěqi le.

A: Yìdìdiǎn xiāo yīsì. Nǐ yǐdiǎn hén máng ba! Hūnlǐ dōu zhūn bèihǎo le meiyou?

B: Zuì mángde shíhù yǐjīng gōu le, xiānzǎi chābúduō dōu zhūn bèihǎo le.

A: Xīnláng shì nǎlǐ rén a? Zài nǎlǐ gōngzuò?

B: Xīnláng shì Héběi rén, zài Táiwān Yǐnháng gōngzuò. Tā rén hěn lǎoshì, yě hěn shāngjīn.

A: Xiūyún gēn tā shì biéren jiēshāo rénshì dài shì zǐjǐ rénshì?

B: Shì Xiūyuán de láoshì jiēshāode. Xiūyuán gēn tā jiāowǎng dào xiānzài yǐjīng liǎngnián le, dū ta hěn mānyǐ.

A: Nǐmen gēn nánfāngde fùmǔ yīqián shòu bu shòu?

B: Bù shòu, kěshì wōmen zǎo jiù tīngshuōguo tāmen le. Tāmen liǎngwèi dōu zài Tāibā jiāo shū. Tāmen yǐ lái tīqīn wōmen jiù dàiying le.

B: Shi a! Womeiren gan nafangde runmou tanlai tanqu tanle hao ji, bu zhidao zai nali juxing hunli zuo hao. Houla hai shi wo juedeng zai Guobin Dafandi an juxing.

A: Ng! Guobin Dafandi an bu zhi shi difang pioliang, nalide cai ye tebie hao.

B: Du le.

A: Xinian gde jiehun lifu zai nali mai de?

B: Bu shi mai de, shi Xiuyun ziji zud de.

A: Nimen er xiaojie zhen nenggan. Tian bu zao le, wo gai zou le.

B: Niy hai ziji song lywu lai, zhen shi xiexie! Xingqitian yiding lai, al!

NOTES ON THE DIALOGUE

Guobin Dafandi an bu zhi shi difang pioliang, nalide cai ye tebie hao. Traditional wedding foods included huasheng, peanuts; lianzi, lotus seeds; and zaozi, dates, all of which symbolize fertility in that shengzi means "give birth to" (a son); lianzi sounds like part of the phrase liansheng guizi, "have sons consecutively"; and zaozi sounds like part of zhaosheng gui zii, "have an early son." The wedding marked the beginning of that generation's carrying on of the family line. Today few adhere to these symbols and food is served according to family preference.

Bu shi mai de, shi Xiuyun ziji zude: Wedding gowns in Taiwan these days are frequently hand-made or tailor-made, as tailoring is affordable and the quality of work surpasses that of ready-made items. Brides may wear two gowns: a white one for the ceremony (which may be in a church nowadays) and a traditional Chinese red one at the celebration.
9. Xinliang jia xin Jiduijiao, fumu xiwang tamen zai liao tang jiehun.
The family of the bridegroom are Christians and the parents hope they will be married in church.

10. Xinniang jia xin Fei, fumu bu rang tamen zai liao tang jiehun.
The family of the bride are Buddhists, and her parents won't let them be married in church.

11. Tamen yao zai fayuan gongzheng jiehun ma?
Are they going to have a civil marriage in court?

12. Huni Yihou badian zhong ru xi.
After the wedding ceremony the banquet will start at eight.

This question is very complicated.

14. Wode yijian shi deng liangge xingqi women zai tantan.
My opinion is that we should wait two weeks and talk about it again.

15. Tamen qing sheli zhenghun?
Whom did they ask to witness the marriage?

16. A: Huni Yihou tamen mashang jiou qu du miyu ma?
After the wedding are they going to leave right away to go on their honeymoon?

B: Bu, yao deng huim men yihou caqi ju.
No, they're going to wait until after the bride's first visit to her family before they go.

17. Houti an yiding lai chi xijiu!
Be sure to come to the wedding banquet the day after tomorrow.

18. A: Nyimen xiaojie hunli shang jieshaoren shi naliangweia?
Who are the two people who are going to be the introducers at your daughter's wedding?

B: Yiwei shi lai zuo meide Li Jiashou.
One is Professor Li who was the go-between.

That postmaster is a friend of our family from many years back.

20. Tandaojiehun, ni yin yinggai kuai diann qu zuo jian jiehun lifu.
Speaking of the wedding, you really ought to hurry up and go rent a wedding gown.
NOTES ON PART II

Notes on No. 9

xin Jiājìào: 'to believe in (Protestant) Christianity' This is one way of saying 'to be a (Protestant) Christian'.

Notes on No. 10

xin Fó: 'to believe in Buddha' This is one way of saying 'to be a Buddhist'.

Notes on No. 11

zài fāyuàn: 'in court' zài is the verb 'to be in, at, or on', in other words 'to be located (someplace). zài must be followed by a place word or a place phrase. Just what is considered to be a place word or phrase may be difficult for the non-native speaker to figure out. Words which are not considered to be place words or phases must have a loca-
tional ending such as -li or -shang added to them. (Nǐ zài chéshāng mǎi piào., 'You buy the ticket on the bus'.)

The names of institutions in Chinese are considered to be place words. The phrase 'in court' does not need a locational ending, zài fāyuàn. Here are some other words which can function as place words by themselves. Many of these end with syllables such as -shi (shī) 'house, apartment', -jū 'office, shop', -diàn 'inn, shop', -chāng 'field, open ground', -tíng 'hall, room', -suō 'place, room', -jīn 'house, rooms', guǎn 'public office, hall'.

Jīntiān xiàwǔ zài bāngōngshì jiān! See you at the office this afternoon!

Zài běnshī yǒu wùge yóuzhèng-jū! There are five post offices in this city.

Nǐ zài cāifèngdiàn zuòde ba? You must have had that made at a tailor's.

Nǐ zài cántīng kànào ta le ma? Did you see him in the dining room?

Other words which behave in a similar way are:

cāishìchāng  market  fūjìn  area
cèsuǒ  toilet  fúwùtái  service desk
dàrèndiàn  hotel  Gōngānjú  Bureau of Public Security
shǎngdiàn  store  gōngsī  company
dàlóu  building  gōngyù  apartment
dàshíguǎn  
emission  
gōngyuán  
park

diqū  
region  
huìkèshì  
reception room

rǎndìàn  
restaurant  
huǒchēzhàn  
railroad station

fāngjiān  
room  
jǐngchájū  
police station

fāngguăn  
restaurant  
kāfēi  
coffeehouse

fàntíng  
dining room  
lǎojiā  
hometown

fēijíchāng  
airport  
and many more... including proper
names of restaurants, buildings,
associations, organizations, etc.

gōngzhēng: 'notarization, government witness'. A gōngzhēng rén is a
notary public.

Note on No. 12

rù xí: 'to take one's seat at a banquet', literally 'to enter the
matted area'.

Wōmen kuài diǎnr zhūn bèi,  
tāmen liùdiǎn zhōng jiū 
yào rù xí le.
Let's get ready a little faster, 
the banquet starts at 6:00.

Note on No. 13

fūzá: 'to be complicated, to be complex'. Questions, problems, or
situations can be fūžá if there are many pieces or factors figuring into
the problem. It is also possible to use fūzá to imply that the situation
is messy, problem-ridden.

Tāmen jiāde qíngkuàng tài fūzá, 
wǒ gǎobùqiǎngchù.
Their family situation is too
complicated, I can't make heads
or tails of it. (This sentence
has an ambiguity in both
languages.)

Zhēige wèntí tài fūzá, hěn nán
shūoqiǎngchù.
This question is so complicated, it's
very hard to explain it clearly.

Zhēige jùzǐ tài fūzá, zuì hǎo
bú zhēiyàng xiě.
This sentence is too complicated,
it would be best not to write it
this way.

Fūzá can also be used in a complimentary way. (For this example you need to
know that sīxiāng means 'thinking, thought'.)

Tāde sīxiāng hěn fūzá.
His thinking is very complex.

This sentence might be said of an Einstein. The opposite of fūzá in this
case would be jiāndān 'to be simple', as in 'simple-minded'.

Fùzā is also pronounced fūzā.

Note on No. 14

yìjiàn: 'idea, view, opinion, suggestion'.

Gǎngcái tā tánle duì zhèiběn shūde yìjiàn, wǒ juéde duì wǒmen hěn yǒu bāngzhù.

He just told us his opinions on this book, and I feel that they're really helpful to us.

Wǒ hěn xiǎng zhīdào, zāi zhèige wèntíshāng, Zhōngguó zhèng-fúde yìjiàn shì shénme?

I'd very much like to know what the Chinese government's view is on this question.

Wǒ xiǎng xiǎn qù Shànghǎi, zài dào Wūhàn, nǐde yìjiàn zěnmeyang?

I'd like to go to Shanghai first and then to Wuhan, what's your opinion?


My opinion is to first go to Wuhan, then to Shanghai, because after a month, Wuhan will be extremely hot.

Note on No. 15

zhēnghūn: 'to witness a marriage'. Witnesses formerly were persons of good reputation and venerable old age. Today, familiarity is most important. The witness makes a brief speech during the ceremony and stamps the marriage certificate with his name seal. He receives no remuneration for this service, but is honored to have been asked.

Notes on No. 16

dù miyüè: 'to spend one's honeymoon'. Dù is the verb 'to spend, to pass (something which is an amount of time, like a holiday). Miyüè is literally 'honey-moon'.

huímén: 'the bride's first visit to her own family on the third day after the wedding', literally 'return to the door'. When the newlyweds return home for this first visit, the family of the bride is given a chance to entertain the couple. More friends and relatives are invited and introduced to them. (It is the groom's family which arranges the marriage ceremony.)
Note on No. 17

xǐjīn: 'wedding banquet'. Notice that in the Reference List sentence the phrase 来吃喜酒 is translated as 'to come to the wedding banquet'. A more literal translation might be 'come to eat a wedding feast!'. The verb 吃 could also be rendered into English by 'attend' or 'take part', as in 'Be sure to come take part in the wedding banquet the day after tomorrow'.

Notes on No. 18

hūnlīshāng: 'at the wedding'. Notice that in English you say 'at the wedding' while in Chinese you say hūnlīshāng, literally 'on the wedding'. Shāng would also be the locative ending to use for 'at the meeting' (hūlīshāng).

jièshāorén: 'introducer'. This is one person in the cast of people who play a part in getting two people together in marriage. Originally, the "introducer" functioned in much the same way as match-makers - finding a good mate for a friend or relative. Today, most young people find their own mates. The "introducers", however, still have a ceremonial function. They accompany the bride and groom during the ceremony (one for the bride and one for the groom).

zuò méi: 'to act as the go-between for two families whose children are to be married'. This person arranged the details of the match. He acted as a go-between for the families of the bride and groom, settling points which were usually of a financial nature. Often the zuò méi was also the jièshāorén. Traditionally, the go-between was an older woman who made a profession of it. She was paid for her services in money if the family was wealthy or in the best pork legs if they were poor. Today any adult can act as the go-between, although the practice is becoming less and less common. During the wedding ceremony, the go-between places his stamp on the wedding certificate.

Wǒ gěi nǐ zuò méi, hǎo bu hǎo? I'll act as go-between for you, all right?

Zhāng Tàitài qǐng wo tī tāde nuèr zuò méi. Mrs. Chang asked me to act as go-between for her daughter.

Notes on No. 19

jūzhāng: 'head of an office or bureau'. Jūzhāng is only used when the Chinese name of the office or bureau ends with the syllable -jū, as in yōuzhēngjū, 'post office'. You've also seen bùzhāng, 'minister of a bureau' and kēzhāng, 'section chief'.

duōnián: 'many years'. Here are some examples:

Wǒmen duōnián bú jiàn le. We haven't seen each other for many years.
Notes on No. 20

tándao: 'to talk about, to speak of'. This is used to refer to something that was just brought up in conversation. You have seen dào used as a main verb meaning 'to go to, to arrive at', and as a prepositional verb meaning 'to towards'. Now you see that dào is also used as a verb ending. Literally, it means 'to, up to', but its translation into English sometimes changes, depending on the meaning of the verb it is used with. When used with tán, 'to talk, to chat', -dào can be translated as 'about' or 'of'. Here are some other examples of -dào used with verbs you've already studied:

Wǒmen gǎngcái hái shuōdào nǐ, nǐ jiù lái le. We were even talking of you just now, and here you are!

Jǐntiān nǐ gēn ta jiāngdào wo méiyou? Did you talk about me with him today?

Wǒ chǎngchàng xiāngdào wǒde háizi. I often think of my child.

Notice that in the Reference List sentence, tándao is used at the beginning of the sentence to introduce a topic, like we use 'speaking of ...' in English. Here are some other examples:

Tándao jiēhūndé shì, wǒ hái dǎi xiǎngyixiāng. When it comes to talking about marriage, I have to think it over.

Tándao zěnme xiě Zhōngguó zì, tā bǐ wǒ zhídáode duō. When we talk about writing Chinese characters, he knows a lot more than I do.

yě: 'really, after all'. You have seen yě meaning 'too, also'. Another common meaning of yě is '(even though) ... nevertheless, still'. For example:

Wǒ suírán shì Zhōngguórén wǒ yě hù shuō yǐdiǎn Yīngwén. Although I am Chinese, I can still speak a little English.

A: Zhèige diànyǐng zěnmeyàng? How was the movie?
B: Bú shì hěn hǎo, dānshì yě hái kěyì. It wasn't great, but it was pretty good nevertheless.
Although I've never been to Tian An Men, I've seen it on television.

In addition, 也 often is used to contrast the thought expressed in the sentence with another thought. This meaning can be paraphrased something like this: "in spite of anything which might be believed to the contrary, indeed what I am saying is true." Sometimes, however, 也 is used when there is not much to contrast it with, and means little more than "we really ought to agree that what I am saying is true."

There are many different possible ways to translate this 也 into English. The following examples are meant to show some of its range of meaning and some of its possible translations.

**Xiànzài shìyīdiǎn bàn le, wǒ yě yào shāng kè le, wǒmende wèntí míngtiān zài tán ba!**

It's eleven-thirty. I really have to be going to class. Let's talk about our question tomorrow, okay?

**Zhōngguó rénkuò tài duō, zhēngfǔ tīchàng wǎnliàn wǎn–hūn yě shì yīnggāide.**

The population of China is too large, it really is right for the government to promote late marriage and late involvement.

**Tāmén wèishénme yào líhūn, wǒ yě bù zhīdào.**

Why they wanted to get a divorce, I really don't know.

A: **Nǐ zěnme hái méi bù zhèxiē yīfu xiǎowán?**

How come you still haven't finished washing these clothes?

B: **Wǒ yě bù shì niè de yòngrén, bāitiān wǒ yě shàng bān, wǒ méiyou zhēnme duō shíjiān.**

I'm not your servant, after all; I work during the day too, and I don't have all that much time.

**Nǐ xiànzài yě gǎi míngbāi le ba?**

Now you (really) ought to understand, don't you?

**Wǒmen liǎngge rènshī yě yǒu jǐnián le, nǐ yīnggāi liǎo–jiē wo.**

We have known each other for several years, after all; you ought to understand me.
Taipei:

The day before a young couple is to be married, a friend pays a visit to the mother of the bride:

A:  Gōngxǐ, gōngxǐ! Míngtiān shì nǐmen xiāojie dàxǐde rìzi! Xǐnliàng shì shénme rèn a? Tāmen shì zhème rènshìde?


Congratulations! Tomorrow's your daughter's big day! Who's the bridegroom? How did they meet?

B:  Tándaò jūxíng hūnlǐ a, yǐjian duó le. Zhēn fǔzā. Xiān shì lǐzhǎng háizi yào dào fāyuǎn gōngzhēng jiēhūn, kěshì nánfāng fùmǔ bù dāyīng. Tāmen xīn Jǐdūjíào, yǐdīng yào dào jiàotāng qù. Wǒmen jī xǐn Fō, zěnme kěyí ràng tāmen dào jiàotāng qù jūxíng hūnlǐ ne! Hōulái, liǎngjiā tānlái tāngqū, zuǐhòu cái jùdìng hǎishí zài GuóBīn Dàfāndiān

They were introduced by friends. The father of the groom is a colleague of my husband's at the post office, but they didn't know each very well before. Afterwards, another colleague by the name of Li came to act as the go-between and introduced them. They have been seeing each other for over a year now. The young man is twenty-eight years old now. He's very honest and ambitious. He works at the Bank of Taiwan. The people at his office all say he's very capable. Xiuyun is very pleased with him, and besides, she's twenty-four years old; she has reached the time when she should get married. So as soon as his family came to propose the marriage, we agreed to it.

A:  Wǒ kàn qǐngtiěshāng shuō wǔdiǎn zhōng zài GuóBīn Dàfāndiān jūxíng hūnlǐ, lǐdiān zhōng rù xī. Nà dīfāng hěn dà, cái yě hěn hǎo, míngtiān yǐdīng hěn rènào.

I see it says on the invitation that the ceremony will be held at the Ambassador Hotel at five o'clock, and that the banquet starts at six. It's a very big place, and the food is very good. It should be very lively tomorrow.

B:  Tándaò jūxíng hūnlǐ a, yǐjian duó le. Zhēn fǔzā. Xiān shì lǐzhǎng háizi yào dào fāyuǎn gōngzhēng jiēhūn, kěshì nánfāng fùmǔ bù dāyīng. Tāmen xīn Jǐdūjíào, yǐdīng yào dào jiàotāng qù. Wǒmen jī xǐn Fō, zěnme kěyí ràng tāmen dào jiàotāng qù jūxíng hūnlǐ ne! Hōulái, liǎngjiā tānlái tāngqū, zuǐhòu cái jùdìng hǎishí zài GuóBīn Dàfāndiān

As far as the wedding ceremony is concerned, there were a lot of different opinions. It was really complicated. At first the two children wanted to go to court and have a civil marriage, but the parents of the groom didn't agree to that. They're Christians, and insisted on going to a church. Our family is Buddhist; how could we let them go to a church to hold the wedding? Later, our two families discussed it back and
Jǔxíng hùnlǐ.

A: Shì qǐng shénme rèn zhēngghūn à?

B: Zhēngghūnrèn shì Yóuzhèngžú Zhāng Jūzhāng. Tā gèn nánfāngde fùqín shì duōnián de lǎo péngyou, suǒyì yǐ qǐng tā, tā mǎshàng jiù dǎyìng le.

A: Yǒu méiyǒu jièshàorén? Jiè-
shàorén shì shéi ya?

B: Nánfāngde jièshàorén jiù shì
lái zuǐ méide nǎwèi Lǐ Xiān-sheng. Wǒmen zhèbiān jiù qiāngle Zhāng Zǐmíng Jiàoshòu. Tā shì Xiūyuán nián dàxué shǐhòu de lǎoshī.

A: Xīnliàngde jiēhūn lǐfú shì
zài shěnme dìfāng zuòde?

B: Bù shì zuòde, shì zúde.

A: Tāmén jiēhūn yǐhòu yào dào
nàli qù dū miàoyu?

B: Tāmén jīhuà yào dào Àlí Shān
qù wǎn yí gé xǐngqǐ, búguǒ
tāmén jiēhūn yǐhòu bù néng
mǎshàng zǒu, yào děng hū
mén yǐhòu cái qù.

A: D, hǎo hǎo hǎo. Wǒ xiǎng
nímen yǐdéng hěn máng. Wǒ
yìnggāi zǒu le.

B: Nǐ nǎme kǎqi, hái zǐjī lái
sòng lìwù lái. Xièxiè, xièxiè!
Míngtiān yǐdèng lái chǐ xǐjū.

A: Hǎo, míngtiān jiàn.

fùrth, and finally we decided it would
be best to hold the wedding at the
Ambassador Hotel.

Whom did you ask to witness the
marriage?

The witness is Postmaster Zhang.
He's an old friend of many years of
the groom's father, so as soon as we
went to ask him, he agreed right away.

Are there any introducers? Who are
they?

The introducer for the groom's side
is the Mr. Li who was the go-between.
For our side we asked Professor Zhang
Ziming. He was a teacher of Xiuyun's
when she was in college.

Where was the bride's wedding gown
made?

It wasn't (specially) made, it's
rented.

After they're married, where are
they going to spend their honeymoon?

They're planning to go to Mt. Ali
for a week, but they can't leave right
after the wedding. They have to wait
until after the bride's first visit
to her new parents' home before they
go.

Oh, okay. Well, you must be very
busy, so I should be leaving now.

You're so polite, you even brought
presents over in person. Thank you!
Be sure to come to the banquet
tomorrow.

Okay, see you tomorrow.
...liǎngge hálizi yào dào fāyuàn gōngzhèng jiéhūn: Traditional wedding ceremonies were held at home or in ancestral halls (not in temples or pagodas). Modern ones are likely to be held in hotels or restaurants, as there is more room and food is then easier to prepare.

Tāmen jíhuá yào dào Álǐ Shān qū: Álǐ Shān and Rìyuè Tán (Sun-Moon Lake) are the two most popular honeymoon spots on Taiwan. An average honeymoon stay might last one week.
Vocabulary

ài

dàixǐ
dàxiēde rìzi
dàying

dù
dù miyuè
duōnián

táyùán
Fó
túzá (túzá)
gōngzhèng jiēhūn

hái
háishì
hùnlái
huī mén

hūnlǐ

djàotáng
djàowāng

Jiáojùjiào
djàyhūn lǐfú
djàeshācén
juédīng
jùxīng
Jūzhāng

...-lái...-qù

lǎoshi (lǎoshī)

mǎnyī
mìyuè

nànfāng
nénggàn

rén

(sound of sighing)
great rejoicing
wedding day
to agree (to something), to consent, to promise
to pass
to go on a honeymoon, to spend one's honeymoon
many years
court of law
Buddha
to be complicated
civil marriage
even, (to go) so far as to after all
later, afterwards
the return of the bride to her parents' home (usually on the third day after the wedding)

wedding
court
church
to associate with, to have dealings with
Christianity
wedding gown
introducer
to decide
to hold (a meeting, ceremony, etc.)
head of an office or bureau (of which the last syllable is jā)

(indicates repeating the action over and over again)
to be honest
to be pleased
honeymoon
the groom's side, the groom's family
to be capable

person, self, body
rù xǐ
to take one's seat (at a gathering, meeting, or banquet)

tángao
to be ambitious

tàn lái tánqù
to be familiar (with), to know well

tí qín
to talk about; speaking of ...
to talk back and forth
to bring up a proposal of marriage

xiǎojiě (xiǎojie)
daughter (referring to someone else's daughter)

xījiǔ
wedding banquet; wedding wine

xīn

tó believe (in)

xīn Fó
to be a Buddhist

xǐnláng
bridegroom

xǐnmiáng
bride

yě
indeed, in fact, admittedly

yǐjian
opinion

zāo
long ago

to witness a marriage

tò shènghūn
chief witness at a wedding ceremony

tò zū

tò zuò mòi
to rent
to act as go-between (for the families of a man and woman considering marriage)
PART I

1. Wǒ tīngshuō Zhōngguó kǒngzhī rénkǒu de gōngzuò zuòde hěn chénggōng.
   I hear that population control work has been done very successfully in China.

