

## APPENIDX

## Unit

## Arts and Customs in China

## Part 1 Orientation

- A. The following text introduces various kinds of Chinese tea and the basic stages in their production. Read the text and then listen to it. After this, discuss with your partner any further knowledge you have on the subject.

China is famous for its various teas, and drinking tea has long been a custom in its history. Many different types of tea are well-known by people, but the production of tea is less well-known.

The four basic steps of production are withering, rolling, oxidation, and firing. As a worker on a tea farm explains: “First, to wither fresh tea leaves, we spread them out in the open till they become limp. Next, we roll and break up the withered leaves by hand or machine to get them ready for natural oxidization. In order to produce pungency of different degrees, they are left for oxidation for varying amounts of time. Longer oxidation usually produces a less well flavoured but more pungent tea. Then, the oxidised leaves are heated so as to dehydrate them. After this, the tea leaves become ready to be used and stored.”



Among these stages, the oxidisation is the key for producing three main kinds of tea: black teas, which undergo several hours of oxidation; oolong teas, which have less oxidation; and green teas, which are not oxidised at all. There are, of course, many different varieties within these three main categories in China.

(Adapted resource from *The Tea Page*: <http://www.246.dk/index.html>)

(Picture from *China Pure Tea*: [www.puerh.cn/2-shou3gong2zhi4cha2-1.htm](http://www.puerh.cn/2-shou3gong2zhi4cha2-1.htm))

- B. Read and listen to the above text again. Circle the phrases with *to*, e.g. *so as to dehydrate them*. Match them to the following pictures of the stages of tea production.

Picture of  
heating  
tea.

Picture of  
oxidising tea.

Picture of  
rolling  
tea.

Picture of  
withering tea.

- C. Compare the phrases with *to* in the following groups of sentences. Find the similarities and differences between them.

- 1 In order to catch the train, he drove quickly through the empty streets.  
He drove quickly through the empty streets in order to catch the train.
- 2 To stay fit, she goes swimming every day.  
She goes swimming every day to stay fit.
- 3 Mail your package early so as to ensure its timely arrival.  
Mail your package early to ensure its timely arrival.  
Mail your package early in order to ensure its timely arrival

## Part 2 Comprehension

A Read the following article describing the ways of making *Gongfu* tea. Pay attention to the stages and their importance.

### Making *Gongfu* Tea

- A Chinese Custom in East *Guangdong* and South *Fujian*

It is a Chinese custom to treat guests with tea. People in both eastern *Guangdong* and southern *Fujian* have a special way of making tea, which is called *gongfu* tea.

The tea sets for making *gongfu* tea are very small. The pottery teapot is as big as a fist and the white and transparent teacups are as small as tiny liqueur glasses. In addition, they use a small charcoal stove, a small water kettle and a porcelain base to hold the tea sets. Spring or well water is the best for making *gongfu* tea.



Before making the tea, the teapot is cleaned with boiling water to get rid of the remaining tea flavor and to warm the teapot. Then a big handful of tealeaves is put into the teapot until they almost reach its rim. The next step is to boil the water with olive stones, which give out high flames and the delicate fragrance of olives. After the water is boiled, one must lift the kettle high to pour the hot water into the teapot. The water is continually poured even after it overflows, so as to get rid of impure materials and foam, and to make mellow tea. After the lid is put on the teapot, boiling water is poured into the teapot as soon as possible in order to make the tea swell quickly. A few minutes later, the tea can finally be poured into the cups, which are arranged in a circle. This last step should be performed in a special way. The tea is poured with a circular motion into each cup. In this way, the colour and consistency of the tea in all the cups are the same. In order to avoid creating foam and scattering the fragrance of the tea, the teapot should be held close to the teacups. When the tea is ready, the teacups are presented to guests and elders with both hands to show respect. It is mentally refreshing to see the yellow and limpid tea and smell its delicate fragrance. The first sip seems slightly bitter, but a while later, the sweetness of the tea can be savoured.



*Wulong* tea is the best variety for making *gongfu* tea. Half fermented, *Wulong* tea is as mellow as black tea, and as refreshing and sweet as green tea, complete with lingering aftertaste. According to research, *Wulong* tea helps prevent and cure illnesses, prolonging life and preventing arteriosclerosis and cancer.

(Adapted resource from Chinavista: [http://www.chinavista.com/experience/gongfu\\_tea/tea.html](http://www.chinavista.com/experience/gongfu_tea/tea.html))

(Pictures from Chinavista: [http://www.chinavista.com/experience/gongfu\\_tea/tea.html](http://www.chinavista.com/experience/gongfu_tea/tea.html))

B Work in pairs. Read and answer the following questions.

