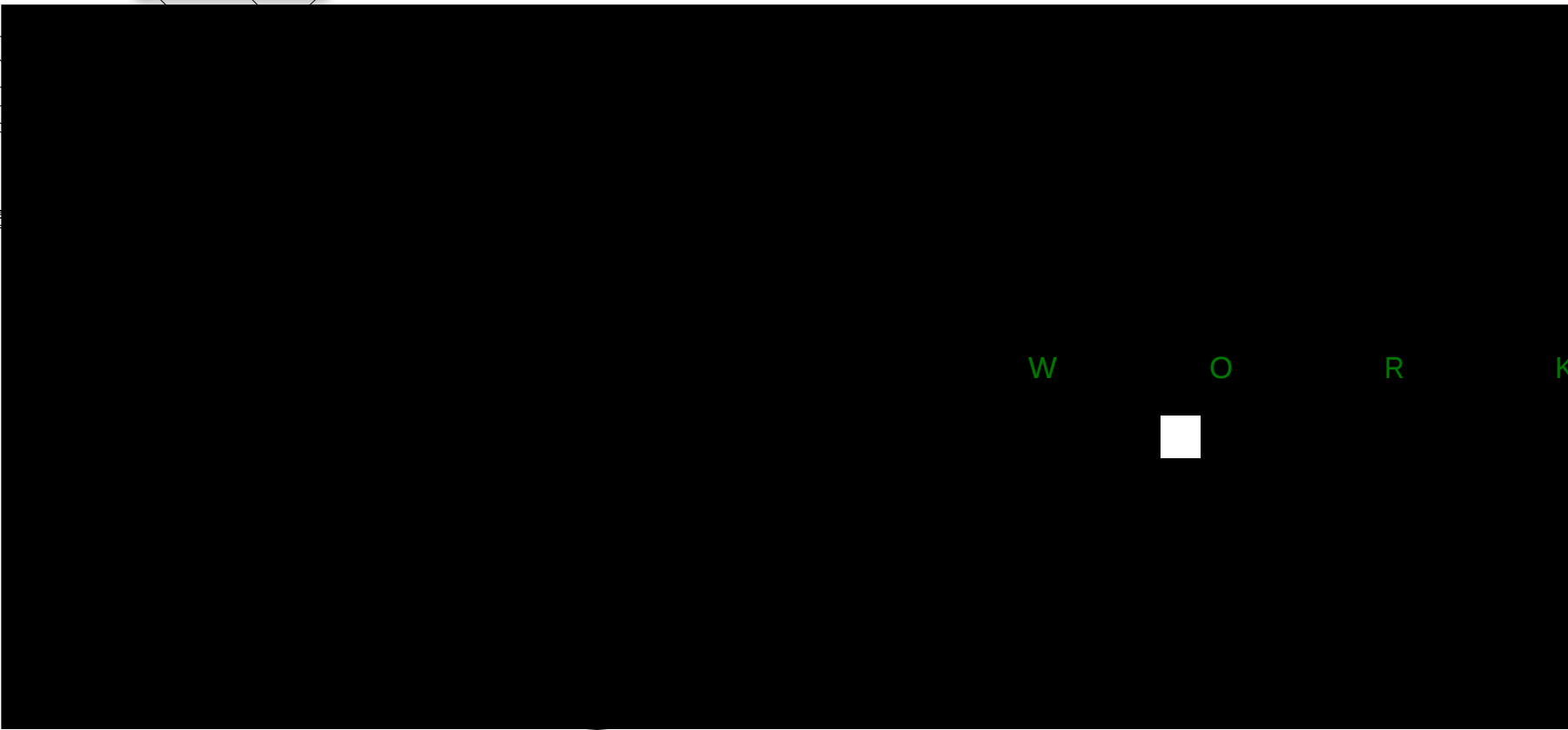


【外语教学】



WORKS H O P



“Go West”—Sun Xiaoli’s Pursuit of Self-Realization

In 2020, universities in Shanghai launched a series of civil participation employment projects such as “College Graduate Village Officials,” “Three Supports and One Assistance¹,” and “Go West Program².” These programs encourage graduates to develop and establish their own careers. “Young people shouldn’t be afraid of pains and hardships. The further one goes, the more he will learn and the better he will be.” These words have become the most special gifts from tutors for volunteers.

Sun Xiaoli, a postgraduate student from ECNU’s Geography Department, volunteered to sign up for this year’s “Go West Program” and applied for a slot³ in basic education in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region⁴. “To serve in a place where I am most needed is my responsibility as a university graduate,” said Sun.

ECNU Circle is honored to have the opportunity for an interview with Xiaoli. Let’s hear more about her unique experiences!

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6XQ I’ve always had special feelings for the Xinjiang region. I also would like to have closer and further contact with this distant region, learning more about its local traditions and customs. I even took Xinjiang University into consideration when I was starting my university application. However, out of multiple factors, I finally chose to finish my higher education degrees in Jiangsu province and Shanghai.

But my passion for Xinjiang is deeply rooted in my heart. One afternoon, I came across a notice about the “Go West Program” which brought back all my past passions and expectations to my mind. Since my major is environmental sciences, focusing on environmental protection, excitement started to build up inside me. I realized participating in “Go West Program” would be a wonderful and precious experience as I could help promote people’s awareness of protecting beautiful sceneries in Xinjiang region with my knowledge.

I’m not a stranger to volunteer work either. I have been actively involved in many different volunteer activities, like educating and researching in Mountain Dabie in summer vacation, looking after elderly people and playing with children in special schools. Every time I saw the satisfactory facial expressions of the old people and smiling faces of children, I believed all the efforts I made were worthwhile. I am young, full of energy and without much domestic burden. Although the road ahead is full of uncertainties, I am determined to pursue my dreams. All those above have been the driving forces for me to apply for this program.

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S: After my parents learned from the brochure what the “Go West Program” was about and what I was expected to do, my father was quite supportive



while my mother was more concerned about my security. She said it was not safe for a young girl like me to go anywhere so far away from home alone, which meant she would miss me a lot.

