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## **Tomb Sweeping Day**

#### 余杭区杭州二中树兰高级中学 郭合英



### Hello, China

你好中国盟

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#### The introduction of Qingming Festival---高考题型开发: 语篇填空

Tomb Sweeping Day is not only one of the traditional Chinese festivals, but also the most importar sacrificial ifice) festival. It falls on either April 4<sup>th</sup> or 5th of the solar calenda. On that day, sweeping the tombs and <u>paying</u> y) respect to the dead with offerings are the two important practices to remember late relatives. Thousands of Chinese people visit cemeteries to clean n) the graves of their loved ones. The Chinese hold great respect for their ancestors and the young are taught ) to pray to the family spirits.

The festival is the 5th of the 24 solar terms which s a change in weather, when temperatures begin to rise nationwide and rainfal increases ease). It means it's a good time for spring ploughing, and it's during the spring of China, so it is also called "hiking day". People go to the suburbs for an outing in spring. People love to fly kites during the Qingming festival

The willow is regarded <u>as</u> the symbol of light and enemy of darkness in Chinese culture. On Qingming, willow twigs and <u>branches</u> anch) are hung in doorways to ward off the evil spirits <u>Therefore</u> low branches are also known as "ghost terror wood".

#### 1. The origin of Qingming Festival---高考题型开发: 语篇填空

Tomb Sweeping Day also called Qingming Festival is not only a time to remember the dead and the dearly departed, but also a period to honor and to pay respect to their deceased ancestors and family members.

It has a long histor originating originate) the funerals of emperors, generals and ministers in ancient times. The rituals(仪式 performed rform) at these funerals later became popular among ordinary people. Over time, the tradition of offering sacrifices to th ancestors cestor) and sweeping tomb was passed ass) down from generation to generation and evolved into a custom widely de) observed by the Chinese nation. This festival falls in early spring, on the 106th day after the winter solstice (冬至). Because it carries forward the filial piety (孝顺), Qingming Festival is a major Chinese festival.

Tomb Sweeping Day is also \_\_\_\_\_ happy festival for people, to get close to nature. go (go) hiking and enjoy the fun of spring. With the historical story) development, the Qingming Festival combines a variety of folk custom into one, with extremely rich cultural connotation(涵义).

#### 2. The legend of Qingming Festival



介子推和重耳

介子推





#### 2. The legend of Qingming Festival ---高考题型开发: 七选五

Qingming Festival is a time to remember the dead and the dearly departed. D It is an occasion for the whole family to leave the home and to sweep the graves of their forebears (祖先).

G There's a legend that Jie saved his starving lord's life by serving a piece of his own leg. When the lord succeed in becoming the ruler of a small principality, he invited his faithful follower to join him. C Believing that he could force Jie out by burning the mountain, the lord ordered his men to set the forest on fire. To his consternation(惊愕), Jie chose to remain where he was and was burnt to death. To commemorate Jie, the lord ordered all fires in every home to be put out on the anniversary of Jie's death. E

The "cold food " festival occurs on the eve of Qingming Festival and is often considered as part of Qingming Festival. B \_\_\_\_\_ Whatever practice is observed, the basic observation of Qingming Festival is to remember one's elders by making a special effort to visit their graves, ashes or ancestral tablets. To make the visit even more meaningful, some time should be spent reminding the younger members of the family of the lives and contributions of their ancestors, and the story of their ancestors, and the story of Jie Zitui who choose death over capitulation(投降).

- A. The young should be taught to pay respect to their forebears.
- B. As time passes by, the Qingming Festival replaced the "cold food" festival.
- C. However, Jie declined his invitation, preferring to lead a hermit's life with his mother in the mountain.
- D. More importantly, it is a period to honor and pay respect to one's deceased ancestors and family members.
- E. Thus began the "cold food feast", a day when no food could be cooked since no fire could be lit.
- F. With time passing by, the Qingming Festival becomes an anniversary for Jie Zitui.
- G. The origin is associated with Jie Zitui, who lived in Shanxi Province in 600 B.C.

