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吃喜酒 Weddings

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FLTA 華語自學者繪本書 FLTA Story Book Series

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Taiwan 學術交流基金會
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FLTA Storybook Series

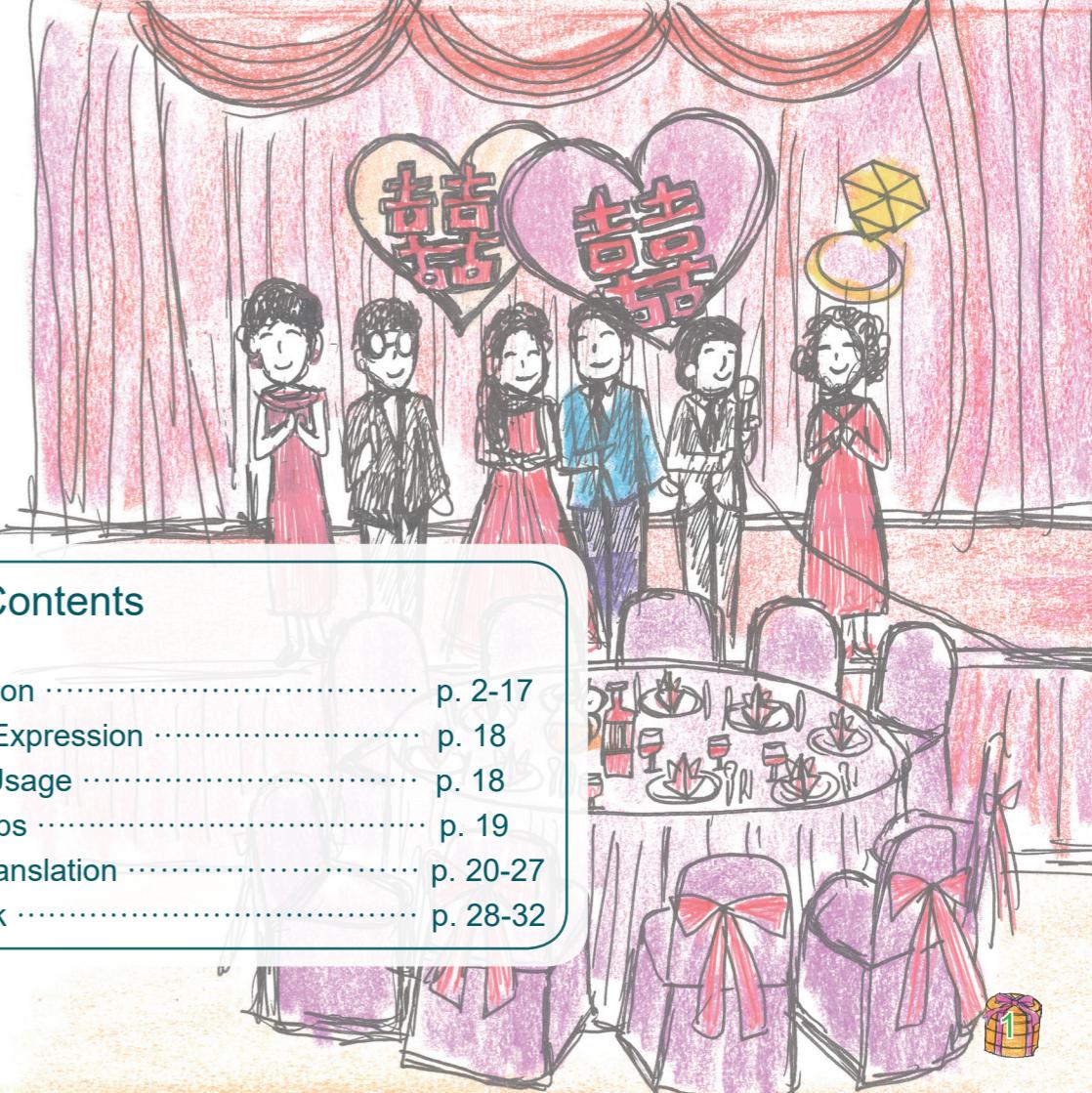
The authors of the FLTA Storybook Series are from the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) program administrated by Fulbright Taiwan, which enables educators from Taiwan to assist in Chinese teaching in U.S. colleges and universities for around 9 months. In addition to teaching language, FLTAs serve as cultural ambassadors on campus. The program has benefited many Taiwanese teachers and also American university students since 2011. Special thanks to Department of State of U.S. and Ministry of Education of Taiwan for their great support to FLTA program over the years.

