

12. The Chinese—Our Neighbour

What do you know about the Chinese? Share it with the class.



Chang increased his pace as he walked along the river Lo. He was far away from his native village. From here he could not see the great wall, which was 2,400 kms long. It was built by the first Chinese Emperor, Chin Shih Huang Ti. The wall was stretched along the fertile river Huang Ho.

He was walking beside the river towards the city of Loyang. It was New Year and everyone was in a holiday mood. The rich people in their silk dresses and shoes, the peasants in their straw sandals, even the bare footed barbarians were happy. Chang felt his own dress and thought about the silk – the great invention of his forefathers.

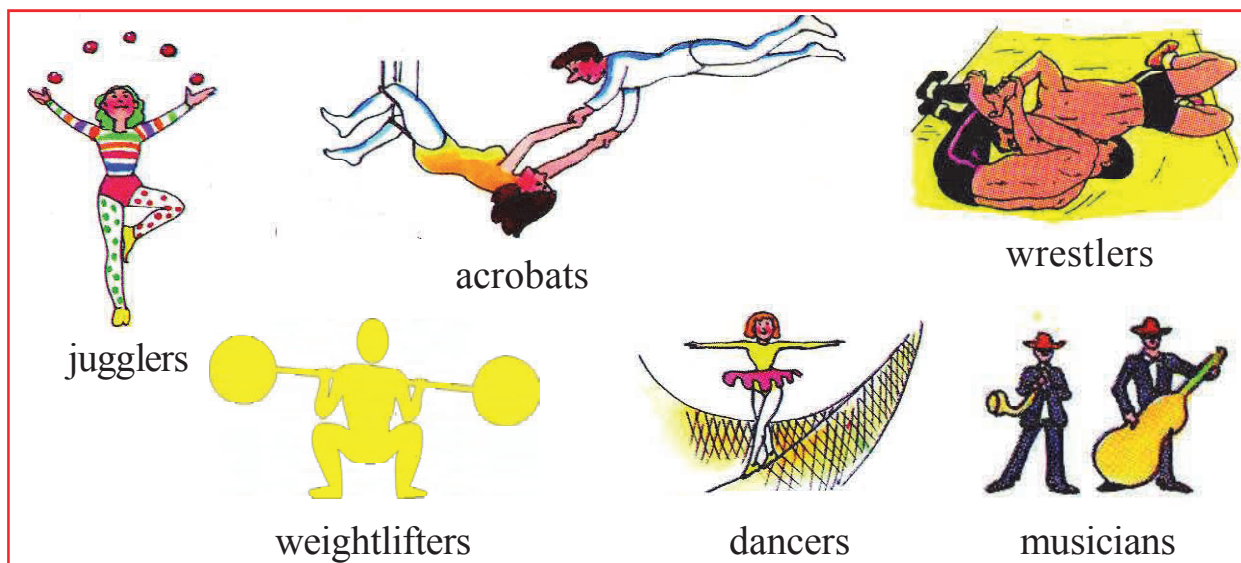
The Emperor himself had taken part last week in ploughing a furrow to begin the week-long celebration – the Festival of Lanterns. By the sunset, the whole town would be twinkling with little lamps lit inside a huge paper model of a dragon which would be carried along the street.



Why was everyone happy ? Was Chang happy too ?

Chang was now passing through the market place. Neat rows of stalls were selling all types of goods. The bronze utensils, iron tools, silk dresses, colourful paper toys, writing paper, wooden toys-so many things attracted him. The sound of music made him stop. Chang's mind began to wander. So many wonderful things were happening. Ts'ai Lum had recently developed a new writing material called paper, using wood pulp and rags! It would be much cheaper than writing on silk. There were so many things Chang wanted to learn – mathematics, politics and calculations about the position of the stars. He wanted to be a mandarin. But it could be more exciting to be a trader, to travel along the silk road to Bactria or Persia one day, or even sail in a ship to foreign lands!

What do we see when we pass through the market place?



There were so many shows going on in the market place! There were jugglers, acrobats, wrestlers, weightlifters, dancers, musicians..... the whole place was buzzing with activity. Chang stood there and watched the wonderful sight. He felt a surge of pride and happiness. He was a part of this wonderful great civilization.

- Shri Amit Agarwal

Word Meanings

increase	to add
far away	distant
stretch	to make something wide or long by pulling it
fertile	rich land to produce more crops
peasants	farmers
straw sandals	footwear made of hay
barefoot	without foot wear
barbarians	uncivilized persons
invention	to make something new
furrow	deep lines on soil in the field
celebration	a feeling of happiness, an event, or a festival
dragon	an imaginary animal that has a long tongue and looks like a dinosaur
wander	roam about
recent	happened only a short while ago
pulp	soft, wet, part of a fruit or vegetable
rags	torn clothes
calculation	using numbers to find out some information or solve a problem
mandarin	government officer

trader	businessman
exciting	thrilling
sight	scene
a surge of pride	a sudden feeling of greatness
civilized	the state of being gentle, well behaved
pace	speed
forefathers	ancestors
plough (b)	tilling and turning over the earth in fields
lantern	a container (usually of glass) that encloses and protects the flame of a light
huge	very large
attract	to excite interest, feelings
recently	not long ago
cheap	low priced
juggler	a person who can keep more than one objects in the air by throwing them up and catching them
acrobat	a person skilled in walking on ropes, wires, walking on their hands
wrestle	to fight by trying to hold or throw one's opponent
weight lifting	the sport or exercise of lifting specially shaped weights
buzz	to make a continuous sound like that of a bee
sight	view

Reading Comprehension

A. Answer the following questions.

1. Write the names of the two rivers mentioned in the lesson.
2. Where was Chang going?
3. What was happening in Loyang?
4. What was carried along the street during the festival?
5. What did the Emperor do at the beginning of the festival?
6. What did Chang want to be?
7. What shows were going on in the fair?
8. Did Chang buy anything from the stalls?
9. Why was Chang happy?

