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UNIT 4 History and Traditions

Listening and Speaking



-- Yu Yue, Shengzhou Senior High School

Confucius



How much do you
know about
Confucius?

What do you
know about his
ideas?

Confucius

born in 551 BCE, is an ancient Chinese thinker, politician, educator and founder of Confucianism.

Confucius initiated the *private lecture style*, advocating *benevolence*, *righteousness*, *propriety*, *wisdom* and *trust*.



He led some of his disciples to travel around the world for 14 years, and in his later years revised the *Six Classics* ("*Poetry*", "*Book*", "*Rites*", "*Music*", "*Yi*" and "*Spring and Autumn*").

After his death, his disciples and his disciples recorded the *words and deeds, sayings and thoughts* of Confucius and his disciples, and compiled them into the *Analects of Confucius*.

His ideas have had a profound impact on China and the world.

*Qufu, Jining, Shandong Province, is the hometown of Confucius. Confucius opened the altar in this learning, the **establishment of Confucian culture**.*

*In memory of Confucius, people built **Confucius Mansion, Confucius Temple** and **Confucius Forest**, collectively known as the **Three Confucius**, to commemorate Confucius.*



the Ceremony of Confucius

Confucius Temple



Temple of Confucius is famous for its *long history, unique architectural style and high artistic value.*

Kong Family Mansion



Kong Family Mansion is a typical building of government house in feudal society of China

Cemetery of Confucius



Cemetery of Confucius also known as the "Holy Forest", is the special cemetery for Confucius and his family. It is an ancient man-made garden.



The Three Confucius is famous for its rich cultural accumulation, long history, grand scale, rich collection of cultural relics, as well as its scientific and artistic value.

It was listed as one of the **World Cultural Heritage sites**.



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Video Converter

深度体验世界

美璟

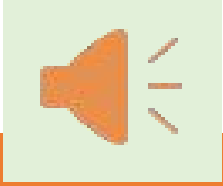
Listening

William

Xiao Kong

A British tourist, William, asks a Chinese student, Xiao Kong, for directions when he wants to visit the Confucius Temple. On the way to the Confucius Temple, they talk about Confucius and his ideas.

2. Listening to a conversation and then write down what they say about Confucius.



Fact/Opinion

William

1. Confucius is one of his favorite **philosophers**.
2. He was a wise man .
3. He lived over 2000 years ago.

Xiao Kong

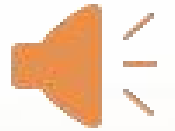
1. Confucius has over 3 million **descendants**.
2. He was a great educator and had many ideas about education.
3. He was one of the greatest minds in history.

a person who studies or writes about philosophy

A person's descendants are their children, their children's children.

3. Listen again and decide whether these statements are true(T), false(F), or not mentioned(NM). Then answer the question.

- F** 1. Confucius said that learning without understanding leads to confusion.
- F** 2. Xiao Kong is doing a research project on Confucius philosophy.
- NM** 3. As one of Confucius' descendants, Xiao Kong's name is recorded in the family tree.
- T** 4. Dacheng Ha is the tallest building in Qufu.



- D** Why do you think William said his hometown was similar to Qufu?
 - A. There are famous halls in his hometown.
 - B. There are no tall buildings in his hometown.
 - C. Both places have a famous person who was born there.
 - D. His hometown doesn't allow other buildings to be more noticeable than the historic buildings.

W: Excuse me, do you speak English? I'm looking for the Confucius Temple, but 1. I'm not good at maps – they're my Achilles' heel!

X: Oh, hello, yes. Come with me – 2. I'm going to the temple right now. By the way, what does "Achilles' heel" mean?

W: Oh, it means that 3. something is my weakness – I'm really bad with maps! So do you know much about Confucius? He's 4. one of my

X: Oh, yes. I was born here. In fact, I b

W: o way, you're pulling my leg, right?

Didn't he live over 2500 years ago?

X: Yes, but 7. his family tree is well re
what does "pulling my leg" mean?

W: Oh, sorry, it means to 8. joke with someone. Anyway, so you're actually going to the temple to 9 pay respects to your relative?

X: Well, yes. But I'm also meeting my study group there. We are 10 doing a research project on Confucius' ideas on education. You know, Confucius was 11. a great educator, and he had many great ideas about education. For example, he talked about the 12. relationship between learning and reflecting. He believed that learning without reflecting 13 leads to confusion... look, the temple is just over there.



