



# Unit 1 Prosperity

## Lead-in

### Quotes

空谈误国，实干兴邦。

——习近平

Empty talk is harmful to the nation, while doing practical work will make it thrive.

—Xi Jinping

One can only make progress when he thinks big, and move forward when he looks far.

—José Ortega y Gasset

志向远大方能进步，目光长远才能前行。

——奥特加·伊·加塞特

### Think and Talk

1. How do you understand “common prosperity”?
2. Give examples of industries that are developing fast in China now and give your reasons.
3. Discuss with your classmates what practical work you can do to contribute to the development of China.



## Part One

# Reading Comprehension

### Section A Reading in Depth

#### Exercise 1

**Directions:** Match the words in the left column with their appropriate explanations in the right column.

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. enhance      | a. say that you believe something is true because you have evidence of it                          |
| 2. increasingly | b. not showing much care or thought  |
| 3. testify      | c. very many; too many to be counted or mentioned  |
| 4. coordinate   | d. further improve the good quality of somebody or something                                       |
| 5. domestic     | e. more and more all the time  |
| 6. hinder       | f. an arrangement, a promise or a contract made with somebody                                      |
| 7. effort       | g. of or inside a particular country; not foreign or international                                 |
| 8. reflect      | h. succeed in doing something  |
| 9. agreement    | i. organize the different parts of an activity and the people involved in it so that it works well |
| 10. well-off    | j. rich enough to be able to do things that they want  |
| 11. countless   | k. make it difficult for somebody to do something  |
| 12. accomplish  | l. an attempt to do something especially when it is difficult to do                                |
| 13. cargo       | m. show or be a sign of the nature of something or of somebody's attitude or feeling               |
| 14. strive      | n. the goods carried in a ship or plane  |
| 15. casual      | o. try very hard to achieve something  |

#### Exercise 2

**Directions:** Below is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in the word bank following the

*passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. Write the corresponding letter in each blank. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.*

The Chinese market has been well positioned to soar, with new trends shaping its landscape, and the government delivering greater openness and extending 1 to promote free trade.

The vision set out by commerce officials at a press conference on Monday 2 to the country's confidence in growing its consumer market, which is second only to the United States in terms of size, and enhancing its strength as the world's top trading nation. "A historic transformation has been 3," said Commerce Minister Wang Wentao as he reviewed the country's achievements in terms of business and trade along the journey of building a(n) 4 society.

Describing China's market as "unique" and "boasting the advantage of a super-large market", with a middle class of more than 400 million people, making up about 29 percent of its total population, Wang said China has been continuously expanding 5 demand as a strategic basis to foster a strong domestic market.

But the country's evolving business landscape cannot be explained simply in terms of increased market size. Prominent structural changes have also taken place, 6 the stronger consumer preference for better services and trading up.

Geographically, Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Tianjin and Chongqing are 7 to stand out as international consumption centers, exploring ways of elevating people's livelihoods by better meeting people's 8 diverse consumer demands. The potential in the central and western regions is to be released as the country makes efforts to promote 9 development across the whole country.

Regarding the development of the country's free trade zones, Wang said, "We have reached a consensus and identified goals, and we will promote opening-up in line with higher-level international economic and trade rules." So far, China has inked 19 free-trade agreements involving 26 countries and regions. Worldwide, more than 350 international free-trade 10 have been reached, according to the World Trade Organization.

- |             |               |                 |                 |              |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| A) striving | B) agreements | C) increasingly | D) accomplished | E) testifies |
| F) enhance  | G) cargo      | H) coordinated  | I) countless    | J) efforts   |
| K) well-off | L) domestic   | M) casual       | N) reflecting   | O) hinder    |



## Section B Fast Reading

**Directions:** You are going to read a passage with ten statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter. Answer each question by writing the corresponding letter.