I understood that their concerns mainly came from their lack of information. That’s why I told them that it was a national project and as a participant my job there would contribute to the development of local education. I also explained to them that my security would be guaranteed and that I would benefit a lot from the program. Most importantly, I stated that I wanted to challenge myself and have a more meaningful life while I am still young and courageous. I want to give my life iridescent⁵ contents.

That’s when my parents finally softened up. I’m so lucky to have such caring and open-minded parents, and even more grateful that they are supportive in my pursuit of such dreams.

E: In the process of serving in the far west, is WKHUH DQ\WKLQJ GLUHUUHQW IURP R on the different from my living conditions. P though that is quite the opposite. Our accommodation is quite comfortable. I have three roommates. We get separate bedrooms and share a kitchen and a bathroom. The climate here is also pleasant. I am

PROFILE

positioned in BoHu, a town close to Lake Bositeng, so the climate isn't that dry. The other thing is that people here are all very hospitable and enthusiastic. They helped me a lot in getting accustomed to living and working here.

What I least expected is that I would be assigned to a position in the local Youth League Committee office. As a normal university graduate, I originally assumed that I would take a job as a teacher. Every day I'm confronted with different challenges but I really enjoy my occupation because I know I can learn more and develop better.

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S: The major problem I face is the transition⁶ from being a student to a volunteer. A lot of differences exist between the two roles. At work, personal relationship tends to be more complicated, and there are tasks that I am not familiar with, which challenge me to get adjusted to my new role as soon as possible. Luckily, my colleagues are very helpful and they instruct me with great patience. Another problem is the adaptation to a new environment. The climate conditions and eating

habits in Xinjiang vary a lot from those in Shanghai.

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Sun Xiaoli's experience has inspired and motivated many students in ECNU. Her advice to all students is that, "While you are still young, do what you want to do bravely. Life is a long journey, do not live with regrets." For many students, it would be a great opportunity to participate in such a meaningful project where people realize they are contributing to local community development. In response to students' enthusiasm, our school is taking measures to provide students with access to projects like "Go West Program."

According to the staff working in ECNU's Service Center for Student Development, ECNU is currently making further efforts to enhance employment in the west. They're doing so by appealing to all graduates that "one should go to the grassroots, go to the far west, to where our motherland and people need us most." Meanwhile, ECNU has also got connected with the employing units in West China, docking employment programs, such as recruitment information session of west region. Our country and our school will be willing to see more young people like Sun Xiaoli devoting themselves to the contributions of development in the West.

Teaching Support Program

From July 14 to 15, Yang Changli, vice chairman of the University Council of ECNU, with the delegation from the university were in Xundian County, Yunnan Province to participate in the unveiling ceremony of "Social Practice Base" and "Aesthetic Education Practice Base" of ECNU. In the future, these two practice bases will serve as "refueling stations" for ECNU youths to carry out the summer social practice activities. And it is also expected to promote the development of Xundian's local talents and education environment through various teaching projects.

The Gen-Z ECNU graduate Kang Zhuo is passionate about volunteer teaching. Kang Zhuo started to work as a volunteer with "I Fly - Rural Education" Public Welfare Project when he was a freshman. Upon graduation in 2019 he gave up his career at New Oriental and chose to work as a full time volunteer with the project. This summer he decided to continue his service with this project for one more year. He said, "It's hard to leave these lovely children behind." Up to now, "I Fly" project has been in operation for 11 years. In the past decade, a total of 1,512 rural teachers from 21 provinces, 287 counties and 853 schools have been invited to Shanghai to participate in the training, directly benefiting more than 350,000 students.

On July 25th, Shen Yao with her team members of the "Future Teachers" program from Meng Xiancheng Academy completed the two-week teaching mission in Diansha Nine-year Education School in Yunnan Province. With the joint efforts of 15 ECNUers, the volunteer team offered different extended science courses to nearly 1200 students in 23 classes of four grades in this Diansha middle school. This teaching exercise was just one of the many activities carried out in Xundian's Aesthetic Education Practice Base. It marked a successful start for ECNUers, promoting their interest in learning and aspiration for better quality education.



Qu Yiwen, Sun Maolin and other leaders of the volunteer teaching team from the Graduate School held an online session where they shared their experiences. Students who are interested in being a volunteer teacher in rural education program were invited to attend. After introducing the working conditions, job descriptions and personal gains from the experience, volunteer leaders encouraged students to maintain their passion for education and set up specific plans for their academic development and career goals. At the end of the online session, students expressed their determination to serve at the grass-roots level and to contribute to the poverty alleviation work.

"During the online courses, we were impressed by the students' dedication to study and careful note-taking," said He Yan, a junior from the School of Foreign Languages of ECNU. "They have been looking forward to such an opportunity to have access to expansion of knowledge." During this summer vacation, He Yan and other volunteer team members from the School presented a series of online teaching activities to students in Jinsuo Middle School in Xundian, a county of Yunnan. Volunteer teachers were able to involve students in vivid English classes focusing on grammar learning as well as oral pronunciation through modern Internet technology such as animated film clips for teaching materials.



At the school's entry gates, non-contact infrared temperature scanners are used as people pass by. Security guards have been arranged in front of each device. Only the ones with normal temperatures can swipe their campus card or ID card to enter. On the contrary, if someone's temperature is higher than 37.3℃, he/she will be immediately directed to the temporary isolation area for further observation and another temperature test by a doctor in the campus clinic. Their health condition will be tracked. If necessary, they will be sent to the fever clinic of the designated hospital for further checks. In addition, doctors will wear protective equipment and conduct regular and thorough disinfection in the waiting area.

Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are provided at the entrance of each teaching building. Moreover, teachers and students are not allowed to enter until they pass the infrared temperature detector with a normal temperature. He or she will be treated in accordance to the school emergency treatment procedures if they do not pass. One-way flow at entry and exit points is also designated to reduce congestion and avoid any potential cross-infections. The staff are to clean and disinfect the classrooms regularly and thoroughly.