2. Zài chéngshì lǐ zhùde rén yào yǒu yīge háizi děi zuòdào sān tōngguō.
   People who live in the city, if they want to have a child, must have 'the three approvals'.

   'The three approvals' means that a woman must have the consent of three places in order to have a child.

4. A: Wǒi sān gè dānwěi ne?
   Which three units?
   B: Zhèwèi fūnǚ de gōngzuò dānwěi, tā zhùde shìfāng de jūnín wéiyuánhù, hé pāichūsuǒ.
   The woman's work unit, the neighborhood committee of the place she lives, and the local police station.

5. Zhōngguó zhèngfǔ gēnjué shénme pízhūn fùwù shēng xiǎo háizī?
   On what basis does the Chinese government give official permission for women to give birth?

6. Gègè chéngshì mǎochǎn zhǐ kěyǐ zēngjiā yìdíng shùmù shēng háizī.
   The various cities can only increase by a specific number of children every year.

7. Wǒmen shìqū jīnnián de chūshēng-lǜ bù gāo.
   The birth rate in our municipal area this year isn't very high.

8. Wǒ zhī néng fēnpéi jī duō nǚ mín zhèyīqū bǎbǎi ge mín'è.
   I can only assign a quota of eight hundred to your area.

   The population of China is too large, so the government encourages the people to practice birth control.

    All contraceptive devices are free.

11. Wǒ yǐjīng dědào pízhūn, kěyǐ yǒu yījiān xīn fāngzi.
    I have already received permission to get a new room.
Notes on No. 1

kòngzhì: 'to control; control'. This can also be translated as 'to dominate; to command'.

Zhèige fángjiānde wèndū kòngzhùde bù hǎo, yīhuīr lěng, yīhuīr rě.
The temperature in this room isn't well regulated. It's cold one minute and hot the next.

Shíjiān měi bànfa kòngzhì, shéi yě bàngudào.
There is no way to control time; no one can do it.

Tāde bìng yǐjīng kòngzhízhū le, yěxǔ jītiān yīhǒu, tā huǐ hǎoqīlái.
His illness is under control now; maybe in another few days he will start to get better.

Yǒu yīxiē rén kòngzhíle zhèi jìa fāsǐjī, bù ràng ta qǐfēi.
Some people have taken control of this airplane and won't let it take off.

chénggōng: 'to succeed; to be successful'.

Zhèiběn shū chénggōng le.
This book was a success.

Zhèiběn shū xiěde hěn chénggōng.
His book was written very successfully. (i.e., His book came off very well.)

Zhèige tāng chénggōng le, dàjiā dōu ài chī.
This soup is a success, everyone loves it.

Zhī yào nǐ nǔlì, nǐde shìqíng yǐdǐng néng chénggōng.
So long as you work hard at it, your effort is sure to succeed.

Notes on No. 2

zuòdào: 'to achieve, to make (a goal)'. In Unit 2, Part II, you saw tǎndào 'to talk about, to speak of', with the ending -dào meaning literally 'to, up to'. Here you see -dào used as an ending after the verb zuò 'to make'. You may think of -dào in zuòdào as conveying the meaning of reaching a goal.

Zhèijiān shì, wǒ yǐjīng zuòdào le.
I have already succeeded in doing this.

Nǐ shuōguo, zuòtīān nǐ yào qù, nǐ zuòdào le ma?
You said that you wanted to go yesterday. Did you do so?
sàn tōngguò: 'the three approvals'. The 'three approvals' have been in effect since 1973/74. At that time, the minimum marriage age was pushed upward, but most recently it has been relaxed to ages twenty-five for males and twenty-three for females. Most couples must still wait a number of years before they can have a child. The sàn tōngguò guiding for city residents effectively means that, without these three approvals for a child, a pregnancy must end in abortion or else the child will have to live without food rations. (A government slogan is Yīge zuì hǎo, liǎngge gòule, "One is best, two is enough.") Applications to have children are reviewed and permission granted or denied by one's work unit, based on the total allowable city quota. A third child is strongly discouraged and life would be very difficult for it should it be born. Special gifts, privileges, and awards are given to one-child families. In the countryside, one can find four to six children in a household, but they of course could not easily move to the city.

Notes on No. 3

yě jiùshì shuō: 'to mean; in other words, that is to say'.

Jīhuà shēngyù yě jiùshì shuō yào yǒu jīhuàde shēng xiǎo-hǎir. Planned parenthood means having children in a planned way.

'Hébǐ' yě jiùshì shuō 'wèi-shènme xūyào'. 'Hébǐ' means 'why must'.

Tā bù néng zài shēng xiǎoháizi, yě jiùshì shuō wǒmen juéde tā zhǐbùhǎo le. She can't have children any more; that is to say, we feel that she cannot be cured.

Tā bù gěi nǐ dà diànhuà hǎo-xiàng yě jiùshì shuō tā bù xǐhuan nǐ. The fact that he doesn't telephone you would seem to imply that he doesn't like you.

Dàifu shuō tā bù néng chī ròu, yě jiùshì shuō chī ròu duì tāde shèntǐ bù hǎo. The doctor said that he couldn't eat meat, in other words, eating meat isn't good for his health.

When what follows is a more pointed explanation of what has just been said, jiùshì shuō can be used in place of yě jiùshì shuō, e.g.

Tā bù kěyǐ shēng háizi, jiùshì shuō tā hǎi méiyǒu zuòdào sàn tōngguò. She cannot have a child; that is to say, she has not yet gotten the three approvals.

tōngyí: 'consent, agreement; to agree, to agree with (what someone says or thinks)'.

A: Tōngyí bu tōngyí? Do you agree?
B: Wǒ bù tōngyì. I don't agree.

Wǒ bù tōngyì nǐde huà. I don't agree with what you say.

Although in English we can say 'I agree with you', in Chinese it is wrong to say either Wǒ gēn nǐ tōngyì or Wǒ tōngyì nǐ. Tōngyì can be used in two ways: without an object, or with an object like tā shuōde 'what he said', tāde huà 'what he said', tāde jīhuà 'his plan', tāde yǐjīng 'his opinion'. If you want to say 'I don't agree with you', you can say Wǒ bù tōngyì, Wǒ shuōde, Wǒ bù tōngyì, Wǒ bù tōngyì nǐde huà, Wǒ bù tōngyì nǐde yǐjīng, etc.

Notes on No. 4

dānwèi: (work) unit'. This word is used in the PRC as a cover term for any organization or department of an organization. It may, for instance, refer to a factory, a school, a government organization, a store, or an army unit.

Nǐ zài něige dānwèi gōngzuò? is a common way of asking where someone works; compared with Nǐ zài něir gōngzuò?, the question Nǐ zài něige dānwèi gōngzuò? sounds more official.

Wòmen dānwèi yǒu hěn duō nǚ lǎoshī. There are a lot of women teachers in our unit. (Here, dānwèi refers to a school.)

To specify that you are talking about a place of work, you can say gōngzuò dānwèi, as in the Reference List sentence.

jūmín wěiyuánhuì: 'neighborhood committee'. The official duties of a neighborhood committee are diverse, ranging from sanitation maintenance to political study. Its actual role and duty remain ambiguous, as well as its relationship with the government. Although the government pays a committee's elected delegates, there is no official connection between the two. The power of the committee in local affairs remains large.

pàichūsuǒ: 'local police station'. The local police station is the lowest level of the Bureau of Public Security. In addition to taking care of matters of a criminal nature, the pàichūsuǒ is familiar with the history and political situation of every one of its residents. Along with the gōngzuò dānwèi and the jūmín wěiyuánhuì, it affects the daily life of each citizen.

Notes on No. 5

gēnju: 'according to, on the basis of; basis'.

Nǐ gēnju shénme shuō zhēige huà? On what basis do you say this?
Nǐ shuōde huà yǒu méiyou gēnjū? Is there a basis for what you're saying?

pǐzhūn: 'to give official permission (to someone to do something)'.

Dānwèi pǐzhūn ta jīzhūn le. Her unit gave her permission to marry.

Xuéxiào pǐzhūn ta qù Shànghǎi le. His school gave him permission to go to Shanghai.

Wǒ mǎi zhèige diànnǐ shì dèdào pǐzhūn de. I got permission to buy this television.

fùnūmen: 'women'. -Men is a plural ending for nouns and pronouns. You have seen it in the pronouns wōmen, zānmen, nīmen, and tāmen. After a noun, however, -men is never obligatory. It is usually used with nouns which designate humans (although in literature you may sometimes see it used with nouns referring to animals as well).

Nūshīmen, xiānshēngmen. Ladies and gentlemen.

Note that the group referred to by a noun phrase with -men must be of unspecified number; it is wrong to say liǎngge fūnūmen or sānge jiāoshōuānmen, etc.

Notes on No. 6

gègè: 'each and every, all of the various'. The first gè (a specifier like zhēi-) literally means 'each...' or 'the various, the different....'. The second ge is the counter ge, as in yīge rén 'one person'.

Jiǔyuèlǐ, gègè xuéxiào dōu kāi xuě le. In September all the schools open.

Měiguóde gègè zhōu dōu yǒu zìjǐde zhèngfǔ. Each of the American states has its government.

zēngjīǎ: 'to increase; to increase by (such-and-such an amount)'.

Jīnnián wōmen xuéxiào de xué-shēng zēngjīǎ le. The students in our school increased this year.

Zhèige yīyuán de bìngrén bù néng zài zēngjīǎ le. The patients in this hospital cannot increase any further.

Zhèjiātīān nǐ mǎng bu mǎng, zài gěi nǐ zēngjīǎ yǐdiānr gōngzuò, hǎo bu hǎo? Have you been busy the past few days? Would it be okay if I give you some more work to do?
They added two more offices on to our unit.

They added two more offices on to our unit.

yídìng: 'specific, certain, definite, set'. In addition to the meaning of yídìng which you already know, namely 'certainly, surely', it can also mean 'set (by regulation, decision, or convention), fixed, particular,' as in

Tā bàn shìqìng yǒu yídìng bānfǎ. He goes about doing things with a definite method.

Mǎnìnián zài yídìngde rìzǐ, tā dōu huíqu kàn māmā. Every year he goes back to see his mother on a set date.

Notes on No. 7

shìqū: 'city proper, municipal area', the area within a chéngshì where population and buildings are relatively concentrated. Shìqū is used when you are emphasizing the city proper or contrasting it to the suburbs [jiāoqū]. It is an administratively more exact term than chéngshì. [The Peking municipal area, Běijīng shìqū, is made up of eight urban districts, chéngqū.]

chūshēnglǜ: 'birth rate'. Chūshēng means 'to be born'. The chūshēnglǜ is usually considered to be the number of births per one thousand population in one year.

Notes on No. 8

fènpei: 'distribute; allot; assign; distribution'.

Wǒ tíngshūō xiāng yuè jìu kěyì gěi nǐ fènpei gōngzuò. I've heard that you'll be assigned work next month.

Wǒ xiāngwàng nèng zǎo yǎdìān fènpeídào fāngzì. I hope that housing can be assigned soon.

Tíngshūō tā fènpei dào Dōngběi qù gōngzuò le. I've heard that he has been assigned to go work in Manchuria.

míng'è: 'the number of people assigned or allowed; quota of people'. Míng'è does not exactly correspond to 'quota'. 'Quota' is a fixed number of places which must be filled. Míng'è is (1) a fixed number of places which must not be exceeded, or (2) one such place. Bābāige míng'è is literally '800 name given-numbers', i.e. 'a quota of 800 names'.

Note on No. 9

bìyùn: Literally, 'avoid-pregnancy', i.e. 'contraception'. Shǐxíng
bǐyun 'to carry out (the government policy of encouraging) contraception, to practice birth control'.

Note on No. 10

miǎnfèide: Literally 'exempt from charge', i.e. 'free (of charge)'.

Zhèige zhǎnlǎn kěyì miǎnfèi cānguān.

Sānyuè Bānào, fūnǚ hé háizi dào gōngyuán qù dōu shì miǎnfèide.

Lǔxīn bù piányi a! Fēijīpiào kě bù shì miǎnfèide.

You can visit this exhibit for free.

On March 8th, women and children can go to parks free of charge.

Travelling is not cheap. Plane tickets are certainly not free!

Notes on No. 11

dédao: 'to receive, to get'.

Tā dédao hùzhào yǐhòu mǎshāng jiù zǒu le.

Tā dédao pízhǔn kěyì liúzài Běijīng gōngzuò.

He left immediately after getting his passport.

He has gotten permission to stay in Peking to work.

yījiān xīn fángzǐ: 'a new room'. Notice that although you have seen fángzǐ meaning 'house', it is being used here in the wider sense of 'a place to live'. In this phrase it is preceded by the counter for rooms of a house, jiān. Thus the whole phrase means 'a new room', not 'a new house'.

Living quarters in Peking and many other Chinese cities are very scarce. (Housing in Shanghai is more critical than Peking.) When a newly married couple applies for housing, they will be assigned a room that does not exceed 8-10 square meters. Rarely do living quarters have private baths, toilets, or kitchens. Later, when children come along, they will continue to live in the same size room.
A Canadian tourist talks with her guide:

A: Wǒ zài Jiānádàde shìhòu jiǔ tīngshuō Zhōngguó kǒngzhì rénkǒu dōng zúō dé hěn chénggōng. Nǐ kěyì bu kěyì gěi wǒ jiāngyìjiāng?


A: Shénme shì sān tōngguò?

B: Jiùshì dōi yǒu nǐ dōng zúō dānwèi, nǐ zhùde dìfáng de jūmín wéiyùzhūn, hé páichíshùdē tōngyì.

A: Zhèi sāngē dānwèi gènju shénme pízhǔn fǔnúmen shèng xiǎohǎir?


A: Zài nèngcūn, rénmén yě shǐxíng biyùn ma?

B: Yě shǐxíng biyùn, kǎishī bù xiàng chéngshìlǐ zúōde nǎmè chénggōng.

A: Biyùn gōngjù guì bu guì?

B: Zhēngfǔ tīchǎng rénmín shǐxíng biyùn, suǒyí biyùn yào hé biyùn gōngjù dōu shì miǎnfèide.
12. Zài Zhōngguó, yǒu gōngzuò de
    fùnǚ shēng hái zi yǒu chǎnjīa,
    hái yǒu gōngzǐ.
    In China working women get maternity
    leave when they have a child and
    they still receive their pay.

13. Hěn duō Zhōngguó fùnǚ yǒng
gèzhǒng biàn yùn gōngjū shìxíng
    jīhuà shēngyǔ.
    Many Chinese women use various kinds
    of contraceptive devices to carry
    out family planning.

14. Zhōngguó rén zuò jué yù shǒushù-
de duō bu duō?
    Are there many Chinese people who
    have contraceptive surgery
    performed on them?

15. Biàn yùn shìbāi de rén kěyǐ dà
    yìyuàn qu zuò rénsòng liū-
    chǎn, hái kěyǐ yǒu liǎngge
    xíngqīde jiē.
    A person who fails at birth control
    can go to the hospital to have
    an abortion performed, and they
    can also have two weeks of leave.

16. Zài shāoshù mínzú dìqū rénkǒu
    bǐjiāo shǎo.
    The population is relatively small
    in the national minority areas.

17. Zhōngguó rén xiāngxīn hóngtáng
duì chǎnfū shì yīzhǒng hěn
    hǎode yíngyǔ.
    Chinese believe that brown sugar is
    a very nutritional food for women
    who have given birth within the
    last month.

18. Tā hé biérén bù tóng, tā shì
    wǒ zúi qīnjīn de péngyou.
    She's different from other people,
    she's my closest friend.

19. Shǒu xiān yào qù gěi Mā ma mài
    xiānhuā, ránhòu hái yào gěi
    nǐ bā wán jū xiūliáo.
    First I have to go buy fresh flowers
    for your mother, and then I have
    to fix your toy for you too.

20. Tándào Zhōngguó de nónge, 
gèdīde qǐngkuāng dōu bù tóng.
    As for the rural areas of China, the
    situation is different in various
    places.

NOTES ON PART II

Notes on No. 12

chǎnjīa: 'maternity leave'. The syllable chǎn, literally 'to give
birth to' is used in compounds meaning 'maternity, delivery, birth'. It can
also be used outside the context of human reproduction in compounds meaning
'to produce, production', as in chǎnpǐn 'product'.]
gōngzì: 'wages, pay', literally 'labor-capital'.

...yǒu chǎnjìà, hái yǒu gōngzì: For a normal birth, a woman is given fifty-six days of paid leave; for a difficult birth, seventy days; and for twins, ninety days after the birth. After this period, one hour per day is allowed off in order to nurse the baby.

Notes on No. 13

gèzhǒng: 'various kinds, every kind'. Gè 'each' is a specifier like zhèi- 'this' or nài- 'that'. As a specifier, it can be followed by counters. Here you see ge- used with the counter -zhǒng 'types, kinds, sort, species'. Here are some other ways ĝe- is used:

Tā néng dào ĝèguó qǔ lǚxīng zhēn bù cuò. It's great that he can go to all sorts of countries.

Xuéshèngmén yīnggāi yǒu gèrén-de xuéxi jīhuà. Students should each have their own plan of study.

Míngtiānè de diànyīng lào ĝè dānwèi dōu yǒu. Each and every unit has movie tickets for tomorrow.

Sometimes ge- is followed directly by the noun.

Jīntiān xiàwǔ ĝè dānwèi dōu kāi huì. This afternoon every unit is having a meeting.

bìyùn ĝōngjù: 'contraceptive devices'. This does not refer to birth control pills. [Bìyùnpìn 'birth control products' includes both bìyūnyào 'birth control pills' and bìyùn ĝōngjù.]

Jīhuà shēngyǔ: 'family planning, planned parenthood'. Jíhuà means 'plan; to plan'. Shēngyǔ literally means 'to give birth to and raise'.

Notes on No. 14

juéyǔ: 'sterilization,' or 'to sterilize, to be sterilized,' applies to operations for men and women. Sterilization for women is still much more common than for men; and more prevalent in the cities than in the countryside.

Tā juédìng juéyǔ. He has decided on sterilization.

Juéyǔ shì jiējué Zhōngguó rénkǒu wèntíde yīge hǎo bānfa. Sterilization is one good way to solve China's population problem.

shōushù: 'surgery'.

53
Dāifu gěi ta zuòde shǒushū hěn chénggōng.

The surgery the doctor performed on him was very successful.

Notes on No. 15

shībài: 'to fail'.

Tā zuò mǎimai shībài le. He failed in business.

Nǐ gēnju shénme shuō tā shībài le? On what basis do you say that he failed?

rèngōng liúchān: 'abortion', more literally, 'artificial miscarriage'.

dào yìyuàn qu zuò rèngōng liúchān: 'go to the hospital to have an abortion performed'. Zuò rèngōng liúchān here means 'to have an abortion done', not of course 'to do an abortion'. Compare the following two sentences:

Yīshēng gěi ta zuòle rèngōng liúchān. The doctor performed an abortion on her.

Tā zuòle rèngōng liúchān. She had an abortion.

In the first sentence, the subject of the sentence (yīshēng) performed the abortion. In the second sentence, the subject of the sentence (tā) had the abortion performed. In some cases, a verb-object in Chinese can mean either 'to do something' or 'to have something done'. Here are some more examples:

Zhènme hǎode yīfū, shéi gěi nǐ zuòde?

Who made such nice clothes for you?

Zǎi Měiguó zuò yīfū hěn guì. It's really expensive to have clothes made in America.

jià: 'leave, vacation'. You have seen this as part of the word chǎnjià 'maternity leave'. Here you see it used by itself.

Notes on No. 16

shǎoshū mínzú: 'minority nationalities', often translated as 'national minorities'. Besides the Han people, China has over fifty national minorities which are spread out over fifty to sixty percent of the land area and make up six percent of the total population of the country. The largest minorities are the Mongols (mostly in the Kēi Měnggǔ Zīzhìqū, 'Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region'), the Hui (Chinese Muslims), Tibetans, Uighurs (in the Xīnjiāng Wéiwǔ- ěr Zīzhìqū, 'Xinxiang Uighur Autonomous Region'), and the Míao (found in several southern provinces).
The clothing of the national minorities is very beautiful.

China has fifty-odd minority nationalities.

Notes on No. 17

xiāngxìn: 'to believe (that), to trust (someone), to believe in, to have faith in'.

Wǒ xiāngxìn, wǒmen liǎngguǒ rénmínde yǒu yīdǐng hú bùduān fāzhǎn. I believe that the friendship between the people of our two countries will constantly grow.

Compare xiāngxìn to the verb xīn, which you learned in the last unit. For the second example you need to know yǒu is a verb meaning 'it's up to...'.

Bié xīn tāde huà. Don't believe what he says.

Xīn bu xīn yǒu nǐ. Believe it or not, as you like.

hóngtáng: 'brown sugar', literally 'red sugar'. The Chinese often use brown sugar in cooking and for medicinal purposes. For example, a common remedy for colds is a hot drink made by boiling ginger root and brown sugar in water [jiāngtáng], or simply brown sugar water [tāngshuǐ].

chānnǚ: 'a woman who has given birth within the last month'. [Contrast this word with yǔnǚ 'a pregnant woman'.] The birth of a child is celebrated on the successful completion of the first month of life.

yīngyángpǐn: 'a nutritional food item'. Yīngyáng means 'nutrition', for example:

Dōujiāng hěn yǒu yīngyáng. Soy bean milk is very nitritious.

-pǐn is a syllable used in many words to mean 'item, article, product', [for example jīniānpǐn 'souvenir', yòngpǐn 'item of use', chǎnpǐn 'produce', gōngyèpǐn 'industrial product'].

As the Reference List sentence shows, the mother's health continues to be an important consideration even after the child is born. Both mother's and baby's health are carefully attended to after birth, while Western medicine emphasizes the mother's health only as long as she is carrying the child.

Notes on No. 18

bù tóng: 'to be not the same, to be different'. This is often used in
the pattern ...hè ... bù tóng, '... is different from ...'.

Hùzhāo hè lǔxíngzhēng wànquán bù tóng, nǐ bù yào nòngcuò le.

A passport and a travel permit are completely different. Don't mistake them.

Zhèige gōngchǎng jīn nián hěn qūnìándé qíngkuàng hěn bù tóng.

The situation in the factory this year is very different from last year.

Bù tóng can also be used as a noun as in

Tāde dānwèi hè nǐ de yǒu hěn dà de bù tóng.

There is a big difference between his work unit and yours.

You should be aware that tóng 'same', cannot be used as the main verb of a sentence to mean 'to be the same'. To say, 'These two things are the same', you must say Zhèlǐyāngge dōngxi shì yíyàngde.

qīnjīn: 'to be close (to), to be on intimate terms (with)'.

Zhèlǐyāngge rěn hěn qīnjīn. These two are on intimate terms.

Dàjiā dōu yuàn yí qīnjīn ta. Everyone wants to be friends with him.

Notes on No. 19

shōuxiān: 'first (of all), in the first place, first; first, before anyone/anything else'.

Jīntiān dàjiā kāi huì shōuxiān shì yào jiējúe wǒmen chǎng shēngchǎnghángde wěntí.

The first thing we want to do at today's meeting is to solve our factory's problems in production.

Zài fǎndiànli shōuxiān yào zhǔ yì jiējúe hǎo kěrēnmènde chī fàn hě xiūxi wèntí.