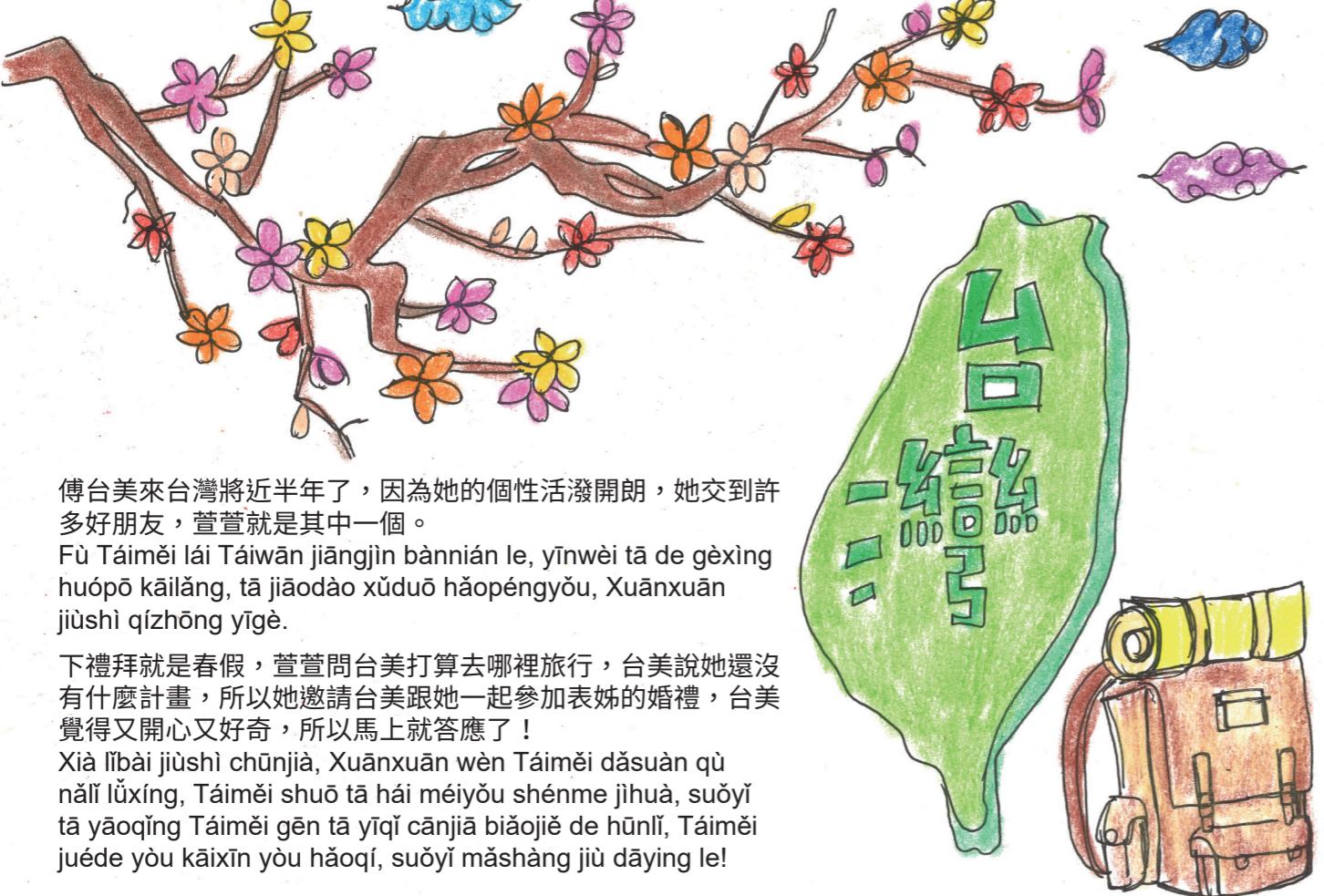
FLTA華語自學者繪本書系列

作者獲頒傅爾布萊特獎學金至美國參與協助華語教學獎助計畫(FLTA)，他們於美國大學就讀非學位課程、增進教學技巧、擴展對美國文化風俗認識的同時，亦推廣華語文化，加強當地的華語學習。傅爾布萊特教師赴美進修暨協助華語教學獎助計畫創始於2011年，這些華語助教們生動的華語教學方式，也開啟了文化交流的機會。FLTA計畫特別感謝美國國務院和台灣教育部的支持，嘉惠了台灣的教育者以及美國學生們！

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傅台美來台灣將近半年了，因為她的個性活潑開朗，她交到許多好朋友，萱萱就是其中一個。

Fù Táiměi lái Táiwān jiāngjìn bānnián le, yīnwèi tā de gèxìng huópō kāilǎng, tā jiāodào xǔduō hǎopéngyǒu, Xuānxuān jiùshì qízhōng yīgè.

下禮拜就是春假，萱萱問台美打算去哪裡旅行，台美說她還沒有什麼計畫，所以她邀請台美跟她一起參加表姊的婚禮，台美覺得又開心又好奇，所以馬上就答應了！

Xià lǐbài jiùshì chūnjì, Xuānxuān wèn Táiměi dǎsuàn qù nǎlǐ lǚxíng, Táiměi shuō tā hái méiyǒu shénme jīhuà, suǒyǐ tā yāoqǐng Táiměi gēn tā yīqǐ cānjiā biǎojiē de hūnlǐ, Táiměi juéde yòu kāixīn yòu hǎoqí, suǒyǐ mǎshàng jiù dāying le!

婚禮當天，萱萱和台美早上就搭高鐵去台中。因為婚禮上可以看到台灣的傳統習俗，他們兩個都非常好奇！

在高鐵上，萱萱拿出手機，給台美看了表姊的 Instagram，上面都是表姊和姊夫的婚紗照，不但有表姊穿白色婚紗的相片，還有她穿紅色旗袍的相片呢！