The same preventative measures are taken in the school canteens as the ones in the classrooms. In addition, three types of boxed lunches are offered daily for teachers and students to choose from, which saves time in queues and keeps the gatherings with fewer people. The canteens put up signs and instructions outlining dining procedures.

Students must wait in the designated area and queue up within a safe distance before returning to the dormitory for the first time. The staff take their temperature, help them to register, issue relevant notices and distribute the pandemic prevention kits including one bottle of alcohol cotton, one thermometer, one soap and a package of face masks. They also remind students to pay attention to

personal hygiene and keep the dormitory ventilated. After moving into the dormitory, students are required to swipe their campus card to sign in every time before entering. Hand sanitizers are also provided at the front desk of the dormitory for students to clean and disinfect themselves.

Shower curtains have been newly added to the bathrooms to form an independent space for students, thus avoiding close contact and greatly reducing the possibility of cluster infection.

after decades of prosperity and decline. ECNU Kun Opera Study Club has made it a rule that every club member or course follower should take an active part in Huqiu Music Festival.

Firstly, Huqiu Music Festival will enhance the publicity and influence of ECNU Kun Opera Study Club on a much bigger scale. The interaction between students and other Kun Opera fans are greatly strengthened by exchanging ideas with each other. More significantly, gaining access to amazing performance by renowned Kun Opera masters will further stimulate students't

Prof. Li Shunhua (Club Instructor)

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3 U R I Huqiu Music Festival is a traditional Kun Opera Performance originating from Ming
Dynasty. Thanks to the World Intangible Cultural Heritage , the festival has been revived in recent years

that we may have more intensive intercollegiate exchanges and communications on Kun Opera in the near future.

I hope that the current interactions between colleges can develop in full swing. More significantly, our WeChat official account will play an essential role in promoting the publicity of ECNU Kun Opera Study Club. The regularly-posted articles can inform the public of the lectures, performances and other related events so as to attract more attention. Perhaps we can recruit more members this way.

Ren Jing (Club President)

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5HQ - We performed *Twelve Flower Gods*, a part of the famous Kun Opera, *An Amazing Dream in the Peony Pavilion*, in the Welcome Party of the Department of Chinese Language and Literature in January 2019. This was the first time that I have performed singing on stage with a professional makeup and delicate costumes, totally different from the off-stage a cappella³ performance. Apart from singing, I got in touch with a lot of new things, such as doing makeup and head ornaments. In addition, I learned much about the posture in singing performance because the regular training session focused more on a cappella and failed to practice how we stand, walk and gesture on stage.

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Wang Fengyi, a student at the State Key Laboratory of Estuarine and Coastal Studies of East China Normal University (ECNU), formed a team with his three classmates and lab partners in 2017. The purpose of their work is based on a mutual love for ecological restoration. After starting their own business, the team has expanded to more than 20 people to date. The “Ecological Interface Restoration System” project has been successfully applied to the restoration of saline-alkali land in Yili of Xinjiang Province, grasslands in Hebei Province, coastal zone in Pinghu, and urban river courses and wetland parks in Shanghai and Jiangsu Province. We were fortunately able to set up an interview with Wang Fengyi, founder of Yingfei Ecological Technology Company.

W: In the middle and later stages of my PhD program, I was working on small ecological restoration projects. Through this process I noticed some defects in the current technology of the industry, and so I wanted to do something about that. I then constantly contacted with more enterprises in this industry and other design institutes.

It was officially around May 2017, when we ran the project as a company for the first time. Initially we shared our thoughts and ideas, at which point we agreed it might be better to make this a commercial endeavor.

The process and elements of this restoration are integrated into one product, in order to achieve rapid and convenient ecological restoration.

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W: Ecology and biology are the two most important majors for this project. Though some of the talents are from the same field, while others are peers in this academic circle. Material sciences are also very important to us. Any product should be mass produced after the completion of the prototype development, and then it can reach the business model and level of product interaction. We then have the chance to meet manufacturers and materials professionals, some of whom are interested in ecological restoration through technology and cross-boundary integration.

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W: Many of our projects during the postgraduate period were the scientific research tasks assigned by our tutor. Except for the first year, importance was attached to field projects after the second year.

Ecology is a field-based empirical approach. That's why we spent most of our time on the project site. When doing the monitoring, observation and engineering restoration, we found that the existing restoration technology was immature and even relatively primitive.

I was very inspired by the people we met during our field work. For example, in our ecological restoration project in Weihai, Shandong Province, most of the younger people in rural areas were migrant workers and so the elderly carried out the final operation with traditional planting methods. I think senior citizens work hard but inefficiently. In addition, we have a prediction that today's technology is moving toward automation and unmanned intelligence. With labor costs rising, farming is an unsustainable means of ecological restoration. Therefore, we have to solve this problem in a technological way.



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W: Firstly I must tell you that the ecological environment is completely exposed to the open environment, which is very different from a lab setting. In nature, I have to be patient and keep waiting and waiting as the long experiment cycle works its way through. All I can do is conduct to more variable designs in a test, consider more about unpredictable factors and increase more possibilities. In addition, I couldn't anticipate certain factors in the experiment, such as extreme weather, which will have a big impact on our schedule. In the process of commercialization, some people think that our products have little technical content. Many people who are not so clear on the science might think of ecological restoration as nothing more than "planting grass." But it is often the case that the ecological conditions of the ecosystems that we restore are degraded and no longer able to support plant growth. In fact, we not only have to do a large amount of technical work, but also occasionally encounter several unknown possibilities. In a word, communication and persuasion is needed where misunderstanding of ecological restoration work exists.

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W: It's not unusual for our team members to hold different opinions. And as an interdisciplinary fusion team due to the diversity in our expertise, we share entirely different ways of thinking. For instance, the members who excel at eco-environment protection often have abstract thoughts and ideas, while guys from R&D or material sciences can offer more realistic and practical solutions.

So indeed we need to take some time to convince our members to accept and understand each other. I would also advocate and organize communications between team members to ensure clarity about the existing difference between our current work and former careers. It's important to help them learn how to accept and adapt to new situations.

