

14. They \_\_\_\_\_ (be) late if they \_\_\_\_\_ (not / take) a taxi.  
 15. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not / meet) him if she \_\_\_\_\_ (not / come) to Islamabad.  
 16. He \_\_\_\_\_ (take) a taxi if he \_\_\_\_\_ (have) enough money.  
 17. I \_\_\_\_\_ (call) you if I \_\_\_\_\_ (not / forget) my phone.  
 18. We \_\_\_\_\_ (come) if we \_\_\_\_\_ (be) invited.  
 19. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not / do) it if she \_\_\_\_\_ (know) you were ill.  
 20. He \_\_\_\_\_ (be) on time if he \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) earlier.

C. Match the two halves of the conditional sentences given in column A and B

| A                               | B                                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| I wouldn't have overslept       | if you'd asked.                                        |
| If she had gone to bed earlier, | you wouldn't have been so stressed at the last minute. |
| I could have lent you the money | she wouldn't have been so tired.                       |
| They wouldn't have found out    | if you had studied medicine.                           |
| You could have been a doctor    | if my alarm clock had gone off.                        |
| If you'd been more organised,   | they wouldn't have had so many problems.               |
| If they'd taken my advice,      | if you hadn't told them.                               |

D. Write simple, compound or complex before relevant sentence.

- Life is a bed of thorns.
- It is never a bed of roses.
- Man struggles hard to earn his living.
- He runs after money and wants to enjoy power.
- In the race for money and power he gets hurt.
- Fears, worries and frustration hurt his mind.
- He becomes restless and loses peace of mind.
- He realises that money is not everything in life.
- It gives temporary satisfaction, but robs him of peace and happiness in life.
- What makes man happy is contentment.

## Lingkuan Gorge

(A Man Should Never Leave his Post)

By the end of the unit, the students will be able to:

- Use pre-reading strategies to predict the content of a text from topic / picture, title / headings, key words and visuals etc. by using prior knowledge, asking questions and contextual clues.
- Analyze passages in the text to identify the theme/ general subject, key idea/ central thought (a statement about the general subject), and supporting details.
- Apply critical thinking to interact with text and use intensive reading strategies (while-reading) to
  - scan to answer short questions.
  - make simple inferences using context of the text and prior knowledge.
  - distinguish between what is clearly stated and what is implied.
- Use critical thinking to respond orally and in writing to the text (post-reading) to
  - give a personal opinion and justify stance related to viewpoints/ ideas and issues in the text read.
  - relate what is read to his or her own feelings and experiences.
  - explore causes and consequences of a problem or an issue and propose various solutions.
  - evaluate material read.
- Use appropriate vocabulary and spelling in their own writing.
- Identify, analyze and construct conditional sentences.
- Analyze and construct simple, compound and complex sentences.

## Lingkuan Gorge

NOT FOR SALE

The snow, already more than half a foot deep, obliterated the line between earth and sky behind a hazy white curtain. I had been following the path of the future railway for forty kilometres. Although I could hear the roar of machinery further back in the hills, I had seen neither work sites nor workers.

Entering Lingkuan Gorge, my irritation increased. Even in clear weather, in this gorge the sun never shone. It didn't matter where you looked up along the twisting course — the most you could see of the sky was a patch no bigger than the palm of your hand. Now it was dusk and the swirling snowflakes and the gale made every step a struggle.

Construction in the gorge was very busy. Everywhere people were at work. Generators, cement-mixers, air compressors shook the ground. Hundreds of light bulbs gleamed dim and yellow. Electric wires, crisscrossing like a giant spider web, were scarcely visible, but I could see the overhead cables and their pulley cars sliding back and forth loaded with materials.

Hungry, cold, I tripped and fell, scraping my hands. Enough! I'd find some place under a cliff, out of the wind, and rest a few hours. If I reached the materials depot tomorrow morning by ten o'clock, that still wouldn't be too late. Stumbling around in the dark like this, I was liable to fall into some deep ravine and that would be the end of this Materials Department chief; I'd have to be put on the "used up" list!

I noticed a path leading to a cave in the cliff-side. A door curtain hanging in the entrance way showed that the cave was undoubtedly occupied by workers. Grasping branches along the steep path, I hauled myself up to the door and entered.