### 3. The development of Qingming Festival



#### 3. The development of Qingming Festival---高考题型开发: 阅读理

Tomb Sweeping Day occurs around April 5th of the Gregorian calendar. Traditionally, 10 days before and 8 (or 10) days after Tomb Sweeping Day can be counted as the Tomb Sweeping Day Festival.

Tomb Sweeping Day, which is the 5th of the China's 24 Solar Terms(节气), has its roots in the Shang Dynasty. When spring is in the air, everything, whether plant or human, waves goodbye to the bleak memory of winter and embraces the blooming prospect of spring.

In ancient times the day before Tomb Sweeping Day was Hanwha Day (literally, a day with cold food only), said to be a memorial day for Jie Zitui. Later, Hanwha Day and Tomb Sweeping Day were combined into the one festival. The custom of sweeping tombs was observed on Hanshi Day during the Tang Dynasty period, but following the Song Dynasty the activity was deferred(推迟) to the following Tomb Sweeping Day.

It is said that "Qingming" was used to celebrate the success of flood control and imply the idea of peacefulness after Yu the Great introduced flood control systems. During this beautiful season, flowers blossom and everything brims with vitality, definitely a good time for outings. The tradition of spring outings can be traced back to the Tang Dynasty. Apart from enjoying glorious natural scenery, outings involve many other activities.

Tomb sweeping was originally supposed to be undertaken on Hanwha Day, the day before the Festival. The Tang Emperor ordered people to offer sacrifices to their ancestors and sweep tombs on that day. However, Qingming follows Hanwha Day closely, and so tomb sweeping was then combined into one.

During the Ming and the Qing dynasties the custom of tomb sweeping became increased popular. In ancient times children would fly kites. Some of the kites carried flutes that made sounds that bear a resemblance to those of Chinese Zheng. This is said to be the reason why kites were given the Chinese name "feng zheng".

Many customs have <u>lapsed</u>, such as wearing willow garlands, shooting the willow and playing on swings. According to historical records, Tomb Sweeping Day was the most valued in the Liao Dynasty when everyone from government officials in the royal court to the masses, would play on swings and go on excursions(旅游) in the spring.

- 1. How long does the Tomb Sweeping Day last?
- A. Just one day --- April 5th
- About 20 days

B. About 10 days D. About 8 days

""

- 2. Which of the following is true?
- A. Tomb Sweeping Day is a memorial day for Jie Zitui.
- The spring outings originated from the Tang Dynasty.
- C. Hanwha Day and Tomb Sweeping Day was on the same day in ancient times.
- D. All of the kites carried flutes that made sounds during the Ming and the Qing dynasties .
- 3. The underlined word "lapsed" in the last paragraph can be replaced by " disappeared
- C. continued A. changed B. saved
- 4. What can be the best tile for the text?
- A. The contribution of Jie Zitui
- B. The legend of the Tomb Sweeping Day
- The evolution of the Tomb Sweeping Day
- D. The process of observing the Tomb Sweeping Day

#### 4. The customs of Qingming Festival

清明节的习俗是丰富有趣的,除了讲究禁火、扫草,还有踏青、荡秋干、 蹴鞠、打马球插柳等一系列风俗体育活动。相传这是因为清明节要寒食禁火,为 了防止寒食冷餐伤身,所以大家来参加一些体育活动,以锻炼身体。因此,这个 节日中既有生别死离的悲酸泪,又有踏青游玩的欢声,是一个很有特色的节日。

The customs of the Qingming Festival are richly interesting, in addition to paying attention to the fire, the grave, and outing, swing, a game called cuju, playing polo, inserted-liu. This is because tomb-sweeping is a day for people from the fire. In order to prevent a cold buffet from injuring body, everyone takes part in some of the sports activities to exercise. Therefore, this festival offers both sacrifices to pay respects to a dead person at his tomb and enjoy the laughter of an outing in spring, which is a very special holiday.



#### 4. The customs of Qingming Festival---题型开发: 根据要求, 补全句子

#### 扫墓 Tomb sweeping

The major custom in Qingming Festival is to sweep tombs. According to 资照)folk religion, the spirits of deceased ancestors still live underground and look after the family; the tombs are said ay) to be their houses; thus it is very important to keep the tombs clean.

