

Unit 5

好天气 *Good Weather*

When you have completed this unit, you will be able to...

- describe and discuss temperatures and the weather
- describe and discuss the seasons of the year
- talk about future events
- make comparisons between objects
- describe and discuss Chinese festivals and customs



Lesson A

发音

Fāyīn

Pronunciation

j q x + i ia iao ie iu ian in iang ing iong

词汇

Cíhuì

Vocabulary



天气 Tiānqì Weather



晴天 (晴天)
qíngtiān sunny day



阴天 (阴天)
yīntiān cloudy day

云(雲)
yún
cloud

多云(多雲)
duōyún
cloudy



雪(雪)
xuě
snow

下雪(下雪)
xià-xuě
to snow



雷(雷)
léi
thunder

打雷(打雷)
dǎ-léi
to thunder



雨(雨) yǔ
rain

雨天(雨天)
yǔtiān
rainy day

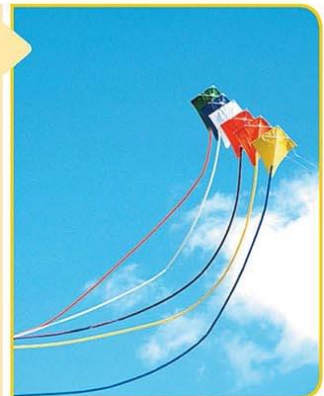
下雨(下雨)
xià-yǔ
to rain



风(風) fēng
wind

有风(有風)
yǒufēng
windy

刮风(刮風)
guā-fēng
wind blowing



sānbǎi jiǔshí
Unit 5

1

天气怎么样? Tiānqì zěnmeyàng? How is the weather?

Interpersonal Speaking

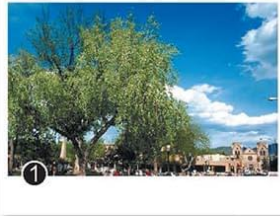
With a partner, take turns asking and answering how the weather is in each of the pictures below. Follow the model.

Li.zi:



A: 今天天气怎么样? Jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng?

B: 今天下雪。 Jīntiān xià-xuě.



2

中国城市天气 Zhōngguó Chéngshì Tiānqì Weather of Cities in China

Interpersonal Speaking

With a partner, take turns asking and answering about the current weather of the Chinese cities indicated. Follow the model using a city in Mongolia.

Li.zi:

A: 蒙古天气怎么样? Ménggǔ tiānqì zěnmeyàng?

B: 蒙古刮风。 Ménggǔ guā-fēng.





3

个人问题

Gèrén Wèntí Personal Questions

Answer the following questions in Chinese.

1. 你不喜欢雨天, 对不对? Nǐ bù xǐ.huān yǔtiān, duì búduì?
2. 晴天和阴天, 你都喜欢吗? Qíngtiān hé yīntiān, nǐ dōu xǐ.huān .ma?
3. 今天天气怎么样? Jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng?
4. 个星期都是晴天吗? Zhèi.ge xīngqī dōu shì qíngtiān .ma?
5. 上个星期下雪了吗? Shàng.ge xīngqī xià-xuě .le .ma?
6. 下个星期会下雨吗? Xià.ge xīngqī huì xià-yǔ .ma?
7. 现在有没有风? Xiànzài yǒu méiyǒu fēng?
8. 要刮风了吗? Yào guā-fēng .le .ma?
9. 现在天空(sky)有很多云吗? Xiànzài tiānkōng yǒu hěn duō yún .ma?

句型介绍

Jùxíng Jièshào

Language Patterns

上 shàng / 下 xià + Time Word

As localizers, 上 shàng means “up; above,” and 下 xià means “down; below.” For example, 桌子上 zhuō.zi shàng, 椅子下 yǐ.zi xià. These two words are also used to refer to time. In such instances, 上 shàng means “last,” and 下 xià means “next.” However, 上 shàng and 下 xià can only be used with “week” and “month.”

上 shàng / 下 xià + 个 ge + 星期 xīngqī / 月 yuè

上个星期六我去看电影了。 Shàng.ge Xīngqīliù wǒ qù kàn diànyǐng .le.