1 What is *Gongfu* tea? Where does it come from?

---



---

2 How many steps are there to make *Gongfu* tea? Can you number them in the text?

---



---

3 Why should hot water be continually poured into the teapot even when it overflows?

---



---

4 When the tea is poured into the teacup, why should the teapot be held close to it?

---



---

5 What does the newly made *Gongfu* tea taste like?

---



---

6 What is *Wulong* tea? Why is it a healthy beverage?

---



---

C Read the text again. Fill in the following table about the steps of making *gongfu* tea and the aim of each stage. An example is given.

**The steps of making *Gongfu* tea**

Step	Action		Aim
1	Clean the teapot with boiling water	to	get rid of the remaining tea flavour and warm the teapot.
2	_____	in order to	_____
3	_____	so as to	_____
4	_____	to	_____
5	_____	in order to	_____
6	_____	so as to	_____

D Work in pairs. Talk about any family member or friend who drinks tea. Note down the stages of how he/she makes his/her tea and try to explain why.

---



---



---



---



---

### Part 3 Form Focus

A The phrases including *to* we met earlier are called infinitive phrases. In these phrases, verbs are used after *to* and they must be in present tense. Read the following sentences containing infinitive phrases. Correct them if there are errors. A sample is given.

- 1 James washed his boots in the river to removed the mud from them.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 remove
- 2 Several ants work together in order to carrying a large peanut home.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 They prepared a banquet so accommodate 15 people on the visiting expert team.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Chinese people often light fireworks at the last minute of the old year that welcome a lunar new year.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 They got up early in the morning so as to caught the first train.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 June worded all day to supporting a punishing mortgage.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

B The infinitive phrases we met above function as adverbials to express a purpose. In this case, they can take several forms, e.g. *to clean*, *in order to clean*, and *so as to clean*. They are usually put after the main clause, but can be moved to the beginning of a sentence by using a separating comma. Read the following sentences and rewrite them by changing the infinitives' forms or moving their positions.

- 1 He took a quick shower to get rid of the smell of cigarettes.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 In order to get James annoyed, Rose has refused his invitation again.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 The hunter crouched in the bush quietly in order not to scare the tiger.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 I have to work 12 hours a day so as to finish my dissertation before the deadline.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Every household puts up paper-cuts on window paper on the eve of Spring Festival in order to get rid of the old and make way for the new.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 To protect herself from the strong wind at the beach, Carole wears a long jacket.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 Scientists have developed a series of powerful anti-cancer drugs in order to help the ever-increasing number of patients in the world.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 A breadth of knowledge has been transferred to our customers so as to help them meet the challenges facing modern organisations and businesses.  
 \_\_\_\_\_



- C Brainstorm some interesting folk arts or cultural customs in your city. Work in groups on one of the main topics mentioned earlier. Discuss the steps involved in making the art, and note down the action and aims of each step with infinitive phrases in the following table.

**TOPIC:** \_\_\_\_\_

Step	
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____
	_____
	_____
	_____

- D Each group makes a presentation one by one. After each presentation, have a short discussion on the processes reported. Are there enough stages? Are they sequenced reasonable? Are the aims of each stage made clear and understandable?
- E Choose one topic you are interested in and write a 150-word composition on it. You may need to search for relevant resources after class from books, newspapers, advertisements, or the Internet. But make sure that you include all the necessary information and state them in a clear and concise manner.

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---

- F Work in pairs. Edit and proofread each other's compositions. Then transcribe it into a piece of colourful paper. Collect the compositions of the whole class and make a class collage entitled *Chinese Arts and Customs*.

## Part 5 Exploration

- A Read the additional material about Lantern Fair in *Zhoucun*. Can you find any other use of infinitive phrases? Why are they used and how do they work? Discuss your answers with your partner or teacher.

### *Zhoucun's Lantern Fair*



*Zhoucun* of Shandong Province is a district under the jurisdiction of *Zibo* City. It is famous for its annual lantern fair. As early as the 17th century, silk reeling and spun silk textile industry was quite developed in *Zhoucun*. This attracted a lot of merchants to the town and made it prosperous. Every year at around the Lantern Festival on the 15th day of the first lunar month, shops would hang colourful lanterns at the gate and people would light firecrackers and even fireworks to celebrate the holiday. People from nearby villages and merchants came to see the lanterns, do shopping or business. Every night, from the 8th to the 16th of the first month, the town was thronged with people. As the years passed, the lantern fair at *Zhoucun* became a routine. But there was also an exception. It was decided by the *Zhoucun* residents that the fair would not be held under three circumstances: a poor harvest year, a year of unrest, or year when there was a natural disaster.

Long before the lantern fair was held, lantern craftsmen would be invited to make lanterns for stores and workshops. People vied with each other to make better and more elegant lanterns. Besides those hung at the gates, lantern towers were also set up at major crossroads.

