

# Lesson 7

## Active Vocabulary

昔	<i>xī</i>	formerly
凡	<i>fán</i>	all
彼	<i>bǐ</i>	that
當	<i>dāng</i>	suitable, ought; now, at the time
對	<i>duì</i>	face toward, reply
卻	<i>què</i>	however
否	<i>fǒu</i>	or not
尚	<i>shàng</i>	still
方	<i>fāng</i>	when, then
鄰	<i>lín</i>	neighbor
嚴	<i>yán</i>	strict, serious
器	<i>qì</i>	utensil, vessel
群	<i>qún</i>	flock, group, crowd
篇	<i>piān</i>	section of a book
講	<i>jiǎng</i>	talk, discuss
危	<i>wēi</i>	danger
寒	<i>hán</i>	cold
暑	<i>shǔ</i>	hot
智	<i>zhì</i>	wisdom, wise
勇	<i>yǒng</i>	brave
敗	<i>bài</i>	defeat; be defeated
主	<i>zhǔ</i>	lord, master; important; be in charge
賢	<i>xián</i>	worthy
直	<i>zhí</i>	straight, direct

住	<i>zhù</i>	stand, stop
塵	<i>chén</i>	dust
香	<i>xiāng</i>	fragrant
淚	<i>lèi</i>	tears
恐	<i>kǒng</i>	fear
殘	<i>cán</i>	leftover, injured
詞	<i>cí</i>	words; lyric poetry

## Proper Names

孟母	<i>Mèng Mǔ</i>	Mencius' Mother (who moved three times to find a good environment in which her son could grow up)
四書	<i>Sì Shū</i>	<i>The Four Books</i> (Basic Confucian texts) 大學，中庸，論語，孟子
齊	<i>Qí</i>	Early Chinese kingdom
孫子	<i>Sūn Zǐ</i>	early military strategist
李清照〔女〕	<i>Lǐ Qīngzhào</i>	Song dynasty poet (1084?-1151?)

## Vocabulary Notes

### 1. 昔 *xī*

*Xī* means “formerly,” “in the past.”

昔者	in the past
昔日	in former days
昔年	in former years

### 2. 凡 *fán*

*Fán* means “all,” “in all cases.”

凡事	all matters
凡禮之禮主於敬	All the forms of ritual are ruled by respect.
凡人莫不好言其所善	Everyone likes to talk about what he thinks is good.

### 3. 彼 *bǐ*

*Bǐ* means “that.” It is often contrasted with 此 or 是 “this.” Referring to a person it means “he/she/they.”

彼出於是，是亦因彼。	That emerges from This, and This is a result of That.
若彼知之我計敗矣。	If he finds out about it, my plan will fail.
彼與彼年相若也。	They are about the same age as each other.

### 4. 臣 *chén*

*Chén*, meaning “government minister,” was introduced in Lesson 3. It is typically contrasted with 君 “lord.” Sometimes *chén* is also used by a subordinate to refer humbly to himself, “I, your servant,” just as *jūn* sometimes means “you, sir.”

君使臣，臣事君，如之何

How should a lord utilize his minister, and a minister serve his lord?

臣聞求木之長者必固其本

I have heard that someone who seeks to make a tree grow tall must first secure its roots.

### 5. 當 *dāng*

*Dāng* can mean “ought,” or “correct,” or “at [a particular time].”

當是時	at this time; at that time
當時之王	the kings of that time
每年當有數千萬	There ought to be several hundred thousand each year.

君子之事君也，務引其君以當道

The way for a Gentleman to serve his lord is to lead him in the right way. (務 wù—duty; 引 yǐn—lead, draw)

此愁當告誰 Whom should I tell this sorrow to?

6. 對 *duì*

*Duì* means “to face [someone or something].” By extension it means “reply.”

對飲 drink together

對敵 face an enemy, fight

孟子對曰： Mencius replied:

對面不相見 The two sides did not see each other.

7. 卻 *què*

*Què* means “however.”

