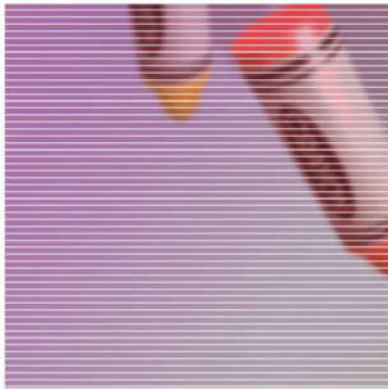


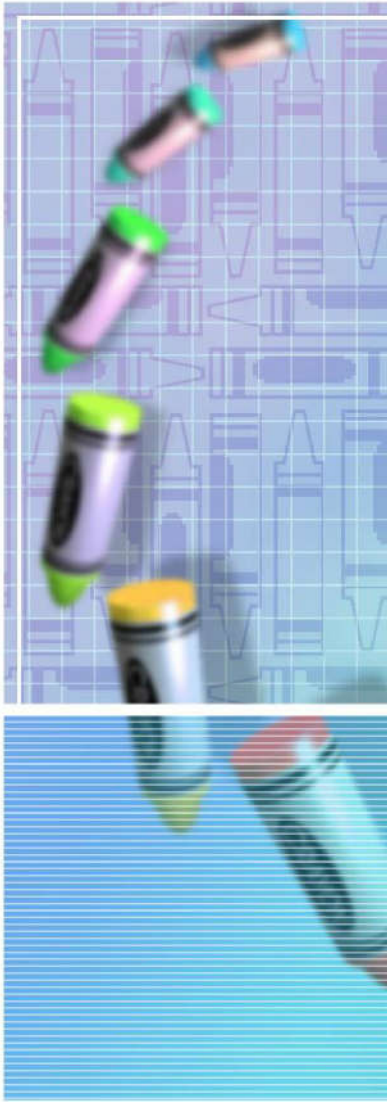
Unit 7
Numbers and Omens





Objectives

- To know the important role numbers play in Chinese culture.
- To know the use of numbers in people's day-to-day life.
- To know how numbers may influence people's decision.
- To learn to scan.



Preview Questions

- ① What is your favorite number from 1 to 9?
- ② Which number do you dislike most?
- ③ How do you feel about the odd number and the even number?



Chinese Culture about Numbers

一帆风顺: safe trip wherever you go

二龙腾飞:

三羊开泰: three *yang* make good fortune

四季平安: safe and sound all the year round

五福临门: may the five fortunes approach your door

五福 -- 长寿(long life); 富贵(wealth); 康宁(health); 好德(ethical life); 善终(peaceful death)

六六大顺: 66 everything goes smoothly

七星高照: mild seven in the year ahead

八方来财: wealth from all directions

九九同心:

十全十美: be perfect in every way

百事亨通: everything goes well; all the best

千事吉祥: everything goes well; all the best

万事如意: everything goes well; all the best

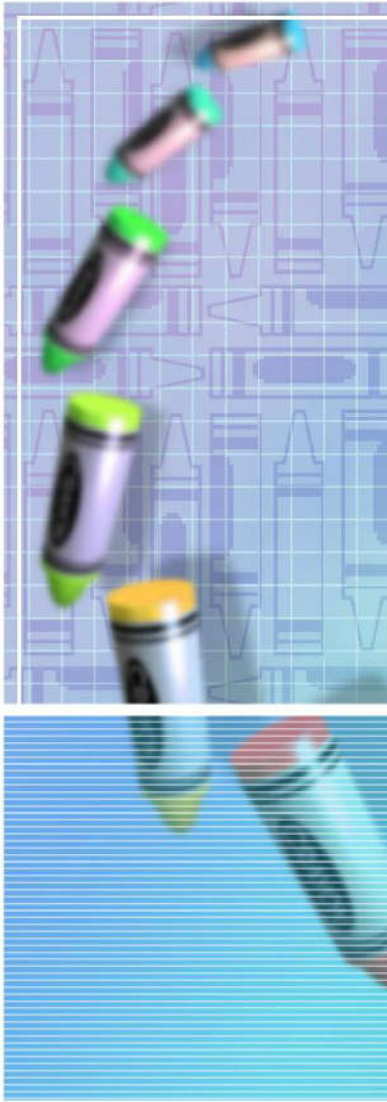
About “3”

