

Unit 1

Sports



Part A

Warm-up Questions



1. What is your favorite sport? Why do you like it so much?
2. Why do people like sports so much?
3. What do you think of Chinese football?

Word Pretest



Directions: For each word or expression in bold, choose the best meaning below.

1. We produced the best soccer of the **tournament**. Nobody will argue with that.
A) touring B) contest C) sports
2. There's a full program of entertainment, including the appearance of TV **celebrities**.
A) famous people B) celebrations C) ordinary people
3. Now both men are in the **twilight** of their careers.
A) dawn-light B) decline C) highlight
4. As he lay in his hospital bed that night, he cried as he **contemplated** his future.
A) cared about B) guessed at C) thought about
5. Wayne Rooney, the English football player, is too **uninspiring** off the football field.
A) interesting but not exciting
B) both interesting and exciting
C) neither interesting nor exciting
6. The Mayor made a **passionate** speech about the successful performance of the Super Girls when they toured to our city.
A) emotional B) pessimistic C) intensive
7. Vice-Chairman John Smith transformed GM's **ailing** European operations in the 1980s.
A) profitable and successful
B) problematic and unsuccessful
C) difficult yet very promising
8. Yao Ming, an NBA player from China, has **endorsement** deals with some industrial giants.
A) bonus B) donation C) sponsorship



Beyond Beckham

By Malcolm Beith

Nursing a broken foot, Wayne Rooney limped off the football field just 27 minutes into England's Euro 2004 quarter-final against Portugal. His tournament was over, but what a hard game it had been: Rooney had shot four goals and given his team the hope David Beckham had failed to provide. Surely the 18-year-old Rooney was the One, thought the football experts from Birmingham to Bangkok, the golden boy who would replace Beckham as the new face of football. But the **hype** died down as soon as the question of dollars translated into sense. Sure, Rooney is a very good player, declared one commentator, but what could he possibly sell—"potatoes?"

hype: 大肆渲染

In the Age of Beckham, it takes more than football skills to become a global football **icon**. A player's ability to sell team shirts, shaving cream and everything has become ever more crucial to a football club's ability to establish itself as a global brand. At the top of the food chain stands Beckham—the **sarong**-wearing star whose good looks, family-man image and celebrity status have helped sell everything from Gillette razors in the United States to Meiji Seika chocolates in Japan.

icon: 偶像

sarong: 马来人所穿的围裙

But all good things must come to an end, and the Age of Beckham is no exception. At 29, Beckham is entering the twilight of his career; the football industry is beginning to contemplate how to fill the void that his decline as a player and eventual retirement will create. Indeed, that question was on the minds of many of the world's club bosses and marketing executives who attended the annual football trade fair in Dubai, **United Arab Emirates** in early December 2004. **Newcastle United** chairman Freddy Shepherd declared frankly that Manchester United had lost some of its "stardust" since letting Beckham transfer to

United Arab Emirates: 阿拉伯联合酋长国

Newcastle United: 纽卡斯尔联队

Real Madrid: 皇家马德里队

Gucci: 世界著名时装品牌

pug-faced: 哈巴狗脸的

Liverpudlian: 利物浦人

merchandising: 商业化的

Kazuyuki Toda: 户田和幸(日本足球运动员)

Hidetoshi Nakata: 中田英寿(日本足球运动员)

Rupert Murdoch: 鲁珀特·默多克(美籍澳裔新闻媒体巨头)

Real Madrid in 2003. Now the whole industry is worried about losing its brightness.

There is no obvious candidate to fill Beckham's **Gucci** shoes. Rooney, 19, is too uninspiring off the field; the **pug-faced Liverpudlian** has only local appeal and lacks a celebrity reputation. The same goes for Real Madrid's Michael Owen, although he's cute enough to female fans. Other stars, like Manchester United's Portuguese passionate Cristiano Ronaldo, Italian Francesco Totti of AS Roma, Argentine wonder boy Javier Saviola of Monaco and Arsenal's No. 1 Frenchman Thierry Henry have potential. But their global range is limited by one important factor: "They don't have the English-language feature," says Dominic Malcolm, a sports-economics lecturer at the University of Leicester and author of *The Future of Football*. Speaking English has come to be regarded as a vital asset for any footballer hoping to win over fans from Buenos Aires to Bangkok. It is generally believed that the next Beckham may well have to be English or American, just as most global pop icons are.

The lack of such a figure is leading European club executives and sponsors to concentrate on filling region-specific marketing needs, particularly in Asia, which is now seen as the **merchandising** gold mine that could help bring Europe's ailing teams out of the red. When Crystal Palace signed Chinese stars Fan Zhiyi and Sun Jihai in 1998, the club's products flew off shelves across China, and created instant brand-name recognition. Tottenham enjoyed a similar effect with Japanese striker **Kazuyuki Toda** last year, as did Parma with Japanese star **Hidetoshi Nakata**, who is now at Fiorentina. "We're seeing players signed in Europe because of the commercial opportunity they open up," says Malcolm. "It enables a football club as a brand to expand into a market." Consider this: When Chinese star Li Tie's Everton plays against Manchester City, where Sun Jihai now plays, an estimated 300 million Chinese watch the match (less than 1 million Brits tune in—and that's if **Rupert Murdoch's** BSkyB chooses to broadcast it).