子得半日閑，我卻忙了三日

You got half a day’s leisure, but I have been working for three days.

此卻非古人之道矣

But this is not the way of the ancients.

8. 否 *fǒu*

*Fǒu* means “or not.” It often appears in one of the following combinations:

是否 Is it or isn’t it?

知否 Do you know or not?

能否 Can you or not?

可否 Is it possible or not?

9. 尚 *shàng*

*Shàng* means “still.”

尚未能知 still can’t know

尚亦有利哉 It is still beneficial.

吾固願見，今吾尚病

I certainly want to see [the king], but today I am still ill.

10. 方 *fāng*

As a particle, *fāng* means “then,” “only then.”

方知 then he knew

方可回矣 Only then could he return.

## Introduction to Classical Literary Forms and Works, Part II

### A. Treatises: Sun Zi's *Art of War*

Two kinds of prose introduced so far are anecdotes and selections from the collected sayings of early philosophers. Another kind of prose work is the treatise or essay, in which an author sets out to discuss a particular issue at some length in an organized way. One of the earliest such works in Chinese is Sun Zi's *Art of War* 孫子兵法, from which we have a selection in this lesson. The *Art of War* has remained popular in China for over two millenia, and is now often read in business schools in the US and Asia because of the insights it offers into the strategies of attaining one's goals with the least injury to oneself.

### B. Lyric poetry (*Cí* 詞)

Most of the poems in the previous lessons of this textbook have been *shī* 詩. The golden age of the *shī* was the Tang dynasty, about the seventh through the ninth centuries A.D. After that, though *shī* continue to be written, a new form called *cí* 詞 grew and flourished beside it. *Cí* means "words," and *cí* were originally lyrics ("words") to songs sung in places of entertainment. The number and length of lines of *cí* varied according to the length and rhythm of the melodies to which they were sung. As a result, there are hundreds of forms of *cí*, corresponding to the metric requirements of the various tunes. The titles of these lyric poems are often simply the titles of the original tunes, and may have no connection at all with the content of the words in the given poem. In contrast to *shī*, which often describe serious subjects in an edifying tone, *cí* frequently describe the poet's emotions; many *cí* are love poems. The poems by Li Qingzhao in this lesson are *cí*, as are the poems by Bai Juyi and Li Yu in Lesson 2.

### C. Regulated Verse (*Lǜ shī* 律詩)

The last poem in this lesson, by Li Shangyin, is an eight-line *shī* which follows strict rules of tonal matching and grammatical parallelism. This kind of *shī*, which may have lines of five characters or seven characters, is known as Regulated Verse, or *Lǜ shī*. Li Shangyin's poem is a 七言律詩.

### D. Children's Primers: *San Zi Jing* 三字經

A number of simple books for children became standard works which virtually all beginning students in traditional schools over the past millenium had to memorize. The three most important children's primers are:

- 1) The *Sān Zì Jīng* 三字經 or *Three Character Classic*, so called because each of

its lines is composed of three characters. This work contains fundamental moral teachings as well as general facts of history, geography, the natural world, and so forth. Selections appear in this lesson.

2) The *Qiān Zì Wén* 千字文 or *Thousand Character Text*, a work of a thousand characters, none of which is repeated, which serves as a vocabulary builder for young students.

3) The *Bǎi Jiā Xìng* 百家姓 or *Hundred Names*, which is nothing more than a list of common surnames.

## Exercises

### Selections from the *Three Character Classic* 三字經

人之初，性本善。性相近，習相遠。  
苟不教，性乃遷。教之道，貴以專。  
昔孟母，擇鄰處。子不學，斷機杼。  
養不教，父之過。教不嚴，師之惰。  
子不學，非所宜。幼不學，老何為？  
玉不琢，不成器。人不學，不知義。  
為人子，方少時，親師友，習禮儀。  
為學者，必有初。小學終，至四書。  
論語者，二十篇。群弟子，記善言。  
孟子者，七篇止。講道德，說仁義。