Understand idioms

An idiom is an expression which means **something different from the meaning of the individual words**. Some idioms **present an idea or paint a picture** that gives a hint as to the meaning. Other idioms can only **be understood from the context** in which they appear.

Achilles' heel

Achilles, the beloved son of the mortal hero Peleus and the sea goddess Thetis. Thetis, in order for her son to **make a “armor lock”**, carried it upside down and dipped it into the river Styx when he was just born. Unfortunately, Achilles was pinched by his mother's heel but accidentally exposed in the water, leaving the only **“dead hole”** in his body. Later, Achilles was shot in the ankle by an arrow from Paris and died.

Nowadays, “Achilles’ heel” is used to refer to **the fatal weakness**.



W: Oh, great! What's that big building over there?

X: Oh, that's the famous Dacheng Hall. You know, 14. it's so well-respected in Qufu that no other building in the city can be taller than it.

W: Oh, that's respect. That's a little bit like my hometown—Stratford-upon-Avon.

X: Wait, you mean where Shakespeare was from? What a coincidence—Confucius and Shakespeare, 15. two of the greatest minds in history! I really want to visit the UK—I'm really interested in British history and culture.

W: Oh, that's great! So later we can 16. go for a cup of tea and have a chat about it. And it would be great if you could talk me somewhere to 17. get my watch fixed.

X: Ok, no problem! So come and meet my study group—we can tell you all about the temple. And how long are you staying in Qufu? I can show you 18. the Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion as well...

W: Really? That's so kind! I need all the help I can get --- I'm 19. like a fish out of water

Someone who feels
uncomfortable because they
are in an unfamiliar place.



4. Write down the English idioms that are used in the conversation. Explain their meanings and think about some Chinese equivalents.

English	meaning	Chinese equivalent
Achilles' heel	something that is someone's weakness	弱点，要害
pull one's leg	joke with someone	戏弄
fish out of water	someone who feels uncomfortable because they are in an unfamiliar place	如芒在背

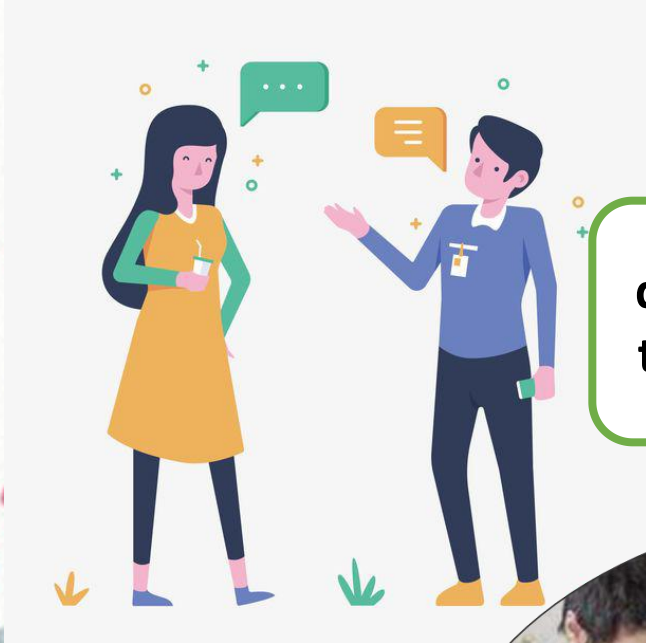
Let's try to use them to make a conversation with your partners!