Some critics argue that teams are sacrificing quality in this quest

to build international brands. Many of the Asian players transferred to Europe have failed dismally on the field—Toda, for instance, played just four games before being sent back to a Japanese club. This prompted **Mohammed bin Hammam**, the head of the Asian Football Confederation, to accuse European clubs of exploiting Asian players as “slaves” for commercial purposes earlier this year, demanding instead that they hire Asians on playing ability alone. Nevertheless, some teams are going out of their way to help raise player quality along with their reputations; Stockport County FC in Britain’s Division One plays annual exhibitions in China and offers training scholarships to local players. “Recruiting players has to be purely about talent,” says a former executive of one big-name English club. “If the player has marketing value, it’s a bonus—but not the reason. If you do that you start to endanger the integrity of sporting principles.”

Mohammed bin Hammam: 默罕默德·本·哈马姆 (亚足联主席)

Perhaps, but these principles have largely died in recent years, as satellite television dragged football from its local, small roots and transformed it into a multibillion-dollar industry that favored branding over ball skills. As the footballing world moves into a new era, desperately seeking its new cash cow—or cows—few clubs or sponsors are listening to the old timers. Some still dream of finding the One, perhaps in an American like **Washington DC United’s** 15-year-old Ghanaian-born Freddy Adu, who has **endorsement deals** with everyone from Nike to Campbell’s soup, and has helped raise attendance at his games this past season to 50 percent above average. “It may be that the person who rivals Beckham is going to be the person most closely linked to the American team when it eventually wins the World Cup,” speculates Malcolm.

Washington DC United: 华盛顿特区连队
endorsement deals: 资助合同

Others think that’s not likely ever to happen. So, when Beckham finally fades into the history books, as Bill Gerard, a professor of sports management and finance at Leeds University Business School, puts it, “it will be a case of ‘The king is dead. Long live the king.’” The new ruler may face an altogether different kind of kingdom.

(987 words)

I. Text Comprehension

➤ **Directions:** *According to the text, decide whether each of the following statements is true or false. Write T in front of the true statement and F in front of the false one.*

- ___ 1. Rooney was surely to replace Beckham as the new face of football.
- ___ 2. Rooney had nothing but potatoes to sell.
- ___ 3. Beckham's success is not only due to his football skills but also his good image and status.
- ___ 4. Pug-faced Rooney is not appealing at all.
- ___ 5. European club executives and sponsors began to shift their attention to Asia because it has great commercial potential.
- ___ 6. Many of the Asian players transferred to Europe have failed on the field because they spent too much time on commercials.
- ___ 7. Sporting principles demand that recruiting players should be based on playing ability alone.
- ___ 8. Bill Gerard thinks that Beckham Era will be gone forever.

II. Topics for Discussion

➤ **Directions:** *Work in groups of 4, and express your opinions on the following issues.*

- 1. Nowadays many famous athletes are making commercials. What do you think of this phenomenon?
- 2. Is it good for the fanatic fans to chase after athletic stars constantly?

III. Word Match

➤ **Directions:** *The words and phrases in Column A are from the Text in Part A and Fast Reading in Part B. Match these words with their appropriate meanings in Column B.*

A	B
1. hurdle	a. to teach someone a way of thinking or behaving over a long period of time
2. sidestep	b. never having happened before, or never having happened so much
3. pitchman	c. a frame that a person or a horse has to jump over during a race
4. stammer	d. able to attract and influence other people because of a powerful personal quality one has
5. persona	e. to avoid something difficult or unpleasant
6. instill	f. the way one behaves when one is with other people, which makes people think that he is a particular type of person
7. ecstasy	g. to speak something with a lot of pauses and repeated sounds, either because of speech problems or being nervous or excited
8. charismatic	h. a focus of public attention, esp. from newspaper, television, etc.
9. unprecedented	i. intense joy or delight
10. limelight	j. one who delivers commercials on radio or television

IV. Word Transformation



Directions: Complete the following sentences with the words given in the box. Change the form if necessary.

decent	precedent	athletic	triumph	merchandise
exploit	modification	influence	maturation	impinge

1. She burst into _____ giggles, flinging her arms around him.
2. Clever _____ of the latest technology would be sure a formula for success.
3. Like most _____, she was lean and muscular.
4. The family was forced to live on credit from local _____.
5. His sense of _____ forced him to resign.

6. He was one of the most _____ performers of modern jazz.
7. The enemy's mad bombardment caused _____ death and destruction in the country.
8. He is a young lad, very green, very _____.
9. It's a rule of English that adjectives generally precede the noun they _____.
10. Do not _____ on my privacy.

V. Cloze



Directions: Fill in the missing words in the following blanks.

revive	dead	marathon	legend	Athens
field	turn	all	attributed	French

The Revival of the Modern Olympic Games—1896 Olympics

A young ___1___ nobleman Baron Pierre de Coubertin is ___2___ to the revival of the ancient Olympic Games in its modern form and was key to the foundation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) at a Paris conference in 1894.

Coubertin's original idea was to ___3___ the Games in 1900 in Paris, France. In a presentation made to a world athletics congress in 1894, 78 delegates from some 34 countries were so enthralled with the renewal of the Games, that they decided they did not want to wait until the ___4___ of the century and secondly, they felt the Olympics should return to where it ended, ___5___, Greece.

The 1896 affair, which attracted some 311 athletes from 13 nations, received world-wide recognition since individual athletes were selected on a national basis and was a symbol for global unity among the world of nation states.