“Tao gave birth to the one, the one gave birth to the two, two gave birth to three, and three gave birth to ten thousand things.” 道生一，一生二，二生三，三生万物。

three = many

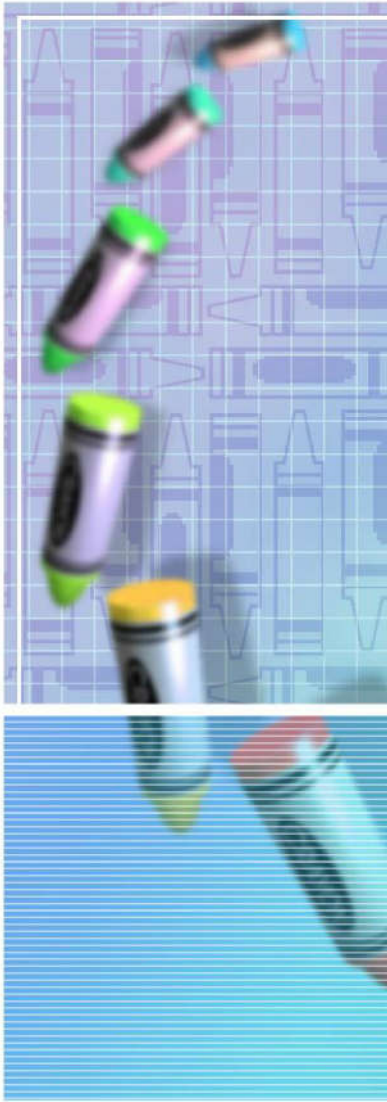
三个臭皮匠,顶个诸葛亮

- *Three cobblers with their wits combined equal Zhuge liang, the master mind.*
- *Two heads are better than one.*
- *Four eyes see more than two.*



Useful sayings

- Fortune comes in pairs; Happiness comes in pairs 好事成双; 双喜临门
- Ill fortune not coming alone 祸不单行
- Seven generations living together 七世同堂
- ...





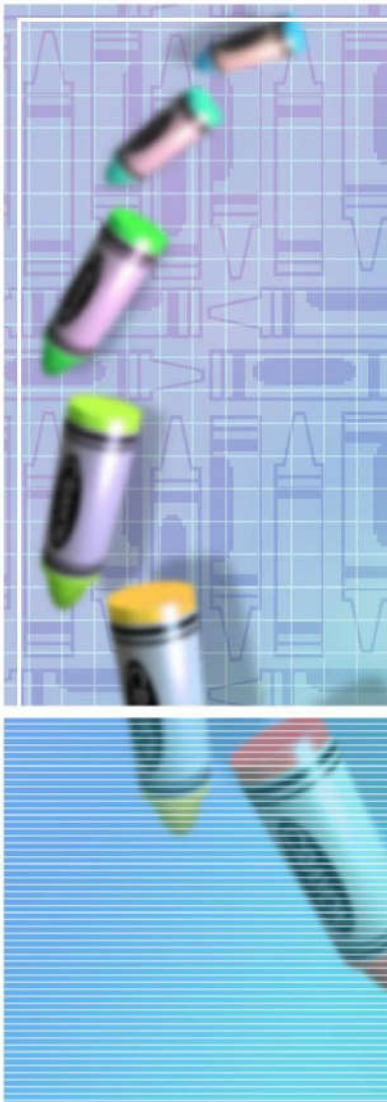
Key Words

1. can't help but (AmE.): 不得不; 不能不

e.g. When a close friend dies, we can't help but feel sad.

help: to avoid, prevent or have control over
(只与can/can't/couldn't连用) 避免; 阻止;
控制住

e.g. I couldn't help laughing when I saw his haircut. 看到他的发式时,我忍不住笑了起来。



2. **chew sb. out (infml.; AmE): speak angrily to**
严厉责备

e.g. He chewed out his secretary for being late to work.

chew sth. over (infml.): to think about (a question, problem, etc.) 仔细考虑(问题等)

e.g. I'll chew it over for a few days and then let you have my answer.