下个月五号是我的生日。 Xià.ge yuè wǔ-hào shì wǒ.de shēngri.

Language Note

We can even use 上 shàng and 下 xià to refer to two weeks/months ago or two weeks/months from now. So, 上上 shàng shàng means “before last,” and 下下 xià xià means “after next.”

上个周末 shàng.ge zhōumò

下个星期一 xià.ge Xīngqīyī

上上个周末 shàng shàng.ge zhōumò

下下个星期一 xià xià.ge Xīngqīyī



Note that we don't use 上 *shàng* and 下 *xià* for "day" and "year." Their expressions are as follows:

前天 <i>qiántiān</i>	昨天 <i>zuótiān</i>	今天 <i>jīntiān</i>	明天 <i>míngtiān</i>	后天 <i>hòutiān</i>
前年 <i>qiánnián</i>	去年 <i>qùnián</i>	今年 <i>jīnnián</i>	明年 <i>míngnián</i>	后年 <i>hòunián</i>

The Question Word 怎么样 *zěnmeyàng*

The Question Word 怎么样 *zěnmeyàng* means "how." It is a useful expression that is used in many ways.

Subject + 怎么样 *zěnmeyàng* ?

- To ask how something or someone is doing?
A: 西班牙七月的天气怎么样? *Xībānyá Qīyuè .de tiānqì zěnmeyàng?*
B: 西班牙七月的天气很好。 *Xībānyá Qīyuè .de tiānqì hěn hǎo.*
- To ask how someone thinks about something (used to solicit someone's opinion).
A: 你觉得这个汤怎么样? *Nǐ jué.de zhèi.ge tāng zěnmeyàng?*
B: 我觉得这个汤很好喝。 *Wǒ jué.de zhèi.ge tāng hěn hǎohē.*
- To be used among friends, as a greeting roughly equivalent to "How's it going?" in English.
A: 嘿, 怎么样? *Hēi, zěnmeyàng?*
B: 不错, 你呢? *Búcuò, nǐ ne?*

The Auxiliary Verb 会 *huì*

As you know, there are no verb tenses in Chinese. However, an auxiliary verb can add to the meaning of the verb, like 会 *huì* to mean "will most likely" or "is going to" to indicate an anticipated event or action.

Subject + 会 *huì* + **Verb Phrase**

明天会下雨。 *Míngtiān huì xià-yǔ.*

这个星期五我会去打网球。 *Zhèi.ge Xīngqīwǔ wǒ huì qù dǎ-wǎngqiú.*

Time Word + 见 *jiàn*

To talk about seeing someone at a certain time in the future, we can use this pattern.

Time Word + 见 *jiàn*

明天见! *Míngtiān jiàn!*

下个月见! *Xià.ge yuè jiàn!*

Language Note

If the place of the meeting is also known, then, according to the sentence sequence in Chinese, we can put the Place Word after the time. Note that 在 zài in front of the Place Word is frequently omitted in speech. Here is the pattern:

Time Word + **Place Word** + **见 jiàn**

五点篮球场见！ Wǔ-diǎn lánqiúchǎng jiàn!

星期六海边见！ Xīngqīliù hǎibiān jiàn!



会话 Huìhuà

Dialogue

好天气 Hǎo Tiānqì A Sunny Day

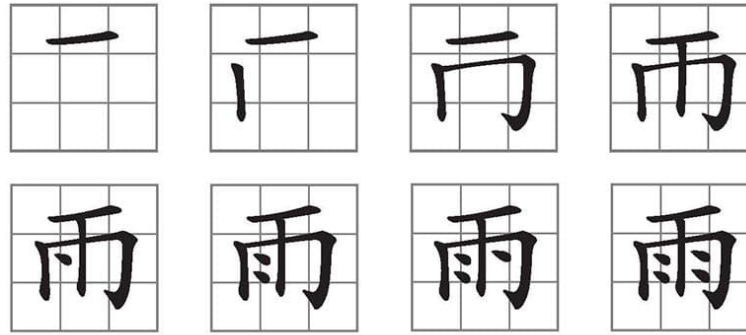


At Beihai Park, Bai Ping and Lin Shufang are sitting on a bench.