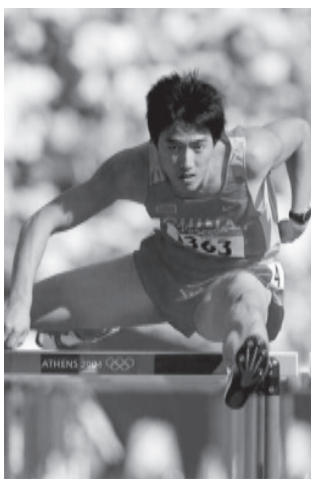
The spotlight of the Games was the venue of the track and ___6___ events. One key event to the Games was the ___7___, suggested by French historian Michael Breal, who knew of the ___8___ of Greek hero Pheidippides. Pheidippides was sent to Athens in 449 B.C. to deliver the news of victory by the Grecian army over the Persians in the Battle of Marathon. As legend would have it, upon his arrival, Pheidippides yelled out "Rejoice, we conquer!" and dropped ___9___.

The success of the Games was not lost on the Greeks, who made a valiant effort to secure the Games permanently for Greece. However, the power of Coubertin, the president of the IOC, and the international principles had been established once and for ____10____.

Part B

Fast Reading

➤ **Directions:** *The following two articles are meant to be read quickly. Try to read them and complete the exercises within 12 minutes. Don't preview.*



1. China's Hero—2004 Olympics 110-meter Hurdles Champion

As Liu Xiang raced to victory in the 110-meter hurdles at the Athens Olympics, his legs pumping with flawless precision to clock a world record-tying time of 12.91 sec., the panic creeping into sports announcers' voices was almost obvious. Even though China had boasted the 21-year-old Shanghai native as a medal hopeful, few in the West knew that China had a decent hurdler, much less a record-making one. Stunned by the victory, a Greek TV announcer

stammered: “In first place, it’s... it’s a Chinese man.” Frustrated by the pronunciation of X in Liu’s given name, the broadcaster sidestepped (回避) the problem: “He is Mr. Liu. Congratulations to Mr. Liu from China.”

The world had better get used to Mr. Liu and his given name (Xiang is pronounced Sheeahng). With his winning smile, Liu has already been tapped as a pitchman for Coca-Cola and Nike. More importantly, the Chinese hurdler serves as the charismatic icon of a continent excited by an unprecedented athletic ascendancy, just as Asia gears up to welcome the next Summer Olympics to its home turf. Back home, Liu is beloved for his natural persona, in marked contrast to most of China’s other athletes, who can only offer their fans canned statements about how much they love their motherland. Liu does pay tribute to his nation, but he takes great pleasure in the limelight, belting out karaoke songs on Chinese TV.

Unlike the vast majority of Chinese athletes, Liu was not picked by the sports system. Instead, the boy with highlighted hair went knocking on the doors of sports schools himself. Four months into running hurdles, he was doing times in national trials that placed him in the top classes of his age group.

Liu wasn’t the only Asian to excel in a sport in which the region’s athletes were expected to be outclassed. Kosuke Kitajima, 22, won two swimming events, helping Japan triple its gold-medal tally from Sydney to Athens. These days, observes Tatsuo Sekine of market researcher CM Databank, Kitajima is so popular that he commands about \$450,000 per advertisement in Japan. Sekine says: “He is a symbol of [our] long-awaited [economic] recovery.” China’s Liu Xiang, however, is a symbol of something profound and emotional, something all Asians can take pride in: the pure ecstasy of triumph. “For some athletes, it’s just a job,” Liu says. “For me, it’s what I love.”

Directions: *Decide whether each of the following statements is true (T) or false (F).*

- ___ 1. The Greek TV announcer stammered because he could not pronounce Liu Xiang’s given name.
- ___ 2. Other Chinese athletes’ statements are spontaneous.
- ___ 3. Liu Xiang, like most Chinese athletes, was picked up by the sports system of China.
- ___ 4. Liu Xiang is seen as a symbol of national pride.

2. Spanish Driver Is Out in Front Now

Renault driver Fernando Alonso knows that sometimes it helps to be both fast and lucky. The 24-year-old Spaniard was both, on Sunday, winning the European Grand Prix. This was Alonso's fourth win out of the seven races of the season in 2005, and fifth in his career.

The effect of the victory didn't stop there; it strengthened Alonso's chances of becoming the youngest ever to win a Formula One world championship. This has been dominated by Michael Schumacher for five years.

After the win, Alonso was surprisingly calm, as though he hadn't seen the exciting future.

"It's my character," he said with a maturity that contrasted with his age. "I have always been very calm on the outside. For me, tomorrow will be another day whether I finish first or last. I have to do the maximum and I cannot ask any more of myself."

Alonso said his balanced outlook came from his family. "My parents are similar to me. For me, F-1 is a simple sport and a simple way to live these seven or eight years."

Alonso's F-1 story started with his family; his father Jose Luis Fernando was a racing fan and instilled his enthusiasm in his son.

At the age of three, Alonso "inherited" a racing kart made by his father. From that moment, he showed some skill and his father started to see his hopes fulfilled.

Alonso "played" with the kart until 1988. In 1999, he made the jump to open-wheel cars, racing the Spanish Nissan Open series, then, only 18 years old, and became the series champion, immediately earning him a ticket to Formula One in 2001. His talent earned him a spot with the Renault team in 2002. Alonso became the youngest driver ever to win a Formula One race at the 2003 Hungarian Grand Prix. At season's end, he was a solid sixth in the championship, with 55 points and four podiums.

Alonso remained with Renault for the 2004 season, and, although he failed to win a race, he ended the year a career-best fourth in the championship standings.

Despite the past success and the bright future ahead, Alonso doubts that, like Schumacher, he can drive into his mid-30s and perhaps beyond.

"Honestly, no. I started much earlier and I cannot be concentrated and motivated for so long. Too many years, I think. We will see." A calm answer from a calmly posed guy.