Strange! Seated on a small stool in the doorway was a little boy, seven or eight years old, elbows on his knees, supporting his face in his hands. His cheeks were red with cold. He had been peering at the opposite cliff-side through a rent in the curtain. He glanced at me briefly as I came in, then went back to his observation.



NOT FOR SALE

The cave was large, but quite warm. It had a stove and eating utensils. On the wall above a bed was a coloured New Year picture of "Chubby Children Pulling the Turnip." All the walls had been papered with old newspapers, now blackened by smoke from the stove.

"Why isn't anybody home?" I asked, shaking the snow from my coat and hat.

The little boy turned his head. His eyes flashed. "Aren't I anybody, uncle?" He rose and walked towards me, his hands behind his back, his chest extended, as if to say: Not only am I somebody, I'm a very grown-up somebody!

I cupped his round little face in my hands. "You're pretty sharp, young imp!"

He pushed my hands aside. Doubling up his fists, he cocked his head to one side and demanded: "Who are you calling imp! I have a name!" Pointing at the baby girl asleep on the bed, he informed me: "Her name is Pao-cheng, mine is Cheng-yu."

No doubt about it. These kids were like thousands of others I had met, born and raised on construction sites. The workers liked to name their children after the projects where they were born. Cheng-yu probably had first seen the light of day on the railway project between Chengtu and Chungking, also known as Yu. His baby sister Pao-cheng very likely had been born right here at the site of the future Paoki-Chengtu Railway.

I sat by the stove, smoking and rubbing the drying mud from my hands.

Cheng-Yu crawled on to my lap and looked into my eyes, "Is it going to snow tomorrow, uncle?"

I pressed his icy red little nose. "As soon as we get our telephone line connected up with heaven, I'll ask for you....."

Angrily, he leaped down and stood a meter away, scowling at me. "Quit your kidding! You've got a newspaper in your pocket. Why don't you look at the weather report?"

He resumed his seat in the doorway, clamped his elbows on his knees, rested his face in his hands, and peered out through the rent in the curtain. When I asked him where the kettle was, he ignored me. I certainly was sorry I had offended my small host!

"Why do you want to know about the snow, Cheng-Yu?" I asked him. "Is it because you can't go out and play when it's snowing?"

He didn't even bother to look at me. "Papa says if it's still snowing tomorrow, we'll have to quit work."

"What does your pa do?"

"He opens up mountains!" the child replied proudly.

"Where?" Cheng Yu pointed with pursed lips at the work site opposite.

I looked. All I could see was a searchlight beam, shining through the drifting snowflakes straight up into the heavens. In its light, I could vaguely discern a few dozen men, who seemed pasted to the side of the towering cliff, drilling holes for dynamite charges. The holes were like the steps of a ladder to the sky.

"How can you tell which one is your father at this distance?" I asked.

"I can't see him plainly but pa says he can see me. He says all he has to do is turn around. I often sit here so he can see me"

Ah, so that was it!

The icy snow melted from my boots. My numbed legs, thawing out, ached painfully. I stamped to help the circulation.

Cheng-Yu waved his hand warningly. I understood. He was afraid I'd wake his baby sister.

"You really take good care of your sister," I commended. "Mama says my job is to look after her. When mama comes home, I can knock off."

"So, you're on the job every day?" I hugged him. "What does mama do?"

He pointed to the road below the cave.

I could see a person standing by a telephone pole beside the road. Covered with snow, she looked like a white stone image. Apparently she was directing traffic. The road, not very wide, had been blasted through the rock. Ordinarily, carts, mules, donkeys and people ..... no doubt streamed in both directions along that road twenty-four hours a day. Someone had to keep the traffic order.

Today, because of the snow, there weren't many people or vehicles on the road. She could well have spent the day at home. But there she stood and there she would remain, three months, five months, or three years, five years, if need be. Perhaps, from time to time, she raised her head to gaze up at her child or at her husband who was scaling the cliffs between the mountains and the sky. When he paused to wipe the sweat from his brow, could he see the determined figure of his wife or the tiny image of his little boy? Even though it was a snowy, windy night, even though the worker, his wife and children couldn't see one another clearly, I was sure they could feel a mutual loving encouragement and sense that each was looking forward to the moment of family reunion.