Hūnlǐ dāngtiān, Xuānxuān hé Táiměi zǎoshàng jiù dā gāotiē qù Táizhōng. Yīnwèi hūnlǐ shàng kěyǐ kàndào Táiwān de chuántǒng xísú, tāmen liǎng gè dōu fēicháng hàoqí!

Zài gāotiē shàng, Xuānxuān náchū shǒujī, gěi Táiměi kàn le biǎojiē de Instagram, shàngmiàn dōu shì biǎojiē hé jiěfū de hūnshāzhào, bùdàn yǒu biǎojiē chuān báisè hūnshā de xiàngpiàn, háiyóu tā chuān hóngsè qípáo de xiàngpiàn ne!

台美驚訝地問：哇！好美喔！在台灣，新郎結婚之前可以看到新娘穿白色婚紗的樣子嗎？

Táiměi jīng yà de wèn: Wā! Hǎoměi ò! Zài Táiwān, xīnláng jiéhūn zhīqián kěyǐ kàndào xīnniáng chuān báisè hūnshā de yàngzi ma?

萱萱：可以啊！為什麼這麼問呢？

Xuānxuān: Kěyǐ ā! Wéishénme zhème wèn ne?

台美：在美國通常不行，因為美國人相信那會給婚姻帶來惡運。

Táiměi: Zài Měiguó tōngcháng bùxíng, yīnwèi Měiguórén xiāngxìn nà huì gěi hūnyīn dài lái èyùn.

萱萱：既然有這個禁忌，美國人要怎麼拍婚紗照呢？

Xuānxuān: Jíránhěi yǒu zhège jìnji, Měiguórén yào zěnme pāi hūnshāzhào ne?