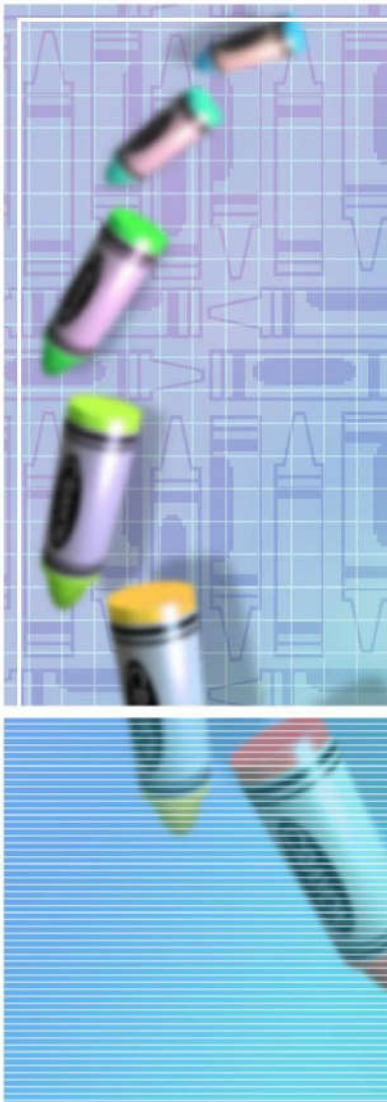
3. **take shape: come to be formed** 成形

e.g. The new building is beginning to take shape.

4. **be held at bay: be kept away** 远离

5. **ascribe to: attribute to** 把...归于; 认为...属于

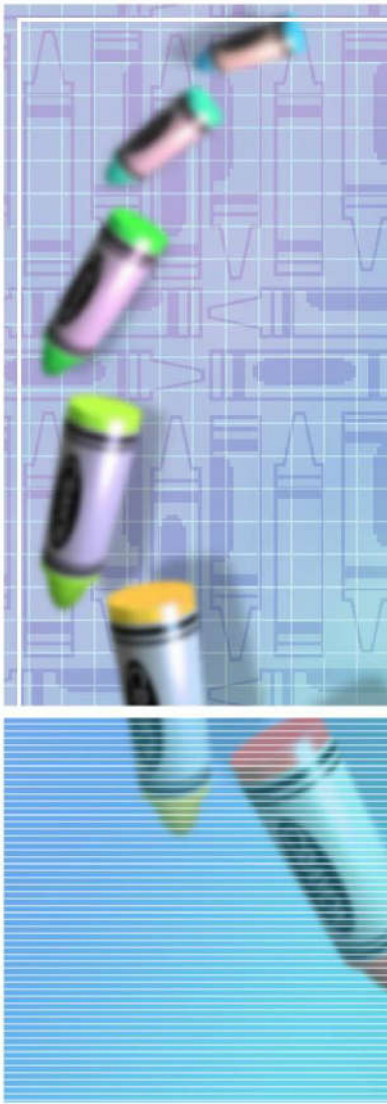
e.g. He ascribed his good health to proper diet and exercise. 他把身体好归功于适当的饮食及运动。