I glanced at Cheng Yu. The child had placed his hands in his sleeves and pulled his neck into his collar. He kept dozing off.

"You're liable to catch a chill. Better get into bed and go to sleep".

He looked at me dreamily for a moment, probably thinking that his parents had returned.

When he realized who I was, he shook his head violently. "No. I won't!"

"Why not?"

Me rubbed his eyes with his fists. "Papa and mama say a man should never leave his post".

I hugged him tightly and pressed my cheek against his. Then I rose, buttoned my coat, pulled my hat down firmly, left the cave and walked down the path. Following the road that had been blasted through the rock, I pushed on, the words of the child echoing in my head, "A man should never leave his post". A job was waiting me. I wanted to reach my destination without any further delay.

(Translated anonymously from the Chinese)

### About the Author

After growing up in a poor family in the province of Shenshi (also spelled Shaanxi) TuPeng-cheng (born 1921) worked as a correspondent for the *New China News* during China's civil war in the late 1940's. His many notes about battles he witnessed, became important sources for his later fiction, including his acclaimed war novel, *Defend Yenan*, published in 1954.

Winning praise throughout China for his depiction of military life, Tu enjoyed a flourishing career throughout the 1950s. In 1958 he published his next major novel *In Peacetime*, which describes workers constructing the Paoki to Chengtu (Baoji to Chengdu) Railway. Tu fell from favour in the 1960s when the government rewrote its history and condemned several former leaders whom Tu had praised in his fiction. His work was banned in China until 1978 when a thaw in the nation's totalitarian regime allowed Tu to resume his writing career.

### Glossary

| Word             | Meaning                                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| apparently(adv.) | Readily seen or understood; evident, obvious                 |
| crisscrossing(v) | To move or cause to move in a crosswise pattern              |
| depot(n)         | A storehouse or warehouse for supplies, usually the military |

|                |                                                                                                                              |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| dusk(n)        | Twilight or the darker part of twilight; evening, sunset, nightfall                                                          |
| gale(n)        | A strong wind; a blast, storm                                                                                                |
| gorge(n)       | A deep ravine, esp. one through which a river runs; canyon                                                                   |
| hazy(adj.)     | Characterised by reduced visibility; misty; foggy                                                                            |
| imp(n)         | A small demon or devil; a mischievous child                                                                                  |
| irritation(n)  | Something that irritates, bothers, annoys, enrages, provokes                                                                 |
| mutual(adj.)   | Experienced or expressed by each of two or more persons about the other; reciprocal; common or shared by two or more parties |
| numb(v)        | Deprived of feeling in limbs through cold; paralysed                                                                         |
| pretty sharp   | Quite intelligent                                                                                                            |
| ravine(n)      | A deep narrow steep-sided valley, esp. one formed by the action of running water; a gorge                                    |
| rent(n)        | A slit or opening made by tearing; a tear or breach                                                                          |
| snowflakes(n)  | Delicate, fluffy mass of snow that falls as snow                                                                             |
| swirling(v)    | To turn or cause to turn in a twisting spinning fashion; spinning                                                            |
| to clamp(v)    | To fix or fasten with a clamp                                                                                                |
| to cock(v)     | To raise, perk up;                                                                                                           |
| to commend(v)  | To present or represent as being worthy or regard; recommend; to praise; to express a good opinion of                        |
| to discern(v)  | To recognise or perceive clearly                                                                                             |
| to doze off(v) | To fall into a light sleep                                                                                                   |
| to flash(v)    | To burst or cause to burst suddenly or intermittently into flame; to move very rapidly like a flash                          |
| to gaze(v)     | To look long and fixedly, in wonder or admiration; to stare                                                                  |
| to gleam(v)    | A small beam or glow of light appearing momentarily;                                                                         |
| to haul(v)     | To drag or draw something with effort; to transport as in a truck                                                            |

|                     |                                                        |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| to knock off(ph.v.) | To finish work;                                        |
| to obliterate(v)    | To destroy every trace of; to wipe out completely      |
| to offend(v)        | To hurt the feelings, sense of dignity of someone      |
| to peer(v)          | To look intently with or as if with difficulty         |
| to scale(v)         | To climb to the top of a mountain by a ladder          |
| to scowl(v)         | To contract the brows in a threatening or angry manner |
| to stamp(v)         | To put the foot down heavily on the ground             |
| to stumble(v)       | To trip or fall while walking or running               |
| undoubtedly(adv.)   | Without any doubt;                                     |
| vaguely(adv.)       | Not clearly; fuzzily, dimly                            |