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W: Well, worrying about prizes hasn't been a key issue for us. After all, our project wasn't designed merely for entering contests. We considered the competition as a platform to display our project, so the competition wouldn't bring us too much mental pressure and stress. And surely we wish to win the glory for our school.

E: Is there any new progress on the "Earth 6NLQ' SURMHFW"

W: Yes. In the past two years, most of our time and energy has been devoted to ecological restoration and some projects have matured. Our work on ecological restoration is a way for us to grind out and hone in on our skills. We actually have a bigger idea, which is that we can try to develop a complete technical system for the whole process of modern agriculture in the future.

For this reason, many of our projects are interconnected. Let me tell you about our project on the degraded grassland in north China. In fact, that grassland is originally a pasture, and after the grassland has been restored by our restoration technology, it will be used for grazing again in the future.

Now our technology is also in iteration, and we will continue to use our technology to follow up the renovation and maintenance of the pasture. In the future, we can better build a pasture production base to better provide the bearing capacity of animal husbandry.

Ecological restoration is just the beginning. In the future, as our technology matures and stabilizes, we will develop more of the natural asset value of these lands.

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W: It's tiring, really tiring. Before starting a business, what you should do is to give yourself an evaluation. Though not everyone is suitable for starting a business, I do encourage everyone to give it a try, because starting a business is indeed really challenging. You will not only be confronted with professional problems and technical problems; it is a great challenge, both physically and mentally. If you have ideas about starting a business, it's better to give it a try as soon as possible, when you still have plenty of opportunities to switch departments.

Besides, it's better not to be too limited to your major in the process of starting a business. No matter how big your company is, the complexity of the things it faces is different, but the difficulties are the same. So you'd better stay curious and talk to more people.

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W: What our team wants to do most is to focus on ecological restoration and introduce some ecological industries in the later stage of restoration. This goes along with us truly connecting "green mountains" and "gold mountains." Currently, we have developed products like the 'Ecological Interface' by ourselves. In the future, as this product matures, it may spawn of a series of more related projects.

For industries dominated by non-single technologies like ecology or agriculture, the products in the industry are mostly integrated, so we need to combine with the technologies of other teams or companies. There will be more related projects for this product in the future. We will continue to move forward, enriching our categories of technology, and accomplishing something more systematic.

(审稿 / 卫华)



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文 / 赵熠明 岳冰洁
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Sports and languages are both important parts of culture. Whereas sports are a cultural form of expression, languages serve as a form of expression to bridge between cultures. This article presents Sporting Events English, a new course which successfully combines sports with English language, while presenting sporting cultures from around the world. Students not

only have access to the history and rules of major international sporting events, but also study traditional Chinese sports, exploring the profound cultural connotation behind various sports and games. The teacher of this course, Su Junling, makes full use of international online resources to inspire students to know more about sporting events while improving on

their comprehensive English language skills. Here we are very honored to have Professor Su comprehensively introduce the educational objectives, teaching methods and the cultural spirit this course carries forward to ECNUers.

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I started teaching English to postgraduates majoring in PE from College of Physical Education and Health of ECNU in 2010, and I was compiling corresponding teaching materials around the same time. My one-year experience, as a visiting scholar from 2015 to 2016 in University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in America, further stimulated my interest in sports teaching. The university is the alma mater of the basketball superstar Michael Jordan, and belongs to the Division I Conference in NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association). I audited a course called Sports Finance in the Department of Exercise and Sport Science, and watched various kinds of live sports events of NCAA, such as basketball, volleyball, tennis, baseball and American football. I compiled and published a textbook called *English for Sports Majors* after returning to China.

In addition, after the reform in the College English teaching in our university, there is a module in the new curriculum system called English for Specific Purposes (ESP). By far there are not many courses available in this module, so I hope my course on sporting events would be a significant part of it. My son used to be a student-athlete in Shanghai Jiao Tong University, who took part in the matches of CUBA twice

in 2016 and 2019 respectively. I accompanied him growing up, and gradually got more knowledge about sports. My experience with sports helps me develop a deep affection for watching and appreciating all kinds of sports events, even though I myself am not very good at sports.

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S: Upon successful completion of this course, students are supposed to develop the following abilities.

1) A basic understanding of major international sporting events, especially about the origin, the development and the fundamental rules;

2) Building up a complete picture of Olymp ^ v fu

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the most fundamental rules in the textbook, which are illustrated in simple and understandable words. Furthermore, pictures are used in class to facilitate the interpretation of basic techniques and fouls in sports such as basketball, football and volleyball. These effective teaching methods can help students better understand sports terminology.

(:KDW GR IRX WKLQ For example, when it comes to Premier League teams, we will read the British map and talk about its urban layout. When it comes to martial arts, we will

S: Honestly, to let students understand English commentary is not a major purpose of this course. It is pretty hard to gain a full understanding of English commentary, so we just hope students could learn about the language style. This course mainly focuses on the introduction of sporting events. On the basis of improving student's English abilities, we try

to open a window for students to experience sports culture, which is more important for the expression. The acquaintance of the origins of sports games, sporting events, characteristics of sports teams and the development of Olympic games enables students to have a general knowledge of western sports history and geography, and traditional Chinese sports culture as well.

For example, when it comes to Premier League teams, we will read the British map and talk about its urban layout. When it comes to martial arts, we will mention Chinese Taiji culture and its essence. At the same time, we will analyze in what aspects Chinese sports have advantages and in what aspects there is still room for improvement, compared to the western ones, then seeking practical ways to enhance Chinese sports. Now the College English Department is implementing the ideological and political education program.

As a key part of the curriculum system, Sporting Events English actively involves ideological and political elements in the process of teaching, which can help students build a good sense of values about lives, develop their awareness of fair competence, nourish their perseverance and the spirit of patriotism and idealism.

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S: The span of compiling the textbook was quite long. At the very beginning when I taught PE postgraduates during the summer vacation, I referred to some books. But it turned out that the contents of those reference books were mixed up and the target users of each book varied a lot, which made me realize it was urgent to create my own teaching resources. So I set out to collect teaching materials and build my own lesson plans.