B. 1. Tick (✓) the correct sentences.

- a. Chang lives in our age. ()
- b. Chang lived before the invention of silk. ()
- c. Chang lived before the invention of paper. ()
- d. Chang lived during the age when paper was invented. ()

2. Write True or False against the statements.

- a. It was the festival of harvest. ()
- b. It was the festival of lights. ()
- c. It was the festival of lanterns. ()
- d. It was the festival of New Year. ()
- e. It was the festival of kite flying. ()

3. Choose the correct answer.

- 1. The Great Wall of China is _____.
 - a. 2,500 kms long
 - b. 2,700 kms long
 - c. 2,300 kms long
 - d. 2,400 kms long
- 2. The wall is stretched along the river _____.
 - a. Lo
 - b. Huang Ho
 - c. Yellow river
 - d. Si-Kiong

Vocabulary

A. Add '-ion' to the words given in column A and write them in column B. One is done for you.



VERB		NOUN
Calculate		Calculation
Celebrate		
Dictate		
Participate	- ion	
Vacate		
Narrate		
Operate		
Locate		

Note: A letter or a group of letters added to the end of a word is called SUFFIX. It is used to change the class of a word; like change of Verb to Noun. Suffixes do not change the meaning of a word.

B. Write the phrases as given in the examples using –ed, –en, –ing.

–ed	–en	–ing
Boil – rice (Boiled – rice)	Earth – pots (Earthen – pots)	Fly – kite (Flying – kite)
Increase – price (_____)	Wood – furniture (_____)	Talk – bird (_____)
Cook – food (_____)	Gold – ring (_____)	Weep – child (_____)
Colour-pictures (_____)	Rot – apple (_____)	Love – mother (_____)

Note: -ed, -en, -ing are used to frame describing words.

C. Fill in the blanks choosing the correct word from the box.

increasing, stretch, inventions, fertile, utensils, civilization

- Land which produces good crops has _____ soil.
- Prices of all the items are _____ now-a-days.
- Now-a-days we are using a lot of _____ made of steel.
- Modern age is called the age of _____.
- We are a part of the great Indus valley _____.
- _____ a fence around this field.

D Match the columns.

A	B
Mathematics	The science of the description of the earth
Civics	The science of numbers
Geography	The science of living things
Biology	The study of government and its business
Astronomy	The study of past events
Botany	The scientific study of stars and planets
History	The science of plants

Grammar

Pick out the describing words from the lesson as given in the example. Write them in the columns as given below. Add some more.



Adjective + Noun	Noun + Adj + Noun
Great wall	Week long celebration

Writing

A On the basis of the description of the fair in the text write about a fair visited by you based on the following points.

1. Place
2. Month
3. Reason
4. Description
5. Anything special
6. How you enjoyed it.

B. Fill in the blanks using the words given below.

carried, Dussehra, Bastar, dance, worship, decorated

1. Maa Danteshwari's temple is ----- for the festival of -----.
2. Maa Danteshwari's Rath is ----- on this day.
3. People from all over Chhattisgarh visit ----- to ----- Maa Danteshwari.
4. The people of Bastar wear new clothes and ----- in groups.

Activity

A 1. Listen to the description carefully. Match the pictures with their names.

See Appendix 1, Lesson 12

Carnival

Snow festival



Songkran



Holi



2. Listen and Complete the table.

S.No.	Festival	Country	Month	Special
1.		Japan		
2.			February	
3.				People play with colours
4.			April	

B. Use the table given to talk to your partner. You can ask questions using 'who', 'when' and 'where'.

Example: Printing press was invented by Johannes Guttenberg in Germany in 1450.

Thing	Person	Place	Period
Printing press	Johannes Guttenberg	Germany	1450
Thermometer	Galileo Galilee	Italy	1593
Steam engine	James Watt	Britain	1784
Type writer	Christopher Scholes	USA	1872
Sewing machine	Elias Howe	USA	1845
Telephone	Alexander Graham Bell	USA	1876
Television	John Logie Baird	Britain	1926
Digital Computer	Howard Aiken	USA	1944

English-7

1. By whom was ----- invented?
----- was invented by -----.
2. Where was ----- invented ?
----- was invented in -----.
3. When was invented ?
----- was invented in -----.

Project

Make a ‘Kandeel’ with the help of the directions given below:

1. Take a rectangular piece of paper.
2. Fold it into half along its length.
3. Draw lines as shown in the picture.
4. Cut along the dotted lines.
5. Fold the paper along the width.
6. Open the piece of paper.
7. Roll it up into a cylinder.
8. Paste along the length of the cylinder.
9. Paste some paper strips at the bottom.
10. Paste a paper hook at the top of the lantern.