苟	<i>gǒu</i>	if
遷	<i>qiān</i>	move, change
擇	<i>zé</i>	select
機	<i>jī</i>	loom
杼	<i>zhù</i>	shuttle for weaving
惰	<i>duò</i>	lazy, remiss
宜	<i>yí</i>	suitable
幼	<i>yòu</i>	young
琢	<i>zhuó</i>	grind, polish
儀	<i>yí</i>	ceremony
弟子	<i>dìzǐ</i>	disciples
記	<i>jì</i>	record

## From Sun Zi's *Art of War* 孫子兵法

a) 孫子曰：兵者，國之大事。死生之地，存亡之道，不可不查也。故經之以五事，校之以計，而索其情。一曰道，二曰天，三曰地，四曰將，五曰法。

道者，令民與上同意，可與之死，可與之生，而不畏危也。天者，陰陽，寒暑，時制也。地者，遠近，險易，廣狹，死生也。將者，智，信，仁，勇，嚴也。法者，曲制，官道，主用也。凡此五者，將莫不聞，知之者勝，不知者不勝。

b) 故曰：知彼知己，百戰不殆。不知彼而知己，一勝一負。不知彼，不知己，每戰必敗。

### Biographical Note:

孫子，名武，春秋齊人也。善用兵。有孫子兵法十三篇。

查	<i>chá</i>	investigate
經	<i>jīng</i>	理也
校	<i>jiào</i>	比較也
索	<i>suǒ</i>	求也
情	<i>qíng</i>	事實也
制	<i>zhì</i>	control, limit
險	<i>xiǎn</i>	dangerous
狹	<i>xiá</i>	narrow
曲制	<i>qūzhì</i>	organization
殆	<i>dài</i>	perilous
負	<i>fù</i>	give in, submit
武	<i>wǔ</i>	military; (Sun Zi's given name)



## Zhuang Zi's Butterfly Dream 莊子 蝴蝶夢

昔者莊周夢為蝴蝶，栩栩然蝴蝶也。自喻適志與，不知周也。俄然覺，則蘧蘧然周也。不知周之夢為蝴蝶與，蝴蝶之夢為周與。周與蝴蝶，則必有分矣。此之謂物化。

蝴蝶	<i>húdié</i>	butterfly
周	<i>Zhōu</i>	莊子名周
栩栩然	<i>xǔxǔrán</i>	fluttering
喻	<i>yù</i>	understand
適	<i>shì</i>	reach, suitable
與	<i>yú</i>	final particle (interrogative or exclamatory)
俄然	<i>érán</i>	suddenly
覺	<i>jué</i>	wake up
蘧蘧然	<i>qúqúrán</i>	definitely

## Poem by Hè Zhīzhāng 賀知章 (659-744)

### 回鄉偶書

少小離家老大回，鄉音無改鬢毛衰。  
兒童相見不相識，笑問客從何處來。

偶	<i>ǒu</i>	by chance
音	<i>yīn</i>	sound, accent
鬢	<i>bìn</i>	hair on the temples
衰	<i>shuāi</i>	fade, decline
兒童	<i>értóng</i>	young boy

## Yanzi Serves as Ambassador to Chu 晏子使楚，from 晏子春秋

晏子使楚，以晏子短，楚人為小門於大門側，而延晏子。晏子不入，曰：「使狗國者，從狗門入。今臣使楚，不當從此門入。」僎者更道從大門入，見楚王。王曰：「齊無人耶？」晏子對曰：「臨淄三百閭，張袂成陰，揮汗成雨，比肩繼踵而在，何謂無人？」王曰：「然則子何為使乎？」晏子對曰：「齊命使各有所主，其賢者使賢王，不肖者使不肖王。嬰最不肖，故直使楚矣。」