Directions: Choose the best answer from the choices given below according to the article.

1. The audience expected Alonso to be _____ after the win.
A. excited B. calm C. surprised
2. To Alonso, F-1 is _____.
A. his whole life B. his toy C. a simple way to live
3. Alonso's driving talent is partly due to _____.
A. his hard work
B. his father's influence
C. his character
4. Alonso _____.
A. will drive until his mid-30s
B. will quit driving soon because he doesn't expect his future to be bright
C. may quit driving because he has driven too long

Part C

➤ **Directions:** Read the following text before you come to class.



Fair Play—the Winning Way

Aims

The basic principle of the Code of Sports Ethics is that ethical considerations leading to fair play are integral, and not optional elements, of all sports activity, sports policy and management, and apply to all levels of ability and commitment, including recreational as well as competitive sport.

The Code provides a sound ethical framework to combat the pressures in modern society, which appear to be undermining the

traditional foundations of sport—foundations built on fair play and sportsmanship, and on the voluntary movement.

Defining Fair Play

Fair play is defined as much more than playing with the rules. It incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing within the right spirit. Fair play is defined as a way of thinking, not just a way of behaving. It incorporates issues concerned with the elimination of cheating, **gamesmanship**, **doping**, violence (both physical and verbal), the sexual harassment and abuse of children, young people and women, exploitation, unequal opportunities, excessive commercialization and corruption.

gamesmanship: 比赛中为取胜而使用的小动作
dope: 吸毒

Fair play is a positive concept. Sport is a social and cultural activity which, practiced fairly, enriches society and the friendship between nations. Sport is also recognized as an individual activity which, played fairly, offers the opportunity for self-knowledge, self-expression and fulfillment; personal achievement, skill acquisition and demonstration of ability; social interaction, enjoyment, good health and well-being. Sport promotes involvement and responsibility in society with its wide range of clubs and leaders working voluntarily. In addition, responsible involvement in some activities can help to promote sensitivity to the environment.

Responsibility for Fair Play

Involvement and participation in sport among children and young people takes place within a wider social environment. The potential benefits to society and to the individual from sport will only be maximized where fair play is moved from the peripheral position it currently occupies to center stage. Fair play must be given the highest priority by all those who, directly or indirectly, influence and promote sporting experiences for children and young people. These include:

—Governments at all levels, including agencies working with Government. Those involved in formal education have a particular responsibility.

—Sports and Sports-Related Organizations including Sports

Federations and Governing Bodies, Physical Education Associations, Coaching Agencies and Institutes, Medical and Pharmacological Professions and the Media. The commercial sector, including sports goods manufacturers and retailers and marketing agencies, also has a responsibility to contribute to the promotion of fair play.

—Individuals including Parents, Teachers, Coaches, Referees, Officials, Sports Leaders, Administrators, Journalists, Doctors and Pharmacists; and those role models who have achieved levels of sporting excellence and fame; those who work on a voluntary or professional basis. Individuals may also have responsibilities in their capacity as spectators.

Each of these institutions and individuals has a responsibility and a role to play. This Code of Sports Ethics is addressed to them. It will only be effective if all involved in sport are prepared to take on the responsibility identified in the Code.

Governments

Governments have the following responsibilities:

—To encourage the adoption of high ethical standards in all aspects of society within which sport operates.

—To stimulate and support those organizations and individuals who have demonstrated sound ethical principles in their work with sport.

—To encourage the education profession to include the promotion of sport and fair play as a central part of the physical education curriculum.

Sports and Sports-Related Organizations

Sports and sports-related organizations have the following responsibilities:

In setting a proper context for Fair Play,

—To publish clear guidelines on what is considered to be ethical or unethical behavior and ensure that, at all levels of participation and involvement, consistent and appropriate incentives and/or sanctions are applied.

—To ensure that all decisions are made in accordance with a Code of Ethics for their sport which reflects the European code.

—To raise the awareness of fair play within their sphere of influence through the use of campaigns, awards, educational material and training opportunities. They must also monitor and evaluate the impact of such initiatives.

—To establish systems which reward fair play and personal levels of achievement in addition to competitive success.

When working with Young People,

—To ensure that the structure of competition acknowledges the special requirements of the young and growing child and provides the opportunity for graded levels of involvement from the recreational to the highly competitive.

—To support the modification of rules to meet the special needs of the very young and immature, and put the emphasis on fair play rather than competitive success.

—To ensure that all those within or associated with the organization who have a responsibility for children and young people are qualified at an appropriate level to manage, train, educate and coach them, and in particular that they understand the biological and psychological changes associated with children maturation.

Individuals

Individuals have the following responsibilities:

Personal Behavior

—To behave in a way which sets a good example and presents a positive role model for children and young people; not in any way to reward, to demonstrate personally, nor to condone in others unfair play and to take appropriate sanctions against poor behavior.

—To ensure that their own level of training and qualification is appropriate to the needs of the child as they move through different stages of sporting commitment.

When working with Young People,

—To put as a first priority the health, safety and welfare of

the child or young athlete and ensure that such considerations come before vicarious achievement, or the reputation of the school or club or coach or parent.

—To provide a sporting experience for children that encourages a life-long commitment to health-related physical activity.

—To avoid treating children as simply small adults but be aware of the physical and psychological changes that occur during maturation and how these affect sporting performance.

—To avoid placing expectations on a child unrelated to his or her capacity to meet them.


—To put the enjoyment of the participant as a priority and never place undue pressure which impinges on the rights of the child to choose to participate.

