

Unit 2 Nature speaks

Pronunciation

Scripts

1

1 stop 2 still

3 species 4 spring

5 skunk 6 skull

7 strange 8 strawberry

2

1 student 2 steal

3 spokesman 4 spoiled

5 skin 6 skirt

7 strap 8 strategy

Answers

2

1 student 2 steal

3 spokesman 4 spoiled

5 skin 6 skirt

7 strap 8 strategy

Listening to communicate

Conversation 1

Scripts

Jason: Hi, Li Ping. I learned a riddle in Chinese culture class today. It goes like this: What leaves live in the mountains, die in the pot, are stored in the jar and come back to life in the cup? Do you know what leaves they are?

Li Ping: Tea leaves, Jason. Do you know that tea leaves have been popular since the Ming and Qing dynasties?

Jason: Yeah, my teacher told us that.

Li Ping: Besides, tea was first discovered and drunk in China. Here, people have been drinking tea for thousands of years.

Jason: Interesting. So, do you drink tea every day?

Li Ping: Yes. Tea can keep me healthy and stop me from getting ill.

Jason: Nice. I've also learned from my teacher that tea culture is an important part of Chinese culture.

Li Ping: Correct. On special days, Chinese people use tea to express respect for other people. In daily lives, we simply make a pot of tea and enjoy ourselves.

Answers

1 1.C 2.B 3.C

2 1. stored 2. discovered 3. healthy 4. respect

Conversation 2

Scripts

W: Charles, did you travel from New York to Alaska?

M: Yes.

W: What is it like going from a big city to a place in the wilderness?

M: I really enjoyed it.

W: So, you are a person who loves nature.

M: Exactly. Actually I had problems when I came back. I missed the silence. Here, there is so much noise all the time, and I just couldn't stand it.

W: I feel the same. I also miss the quietness of the small town where I grew up.

M: Neither of us is a city person.

W: No. Would you like to move back to Alaska?

M: I'd love to. I miss nature.

W: I know how it feels. Maybe someday I will move back to the small town where I grew up. It's a cozy town.

M: Sounds good.

Answers

1 1. A 2. D 3. B

2 2, 6

Act-out

Answers

Conversation 1

- 1) I'm sorry to hear that
- 2) I know how it feels

Conversation 2

- 1) I'm so happy for you
- 2) I understand the pride
- 3) how excited I am for you, too

Listening to explore

News report

Scripts

China has recently included Five-Animal Exercises (*Wu Qin Xi*) on its list of national cultural heritages.

Wu Qin Xi is a set of exercises where people copy the way animals move. The five animals in *Wu Qin Xi* are tiger, deer, bear, monkey and crane. As part of traditional Chinese martial arts, *Wu Qin Xi* has a history of nearly 2,000 years. Hua Tuo is widely believed to have developed the first complete set of exercises. These exercises can help people live longer by preventing them from

getting ill.

Wu Qin Xi is easy to do, fun to practice, and helps people keep healthy. As a result, it is still practiced today by many people, not only in China, but in many other countries in the world.

Answers

1 1. D 2. C 3. B

2 1. traditional 2. developed 3. longer 4. easy

Passage 1

Scripts

Michael Jackson, the “King of Pop”, showed great concern in some of his songs over the problems of nature, including “Earth Song” and “Heal the World”.

“Earth Song” was his first song about environment and animal health, happiness and safety. In the MV of “Earth Song”, Michael Jackson sang for the sake of the environment, the wild animals and people’s homes.

In “Heal the World”, he expressed his idea that humans should do something good to make up for the bad things they have done to nature.

Michael Jackson loved nature deeply. He once said he could even feel Planet Earth’s pain. That’s why he called on people to protect nature and earth, where we all live, with his huge influence. As a result of his efforts, more and more people have been taking eco-friendly actions.

Answers

1 1. D 2. B 3. A

2 1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F

Passage 2

Scripts

Humans are often inspired by nature to create modern technology, the science about which is called bionics. It shows that man and nature are closely related to each other.

For example, human beings were inspired by birds to build the airplane; radar was invented thanks to bats; fireflies helped people invent brighter bulbs; humans learned to make ships and underwater boats from studying the way fish and dolphins move through water.

In addition to animals, plants also act as great inspiration. For example, people drew inspiration from lotus leaves which don’t stick to anything and made paint which doesn’t get wet or dirty; the invention of raincoats came from studying an oak tree.

Bionics has played a huge role in man’s daily lives, and people are learning more every day. Humans will possibly be closer to nature in the near future.

Answers

1 1. A 2. C 3. D

2 A-4 B-1 C-3 D-2

Sharing your ideas

Key for reference:

What is the invention?

Airplane

Who invented it?

Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first successful powered and piloted flight in history.

When and where was it invented?

Near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on December 17, 1903.

How was it invented?

The Wright brothers were fascinated with science and mechanics, and read about aeronautics and decided to pursue their dream of building the world's first heavier-than-air and controlled airplane. In 1899, they designed their first aircraft, a small and biplane glider flown as a kite. After they made the first successful flight, the Wright brothers continued to develop their fixed-wing flying machines. In 1909, the brothers founded the Wright Company to build and market their airplane.

What is it in nature that inspired the invention?

Birds in flight. The Wright brothers thought that the key elements of a flying machine were the wings, power lift and control. They had spent a lot of time observing birds in flight, and noticed that when birds soar into the wind, the air flowing over the curved surface of their wings created lift. Birds change the shape of their wings to move and turn skillfully. They believed that they could use this technique.