A hotel must first of all pay attention to solving the dining and rest problems of the guests.

Zújīn wàiguó péngyǒu hěn duō. Wǒmen shōuxiān yào jiējúe zhūde wèntí.

Recently there have been many foreign friends. We must first of all solve the lodging problems.

xiānhuā: 'fresh flowers', as opposed to dried or artificial flowers, which the Chinese are also fond of.

wǎnjù: '(children's) toy'.

Míngtiān ér zǐ guò shēngrì, gěi ta māi ge wǎnjù.

Tomorrow is our boy's birthday, let's buy him a toy.
Note on No. 20

gèdī: 'each place; various places'. Here you see the specifier -gè 'each' used in another compound. Here are some more examples:

Wǒ hěn xiǎng dào Měiguó gèdī qū kányīkǎn, Měiguó shí ge wěidàde guójiā.

I'd very much like to go visit lots of places in America. America is a great country.

Zài Zhōngguó gèdī cānguān yǒu- lǎnle sānge xīngqī, wǒ gāi huì guó le.

I've visited and sightseen lots of places in China for three weeks, it's time to go back home.
A Canadian student in Peking interviews a population control worker:

A: Wǒ zài Jiānádàde shìhòu jiù tǐngshuō Zhōngguó kŏngzhī rén-kǒu de gōngzuò zúòde hěn chéng-gōng. Nǐ néng bù néng gěi wò jiàngyìjiăng nǐmen shì zhěnmé zuòde?

C: Shǒuxiān, zhèngfǔ tǐchāng wānhūn. Èrqī, yǐbān de shuō, zài chénglǐ jiéle hūnde rèn liǎngnián yǐhòu cái yào háizi. Tāmen yào xiǎohāir yīqián yīng-gāi zuòdào sān tŏngguò.

A: 'Sān tŏngguò' shì shènme yǐsì ne?

C: 'Sān tŏngguò' yě jiù shuō yīng-gāi dēdào nǐ gōngzuò dān-wěi, nǐ zhūde dīfàngde jūmín wěiyánghū hé bāchūshù zhěi-sāng de dīfàngde tŏngyī.

A: Gè dānwěi gènjǔ shènme biāo-zhùn bǐzhǔn fùnūmen shèng xiǎohāir ne?

C: Gè chéngshí dōu yǒu yīdāng děrènkǒu chūshēngglǐ, měinǐán měi ge chéngshí zhī kēyǐ zēngjiā yīdāng shènhūde háizi. Zhèxiē mǐng'ě jiù fēnpèigei gěgě shīqūde xiǎng shèng háizhīe nǔtŏngzhī. Fùnǚ dōu shì dēdào bǐzhǔn yǐhòu cái huáiyūndě. Bù xiǎng yào háizhīe kēyī shǐfāng bǐyuàn; bǐyuàn gōngjù hé bǐyuàn yào dōu shì miǎnfèiđē.

A: Rúguó bǐyuàn shībǎi èr zhěnmé bàn?

C: Kēyī dào yīyuàn zuò réngōng lǐfān, shǒushū băbă zǐjī gěi qiūn, hái yǒu liǎngge xīngqíde

When I was in Canada I heard that population control work is being done very successfully in China. Could you explain to me what you do?

First, the government promotes late marriage. Furthermore, generally speaking, in the city, married people don't have children until after two years. Before they have a child they should have the 'three approvals'.

What does the 'three approvals' mean?

The 'three approvals' means that you should have the consent of your work unit, the neighborhood committee of the place you live, and the local police station.

According to what criteria do the various units give official permission to women to have children?

All the various cities have set population birth rates, and each year they can only increase by a certain number of children. These quotas are apportioned among women comrades in all the various cities who want to have children. Women do not become pregnant until they receive official permission.

Those who do not want to have children can practice birth control; all contraceptive medicines and contraceptive devices are free.

What is done if birth control fails?

One can go to the hospital to have an abortion. A person doesn't have to pay for the operation herself, and
jià, ǒu yǒu gōngzǐ.

A: Wǒ hǎoxiàng tínghuò Zhōngguó fùnǚ shēng háizi de shíhou ǒu wǔshíliùtiān de chānjài, érqiě kěyì dōu mǎi yǐxiē yǐngyángpín, shì bù shì?


A: Rènmén shēng háizi de shíhou, qīnqī péngyou sòng bu sòng lǐwǔ?

C: Qīnqī hé qīnjīn de péngyou hǎishì hui sòng yǐxiē xiǎo lǐwǔ, xiàng xiǎoháizi yǐfū la, xiǎo tànzi la, xiǎo māozi la, wǎnjū shěnmède. Yě yǒu rèn huì sòng yǐxiē shuǐguǒ huódòng xiānhuā.

A: Yīge jiātiěng kěyì ǒu jǐ ge xiǎohái?

C: Zài chéngshì lǐ niǎngqǐng fūrù zuì dōu yào liǎngge háizi.

A: Nóngcūngé qíngkuàng zěnmeyàng?


There is two weeks' leave with pay.

It seems to me I've heard that when Chinese women have children they get 56 days' maternity leave, and they can also buy extra nutritional food items. Is that so?

That's right. The maternity leave is paid. In the month after delivery, a woman can also buy one or two cattles of brown sugar, and one or two extra cattles of eggs. Chinese believe that brown sugar is very good for women during the month after delivery.

When someone has a baby, do relatives and friends give presents?

Relatives and close friends will still give a few small gifts, like clothes for the baby, little blankets, little hats, toys, and so forth. There are also people who will give a little fruit or fresh flowers.

How many children can one family have?

In the city young couples have two children at the most.

What's the situation like in the rural areas?

The situation in rural areas is different in different places. Where there's a large population the government promotes family planning. People in the rural areas also use all the various kinds of contraceptive devices. Quite a few people undergo contraceptive surgery after they've had two children. Either men or women may have this done. The peasants feel that having contraceptive surgery performed is much more convenient than using contraceptive devices.
But in the areas populated by minority nationalities, because the population is smaller, the government doesn't advocate family planning, so the average family can have a few more children.

**NOTE ON THE DIALOGUE**

Rénmen shēng háizìde shíhou, qīngqǐ péngyou sòng bu song lǐwù?: As stated in the dialogue, friends and relatives in the PRC give useful items for the baby, like clothes, hats, cups, or perhaps a chicken for the mother. These are presented casually.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bìyùn</td>
<td>contraception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bù tóng</td>
<td>to be different</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chǎnfù</td>
<td>a woman who has given birth within the last month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chǎn jià</td>
<td>maternity leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chéng gōng</td>
<td>to succeed, to be successful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chū shēng lù</td>
<td>birth rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dānwèi</td>
<td>unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-dào</td>
<td>(indicates successful accomplishment of something)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dié dao</td>
<td>to receive, to get</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fēnpèi</td>
<td>to assign, to apportion, to allot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gèdī</td>
<td>the various places, each place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gēgè</td>
<td>various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gēn jù (gēn ju)</td>
<td>according to, based on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gè zhōng</td>
<td>various kinds, types</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gōng zǐ</td>
<td>wages, pay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hōngtáng</td>
<td>brown sugar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jià</td>
<td>vacation, leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jī à tīng</td>
<td>family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jí huà shēng yù</td>
<td>planned parenthood, family planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jué yù</td>
<td>sterilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jū mín wēi yuán huì</td>
<td>neighborhood committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kòng zhì</td>
<td>to control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-men</td>
<td>plural suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miǎn fèi</td>
<td>to be free of charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>míng'ě</td>
<td>the number of people assigned or allowed, quota (of people)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nèng mín</td>
<td>peasant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nǚ</td>
<td>female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pài chū suō (r)</td>
<td>the local police station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pí zhūn</td>
<td>to give official permission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qìng kuàng</td>
<td>situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qīn jīn</td>
<td>to be close (to a person)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
rěngōng liúchǎn
sān tōngguò
shǎoshù jīnzhǔ
shēngyù
shībài
shìqū
shōushù
shòuxiān
shūmu
tōngguò
tōngyì
wǎnjù
xiǎngxīn
xiānhuā
xiǎohǎi
yě jiù shì shuō
yībān
yībānde shuō
yídīng
yíngyǎngyǐn
zēngjiā
censorship
"the three approvals"
minority nationality, national minority
to give birth to and raise
to fail
urban area or district
operation, surgery
first number
to pass, to approve
to consent, to agree
toy
to believe
fresh flowers
child, children
to mean; in other words
ordinary, general, common
generally speaking
to be specific
food items of special nutritional value
to increase
Customs Surrounding  
Marriage, Birth, and Death: Unit 4

PART I

1. Nǐ de fúqì zhēn hǎo.  You are really blessed with good fortune.

2. Zhāng Tàitāide xǐfu tóuyītāi jiǔ gěi ta shèngle yīge dà sūnzi.  Mrs. Zhang's daughter-in-law in her first pregnancy presented her with a fine grandson.

3. Wǒ zhèlǐ yǒu yīge hóngbāo shì gēi xīǎo bāobāode.  I have a "red envelope" for the baby.

4. Bù gǎn dāng!  I'm flattered. You shouldn't have!

5. Nǐ zhēnshì tài kěqi le. Hébì pòfèi ne?  You're too polite. Why should you spend so much money?

6. A: Nǐde nǚér shèngxǐalái shíhou yǒu duō zhòng?  How much did your daughter weigh when she was born?
   B: Qībāng bān.  Seven and a half pounds.

7. A: Wǒ gāng wèile ta bǔ jiǔ, tā yǒu kū le.  I just fed him not long ago, and now he's crying again.
   B: Dàgái yǒu yào chǐ nǎi le.  He probably wants to nurse again.

8. Tā zhǎngde hěn piàoliang.  She is very pretty.

9. A: Nǐ zhège háizi hěn yǒu fúxiàng,  ěrduo zhǎngde zhēn dà.  This child of yours has a lucky physiognomy. His ears are really big.
   B: Tuō nín de fú!  It's because of your lucky influence.

NOTES ON PART I

Note on No. 1

fúqì: 'blessings, good fortune, luck'.

Wǒ hěn yǒu fúqì, ěrzi bāng wo bù shǎo mǎng.  I'm very fortunate, my son helps me a lot.
Notes on No. 2

xīfù: 'daughter-in-law, son's wife'.

Tā xīfù hǎo piāoliang! Her daughter-in-law is so beautiful!

Wǒ xīfù gōngzuò mǎngjíle. My daughter-in-law is very busy.

tóu-: 'first', (literally 'head') as in tóuyītiān, 'the first day'.

Tóu- is used much like dī-: before a number and a counter, which may or may not be followed by a noun.

tóuyīcī the first time
tóuyīgè rén the first person
tóuliānggè rén the first two people
tóusān bān the first three volumes

In tóuyīgè, tóu- is stressed and yī is in the neutral tone. Also notice that the word for 'two' is liǎng- (not èr as is usually the case when a counter follows).

Now here is a comparison of tóu- and dī-:

(1) Tóuyīgè rén and dīyīgè rén are both translated as 'the first person', and tóuyīgè is for the most part interchangeable with dīyīgè.

(2) Although the yī in tóuyīgè is unstressed and written without a tone mark over it, the yī in dīyīgè is stressed and said with a second tone (or sometimes with a first tone).

(3) The word for 'two' is liǎng after tóu-, but èr after dī-. Dīyīgè means 'the second one', while tóuliānggè means 'the first two'.

(4) Tóu- must be used with a counter, but dī- can be used with just a number after it. Here are some examples of dī- used with a number but no counter after it:

Wǒ yào mǎi zhège dōngxi. I'm going to buy this. First, it's
Dīyī, zuòde hěn hǎo; dìèr, very well made; second, it's
hěn piányì. inexpensive.

Tā shì dīyī, wǒ shì dìèr. He is first, I'm second.

But tóuyī-, tóuliāng-, tóusān- always have a counter word after the number.

táì: This is the counter for pregnancies, whether carried to term or not. Literally táì means 'embryo'. The expression tóuyítáì can also be said tóutáì.
The first three babies were all girls; it wasn't until the fourth that she had a boy.

When she had her first baby, she was still in pretty good health. But when she had her second, it wasn't good any more.

shēng: 'to give birth to...' Notice that the Chinese verb shēng is used in an active sense which is not always reflected in the English. Compare the various translations of shēng in the Reference List, the above examples and the dialogue.

sūnzi: 'grandson'. This only refers to the son of one's son. The son of one's daughter and son-in-law is called wāisūnzi. Here is a chart showing how these terms relate to each other.

```
  wǒ           spouse
     
  érzǐ   xīfu       niùr   nǔxū
   (son  daughter-in-law) (daughter  son-in-law)

    ānsūnzi   wāisūnzi
   (grandson) (grandson)

    sūnnū   wāisūnnū
   (granddaughter) (granddaughter)
```

Notes on No. 3

hōngbāo: 'a red envelope with money in it, given as a gift or bribe'. These gifts of money may be given to children by people at least a generation older. This usually happens at festive occasions, like New Years or a birthday. The amount given varies greatly but there is one thing to remember: 'Do not give an amount with the number four in it! The number four, shí, closely resembles the verb "to die," sǐ, and is therefore considered unlucky. Chinese youth were without any real opportunity to make money in the past, so this is one way that it is made up for.

xīǎo bāobāo: Literally 'little treasure', in other words 'the little darling' or 'the baby'. This word is usually used by women. Some people use the word bāobāo (with or without xiāo) in addressing or speaking about babies or children.

The second bāo in bāobāo is neutral tone; even though it was originally also third tone, it does not make the first bāo change to a rising tone, as you might expect (e.g. náli). The first bāo in bāobāo is pronounced low,

65
without any rise in pitch. (Some people also say bāobǎo and xiǎo bāobǎo.)
There are many other words used to refer to babies. Some terms used
by both men and women include (xiǎo) bēibì, (xiǎo) guāiguāi, xiǎo jiānhuo.
Some terms used mostly by men include xiǎo bēibì and xiǎo budiǎnr.

Note on No. 4

bù gǎn dāng: 'I'm flattered'. Literally, this means 'I dare not assume
the honor you pay me'. This is a polite response to a compliment (such
as 'You speak Chinese very well'), to a respectful gesture (such as helping
someone put on their coat), or to a respectful phrase (like 'Qīngjiāo!').

Note on No. 5

pōfei: 'spend money (on someone)', also sometimes translated as 'to
spend recklessly'.

Ràng nǐn pōfei. or Jiào nǐn pōfei.
I have caused you to spend a lot of
money. (i.e., 'you shouldn't have
spent all that money on me!')

Tā shì wǒ sūnzi, wèi tā pōfei
liǎngge qiān shí yīnggāide.
He's my grandson, it's only right
that I should spend a little money
on him.

Tā shēngríè shíhòu, Wáng
Xiānshèng pōfeide zhēn bù
shǎo.
For his birthday, Mr. Wang really
spent quite a bit of money on him.

Notes on No. 6

yǒu duō zhòng: 'how heavy?' Zhòng is the adjectival verb 'to be heavy'.
Notice the similarity between asking age, weight and height. In each the
pattern is literally 'have how much (of some quality)'.

Nǐ yǒu duō dà? How old are you?
Néizhāng zhuōzi yǒu duō zhòng? How heavy is that table?
Tā yǒu duō gāo? How tall is she?

This pattern is usually confined to measurements of some sort.

bǎng: 'pound (unit of weight)'. In addition to the traditional Chinese
units of weight such as dān 'picul (100 liters approximately)', jīn 'catty
(1 1/3 lbs.)', liǎng 'tael (105 grams approximately)', and the metric system
of weights, such as gōngliǎng '100 grams' and gōngjīn 'kilogram', you also
find customary American units such as 'pound' used.
gāng wèile tā bù jiǔ: This means 'It's only been a short while SINCE I fed him.', NOT 'I fed him for only a short while.' Chinese can distinguish between the duration of a continued activity and the duration of something not happening by putting these two types of duration phrases in different places in the sentence.

Let's review time when and time spent, and take a look at how you express TIME WITHIN WHICH something didn't happen and TIME ELAPSED since something happened.

1. Simple duration phrases, that is phrases telling how long an activity went on, follow the verb. These contrast with phrases telling the time when something happened, which come before the verb.

Simple duration

| Tā zài Xiānggāng zhù liǎngtiān. | Tā's staying in Hong Kong for two days. |
| Tā zuòle wǔfēn zhōng, jiù zǒu le. | He sat for five minutes and then left. |

Time when

| Tā shì zuótiān dàode. | She arrived yesterday. |

2. The amount of time something did not happen, that is the TIME WITHIN WHICH the activity has not taken place, is expressed in negative sentences with time phrases before the verb.

Time Within with a Negative Verb

| Wǒmen yīnián méi jiàn le. | We haven't seen each other for a year. |
| Wǒ yǐjīng yīge yuè méi qù nàr le. | I haven't been going there for a month now. |
3. To express the time elapsed since an activity took place the duration phrase is again placed after the verb.

Time elapsed in an affirmative sentence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese Text</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wǒ zuòwānle yījīng yīge zhōngtōu le.</td>
<td>I've been done for an hour already.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tā cǎi zōule yīge xīngqī.</td>
<td>It's been only a week since he left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wǒ gāng lǐkāi zhèige wǔzǐ bù jiǔ.</td>
<td>I've been out of the room only a short while.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note on No. 7

chī nǎi: 'to eat (mother's) milk', in other words, "to breastfeed" and by extension 'to drink milk', even from a bottle. Similarly, wèi nǎi can mean 'to feed milk (to a baby)' without specifying mother's milk or otherwise. To distinguish between breast feeding and bottle feeding, one can say chī māmā de nǎi, 'to eat mother's milk'. And from the mother's point of view, one can say māmā zǐ jī gěi háizi wèi nǎi, 'the mother nurses the child herself'.

Note on No. 8

Tā zhǎngde hěn piàoliáng: 'She's very pretty.' Zhǎngde piàoliáng literally means 'grow pretty', but it should be translated simply as 'is pretty'. Zhǎngde ... is often used in descriptions of the appearance of living things. In these cases, zhǎngde ... is absent of any meaning such as 'has grown ...', 'has come to be ...' or 'has become ...'; it simply means 'is, are'.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese Text</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tā zhǎngde hěn hǎokān.</td>
<td>She is very beautiful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tā zhǎngde gěn wǒ yǐyǎng gāo.</td>
<td>She is just as tall as I am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tāde liăn zhǎngde gěn wǒ méi- mei yǐyǎng.</td>
<td>Her face looks just like my little sister.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is almost no difference in meaning between Tā hěn piàoliáng and Tā zhǎngde hěn piàoliáng. Both are used frequently. But there is a difference in meaning between Tā zhǎngde hěn gāo and Tā zhǎnggāo le: the former means 'He is very tall', and the latter 'He has grown tall'.

68
Notes on No. 9

福相: 'auspicious physiognomy'. This phrase implies something more than 'lucky face'. The word 福 expresses the destiny of a person to enjoy a life of good fortune. 相 is a person's looks considered from the point of view of fortune telling. Traditionally, it was believed that a person's destiny could be determined from the individual variations of his hands, bones, face, ears, hair, and so forth. The 相 includes the face, ears, hairline, and bumps on the head.

...絶多 physically zhēn dà: Portraits of some of the most admired men in Chinese history depict them with long ears. (Long ears are thought to indicate wisdom.) It was thought that rulers in particular were so endowed. Buddha is also pictured with long ears, as he appeared in Indian portrayals.
Taipei:

Mrs. Sông's daughter-in-law, Bảolan, has just recently had a baby. A friend of the family, Mrs. Zhăng, comes to pay them a visit:

Z: Sông Taitai, nín xífu shěngle meiyou?
Mrs. Sông, has your daughter-in-law had the baby yet?

S: Shēng le. Shěngle ge nánháizi.
Yes. It's a boy.

Oh! How lucky you are. She had a nice big grandson for you—and it was her first! Congratulations.

S: Xièxiè, xièxiè! Lái kānkăn wǒ xífu gèn xiǎo dǎobao ba!
Thank you. Come see my daughter-in-law and the baby!

Z: Hǎo.
Okay.

Bǎolán! Gōngxī, gōngxī! Nǐ nǎo ma?
Congratulations, Bảolan! How are you?

E: Wǒ hěn hǎo. Zhāng Bómù, nǐn lái le.
Well Mrs. Zhăng! I'm fine, thanks.

Z: Du! Nǐ zhē háizi hěn yǒu fǔxiàng, cānguō zhǎngde nǎme dà!
Oh! He's got a very lucky physiognomy. Such big ears!

B: Xièxiè! Tuō nínde rú!
Thank you! It's because of your lucky influence!

Z: Tā shěngxialaide shíhou yǒu duō zhǒng a?
How much did he weigh at birth?

B: Qìbàng bān.
Seven and a half pounds.

Z: Nǐ, zhēn bù xiāo.
Hmm. That's really pretty big.

S: Tā zhēn néng chī. Bǎolán gāng wéile tā bù jiǔ, xiànzài yǒu kū le. Dàgāi yǒu yào chī nái le.
He eats like a horse. Bảolan just fed him a little while ago, and now he's crying again. He probably wants to nurse again.

Z: Tā kūde shēngyīn hěn dà. Shěntǐ yídǐng hěn jiānkāng.
He cries so loudly. He must be very healthy.

B: Duí! Tā cóng yíyuán huílái yīge lǐbāi jiǔ zhǎngle yībàng.
Yes! In the week after he came back from the hospital, he gained a pound.

Z: Wǒ lái yìqián xiǎngzhe nǐ yīnggāi shěngle, suǒyì
Before I came I thought you should have had the baby by now, so I got a
zhǔnbèile yīge hóngbāo. Shì
gěi xiǎo bāobāo de.

B: Bù gān dāng. Nǐn tài kèqì
le. Hébǐ pōfei ne?

Z: Bú shì kèqì. Zhǐ shì yǐdiǎn
xiǎo yǐsì.

B: Xièxiè! Xièxiè!

'red envelope' ready. It's for the
baby.

You shouldn't have. That's too
polite of you. Why should you spend
money?

I'm not being polite. This is just
a little something to express my
feelings.

Thank you!
    Chinese people believe that women who have just given birth should stay out of drafts until the child is a full month old.

11. Chǎnfù zuǒ yuèzìde shǐhou yào tèbié xiǎoxīn.
    Women who have just given birth should be especially careful during the month after delivery.

    Chinese people say that when you take Chinese medicine, you shouldn't eat raw or cold things.

    The doctor says I've got rheumatism and that it would be best for me not to come in contact with cold water.

    You should lie down more and pay attention to your rest; that's the only way you'll recover quickly.

15. Jiǎndào Wǎng Bùzhǎngde shǐhou qiānwàn dāngxīn, bié suǒbiàn shuō huà.
    When you see Secretary Wáng, be sure to watch yourself, don't be careless in what you say.

16. Tā jiēhūn yīqián duì tā xiānshēng liǎojiēde bùgōu, jiēguò jiēhūn yīhòu hěn tòngkǔ.
    Before she got married she didn't understand her husband well enough and as a result she suffered a lot after the marriage.