During the lantern fair, variety shows such as dragon lantern dance, landboat, high stilts, lion dance and *xinzi* are also performed. Of them, *xinzi* is the most unique and traditional show of *Zhoucun*. Generally a boy or a girl in opera costume is tied to an iron stick which is tightly fixed onto a socket.

The history of *xinzi* goes back more than a century. The initiator of this was a local artist. Every year when a show was put up at festival times, he saw that there was such a large crowd that people standing behind the crowd could not see what was going on inside the circle. He thought that if the performer could stand at a high place while performing, all in the audience would be able to see him. Inspired by the candle light, he invented this show on high stick.

At each lantern fair, there were at least a dozen or even a few dozens of *xinzi* shows with the number performers ranging from ten to several dozens. They would play different roles in local opera.

The heyday of *Zhoucun's* lantern fair was believed to be during the reign of Emperor *Qianlong* (1736-1795) of the *Qing* Dynasty. Although there was no record to prove this, I was a witness to it in 1986 when the fair was held. There were 2,538 lanterns of all kinds, 9 lantern towers at major intersections, 37 *xinzi* shows, 12 dragon lanterns, 42 landboats, 156 pairs of high stilts, 14 pairs of lions dance performers, 95 maskers and 11 floats. There were also some variety shows that could not name. I suppose even during its heydays, the lantern fair could not have been more spectacular.

(Adapted source from *Chinavista*: <http://www.chinavista.com/experience/lattern/lantern.html>)  
(Picture from author)

- B The following is a list of books and websites about traditional Chinese culture. Read what you like and make a brief report on one topic later. You can also find your topic from other materials which you are interested in.

Origins of Chinese Folk Arts (by Li Xiaoxiang, ASIAPAC Books, 2002)

Origins of Chinese culture (by Li Xiaoxiang, ASIAPAC Books, 2002)

The Chinese Experience: <http://www.chinavista.com/experience/>

China The beautiful: <http://www.chinapage.com/china.html>

China On Line: <http://chineseculture.about.com/cs/customs/>

Chinese Arts: <http://www.cnarts.net/eweb/>

### Vocabulary (From the back of the students' book)

aftertaste <i>n.</i> 回味	frame <i>n.</i> 框架	pottery <i>n.</i> 陶器
Arteriosclerosis <i>n.</i> 动脉硬化	get rid of 去掉, 除掉	prosperous <i>adj.</i> 繁荣的
as ... as 和……一样	impure <i>adj.</i> 不干净的	reel <i>v.</i> 卷
cancer <i>n.</i> 癌症	kettle <i>n.</i> 壶	remarkable <i>adj.</i> 显著的
category <i>n.</i> 类别	linger <i>v.</i> 逗留	rim <i>n.</i> 边沿
ceremony <i>n.</i> 仪式	liqueur <i>n.</i> 利口酒	roll <i>v.</i> 辗, 轧
charcoal <i>n.</i> 木炭	lunar <i>adj.</i> 月的, 月亮的	routine <i>n.</i> 常规
convention <i>n.</i> 惯例	merchant <i>n.</i> 商人	savour <i>v.</i> 品尝
delicate <i>adj.</i> 精美的	motion <i>n.</i> 运动	scatter <i>v.</i> 分散
disaster <i>n.</i> 灾难	olive <i>n.</i> 橄榄叶	socket <i>n.</i> 槽
elegant <i>adj.</i> 文雅的	overflow <i>adj.</i> 溢出	stove <i>n.</i> 炉
foam <i>n.</i> 泡沫	oxidation <i>n.</i> 氧化	throughout <i>adv.</i> 始终
fragrance <i>n.</i> 香味	oxidize <i>adj.</i> 氧化的	transparent <i>adj.</i> 透明的
	porcelain <i>n.</i> 瓷器	wither <i>v.</i> 枯萎

### Typescript (From the teacher's book)

**Part 4 A&C:** First of all, the right kind of bamboo strips must be selected for the frame. It should be thick and strong for a kite of large dimensions in order to stand the wind pressure. For miniature kites, on the other hand, thin bamboo strips are to be used. Then the bamboo should be processed in a special way and cut into strips. When bamboo strips are ready, they should be combined by thin strings to make a frame. In this step, bamboo strips can be assembled into different shapes, like eagles, dragonflies, swallows, and so on. The next step is to cover the frame. This is normally done with paper, sometimes with silk. Silk kites are more durable and generally of higher artistic value. The last step is painting. To paint kites, two ways can be used. For mass-produced kites, pre-printed paper is used to cover the frames. Custom-made kites are painted manually after covering. Many of the designs bear messages of good luck; a pine tree and a crane, for example, mean longevity, bats and peaches wish you good fortune and a long life, and so on.

(Adapted resource from Chinavista: <http://www.chinavista.com/experience/kite/kite.htmlkit/html>)