Not long after, I obtained more information about sports and consulted some professionals while studying in America. After coming back, I finally got the book published successfully after

a few rounds of revisions. I have to say persistence is the key to success. The most challenging part of compiling this book is the change of its target users. Originally it was designed only for PE postgraduates. But now we also have other types of users, like PE undergraduates, students who only choose Sporting Events English as a selective course and so on. The structure of the book has changed a lot of times and the selection of learning materials was demanding. The good thing is that we have a strong team, which not only includes English teachers, but also PE teachers and the editor of the publishing house has a strong sense of responsibility.

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S: As I mentioned above, the users of the textbook include both sports and non-sports majors. So, we need to modify instruction to accommodate the needs of different students.

Sports English is a compulsory course for sports majors. Since it lasts for two semesters, we don't have a tight schedule, which means

it takes four classes to focus on one unit. On the whole, we will cover fourteen units in one year. Besides sports events and Olympic knowledge, students are also required to master spoken English of athletes' daily life and physical education, applied writing, knowledge of physical training etc. Reading aloud, making up dialogues and giving presentations are major activities in class.

When it comes to Sporting Events English, we will cover eleven units in one semester and it only takes two classes to focus on one unit. Students are supposed to learn about sports events as well as sports games and Olympic Games. They are more engaged in discussing relevant topics and expressing opinions, but the presentations and writing assignments are more demanding and challenging.

Sports majors may face more difficulties in study since their English level is relatively weak, but they take active part in class activities. As for Sporting Events English, as long as you are a sports fan, you can also enjoy it and contribute to the positive class atmosphere. But it would be rather painful for the students who have no interest in sports because they will feel difficult and tedious in remembering complex knowledge about rules and numerous terms, so they should think twice before choosing this course.

Since the very beginning, Sporting Events English has been receiving widespread positive commem



5 H Á H F W L R Q V R Q W K H O R Y L H Chernobyl

Chernobyl (2019) is a historical drama produced by HBO and Sky UK. Created and written by Craig Mazin, and directed by Johan Renck, the five episode¹ miniseries² dramatizes the Chernobyl nuclear plant disaster—known as the worst nuclear disaster in history.

It occurred due to a breakdown at the No. 4 reactor in the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. Rivers, soils, plants and animals were severely contaminated; people who might suffer radiation exposure were evacuated. The health officials predict that over the next 70 years there will be a 28% increase in cancer rates among the people exposed to the 5-12 EBq of radioactive contamination released from the reactor. Worse still, radiation levels are very high in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone today and it is not habitable.

Altogether there are five episodes, namely 1:23:45, *Please remain calm*, *Open Wide, O Earth*, *The Happiness of Mankind*, *Vichnaya Pamyat* (meaning “immortal memory” in Russian), making record of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster including the causes of the disaster and people’s different

reactions. There are three main storylines—how the government deals with this crisis, how normal lives are affected and how scientists try to uncover and defend the truth.

The most thought-provoking lines appear as questions to the audience at the beginning of the movie: “What is the cost of lies? It’s not that we’ll mistake them for the truth. The real danger is that if we hear enough lies, then we no longer recognize the truth at all. What can we do then? What other alternatives are left but to abandon even the hope of truth? In these stories, it doesn’t matter who the heroes are. All we want to know is: Who is to blame? ”

These words set up the keynote³ of the series, stimulating the audience into a deeper reflection while watching the movie. The government is described in the movie as very “bureaucratic” since they totally deny the failure to recognize the hidden design defects in the nuclear power plant, and try to conceal the truth from the public. Apart from the exposure of the dark side, the movie also presents the viewers with numerous touching moments.

The firefighters gathered at the disaster scene as soon as possible with little knowledge of the terrible consequence of radiation. The story of firefighter Vasily and his wife Lyudmila Ignatenko is based on oral history recorded by Nobel Prize Winner Svetlana Alexievich. Their love story is heartbreaking. Despite that Vasily’s body was damaged beyond repair, Lyudmila still cared for him until the last moment of his life. Their baby who was born later did not survive because of the radiation. Another moving moment is the story of the “three warriors”, in which three workers volunteered to risk their lives to clean the water accumulation underground where concentration of radiation was too high even for robots to function normally. By doing so, they successfully prevented the nuclear plant from another explosion.

The last hero is a fictional figure created to represent all the scientists who take part in the investigation of the incident. Ulana Khomyuk is courageous and honest. She devoted herself to finding a better way to lessen the damage to people’s lives and to prevent the tragedies from happening again, despite the countless obstacles standing on her way.

After its premiere⁴ on May 6th, 2019, the miniseries received much attention and critical acclaim. It won Outstanding Limited Series, Outstanding Directing and Outstanding Writing at the 71st Primetime Emmy Awards and the Best Supporting Actor in a Series, Miniseries or Television Film at the 77th Golden Globe Awards. On Rotten Tomatoes, it has a 96% approval rating with an average score of 8.94 out of 10, based on 95 reviews. In June 2019, it became the highest-rated TV series of all-time on IMDB, with a score of 9.7/10 from over 140,000 users.

