

**SLIDE NOTES FOR POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**  
**By Laurel Cadwallader**

**Slide 1:** This is a street in Shanghai, one of China's largest cities. There is one lane for bicycles and scooters, and another lane for cars, buses, and trucks. The sign is an advertisement for a local men's hospital.

**Slide 2:** This is a park in Shanghai early in the morning. Many people dance, sing, swim, walk their birds, or just hang out with their friends. This group is doing tai-chi exercises. The man on the left is leading the group.

*TEACHER NOTE:* Most people in the group are retirement age, which for women is 55 and for men is 60. Many groups assemble in public parks to exercise as early as 6 am. In addition to tai-chi, you can often find groups dancing the waltz and fox trot; performing Chinese folk-dance; singing Chinese opera and/or art songs; or practicing Chinese calligraphy on the sidewalks with long "water brushes." You may see individuals swimming in the lake, even in winter; or walking backwards; or yelling. All are traditional forms of exercise.

**Slide 3:** This is a normal restaurant meal in China. Eight people normally sit around a round table, with a round lazy susan (turntable) in the center. The seat of honor is the chair farthest from the door. Some banquets may serve twice as many dishes, while a family meal at home may have only two or three. To be polite, diners must eat a little of each dish. In the front is a dish of shrimp with snow peas; in the center is a dish of steamed wheat buns. All Chinese meals have one kind of cooked grain, such as rice, wheat noodles, dumpling skins, or steamed bread. Soup is served at the end of the meal, followed often by fruit.

**Slide 4:** This is another kind of Chinese restaurant. Ice cream costs 5 yuan (about 75 cents). McDonald's and Kentucky Fried Chicken are popular places to eat with your family, do homework after school, or have birthday parties.

**Slide 5:** This is a special lab at a school in Changzhou where students can learn more about science. Many students come here during breaks in their school day or for after-school clubs. This school's robotics team competes internationally and has been to the United States twice.

**Slide 6:** This is a middle-school English class. They are doing eye exercises before class starts. Girls and boys usually sit separately. The school day often lasts 12 hours, from 7:30 in the morning until 7:30 at night.

**Slide 7:** Ms. C is practicing Chinese calligraphy. Students learn to write with pencils and pens, so calligraphy is taught after school or in art class. Ms. C needs to learn 2,000-3,000 characters to be a good reader and writer.

**Slide 8:** This is a small factory in Changzhou where they have been making combs for many years. These women are painting beautiful decorations on the combs. The combs were so famous that empresses wore them.

**Slide 9:** This is an abacus. The ancient Chinese used it to add, subtract, multiply, and divide. Some people still use it today instead of a calculator.

**Slide 10:** This is a modern factory in Changzhou. Each worker gets paid about 1000 yuan a month, which is about \$130 (but considered a fair salary in China). Each coat costs \$260. Many clothes we wear come from developing countries like China, where people earn less money.

**Slide 11:** In the center of this fountain is a yin yang, a symbol of Daoism. Daoism is one of China's most important philosophies. The yin yang represents the importance of keeping life simple and balanced. *TEACHER NOTE:* The round, black and white design in the center of the fountain portrays the union of *yin* and *yang*, or female and male principles, which complement rather than oppose each other. The yin-yang diagram in turn is surrounded by the eight trigrams, familiar to us from *The Book of Changes*, or *Yi Ching*. These eight symbols are made up of combinations of broken and unbroken lines. The unbroken lines are *yang*, while the broken lines are *yin*. The eight trigrams represent four pairs of complementary opposites: *qian*, heaven and *kun*, earth; *zhen*, thunder and *suan*, wind; *kan*, water and *li*, fire; *gen*, mountains and *dui*, marshes. The yin-yang symbol plus the eight trigrams make up a symbol called the "tai-chi," meaning "supreme ultimate." The tai-chi is a graphic representation of how the ten thousand things of the universe evolved from primal unity, first splitting into yin-yang, and then through further combinations of *yin* and *yang* into everything else. It is a traditional East Asian symbol and is used on the flag of South Korea. Additionally, the red color of the fountain's base can be considered as *yang*, and the water as *yin*.

**Slide 12:** This is the Grand Canal at Changzhou. It was built beginning in 600 AD to connect northern and southern China. It is the oldest and longest canal in the world. The Grand Canal links the Yangtze river valley in south China, where most of China's rice is grown, with the Yellow River valley in north China, where most of China's capital cities have been located. It was also used to transport armies to defend China's borders.

**Slide 13:** This pagoda with 13 floors in Changzhou is the tallest in China. Pagodas honor Buddhas and traditional Chinese gods and help make a city beautiful and peaceful. Visitors come here to pray for good luck, success in business, success in education, and for children.

*TEACHER NOTE:* This pagoda honors a series of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, but it also includes images from Chinese folk religion, such as the God of Literature, and the God of Wealth. Traditionally, pagodas contained a holy relic, such as a tooth of the Buddha, and were considered to have a positive, calming effect on the surrounding landscape. The Changzhou pagoda, however, is a new hybrid type of pagoda, a reaction to China's rapid economic prosperity and the ability of city governments to raze old neighborhoods in the name of urban renewal. It is said to be the tallest pagoda in China, and it is the only one with banks of elevators that will take the visitor from the gift shop in the basement to the top. It overshadows the ancient Tianning Temple at its base, which is built in far better taste.

**Slide 14:** This is an ancient statue of Buddha in the pagoda. Buddhism is another important philosophy in China. Buddhists believe that you must stop wanting things and never hurt others in order to be happy. Many Buddhists do not eat meat.