17. Nǐ kàn tā duō kuài, yíxiàzi jiù bǎ fǎn zuòhǎo le.
    Look at how fast he is, he got dinner ready in no time at all.

18. Nà shì Wǎngjiāde xīfu, zhènme pāng!
    That is the Wáng family's daughter-in-law, she's so fat!

NOTES ON PART II

Notes on No. 10

mǎnyuè: 'thirtieth day after a child is born', literally, 'full-month'. (It also means 'full moon'.) This refers to a baby's completion of the first full month of life and is a cause of celebration.
The Wang's baby is about to be a month old, and they're asking everyone to go take part in the 'full month' banquet.

chuí fēng: Literally, 'to blow wind', but actually 'to be in a current of air, a draft, the wind'. Although what blows is the wind, fēng 'wind' seems to be in the object position in this phrase. Chānfù bù kěyǐ chuí fēng does not mean "Women recently delivered of a child cannot blow wind", but rather, "Women recently delivered of a child cannot have wind blow on them." Traditionally, Chinese women were to stay out of drafts because of the very poor overall health situation of the country, and because of the importance of caring for the next generation. Of the three (Confucian) ways to be unfilial, the worst was to be heirless.

Nǐ de bìng gāng hǎo, bù yào chū chù chuí fēng. You're just over your illness, don't go out in a draft.

Notes on No. 11

zuò yuèzǐ: Literally, 'to sit the yuèzǐ', yuèzǐ being the month after giving birth during which a woman is supposed to take special care of her health. There are different motivations underlying this custom. Woman's most important function (indeed her only one) was to aide in perpetuating the family line. Therefore it was essential to take special precautions for her own health so that she would nurse a healthy baby. Another idea was that a woman's body at this time was "dirty" and to avoid offending the door gods she should not go past them.

Tā zuò yuèzí de shíhou, kè xiǎoxīn, méi chúguo yītiān mén. During the first month after delivery she was extremely careful. She didn't go out once.

xiǎoxīn: 'to be careful', literally, 'small-heart'. Xiǎoxīn is an adjectival verb which can be used with or without an object following.

Tā zhèige rén bù zěnmeyàng, hé tā zuò péngyou yào xiǎoxīn. This guy is nothing special, you'd better be careful making friends with him.

Xiǎoxīn! Qiānbianr shì hóngdēng. Careful! There's a red light up ahead.

Xiǎoxīn nèige rén! Be careful of that person!

Xiǎoxīn guǒ mǎlù. Be careful crossing the street.
shēnglēng: 'raw or cold foods'. Traditional Chinese medicine divides foods into yīn and yāng. Yīn are "cool" (liángxīngde) foods, that is, foods that make the system cool; yāng foods are "hot" (rèxīngde), that is, they make the system hot. These characteristics are not dependent on the degree temperature at which the food is eaten, but are rather inherent in the food. For example, crab, white sugar, and most vegetables and fruits are yīn or cool, while hot pepper, lard, millet, brown sugar, and certain fruits such as cantaloupe and lichee nuts are all particularly yāng or hot. Generally speaking, yāng foods harmonize with body temperature while yīn foods shock the system. Nonetheless, a balance between the two kinds of foods must be maintained. Too much yāng food can cause the body's "heat" to rise too much (shàng huǒ), minor symptoms of which might include a cough, fever, dry mouth, blisters on the tongue, and constipation. On the other hand, too much yīn food is bad for the stomach and can cause diarrhea.

The body's "heat" (huǒ) can be regulated by eating one or the other kind of foods. Thus in hot weather, when the huǒ naturally rises, one should eat "cool" foods to lower the huǒ (qīng huǒ), and in the winter one should eat "hot" foods. Likewise, certain illnesses call for the eating of one kind of food or the other: one should eat "cool" foods to counteract infections and fevers, while one should eat "hot" foods to build up one's strength if one has a disease which makes him weak. In particular, women giving birth should eat plenty of the "hot" type of foods.

Shēnglēng, raw or cold foods, have also traditionally been considered bad for women who are pregnant or have just given birth. Given sanitary conditions in traditional China, this is understandable.

Chī shēnglēngde dǎoxī yǐdīng yào xǐgānjīng. When eating raw things, be sure to wash them well.

Notes on No. 13

dé: 'to get, a catch (a disease)'. Dé bìng means 'to get an illness'.

Wǒ dé bìng yīhòu, měi bānwà nián shū le. After I got sick, I couldn't study any more.

Tā dé bìng yǐqián, shēnǐ hěn hǎo. Before she got ill, her health was very good.

Tā déde shí shénme bìng? What illness was it that she got?

Here are some examples of dé followed by the name of an illness:

Tā dé gānmào yīhòu, jiǔ méiyǒu chūlái guó. He didn't go out after he got a cold.
Qǐnián dōngtiān, tā dāle xüēyǎ
gāo.

Last vinter, he got high blood
pressure.

Here are some more examples sentences showing various uses of dé:

Jīnnián guō shēngrì wo déle
yībǐn xīn shū.

I got a new book on my birthday this
year.

Xiǎodì jǐntiān néng dé hāojiě-
ge hóngbāo!

Little brother will be able to get
a lot of "red envelopes" today!

Of course, dé cannot be used in all cases when we would say 'get' in
English. For one thing, dé only means to receive passively, whereas English
'get' sometimes denotes actively seeking to obtain, as in 'I'm going to the
supply room to get some paper and pens', or 'I got a package of cereal at
the supermarket'. In these cases, dé would not be appropriate in Chinese.
To show you some other ways in which the English word 'get' is expressed in
Chinese, here are some Chinese sentences which do not use dé although the
English translation uses 'get':

Zuǒtiān lái nǐde diànhuà le.

Yesterday you got a phone call (but
you weren't here to get it.)

Zuǒtiān wǒ jìědào tāde diànhuà
le.

Yesterday I got a phone call from
him (and was there to receive it.)

Tā zēngjiā gōngzī le.

He got a raise in wages.

Tā jǐa xīnshū le.

He got a raise in salary.

Wǒ shōudāole yīge zhǎngdān.

I got a bill.

Wǒ cóng tā nàr bǎ jiĕgěi tāde
nàběn shū náhuílai le.

I got the book back which I lent him.

Yě gěi wǒ nà yīge lai.

Get one for me too.

Cóng shěnhmé dìfāng wǒ néng
mǎidā yīge xiāng zhēiyangrde?

Where can I get (buy) one of those?

fēngshī: 'rheumatism', literally 'wind-humid'.

tā yǒu fēngshī, tiān yì lěng
tuí těngde lǐhài.

He has rheumatism, as soon as it gets
cold, his leg hurts severely.

pèng: 'to touch', only in the sense of one object coming into contact
with another. The verb pèng can also mean to come into contact with something
in a violent way, 'to hit, to bump into'. Whether pèng means merely 'to
touch' or 'to bump into' must be determined by context.
Nǐ bìe pèng zhège zhūōzi. Don't touch this table.

Tāde chē kě būdeliào. Biérén pèng dōu bù néng pèng, gěng bù yào shuō jièqu kāi le! His car is terrific! Other people can't even touch it, not to mention borrowing it to drive!

[Some other words meaning 'to touch' are āi 'to be close to, to be next to, to be touching'

Tā zuì pà dǎ zhēn. Zhēn hái méi āidào ta, tā jiù dà jiào. She is extremely afraid of getting shots. She cries out before the needle has even touched her.

dōng: 'to touch, to handle'

Nǐ bìe dōng wo zhuōzishangde dōngxi, dēng yīhuīr wǒ huí-lai le zìjǐ shōushi. Don't touch the things on my desk, in a while when I come back I'll straighten them up myself.

mō: 'to feel, to rub, to touch' Here you also need to know that ruăn means 'to be soft, yielding to the touch'.

Zhēijiàn yīfu zhēn hǎo, mōshāng- qu ruănruănde; chuānzhe yídīng hěn shūfū. This piece of clothing is really nice, very soft to the touch; it must be very comfortable to wear.

Notes on No. 14

tāng: 'to lie down'. This is an action verb. Under most circumstances, it requires some kind of complement: either a zài phrase telling where the subject ended up in a lying position, as in

Tā tāngzai chuāngshang le. He lay down on the bed.

or the durative aspect marker -zhe, as in

Tā zài chuāngshang tāngzhe. He is/was lying on the bed.

or the directional ending -xia(lai), as in

Dāifu jiǎo wo tāngxia. The doctor told me to lie down.

or the completion le, as in

Tāngle bāntiān, háishi bu shūfū. I lay down for quite a long time, but still felt ill.

Tā tāngle yīhuīr, jiù juéde hǎo yǐdīnnr le. After I laid down for a while, I felt better.
huīfu: 'to restore; to return to (an original state); to recover (one's health)'.

Zhèige gōngchǎng yǐjīng huīfu shēngchān le. This factory has already restored production. (Production in many areas was stopped during the turmoil of the Great Cultural Revolution.)

Tā qiánjǐnián dào nónghuǐn qu le. Zuìjīn cái huīfu gōngzuò. She went to the countryside several years ago. Only recently did she return to work.

A: Wǒ shāngge yuè shēng bǐng-le, zhèige xīngqī cái huīfu yǒudiǎnér. I was sick last month and only this week am feeling like myself again.

B: Kàn nǐde yàngzǐ, huīfude bù cuò. Looking at your appearance I'd say you're pretty well recovered.

Notes on No. 15

qiānwàn: 'by all means, for sure', literally 'thousand ten-thousands'.

Nèitiáo jiēshāng chē tài duō, nǐ qiānwàn bié qù. There are too many cars on that street, you are absolutely not to go there.

Yǐ gāng xué kāi chē, qiānwàn xiāoxīn. You've only just learned to drive a car, be sure to be careful.

Qiānwàn zhùyǐ, bù yào xiēcuò le, xiēcuòle kě máfān. Be sure to be careful, don't write this incorrectly, if you do it'll be so much trouble.

dāngxīn: 'to watch out, to watch oneself, to be cautious'. Not to be confused with dānxīn, 'to worry'.

Gāng xiàle xuě, chū mén dāngxīn! It's just snowed, watch yourself when you go out.

Kāi chē shàng jiē dāngxīn yǐ-diǎn ră! Watch yourself when you go out driving downtown!

Notes on No. 16

jiéguò: 'as a result, and so ...'. One of the uses of this word is to connect the thought of one sentence with the next. (Another is as the noun 'result(s)'). It provides a transition from one sentence to another, as in
As a result, then ...'. Below is a monologue which takes place in Peking, in which the speaker uses the word jiēguō in this way several times. (This is not meant to be an example of eloquence; in fact, you should not use jiēguō as repetitively as this speaker.)


I heard that Xiǎo Wáng and Xiǎo Lǐ are in love. How serious? Really serious. The two of them had no problems with the idea (of getting married). But then Xiǎo Wáng’s father didn’t agree. The whole thing became difficult to arrange. They thought for a long time, and as a result it was Xiǎo Wáng who went to seek out the neighborhood committee. The neighborhood committee cadres talked with Old Wáng (Xiǎo Wáng’s father) for a long time. But then it still didn’t go over. What to do? Xiǎo Wáng then went to seek out the local police station. And the police station cadres went to talk with Old Wáng too, but still no result. Well what do you think happened in the end? Xiǎo Lǐ went herself to talk with Old Wáng. She said that after they married they wouldn’t move out, that she would take care of the old gentleman. That’s when Old Wáng became satisfied. So in the end Xiǎo Wáng and Xiǎo Lǐ were happily married.

tōngkǔ: 'to be in pain, to be suffering'.
Tā nèi shíhou hěn tōngkǔ. She was in a great deal of pain at that time.
Liǎn'ài shībāile tā hěn tōngkǔ. It was very hard on him when they broke up.
Zhějiān shìqìng ràng tā fēichǎng tōngkǔ. This matter pained him a great deal.

Notes on No. 17

duō kuài: 'how fast!' Duó or the alternate form duóme is used in exclamatory sentences to mean 'how ...!' Here are some more examples:

Nǐ kàn cāi shuōle liǎngjù huà, tā jìù bù gāoxìng le. Duó You see you only have to say two sentences and she gets unhappy.
ràng rén bù hǎo yǐsi! It really makes a person embarrassed!
Zhēi kùzi zhènme duǎn, chuān-
shāng duǒ nánshǒu! These pants are so short, when you
wear them they'll be so
uncomfortable.
Zhèiběn shū xiěde duǒ hǎo! This book is so well written!
Wǒ bǎ chē yào shì fàngzì chuǎng-
shāng. Duǒ běn! I left the car keys on the bed. How
stupid!
yíxiāzì: 'in a flash, at one blow, at one fell swoop, all at once,
in no time'.
Wǒ huò hǎi méi shuōwán, tā
yíxiāzì jiù shēngqì le.
Shéi zhīdào wèishénme? I hadn't yet finished speaking when
he got angry all of a sudden. Who
knows why?

Notes on No. 18

Wángjiā: 'the Wang family', referring either to the people, the social
unit, or their home (in which case it can be used as a place word).

pàng: 'to be fat, to get fat'. The verb pàng can be used in two ways:
one as an adjectival verb 'to be fat', the other as a process verb 'to get
fat'. To the Chinese, a fat baby is not only a healthy baby, it is a
beautiful one. Plumpness and roundness are two features admired in babies
and children.

Adjectival verb (state)
Tā hěn pàng. He is fat.
Tā xiǎo shíhou bù pàng. She wasn't fat when she was little.
Wǒ hěn pàng, shénme dou bù
gān chī. I'm afraid of being fat, I don' dare
eat anything.

Process verb
Zuìjìn shēntǐ hǎole, tā pàng
duǒ le. Lately his health got better and he
got very fat.
Nǐ shì bu shì pàngle yǐdìandiǎn, Ergē a?
Haven't you put on just a little bit
of weight, Older Brother?
Taipei:

Mrs. Fang pays a visit to Mrs. Zhang and her daughter-in-law to see the daughter-in-law's new baby:

F: Gōngxì, gōngxì! Zhāng Taitai, nín zhēn yǒu fūqi, nínde xīfu tōuyītāi jì jǐ gěi nín shēngle yīge dà pàng sūnzi. Nínde xīfu hé xiǎo bāobāo cóng yīyuàn huílai meiyōu? Tāmen dōu hǎo ba?

Z: Xièxiè, xièxiè! Tāmen dōu hǎo, jǐntiān zǎoshang gāng cóng yīyuàn huílai.

F: Wǒ zhēlǐ yǒu yīge hónghǎo, shì gěi xiǎo bāobāo de.

Z: Ai! Bù gàn dāng, nín zhēn shì tài kēqi le, hěn pòfei ne?

F: Nálì, nálì! Zhī shì yǐdiǎn xiǎo yīsì. Háizi yǒu duō zhòng a?


C: Ō! Fāng Bómǔ, nín yě lái le!

F: Gōngxì, gōngxì! Wǒ lái kān nǐ érzi lái le! Zhège háizi zhāngde zhēn hǎo, duō yǒu fūxiāng!

C: Xièxiè, xièxiè! Tuō nín de fú!

Gongs: Congratulations! Mrs. Zhang, you're so lucky! Your daughter-in-law had a big fat grandson for you—and it was just her first! Have your daughter-in-law and the little darling come back from the hospital yet? They're both doing well, I hope?

Z: Thank you! They're both fine. They just came back from the hospital this morning.

F: I have a 'red envelope' for the baby here.

Z: Oh! You shouldn't have. You're really too kind. Why should you spend all this money?

F: Don't be silly. This is just a little something to express my feelings. How much does the baby weigh?

Z: He was eight pounds seven ounces at birth. He's really a healthy baby, and he eats a lot. Right after his feeding, in no time he's hungry again. Listen, he's crying again. What a loud voice! He probably wants to nurse again. Let's go see.

C: Ō! Auntie Fang, you've come too!

F: Congratulations! I've come to see your son! He looks so good! What a lucky physiognomy!

C: Thank you! It's all thanks to your lucky influence!
How are you feeling? You have to be careful for the first month after giving birth. Don't eat raw or cold foods, stay out of drafts, avoid cold water, and don't leave the house. Look at Mrs. Liü who didn't pay attention during the first month after giving birth; she opened the refrigerator a lot and used cold water, and ended up getting rheumatism. She suffered so much. Now she still has to take Chinese medicine every day. Be absolutely sure you watch out.

Right! I've already told her. You shouldn't do anything at all during the first month after giving birth. You should lie down a lot, get a lot of rest, eat a lot of good food, and then your health will come back faster.

I'm going to leave now. I'll come back in a few days to see you and the baby.

Wait a second. Take a few red eggs with you. We'll invite you to the celebration dinner when the baby is one month old.

All right, I'll be sure to come.

NOTE ON THE DIALOGUE

hóngdān: Red eggs symbolize a combination of lucky influences: red is the color of happiness and dignity, while eggs are symbols of health and prosperity to the farmer. Hóngdān are sometimes also used as gifts from a newly-engaged couple to their friends.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bàng (báobăo)</td>
<td>pound (unit of weight)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chī nǎi</td>
<td>baby, darling (term of endearment for a young child)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chuí fēng</td>
<td>I'm flattered, You shouldn't have, I don't deserve this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dāngxīn</td>
<td>to nurse, to suckle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dē</td>
<td>to have air blow on oneself, to be in a draft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>duō kuài!</td>
<td>to watch out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ěr duo</td>
<td>to get</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fēngshǐ</td>
<td>ear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fǔ qǐ</td>
<td>how fast!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fǔxīláng</td>
<td>rheumatism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hōngbăo</td>
<td>blessings, luck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hōngdàn</td>
<td>lucky physiognomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hōngbāo</td>
<td>a red envelope with a gift or bribe of money in it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hōngdàn</td>
<td>eggs dyed red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huì fū</td>
<td>to recover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jìe guǒ (jiě guǒ)</td>
<td>as a result; result, results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mānyuè</td>
<td>a full month after the birth of a baby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mānyuè jīliǔ</td>
<td>celebration meal one month after a baby is born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pāng</td>
<td>to be fat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pēng</td>
<td>to touch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pōfei</td>
<td>to spend a lot of money (on someone), to go to some expense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qiānwàn</td>
<td>by all means, be sure to; (in combination with a negative sentence)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shēng lǐng</td>
<td>by no means, under no circumstances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shēng xiālāi</td>
<td>raw or cold foods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sūn zī</td>
<td>to be born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-tāi</td>
<td>grandson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>birth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
tăng
tòngkū
tòuyige
tòuyīltāi
tuō nín de fū
to lie, to recline
to be painful
the first
the first pregnancy, the first baby
thanks to your lucky influence, many
thanks

Wángjiān
wèi
xiǎo bǎobǎo (xiǎo bǎobǎo)
xiǎoxīn
xīfu
the Wang family
baby, darling (term of endearment
to a young child)
to be careful
daughter-in-law

yǐxiàzi
yuēzi
an instant, a moment, a while
month of confinement after giving
birth to a child

zhǎng
zhòng
zuǒ yuēzi
to grow; to be (pretty, etc.)
to be heavy
to go through the month of confinement
and special care after childbirth
I've been out of town on business lately, so I wasn't able to participate in this meeting.

Last Tuesday I heard the news that his grandmother had passed away.

Tomorrow I'm going to present my condolences at the funeral.

Tomorrow I'm going to help them take care of the funeral.

My father always liked to drink, but last month he decided all of a sudden that he would never drink again.

My father had a heart attack.

We rushed him to Taiwan University Hospital.

The doctor said that she had been saved through emergency treatment.

Your grandmother always took good care of herself.

She must have been quite old when she passed away.

After I listened to it I couldn't calm down for quite a while.

I'm sorry I couldn't rush back in time for the funeral.
Notes on No. 1

zuìjìn: 'lately, recently; in the near future'. This word can either refer to the near past or the near future.

A: Tā zuìjìn zěnmeyàng?
B: Zuìjìn tā hěn hǎo.

Wǒ zuìjìn zài niàn shū.
Wǒ zuìjìn yào dào Jiāzhōu qù.

chūchāi: 'to go away on official business'.

Míngtiān chūchāi, jiàntiān hěn mǎng.
Zhēcì chūchāi, qù shénme dìfang?
Zhējiān shī, děng wo chuān chái yīhòu zài bān.
Zhēcì chūchāi huílái, kéyì dāi diǎn dōngxi gěi ni.

cānjíà: 'to participate in; to attend; to go to (a meeting, gathering, performance, etc.); to join'.

Wǒ jīn huá xià Xīngqīyì yào dào Nǐ Yüē qu wǎ. Nǐ xiāng bu xiāng cānjíà?
Wǒ yào cānjíà míngtiān xiàwù huì.
Zuòtiān wǒmen gěi Zhāng Tàitài sòngxīng, nǐ yě cānjíà le ma?

I'm planning to go to New York next week to relax. Do you want to join in?

I'm going to attend the meeting tomorrow afternoon.

Yesterday when we gave the going-away party for Mrs. Zhang, did you come too?
Notes on No. 2

zài shàng Xīnghūr: 'on last Tuesday'. Notice that zài is used here with an expression stating a time when something occurs. In this sentence, zài is optional. Here are some more examples:

Zhège huì zài xiàrè xuè kāi. This meeting will be held next month.
Zhège húrí zài qùnián qiūtiān kǎishǐ zài jiā nièn shū le. This child began studying at home last fall.
Wǒ zài shànggè lǐbāi mǎi le yǐjiàn jiēhūn lǐfú. Last week I bought a wedding gown.
Zài Yǐjīu lǐsānnián wǒ rènshì le ta. I met him in 1963.

zǔmǔ: '(paternal) grandmother'. Remember that this refers exclusively to the father's mother. The mother's mother is wāizǔmǔ. [A grandmother is usually addressed by her son's children as nǎinai.] Here is a chart showing these terms:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
| \text{zǔmǔ} & \text{wāizǔmǔ} | \\
| (nǎinai) & (wāigōng) |
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
| fūqìn & mǔqìn | \\
| (bàba) & (māma) |
\end{array}
\]

wǒ

qūshì: 'to pass away'. Literally, this means 'to go (from this) world'. It is a euphemism for sǐ 'to die', which is introduced in Unit 6.

Xīǎo Wángde fūqìn qūshì yǐjīng liǎngnián le. It's been two years since Xīǎo Wáng's father died.

xǐåoxi: 'news, information, tidings'.

Zhělǐāngtīán bāozhīshàng yǒu hěn duō guānyú Zhōngguó de xiāoxi. The past couple of days there's been a lot of news about China in the newspaper.

Jǐntīán bāozhīshàng yǒu shénme xīn xiāoxi? What news is there in the newspaper today?
We have not sent a letter in two months, there's no news at all. (Said by one family member who is separated from the rest.)

Xiaoxi can be used with the counter -ge to mean 'a piece of news, an item of news':

Wǒ yǒu yīge hǎo xiaoxi. I have a piece of good news.

Note on No. 3

diàosāng: 'to present one's condolences at a funeral, to attend a funeral'. At a traditional funeral, the guests, by groups, present their condolences to the family of the deceased in a brief formal ceremony.

Jīntiān wǒ qù diàosāng, jiàndào nǐn jiā lǎotāitai. Today when I was at the funeral I saw your grandmother.

Note on No. 4

sānglǐ: 'the funeral ceremony'. [Sāng- in some combinations means 'funeral', for example, sāngfú 'funeral clothing', or sāngshī 'funeral'.] On a volunteer basis, family, friends, and villagers help with funeral preparations. Members of the immediate family stay with the coffin to guard it during the day and sleep with it at night.