白 苹：今天天气真好。
林书芳：是啊，我喜欢晴天。
白 苹：这个星期都是好天气。
林书芳：下个星期天气怎么样？
白 苹：下个星期会下雨。
林书芳：唉呀，真讨厌。
白 苹：你明天要打网球吗？
林书芳：好啊，一点？
白 苹：好，明天见。

Bái Píng: Jīntiān tiānqì zhēn hǎo.
Lín Shūfāng: Shì.a, wǒ xǐ.huān qíngtiān.
Bái Píng: Zhèi.ge xīngqī dōu shì hǎo tiānqì.
Lín Shūfāng: Xià.ge xīngqī tiānqì zěn.meiyàng?
Bái Píng: Xià.ge xīngqī huì xià-yǔ.
Lín Shūfāng: Āiyā, zhēn tǎoyàn.
Bái Píng: Nǐ míngtiān yào dǎ-wǎngqiú .ma?
Lín Shūfāng: Hǎo.a, yì-diǎn?
Bái Píng: Hǎo, míngtiān jiàn.

Stroke Order



13 词汇延伸 Cíhuì Yáns hēn Vocabulary Builder

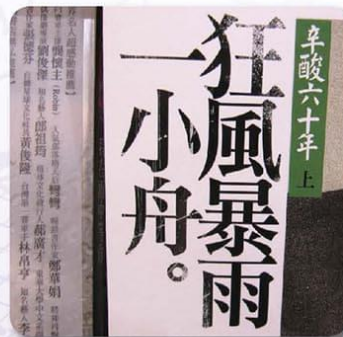
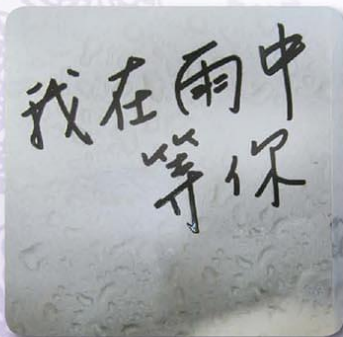
Below are some characters that can be combined with 雨 yǔ to create new words. Match the Chinese words on the left with the appropriate English meaning on the right.

衣 yī n. clothes	鞋 xié n. shoes	季 jì n. season	天 tiān n. day	量 liàng n. quantity
--------------------	-------------------	-------------------	------------------	------------------------

- 雨衣 yǔyī A. rainfall
- 雨鞋 yǔxié B. rainy day
- 雨季 yǔjì C. raincoat
- 雨天 yǔtiān D. rainy season
- 雨量 yǔliàng E. rain boots

14 汉字侦探 Hànzì Zhēntàn Visual Detective

Can you find 雨 in the following pictures?



Lesson B

发音

Fāyīn

Pronunciation

b p m f d t n l g + u ua uo
 k h z c s zh ch sh r

词汇

Cíhuì

Vocabulary

四季 Sì-Jì The Four Seasons

春天 (春天)

chūntiān
spring



夏天 (夏天)

xiàtiān
summer



秋天 (秋天)

qiūtiān
autumn



冬天 (冬天)

dōngtiān
winter



冷 (冷)

lěng
cold



凉 (凉)

liáng
cool



温暖 (温暖)

wēnnuǎn
warm



热 (热)

rè
hot



空调 (空調)

kōngtiáo
air conditioner



暖气 (暖气)

nuǎnqì
heater; heating system



摄氏 (攝氏)

Shèshi
Celsius



华氏 (華氏)

Huáshì
Fahrenheit



5

懂了吗? Dǒng .le .ma? / Do you understand?

Interpretative Communication

Answer the following questions according to the dialogue.

1. 白苹觉得怎么样? Bái Píng jué.de zěn.me.yàng?
2. 林书芳给白苹什么东西? Lín Shūfāng gěi Bái Píng shén.me dōng.xī?
3. 现在温度几度? Xiànzài wēndù jǐ-dù?
4. 林书芳请白苹打开什么? Lín Shūfāng qǐng Bái Píng dǎkāi shén.me?
5. 空调怎么了? Kōngtiáo zěn.me .le?
6. 她们要去吃什么? Tá.men yào qù chī shén.me?