### Reading Comprehension

1. What is the narrator's job and the purpose of his journey? What physical conditions persuade him to rest for a few hours?
2. About how old is Cheng-Yu? What does he respond when the narrator asks, "Why isn't anybody home?"
3. What work do Cheng-Yu's parents do?
4. What "job" has Cheng-Yu been assigned.
5. What explanation does Cheng-Yu give for refusing the narrator's advice to go to sleep?
6. What does the narrator do in the final paragraph? What does he realize is waiting for him?
7. What sort of child is Cheng-Yu? What attitude does he display towards his parents and his responsibilities?
8. What change in mood or outlook does the narrator experience in the course of the story? What causes the change?
9. What ideas about work does the story convey? What else does the story suggest is valuable?

### Writing Suggestions

Write the story of the lesson "Lingkuan Gorge" with proper beginning, middle and end.

## Oral Communication

The teacher should divide students into various groups wherein they will discuss their daily responsibilities in home. Teacher should guide them in their course of discussion.

## Vocabulary and Grammar

A. Fill in the blanks with suitable abstract nouns. The adjectives, verbs or nouns given in the brackets should offer clues.

- He is a man of ..... (strong)
- The people in this part of the country live in ..... (poor).
- ..... to animals is a punishable offence. (cruel)
- He is on a ..... to Mecca. (pilgrim)
- I have great ..... to welcome you. (please).
- ..... is the best period of one's life. (child)
- ..... should always be avoided. (waste).
- As a parent my children's ..... is of utmost importance to me. (safe).
- As the sun went below the horizon ..... enveloped the planet. (dark).
- There is no end to his ..... (wicked)

B. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the word given in the brackets.

- My friend did not ..... to my letter. (response)
- He behaved ..... (strange)
- Teacher's ..... had great effect on students. (exhort)
- He ..... his point with valid arguments. (substance)
- Greedy people will never get any ..... in life. (satisfy)
- I don't think that there is any ..... for you to come again. (necessary)
- Though his early attempts were not ..... he did not lose heart. (success)
- I have ..... that song. (memory)
- The teacher ..... her to go home early. (permission)
- Hubble made many astronomical ..... (discover)

C. Complete the following sentences using conditional sentences type three. Change the form of verb if required.

- If you ..... asked me, I ..... told you the truth.
- We ..... got lost if we ..... a map.
- If you ..... had a daughter, I ..... called her chubby doll?
- If the shops ..... been open, they ..... bought something.
- If Ambreen ..... known that, she ..... come back early.
- We ..... sung a song if somebody ..... played the harmonica.
- If I ..... (live) in Spain, I ..... (learn) Spanish.
- If it ..... (rain) yesterday, we ..... (stay) at home.
- I ..... (go) if Amer ..... (invite) me.
- If my son ..... (study) medicine he ..... (become) a doctor.
- If you ..... (come) early you ..... (see) a comet.
- What Mary ..... (do) if she ..... (be) late for school?

D. Tick (✓) the appropriate box

| Sentences                                                             | simple | compound | complex |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|---------|
| The children wore their dirty boots.                                  |        |          |         |
| It was time for bed, yet it was still light outside.                  |        |          |         |
| The front door was locked, so she entered through the back.           |        |          |         |
| They took a lot of pictures when they visited Swat.                   |        |          |         |
| After the show began, he sat very quietly.                            |        |          |         |
| The girl was wearing a red dress.                                     |        |          |         |
| He was playing on his computer.                                       |        |          |         |
| Yahya Khan would like to play, for he is the best player on the team. |        |          |         |
| Before the bell rings, the student lined up at the door.              |        |          |         |
| We turned off the lights.                                             |        |          |         |