



2021

外研社教学之星

HELLO FLTRP

# Content

01

Teaching Context

02

Teaching Method

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Teaching Design



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**Teaching Context**

# University

National research  
university

Double first-class  
initiative (Class A)

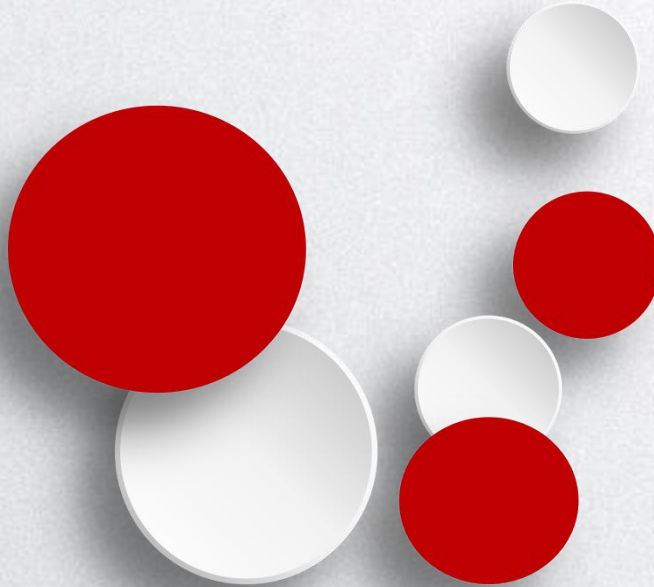
# Program

Tang Aoqing  
Honors Program

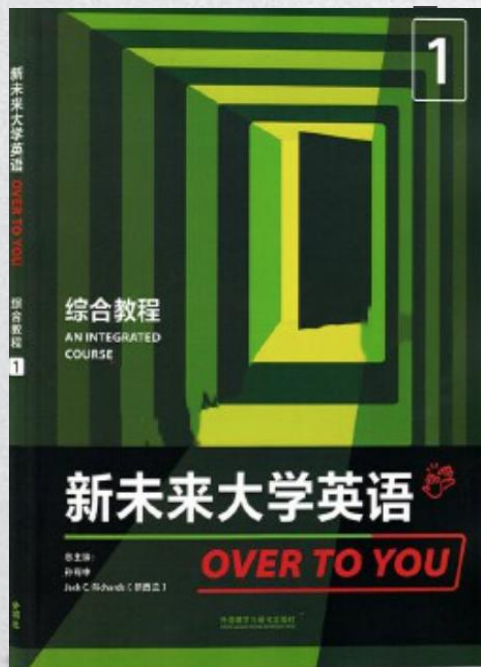
*(EVEREST Project,  
Ministry of Education)*

# Students

- STEM Freshman
- English Proficiency:  
CSE(Level 5)
  - Highly motivated
  - Proficient in  
speaking & reading,  
less proficient in  
writing



# Unit 6 Passing the Torch



*Sky-High Ambition to Fulfill  
an Unreachable Dream*



*Working Across the Age Gap*



2

Teaching Method

UBD

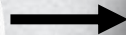
# Understanding by Design

Meaning making & transfer

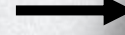
Backward design

Evidence-based instruction

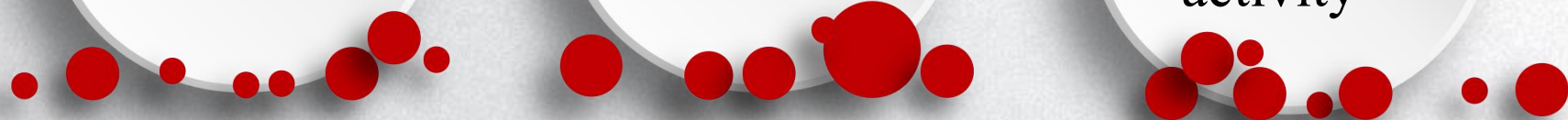
1. Identify  
desired  
results



2. Determine  
acceptable  
evidence



3. Design  
learning  
activity





3

**Teaching Design**



# I. Identify Desired Results

**Unit Learning Goal**

● Use appropriate strategies to narrate a life story

← Transferable

○ Refelct on how choices could shape one's life

← UNESCO, 2021

**Session Goal**

Identify genre features of biography  
Recognize strategies to narrate a life story

## II. Determine Acceptable Evidence

### Unit

Biography writing



Quiz & drill



Question & answer



Discussion worksheet



Self-evaluation checklist



...