文化橱窗

Wénhuà Chúchuāng

Culture Window

Weather in China

Like the US, China is a huge country with a great diversity of climates. Its western half encompasses the arid desert of Xinjiang and Mongolia and the rocky highlands of the Tibetan Plateau. In the more humid eastern half, China's climate ranges from the frosty subarctic to the steamy tropics.

The province of Heilongjiang in northeastern China is similar in climate to Minnesota, with long, bitterly cold winters and heavy snow. Its capital, Harbin, is known as the "Ice City" (冰城 *bīng chéng*). Temperatures in Harbin can get as low as -36° F. The city is famous for winter events including ice sculptures, skiing, and ice fishing.

At the southernmost point of China, in the warm waters of the South China Sea, lies the tropical island of Hainan, known as the "Hawaii of the East." Like Hawaii, Hainan is warm all year round. It is also a popular tourist destination, famous for its fresh seafood, tropical fruits, and beautiful beaches.

Being in the northern hemisphere like the US, China has a mostly temperate climate, with distinct seasons of summer, fall, winter, and spring. This means that in many regions of China, people face extremes of both heat and cold. In the northern half of the country, the government provides central heating from November until



▲ water heat radiator



- Subarctic** — very short, cool summers; long, severe winters; brief springs and autumns; modest precipitation
- Humid Continental, Cool Summer** — short, mild summers; long, cold winters; rain greatest in summer; heavy snowfall
- Semiarid (Steppe)** — short, hot summers; long, cold winters; little rain or snow
- Humid Continental, Warm Summer** — long, warm summers; short, cold winters; rain greatest in summer; snow in winter
- Arid (Desert)** — long, very hot summers; short, cool winters; sparse rain
- Highlands** — local climates vary with altitude and exposure.
- Humid Subtropical** — long, warm summers with heavy rain; short, mild winters with lighter rainfall
- Tropical Wet, Rainforest** — uniformly high temperatures with no winters; heavy rainfall distributed throughout year with no distinct dry season

March, or longer depending on the weather. South of the Huai River, or about the 33rd parallel, people must pay for their own heating, so they often rely on space heaters. Indoor temperatures in coastal cities like Shanghai can get quite chilly during winter nights without central heating!

Keeping cool in China can be a challenge too, especially in the country's hottest cities, such as Chongqing, Wuhan, and Nanjing, known traditionally as the "Three Furnaces" (三大火炉). Central air conditioning in Chinese homes is rare, except in some large apartment complexes. To beat the summer heat, people use electric fans and window or wall air conditioning units. Outside, they often carry umbrellas to shade themselves from the sun's burning rays.



▲ A Chinese girl uses umbrella to prevent sunshine.

Comparisons

What the climate like in your city or state? How do you keep warm or cool?

6

文化动动脑

Wénhuà Dòng.x nǎo

Culture Check-up


Answer the following questions.

1. Which province of China has a cold climate like that of Minnesota?
2. In what city can temperatures drop to -36°F ?
3. Which part of China is called the "Hawaii of the East"?
4. In which area of China is heat provided by the government?
5. What kind of heating and cooling equipment is used in many Chinese homes?

13

现在几度? Xiànzài jǐ-dù? *What temperature is it?*

Interpersonal Speaking

 With a partner, take turns asking for and giving the temperature according to the chart. Follow the model.

Li.zi: A: 星期一几度? Xīngqīyī jǐ-dù?

B: 星期一十八度。 Xīngqīyī shíbā-dù.


星期一	星期二	星期三	星期四	星期五	星期六	星期日
6/15	6/16	6/17	6/18	6/19	6/20	6/21
18°C	19°C	17°C	15°C	20°C	22°C	21°C
6/22	6/23	6/24	6/25	6/26	6/27	6/28
22°C	21°C	23°C	24°C	24°C	23°C	25°C