—To take equal interest in the less talented as in the talented and emphasize and reward personal levels of achievement and skill acquisition in addition to more overt competitive success.

Summary

Fair play is an essential and central part of successful promotion, development and involvement in sport. Through fair play, the individual, the sports organizations and society as a whole all win. We all have a responsibility to promote FAIR PLAY—THE WINNING WAY.

omprehension

 **Directions:** Choose the best answers from the choices given below according to the text you have read.

1. The traditional foundations of sport is built on _____.
A. ethics B. fair play C. responsibilities
2. Fair play is more than playing with the rules; it also means the elimination of _____.
A. verbal abuse B. sportsmanship C. commercialization

3. Which of the following statements is NOT correct?
 - A. Fair play can maximize the potential benefits from sport.
 - B. Fair play is now on the central stage of sport.
 - C. Fair play should be given the highest priority.
4. According to the text, what should be included as a central part of the P.E. curriculum?
 - A. Ethical principles.
 - B. Commitment to sport.
 - C. Promotion of sport and fair play.
5. Setting a proper context for fair play includes the following EXCEPT _____.
 - A. application of a reward and sanction system
 - B. making decisions in accordance with the European Code
 - C. enhancing people's awareness of fair play
6. When working with the young, sports and sports-related organizations should _____.
 - A. provide the opportunity for graded levels for highly competitive sports only
 - B. put the emphasis on competitive success
 - C. understand their biological and psychological changes
7. When working with young people, the related individuals should put _____ as a first priority.
 - A. achievement
 - B. reputation
 - C. health, safety and welfare
8. According to the text, which of the following is NOT correct?
 - A. We should respect children, and treat them as small adults.
 - B. We should not place too high expectations on children.
 - C. We should show equal interest in both the talented and the less talented children.

Part D

I. English-Chinese Translation



Directions: *Translate the following sentences into Chinese.*

1. But the hype died down as soon as the question of dollars translated into sense.
2. Rooney, 19, is too uninspiring off the field; the pug-faced Liverpoolian has only local appeal and lacks a celebrity reputation.
3. This prompted Mohammed bin Hammam, the head of the Asian Football Confederation, to accuse European clubs of exploiting Asian players as “slaves” for commercial purposes earlier this year, demanding instead that they hire Asians on playing ability alone.
4. Fair play is defined as much more than playing with the rules. It incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing within the right spirit.
5. Sport is a social and cultural activity which, practiced fairly, enriches society and the friendship between nations.

II. Related Information



Directions: *For more information, you may visit the following websites:*

1. <http://espn.go.com/>
2. <http://www.sportsnetwork.com/>
3. <http://msn.foxsports.com/>
4. <http://www.sports-media.org/>
5. <http://www.olympic.org/>

Unit 2

Movies



Part A

Warm-up Questions



1. Who is your favorite film actor or actress?
2. Do you like tragic films or do you like comic films? Why?
3. Which film(s) directed by Steven Spielberg do you like best? Please give your reasons.

Word Pretest

➤ **Directions:** For each word or expression in bold, choose the best meaning below.

1. The word “sofa” has **connotations** of comfort and relaxation.
A) actual meanings B) implied meanings C) literal meanings
2. Five unidentified men disguised as crewmen were **detained** for at least two weeks before trial as they used fake passports to enter this country.
A) formally sentenced to imprisonment
B) informally kept for further examination
C) officially prevented from leaving a place
3. The shock of his brother’s death **rendered** him completely unable to work.
A) caused B) forced C) induced
4. What **afflicts** Ronald is the juridical ruling that he can only see his children once a year after his wife divorced him.
A) stresses B) hurts C) oppresses
5. The **villain** kidnapped three school children and hid them in a country cottage.
A) an evil person B) a thief C) a robber
6. This tiny traffic accident does not **warrant** such a large traffic police presence.
A) assure B) guarantee C) be a good reason for
7. After the scandal of copying other people’s papers, the scholar was **cast out of** the academic society.
A) punished by B) exiled from C) expelled from
8. Though very poor and shabby, the old lady was very **benevolent** to the homeless pet animals.
A) kind B) intolerant C) hospitable
9. Jim deleted out of **malice** all the company’s files in his desktop as his request for a raise was declined by the manager.
A) ill nature B) ill intention C) ill breeding
10. His ill-temper and misconduct **alienated** him not only from his colleagues, but also from his friends.
A) diverted B) transformed C) removed



A Critic Review of *The Terminal*

(Adapted)

By A. O. Scott

Steven Spielberg's new film, *The Terminal*, opens nationwide today. An airline terminal is, by definition, a place a traveler passes through on the way from one place to another. It is a place where one wants to spend only as much time as is absolutely necessary. However, the word "terminal" also has some darker connotations that challenge its modest, everyday meaning^①.

The Latin origin of the word, *termini*, refers to the local gods, whose shrines served as boundary markers in ancient Rome. It suggests a frontier between worlds^②. The modern medical usage of "terminal" is associated with death. Therefore, to be trapped indefinitely in a terminal, without any opportunity to escape, brings

The Terminal: 电影《幸福终点站》

scenario: 情节

Close Encounters: 电影《第三类接触》

E. T.: 电影《外星人》

Empire of the Sun: 电影《太阳帝国》

J.F.K. International Airport:
肯尼迪国际机场 (纽约)

coup: 政变

Shah: 伊朗国王的称号

to mind a kind of living death, a frustrating state of perpetual imprisonment.