*TEACHER NOTE:* The Buddha is shown flanked by his two disciples, Ananda and Kasyapa, with his right hand raised in the teaching *mudra*. Buddhists believe that human desires – for money, success, fame, etc. – are the major cause of human suffering, and that suffering can be eliminated by following the "eightfold path." Buddhist clergy and many laypersons avoid eating meat.

**Slide 15:** The Ming Dynasty started in Nanjing. This is a path to the tombs where the first Ming emperor, Zhu Yuanzhang, is buried. There are stone lions, camels, and other animals, as well as statues of important people, lining this "spirit avenue." After Zhu Yuanzhang, the Ming Dynasty moved its capital to Beijing, so the other emperors are buried there.

**Slide 16:** This is part of the city wall in Nanjing. Many cities in ancient China had walls built around them for protection, but many tore them down as they grew. Nanjing's wall took 200,000 people 21 years to build. The wall was 60 feet high and 20 miles around, the longest city wall in the world.

**Slide 17:** This is a statue of Confucius, a great Chinese philosopher. He believed that people should treat each other with respect and kindness to keep order in society. He is honored for his belief in education.

*TEACHER NOTE:* From the Han dynasty down to the Manchu Qing dynasty, Confucius was honored as a sage and the patron saint of education. The fall of the Manchu dynasty and China's weakness relative to foreign powers led to a period of thorough-going criticism of Confucius and the Confucian social system, in the first part of the twentieth century. Starting in the 1980s, the decline of Mao as a national symbol and the search for a new focus for nationalism has led to a modest Confucian revival. One of the best-selling books of 2007 was a new interpretation of Confucius' *Analects* by woman author Yu Dan.

**Slide 18:** During the Tang dynasty, the Chinese started a new system to choose government workers, based on education. Government jobs were valued because they were stable and respected, and officials could not be corporally (physically) punished. Students who wanted to work for the government stayed in a room like this for three days to work on a test. They got food in a lunchbox and used the bathroom in a special pot.

*TEACHER NOTE:* The Chinese examination system was the inspiration for civil service reform in Western countries in the 19th century, replacing corrupt bureaucracies created through patronage and making education a key opportunity for social mobility.

**Slide 19:** This is Chinese currency from the Han dynasty. These coins, called "cash," could be strung on a long string. Silver ingots, in the shape of a shoe, could be used for larger amounts. Paper currency was invented during the Yuan, or Mongol dynasty [1279-1368].

**Slide 20:** This student is demonstrating his skills in martial arts at the Liangjiadian primary school in Beijing. He can do amazing flips and kicks! He wants to be in the Chinese opera when he grows up.

*TEACHER NOTE:* The slide in the background reads "Warmly welcome the US education delegation."

**Slide 21:** Tea is an important drink in China. This woman at the Beijing School of Foreign Studies is showing us how to do a tea ceremony. The tall cups are for smelling the tea, and the shorter cups are for tasting it.

*TEACHER NOTE:* The Beijing School of Foreign Studies is a vocational school that trains hotel and restaurant workers and tourist guides.

**Slide 22:** This is the only middle school for migrant children near Beijing. It used to be a factory. There are over 500,000 migrant children in Beijing. Without registration papers, migrants don't have the right to go to normal schools. The characters on the school say "Believe in yourself," "Love the group," "Seek truth," and "Be creative."

*TEACHER NOTE:* Zheng Hong, the principal of the Dandelion School, graduated from Harvard Business School, but decided to return to China to begin this amazing project. Donations are greatly needed and a great service-learning opportunity for students. They can be securely made through the U.S.-based nonprofit World Education; see the Dandelion School's website at [www.dandelionschool.org/e\\_gi.htm](http://www.dandelionschool.org/e_gi.htm) for details.

**Slide 23:** This is my friend Yolanda at the Dandelion School. She is 13 and is from Hubei province (she's pointing there on the map). Her family came to Beijing to get better jobs. She wants to be a teacher when she gets older.

**Slide 24:** The Olympics were in Beijing in 2008. This is the stadium they were building in 2007 for the opening ceremonies and track events. Many migrant workers worked on buildings for the Olympics.

**Slide 25:** This is an example of where migrants to Beijing live. They are drying their laundry and eating lunch. Migrants work on constructing buildings, collecting garbage, and transporting vegetables from the country. Women migrants work cleaning hotels, taking care of children, or in factories.

**Slide 26:** This is the entrance to the Forbidden City, the emperor's palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties. People say it has 9,999.5 rooms. The emperor's family and thousands of servants lived here. Lions are often used to guard an important gate. The female lion is playing with a cub, and the male lion is playing with a ball. The picture is of Mao Tse Tung, who created the communist People's Republic of China and was the leader of China from 1949 to 1976.

*TEACHER NOTE:* This is the portrait of Chairman Mao at the Gate of Heavenly Peace (Tian'an Men), on the south side of the Forbidden City. The inscription on the left reads: "Long live the People's Republic of China." The inscription on the right reads: "Long live the unity of the people of the world."

**Slide 27:** This part of the Great Wall of China near Beijing was built by the Ming Dynasty. The first Great Wall of China, built in pieces and connected during the Qin Dynasty, is several hundred miles north. The length of the Great Wall is hard to estimate, since the wall is doubled in several places, but it is between 1,400 and 3,000 miles. The Ming dynasty wall runs from Shanhaiguan on the seacoast near Beijing to Yumenguan in the desert of western Gansu.

**Slide 28:** These women live in Jilin province in China, but they speak Korean and are wearing Korean dresses. Koreans are one of many different ethnic groups in a unified China. Koreans in China are well-educated and have their own schools and universities. Some other large ethnic groups are Tibetans, Zhuang, Hui, and Mongols.