14

四季活动 Sì-jì Huódòng *Four-Season Activity*

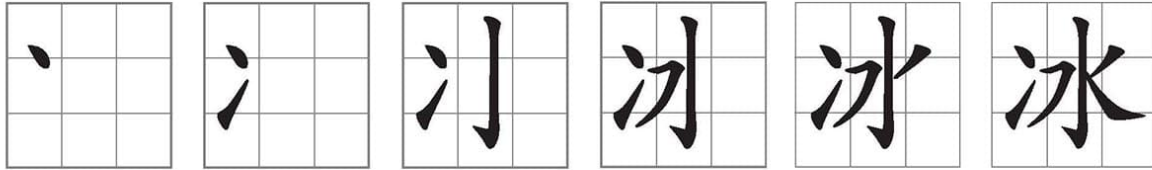
Interpersonal Speaking

 Working in small groups, talk about the activities you enjoy during different times of the year according to the season. Include details such as when and with whom you do an activity, what the weather is like at that time of year, and why you like the activity.

冰 ■ bīng ■ ice

The Chinese character for “ice” is 冰 *bīng*, which is a combination of the ideograph (on the left) resembling two ice blocks and the pictograph (on the right) 水 *shuǐ*, meaning water, indicating that ice comes from water.

Stroke Order



15

词汇延伸

Cíhuì Yánshēn / Vocabulary Builder

Below are some characters that can be combined with 冰 *bīng* to create new words. Match the Chinese words on the left with the appropriate English meaning on the right.

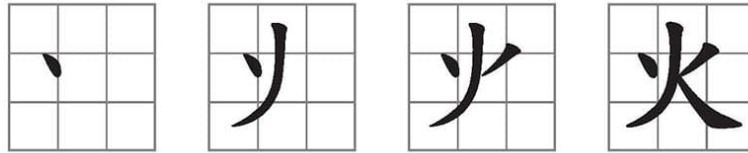
箱 xiāng box	山 shān mountain	棒 bàng stick	鞋 xié shoes	冻 dòng to freeze
----------------	--------------------	-----------------	----------------	---------------------

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. 冰箱 bīngxiāng | A. ice skates |
| 2. 冰山 bīngshān | B. iceberg |
| 3. 冰棒 bīngbàng | C. refrigerator |
| 4. 冰鞋 bīngxié | D. popsicle |
| 5. 冰冻 bīngdòng | E. frozen |

火 ■ huǒ ■ fire

The pictograph 火 *huǒ* means “fire.” Its earliest form was 𤇀, meaning “flames.” As it evolved, its lines became more linear. Today’s character for fire is also a common radical for words related to fire. When 火 *huǒ* is used as a radical, it can be also written as 灬, e.g. 热 *rè* (hot).

Stroke Order



14

词汇延伸

Cíhuì Yánshēn

Vocabulary Builder

Below are some characters that can be combined with 火 *huǒ* to create new words. Match the Chinese words on the left with the appropriate English meaning on the right.

柴 <i>chái</i> firewood	腿 <i>tuǐ</i> leg	车 <i>chē</i> vehicle	花 <i>huā</i> flower	药 <i>yào</i> medicine
---------------------------	---------------------	-------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. 火柴 <i>huǒchái</i> | A. ham |
| 2. 火腿 <i>huǒtuǐ</i> | B. spark |
| 3. 火车 <i>huǒchē</i> | C. train |
| 4. 火花 <i>huǒhuā</i> | D. match |
| 5. 火药 <i>huǒyào</i> | E. gunpowder |



4

关键词

Guānjiàncí / Keywords

Interpretive Communication

Complete each statement according to the dialogue.

1. 林书芳在 ____。 Lín Shūfāng zài ____.
2. 董军觉得包粽子 ____。 Dǒng Jūn jué.de bāo-zòng.zi ____.
3. 林书芳说包粽子 ____ 难。 Lín Shūfāng shuō bāo-zòng.zi ____ nán.
4. 她觉得包粽子很 ____。 Tā jué.de bāo-zòng.zi hěn ____.
5. 因为__要到了,所以林书芳包粽子。 Yīn.wèi __ yào dào .le, suǒ.yǐ Lín Shūfāng bāo-zòng.zi.
6. 端午节的时候,除了吃粽子以外,中国人还 ____。
Duānwǔjié .de shí.hòu, chú.le chī-zòng.zi yǐwài, Zhōngguó rén hái ____.
7. 划龙舟是一种 ____ 比赛。 Huá-lóngzhōu shì yì-zhǒng ____ bǐsài.
8. ____ 星期一是端午节。 ____ Xīngqīyī shì Duānwǔjié.
9. 林书芳要带董军去看 ____。 Lín Shūfāng yào dài Dǒng Jūn qù kàn ____.
10. 他们 ____ 在林书芳家见。 Tā.men ____ zài Lín Shūfāng jiā jiàn.