Notes on No. 5

yīxiàng: 'always (up to now)'. This adverb indicates that something has been so all along up until now (and may either continue the same way or else change).

Wǒ yīxiàng ài chī tián diǎnxìn. I've always like to eat sweet snacks.

Tā yīxiàng niàn shū niànde hěn hǎo. Ke has always done very well in his studies.

Wú Lǎoshī yīxiàng xǐhuān háizi. Teacher Wú has always liked children.

Xià Xīānshèng yīxiàng hěn kěqì. Mr. Xià has always been very polite.

hūrán: 'suddenly'. This is a time word. It may go before the verb, or at the front of the sentence.

Wǒ hūrán xiǎngqílái, wǒde xīn hái méiyǒu jī. I suddenly remembered that I hadn't mailed my letter yet.
Hūrán, tā pǎolai le, hǎoxiāng yǒu shénme shì.

Suddenly, he came running in, as if there were something wrong.

Hūrán tiān xià yǔ le, xiàde hǎo dà.

Suddenly it started raining, raining very hard.

Tā jīnlai zuòle yīhuǐr, hūrán jìù zǒu le.

He came in and sat down for a while, and then left all of a sudden.

zài yě bù hē le: 'will never drink again'. Sometimes people ask what is the word for 'never' in Chinese. The answer is that 'never' is not expressed by one word, but rather by a combination of adverbs and negative. Not only is 'never' rendered into Chinese by several words, but the word patterns are different for sentences expressing completed action, habitual action, or planned action. For these examples you need to know that yōngyuǎn is the word for 'forever'.

Wǒ cōnglái méi chǐguo Zhōngguó cài.

I've never eaten Chinese food.

Wǒ cōnglái bù kān nèiyángde shū.

I've never read those kinds of books.

Tāde wèntí yōngyuǎn bù néng jiùjué.

His problems can never be solved.

Wǒ zài yě bù qù nǎlǐ le.

I'll never go there again.

The adverb zài and a negative, such as méiyǒu, can be used to express the idea of not doing something anymore.

Bǐng hǎole yīhòu, tā méiyǒu zài hē jiǔ.

After he got well, he didn't drink anymore.

Yīhòu wǒ bù zài zuò le.

In the future I won't do it again.

Bú yào zài dǎ ta le.

Don't hit him any more.

If zài is placed in front of the negative, the meaning of the phrase is more emphatic.

Wǒ zài bù huílái le!

I'm never coming back here again!

If yě is added between zài and the negative, the meaning is approximately the same.

Wǒ zài yě bù chī táng le.

I'm never going to eat candy again.

Nèitiáo lù bù hǎo zǒu, nǐ zài yě bìé zǒu nèitiáo lù le.

That road is hard to go on, don't ever take it again.
Nǐ zài yě bié kān zhèzhǒng shū le. 
Don't ever read this kind of book again.

Nàncī fǎndiàn de cài tài guì, 
That restaurant is too expensive; 
wǒ zhǐ qǐle yīcì, jiù zài 
I only went there once and then 
yě méi qùguò le. 
I never went back again.

Wǒmen shì tóng xué, kěshì lǐ kāi 
We were schoolmates, but after we 
xuéxiào yīhòu, wǒ jiù zài 
left the school, I never saw him 
yě méi kàn jian ta le. 
again.

Sāngé yuè yīqián xiàng guò yīchǎng 
Three months ago it rained once, and 
yǔ, yīhòu jiù zài yě méi 
since then it hasn't rained again. 
xiànguò le.

More on 'Again': Up until now you've seen zài 'again' used in sentences 
which did not express a completed event and yòu used in sentences which did.

Míngtiān zài lái ba. 
Come again tomorrow!

du, nǐ yòu lái le. 
Oh, you've come again!

But there are further qualifications on the use of 'again' in Chinese. While 
zài always refers to activities which have not yet occurred, that is future 
activities or events, yòu is not totally limited to activities or events 
which are completed or past. Yòu may be used in present or future situations 
if the thing being talked about is so certain that it may be treated like 
something which has actually happened.

Míngtiān yòu shì Xīngqīyī le. 
And tomorrow is Monday again.

Zhè yòu yào duōshao qián a? 
And how much money is needed again 
yòu yào wàn le. 
for this?

Zhèi yìtiān yòu yào wàn le. 
And this day is about to end too. 
(Said at the end of a long busy 
day with many things left to do.)

Xiànzài wǒ yòu yòu gōngzuò le. 
Now I have a job again.

Notes on No. 6

fàn: 'to have an attack (of a disease), to have a recurrence of, to 
revert to (an old habit)'.

Tā yòu fàn lǎo mào bìng le, 
That old problem of his is acting 
zhè jí tiān hěn bu shūfu. 
up again. He hasn't been feeling 
bù zài le. 
well the last few days.
Shānghái yuè tā fàn bǐng le, xuèyā hǎo gāo!  
Last month he had a recurrence; and his blood pressure was really high!

Bǐe fàn nǐ de lǎo mǎobǐng le, kuài qù shāng xué qu ba!  
Don't fall back into your old habit (of skipping school), get yourself to school.

xīnzàngbìng: 'heart disease'. Xīn zàng is 'heart'.

Notes on No. 7.

gǎn jǐn: 'in a hurry'. This adverb means that someone decided to hurry up and start doing something. It can often be translated as 'to hurry up and', or 'to rush to (do something)'. Here are some examples:

Nàbiàn chū chēhuò le, nǐ gǎn jǐn qù kǎnkan!  
There's been a car accident over there, hurry up and go look!

Jīntiān xiàwǔ, tā zǒu le, zhòngwǔ wǒ gǎn jǐn pēi ta qù chí wūfān.  
He was leaving this afternoon, so at noon I hurried to go out to lunch with him.

Kuài jǐ liǎn le, wǒ yào gǎn jǐn zǒu le.  
It's almost nine o'clock. I have to hurry up and leave.

Gǎn jǐn means only that someone hurries to start the action. It does not mean that the action is finished quickly. For example, to say 'He made dinner in a hurry, so it didn't come out well', meaning that he finished cooking it in a very short time, you cannot use gǎn jǐn; you could say Yín wéi tā zuò fàn zuòde tài kuài, suǒyì zuòde bù hǎo.

tā lǎorénjiā: Lǎorénjiā is a respectful way of referring to or addressing old people. When addressing someone directly, it is almost always preceded by nǐ or nín, as in

qǐngwén nín lǎorénjiā, dào Zhōngshān Lù zěnme zǒu?  
Excuse me, sir, how do I get to Zhongshan Road?

Nǐ lǎorénjiā, zuìjīn zěnme yàng? Shèngǐ hǎo ba?  
How have you been lately? Have you been in good health, I hope?

A third party can be referred to as tā lǎorénjiā:

Tā lǎorénjiā shuō le, zhèjiān shì bǔbǐ jīzhe bàn.  
He said that we don't need to be in a rush to do this.

Wǒ gěi tā lǎorénjiā sōng yídān diānxīn lǎi.  
I've come to give him some pastries.
I asked my grandfather, and he said our whole family is going to Shanghai next year.

Here are two examples of lǎorénjia being used as a respectful word for 'old people':

Jǐntiān, liǎngwěi lǎorénjia tānđe hěn gǎoxìng. Today those two (old people) had a very pleasant conversation.

Lǎorénjiāmen dōu xǐhuān chī ruānđe dōngxi. Older people like to eat soft foods.

In Peking, the syllable lǎo in lǎorénjia receives the heaviest stress of the three syllables, and jia is in the neutral tone.

sòng: 'to take (someone somewhere), to escort (someone somewhere), to see someone off or out'. The basic meaning of this word is to accompany someone who is leaving, but as you can see from the various translations given, sòng can be used in a wide variety of circumstances. Here are some examples:

Wǒ qū wǎ kàrēn sòngdao dānmén wài. I'm going to show the guests out the front door.

Nǐ sòng ta huí jīā. Escort her home. or Walk her home. or Take her home.

Tā míngtiān zǒu, wǒmen dào jīchāng qu sòng tā. She's leaving tomorrow and we're going to the airport to see her off.

Wǒ sòng ta dào xuéxiào qu. I took him to school. (E.g., I drove him there or I walked there with him.)

To specify that you are taking someone in a car, you can phrase your sentence this way:

Wǒ kāi chē sòng ta dào xuéxiào qu. I drove her to school.

Notes on No. 8

jīngguō: You have seen jīngguō meaning 'to go thru'. Here it is used to mean 'though' in the sense of 'by means of'. It can also be translated 'as a result of', 'after', 'through', or 'via'.

91
Tā shēntǐ yǐzhī bù hǎo, dānshī wǒ xiǎng jiǐngguō yīduàn shí-jìànde bāoyǎng, kěnéng hū hǎo yīdiǎn.

His health has been bad all along, but I think after a short period of taking care of himself, he might get a little better.

Jīngguō sāntiānde kǎolù, wǒ juédìng hé tā jīshūn.

After three days of consideration, I’ve decided to marry him.

Jīngguō dàjiāde nǔlì, zhèjiān shìqīng chénggōng le.

As a result of everyone’s hard work, this matter has succeeded.

Zhège jīhuà bǐxū jīngguō tǎolàn.

This plan must go through discussion.

Jǐjìù: 'emergency treatment; to administer emergency treatment, to receive emergency treatment'. Notice that jǐjìù can mean to give or get emergency treatment.

Jīntiān yǐjīng shì jǐjìù de dìsāntiān le, bù zhǐdào yǒu méiyǒu xīwàng.

Today is already the third day of emergency (intensive care) treatment. I don’t know if there’s any hope.

Tāde chēzǐ yǐjīng wǎnle, rěn zài jǐjìù.

His car is finished (totalled), and he himself is undergoing emergency treatment.

Gāngcái chū chēhuǒ, yǒu jǐge rén shǒushāng le, yǐshēng zhèngzài jǐjìù.

There’s just been a car accident, and several people were injured. The doctor is administering first-aid.

Jǐjìù refers only to aid given in incidents of a relatively serious nature, usually those where life is in danger; for example, cases of severe injury or acute attacks of an illness.

Jìuguolai: 'to save', literally 'to save over'. The directional verb ending guolai 'over' sometimes shows the recovery of an original desirable or normal state. For example, in jìuguolai it implies the change from a condition in which death is imminent to one in which the patient can be expected to live.

Dārēn qīngkuàng hái hǎo, háizi jìuguolai le.

The adult's condition is all right, but the child cannot be saved.

Zhège jūzi xiěcū le, wǒ yào bā ta gāiguolai.

This sentence is wrong, I have to correct it.

Zhège dìzhǐ xiěde bù duì, nǐn dǐ gāiguolai.

This address is wrong, you have to correct it.
Zuò huǒchē zuòle sāntiān lèi-huái le, yào shuǐ yǐdà jiào cái néng xiūxiuguolai.

Shàngwǔ mǎngle sīwùge zhōngtou zhōngwǔ shuì ge wǔjiào, rēn jiū xiūxiuguolai le.

Tiān tài lěng, hē kǎu jǐu jiù nuǎnhuoguolai le.

Wǒ hǎoxiāng bǐng le, chuān zhēnme duō yīfu dōu méi bānfǎ nuǎnhuoguolai.

After three days on the train, I'm exhausted. I'll have to have a good long sleep before I can be well rested.

In the morning I ran around for four or five hours, but then after a nap at noon, I felt very rested.

The weather is too cold, a sip of wine will warm you up.

I seem to be sick, I've got on all these clothes and I still can't get warm.

Note on No. 9

bǎozhòng: 'to take care of oneself, to take care of (one's health)'.

Hǎohǎo bǎozhòng shēntǐ, bié lèihuái le.

Take good care of your health, don't wear yourself out.

In telling someone to be sure to take care of himself, bǎozhòng is usually preceded by duō or duōduō 'more (than usual)'.

Yǐlù píng'ān, duō bǎozhòng.

Have a good trip, and take good care of yourself.

Nǐde yīng gāng hǎo, duōduō bǎozhòng.

You just got over your illness, take real good care of yourself.

Notes on No. 10

guōdu: 'to pass away'. Like English 'pass away', this is a euphemism for 'to die'.

Tāde zhǔfù zuòtiān wǎnshāng guōqu le.

His grandfather passed away last night.

Nǐ mǔqīn shī shénme shíhou guōqude?

When did your mother pass away?

Wǒ mǔqīn guōqude shíhou, wǒ hái hěn xiǎo.

I was still very young when my mother passed away.

niánji: '(a person's) age'. Here are some frequently used patterns you should learn by heart:
Nín duó dà niánjì le?  How old are you? (polite way of asking an adult's age)
Tā niánjì bù xiǎo le.  She's not young any more.
Tā niánjì dà le. or Tā shàngle niánjì le.  He's getting on in years.

[Although the adjectival verb dà 'to be big' is used after niánjì to mean 'to be old', when you want to say 'to be young', you should use the adjectival verb qǐng 'to be light' rather than xiǎo 'to be small'; for example, Tā niánjì hǎi qǐng, bù yīnggāi ràng ta qù gōngzuò, 'He's still young, you shouldn't make him go get a job.']

**Note on No. 11**

píngjìng: 'to be calm'.  Píngjìngxiàilai, 'to calm down'.
Shuǐshāng yīzhī chuán dōu méi- . you, yě méiyī fēng, hěn píngjìng.  There wasn't a single boat on the water, and there was no wind. It was very calm.
Kànjiān jiālì rén dōu hěn hǎo, xīnlì píngjìngdeduō le.  When I saw that everyone in the family was all right, I felt much calmer.

As in the last example above, píngjìng is often used with xīnlì 'in the heart' to describe one's emotional state.

Jíntiān tā hěn shēngqì, wǒ méi bānfa ràng ta píngjìngxiàilai.  He got very angry today and there was no way I could get him to calm down.

**Notes on No. 12**

méi néng: 'was not able to'.  Here you see the auxiliary verb néng used with the negative méi.  You have learned that state verbs (auxiliary verbs are one type of state verbs) are negated with bù, (bù hǎo, bù zhīdào) not with méi.  Here, however, you see méi néng instead of bù néng.  This is an exception to the rule that all state verbs are always negated with bù.  Actually, either bù néng or méi néng would be acceptable in this sentence.  Some speakers, however, feel that there is a subtle difference between bù néng and méi néng when referring to an event in the past.  For example, one can say Wǒ zuǒtiān méi néng qù as well as Wǒ zuǒtiān bù néng qù. Wǒ zuǒtiān méi néng qù hints at the fact that there was a failure to attain the state of being able to go, whereas Wǒ zuǒtiān bù néng qù merely describes the state of being unable to go, without making any implications about failure (to attain the state of being able to go).  Such a subtle difference
in implication may make very little difference in the actual import of a sentence in some contexts, although in other contexts it may be of some significance. (For the first example sentence, you need to know that mǐmǐ means 'secret'.)

Yesterday when you asked me, I couldn't tell you, because it's a secret.

Yesterday when you asked me, I couldn't tell you, because Zhāng Sān was standing there, and I didn't want to let him know about it.

gǎnhuílái: 'to rush back'.

It's six o'clock already, I think she probably won't make it back in time.

Dōu liùdiǎn zhōng le, wǒ xiǎng tā dāgāi gǎnbuhuílái le.

At five in the afternoon we have a meeting. Can you make it back in time?

Xiàwù wǔdiǎn zhōng, wǒmen yǒu ge huì, nǐ gǎndéhuílái gǎnbuhuílái?
A woman goes to visit her friend after hearing of her father's death:

A: Wǒ zuìjǐn chūchāi qu le, jīngguó Táinán de shìhuó tīngdào nǐ fùqín qūshí le xiāoxī. Zhēn bǎnqiān, wǒ méi néng gǎnhuìlái diāośāng.

B: Wǒ fùqín dēle bǐng, hěn kuài jiǔ guōqu le. Wǒmen yǒu xiē zài wǎldìde qǐng dōu méi néng láideji cānjiā sānglǐ.

A: Wǒ jīde nǐ fùqín shēntǐ yǐxiāng bù cuò, zhècì dēle shēnmé bǐng?

B: 0, wǒ fùqín shēntǐ shì bù cuò, jīshǐ xīnzàng bù tài hǎo, zhècì hūrán fānle xīnzàngbìng, wǒmen gǎn jīn bā tā lǎorénjīa sōngdào Tǎìdà Yǐyuán qu. Kěshì jīngguó jījīu, hǎishì méi jiǔguòlai.

A: Wǒ zūmǔ yě shì xīnzàngbìng qūshí. Hǎoxiǎng niánjǐ dāledé rèn dēle xīnzàngbìng yǐhòu, hěn nán zhīhǎo. Lǎo xiǎoshēng guōquè shíhou bù tài tōngkǔ ba?

B: Shìde. Tā guōquè shíhou bǐjiāo píngjīng, hǎoxiǎng bù tài tōngkǔ.


B: Xièxiè ni. Yǐhòu yǒu gōngfu zài guòlái zǔzuò.

A: Hǎo. Zàijiàn!

B: Zàijiàn!

I went away on business lately and I heard the news of your father's death when I was passing through Tainan. I'm so sorry I couldn't make it back in time to go to the funeral.

My father passed away very soon after he became ill. We even have relatives outside the area who couldn't make it to the funeral.

As I recall your father's health was always pretty good, what illness did he get this time?

Well, my father's health was pretty good, only his heart wasn't so good. This time he had a sudden heart attack, and we rushed him to Taiwan University Hospital. But even the emergency treatment didn't save him.

My grandmother also died of heart disease. Older people seem to be very hard to cure after they get heart disease. When your father passed away he wasn't in much pain, I hope?

No. He was rather calm when he passed away. He didn't seem to be in too much pain.

You must be very tired from being so busy these past few days. You have to take good care of yourself. I'll be back to see you again soon.

Thanks. When you have time come over again and sit awhile.

Okay. Good-bye!

Good-bye!
14. Tā lǎo pěngyōu de mǔqin shàngge xīngqī guòshì le. His old friend's mother passed away last week.
15. Tā shāngxīnjí le. He was terribly broken up.
16. Mǐ fùqin yǐjīng qǐshíwùsù, kěyǐ shuō shì chángshǎo le. Your father was already 75 years old. That's quite a long life, actually.
17. Zài shuō ta guòshì de shǐhòu yě bù tài tōngkǔ. Besides that, he wasn't in too much pain when he died.
18. Mǐ bù bǐ tāi nánguō le. You don't have to feel too sad.
19. Wǒ mǔqin běnlái xīwàng ērnmūn yībèizi dōu zài tā shēnbiān. Originally my mother hoped that her children would stay with her all her life.
20. Wǒ dàgè jǐnián gūbùliào Xiānggǎng le. My oldest brother can't go to Hong Kong this year any more.
21. Jiānglái yǒu jīhuì zài qù ba! Go sometime in the future if you get the chance.
22. Wǒ mǔqin cháng shuō tā bù yuányi jiānglái zāngzài guòwài. My mother often said that when the time came she didn't want to be buried abroad.
23. Ràng tā zài jiā ānxīn xiūxī. Let her rest without worry in her home.
24. A: Tā shuō tā qùshí yǐhòu yào huǒzàng. He says that after he passes away he wants to be cremated.
    B: Bīngqí, xīwàng tāde háizímen nǎng bù tāde zūhuǐ sònghuí guònèi. Moreover he hopes his children will be able to take his ashes back to his home country.
Note on No. 13

dà chángtú diànhuà: 'to make a long-distance telephone call'.

Qǐng nǐmen shēngyín xiǎo yǐdiǎn, wǒ zài dā chángtú diànhuà ne! Would you all be a little quieter, please? I'm making a long-distance call!

You saw in the Post Office-Telephone Module that diànhuà can also be used with the meaning 'a telephone call' as in ǐ̀̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̃́̄
Note on No. 16

chángshòu: 'long life, longevity; to live a long life'.

Yào xiǎng chángshòu, jìù bù yǐnggái dīng hē jiǔ. If you want to live a long life, you shouldn't drink excessively.

Běifāng chángshòude rén bǐ Nánfāng duō. There are more people who live long in the North than in the South.

Note on No. 17

zài shuō: 'furthermore, moreover, in addition, besides'. Often following a clause with zài shuō, one of the adverbs yě 'also' or yòu 'also' is used.

B: Zhèlǐxià xià xuě, wǒ gānmào le, tiānqì yǒu zhèrme bù hǎo, zài shuō háizǐ tài xiǎo, bā tā yīge rén fāngzài jiālǐ, wǒ bù fāngxīn. Gāitiān, wǒ yǐdǐng lái, hǎo bu hǎo? It's snowed these two days, and I caught a cold, and the weather is so bad. Moreover the child is too small to leave alone at home. I would worry. I'll come for sure another day, okay?

Tā hěn nénggàn, zài shuō yǒu nàme piàoliàng, nǐ jiù tǒngyì le ba? She's very capable, and what's more, she's so beautiful too. So you will agree (to marry her), won't you? (said by a matchmaker to a young man)

A: Wǒ děng nǐ bāntiān le, wǒ yào hé nǐ tán yìxià. I've been waiting for you for ages. I want to have a talk with you.
B: Wǒ gāng xià kě. Zài shuō wǒ hái méi chí fàn ne! Gāitiān zài shuō ba! I just got out of class. And furthermore I haven't eaten yet! Let's talk some other day!

Note on No. 18

nánguò: 'to be sad, to be distressed, to feel bad'. This adjectival verb can be used to refer to either physical or emotional distress.

Yíshēng shuō tā mǔqin de bìng hěn lihai, wǒmen dōu hěn nánguò. The doctor said his mother's illness was very serious, and we were all very sad.
Jīntiān tā chīle hǎo duō shēngcài, xiànzài dùzǐ nánguō le. He ate a lot of raw vegetables today, so now his stomach hurts (he feels bad).

Bìng nánguō le, rén yǐjīng síle nánguō yě méiyǒu yǒng le. Don't be sad, he's already dead, and it's no use being sad.

Jīntiān Sōng Lǎoshī hěn nánguō. Teacher Sōng is very sad today.

Xiǎo Wángde jiālǐ yǒu nāme duō máfān. Zhēn ràng rén nánguō. There's so much trouble in Xiǎo Wáng's family, it really makes a person sad.

Notes on No. 19

běnlái: 'originally, at first, in the first place'.

Běnlái wǒ xiǎng jīntiān xiàwù qù kàn diànyǐng. Hǒulái tīngshū huì lái. Suànle, wǒ yǐhòu zài qù ba. Originally I wanted to go see a movie this afternoon. Later I heard there was a meeting. So I'll forget it and go another time.

Běnlái wǒ jīntiān qù Guǎngzhōu, tiānqì bù hǎo, dāgāi déi míngtiān cái néng zǒu le. Originally I was going to Canton today, but the weather is bad so I'll probably have to wait until tomorrow before I can leave.

yíbèizi: 'all one's life, in one's (whole) life, throughout one's life, as long as one lives, a lifetime'.

Zhèngfǔ bāngzhù tā bǎ zài wàiguó de qián zhāohuí le. Tā yībèizi yě méiyǒu jiànguō zhènme duō qián, hǎo gāoxìng. The government helped her get back money she had outside the country. She had never seen so much money in her whole life. She was really happy.