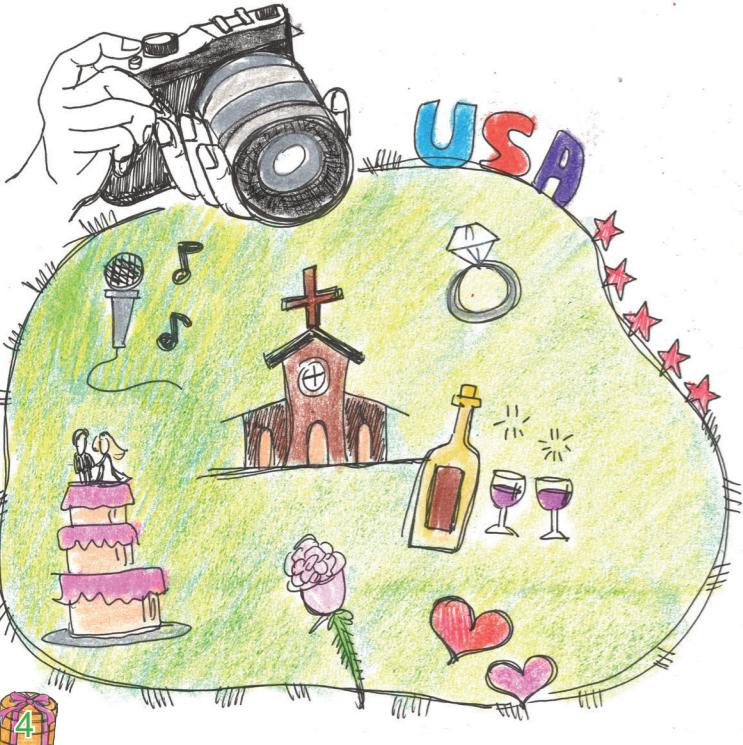


台美：在美國，人們不常在結婚前先拍婚紗照，大部分的人只在婚禮當天拍照，那些相片才是「結婚照」喔！

Táiméi: Zài Měiguó, rénmen bù cháng zài jiéhūnqián xiān pāihūnshāzhào, dàbùfèn de rén zhǐ zài hūnlǐ dāngtiān pāizhào, nàxiē xiàngpiàn cái shì "jiéhūnzhào" ō!

萱萱：哇，真的非常不一樣！

Xuānxuān: Wā, zhēnde fēicháng bùyíyàng!



台美：不過，你表姊的婚紗照，真的好美！我很喜歡。看了她的照片之後，讓我也想在台灣拍婚紗照了！哈哈…

Táiméi: Búguò, nǐ biǎojiě de hūnshāzhào, zhēnde hǎoměi! Wǒ hěn xǐhuān. Kàn le tāde zhàopiàn zhīhòu, ràng wǒ yě xiǎng zài Táiwān pāihūnshāzhào le! Hā hā.....

萱萱：說不定你以後會成為台灣媳婦呢！嘻嘻…

Xuānxuān: Shuōbùdìng nǐ yǐhòu huì chéngwéi Táiwān xífù ne! Xī xī.....

兩人說說笑笑，一下子就到台中了。

Liǎng rén shuōshuō xiàoxiào, yíxiàzi jiù dào Táizhōng le.

到了表姊的娘家，迎娶儀式正要開始，台美對什麼都感到好奇，尤其是紅色的剪紙。

Dàole biǎojiě de niángjiā, yíngqǔ yíshì zhèngyào kāishǐ, Táiméi dùi shénme dōu gǎndào hǎoqí, yóuqíshì hóngsè de jiǎnzhi.

台美：萱萱，為什麼表姊家裡貼滿了紅色剪紙呢？而且它看起來像是「喜歡」的喜，但又有兩個「喜」。

Táiméi: Xuānxuān, wèishénme biǎojiě jiālǐ tiē mǎn le hóngsè jiǎnzhi ne? Érqiè tā kànqǐlái xiàngshì "xǐhuān" de xǐ, dàn yòu yǒu liǎnggè "xǐ".