With this **scenario** in mind, it makes Steven Spielberg's transformation of this typical modern nightmare of interrupted air travel into a vision of earthly paradise much more remarkable. The director (Steven Spielberg) has repeatedly shown in his other movies how romantic flying can be. Steven Spielberg's interest in flying could be seen in the flashing spaceship lights at the end of *Close Encounters* (1977), in the soaring bicycle of *E.T.* (1982), and *Empire of the Sun* (1987). *The Terminal* still shows Steven Spielberg's fascination with air travel, but it is also a direct contrast to his previous depictions of flight at the same time. This movie is about the romance of being stuck on the ground.

The plot of the film begins with Viktor Navorski (Tom Hanks), who flies to New York from the imaginary eastern European republic of Krakozia. Viktor arrives at **J.F.K. International Airport** just as a military **coup** abolishes his country's government and renders him without a home. A large amount of complicated (and somewhat unrealistic) bureaucracy and regulations strand him at the airport, where he remains for nearly a year. He is unable to board a flight home or even take a cab into Manhattan. However, he is innocent of anything that would warrant his detention by the airport authorities^③. He is utterly trapped and completely free at the same time. (This movie is loosely based on the real experience of an Iranian traveler who was abandoned for a much longer period in a Paris airport after the fall of the **Shah**).

Steven Spielberg and the screenwriters, Sacha Gervasi and Jeff Nathanson, emphasize freedom rather than constraint. They focus on the humor of Viktor's situation rather than on its seriousness. What sounds like a scenario out of a horror story turns into an innocent fairy tale of friendliness and pleasure. The troubles that afflict Viktor's homeland are safely confined to cable news broadcasts on airport television monitors. Real-life shocks of loneliness and

displacement melt away into the atmosphere of the terminal.

Even the cheeriest fairy tale must have a villain. In *The Terminal*, the villain is an ambitious, humorless Homeland Security official named Frank Dixon (Stanley Tucci), who is about to get a big promotion. With **pursed lips** and narrowed eyes, he regards Viktor not as a person in distress, but as a procedural inconvenience. When he fails to scare Viktor into leaving the airport, Dixon becomes obsessed.

pursed lips: 噘嘴唇

In the comical world of *The Terminal*, Dixon's vindictiveness is an **anomaly**. Before long, Viktor finds himself welcomed into an easy-going, multi-cultural tribe of nongovernmental airport employees. Among them are a dustman from India named Gupta (Kumar Pallana), a baggage handler named Joe (Chi McBride) and a sweet-faced restaurant worker named Enrique (Diego Luna).

anomaly: 异常

At first the lightheartedness of *The Terminal* may seem false. At time the story offers nothing special, and the filmmakers seem uncomfortable with characters that are anything more than simple and kind.

Catherine Zeta-Jones is as spirited and lovely as ever, but the movie is content to use her for her beauty rather than for the humor that is her greatest attribute as a comic actress. In her other movies, this quality has been used in Rob Marshall's *Chicago* and Joe Roth's *America's Sweethearts*. Other directors, Steven Spielberg included, seem uncomfortable by the idea that a woman of such regal beauty could actually be funny. As for Stanley Tucci, he is an obvious choice to play an authoritative bureaucrat, but his performance is not inspired. If he were a less technical actor, Dixon's coldness and malice might be psychologically interesting.

Chicago: 电影《芝加哥》
America's Sweethearts: 电影《美国甜心》

Dixon and Amelia (Zeta-Jones) are there to serve the plot. The story is sweet and humorous, but Steven Spielberg has made it tolerable. Rarely have I been so acutely aware of a movie's softness and sentimentality, and rarely have I minded less. Some of the credit goes to Tom Hanks. He is a man with nothing left to prove. His performance is so friendly that its **nuances** emerge only **in retrospect**.

nuance: 细微差别
in retrospect: 回顾; 追溯

At first Viktor seems like a holy fool with a funny accent, but

pouch: 眼袋

the **pouches** under his eyes and the determination of his attitude tell another story. In time we learn that Viktor is a skilled carpenter and a devoted son. However, before we learn this and before he learns enough English to tell us, we understand that he is resourceful and stubborn as well as generous.

Cast Away: 电影《浩劫重生》

There are some similarities between Viktor and the character, Chuck Noland, which Tom Hanks played in ***Cast Away***. However, there are many differences. Viktor's character is already stoic^④ when the film begins, where Chuck takes four years of living on a desert island to become as stoic. In some ways Viktor's journey is the reverse of Chuck's. Chuck was cast out of modern consumer society and learned to make do with very little. Viktor is coming from circumstances of relatively little material wealth and must adapt to a scene of **surrealistic** and enormous abundance.

surrealistic: 超现实的

I'm guessing that Viktor's homeland was originally an eastern European underdeveloped country. Someone from that region might point out that *The Terminal* presents a charming fantasy of global capitalism, which is not always so benevolent. Fair enough, but another way to say this is to notice that the film changes an alienating commercial environment into a place of utopian possibility, in the same way *E.T.* transformed a monotonous, sprawling suburb into a realm of enchantment. The appeal of both of these movies is due to the desire and ingenuity of the characters, who reflect the mind of Steven Spielberg.

The magic of *The Terminal* is a bit forced, perhaps because it is more urgently needed. Air travel, once a symbol of freedom and mobility, is now often associated with frustration, anxiety and terror. Steven Spielberg, assisted by the music of John Williams, the cinematography of Janusz and the set designs of Alex McDowell, makes the audience forget their ideas of a real airline terminal with effortless grace and optimism. *The Terminal* changes the scary modern world into a friendly, artificial garden of escalators and restaurants and expands toward the farthest horizon of the human imagination.