### Along the Belt and Road: Xinjiang's Thriving International Trade and Cultural Exchanges

- A) It would have been hard to find many regions in the 13th century more prosperous and cosmopolitan than Xinjiang, a pivotal hub along the ancient Silk Road. When Italian traveler Marco Polo first visited Xinjiang, he was spellbound by its fusion of thriving international trade and vibrant culture, while a lot of different ethnicities forged connections between China and the rest of the world. It was the high point in Xinjiang's history, and a golden age of cosmopolitan culture.
- B) Centuries later, the ancient Silk Road has been reinvigorated and transformed into the new "Belt and Road Initiative" (BRI), injecting new charisma into Xinjiang's dust-laden glories. It is now one of the most important international commercial hubs in northwest China, with some 6,090 freight trains heading to Europe and Central Asia in the first half of 2021, carrying 6.57 million tons of merchandise. It is also a rising cultural exchange center, attracting foreign talents and students.
- C) "Openness, cooperation and tolerance of different cultures are core values imprinted in Xinjiang's history, which continue to thrive today. Thanks to international trade and people-to-people exchange, Xinjiang is now becoming more international than ever," said Anwar Abdukerim, a historian at Xinjiang Museum.
- D) Carrying over 1,720 tons of ketchup, a fully-loaded goods train bound for Rome left the Urumqi International Land Port Area (UILPA) on April 4th. The ketchup, which is produced in Xinjiang and worth 1.48 million U.S. dollars, will then be processed into pasta sauce and salsa in Italy.
- E) Accounting for a quarter of all global tomato output, China is a leading exporter of tomato and tomato-based products. Xinjiang produces over 70 percent of China's tomatoes, but its exports used to be hindered by the lack of a convenient international transportation network.



- F) Traditionally, Xinjiang's ketchup was first sent to Tianjin seaport and then dispatched to Europe. The costs were high and it took at least a month to reach Europe by sea.
- G) Thanks to a growing network of China-Europe cargo trains, more than 80 percent of ketchup produced in Xinjiang is exported to Russia and Italy every year. It now takes only half a month for Xinjiang's ketchup to reach Europe. UILPA has launched several new routes, dispatching hundreds of goods trains carrying Xinjiang specialties, including pears from Korla and walnuts from Hotan, to Europe and Central Asia, expanding the international market for local farmers.
- H) As of May 2021, there are 21 China-Europe freight train lines in UILPA bound for 19 countries and 26 cities in Central Asia and Europe. More than 200 types of goods, from daily provisions and clothing to machinery and building materials, are on the list.
- I) "When the freight route was first established, its main function was to bring Xinjiang's products to the European market. After years of development, many European and Central Asian companies have also used our freight service to promote their products in China, creating a win-win solution for both sides," said Liu Le, vice manager of UILPA.
- J) Xinjiang's booming international trade is not only about "going out", it also attracts overseas merchants to start their business here. Working in his jewelry shop at Xinjiang International Grand Bazaar, Urumqi, 50-year-old Asim Mohammad speaks fluent Mandarin (普通话) and Uyghur with his clients. His shop is a treasure trove filled with Uyghur and Pakistani style jewelry designed by his wife, a Uyghur artist, while the warm atmosphere and enormous influx of customers show the allure of this shop.
- K) According to Mohammad, doing business in Xinjiang is both lucrative and convenient. Pakistani and Indian style jewelry are popular with local Uyghur clients, while local authorities and business organizations have provided him with the help he needs, such as visa services and favorable tax policies.
- L) "I think BRI is a brilliant idea. It has helped many foreigners start businesses in China, and also brought Chinese products to their countries. I have many Pakistani friends who are now working in Xinjiang, and we are happy doing business here," said Mohammad.



M) Under the framework of BRI, international trade has been a lucrative source of income for Xinjiang. According to statistics, in May alone, Xinjiang's total import and export value hit 12.54 billion yuan, representing 48.3 percent year-on-year growth. "Before the pandemic, my shop saw 200 customers per day, earning me 4,000 yuan. Life here in Xinjiang is very cozy and prosperous. I feel really content with my life," said Mohammad.

N) Pacing to and fro in his dormitory in Shihezi, 21-year-old Adil Raza tries to memorize all his clinical medicine notes. When the new semester starts in two weeks, he will become a sophomore at the medical school of Shihezi University.