The Qingming Festival is spen\_honoring\_onor) the dead, which is one of many ways good Confucians (儒家) demonstrate filial piety (孝顺) On this day, people visit their family graves\_to remove\_emove) any underbrush that has grown, uproot weeds near the gravesites, wipe the tombstones(墓碑) and decorate the tombstones with fresh flowers. And then they will \_\_\_\_\_set out (摆上) offerings of food and paper money. 清明最主要的习俗是扫墓。根据民间宗教,逝去的祖先依然在地下照顾我们,墓就是他们的家,所以我们需要保持墓的清洁。

清明是为了纪念逝者,这也是 儒家所崇尚的孝道。这天,人们上 坟去拔掉坟边长出的灌木和杂草, 擦干净墓碑并用鲜花点缀,然后摆 上供品,烧点纸钱。



#### 秋千 Swing

荡秋千是我国古代清明节习俗。秋千,意即揪着皮 绳而迁移。它的历史很古老,最早叫千秋,后为了避忌 讳,改为秋千。打秋千不仅可以增进健康,而且可以培 养勇敢精神,至今为人们特别是儿童所喜爱。

To swing is our ancient custom on Qingming Festival in our China . Swing means clenching leather string\_to migrate (migrate). Its history is very old, the earlies known ow) "future generation", the latter in order to avoid taboo(禁忌), replaced by swing. Not only can swing improve the health, but also can cultivate the brave spirit loved love) by people, especially children.



#### 蹴鞠 Cuju

鞠是一种皮球,用皮革做成,球内用毛塞 紧。蹴,就是用脚去踢球。"蹴鞠"就是指古人 以脚蹴、蹋、踢皮球的活动, 类似今日的足球。 这是古代清明节时人们喜爱的一种游戏。相传 是黄帝发明的、最初的目的是用来训练武士。 "Ju" is a ball with leather skin made, the ball inside with wool plugged (plug) . "Cu" means kicking (kick) something with foot. Cuju is a game like football. It is ancient favorite game during Tomb Sweeping Days. Legend has it that the invention of the yellow emperor, original purpose is used to train (train)warrior.





#### 踏青 Outing

踏青又叫春游,古时叫探春、寻春等。 三 月清明,春回大地,自然界到处呈现一派生机勃 勃的景象,正是郊游的大好时光。我国民间长期 保持着清明踏青的习惯。

In ancient times, spring outin was called TanChun, XunChun, etc. On Tomb Sweeping Day, spring warms the earth, nature a vibrant (有活力的) picture everywhere, it is an excellent time for outing. China's folk society long maintains the hikers habits.

#### 植树 Planting trees

清明前后,种植树苗成活率高。因此,自古以来,我国就有 清明植树的习惯。有人还把清明节叫作"植树节"。1979年,人 大常委会规定,每年三月十二日为我国植树节。这对动员全国 各族人民积极开展绿化祖国活动,有着十分重要的意义。

Around Tomb Sweeping Day, the survival rate of planting seedlings is high. Therefore, our countr has developed velop) the habit of planting trees since the ancient times, some peopl calling (call) the Qingming Festival 'Arbor Day'(植树节). In 1979, according to the National People's Congress, March 12 of each year is China's "Arbor Day". It is of great significance to mobilize(动员) the people of all ethnic (民族的) groups to actively (active) carry out the activities of greening the motherland.

#### 放风筝 Flying a kite

放风筝也是清明时节人们所喜爱的活动。每逢清明时节, 人们不仅白天放,夜间也放。晚上,风筝下一串串彩色的小灯 笼,象闪烁的明星,被称为"神灯"。过去,有的人把风筝放上 蓝天后,便剪断牵线,任凭清风把它们送往天涯海角。据说这 样能除病消灾,给自己带来好运。

Flying a kite is enjoyed by people. Every Qingming Day, people fly kites not only during the c but (also) night. The small colorful lanterns attached (attach) to the kites strings like the twinkling stars are called "the absolute being light". In the past, some people put a kite on the blue sky, then cut the wire and let the wind send them to the ends of the Earth. It is said that this can except disease disaster, bringing (bring) you good luck.