### Parameter

- **Mode:**  
oral & written  
online & offline
- **Structure:**  
structural & non-structural
- **Time Investment:**  
short-term & long-term
- **Degree of Difficulty:**  
simple & complex

valid

Multi-type

Metacognitive  
(Hattie, 2015)

## II. Determine Acceptable Evidence

### Session

Question & answer



Discussion worksheet



### Assessment

- Teacher
- Cognitive
- Formative

# III. Design Learning Activity



Learning goal

Familiarity  
How does the text present Nan's life story?  
Complexity  
Density

Genre & strategy awareness

Illeris, 2016

## 1. Activating

Current news

“Sky-high” as a pun in the title

## 3. Summ

Genre

features of biography

Martin & Rose, 2008

## 5. Identifying & Analyzing

2-round activity

Comparison & Contrast

Dewey, 1938

## 2. Inferring

Form-mediated

Time circumstance

Transitivity system

Appraisal resources

## 4. Analyzing

Paper match game

Connect details with traits of personality



Write a biography about one individual of your grandparents' generation

A multimodal nonfiction book





4

**Highlights**

1 Backward design to ensure evidence-based teaching

2 Building genre & strategy awareness

3 Building empathy

4 Building multiple connections



却顾所来径，  
苍苍横翠微



## References

1. Dewey, J.(1938). *Experience and Education*. New York: Free Press.
2. Hattie, J. (2015). *可见的学习：最大程度地促进学习：教师版*. 北京：教育科学出版社.
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6. Wiggins, G., & ., Mctighe , J. (2011). *The Understanding by Design Guide to Creating High-Quality Units*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD.
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# The World Master of perseverance

“perseverance”

Nan Rendong

243,000



as object

# Title

Sky-high ambition to fulfill an “unreachable” dream

- What is his dream? **high into the air**
- Why is it unreachable? **pun**
- How did he fulfill it? **too high**
- What qualities must one have to fulfill one's unreachable dream?

# ***Objectives***

- **How does the author present Nan's life story as a dream-chaser?**
- **What strategies are used?**

# Activity 1

Read the form. This is the information extracted from the text—**time**, **verbs** and **attitudes**. Based on these signal words, *what can you infer about Nan's life?*

Read the following form. This is the information extracted from the text — time, verbs and attitudes. Based on these signal words, what can you infer about Nan's life?

Essay Structure	Time	Verbs	Attitudes & Affects
Introduction			persistent
Body	childhood	fell in love with; spent two decades trying to fulfill his dream	
	In early 1990s	giving up his position in Japan; returned to China to pursue his dream	a bold idea
	12 years (since 1994)	discovered the place; knew that he found what he was looking for	challenge
	March 2011 — 2016	(had to) deal with tough problems; (had to) climb up and down... assess the firmness... took care of; seemed to know everything ...himself led his team; overcoming one failure after another	
	September 25, 2016	insisted on being present; on site to see the telescope being completed...	
Conclusion		Nan had hoped to discover; believed...; lived a simple life; thought big and ran at full speed	with little concern dream-chaser extraordinary

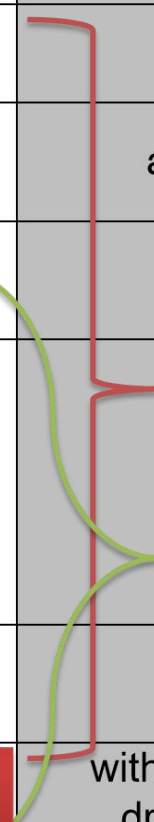
Essay Structure	Life Episodes	Verbs	Attitudes & Affects
Introduction			persistent
Body	childhood	fell in love with; spent two decades trying to fulfill his dream	
	In early 1990s	giving up his position in Japan; returned to China to pursue his dream	a bold idea
	12 years (since 1994)	discovered the place; knew that he found what he was looking for	challenge
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	September 25, 2016	insisted on being present; on site to see the telescope being completed...	
Conclusion	<b>Feature 1</b>	Nan had hoped to discover; believed...; lived a simple life; thought big and ran at full speed	with little concern dream-chaser extraordinary

**Biography**



Essay Structure	Life Episodes	Action Process mainly	Attitudes & Affects
Introduction			persistent
Body	childhood	fell in love with; spent two decades trying to fulfill his dream	a bold idea
	In early 1990s	giving up his position in Japan; returned to China to pursue his dream	
	12 years (since 1994)	discovered the place; knew that he found what he was looking for	challenge
	March 2011 — 2016	(had to) deal with tough problems; (had to) climb up and down... assess the firmness... took care of seemed to know everything ...himself led his team; overcoming one failure after another	Action Process
	September 25, 2016	insisted on being present; on site to see the telescope being completed...	Mental Process
Conclusion	Feature 1	Feature 2	with little concern dream-chaser extraordinary