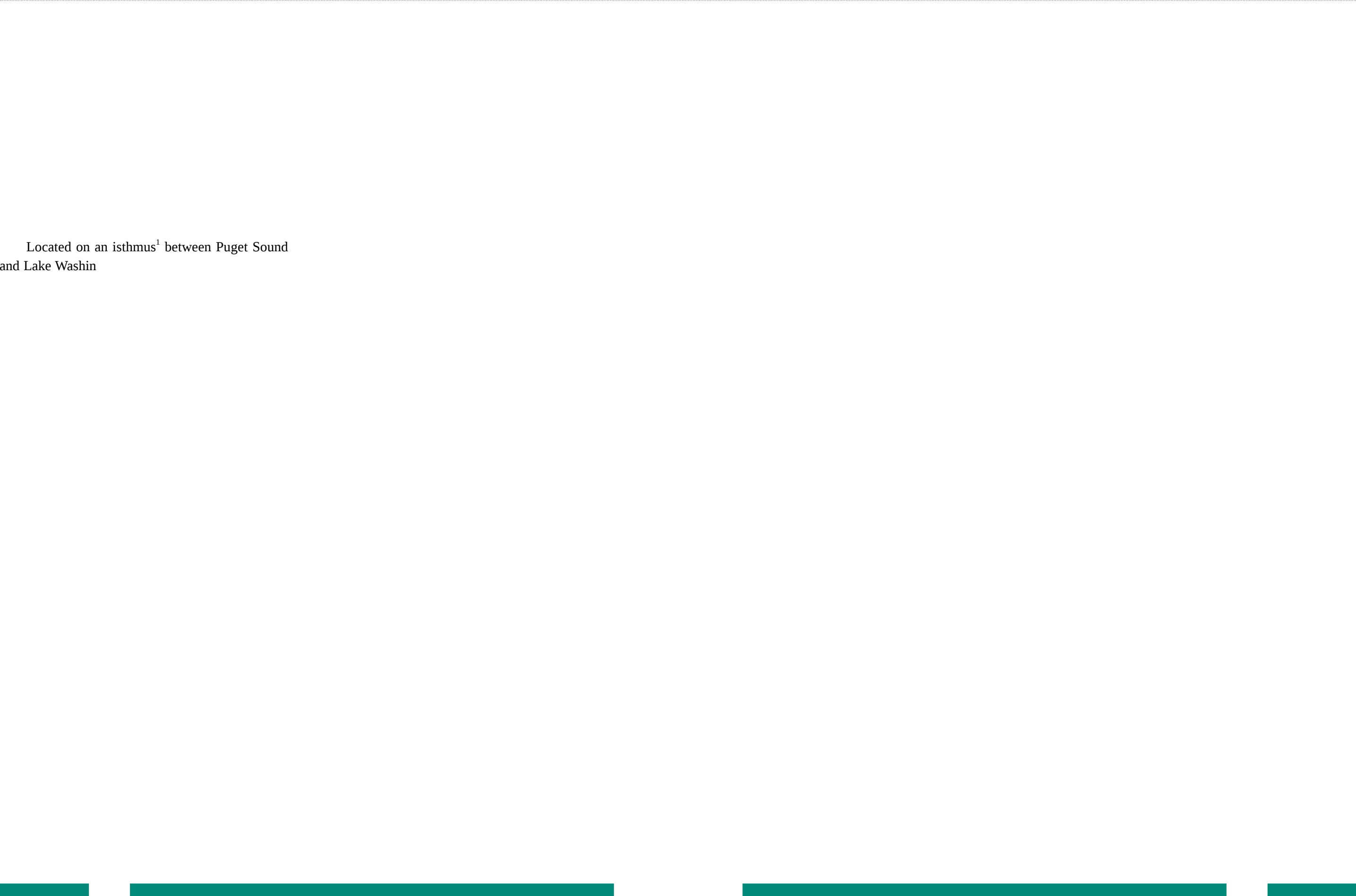
The movie was discussed from several angles. From a historical perspective, what was the Chernobyl Nuclear disaster like in reality? From an artistic perspective, how was the storyline was organized and how were the main characters’

images built? From a political perspective, does the screen writer have a political tendency? The miniseries is based on a true story, but there are still some discrepancies between the movie and the reality. Some audience appreciate its vivid shooting and great special effects, but they also point out that it does not give a full picture of the reality. In the miniseries, Soviet officials and plant management are believed to be misinterpreted for their images seem too evil. Also, the helicopter crash is said to happen actually later than the timing in the movie. Reviewers expressed their opinions on newspapers and magazines like *The Atlantic* and *The Washington Post*, exposing the potential danger in current society analogous to the Chernobyl disaster partly caused by the leaders’ dishonesty.

Human beings have encountered numerous disasters since the dawn of the civilization. History repeats itself and teaches us a lot. When COVID-19 pandemic breaks the peace of our regular life, we might have a deeper understanding of what is shown in this miniseries.

The public confusion centers around the following questions—Was the truth hidden from the public in the beginning? Who were to blame for all the suffering? Those questions later turned into weapons in the international political arena to attack the governance capacity and social order. Luckily, whenever disasters happen, there are always courageous heroes who will stand out to defend the truth. In Chernobyl’s case, there were firefighters and scientists; during the Covid-19 pandemic, nurses, doctors, scientists and community workers are still on the frontlines. If we can learn from each disaster, we might live up to the old Chinese idiom, “Much distress regenerates a nation.”

1. episode: n.
2. miniseries: n.
3. keynote: n.
4. premiere: n.



Located on an isthmus¹ between Puget Sound
and Lake Washin

I'm Josh, an international student of East China Normal University and copy editor of ECNU Circle. Like many people from all over the world, I come to China for a new experience. Ryan and I, both from the United States, have lived in China for a combined total of 8 years. I'm currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Law with a focus on International Relations and China Studies while Ryan is embarking on a PhD in Chinese Philosophy.

We both agree that China is an awesome country. But right now the biggest challenge to our experience abroad is the ongoing coronavirus pandemic¹. Unlike many of the international students who return to their home countries for summer or winter vacation, me and Ryan devoted ourselves to staying in China through every summer and winter vacation. Due to the coronavirus outbreak, though, our plans have changed immensely. Ryan has been spending large amounts of time in his dorm room at ECNU. I am still in the United States where I will stay temporarily as a result of the global pandemic.

I'm writing this column to tell everyone how China is an awesome country. I wish I could be there right now. As I wait, wait, and wait, I can only work from home with hope in my heart. The Covid-19 pandemic has made everyone more cautious, but many international students are encouraged by their experiences abroad in China.

MY IMPRESSIONS OF
AWESOME CITIES IN CHINA

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I feel so excited when I'm in Shanghai. The environment there is incredible—Chang Jiang, Pu Xi, Pu Dong, the Bund, West Nanjing Road—and that's just to name a few of this city's awesome features. In addition, the beautiful campus of ECNU holds a special place in my heart. For all its glory, I must say that the teachers, students D Q G V W D u R I (& 1 8 D U H Z K D W memorable.