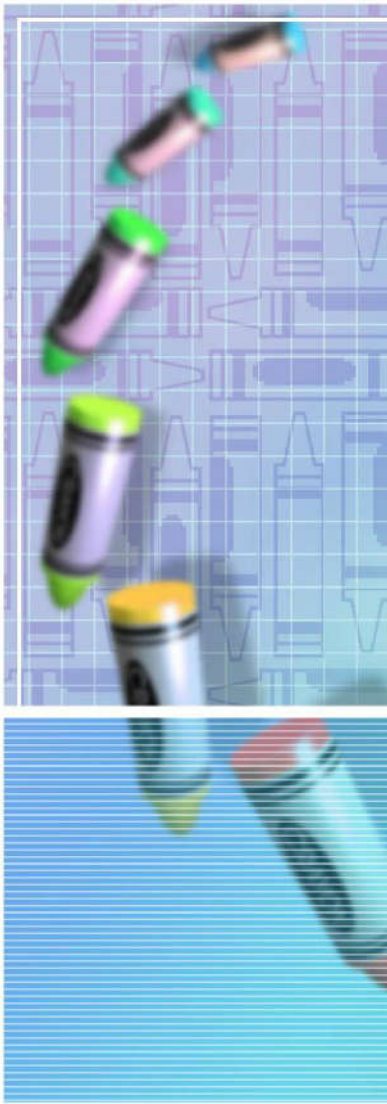


6. **be wary of :be cautious of** 提防; 对...小心谨慎
7. **meticulous: careful** 小心的; 谨慎的
8. **inclined to : attracted by** 倾斜
9. **looked-upon: regarded** 重视
10. **assign: give** 给予
11. **imply: suggest** 暗示
12. **stray from: wander away from** 偏离; 离开
13. **be obsessed with: be preoccupied with** 沉迷于
14. **homophone: word pronounced alike but meant differently** 同音字

Structure Analysis


Division	Paragraph	Main Idea
Part I	P1-P4	Introduction
Part II	P5-P10	Origins in the Book of Changes
Part III	P11-P13	God can be alone, but people can't
Part IV	P14-P18	Happiness comes in pairs
Part V	P19-P34	Elevators without fourth floor





Topic for Discussion

- ① **What is the significance of numbers in our life?**
- ② **Do you think that faith in numbers is superstitious? Why or why not?**
- ③ **What are some different examples of “auspicious” and “ominous” numbers in our life?**



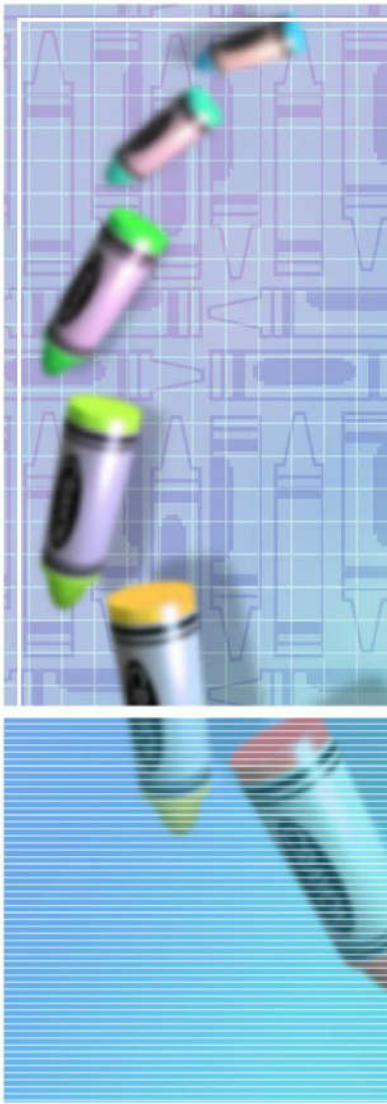
Reading Skill – Scanning(扫读)

扫读:寻读或查读

扫读&略读

同: 快速阅读技巧

异: 略读时,读者事先对材料一无所知;而扫读则是读者在略读之后,根据已知的文章的大意与结构,按照题目要求确定所需特定、关键信息的位置从而找到正确答案.



In scanning follow these steps:

- Be sure to know what you want to find.
- If you are not familiar with the material, find out its arrangement. If necessary, skim and locate the section of the material that may contain the information you need.
- Move your eyes very rapidly over the lines until you find the very information you want.