晏子	<i>Yànzǐ</i>	人名，齊國大官
使	<i>shǐ</i>	serve as ambassador; ambassador
側	<i>cè</i>	邊也
延	<i>yán</i>	請也
僎	<i>bìn</i>	lead a guest
更	<i>gèng</i>	改也
耶	<i>yē</i>	虛字：乎也
臨淄	<i>Línzī</i>	既齊國都城
閭	<i>lú</i>	二十五家為一閭
張袂	<i>zhāng mèi</i>	extend sleeves
揮汗	<i>huī hàn</i>	brush off sweat
比肩	<i>bǐ jiān</i>	stand shoulder to shoulder
繼踵	<i>jì zhǒng</i>	follow close on one's heels
不肖	<i>bú xiào</i>	unworthy
嬰	<i>Yīng</i>	晏子名嬰

## Two Lyric Poems 詞 by Li Qingzhao 李清照

(Li Qingzhao, China's most famous woman poet, is known for her exquisite sensibility. The first poem here reflects her awareness of changes in the natural world; the second expresses sorrow at her husband's death.)

### a) 晚春 To the tune 如夢令

昨夜雨疏風驟，濃睡不消殘酒。試問捲簾人，卻道海棠依舊。  
知否，知否？應是綠肥紅瘦。

疏	<i>shū</i>	sparse, far apart
驟	<i>zòu</i>	sudden
濃	<i>nóng</i>	thick, muddy
消	<i>xiāo</i>	dissolve, melt
捲	<i>juǎn</i>	roll up
簾	<i>lián</i>	blind, curtain
海棠	<i>hǎitáng</i>	crabapple, a tree with pink or red flowers
肥	<i>fēi</i>	fat, plump

### b) 無題 To the tune 武陵春

風住塵香花已盡，日晚倦梳頭。物是人非事事休，欲語淚先流。  
聞說雙溪春尚好，也擬汎輕舟。只恐雙溪舴艋舟，載不動許多愁。

無題	<i>wútí</i>	untitled
武陵	<i>Wǔlíng</i>	地名
倦	<i>juàn</i>	tired
梳	<i>shū</i>	comb
休	<i>xiū</i>	rest, cease
雙溪	<i>Shuāngxī</i>	Double Stream [地名]
擬	<i>nǐ</i>	plan
汎	<i>fàn</i>	float, sail
舴艋	<i>zháměng</i>	type of small boat
載	<i>zài</i>	carry
許多	<i>xǔduō</i>	much

Poem by Zhang Ji 張繼 (768-830) 楓橋夜泊

月落烏啼霜滿天，江楓漁火對愁眠。  
姑蘇城外寒山寺，夜半鐘聲到客船。

楓	<i>fēng</i>	maple
橋	<i>qiáo</i>	bridge
泊	<i>bó</i>	moor a boat
烏	<i>wū</i>	crow, raven
啼	<i>tí</i>	bird call
漁	<i>yú</i>	to fish
眠	<i>mián</i>	sleep
姑蘇	<i>Gū Sū</i>	Suzhou (city)
寒山寺	<i>Hán Shān Sì</i>	Cold Mountain Temple
船	<i>chuán</i>	boat

Poem by Li Shangyin 李商隱 (813?-858) 無題

相見時難別亦難，東風無力百花殘。  
春蠶到死絲方盡，蠟炬成灰淚始乾。  
曉鏡但愁雲鬢改，夜吟應覺月光寒。  
蓬萊此去無多路，青鳥殷勤為探看。

蠶	<i>cán</i>	silkworm
絲	<i>sī</i>	silk
蠟炬	<i>làjù</i>	candle
灰	<i>huī</i>	ashes
乾	<i>gān</i>	dry
曉	<i>xiǎo</i>	dawn
鏡	<i>jìng</i>	mirror
鬢	<i>bìn</i>	hair at the temples
吟	<i>yín</i>	hum, intone
蓬萊	<i>Pénglái</i>	Island of Immortals
青鳥	<i>qīngniǎo</i>	bluebird, messenger of the immortals
殷勤	<i>yīnqín</i>	diligently
探	<i>tàn</i>	seek

## Chengyu

1. 玉不琢，不成器
2. 知彼知己，百戰不殆
3. 比肩繼踵
4. 彼一時，此一時
5. 仁者見仁，智者見智