Ryan and I share the same view about our first arrival to Shanghai, in 2013 and 2017 respectively. We hadn't studied much Chinese language, even though we felt like we had a fair understanding of Chinese culture, history and philosophy. Yet our Chinese language skills were very poor. We went to Shanghai with a thirst for knowledge about Chinese language and lifestyles—we've prevailed so far with our own determination!

Ryan shared his feelings about leaving the United States through how the protagonist² Ishmael felt about his life on the land in the American Novel *Moby Dick*. As Ishmael felt confident in his choice to sail to distant shores, so me and Ryan were thrilled at the prospect of a new experience abroad at ECNU. I had no idea what to expect from this experience. But I know that Shanghai will always be my favorite place in China.

\$ 2

Beijing is Ryan's favorite city. I agree that Beijing is a much easier place to meet people than in Shanghai. According to Ryan, "this city brings a certain mystique that the pen typewriter or computer is incapable of describing." Ryan actually doesn't like to stay in Shanghai when he's on vacation from school, and that's why he always looks for opportunities to spend more time in Beijing with his friends.

I think traveling in Beijing can be very challenging. I found that there were simply too many people at the tourist spots. The congestion in the city from the people and road traffic is awful. The food is so different from Shanghai that I couldn't get accustomed to it. Ryan can easily make friends with both expats³ and Chinese people in Beijing, though I felt that going to tourist spots and walking around the city was laborious.

After visiting Beijing several times, Ryan is very comfortable with the people and environment in China's capital city. It's clear to me that I'm more comfortable in a city like Shanghai. Nonetheless, we both agree that traveling to both Shanghai and Beijing is a great opportunity for anyone to learn more about China.



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On one of the winter vacations, Ryan and I pushed ourselves to travel far away from Shanghai. I went to Xining, Qinghai, and Ryan went to Harbin, Heilongjiang. Anyone who's familiar with Northwest and Northeast China already understands what we went through during our stays there in winter.

The brutal altitude and freezing temperature doesn't make for an ideal vacation spot in Qinghai, but I wouldn't let that stop anyone from traveling there. Qinghai has its own local culture and customs, and I was amazed by the blue sky, clean atmosphere and the majestic Kun Lun mountains. Ryan, on the other hand, was very pleased with the harsh winter of Harbin because it reminded him of the frozen tundra⁴ of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where he got his undergraduate degree in the United States.

China is an awesome country for travel. Knowledge of the local languages, cultures and customs is helpful but not essential. Ryan has had some problems with the language barrier when traveling to smaller cities and towns throughout China, since very few people in those areas speak English. These experiences invigorated⁵ Ryan to spend more time learning Chinese language at ECNU.

I've dedicated the past 8 years of my life to learning Chinese language. From my experiences, I'd say that anywhere you go in China's big cities that you can find someone who speaks English (even if it's just service-oriented). However, that won't stop me from continuing to improve my language skills. I've said this to many, many people: the task of mastering Chinese language, is also the task of mastering Chinese culture and lifestyles. I believe Ryan and I will seek out more opportunities to experience China while living abroad.



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One thing comes to most people's mind about Chengdu: food. The local food is just incredible. I even like the weird stuff like rabbit meat. Ryan and I traveled to Sichuan together, and we really had a good time there. I think I speak for both of us when I say that having hot pot in Chengdu is mandatory for anyone traveling to China.

Everyone can normally find something about Chinese culture that is fascinating to them. The food definitely stands out to most people traveling abroad in China—for good or bad reasons. People in China also encourage expats to try the various types of Chinese cuisine, which is particularly spicy in the province of Sichuan. I'm proud to say I've got to experience local Chengdu cuisine twice so far!

1. coronavirus pandemic
2. protagonist: n.
3. expat: n. expatriate
4. tundra: n.
5. invigorate: vt. (审稿 / 汪燕)

Wu Weicheng



& U H D W L Q J + D S S L Q H V V

Wu Weicheng , as a 2005-year student of Information Management at East China Normal University, started his own IP derivatives business and now runs AIMON—an industry leader in the field.

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"Everyone thought I was weird. I was admitted to high school and university from my own efforts and had to join computer competitions for necessary qualifications. I didn't do well in middle school but I was the vice president of the student council. I didn't do well in high school but I was an assistant to the principal. I didn't do well in college because I had my own business. I just took the beaten track all the way, doing what I love, gathering people that I felt right, and then went for the goals that felt right. I just wanted to be happy."

In 2005, Wu Weicheng entered East China Normal University as a major in Information Management. In his first year of college, Wu Weicheng teamed up with four sophomores to participate in the university entrepreneurship competition, Daxia Cup. As a result, Wu stood out and won the first prize out of 99 groups. Thus, he and a group of partners each took a little of their own money, and finally raised 50,000 yuan as a startup.

Wu Weicheng got an office in Zizhu Science Park and started doing sales of animation derivatives. They helped many clubs and student unions in universities including ECNU, to find sponsors. Some of the sponsoring companies gave them some products, which they would sell by themselves. The most fruitful time was when they ran events in Nanhui University Town, Songjiang University Town and in nearly 20 other colleges and universities throughout Shanghai. They once set up 20 tents, which was the biggest event for them, with their exposure to various gaming companies and product promotions.

After graduating from the university, Wu's team drifted apart from one another. Only a few of their colleagues remained. However, Wu still managed to cooperate with Taiwan's largest anime agency, MUSE; and then later on to set up AIMON, thus continuing to work in the anime industry.

The departure of his business partners made him sad. But Wu Weicheng's biggest regret in the process of entrepreneurship was actually the breakup with his girlfriend in college, who was the biggest help in starting the business. "The company had just started, so I had no money to buy a house and a car, which may affect the relationship—Five years of quarrels and quarrels apart."