文化橱窗

Wénhuà Chúchuāng

Culture Window

Dragon Boat Festival

The annual Dragon Boat Festival falls on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month, and is one of the three major Chinese festivals, together with the Spring Festival and Mid-Autumn Festival. In 2006, the Chinese government placed the Dragon Boat Festival on their first National Cultural Heritage list, and in 2009 requested that the United Nations include the Dragon Boat Festival on the World Cultural Heritage list, and it was approved.

This festival originated as a way to commemorate the ancient poet, Qu Yuan (340 B.C.-278 B.C.), who was a minister of the Chu State during the Warring States Period. He was very loyal, and was well loved by the emperor. However, this made other people jealous, so they spoke badly of Qu Yuan in front of the emperor. In the end, the emperor exiled Qu Yuan, and in his grief and worry over the state of affairs of his country, he tied rocks to his body and drowned himself in a river on the fifth of May on the lunar calendar. Because the citizens of his country admired Qu Yuan's patriotic spirit, they hurried to the river to look for his body as soon as they heard what had happened. But they couldn't find his body, so to keep the shrimp and fish from destroying his body, they filled bamboo shoots with sticky rice and threw them into the river for shrimp and



▲ Traditional shape of zongzi.

fish to eat while making a lot of noise to scare them away. Henceforth, people ate rice dumplings (粽子 *zòng.zi*) and rowed dragon boats on the lunar fifth of May each year to remember Qu Yuan.

Zongzi are made of sticky rice and other ingredients that are wrapped in bamboo leaves. There are many different kinds of dumplings. For example, some are sweet, and some are salty. People eat them while enjoying the dragon boat races. The Dragon Boat is a boat carved out of wood in the shape of a dragon, and is usually rowed by a crew of 21 people (18 rowers, 1 drummer, 1 helmsman, 1 flag-snatcher). Apart from watching the races by the river, television broadcasts also make it possible for the whole family to watch the races together on TV at home.

There are other Dragon Boat Festival customs apart from eating zongzi and dragon boat competitions, such as hanging Calamus and Artemisia plants on doors to keep the bugs and evil spirits at bay. Traditionally, the Chinese placed antibacterial herbs into cloth sachets, called 香包 *xiāngbāo*, and wore them around their necks to ward off bugs and germs. Because of the advances in medicine since then, people now wear scented sachets for good luck. There is also an “egg standing” activity that takes place during the Dragon Boat Festival. It is believed that people who succeed in making an egg stand on its own on this day will have good luck.



▲ Eggs “stand up” at noon on the day of the Dragon Boat Festival.

5

文化动动脑

Wénhuà Dòng.x nǎo

Culture Check-up

On a separate sheet of paper, write a short answer in English for each question.

1. What are the three major traditional Chinese festivals?
2. When is the Dragon Boat Festival?
3. In which year did the Chinese government place the Dragon Boat Festival on the National Cultural Heritage list?
4. The Dragon Boat Festival is a festival to remember which person, and why?
5. What is *zongzi*?
6. What kind of activity is dragon boat rowing?
7. Why do people eat zongzi and row dragon boats during the Dragon Boat Festival?
8. Why do people hang Calamus and Artemisa plants on doors?
9. What are “scented sachets” used for?
10. What do people believe will happen to people who succeed in standing an egg on its end during the Dragon Boat Festival?

Comparisons

Can you name an American holiday that celebrates or honors a person or people in history? Are there any special traditions or customs that people follow on that holiday?

13 词汇延伸 Cíhuì Yáns hēn / Vocabulary Builder

Below are some characters that can be combined with 心 *xīn* to create new words. Match the Chinese words on the left with the appropriate English meaning on the right.