(1,157 words)



Notes

- ① *However, the word... also has some darker connotations that challenge its modest, everyday meaning:* The word... also bears some ambiguous implications that go against the ordinary meaning of the word.
- ② *It suggests a frontier between worlds:* “It” refers to “terminal”, the end of this world and beginning of the next, the meaning of which is “causing death, lethal”.
- ③ *However, he is innocent of anything that would warrant his detention by the airport authorities:* Viktor Navorski is so innocent of anything at the terminal of the airport that the airport authorities could not find any faults to detain him.
- ④ *Viktor’s character is already stoic when...:* The philosophy of the Stoics is indifference to pleasure or pain, impassiveness.

I. Text Comprehension



Directions: According to the text, decide whether each of the following statements is true or false. Write T in front of the true statement and F in front of the false one.

- _____ 1. The word “terminal”, which supplies the title for Steven Spielberg’s film opening today nationwide, has some ambiguous meanings.
- _____ 2. Steven Spielberg has changed an embarrassment in reality into a vision of earthly paradise in film.
- _____ 3. The film story is most likely based on the real experience of a Frenchman in Paris after he returned from Iran.
- _____ 4. The film makers made not only full use of Catherine Zeta-Jones’ performance skills and wit, but also her beauty in *The Terminal*.
- _____ 5. The critic thinks Tom Hanks is the only actor who deserves some favorable comments.
- _____ 6. Mr. Viktor Navorski was a skilled carpenter and a devoted son before he came to New York.
- _____ 7. All the major actors and actresses have properly been chosen and they have performed very well in the film, according to the review.
- _____ 8. The film *Cast Away* is compared to *The Terminal* because Tom Hanks acted

in both films.

- _____ 9. *The Terminal* reminds the audience of what a real airline terminal is like.
 _____ 10. The tone of the review is on the whole quite positive.

II. Topics for Discussion

➤ **Directions:** *Work in groups of 4, and express your opinions on the following issues.*

1. Television has taken a lot of audience from the cinema. What do you think the film industry should do to attract the audience back to cinemas?
2. Should film industry establish moral rules to prevent bloody and pornographic scenes on the screen?

III. Word Match

➤ **Directions:** *The words and phrases in Column A are from the Text in Part A and Fast Reading in Part B. Match these words with their appropriate meanings in Column B.*

- | A | B |
|----------------|---|
| 1. deft | a. to put an end to the existence or practice of (esp. a custom or institution) |
| 2. strand | b. to spread through or over, as with liquid, color, or light |
| 3. perpetual | c. burning or glowing |
| 4. abolish | d. to provide or brighten with light |
| 5. intrigue | e. lacking vegetation, especially useful vegetation |
| 6. resourceful | f. to leave in a strange or an unfavorable place, esp. without funds or means to depart |
| 7. illuminate | g. eternal, lasting for ever or indefinitely |
| 8. fiery | h. a secret or underhand scheme; a plot |
| 9. barren | i. quick and skillful |
| 10. suffuse | j. capable of devising ways and means |

IV. Word Transformation

➤ **Directions:** Complete the following sentences with the words given in the box. Change the form if necessary.

transport	modest	enchant	sweet	remark
try	commerce	regulate	manifest	imagine

1. Her _____ prevented her from making her affections known to him.
2. Since the ground _____ has been blocked by the flood, we have to fly there though it is a bit costly.
3. The spring beauty of the scenic mountains covered with green grass and millions of unfamiliar blossoms filled us with _____.
4. It is _____ when an international traveler lands in a foreign land to find himself stateless and his passport invalid because of a coup during his flight in his mother country.
5. The old gentleman prefers honey to sugar as a _____ in his coffee.
6. We should be interested to hear your _____ on the passage we have just read.
7. Proofreading in front of the computer is very _____ to the eyes.
8. In order to earn more money, many TV stations insert a lot of _____ in the popular TV plays during the prime time.
9. A severe violation of the traffic _____, such as drunken driving, may result in a fine up to \$500 in this state.
10. The political rally held last weekend was a huge _____ of support for the candidate for presidential campaign.

V. Cloze

➤ **Directions:** *Fill in the missing words in the following blanks.*

accused	money	release	budget	executives
trend	peak	potential	steadily	philosophy

Ten years ago it cost an average of US\$12 million to market a studio movie. Today the average market ____ 1 ____ is US\$31 million. For “big event” films such as *Spider-Man* the marketing budget can be almost twice that figure. Spending on movie advertising has ____ 2 ____ increased, with over US\$3 billion spent in 2002. Studio ____ 3 ____ see it as an all-or-nothing game, with one noting that “You either open big or die, so there is a lot at stake.” Hollywood’s ____ 4 ____ —“you have to spend money to make ____ 5 ____”—is often traced to 1989 and the successful marketing of the franchise film *Batman*. Far in advance of the movie’s ____ 6 ____, the studio bought the TV ads and plastered billboards with the famous bat logo. *Batman* also started the ____ 7 ____ of opening films in more than 2,000 cinemas. With so many blockbusters being rolled out, particularly during the ____ 8 ____ periods such as summer vacations, it is essential for a high budgeted film to succeed immediately at the box office. If it doesn’t, it will be quickly displaced by the next ____ 9 ____ blockbuster. As a Universal Pictures Vice Chairman put it, “If you don’t hit it in 24 to 72 hours, you’re out of the game.” No one wants to be ____ 10 ____ of failing because they spent a dollar less than their competitor.