Tā yǒu sāngé érzǐ, wèi zhèi sāngé érzi mǎngle yībèizi. She has three sons and for these three sons she was busy her whole life. Now she is old and should take it easy.

Xiànzài láole, gāi xiūxi xiūxi le.

shēnbiān: 'at/by one's side; (have something) on one, with one'.

Wǒ yǒu yīge háizì zài nónɡcūn, yīge háizì zài shēnbiān. I have one child out in the country and one child here with me.

Rúguǒ tā shēnbiān yǒu hǎo jīge háizì jìběi méiyǒu bànfǎ chú-lái gòngzuò. If she has several children at her feet, then she just can't go out and work.

100
dàgē: 'oldest brother'. Remember that 'older brother' is gēge, but the oldest of several children is dàgē. In addition dàgē can be used between men to show a friendly relationship of unequal status.

qūbùliǎo: 'cannot go'. This is a compound verb or result, like kanbùjìan 'cannot see' or chībùbāo 'cannot eat one's fill'. The ending -liǎo is in compounds of potential result (those with -de- or -bu- between the main verb and the resultative ending) with the meaning of 'be able to'. You may be thinking (and rightly so) that this is just the meaning added by the use of -de- or -bu-. This has led some people to label -liǎo as a 'dummy' resultative ending since it does not seem to add any additional information like other more specific endings do (e.g. wān 'finish').

Wàimian shēngyīn hǎo dá. Shídài shūbùliǎo jiào. It's so noisy outside. I really can't sleep at all.

Jǐntiān tīng diàn, kàn bùliǎo diānyīngr. Today they're turning off the electricity, so we can't watch the movie.

Wǒ zúlì jìn dūzì bù shūfu, chībùliǎo shēngcǎi. My stomach has been uncomfortable lately, I can't eat lettuce.

Zhènme duō cài, chībùliǎo le! So many dishes, we won't be able to eat them!

Xiàwù wǒ yǒu shī, qūbùliǎo tūshūguǎnle, mǐngtiān zǎi shuō ba. This afternoon I'm busy, I can't go to the library, let's talk about it tomorrow.

Nǐ jiǔdiǎn zhōng xià bān, jǐntiān wǎnhuì nǐ qù deliǎo qūbùliǎo? You get off work at 9:00, can you go to the evening meeting?

Nǐ bù yào dào jīchāng lái sòng wo, nǐ yǐ kù wǒ jiù zūbùliǎo le. Don't come to the airport to see me off; as soon as you start to cry, I won't be able to leave.

Note on No. 21

jiānglái: 'in the future'. Like other time words, jiānglái can be used between the subject and the verb, or at the front of the sentence before the subject.

Jiānglái Zhōng Měi guānxì yuè lái yuè hǎo, wǒmen zài Mǎiguó jiù bǐjiào rónɡyì mǎidào Zhōngguó de dōnɡxi. In the future as Sino-American relations get better and better, it will be easier for us to buy Chinese goods in America.
Wǒ jiànglái yào dào Shànghǎi lǐngshìguǎn qù gōngzuò. In the future I want to work in the consulate in Shanghai.

Note on No. 23

ānxīn: 'to feel at ease, to set one's mind at ease, to be at peace; to keep one's mind (on something)'.

Tā xiānshēng nǚ lǐ zuò shì, tā kěyǐ ānxīn dā shū. With her husband working hard at his job, she could keep her mind on her studying.

Wǒde háizi gōngzuò de hěn hǎo, wǒ yě jiù ānxīn le. My child is doing well at work, and I can now feel at ease.

Note on No. 24

bǐngqiě: 'furthermore, moreover, and, besides'.

Wǒ yào bā gōngzuò zuò hǎo, bǐngqiě yào bā Zhōngwén xuéhǎo. I want to do a good job at work and do a good job studying Chinese.

Zhèige háizi hěn nǚlǐ bǐngqiě hěn cōngmíng. This child is very industrious and intelligent too.

Wǒ jīhuà zhèige xīngqī bā zhèiplán wénzhǎng xiěwán, bǐngqiě fānyìchēng Zhōngwén. I plan to finish writing this essay this week and furthermore translate it into Chinese.
After the funeral of an elderly man who came to Taiwan from the mainland, a friend comes to visit the family:

A: Wo zuījīn chūzhāi qu le, zuǒtiān huílái cái zhīdào lǎo xiānshēng guīshēi xiǎoxi, érqiě tíngshūō sānglí yě bānguō le, wǒ méi néng gàn-huīlái diàosāng, zhēn shěn bāoqǐān.

B: Wo fūqīn xīnzàng yíxiāng bù tài hǎo, zuījīn liàngnián, yǐshēng jiào tā tiānqìān chǐ yǎo, jiéguō wèntí háoxiāng shāole yǐdiǎn, kěshì liàngge xīngqī yīqián hūrán fānlé lǎo bǐng, wǒ dāgè jiù gānjūn bā tā lǎorénjiā sōngdào Táidà Yǐyuān jǐjiù, bǐngqīē dā chǎngtú diānhuà bā wǒ jiāo-huīlái. Tā niǎnjiā dà le, suīrán jīngguō jítiān jījiù hǎishí méi jìguōlái, zài shǎng Xīngqīlèr qūshī le; bùguō tā qūshī dé shīhou bǐjiāo píngjīng, háoxiāng bù tài tōngkū.

A: Fūqīn qūshī, ěrnǚ yídìng hěn shāngxīn. Bùguō lǎo xiānshēng qīshíduōsǔ qūshī yě suān shí chāngshòu le. Zài shūō tā guòqù shīhuò bū tài tōngkū, nǐmen xiōngdì jiēmèi yě dōu zài tā shēnbìān, tā yě jiù ānxīn le, nǐ yě bù yào tài nánguō. Lǎo xiānshēng zāngzài nǎlì?

B: Wǒ fūqīn shuōguō, yào huō-zāng. Tā shūō tā zhèyībèi kǒngpà huībùliǎo lǎojiā le, jiāo wǒmen jiānglái bā gūhūi sōnghuí lǎojiā qu, suǒyì wǒmen jiù zhùnbèi zhāo tā shuōde bān.

I've been away on business lately, and I didn't find out until I got back yesterday that your father had passed away. And I hear that the funeral has already been held. I'm really sorry I didn't make it back in time to attend the funeral.

My father's heart was never too good. The past two years, the doctor told him to take medicine every day, and there didn't seem to be so much of a problem any more, but two weeks ago he had a sudden attack of his old illness. My oldest brother rushed him to Taiwan University Hospital for emergency treatment. He also called me long distance to get me to come back. He was quite old, and even after several days of emergency treatment they still weren't able to save him. He passed away last Tuesday, but at the time he was rather calm, and he didn't seem to be in too much pain.

When a father passes away, the children always feel very grieved. But for your father to pass away at over seventy is really quite a long life. Besides, he wasn't in too much pain when he passed away, and all you brothers and sisters were at his side, so he could set his mind at ease; so don't be too sad. Where will he be buried?

My father had said he wanted to be cremated. He said that he probably wouldn't be able to return to his hometown in his lifetime, and he told us to take his ashes back to his hometown someday. So we're planning to do as he asked.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>汉语</th>
<th>意思</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ānxīn</td>
<td>to be without worry, to feel at ease, to feel relieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǎozhòng</td>
<td>to take good care (of oneself)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bēnlái</td>
<td>originally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bīngqiě</td>
<td>moreover, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cānjiā</td>
<td>to take part in; to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chángshòu</td>
<td>long life, longevity; to live a long time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chūchāi</td>
<td>to be out of town on business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dǎ chángguó diànhuà</td>
<td>to make a long-distance phone call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dàgē</td>
<td>oldest brother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diàosāng</td>
<td>to present one's condolences at a funeral, to attend a funeral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>érnǚ</td>
<td>children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fān</td>
<td>to have an attack (of an old disease)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gāndeshàng</td>
<td>to be able to catch up, to be able to make it in time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gānhuilai</td>
<td>to rush back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gānjīn</td>
<td>quickly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gūhuī</td>
<td>bone ashes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>guòqu</td>
<td>to pass away, to die</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>guōshì</td>
<td>to pass away, to die</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huǒzàng</td>
<td>to cremate; cremation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hūrān</td>
<td>suddenly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jiānglái</td>
<td>the future, someday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jǐjiù</td>
<td>first aid; to administer emergency treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jìguólai</td>
<td>to save</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lǎorénjia</td>
<td>polite way of addressing or referring to an old person (nǐ lǎorénjia, tā lǎorénjia) can, to be able to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-liǎo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nánɡuò</td>
<td>to be sad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>niánjī (niánjì)</td>
<td>age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pínɡjǐnɡ</td>
<td>to be calm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
qùbuliǎo cannot go
cannot go
to pass away, to die
to pass away, to die
to be grieved, to be sorrowful,
to be grieved, to be sorrowful,
to be heartbroken
to be heartbroken
one's vicinity, one's immediate
one's vicinity, one's immediate
surroundings
surroundings
to escort, to take (someone to a
to escort, to take (someone to a
place)
place)

sānglǐ funeral
sānglǐ funeral
shāngxīn
shāngxīn
shēnbiān
shēnbiān
sòng
to escort, to take (someone to a
place)

xiáoxi news
xiáoxi news
xīnzàng news
xīnzàng news
xīnzàngbìng

yīběizi heart disease
yīběizi heart disease
yǐxiàng

zǎi shuō all one's life
zǎi shuō all one's life
zàng (have) always, (had) always,
to bury
zàng (have) always, (had) always,
consistently, all along
consistently, all along
zuójīn
zuójīn
zuǒmǔ
zuǒmǔ

furthermore, besides
furthermore, besides
to bury
to bury
recently; soon
recently; soon
grandmother (on the father's side)
grandmother (on the father's side)
PART 1

1. Xiǎo Lǐde māma sǐ le.  
   Xiao Li's mother died.

2. A: Nǐ shuō wǒmen shì fǒu gǎi cānjīā tāde sāngli?  
   Do you think we should go to the funeral?
   B: Wǒmen yíngdāng qù yíxià.  
   We should go.

3. Xiǎo Lǐde māma jǐntiān chū bìn.  
   The funeral procession for Xiao Li's mother is today.

4. Yībān rènde sānglǐ méiyǒu nǎme duōde guīju le.  
   Most people's funerals don't have so many special customs anymore.

5. Yībān cānjīā sānglǐde rén dōu sōng wǎnlián huò huāquān.  
   Most people who attend a funeral send a funeral scroll or a flower wreath.

6. Xiē wǎnlián fānzhǎng láibújí le.  
   It's too late to write a funeral scroll anyway.

7. Wǒmen qù mǎi yīge huāquān rúhé?  
   How about if we go buy a flower wreath?

   Young women like to wear multicolored clothing.

9. Nǐ néng ràng nǐ pòfei?  
   How could I make you spend money?

10. Wǒ qù gěi tā mái diǎn xiǎo liwù jiù shì le.  
    I'll just go and buy her a little present.

11. Zhī yào bā tài guī, wǒ háishì dā jīchéngchē qu.  
    As long as it's not too expensive, it would be best if I took a taxi.

12. Nǐ shuō wǒmen liǎngge rén hégāilai sōng ta yǐtào pánzǐ-wān zěnmeyàng?  
    What do you say the two of us give him a set of dishes together?

13. Nǐ xiǎode Yángmíngshān Gōngmù zài nǎlí ma?  
    Do you know where Yangmingshan Public Cemetery is?
NOTES ON PART I

Notes on No. 1

māma: 'mother, mom'. Although this can be used as a term of address, like English 'Mom' or 'Mommy', it can also be used in informal conversation to refer to one's own or someone else's mother, as in wǒ māma 'my mother', or tā māma 'his mother'. For the term of direct address 'Mom', Mā is probably more commonly used than Māma.

Wǒ māma shàng bān qu le. My mother has left for work.
Xiàwǔ, Māma jiù zuò huǒche lái kàn wo le. This afternoon, Mom came by train to visit me.

sǐ: 'to die!' This is a process verb, like bìng 'to become ill, to get sick', and therefore corresponds more closely to the English 'to become dead' than it does 'to be dead'. In English one can talk about a person who has a terminal illness, saying 'He is dying', but this does not translate directly into Chinese. In Chinese one can say Tā kuài (yǎo) sǐ le, 'He is about to die,' or Tā huǒbù lǐng duō jiù le, 'He won't live much longer.'

Tíngshuō Lǎo Líú de fūqín sǐ le. I heard that Lǎo Líú's father has died.
Sǐ can be used directly before a noun as an adjective, meaning 'dead'. Shi sǐde may be used to mean 'is dead'.
Zhè shì yìtiáo sǐ yú. This is a dead fish.
Zhètiáo yú shì sǐde. This fish is (a) dead (one).

Notes on No. 2

shì fǒu: 'is it (true) or isn't it (true that) ...' This phrase is a more formal-sounding equivalent of shì bu shì; fǒu in literary Chinese means 'or not'. In spoken Standard Chinese, the use of shì fǒu is more restricted than shì bu shì. First of all, shì fǒu has a more educated, formal ring to it than shì bu shì. Secondly, shì fǒu is usually used only before another verbal expression, as in the following examples:

Zhèzhōng tiān shì fǒu huì xià yǔ? Is (this weather) going to rain?
Jǐnnián dōngtiān, nǐ shì fǒu xiǎng dào Mǎiǎmì qu? Are you hoping to go to Miami this winter?
Nǐ shì fǒu zhǔnbèi ànzhào zhègè jìhuà qù zuǒ? Are you planning to act according to this plan?
Nǐ yǐnggāi xiǎngyìxiǎng, nǐ
dui zhège rèn shì fǒu lǐnjìě.

Nǐ niánjì bù xiǎo le, nǐ shì
fǒu kǎolūguo jìhùndé wèntí?

Jǐnnián, nǐmen xuéxiède xué-
shēng shì fǒu zēngjiā le?

Wǒ bù zhīdào wǒde yījiān shì
fǒu néng dèdào tóngyì.

Zhēizhòng dōngxi zài zhělǐ shì
fǒu máidědào?

You ought to think about whether you understand this person or not.

You're not young anymore, have you considered the question of marriage?

This year did the (number of) students in your school increase?

I don't know whether my opinion will be agreed with or not.

Can this sort of thing be bought here?

Note on No. 3

chù bìn: 'to transport the coffin to the burial place or to the tomb'. Literally, this means 'take out the coffin'.

Liújíā míngtiān chū bìn.

Zuòtiān, Liú Xiānshēng gěi tā
rúqún chūle bìn yǐhòu, huí
jiā jiù bìng le.

The Liú's have the funeral procession tomorrow.

Yesterday, after Mr. Liú accompanied his father's coffin to the cemetery, he went home and then got sick.

Note on No. 4

guīju: 'fixed standards of conduct, regulations, or customs'.

Anzhào Zhōngguóde guīju, gěi
sīrén chūle bìn yǐhòu hái
yào zuò shénme?

Kèrén lái le, zài mǎng yě yào
hé běi chà, zhè shì wǒmènde
guīju.

According to Chinese custom, after accompanying the coffin of the deceased to the cemetery, what else should be done?

When a guest comes, no matter how busy he is, he should have a cup a cup of tea. This is our custom.

Yǒu guīju means 'to have manners':

Zhège háizi bù dōng shì, méi
guīju, zhēn ràng rèn bù hào
yǐsì.

This child does not understand about things, he has no manners. It really embarrasses a person.

Wángjíāde lǎodà zhǎngde hǎokàn,
yǒu yǒu guīju, zhēn hǎo.

The Wáng's oldest son is good looking and he is well mannered. He's really great.
Guīju as an adjectival verb means 'to be proper, to be correct (of a person').

Lǎo Wángde nüér rén hěn guīju. Lǎo Wáng's daughter is very proper.

Notes on No. 5

dōu: Some of the uses of dōu do not correspond to 'all'. 'All' in English is often described as 'collective', that is, referring to all the members in a group. Dōu in Chinese is often described as 'distributive', that is referring to the members of a group as individuals. This usage sometimes is translated as 'each'. Notice that in the Reference List sentence dōu in combination with yībān and another noun produces this meaning.

Hěn duō Zhōngguo rén dào dǎo
Měiguó dōu xiǎng niàn shǔ.
A lot of Chinese want to study after they get to the United States.

Qián jīnián, xiūduō xuéshēng
bǐyě yīhòu dōu dào nónɡcūn
qu le.
Several years ago many students went to the countryside after they graduated.

Yībān Zhōngguo rén dōu juāde
xué Yīnɡwén bǐ xué Zhōnɡwén
nán.
The average Chinese thinks that English is harder to learn than Chinese.

wǎnlián: 'funeral scroll, scroll of condolence', literally 'elegiac--couplet'. [Lián is short for dūlián 'a written or inscribed couplet (pair of parallel sentences)'.] Traditionally, white cloth scrolls in one to three strips were written for the deceased by friends. More recently a new practice has developed which is to send scrolls or wreaths bearing one character: diàn, "to sacrifice." Sending flowers has been brought in by Western custom.

Xiàwǔ wǒ dào Liújiā qu, nǐ gěi
xǐ xiě běi wǎnlián hǎo bu hǎo?
This afternoon I'm going to the Liu's, could you write a funeral scroll for them?

huò: 'or'. You have learned huòshí and huòzhē for 'or'. Huò is a more literary variant, but it can still be heard in conversation.

Jīntiān wǎnshɑnɡ huò míntiān
wǎnshɑnɡ nǐ dào wǒ zhèlǐ lái
yǐtānɡ hǎo bu hǎo?
Come over to my house tonight or tomorrow night, okay?

huāquān: 'flower wreath', literally 'flower circle'.

Wǒ xiǎnɡ mǎi ge huāquān gěi
Liújiā sònɡqu.
I want to buy a flower wreath to send to the Liu's.
Note on No. 6

fǎnzhèng: 'anyway, anyhow, either way, in any case, all the same'. Fǎnzhèng may come either before or after the subject of the sentence.

Nǐ jí shēnme, fǎnzhèng gǎnbù-shǎng kāi hùi le, mānmān zǒu ba!

Fǎnzhèng wǒ bù mái, méi qián méi guānxì.

Wǒ fǎnzhèng méi shì, wǒmen jiù tán tān zhě gè wèntí ba.

Fǎnzhèng wǒ yào qù, nǐ bù qù yě kěyì.

Fǎnzhèng is often prefaced by a clause beginning with bù guān 'no matter whether...':

Bù guān nǐ qù bù qù, fǎnzhèng wǒ yào qù.

What are you so anxious for, we won't make it in time for the meeting anyway, so let's just take our time!

I'm not going to buy it anyway, so it doesn't matter that I don't have any money.

I don't have anything to do anyway, so let's talk about this.

I'm going anyway; it's okay if you don't go or It's okay if you don't go; anyway, I'm going.

No matter whether you go or not, I'm going anyway.

Note on No. 7

rúhé: 'how; how about; in what way'. This is a literary word which means about the same as zěnme yàng. In a more plain, colloquial style, the Reference List sentence could also be said as wǒmen qù mái yīge huāquān zěnme yàng? Spoken Standard Chinese draws more on the written style in an area like Taiwan, where a majority of the population learn Standard Chinese in school, rather than at home. A speaker from Peking might consider wǒmen mái yīge huāquān rúhé to sound a little stiff and unnatural. You should be able to understand rúhé, but use it yourself only in speaking with people who use it, or in writing.

Míngtiān Lǎo Zhāng qǐng women dājiā chī fàn, nǐ juédé rúhé?

Zhèjiān shìde jiēguǒ rúhé?

"Jiào wǒ rúhé bù xiǎng ta?"

Tomorrow Lǎo Zhāng has invited all of us to eat, what do you think?

What was the outcome of this matter?

"(It makes me so that) How could I not miss her?" (name of famous popular song of the 30's)
Note on No. 8

huǎ: 'to be multicolored'.

Jīntiān tā chuānle yǐjiàn huǎ yīfu, hǎo piāoliàng!

Today she's wearing a multicolored dress. It's gorgeous!

Note on No. 9

Nǐ néng ràng nǐ pòfei: Nǐ or nǐr (Peking) is used in rhetorical questions.

Tā méi qián, nǐ néng jiēhūn?

He has no money, how can he get married?

Zài Yèye nali nǎ(r) néng nàme shuō huǎ!

How can you talk like that in front of Grandpa?

Nǐ shì wǒmen jiāde rén, nǎ(r) néng bù rǎng nǐ zhǐdào zánmen jiāde shì ne?

You're family, how could we not let you know what's going on in our family?

Wǒ shuōde shì jībǎinniānqián de shì, nǐ shǐhou dé Měiguó nǎ(r) yǒu shènme chéngshì?

I'm talking about something several hundred years ago, how could America have had any cities at that time?

A: Wǒ nǎ(r) míngbái!

Like heck I understand!

B: Nǐ nàme cōngmíng de rén, nǎ(r) huì bù míngbái!

You're such a smart person, how could you not understand?

Nǐ kàn, nǎ(r) yǒu zhèyàng bān shīde, bù jīngguǒ jùmíng wèiyuánhuì, jí xǐǎng shēng hǎizi, nà nǎ(r) xīng?

Look, how can you go about things like this? You want to have a child without going through your neighborhood committee, how can that be okay?

Tā yǐzhī zài chénglǐ zhǔzhe, nǎ(r) dāoguò nóngrùn ne!

When has he ever been to the countryside? He's always lived in the city!

A: Zēnmeyàng? Xiǎo Zhāng kuài jiēhūn le ba?

How's it going? Is Xiao Zhang going to get married soon?

B: Nár a! Nǔjiā fūmǔ bù yuǎnyì, mǎfān dá le!

You must be kidding! The girl's parents don't want it. There's a lot of trouble.
Note on No. 10

jiù shì le:  This phrase is used at the end of a sentence to mean '...that's all'. It can have several different implications, depending on the context:

(1) "Don't worry, this matter can simply be taken care of like this." (something is virtually taken care of)

Wǒ yǒu wāngle bā shǔ dàilai,  I forgot to bring the book again,
búguō wǒ yìdìng jiègèi nǐ  but I'm going to lend it to you
jiù shì le.  for sure, don’t worry.

Wǒ zhào nǐn shuōde bān jiù  I'll simply do as you say.
shì le.

Děng yìxià gěi nǐ bān jiù shì  I'll take care of it for you in a
le, nǐ jǐ shénme?  moment, don’t worry, why are you
  so anxious?

Anzhao zhègè jīhua zuò jiù shì  Do it according to this plan
le, yǒu shénme hǎo tándè?!!  and that's all there is to it!
  What else is there to discuss?

(2) 'Only, just this, nothing more than this'.

Zhèliǎngge háizi chābùduō,  These two children are about the
búguō Lǎo Dà cōngmíng yìdiǎnr  same, but the older one is a little
jiù shì le.  more intelligent, that's all.

Tā lái, méiyǒu shénme shì,  When he came he wasn't up to anything
búguō xiǎng yào nàběn shǔ  special, he just wanted that book,
jiù shì le.  that's all.

(3) 'that's all that can be done about it'.

Fǎnzhèng wǒ gēn nǐ shuōguó jiù  In any case, I've told you, and that's
shì le.  all I can do.

Notes on No. 11

zhǐ yào:  'as long as, so long as, if only'.