**Biography**



**Action Process**

**Mental Process**

Essay Structure	Life Episodes	Action Process mainly	Attitudes with adj./n.
<b>Introduction</b>			<b>persistent</b>
<b>Body</b>	childhood	fell in love with; spent two decades trying to fulfill his dream	
	In early 1990s	giving up his position in Japan; returned to China to pursue his dream	a <b>bold idea</b>
	12 years (since 1994)	discovered the place; knew that he found what he was looking for	<b>challenge</b>
	March 2011 — 2016	(had to) deal with tough problems; (had to) climb up and down... assess the firmness... took care of seemed to know everything ...himself led his team; overcoming one failure after another	
September 25, 2016	insisted on being present; on site to see the telescope being completed...		
<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>Feature 1</b>	<b>Feature 2</b>	<b>Feature 3</b>

**Biography**



# *Genre Features of Biography*

- Follow a timeline to recount what an individual did in his **episodes of life**.
- Focus on **facts and details** about what one did by featuring **action process**.
- Use **attitude and affect** resources.

Nan's Qualities?

## Activity 2

Here is a pile of 5 pieces of paper, each with one detail about Nan.

What **qualities** do they suggest?

Which is the crucial one?

1. Giving up his well-paid position at one of the world's top scientific research institutes in Japan, Nan returned to China in 1994 to pursue his "unreachable" dream.

2. After 12 years of searching, Nan discovered the perfect place hidden away in the mountainous area of Pingtang County, Guizhou Province.

3. He had to climb up and down 100-meter-tall towers countless times and assess the firmness of the subsoil with his own feet.

4. Nan himself always led his team during the construction process, overcoming one failure after another.

5. This was to build a radio telescope 100 meters in diameter to explore the origins of the universe. At that time, the biggest such telescope in China was less than 30 meters across.

# Writing Strategy:

## Facts and Details Showing Nan's Qualities

1. Giving up his well-paid position at one of the world's top scientific research institutes in Japan, Nan returned to China in 1994 to pursue his "unreachable" dream.

2. After 12 years of searching, Nan discovered the perfect place hidden away in the mountainous area of Pingtang County, Guizhou Province.

3. He had to climb up and down 100-meter-tall towers countless times and assess the firmness of the subsoil with his own feet.

4. Nan himself always led his team during the construction process, overcoming one failure after another.

5. This was to build a radio telescope 500 meters in diameter to explore the origins of the universe. At that time, the biggest such telescope in China was less than 30 meters across.

## Activity 3

Read the excerpt from the text (Para. 2).

**What writing strategy has been used to stress Nan's persistence as a rare quality?**


1. When talking about dreams, many people naturally think back to their childhood dreams, which may have been destroyed by the passing of time. However, there are some who are persistent in pursuing their dreams.

- A. Definition
- B. Classification
- C. Illustration
- D. Comparison and contrast

# Writing Strategy: Comparison and Contrast


## Nan's Ambition

This was to build a radio telescope **500 meters in diameter** to explore the origins of the universe. At that time, the biggest such telescope in China was **less than 30 meters across**. (Para. 3)



## Nan's Competence

Nan personally took care of many technical details. Most of the scientists working on it were specialized in different fields, **but Nan seemed to know everything**. (Para. 6)



# Summary

- Write a **biography** to recount what Nan did in different episodes of life. (**genre features of biography**)
- ~~What are appropriate~~ **facts/details** to present **Nan's qualities.**
- Use **comparison and contrast** to highlight his uniqueness.

reachable

perseverance

*The Road Not Taken*

— Robert Frost

*I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took **the one less traveled by,**  
And **that has made all the difference***

Episode  
5

September 25,  
2016

4

March 2011  
-2016

Episode  
3

In early 1990s

2

Childhood

Episode  
1

12 years  
(since 1994)

# ***Unit Project***

**(due on Jan. 5 )**

- **Write a biography about one individual of your grandparents' generation**
- **A multimodal collection of nonfiction**

# ***Homework***

**(due on Dec. 12)**

- **Compare 2 versions  
(Textbook VS. China Daily)**
- **Finish the discussion worksheet**





*Thank You*