

People in Asia have been using this special method for a long time. At first, people outside Asia did not trust this method. They did not think that it would help them. Now, it has become very popular around the world.

Unit 9 Albert Einstein

B : Albert Einstein is famous around the world. He is famous for his work in science. Many people think that he was the greatest scientist of the 20th century.

Einstein was born in Germany in 1879. His interest in science began when he was very young. Someone gave him a compass in 1884. Young Einstein was interested in how it worked. He wanted to learn science. He wanted to become a scientist.

Einstein tried to enter a top Swiss university. At first, he met with failure. He did not get a place. But Einstein did not give up easily. He applied again to the same university in the next year. This time he was successful. Einstein was a good student. He graduated from this famous university in 1896.

As a scientist, Einstein did important work in the field of physics. His work was very good. He received the Nobel Prize for physics in 1921. In 1933, he went to live in the United States with his wife.

Unit 10 The Telescope

G : Come and look at the telescope I got for my birthday.

B : That's neat!

G : Yeah, now we can look at the moon. Did you know that the moon is the Earth's only natural satellite?

B : No, I didn't know that. I thought the moon was a planet.

G : Well, a planet moves around the sun, but a satellite moves around a planet.

B : Oh, I see. Can you see other planets with your telescope?

G : Sure, I can see two planets close to Earth really well.

B : Which planet is closest to Earth?

G : Mars is the closest planet to Earth. Many scientists believe that Mars once had rivers and oceans just like Earth. Mars has two moons.

B : That's cool! What is the other planet near Earth?

G : The other planet near Earth is Venus, but Venus has no moons.

B : Do you think people will ever be able to visit Mars or Venus?

G : Maybe someday people will be able to visit Mars, but not Venus because it's too hot.

B : Well, at least we can see them with your new telescope!

Art and Culture

Unit 11 The Mona Lisa

G : What are you looking at, Billy?

B : This is a copy of my favorite painting. It's the *Mona Lisa* by Leonardo da Vinci.

G : Why is that your favorite painting?

B : Well, there are a few things that make the *Mona Lisa* great. First, she has no eyebrows. Second, she has a really beautiful smile. Most of all, I like the soft colors of the painting. Have you seen the *Mona Lisa* before? It is a very famous painting!

G : Of course! I've seen the painting a few times before. But I never noticed that her eyebrows are missing. I wonder why she has no eyebrows. Do you know why?

B : At the time da Vinci painted it, it was fashionable for young Italian girls to shave off their eyebrows. Every girl wanted to be fashionable.

G : Wow! That's really interesting! In what year was the *Mona Lisa* painted?

B : I think it was painted sometime between 1503 and 1505.

G : I wonder what a modern *Mona Lisa* would look like.

B : She might have purple hair!

Unit 12 Bang Yi

G : Once upon a time, there was a poor, kind man named Bang Yi. He had a rich but greedy brother. One day, Bang Yi asked his brother to give him some grain seeds to grow. His greedy brother gave Bang Yi some poisoned seeds.

Only one plant grew from the poisoned seeds, but Bang Yi was very happy. He took good care of the plant. Then, one afternoon, a bird came and stole the plant. Bang Yi chased the bird into the forest. In the forest, he saw two monsters using a magic stick to turn rocks into food. Bang Yi hid behind a big rock and watched the monsters. The monsters ate a lot of food. Soon, they became very sleepy. When the monsters had fallen asleep, Bang Yi took their magic stick. He became very rich!

Bang Yi's greedy brother went to the forest to find a magic stick for himself. The angry monsters saw him. They chased him deep into the forest. The greedy brother was never seen again.

Unit 13 Friendship Day

W: Friends are an important part of our lives. They help us in many ways. Do you tell your friends that you are glad they are your friends? Everyone should tell their friends that they are special.

Did you know that there is now a special day just for friends? This day is called National Friendship Day. The first Sunday in August was chosen to be National Friendship Day in 1935. This holiday is not as big as Christmas or New Year's Day. However, it is still a special day.

People are usually too busy to visit their friends often. But this day is different. On this day, people take time to tell their friends how much they care. They write cards or send emails to their friends. They may also call their friends, no matter how busy they are. People hug their friends or spend time with them.

There are many ways to show you care. You need not wait for a special day. Call your friends right now!

Unit 14 An Outdoor Exhibit

M: Do you like photographs?

W: What kind of photos?

M: Photos of plants and animals, for example. Or mountains and oceans.

W: The sort of photographs a nature magazine would publish.

M: That's right.

W: Of course! I love nature photos. They are very beautiful.

M: Some of them are very colorful.

W: Yes. Most nature photos are so interesting. Sometimes, I buy nature magazines just for the photos.

M: Me, too. I like taking nature photos with my camera. But they are not very good.

W: My photos are not good, either. Famous nature magazines only publish very good photos.

M: That's true. People must be very talented to get their photos published.

W: Yeah. Why are we suddenly talking about photographs? Is there an exhibit somewhere?

M: How did you guess? There is an outdoor exhibit going on right now.

W: Really?

M: Yes. Nature photographs from all over the world are on display.

W: That sounds great! I would love to see it.

M: Me, too. Would you like to go with me?

W: Sure. How about Sunday morning?

M: OK! It will be fun to see all those photos!

Unit 15 People Are Different!

W: There are more than six billion human beings in the world. Each one is different from all the others. No two people look exactly alike. People from one country may look the same in general. But they are not totally alike.

Most people in Vietnam have straight black hair and black eyes. But they all look different. People in America have straight hair, curly hair, or wavy hair. Their hair may be black, brown, yellow, or red. Some people have brown or gray eyes. Some have blue or green eyes. Even people in the same family look different from each other!