Zhǐ yào wǒ jīntiān wǎnshāng  As long as I have time tonight, I can
yǒu kòng, jiù kěyí bā zhèběn  finish reading this book.
shū kānwǎn.

112
dā: 'to travel by, to take (a bus, car, train, boat, etc.)'

Wǒ yě yào dào xuéxiào qu, dā nínde chē xíng bu xíng? I'm going to school too, can I get a ride with you?

Wǒ dācuōlè chē, jiàguō pǐdào Běitōu qu le. I got on the wrong bus, and ended up in Běitōu.

Měitiān wǒ dā sìlù chē shàng bān. I take the Route 4 bus to work every day.

Note on No. 12

héqílái: 'to combine, to put together, to unite'. Hé is a verb meaning 'to combine, to put together, to unite, to merge'. You should learn to use hé in the following combinations: hézài yīqǐ 'to combine (two or more things together)', héqílái 'to combine (forces), to come together, to put together', héchéng 'to combine into, to merge into'.

Wǒmen liǎngjiā héqílái mǎixialiā zhè liùjiān fángzì. Our two families bought these six rooms together.

Zhèliǎnggè jùzǐ héchéng yīge, rónghū yìdìǎnr. If you combine these two sentences into one, it's easier to say.

Zhèliǎngbān hézài yīqi, zhǐ yǒu shíge xuéshēng, hái bù suàn tài duō. If these two classes are combined, there are only ten students; that's still not too many.

Notes on No. 13

xiǎode: 'know'. This is a synonym of zhīdào, and can be used in most of the same ways that zhīdào can be used. Xiǎode is not, however, commonly used in Peking; it is mostly used in southern areas.

gōngmù: 'public cemetery'.

Gāngcái tā yòu dào gōngmù qu le, gěi tā māmá sòng yībā huā. Just now she went to the cemetery again and left a bunch of flowers (on her mother's grave).
Taipei:

Two friends who work together at the Bank of Taiwan are having a talk:

A: Tīngshuō Xiǎo Lǐ de Māmā sīle. Nǐ xiǎng wǒmen shì ròu gài qù cānjiā tāde sānglǐ? I heard that Xiǎo Lǐ's mother died. Do you think we should go to the funeral?

B: Wǒmen gèn Xiǎo Lǐ yījīng shì shēnjiān de lǎo péngyou le, nǎ nèng bù qù! We've been friends with Xiǎo Lǐ for over ten years, how could we not go!

A: Sānglǐ yǒu méiyǒu shènme tèbié guīju? Wǒ zhǎngde zènme dà le, hái méi cānjiāguǒ sānglǐ ne! Are there any special customs at funerals? I've reached this age without ever having been to a funeral!

B: Zhī yào bù chuān huā yīfu dàgài jiù kěyì le. As long as you don't wear multi-colored clothes it should be okay.

A: Wǒmen gāi sòng diǎn shènme dōngxi ma? Should we send some kind of gift?

B: Yībān rén dōu sòng wǎnlíán huǒ huāquān. Wǒmen liǎngge rén kěyī hēqílái sòng yīge huāquān. Nǐ kān rúhé? Most people send a funeral scroll or a flower wreath. The two of us can send a flower wreath together. What do you think?

A: Dāngrán hǎo.... Nǐ zhídào bù zhídào tā Māmā nàtiān chū bìn? Of course that would be good.... Do you know what day his mother's funeral procession will be?

B: Xià Lǐbāisān xiàwǔ sāndiǎn. Next Wednesday afternoon at 3.

A: Yào zàngzài náli? Where is she going to be buried?

B: Yángmíngshān Míyǐ Gōngmù. In Yángmíngshān Public Cemetery No. 1.

A: Zēnme qū? How do you get there?

B: Wǒ yě bù xiǎode. Fǎnzhèng dào shíhou wǒmen dà jīchéngchē qu jiù shì le. I don't know either. Anyway, when the time comes we'll just take a cab there.

A: Xiǎng bu xiǎng xiànzài qù kànkan Xiǎo Lǐ? Do you want to go see Xiǎo Lǐ now?

B: Bù xīng, wǒ jīntiān wǎnshang yǒu shìqíng. I can't. I'm busy tonight.
A: Nàme míngtiān jièn.
B: Míngtiān jièn.

Then I'll see you tomorrow.
See you tomorrow.
PART II

14. 在台北you rèn rèn wèi
Yangmingshān gōngmù fēngshuǐ
hǎo.

15. 谁都 xiàngwàng tā de zīsūn
hùdài fādá.

16. 讀家 fēngshuǐ hǎo bu hǎo
háishí jiù guānmiàn.

17. 我 mǔqīn bù mìnxīn, tā shuō
tūzǎng, huǒzǎng dōu kěyǐ.

18. 女人 yídào qù Jílè Bìnyíguǎn
ba!

19. 我 kǎndào chū bìnde rèn dàdōu
zhǐ zài shǒubīshāng dài xiǎo.

20. 我 cónglái bù chuān huī yīfu.

21. 顾客 dōu yào zài qiānmíngbù-
shāng qiān míng, zhè shì
wǒmén de xīguǎn.

In Taipei there are people who
believe that the feng-shui in
Yangmingshan Cemetery is good.

Everyone hopes that his descendants
will be prosperous.

To be particular about whether the
fengshui is good or not is an old
way of thinking.

My mother isn't superstitious; she
says that either burial or
cremation is okay.

Let's go to the Paradise Funeral
Home together, okay?

I saw that most of the people in the
funeral procession were only
wearing mourning on their arm.

I never wear gray clothing.

The guests are all supposed to sign
their name in a guest book. This
is our custom.

NOTES ON PART II

Notes on No. 14

rèn wèi: 'to think (that), to consider (that), to believe (that)'. This
is a very common verb used to express that someone has formed an opinion or
made a judgment about a person or thing.

wǒ rèn wèi zhè shì yīge hěn
zhòngyào de wèntí.

I think this is a very important
question.

wǒ bù rèn wèi nǐ yǐnggāi zuò
zhējiān shì.

I don't think you should do this.
fēngshuǐ: Literally 'wind and water', this means the geographical outlay of something to be built, such as a grave or the foundation of a house. The traditional Chinese science of fēngshuǐ, or geomancy, is concerned with the good and bad influences which the location of a grave or building are believed to exert over a family and its descendants. In particular, the dead are influenced by and able to influence the celestial bodies for the benefit of the living. Each family, therefore, is naturally interested in arranging the most auspicious placement for its family grave.

Zhège fángzìde fēngshuǐ bù hǎo. The fengshui of this house is no good.
Zhèlìde fēngshuǐ bù cuò. The fengshui here is pretty good.

Notes on No. 15

zīsūn: 'sons and grandsons', or used in a more general sense, 'offspring, descendants'. For this example, you have to know that Huángdì means 'the Yellow Emperor', a legendary ruler thought of as the father of Chinese civilization.

Zhōngguó rén dōu shì Huángdì-de zīsūn. The Chinese are all descendants of the Yellow Emperor.

hǒudài: 'descendants, posterity, later generations'.

Wǒmen de hǒudài dōu yīnggāi jīzhù zhělì jiān shì! Our descendants should all remember this!

Tā méiyǒu hǒudài. He is without descendants.

fādá: 'to be prosperous, to be flourishing; to be developed, to be well-developed'. For the first example, you need to know that gōngshāngyè means 'industry and commerce'.

Mèiguóde gōngshāngyè fēicháng fādá. America's industry and commerce are very developed.

Zhèjiā rénjī ēnhěn fādá. This family is prosperous.

Notes on No. 16

jiāngjiū: 'to be particular about, to be meticulous about, to pay attention to, to strive for'.

Zhège rén hěn jiāngjiū chī, hěn jiāngjiū chuān. This person is particular about what he eats and what he wears.

Nèige háizi tài jiāngjiū chuān. That kid pays too much attention to what she wears.
Jiāngjiù can also mean 'to be elegant'.

Nǐmén jiāde jiāju zhēn jiāngjiù. Your furniture is truly elegant.

guānniàn: 'way of thinking, concept, notion, view, sense (of), mentality (of).

Méiguó rén dè guānniàn gēn Zhōngguó rén dè guānniàn yǒude yífāng, yǒude bù yífāng.

Sometimes the American way of thinking and the Chinese way is the same, sometimes not.

Nǐ kàn ba, zài guó jǐnián niànr qǐngrén yīnggāi wǎnliàn wǎnhūn jiù huì biānchéng yīzhōng guānniàn.

You watch, in more few years, it will have become an accepted notion that young people should get involved late and marry late.

Notes on No. 17

míxīn: 'to be superstitious (about); superstition'.

Shāngcháode shíhou Zhōngguó rén bǐjiào míxīn, xiànzāi bǐjiào bù míxǐn le.

During the Shang Dynasty, the Chinese were relatively superstitious, now they aren't so much any more.

Yǒude Zhōngguó rén míxīn fēngshuǐ.

Some Chinese are superstitious about fengshui.

tǔzàng: 'to bury (a dead person)', literally 'ground-bury'. This word is used only in contrast to other ways of disposing of a dead body, for example cremation or burial at sea. (If no contrast with other forms of disposal is implied, then the word for 'to bury' is simply zāng (for formal burials), mài (for informal burials), máizàng, or ānzäng (literally 'peacefully bury', a respectful term).)

Eguó rén shuōguó tāmen yào máizàng Méiguó.

The Russians said they wanted to bury Americans.

huǒzàng: 'to cremate; cremation'. In this word, you may think of zāng 'to bury' as extended to mean 'to dispose of (a dead body)'. Huǒ means 'fire'.

Note on No. 18

yǐdāo: 'together'. You have already learned yǐqī and yìkuàir for 'together'. Yǐdāo is mostly used by speakers of southern Mandarin and is little used by northerners.

Yǎohuá hé tāde nǚpéngyou yǐdāo kàn diànnyǐng qu le.

Yǎohuá and his girlfriend went to see a movie.
Háizimen zài yídào wǎnr. The children are playing together.

Notes on No. 19

dàdōu: 'for the most part, mostly'. Another word with the same meaning which is probably used by more people than dàdōu is dāduō.

Zài Yīnđu rénmín dādōu (or dāndūo) xīn Yīnđujiāo. In India the people are mostly Hindu.

Zhōngguo rén dāduō shì nóngmín. Chinese for the most part are rural people.

shōubi: 'arm (from the wrist to the shoulder)'. Other words for 'arm' used in different regions are gēbei and gēbo (Peking gēbe).

Xiǎo Lǐ gēbo shòule shāng, Xiǎo Wāngde tuǐ yě shòule shāng. Xiǎo Lǐ was hurt in the arm, and also Xiǎo Wāng was hurt in the leg.

Gāngcái, wǒ bù xiǎoxīn pèngdào-le ménshāng, dào xiǎnzài shōubi hái téng ne. Just now I was careless and bumped into the door, and my arm still hurts now.

dàixiāo: 'to wear mourning'. Formerly, people wore certain types of clothes while in mourning (sackcloth or white from head to foot). Nowadays, customs differ widely, but some small item is usually still worn to indicate a death in the family. These include a white flower in the hair, a coarse cloth patch on the arm or in the hair, or a black armband.

Tā fùqín sīlè kuài sānnián le, tā hái dàixiāo ne! Her father has been dead for almost three years and she is still wearing mourning!

Notes on No. 20

cónglái bù: 'never, never does...'. In the last unit, you saw the pattern cónglái méi(you), meaning 'have never...' or 'had never...'. Cónɡlái means 'from the past up until now (it has always been this way)'.

Wǒ cónglái bù yuānyǐ zǎoshāng niàn shū. I never want to study in the morning.

huǐ: 'to be gray'.

Zài Zhōngguo dāduōshù rén dōu xīhuan chuān lánsè hé huǐsède yīfu. The great majority of people in China like to wear blue or gray clothing.
Notes on No. 21

qiānmíngbì: 'guest book', literally, 'sign-name record book'.

qiān míng: 'to sign one's name'.

Qǐng nǐ zài zhèlǐ qiān míng. Please sign here.

xíguàn: 'custom, habit'. The definition of xíguàn in a Chinese dictionary reads: 'behavior, tendency, or social practice cultivated over a long period of time, and which is hard to change abruptly'. Compare this with fēngsú 'custom', which you learned in Unit 1: 'the sum total of etiquette, usual practices, etc. adhered to over a long period of time in the development of society'.

Notice that xíguàn may refer to the way of an individual or of a community, whereas fēngsú only refers to the way of a community.
An American student attending Taiwan National University is talking with a Chinese classmate and friend:

A: Tīngshuò Wáng Lǎoshī de fùqīn qǔshì le. Nǐ xiǎng wǒmen shì fǒu gāi qù cānjīă sānglǐ?

B: Wǒ xiǎng wǒmen yīngdāng qù.

A: Tīngshuò sānglǐ zài Jīlè Bīnyíguān jùxīng. Nǐ xǐkè Jīlè Bīnyíguān zài nǎlǐ ma?


A: Wǒ cónɡlái méi cānjīăguò Zhōngguó rénde sānglǐ, bǔ zhīduō nǐmén yǒu nàxīe guījū. Nǐ nèng bu néng gén wo jiāngyíjiāng?


A: Hǎo.

B: Dào bīnyíguānde shìhou, nǐ yì jīn mén jiù huǐ kǎndào zhúōzishāng fāngzhe qiānmíngbā, nǐ yào zài xiāngmian qiān mǐng.

A: Ng. Wáng Lǎoshīde fùqīn yào tǔzàng háishì huǒzàng, nǐ tīngshuō le ma?

B: Tīngshuō shì yào tǔzàng.

A: Yào zāngzài nǎlǐ?

I heard that Teacher Wáng's father died. Do you think we should attend the funeral?

I think we ought to go.

I hear that the funeral is going to be held at the Paradise Funeral Home. Do you know where that is?

Yes. It's on Nanking East Road.

I've never been to a Chinese funeral, so I don't know what special practices you have. Could you tell me about them?

Okay. These days the average person's funeral is very simple. There aren't too many special customs. But you shouldn't wear red, green, or multicolored clothing. Black, gray, and blue would all be okay to wear. Most people who attend a funeral send a funeral scroll or a flower wreath. I think we could send a flower wreath together.

Okay.

When you get to the funeral home, as soon as you go in the door you'll see a guest book on the table. You should sign your name in it.

Uh huh. Have you heard whether Teacher Wáng's father is going to be buried or cremated?

I heard he's going to be buried.

Where is he going to be buried?
In Yángmíngshān Public Cemetery, because they believe that the fengshui there is good, and that if a person is buried there his descendants will be prosperous.

There are still some people in Taiwan who are a little superstitious, aren't there?

Yes. But these are all old notions. For the most part, young people don't pay much attention to this kind of thing any more.

Does the custom of wearing mourning still exist in Taiwan?

Yes. Didn't you see Teacher Wáng, she's wearing mourning on her arm. Before, people had to wear mourning for a year! Now most people only wear it for a hundred days.

What time shall we go there tomorrow?

I'll wait for you at the gate of Taiwan University at one o'clock, and we can go together.

Okay.

NOTE ON THE DIALOGUE

Funeral procedures in the PRC today are very simple. In the interest of sanitation (bodies might have some communicable disease) and economy (ground burials are expensive and consume government agricultural land), deceased city residents are required to be cremated. By government regulation the immediate family is allowed two days of paid leave, sāng jià. The funeral involves someone saying a few kind words about the deceased in the presence of relatives and people from his work unit. Those present are dressed plainly, bearing a white flower. Ashes are placed in carved wood or porcelain boxes in a gǔhuì cūnfāngchù, a building reserved for this purpose. It is not necessary to give anything to the family of the deceased.
but people sometimes give money or other small items. In the countryside, there might be a large feast at the deceased's home. There is an attitude which says a funeral is a time of gladness when the deceased enters the world of the non-living. [A funeral is a "white joyous event," bái xīshì. A wedding is a "red event." Together they are sometimes referred to as hóngbái xīshì, red and white joyous events.]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bǐnyíguǎn</td>
<td>funeral home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chū bìn</td>
<td>to hold a funeral procession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cónglái bù</td>
<td>never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cónglái dōu</td>
<td>always (in the past)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cónglái méi</td>
<td>have never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dā</td>
<td>travel by, take (a taxi, bus, train, airplane, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dàdōu</td>
<td>for the most part</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dài xiāo</td>
<td>to wear mourning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fādā</td>
<td>to be developed, to be prosperous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fǎnzhèng</td>
<td>anyway, in any case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fēngshuǐ</td>
<td>the Chinese science of geomancy (that is, the influence of landscape on people and their fortunes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gāi</td>
<td>should, ought to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gōngmù</td>
<td>public cemetery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>guānmiǎn</td>
<td>concept, notion, view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>guīju</td>
<td>special customs, established rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>héqílái</td>
<td>to combine, to join together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hòudài</td>
<td>descendants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huā</td>
<td>to be multicolored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huāquān</td>
<td>flower wreath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huī</td>
<td>to be gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huǒ</td>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huǒzǎng</td>
<td>cremation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jiāngjiǔ</td>
<td>to be particular about; to be elegant, to be tasteful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jīlè Bǐnyíguǎn</td>
<td>Paradise Funeral Home (in Taipei)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jǐú shè le</td>
<td>..., that's all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>māma</td>
<td>mother, mom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>míxīn</td>
<td>to be superstitious; superstitious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nǎ (náli, nár)</td>
<td>how (used in rhetorical questions to deny something)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qiān míng</td>
<td>to sign one's name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qiānmíngbù</td>
<td>guest book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rènwéi</td>
<td>to think that, to believe that</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
rúhé  how, in what way; how (someone or something) is; how is it (literary form)
shì fǒu (literary form meaning shì bu shì) arm
tō  to die
tūzàng burial (the word used in contrast to cremation or burial at sea)
wǎnlián funeral scroll
xiǎode to know
xīguān habit, custom
Yánghóngshān a mountain in suburban Taipei
yīdào together
zhī yào as long as, if only
zǐsūn descendants
Vocabulary

彼此  彼此  each other, mutually

比较  比较  relatively, comparatively

不但  不但  not only

不少  不少  a lot, many

成  成  to become, to constitute, to make

城市  城市  city

但是  但是  but

而且  而且  furthermore

风气  风气  common practice

风俗  风俗  custom

夫妇  夫妇  married couple, husband and wife

改变  改变  to change

和  和  with; and

会  会  might, to be likely to, will
jiéhūn (jiēhūn) 结婚  to get married
jiějué 解决  to solve
jǐngguò 经过  to go through, to pass by or through
jǐniàn 纪念  memento, memorial
kǎolǜ 考虑  to consider; consideration
kě 可  indeed, really
kě bù shì ma! 可不是吗  I'll say, yes indeed, that's for sure
liànfài 恋爱  to be romantically involved with
liǎojiē (liǎojie) 了解  to understand; understanding
lihūn 离婚  to divorce
lǐwù (lǐwu) 礼物  gift, present
nánjiā(r) 男家  the husband's family
nánnu 男女  male and female
nénggòu 能够  can, to be able to
niánqīng 年轻  to be young
nóngcūn 农村  rural area, countryside
nǚjia(r) 女家  the wife's family
nǔlì 努力  to be hardworking, to be diligent; diligently, hard
qīngnián 青年  youth, young person
qīnqi 亲戚  relatives
qūbié 区别  difference, distinction
shíxing 实行  to practice, to carry out (a method, policy, plan, reform, etc.)
shuāngfāng 双方  both sides, both parties
sòng 送  to give (something as a gift)
tàn qīn 探亲  to visit family
tànqīnjìà 探亲假  leave for visiting family
tíchāng 提倡  to advocate, to promote, to initiate
wǎnlìànwǎnhūn 晚恋晚婚  late involvement and late marriage
xiāngdāng 相当  quite, pretty, very
xǔduō 许多  many; a great deal (of), a lot (of)
yīngdāng 应当  should, ought to
仪式  ceremony
yi\shı  音式
yi\zhı  一直
all along, all the time (up until a certain point)
zhèngfǔ  政府
government
zhùdào  住到
to move to, to go live at
zōngshí  总是
always
zuò  做,作
to serve as, to act as; as
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>Pinyin</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>哎</td>
<td>hāi</td>
<td>(sound of sighing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>大喜的日子</td>
<td>dàxǐ de rìzi</td>
<td>wedding day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>答應</td>
<td>dāying</td>
<td>to agree (to something), to consent, to promise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>度</td>
<td>dù</td>
<td>to pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>度蜜月</td>
<td>dù mìyuè</td>
<td>to go on a honeymoon, to spend one's honeymoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>多年</td>
<td>duōnián</td>
<td>many years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>法院</td>
<td>fǎyuàn</td>
<td>court of law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>佛</td>
<td>Fó</td>
<td>Buddha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>複雜</td>
<td>fùzá (fùzá)</td>
<td>to be complicated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>公證結婚</td>
<td>gōngzhèng jiēhūn</td>
<td>civil marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>還</td>
<td>hái</td>
<td>even, (to go) so far as to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>還是</td>
<td>háishì</td>
<td>after all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>後來</td>
<td>hòulái</td>
<td>later, afterwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>回門</td>
<td>huí mén</td>
<td>the return of the bride to her parents' home (usually on the third day after the wedding)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

130
hūnlǐ 婚禮  wedding
jiăotáng 教堂  church
jiāowǎng 交往  to associate with, to have dealings with
Jīdūjiào 基督教  Christianity
jiéhūn lǐfú 結婚禮服  wedding gown
jiēshāorén 介紹人  introducer
Juédìng 决定  to decide
jǔxíng 舉行  to hold (a meeting, ceremony, etc.)
Júzhǎng 局長  head of an office or bureau (of which the last syllable is Jú)
lǎoshi (lǎoshi) 老實  to be honest
mǎnyì 滿意  to be pleased
mìyuè 蜜月  honeymoon
nánfāng 男方  the groom's side, the groom's family
nénggàn 能幹  to be capable
rén 人  person, self, body
rù xí 入席
to take one's seat (at a gathering, meeting, or banquet)

shàngjìn 上進
to be ambitious

shóu 熟
to be familiar (with), to know well

tándaō 談到
to talk about; speaking of ...