Part B

Fast Reading

➤ **Directions:** *The following two articles are meant to be read quickly. Try to read them and complete the exercises within 12 minutes. Don’t preview.*

1. Zhang Yimou—the Leading Chinese Film Director

His repeated successes at European Film Festivals made Zhang Yimou the best known of China's so-called "Fifth Generation" of filmmakers. His early films were breathtakingly beautiful. Zhang began as a cinematographer, and seemed to paint with his camera. Something about his colors and composition suggested the palette of ancient China in the form of modern, even abstract, art. Reds illuminate his screen and suffuse every scene of *Raise the Red Lantern*—a fiery sun setting over barren hills, the traditional red of the Chinese bride's silk wedding gown and draped sedan chair as her marital procession treks across the fields. He set his film *Ju Dou* in a cloth-dyeing factory and at a dramatic moment the bolts of cloth unfurl across the screen like strokes of paint across a canvas. It is a stunning and unforgettable moment, when the film medium achieves its original ambition as a visual art form.



Zhang Yimou's rise to fame as a filmmaker was fuelled by his discovery of the student actress Gong Li, a woman of extraordinary beauty. With distinctive high cheekbones and stature associated with Northern Mongolia, Gong Li was a far cry from the classic doll-like beauty traditionally prized in China. She was, however, an instant success, embodying the new woman, stronger and more independent. Zhang Yimou's camera lingered over her face; her body was discretely covered but nothing could obscure her radiant sexuality. Her face could register the gamut of human emotions without ever fully revealing her inner nature. She has been aptly described as the Chinese Greta Garbo.

Zhang Yimou is simply pursuing his own personal sense of artistic truth. To be sure, one can see all sorts of political messages in any story that seriously explores the moral adventure of life. But that exploration—not a specifically political ambition—provides the most fundamental impulse in Zhang Yimou's films.

Zhang Yimou somehow feels bound to China—to the language, history and traditions that he believes are the ground of his creativity. Despite these commitments, the Chinese at home and abroad have been his harshest critics, coming after him from all directions. Critics argue that he is just pandering to Western stereotypes of China, that he is not really a Chinese

filmmaker, that he is either uglifying or prettifying China—and, the deepest insult, that he is an unoriginal filmmaker churning out melodramas.

Directions: *Decide whether each of the following statements is true or false.*

- ___ 1. Zhang Yimou began his filmmaking career as a cameraman.
- ___ 2. Gong Li's beauty caters to Chinese traditional taste.
- ___ 3. The serious exploration of the moral adventure of life provides the most fundamental impulse in Zhang Yimou's films.
- ___ 4. Zhang Yimou's films are criticized because they all uglify China.

2. Alfred Hitchcock: The Master of Suspense



The acknowledged master of the thriller genre he virtually invented, Alfred Hitchcock was also a brilliant technician who deftly blended sex, suspense and humor. He began his filmmaking career in 1919 illustrating title cards for silent films at Paramount's Famous Players-Lasky studio in London. There he learned scripting, editing and art direction, and rose to assistant director in 1922. The *Lodger* (1926), his breakthrough film, was a prototypical example of the classic Hitchcock plot: An innocent protagonist is falsely accused of a crime and becomes involved in a web of intrigue.

The Man Who Knew Too Much (1934), a commercial and critical success, established a favorite pattern: an investigation of family relationships within a suspenseful story. *The 39 Steps* (1935) showcases a mature Hitchcock; it is a stylish and efficiently told chase film brimming with exciting incidents and memorable characters. According to his theory, suspense is developed by providing the audience with information denied to endangered characters.

Shadow of a Doubt (1943) is Hitchcock's early Hollywood masterwork. One of his most disturbing films, *Shadow* was nominally the story of a young woman who learns that a favorite uncle is a murderer, but at heart it is a sobering look at the dark underpinnings of American middle-class life. Fully as horrifying as Uncle Charlie's attempts to murder his niece was her

mother's tearful acknowledgment of her loss of identity in becoming a wife and mother. "You know how it is," she says. "You sort of forget you're you. You're your husband's wife." In Hitchcock, evil manifests itself not only in acts of physical violence, but also in the form of psychological, institutionalized and systemic cruelty.

During his most inspired period, from 1950 to 1960, Hitchcock produced a cycle of memorable films. *North by Northwest* (1959) is perhaps Hitchcock's most fully realized film. From a script by Ernest Lehman, and starring Cary Grant and Eva Marie Saint, this quintessential chase movie is full of all the things for which we remember Alfred Hitchcock: ingenious shots, subtle male-female relationships, dramatic score, bright technicolor, inside jokes, witty symbolism and above all masterfully orchestrated suspense.

His final film, *Family Plot* (1976), pitted two couples against one another: a pair of professional thieves versus a female psychic and her working-class lover. It was a fitting end to a body of work that demonstrated the eternal symmetry of good and evil.

Directions: Choose the best answer from the choices given below according to the article.

- Which film was a prototypical example of the classic Hitchcock plot?
A. *The Lodger*. B. *Shadow of a Doubt*. C. *North by Northwest*.
- According to Hitchcock's theory, suspense is developed by _____.
A. providing the audience with information that endangered characters are aware of
B. providing the audience with information that endangered characters are ignorant of
C. withholding from the audience information that endangered characters are aware of
- What is the most conspicuous characteristics of Hitchcock's film?
A. Humor. B. Suspense. C. Symbolism.
- Family Plot* was a fitting end to Hitchcock's films because _____.
A. it had a pair of professional thieves
B. it described subtle male-female relationships
C. it demonstrated the eternal symmetry of good and evil