How has it been benefiting humans?

The Wrights used science to create one of the greatest cultural forces in human history. It has been benefiting the world greatly: It allows people to see the world and it creates millions of jobs across the globe. It is often the fastest way to get from one place to another, especially when long distances are involved. It helps us save a lot of time, so we can do more things.

What are the disadvantages, if any, of the invention?

There are flight delays; shorter flights can often take longer than driving, especially if they're not direct; airline travel is costly compared with other methods of travel; it can cause air pollution, thus being not quite eco-friendly.

Viewing to know

Scripts

Some call me Nature. Others call me Mother Nature. I've been here for over four and a half

billion years, 22,500 times longer than you. I don't really need people, but people need me. Yes. Your future depends on me. When I thrive, you thrive. When I falter, you falter, or worse. But I've been here for eons. I have fed species greater than you. And I have starved species greater than you. My oceans, my soil, my flowing streams, my forests. They all can take you or leave you. How you choose to live each day, whether you regard or disregard me doesn't really matter to me. One way or the other, your actions will determine your fate, not mine. I am Nature. I will go on. I am prepared to evolve. Are you?

Answers

Pre-viewing

- 1 Nature has oceans, soil, streams, rivers, and forests. For humans, almost everything they need for survival and thriving is provided by nature: food, water, medicine, materials for shelter, and even natural cycles such as climate. And beyond such physical goods, the natural world provides less tangible, but just as important, gifts in terms of beauty, art, and spirituality.
- 2 For the development of human society, especially the development in industry, humans have overused the natural resources and done damage to Nature. Nature is increasingly weakened by human activities. Consequently, the environment is deteriorating day by day. In the whole world, deforestation, climate change, pollution, extinction of animal and plant species are observed. All this, in return, will do harm to humans' survival.

While-viewing

- 1 D
- 2 1 Nature 2 worse 3 leave 4 determine

Post-viewing

Yes, I agree. To survive, humans should protect Nature. Because of deforestation, climate change, pollution, extinction of animals and plants, it seems that humans have little time left to survive on our dear planet earth. However, it is not too late: Some measures and behaviors can be adopted to protect Nature:

- Conserve water and energy;
- Try to eat locally (and it's often cheaper);
- Use recyclable shopping bags instead of plastic bags;
- Choose products without plastic packaging;

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Further listening

Conversation

Scripts

Andy: I feel sleepy in class, Sophie. But you're always energetic and you work well. How can you stay that way?

Sophie: Nothing special, Andy. I just drink a cup of coffee before class.

Andy: Surely coffee can do that!

Sophie: Yes. Speaking of coffee, do you know the story about where coffee comes from? It tells us

that coffee can help us stay awake.

Andy: Tell me the story.

Sophie: OK. Over 1,000 years ago, in Ethiopia, a shepherd named Kaldi discovered that after eating certain berries, his goats became energetic and active and they couldn't easily fall asleep at night.

Andy: That's so interesting!

Sophie: Yes. Kaldi told some people nearby. Those people made a drink with the berries, and found it kept them awake through the long evenings.

Andy: I see.

Sophie: You should try it, but don't drink too much of it!

Andy: OK. Thanks.

Answers

1.D 2.D 3.C

News report

Scripts

The number of monarch butterflies in Mexico has fallen in recent years. Every autumn, millions of monarch butterflies fly thousands of miles from Canada and the U.S. to Mexico. However, for a number of reasons, these beautiful butterflies may die out. The first reason is changes in the weather during the butterflies' journey: Cold weather is not good timing to give birth to butterflies. Second, farmers use herbicide. Herbicide makes adult butterflies less healthy and kills the only kind of food that monarch worms can eat. Third, people cut down trees in the forest for wood in Mexico. This means that some butterflies have fewer places to live. These butterflies will die out unless people in Mexico and other countries do something to help them.

Answers

1.B 2.C

Passage

Scripts

Nature often inspires architects and plays an important role in the design of buildings. A famous example is Antoni Gaudí, who expresses naturalism in his designs.

Antoni Gaudí, a well-known Spanish architect, often said "originality is returning to the origin". He believed nature was the origin. He took inspiration from different forms of animals and plants to design buildings. For example, the Church of the Holy Family has the curved lines of natural things like plants. A pillar inside has a tortoise at its base and another one has a turtle, designed to show the relationship between land and sea. Different kinds of natural forms can be seen everywhere in his buildings.

He also used natural materials such as stone and iron, to make muscle and bones of animals, such as those of the lizard, in the Park Güell.

Answers

1.A 2.D 3.D

Listening to appreciate

Scripts

Man and Nature

Poet Prasanna Kumari

As I walked along the path
Crushing grass under with wrath
That wanted to whisper sounds
Left unsaid beyond bounds

As I rested under the tree
One blue leaf fell on me
That wanted to conspire with light
Planning future far in sight

As I passed a well-known tree
One blue and blushing smile on me
That brought me back my youth
And sure, well did it soothe

As I passed the mountain still
Stopping wind to play on hill
Flirting flower and dancing deer
Lulling leaves all keep me near

As the brooding breeze did wink
And the fading sun did sink
Bringing me my memory past
Dissolving the moon at last

When I left a lasting sigh
Dancing waves did keep me high

Answers

- 1) sounds
- 2) future
- 3) sure
- 4) flower
- 5) past