O) Raza is one of the 409 foreign students at Shihezi University. In recent years, more and more foreign students have chosen to study in universities in Xinjiang. According to China's Ministry of Education, over 500,000 foreign students studied in China in 2020, compared to 1,200 in 1978.

P) Raza's professor, 53-year-old Azeem Inayad, is a Pakistani expert in human physiology who has been working at Shihezi University for 12 years. His son was only two years old when they moved to Xinjiang in 2002, and now the boy is a college student majoring in physiology like his father. "I came to Xinjiang in 2002, and was spellbound by the friendly people and good working environment here. I gave up my permanent teaching position in Pakistan, hoping to start a career here in Shihezi," said Inayad.

Q) Inayad says his students are from different countries. In addition to teaching them medical knowledge, he also likes to hear their stories and opinions about China. "Many of my students who are now back in their own countries send me messages saying they miss Xinjiang and their friends here. The BRI is not only about trade, it is also about people-to-people exchange. Those students can build a bridge between China and their countries, which is wonderful," said Inayad.

R) "I hope more students can come and study in Xinjiang. They should see Xinjiang with their own eyes, not just blurry and biased images from the media," added Inayad. "I always tell my friends back in India that Xinjiang is a beautiful place. Cultural exchange and communication is really important, and I hope I can introduce Xinjiang and China to my people in India," said Raza.

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1. More than 80 percent of ketchup produced in Xinjiang is exported to Russia and Italy every year due to the growing network of China-Europe freight trains.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Mohammed says doing business in Xinjiang is both profitable and convenient.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. China produces 25% of the world's tomatoes and is a leading exporter of tomatoes and tomato-related products.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. In the 13th century, Xinjiang was probably the most prosperous and cosmopolitan region.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. As a rising cultural exchange center, Xinjiang now attracts many foreign talents and students.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The vigorous development of international trade in Xinjiang is not only "going global", but also attracting overseas businessmen to do business here.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Inayad said that the students who came from different countries could build a bridge between China and their countries.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, an important source of income for Xinjiang is international trade.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. The 53-year-old Azeem Inayad who has been working at Shihezi University for 12 years is Raza's professor and a Pakistani expert in human physiology.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. In recent years, the number of students choosing to study in universities in Xinjiang is increasing.

## Section Close Reading

**Directions:** *There are three passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should choose the best answer for each question.*

### Passage 1

The Chinese greeting phrase *ni hao* which translates into English as "hello" is becoming widely understood by many school children in Zimbabwe as more schools introduce Chinese language classes to cater to the growing demand for the language.

At Gateway High School, a private school in Zimbabwe's capital of Harare, learning Chinese language is becoming a popular optional choice among students. Despite his young age, 14-year-old Matthew Chimudzi is confident that mastering the Chinese language will open countless doors of opportunities and



broaden his career horizons.

Chimudzi is in the elementary Chinese language class of 20 students at Gateway School. Challenging himself by learning Chinese might be an exciting adventure, but he admitted that learning the world's most spoken language by the number of native speakers is not a walk in the park. "It's difficult but I don't find that challenging because I just persevere in the subject," he said.

Valerie Nyamugama, another elementary Chinese language student at Gateway, said "I chose to learn Chinese because I wanted to learn a different culture and different way to talk in a different language." The 14-year-old girl believes that with China's increased global footprint, mastering the Chinese language means more advantages in the competitive job market. "I expect to get more job opportunities because of the Chinese language, I feel like it's gonna go forward because I feel like China is willing to carry out in-depth cooperation and exchanges with other countries in the world," she said.

Patience Rusere, a Chinese teacher at Gateway School, said there has been an increased uptake of the Chinese language since it was introduced at the school in 2018. Rusere noted that a number of her students want to study in China when they finish high school. The fascination with Chinese culture also attracts many students to the language, the teacher said. Rusere graduated with a bachelor's degree in Chinese from the University of Zimbabwe Confucius Institute in 2018.

She said mastering the Chinese language has opened up career opportunities for her, although the learning process has been a challenging journey. "But with encouragement, and persistence and keeping on trying and practicing especially when it comes to character writing, there is no trick to it rather than just practicing your characters every day, up until you understand and grasp them and they become a part of you," she said.