萱萱：沒錯！那的確是兩個「喜」字，合起來是「囍」，特別用在結婚的時候，你知道為什麼嗎？

Xuānxuān: Méicuò! Nà díquè shì liǎnggè "xǐ" zì, héqǐlái shì "xǐ", tèbié yòng zài jiéhūn de shíhòu, nǐ zhīdào wèishénme ma?

台美：嗯…，這是因為新郎與新娘互相喜歡的意思嗎？

Táiméi: En....., zhè shì yīnwèi xīnláng yǔ xīnniáng hùxiàng xǐhuān de yìsi ma?

萱萱：答對了！你好聰明！另外，在華人文化裡，「二」是個很好的數字，意思是「成雙成對」。

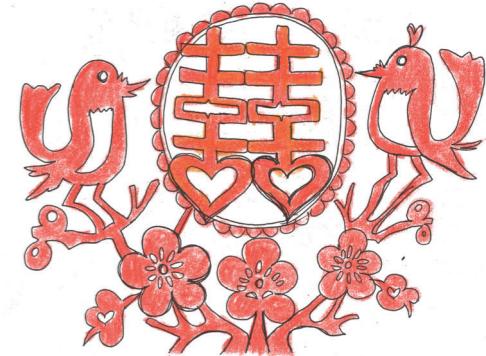
Xuānxuān: Dáduì le! Nǐ hǎocōngmíng! Lìngwài, zài Huárén wénhuà lǐ, "èr" shì gè hěnhǎo de shùzì, yìsì shì "chéngshuāngchéngduì".

台美：那麼，四、六、八也是很受歡迎的數字嗎？

Táiméi: Nàme, sì, liù, bā yěshì hěn shòuhuānyíng de shùzì ma?

萱萱：除了「四」之外，其他數字都是！

Xuānxuān: Chúle "sì" zhīwài, qítā shùzì dōu shì!



新郎和伴郎們來了，一共開著六輛轎車，台美想：「為什麼要六輛車呢？對了，『六』也是雙數！」
Xīnláng hé bànláng men lái le, yīgōng kāi zhe liù liàng jiàochē, Táiměi xiǎng: "Wèishénme yào liù liàng chē ne? Duile, "liù" yě shì shuāngshù!"

迎娶儀式開始了，台美和萱萱興奮地在旁邊看著。

Yíngqū yíshì kāishǐ le, Táiměi hé Xuānxuān xìngfèn de zài pángbiān kàn zhe.

今天明明是高興的日子，儀式的其中一個部分讓大家都哭了，那就是「拜別父母」，也就是跟父母說再見。

Jīntiān míngmíng shì gāoxìng de rìzi, yíshì de qízhōng yíge bùfèn ràng dàjiā dōu kū le, nà jiùshì "bàibié fùmǔ", yějiùshì gēn fùmǔ shuō zàijiàn.

萱萱：一想到我結婚時也要拜別父母，就覺得很捨不得，我想一直陪著我爸爸媽媽！

Xuānxuān: Yǐxiāngdào wǒ jiéhūn shí yě yào bàibié fùmǔ, jiù juéde hěn shěbùdé, wǒ xiǎng yìzhí péi zhe wǒ bàbà māmā!

台美：在美國的婚禮，新娘的爸爸也會牽著新娘的手，走入禮堂，再把新娘交給新郎，那時也讓人想哭呢！

Táiměi: Zài Měiguó de hūnlǐ, xīnniáng de bàbà yě huì qiān zhe xīnniáng de shǒu, zǒurù lǐtáng, zài bǎ xīnniáng jiāogěi xīnláng, nàshí yě ràng rén xiǎng kū ne!

萱萱：嗚嗚 … 真的！我真不明白，為什麼女生結婚就是離開自己的家呢？

Xuānxuān: Wūwū.....zhēnde! Wǒ zhēn bùmíngbái, wèishénme nǚshēng jiéhūn jiùshì líkāi zìjǐ de jiā ne?



拜別父母

拜別父母之後，新娘上了禮車，往車窗外丟了扇子；接著，新娘的媽媽也往房子外潑水，而且潑得很高。

Bàibié fùmǔ zhīhòu, xīnniáng shàng le lǐchē, wǎng chēchuāng wài diū le shànzi; jiēzhe, xīnniáng de māmā yě wǎng fángzi wài pōshuǐ, érqiè pō de hěn gāo.