#### 品茶 A Time to Taste Tea

Qingming Festival is also a time to enjoy a cup of tea, because the tea produced (produce) around Qingming Festival is said to be with high- quality. The plucking of tea usually takes place in spring, summe and autumn. Tealeaves from/in different seasons have different appearances and inner quality. Tealeaves plucked in spring, from early March to the Qingming Festival are called "pre-ming tea" or "first tea." Its t) color is light jade green, and tastes (taste) pure with a touch of acerbity(苦,涩). Two weeks after Qingming, it is the Guyu solar term on the Chinese lunar calendar. During this time, the Jiangnan area will experience a round of fine precipitation(沉淀物) for the moistening of crops. And this brings fort second (two) peak season of tea picking. Tealeaves collected e Qingming but before Guyu are called "pre-rain tea" and the spring tea after picked after that are called "post-rain tea." Spring tea's prices price usually vary according to the time the tealeaves were picked, with the prices being higher for earlier (early) tea and lower for the later. In most cases, early- spring green tea is the best in quality among all available tea.

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#### 5. The poems of Qingming Festival

#### 清明 杜牧 清明时节雨纷纷,路上行人欲断魂。 借问酒家何处有?牧童遥指杏花村。

#### The Mourning Dy Du Mu 许渊冲译

A drizzling rain falls like tears on the Mourning Day; The mourner's heart is breaking on his way. Where can a winehouse be found to drown his sadness? A cowherd points to a cot amid apricot flowers.





(唐)韩翃 春城无处不飞花, 寒食东风御柳斜。 日暮汉宫传蜡烛, 轻烟散入五侯家。 After The Day Of No Fire Translated by Hu Zhuangzi

Petals of spring fly all through the city, From the wind in the willows of the Imperial River. And at dusk, from the palace, candles are given out, To light first the mansions of the Five Great Lords.



#### 6. Honor the dead, honor the heroes 缅怀先烈, 致敬英雄

革命先烈们,为了人民的幸福、民族的解放和国家的富强,英勇战斗,直 到流尽最后一滴血,永远长眠于我们脚下的这片热土。他们用殷红的鲜血,书写 了爱国主义最壮丽的诗篇!他们是中国的脊梁,是民族的骄傲!他们的名字是黄 继光,董存瑞,邱少云,刘胡兰,王二小,雷锋-----

For the happiness of the people, the liberation of the nation and the prosperity of the country, Martyrs (先烈) fought bravely until their last drop of blood was shed, they lying beneath the piece of land. They used the scarlet blood to write down the most magnificent poem of patriotism! They are the ridge beams of China and the pride of the nation! Their names are Huang Jiguang, Dong Cunrui, Qiu Shaoyun, Liu Hulan, Wang Erxiao, Lei Feng -----







芋雷蹟 树新风







6. Honor the dead, honor the heroes---高考题型开发:应用文 假如你是李华,清明节马上到了,你校组织学生去烈士陵园进行扫墓活动, 请你给外教Lucy写封邮件,邀请她一同前往,内容包括:

- 1. 出发时间;
- 2. 清明介绍;
- 3. 活动安排。

参考词汇: 烈士陵园 martyrs cemetery 注意:

1. 词数80左右;

2. 可以适当增加细节,以使行文连贯。



Dear Lucy

I'm Li Hua, one of your students. Tomb Sweeping Day is around the corner. Hearing that you are immersed in our Chinese festival, I'd like to invite you to join us for a visit to the martyrs cemetery.

Tomb Sweeping Day, one of traditional festivals in China, falls on either April 4<sup>th</sup> or 5th every year. It is a time to honor the dead and the dearly departed. On that day, people visit the graves for Tomb Sweeping, known as "shangfen" in our China, offering sacrifices to the dead.

We are scheduled to meet at 8 am at the school gate on April 5<sup>th</sup>. A variety of activities have been arranged. What comes first is that we will sweep the graves for the deceased martyrs, which will make you experience the process of tomb-sweeping in the flesh. In addition, another activity is also arranged----a speech contest in memory of the martyrs , which also offers you a platform where you can gain a deeper insight into our traditional culture.

I sincerely hope that you can accept my invitation. Please keep me informed of your decision at your earliest convenience.

Yours, Li Hua

# Thank you







ancestor worship