脏 zàng <i>n. internal organ</i>	情 qíng <i>n. feelings</i>	意 yì <i>n. intention</i>	爱 ài <i>v. to love</i>	静 jìng <i>adj. quiet</i>
------------------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------	-----------------------------

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. 心脏 xīnzàng | A. mood |
| 2. 心情 xīnqíng | B. beloved |
| 3. 心意 xīnyì | C. wish |
| 4. 心爱 xīn'ài | D. heart |
| 5. 心静 xīnjìng | E. calm |

14 汉字侦探 Hànzì Zhēntàn / Visual Detective

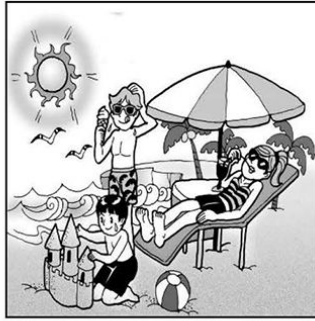
Can you find 心 in the following pictures?



Unit 5 Lesson B

1 Match each picture to its corresponding season and weather condition.

1. 春天 chūntiān ◆



◆ 热 rè

2. 夏天 xiàtiān ◆



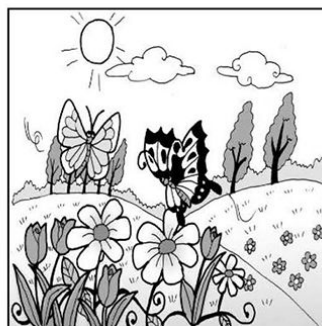
◆ 凉 liáng

3. 秋天 qiūtiān ◆



◆ 温暖 wēnnuǎn

4. 冬天 dōngtiān ◆



◆ 冷 lěng

2 Look at the thermometers, and write the temperature with the correct unit of measurement (Celsius or Fahrenheit).

Li.zi:



摄氏二十一度。Shèshì èrshí sān dù.

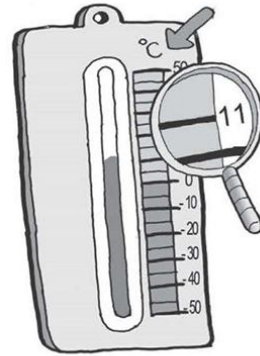
1.



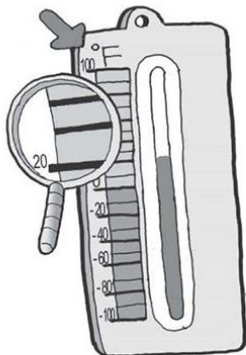
2.



3.



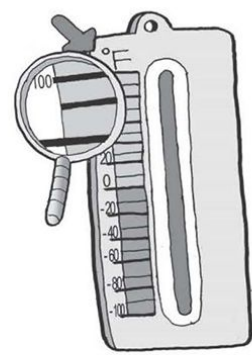
4.



5.







6.



Unit 5 Lesson C

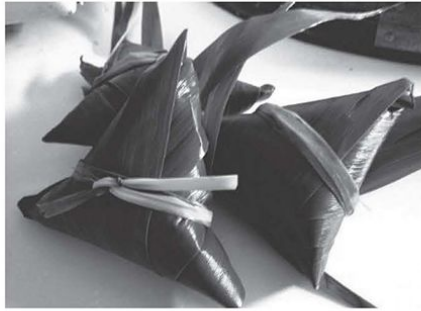
1 Draw a line from each picture to its corresponding festival and date.

<p>1. 春节 ◆ Chūnjié</p>		<p>◆ 一月一号 Yīyuè yī hào</p>
<p>2. 元宵节 ◆ Yuánxiāojié</p>		<p>◆ 五月五号 Wǔyuè wǔ hào</p>
<p>3. 中秋节 ◆ Zhōngqiūjié</p>		<p>◆ 一月十五号 Yīyuè shíwǔ hào</p>
<p>4. 端午节 ◆ Duānwǔjié</p>		<p>◆ 八月十五号 Bāyuè shíwǔ hào</p>

Unit 5 Lesson D

1 Draw a line from each picture to its corresponding festival and date.

1. 端午节 ◆
Duānwǔjié



◆ 七月七号
Qīyuè qī hào

2. 七夕 ◆
Qīxī



◆ 五月五号
Wǔyuè wǔ hào