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Wu Weicheng enjoys his career. It's a business that creates happiness. He likes to do what young people enjoy; he wants to keep himself feeling younger. Next, we outlined three specific points about his entrepreneurial career: working with IP owners, risks and vision.

● Working with IP owners

Wu Weicheng values the time he spent working with different forms of intellectual property (IP). He had the opportunity to work with *The King's Avatar* (全职高手), *The Grandmother of Demonic Cultivation* (魔道祖师), *Game of Arknights* (明日方舟), *Mr Love: Queen's Choice* (恋与制作人) and *Honkai Impact 3rd* (崩坏3) among others.

In fact, this cooperation did not bring in revenues for IP owners right away. Wu knows that the copyright fees they paid are just a drop in the bucket in comparison with their revenues from gaming purchases. The core value of the business lies in the happiness the owner creates for their users. This is what IP owners value and where Wu wants to make a breakthrough—to make the users happy while making profits at the same time.

● Risks

In recent years, there's major capital pouring into the animation market, and commercial competition is becoming increasingly fierce. The risks are missing some new IPs, new technology or some opportunities for cooperation, leading to the problem of re-correcting the company's marketing image. Compared with market share, Wu Weicheng is more concerned about attracting and training talents. In this regard, Wu Weicheng said his employees (over 200) are more important than himself. As CEO, Wu Weicheng is more responsible for things like how to optimize the resource allocation and balance the various aspects, and then enable his colleagues to grasp the new things and finally get things done.

Wu Weicheng confesses that what he fears the most is becoming "old." Not in the sense of age, but in the fear that he does not know what the new generations are thinking. He believes that if the CEOs themselves are not sensitive enough to young people's opinions and ideas, the company will lose its competitiveness in the latest market—Wu Weicheng's concern for the company's future direction has driven him to keep up with young people's thinking by reading microblogs, WeChat moments and even QZone.

● Vision

Wu Weicheng hopes to maintain AIMON's leading position in the industry and continue to grow. Now, his biggest wish is to improve the economic level and life quality of his colleagues in the process of getting bigger, and to become a company respected by users.

In terms of the industry, Wu hopes to continue the process of legalization and regularization, and reduce the vicious competition and piracy as much as possible. Generally speaking, he hopes that the emerging industry will be more orderly and conducive to healthy competition, rather than developing an environment of vicious competition like that of traditional FMCG (Fast-Moving Consumer Goods).

As the industry's head company, Wu Weicheng hopes to continue to adhere to their beliefs, not "messing around and cheating consumers". Wu said, if they can persist with their own values, the industry will have a confidence that "good people can be alive and well".

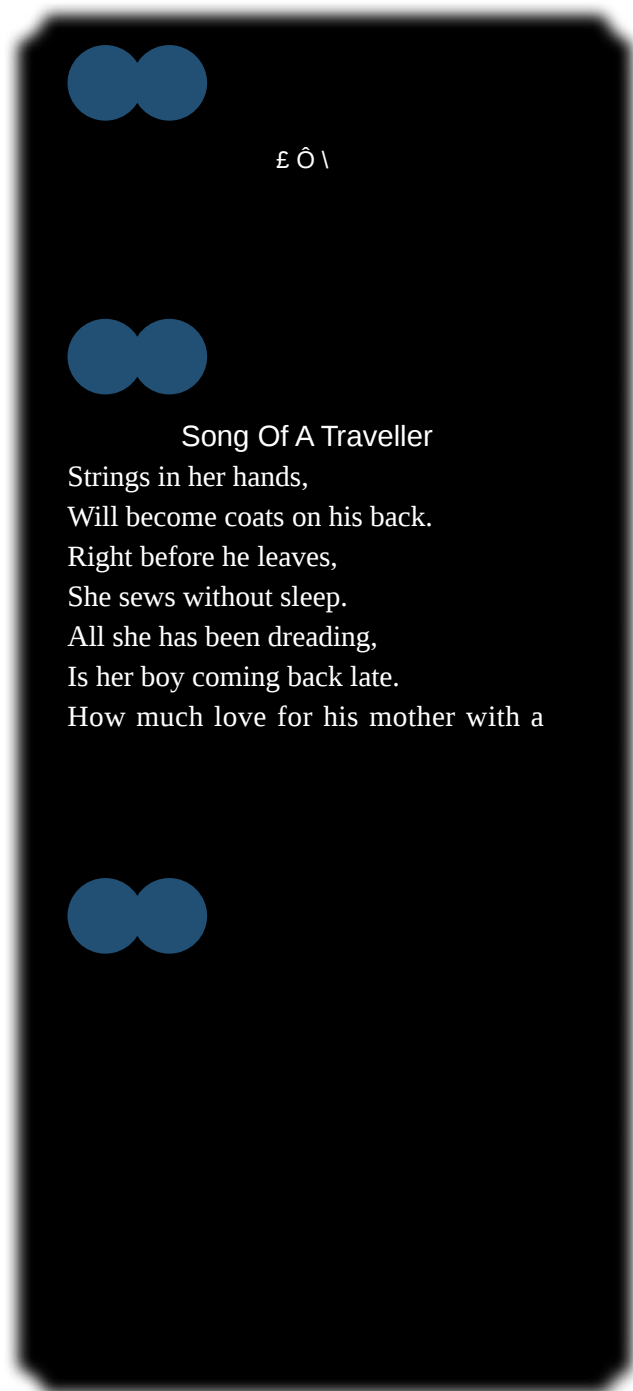


This poem praises Chinese traditional merit—perseverance. The strong vitality of bamboo, confronted with harsh environment, stands for Chinese people’s perseverance and persistence.

Double-Ninth Festival is an important Chinese traditional festival, in honor of the old. There is a custom of ascending a height with family members on this day. The poet was absent when his brothers climbing high together. The poem expresses the sentiment of missing and affection between siblings.

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Selected Translations of the Last Issue



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Song Of A Traveller

Strings in her hands,
Will become coats on his back.
Right before he leaves,
She sews without sleep.
All she has been dreading,
Is her boy coming back late.
How much love for his mother with a





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