Given the increased economic engagement between Zimbabwe and China, which has seen more young people choosing China as the preferred study destination, the popularity of Chinese among Zimbabwean students will likely continue to grow. While learning Chinese might seem to be a difficult task for many people, Chinese learners say all it takes to master the language is dedication, time, and a suitable learning environment.

1. Why do more schools introduce Chinese language classes in Zimbabwe?

- A. Because Zimbabweans think Chinese language is interesting.
- B. Because the demand for learning Chinese is growing.



- C. Because Zimbabweans think Chinese language is easy.
  - D. Because Zimbabweans love China.
2. What did Matthew Chimudzi admit?
- A. Learning Chinese is interesting and he will keep on working hard.
  - B. Learning Chinese is difficult but he will keep on working hard.
  - C. Chinese is not difficult to learn and he will keep on working.
  - D. Learning Chinese is challenging and he wants to quit sometimes.
3. Valerie Nyamugama, the 14-year-old girl believes that mastering Chinese means \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. more opportunities to study in college
  - B. more opportunities to find a satisfactory job
  - C. more opportunities to study abroad
  - D. more opportunities to have a happy marriage
4. According to Patience Rusere, how should people learn character writing?
- A. Practice with the teachers.
  - B. Practice with native speakers.
  - C. Practice several days a week.
  - D. Practice every day.
5. According to the passage, Chinese learners say all it takes to master the language is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. dedication, time and communication with others
  - B. a suitable learning environment, patience and curiosity
  - C. a suitable learning environment, dedication and time
  - D. time, interest and a suitable learning environment

## Passage 2

Long Xianwen, a 52-year-old tea farmer from Niujiang village in Guzhang county, Hunan Province, never imagined several years ago that the tea produced from his tea plantation in the small village would end up being enjoyed by so many foreign tea drinkers. Tea grown in the village is currently being exported around the world, especially those countries and regions taking part in China's Belt and Road Initiative.

The tea plantation lies among the Niujiang mountains at around 30 degrees north latitude and enjoys natural advantages when it comes to the microclimate, altitude, ecological environment and soil. However, locals paid little attention to this naturally-gifted environment in the past. "Many years ago, villagers, myself



included, left the village to find work; we had forgotten we were living right on a blessed land all along,” Long said. Now, things have changed. For Long, the plantation has become a “gold mountain” for Niujiao village that has helped lift villagers out of poverty while also helping drive the country’s Belt & Road Initiative.

Data from independent education and research website World’s Top Exports shows that China was the largest tea exporter in 2016 with an export value of \$1.5 billion, accounting for one-fifth of global tea exports, followed by Sri Lanka, Kenya, India and the United Arab Emirates. And according to the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization, China’s global tea production share has continued to climb over the past few years. From 36 percent in 2013, it rose to nearly 41 percent in 2016.

According to Long, the tea from his village used to be served to royalty and officials in ancient China, now it has once again returned to glory as a highly reputed tea around the entire world. This is not the only change that has happened. Long himself has grown from an ordinary tea farmer to one of the newly elected deputies to the 13th National People’s Congress (NPC), China’s legislature. Full of ambition, Long hopes to expand the local tea industry. He plans to submit his ideas about sustainable development of the tea industry at the upcoming “two sessions”, as well as advocate for improved local tourism and better local traffic conditions.

According to Xiong Jia, general manager of the Hunan Branch of China Tea Corporation, green tea, black tea and dark tea are the Chinese teas that have had the most success in Belt and Road countries and regions. Black and dark tea are preferred by those living in the far-eastern portion of Russia, Central Asia and South Asia, while African countries seem to prefer green tea.

1. What could Long Xianwen not imagine several years ago?
  - A. He could do tea business with the local government.
  - B. The tea produced from his tea plantation could be exported around the world.
  - C. The tea produced from his tea plantation could be sold out very quickly.
  - D. His tea plantation could become the largest one in his hometown.
2. According to Long Xianwen, what did people in his hometown do to make a living?
  - A. They got subsidies from local government.
  - B. They planted different Chinese teas.
  - C. They did the farming work.
  - D. They left the village to find work outside.