Achilles' heel

pull one's leg

fish out of water

**Let's pick a setting and
try to use them to make
a conversation with
your partners!**



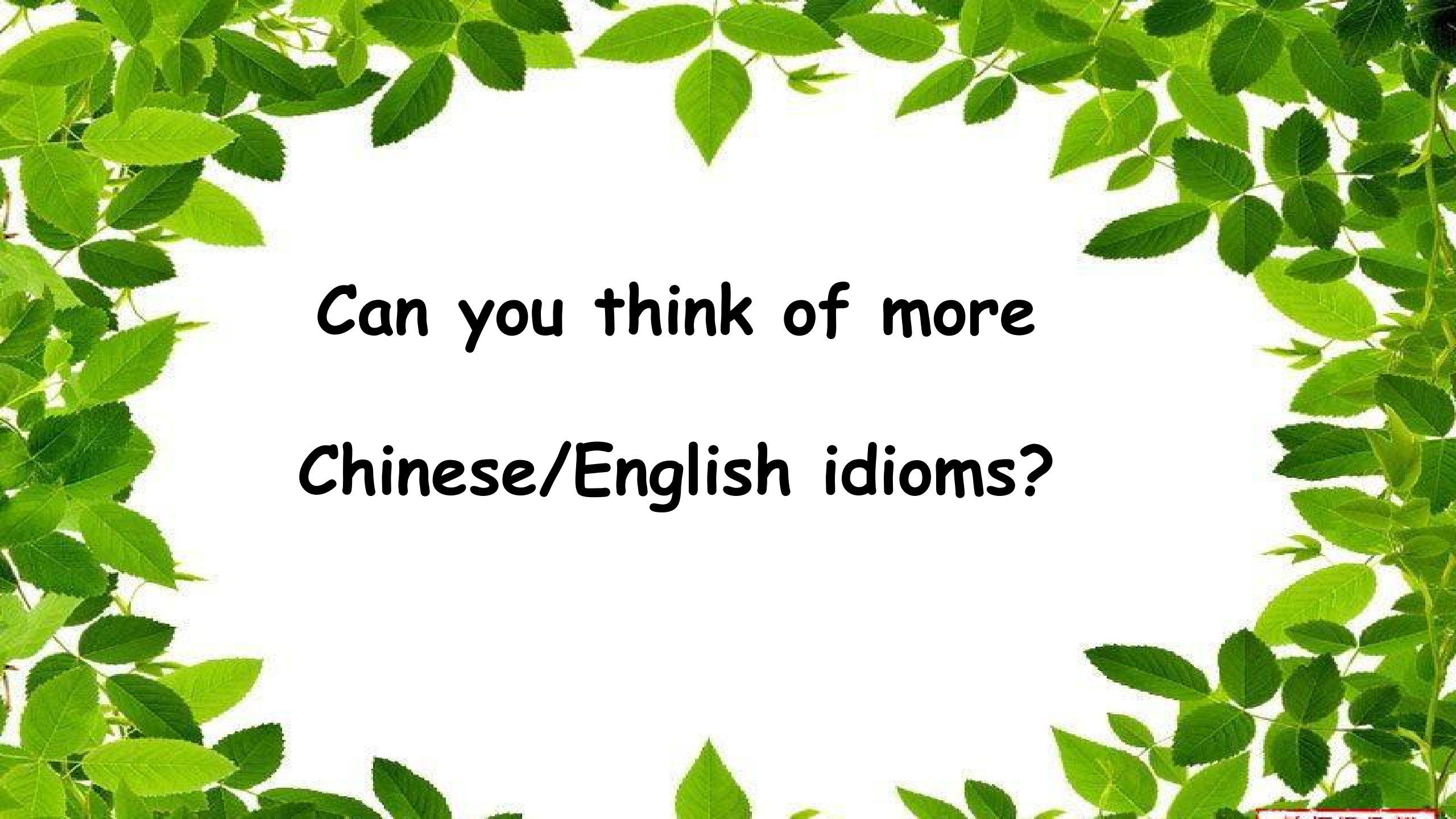
**Two students are
discussing about how
to select a club in the
new term.**



**Some British students are
learning Chinese calligraphy.**



**Families are cooking
in the kitchen.**

A decorative border of vibrant green leaves, likely from a rose bush, frames the top and sides of the image. The leaves are detailed with visible veins and serrated edges.

**Can you think of more
Chinese/English idioms?**

Please try to translate these sayings into Chinese!



1. Review the old and learn the new.

温故而知新

2. Make no social distinctions in teaching

有教无类

3. To learn and at due time to repeat what one has learnt, isn't that after all a pleasure?

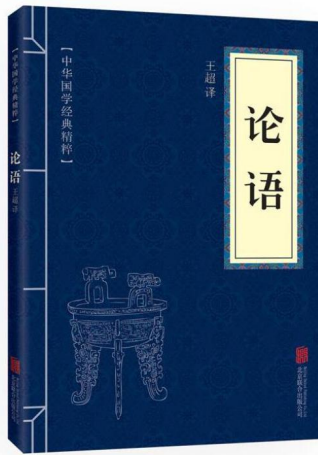
学而时习之，不亦乐乎？

4. Do not do to others what you do not want others to do to you.

己所不欲勿施于人

5. When seeing a person with high caliber, strive to be this equal.

见贤思齐



A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.

--Marcus Garvey