tánlái tánqù 談來談去
to discuss back and forth

tíqīn 提親
to bring up a proposal of marriage

xiǎojiě (xiǎojie) 小姐
a way of referring to someone else's daughter

xǐjiǔ 喜酒
wedding banquet

xìn 信
to believe (in)

xīn Fó 信佛
to be a Buddhist

xīnláng 新郎
bridegroom

xīnniáng 新娘
bride

yě 也
indeed, in fact, admittedly

yìjiàn 意見
opinion

zǎo 早
long ago
zhènghūn 證婚  
zhènghūnrén 證婚人  
zū 租  
zuò méi 做媒

to witness a marriage  
a witness for a marriage  
to rent  
to act as go-between (for the families of a man and woman considering marriage)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>biyùn 避孕</td>
<td>contraception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bù tóng 不同</td>
<td>to be different</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chǎnfù 产妇</td>
<td>a woman who has given birth within the last month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chǎnjìà 产假</td>
<td>maternity leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chénggōng 成功</td>
<td>to succeed, to be successful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chūshēnglǜ 出生率</td>
<td>birth rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dānwèi 单位</td>
<td>unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-dào 到</td>
<td>(indicates successful accomplishment of something)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dědào 得到</td>
<td>to receive, to get</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fēnpèi 分配</td>
<td>to assign, to apportion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gèdì 各地</td>
<td>the various places, each place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gègè 各个</td>
<td>various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gēnjù (gēnju) 根据</td>
<td>according to, based on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gézhòng 各种</td>
<td>various kinds, types</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
gōngzì  工资  wages, pay
hóngtáng  红糖  brown sugar
jià  假  vacation, leave
jiātíng  家庭  family
jīhuà shēngyù 计划生育  planned parenthood, family planning
juéyù  绝育  sterilization
jūmín wèiyuánhuì 居民委员会  the neighborhood committee of the place you live
kòngzhì  控制  to control
-mén 们 plural suffix
mínfèi  免费  to be free of charge
míng'é 名额  the number of people assigned or allowed, quota (of people)
nóngmín  农民  peasant
nǚ  女  female
páichūsuǒ(r) 派出所  the local police station
pízhǔn  批准  to give official permission
qingkuang 情况 situation
qinjin 亲近 to be close (to a person)
rengong liuchan 人工流产 abortion
san tongguo 三通过 "the three approvals"
shaooshu minzu 少数民族 national minority
shengyu 生育 give birth to and raise
shibaiz 失败 to fail
shiqu 市区 urban area or district
shoushu 手术 operation, surgery
shouxian 首先 first
shumu 数目 number
tongguo 通过 to pass, to approve
tongyi 同意 to consent, to agree
wanju 玩具 toy
xiangxin 相信 to believe
xiān huā 鲜花 fresh flowers
xiǎo hái 小孩儿 child, children
yě jiù shì shuō 也就是说 to mean; in other words
yī bān 一般 ordinary, general, common
yī bān de shuō 一般地说 generally speaking
yī dìng 一定 to be specific
yǐng yǎng pǐn 营养品 food items of special nutritional value
zēng jiā 增加 to increase
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>Pinyin</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bāng</td>
<td>bīngxiāng</td>
<td>pound (unit of weight)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bù gǎn dāng</td>
<td>不敢當</td>
<td>I'm flattered! You shouldn't have!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chī nǎi</td>
<td>chī fēng</td>
<td>to nurse, to suckle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dāngxīn</td>
<td></td>
<td>to watch out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dé</td>
<td></td>
<td>to get</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>duō kuài!</td>
<td>fēngshī</td>
<td>how fast!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ěrduō</td>
<td>fúqi</td>
<td>ear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hóngbāo</td>
<td>hóngdàn</td>
<td>a red envelope with a gift or bribe of money in it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fúxiàng</td>
<td></td>
<td>lucky physiognomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fúxiàng</td>
<td></td>
<td>blessings, luck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hóngbāo</td>
<td></td>
<td>a red envelope with a gift or bribe of money in it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hóngdàn</td>
<td></td>
<td>eggs dyed red</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
huīfu  恢复  to recover
jiéguǒ (jiēguǒ)  结果  as a result
mǎnyuè  滿月  a full month after the birth of a baby
mǎnyuèjiǔ  滿月酒  celebration meal one month after a baby is born
pàng  肥  to be fat
pèng  碰  to touch
pōfei  破費  to spend a lot of money on someone
qiānwàn  千萬  by all means, be sure to; (in a negative sentence) by no means, under no circumstances
shēnglěng  生冷  raw or cold foods
shēngxialai  生下來  to be born
sūnzi  孫子  grandson
-tāi  胎  fetus, embryo
tǎng  躺  to lie down
tòngkǔ  痛苦  to be painful
tóuyīge  頭一個  the first
tóuyītài  頭一胎  the first pregnancy, the first baby
tuō nínde fú  託您的福  thanks to your lucky influence
Wáng jiā  王家  the Wang family
wèi  餵  to feed
xiǎo bǎobao  小寶寶  baby
xiǎoxīn  小心  to be careful
xífù  媳婦  daughter-in-law
yíxiàzi  一下子  an instant, a moment, a while
yuèzi  月子  month of confinement after giving birth to a child
zhǎng  長  to grow; to be (pretty, etc.)
zhòng  重  to be heavy
zuò yuèzi  坐月子  to go through the month of confinement and special care after childbirth
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>Pinyin</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ānxīn</td>
<td>安心</td>
<td>to be without worry, to feel at ease, to feel relieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǎozhòng</td>
<td>保重</td>
<td>to take good care (of oneself)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>běnlái</td>
<td>本来</td>
<td>originally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bìngqiě</td>
<td>並且</td>
<td>moreover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cānjiā</td>
<td>参加</td>
<td>to take part in; to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chǎngshòu</td>
<td>長壽</td>
<td>long life, longevity; to live a long time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chūchāi</td>
<td>出差</td>
<td>to be out of town on business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dǎ chángtú diànhuà</td>
<td>打长途電話</td>
<td>to make a long-distance phone call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dàgē</td>
<td>大哥</td>
<td>oldest brother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diàosāng</td>
<td>吊喪</td>
<td>to present one's condolences at a funeral, to attend a funeral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>érniú</td>
<td>兒女</td>
<td>children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fàn</td>
<td>犯</td>
<td>to have an attack (of a disease)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gǎndeshǎng</td>
<td>趕得上</td>
<td>to be able to catch up, to be able to make it in time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
gānhuìlái 趕回來
to rush back

gǎnjǐn 趕緊
quickly

gǔhūi 骨灰
bone ashes

guōqu 過去
to pass away

guōshì 過世
to pass away

huǒzhàng 火葬
to cremate; cremation

hūrán 忽然
suddenly

jiānglái 將來
the future, someday

jíjiù 急救
first aid; to administer emergency treatment

jínguōlái 救過來
to save

lǎorénjia 老人家
polite way of referring to an older person (nǐ lǎorénjia, tā lǎorénjia)

-lǐǎo 了
(can, to be able to)

nánguō 難過
to be sad

niánjì (niánjì) 年紀
age

píngjìng 平靜
to be calm
qùbùliǎo 去不了 cannot go
qūshì 去世 to pass away
sānglǐ 喪禮 funeral
shāngxīn 傷心 to be grieved
shēnbiān 身邊 one's vicinity, one's immediate surroundings
sòng 送 to escort, to take (someone to a place)
xiāoxi 消息 news
xīnzàng 心臟 heart
xīnzàngbìng 心臟病 heart disease
yībèizi 一輩子 all one's life
yíxiāng 一向 (have) always, (had) always, consistently, all along
zài shuō 再說 furthermore, besides
zàng 葬 to bury
zuìjìn 最近 recently
zǔmǔ 祖母 grandmother (on the father's side)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>Pinyin</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bìn yī guǎn</td>
<td>殡儀館</td>
<td>funeral home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chū bìn</td>
<td>出殯</td>
<td>to hold a funeral procession; a funeral procession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cóng lái</td>
<td>從來</td>
<td>always (in the past)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cóng lái bù/méi</td>
<td>從來不/沒</td>
<td>never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dǎ</td>
<td>打</td>
<td>travel by, take (a taxi, bus, train, airplane, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dà dōu</td>
<td>大都</td>
<td>for the most part</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dài xiào</td>
<td>帶孝</td>
<td>to wear mourning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fā dà</td>
<td>發達</td>
<td>to be developed, to be prosperous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fǎn zhèng</td>
<td>反正</td>
<td>anyway, in any case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fēng shuǐ</td>
<td>風水</td>
<td>the Chinese science of geomancy (that is, the influence of landscape on people and their fortunes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gāi</td>
<td>該</td>
<td>should, ought to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gōng mú</td>
<td>公墓</td>
<td>public cemetery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>guǎn niàn</td>
<td>觀念</td>
<td>concept, notion, view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>guī jū</td>
<td>規矩</td>
<td>special customs, established rules</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
合起来  to combine, to join together
後代  descendants
花  to be multicolored
花圈  flower wreath
灰  to be gray
或  or
火葬  cremation
講究  to be particular about
Jílè Bǐnyīguǎn  極樂殯儀館  Paradise Funeral Home (in Taipei)
就是了  ... that's all
媽媽  mother, mom
迷信  to be superstitious; superstition
nǎ (náli, nǎr) 那 (那裡,那兒)  how (used in rhetorical questions to deny something)
簽名  to sign one's name
簽名簿  guest book
rènwéi 認為
to think that, to believe that

rúhé 如何
to be how, how is it; how, in what way (literary form)

shì fǒu 是否
(literary form meaning shì bu shì)

shǒubi 手臂
arm

sǐ 死
to die

tǔzǎng 土葬
burial (the word used in contrast to cremation or burial at sea)

wǎnlián 聖牒
funeral scroll

xiǎode 晓得
to know

xīguàn 習慣
habit, custom

Yángháishān 陽明山
a mountain in suburban Taipei

yīdào 一道
together

yīngdāng 应當
should, ought to

zhī yào 祗要
as long as, if only

zǐsūn 子孫
descendants
### Vocabulary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>âi</td>
<td>(sound of sighing)</td>
<td>MBD 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ânxīn</td>
<td>to be without worry, to feel at ease, to feel relieved</td>
<td>MBD 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-bàng</td>
<td>pound (unit of weight)</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǎobāo (bǎobǎo)</td>
<td>baby, darling (term of endearment for a young child)</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǎozhòng</td>
<td>to take good care (of oneself)</td>
<td>MBD 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>běnliái</td>
<td>originally</td>
<td>MBD 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǐcǐ</td>
<td>each other, mutually; you too, the same to you</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǐjiāo (bǐjiǎo)</td>
<td>relatively, comparatively; fairly, rather</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǐngqǐě</td>
<td>moreover, and</td>
<td>MBD 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǐngxiāng</td>
<td>refrigerator, ice box</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǐnyǐgǔān</td>
<td>funeral home</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǐyūn</td>
<td>contraception</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǔ dàn</td>
<td>not only</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǔ gǎn dāng</td>
<td>I'm flattered, You shouldn't have, I don't deserve this</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǔ shǎo</td>
<td>quite a lot, quite a few</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bǔ tóng</td>
<td>to be different</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cānjiā</td>
<td>to take part in; to attend</td>
<td>MBD 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chǎnfù</td>
<td>a woman who has given birth within the last month</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chángshòu</td>
<td>long life, longevity; to live a long time</td>
<td>MBD 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chǎnjíà</td>
<td>maternity leave</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chéng</td>
<td>to become, to constitute, to make</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chénggōng</td>
<td>to succeed, to be successful</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chéngshì</td>
<td>city</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chǐ nàǐ</td>
<td>to nurse, to suckle</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chū bǐn</td>
<td>to hold a funeral procession</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chūchāi</td>
<td>to be out of town on business</td>
<td>MBD 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chuí fēng</td>
<td>to have air blow on oneself; to be in a draft</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chúshēnglǜ</td>
<td>birth rate</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cōnglái bù</td>
<td>never</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cōnglái dōu</td>
<td>always (in the past)</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cōnglái méi</td>
<td>have never</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
dā to travel by, take (a taxi, bus, train, airplane, etc.)
dā chángtú diànhuà to make a long-distance phone call
dàdōu for the most part
dàgē oldest brother
dái xiăo to wear mourning
dângxīn to watch out
dànsì but
dānwèi unit
-dào (indicates successful accomplishment of something)
dàxǐ great rejoicing
dàxǐde rìzi wedding day
dâyìng to agree (to something), to consent, to promise
dé to get
dédaoc to receive, to get
diāosāng to present one's condolences at a funeral
dù to pass
dù miànyuè to go on a honeymoon, to spend one's honeymoon
duō kuài! how fast!
duōnián many years

cáiúdo ear
cěrnü children
cērqīě furthermore

fādá to be developed, to be prosperous
fàn to have an attack (cf. an old disease)
fǎnzhèng anyway, in any case
fǎngyuăn court of law
fēngqí common practice; general mood
fēngshēi rheumatism
fēngshuǐ the Chinese science of geomancy (that is, the influence of landscape on people and their fortunes)
fēngsū custom
fēnpèi to assign, to apportion, to allot
Buddha

married couple, husband and wife

blessings, luck

lucky physiognomy

to be complicated

should, ought to

to change

to be able to catch up, to be able to make it in time

to rush back

quickly

the various places, each place

various

according to, based on

various kinds, types

public cemetery

civil marriage

wages, pay

concept, notion, view

bone ashes

special customs, established rules

to pass away, to die

to pass away, to die

even, (to go) so far as to

after all

with; and

to combine, to join together

a red envelope with a gift or bribe of money in it

eggs dyed red

brown sugar

descendants

later, afterwards

to be multicolored

flower wreath

to be gray

might, to be likely to, will

the return of the bride to her parents' home (usually on the third day after the wedding)
huīfu  to recover  MBD 4
hūnlǐ  wedding  MBD 2
huō  or  MBD 6
huōzhàng  to cremate; cremation  MBD 5
huōzhàng  cremation  MBD 6
hūrán  suddenly  MBD 5

jiā  vacation, leave  MBD 3
jiǎngjiǔ  to be particular about; to be  elegant, to be tasteful  MBD 6
jiānglái  the future, someday  MBD 5
jiāotáng  church  MBD 2
jiāowǎng  to associate with, to have dealings with  MBD 2
jiāòng  family  MBD 3
jiāōjiào  Christianity  MBD 2
jiéguō  (jiēguō)  as a result; result, results  MBD 4
jiēhūn  (jiēhūn)  to get married  MBD 1
jiēhūn lǐfú  wedding gown  MBD 2
jiējué  to solve  MBD 1
jiēshāorén  introducer  MBD 2
jiāhuà shēngyù  planned parenthood, family planning  MBD 3
jíjiù  first aid; to administer emergency treatment  MBD 5
Jílè Bǐnyíguān  Paradise Funeral Home (in Taipei)  MBD 6
jīngguō  to go through, to pass by or through  MBD 1
jīnìǎn  memento, memorial  MBD 1
jiǔ shì le  ... that's all  MBD 6
jiǔguòlai  to save  MBD 5
juādǐng  to decide  MBD 2
jūyǔ  sterilization  MBD 3
jūmhīn wèiyuánhuì  neighborhood committee  MBD 3
jǔxīng  to hold (a meeting, ceremony, etc.)  MBD 2
jūzhǎng  head of an office or bureau (of which the last syllable is jiú)  MBD 2

kǎolū  to consider; consideration  MBD 1
kě  indeed, really  MBD 1
kě bǔ shí ma  I'll say, yes indeed, that's for sure  MBD 1
kǒngzhī  to control  MBD 3
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-láí ...-qù</td>
<td>(indicates repeating the action over and over again)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lǎorénjia</td>
<td>polite way of addressing or referring to an old person</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lǎoshi (lǎoshi)</td>
<td>to be honest</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>liàn'ài</td>
<td>to be romantically involved with; love</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-liǎo</td>
<td>can, to be able to</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>liǎojie (liǎojie)</td>
<td>to understand; understanding</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lǐhūn</td>
<td>to get divorced</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lǐwù (lǐwu)</td>
<td>gift, present</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>māma</td>
<td>mother, mom</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mānyǐ</td>
<td>to be pleased</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mānyuē</td>
<td>a full month after the birth of a baby</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mānyuējiǔ</td>
<td>celebration meal one month after a baby is born</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-men</td>
<td>plural suffix</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miǎnfēi</td>
<td>to be free of charge</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>míng'ē</td>
<td>the number of people assigned or allowed, quota (of people)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>míxīn</td>
<td>to be superstitious; superstitition</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>míyuē</td>
<td>honeymoon</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nǎ (nǎlī, nǎr)</td>
<td>how (used in rhetorical questions to deny something)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nánfāng</td>
<td>the groom's side, the groom's family</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nánguō</td>
<td>to be sad</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nánjiā(r)</td>
<td>the husband's family</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>námǔ</td>
<td>male and female</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nènggān</td>
<td>to be capable</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nènggōu</td>
<td>can, to be able to</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>niánjī (niánjǐ)</td>
<td>age</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>niánqīng</td>
<td>to be young</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nónɡcūn</td>
<td>rural area, countryside</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nónɡmín</td>
<td>peasant</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nǚ</td>
<td>female</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nǚjiā(r)</td>
<td>the wife's family</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nǔlī</td>
<td>to be hardworking, to be diligent; diligently, hard</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinyin</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>MBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>páichūsuǒ(r)</td>
<td>the local police station</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pànɡ</td>
<td>to be fat</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pènɡ</td>
<td>to touch</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pínɡjīnɡ</td>
<td>to be calm</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pízhūn</td>
<td>to give official permission</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pòfēi</td>
<td>to spend a lot of money (on</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>someone), to go to some expense</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qīān mínɡ</td>
<td>to sign one's name</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qìān mínɡ bù</td>
<td>guest book</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qìān wán</td>
<td>by all means, be sure to; (in</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>combination with a negative word</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>by no means, under no</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>circumstances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qínɡ kuànɡ</td>
<td>situation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qínɡ níán</td>
<td>youth, young person</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qín jīn</td>
<td>to be close (to a person)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qín qí</td>
<td>relatives</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qū bié</td>
<td>difference, distinction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qù bù lǐnɡ</td>
<td>cannot go</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qù shī</td>
<td>to pass away, to die</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rén</td>
<td>person, self, body</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rén sīnɡ lǚ chān</td>
<td>abortion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rě xi</td>
<td>to think that, to believe that</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rù xí</td>
<td>to take one's seat (at a gather-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ing, meeting, or banquet)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rǔnè</td>
<td>how, in what way; how (someone</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>or something) is; how is...?,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>how is it (literary form)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sān tōnɡ guò</td>
<td>&quot;the three approvals&quot;</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sānɡ lǐ</td>
<td>funeral</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shānɡ jīn</td>
<td>to be ambitious</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shānɡ xīn</td>
<td>to be grieved, to be sorrowful,</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to be broken-hearted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shǎo shù mín zú</td>
<td>minority nationality, national</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minority</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shēn bì lān</td>
<td>one's vicinity, one's immediate</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>surroundings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shēnɡ lěnɡ</td>
<td>raw or cold foods</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shēnɡ xǐ lǎi</td>
<td>to be born</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Character(s)</td>
<td>English Translation</td>
<td>MBD Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shēngyù</td>
<td>to give birth to and raise</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shì fǒu</td>
<td>(literary form meaning shì bu shí)</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shìbài</td>
<td>to fail</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shìqū</td>
<td>urban area or district</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shíxìng</td>
<td>to practice, to carry out (a method, policy, plan, reform, etc.)</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shǒu (shū)</td>
<td>to be familiar (with), to know well</td>
<td>MBD 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shǒubǐ</td>
<td>arm</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shǒushù</td>
<td>operation, surgery</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shǒuxiān</td>
<td>first</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shǔ (shǒu)</td>
<td>to be familiar (with), to know well</td>
<td>MBD 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shuāngfāng</td>
<td>both sides, both parties</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shǔmu</td>
<td>number</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sǐ</td>
<td>to die</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sòng</td>
<td>to give (something as a gift)</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sòng</td>
<td>to escort, to take (someone to a place)</td>
<td>MBD 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sūnzi</td>
<td>grandson</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-tāi</td>
<td>birth</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tān qīn</td>
<td>to visit family</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tǎndao</td>
<td>to talk about; speaking of ...</td>
<td>MBD 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tǎng</td>
<td>to lie, to recline</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tánlái tánqù</td>
<td>to talk back and forth</td>
<td>MBD 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tǎnqīn</td>
<td>to visit relatives (usually means immediate family)</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tǎnqīnjíà</td>
<td>leave for visiting family</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>títchàng</td>
<td>to advocate, to promote, to initiate</td>
<td>MBD 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tífqīn</td>
<td>to bring up a proposal of marriage</td>
<td>MBD 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tōngguò</td>
<td>to pass, to approve</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tōngkǎi</td>
<td>to be painful</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tōngyī</td>
<td>to consent, to agree</td>
<td>MBD 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tōuyīge</td>
<td>the first</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tōu(yī)tāi</td>
<td>the first pregnancy, the first baby</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tuō nín de fú</td>
<td>thanks to your lucky influence, many thanks</td>
<td>MBD 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tǔzàng</td>
<td>burial (the word used in contrast to cremation or burial at sea)</td>
<td>MBD 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>MBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wángjiān</td>
<td>the Wang family, the Wangs</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wánjù</td>
<td>toy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wǎnlílián</td>
<td>funeral scroll</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wǎnlílián wǎnhūn</td>
<td>late involvement and late marriage</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wèi</td>
<td>to feed</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiānhuā</td>
<td>fresh flowers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiāngdāng</td>
<td>quite, pretty, very</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiāngxīn</td>
<td>to believe</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiǎo bāobāo</td>
<td>baby, darling (term of endearment for a young child)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiǎode</td>
<td>to know</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiǎohái</td>
<td>child, children</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiǎojiě (xiǎojie)</td>
<td>daughter (referring to someone else's daughter)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiǎoxī</td>
<td>news</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiǎoxīn</td>
<td>to be careful</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xīfù</td>
<td>daughter-in-law</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xīguàn</td>
<td>habit, custom</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xījiǔ</td>
<td>wedding banquet; wedding wine</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xīn</td>
<td>to believe (in)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xīn Fó</td>
<td>to be a Buddhist</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xīnláng</td>
<td>bridegroom</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xīnliáng</td>
<td>bride</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xīnzàng</td>
<td>heart</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xīnzàngbìng</td>
<td>heart disease</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xūduō</td>
<td>many, a great deal (of), a lot (of)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yángmíngshān</td>
<td>a mountain in suburban Taipei</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yě</td>
<td>indeed, in fact, admittedly</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yě jiǔ shì shuō</td>
<td>to mean; in other words</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐbān</td>
<td>ordinary, general, common</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐbānde shuō</td>
<td>generally speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐběizi</td>
<td>all one's life</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐdàō</td>
<td>together</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐdìng</td>
<td>to be specific</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐjiān</td>
<td>opinion</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐngdāng</td>
<td>should, ought to</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐngyángpǐn</td>
<td>food items of special nutritional value</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐshí</td>
<td>ceremony</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐxiàng</td>
<td>(have) always, (had) always, consistently, all along</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yǐxiàzi</td>
<td>an instant, a moment, a while</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

154
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>MBD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>yīzhí</td>
<td>all along, all the time (up until a certain point)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yuèzi</td>
<td>month of confinement after giving birth to a child</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zài shuō</td>
<td>furthermore, besides</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zàng</td>
<td>to bury</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zǎo</td>
<td>long ago</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zēngjiā</td>
<td>to increase</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhǎng</td>
<td>to grow; to be (pretty, etc.)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhèngfǔ</td>
<td>government</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhèngghūn</td>
<td>to witness a marriage</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhèngghūnrén</td>
<td>chief witness at a wedding ceremony</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhǐ yào</td>
<td>as long as, if only</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhòng</td>
<td>to be heavy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhù dao</td>
<td>to move to, to go live at</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zīsūn</td>
<td>descendants</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zǒngshì</td>
<td>always</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zū</td>
<td>to rent</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zuǐjīn</td>
<td>recently; soon</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zǔmǔ</td>
<td>grandmother (on the father's side)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zuò</td>
<td>to serve as, to act as; as</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zuò méi</td>
<td>to act as go-between (for the families of a man and woman considering marriage)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zuò yuèzi</td>
<td>to go through the month of confinement and special care after childbirth</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>