台美：萱萱，為什麼表姊要丟扇子呢？

Táiměi: Xuānxuān, wèishénme biāojíe yào diū shànzi ne?

萱萱：在台語，「扇子」的發音和「脾氣」很像，丟扇子的意思是希望新娘結婚後，脾氣別太大，當一位溫柔的好太太、好媽媽，所以才要「丟扇子」。

Xuānxuān: Zài Táiyǔ, "shànzi" de fāyīn hé "píqì" hěn xiàng, diū shànzi de yìsi shì xīwàng xīnniáng jiéhūn hòu, píqì bié tài dà, dāng yíwèi wēnróu de hǎo tàitài, hǎo māmā, suoyǐ cái yào "diū shànzi".



台美：我懂了 … 女生好辛苦喔，要去別人家生活，還不能有自己的個性。

Táiměi: Wǒ dǒng le.....nǚshēng hǎo xīnkǔ ō, yào qù biérén jiā shēnghuó, hái bùnéng yǒu zìjǐ de gèxìng.

萱萱：我也這樣覺得！像我脾氣這麼大，可能要丟「電風扇」了吧！哈哈！

Xuānxuān: Wǒ yě zhèyàng juéde! Xiàng wǒ píqì zhème dà, kěnéng yào diū "diànfēngshàn" le ba! Hāhā!

台美：哈哈，你太誇張了！那麼，新娘的媽媽為什麼要潑水啊？

Táiměi: Hāhā, nǐ tài kuāzhāng le! Nàme, xīnniáng de māmā wèishénme yào pōshuǐ ā?

萱萱：有人說「潑水」的意思是女兒結婚了，就像潑出去的水，不會再回來，但是「潑水」還有另一個意思是「祝福」，水潑得越高，祝福也越多。

Xuānxuān: Yǒurén shuō "pōshuǐ" de yìsi shì nǚér jiéhūn le, jiù xiàng pō chūqù de shuǐ, búhuì zài huílái, dànshì "pōshuǐ" háiyǒu lìng yīgè yìsi shì "zhùfú", shuǐ pō dé yuè gāo, zhùfú yě yuèduō.

台美：我比較喜歡第二個意思，不然太讓人傷心了 …

Táiměi: Wǒ bìjiào xǐhuān dìergè yìsi, bùrán tài ràng rén shāngxīn le.....

迎娶儀式結束，萱萱和台美來到了婚宴餐廳。

Yíngqǔ yínhì jiéshù, Xuānxuān hé Táiměi lái dào le hūnyàn cāntīng.

台美：萱萱，你看，是婚紗照小卡片耶！

Táiměi: Xuānxuān, nǐ kàn, shì hūnshāzhào xiǎo kǎpiàn yē!

萱萱：對啊，好美！希望我也能快點遇到那個對的人。

Xuānxuān: Duì ā, hǎoměi! Xīwàng wǒ yě néng kuàidiǎn yùdào nàgè duì de rén.

台美：到時候我要當你的伴娘！

Táiměi: Dàoshíhòu wǒyào dāng nǐ de bànniáng!

萱萱：那我也要當你的！

Xuānxuān: Nà wǒyěyào dāng nǐde!

台美：好期待喔！對了，萱萱，我看到客人都帶紅包來，這也是你們參加婚禮的習慣嗎？

Táiměi: Hǎo qīdài ō! Duìle, Xuānxuān, wǒ kàndào kèrén dōu dài hóngbāo lái, zhè yěshì nǐmen cānjiā hūnlǐ de xíguàn ma?

萱萱：對啊，紅包裡面的金錢一定是雙數，和新郎新娘越熟，就會包得越多。美國呢？

Xuānxuān: Duì ā, hóngbāo lǐmiàn de jīnqián yídìng shì shuāngshù, hé xīnláng xīnniáng yuèshù, jiù huì bāo de yuèduō. Měiguó ne?

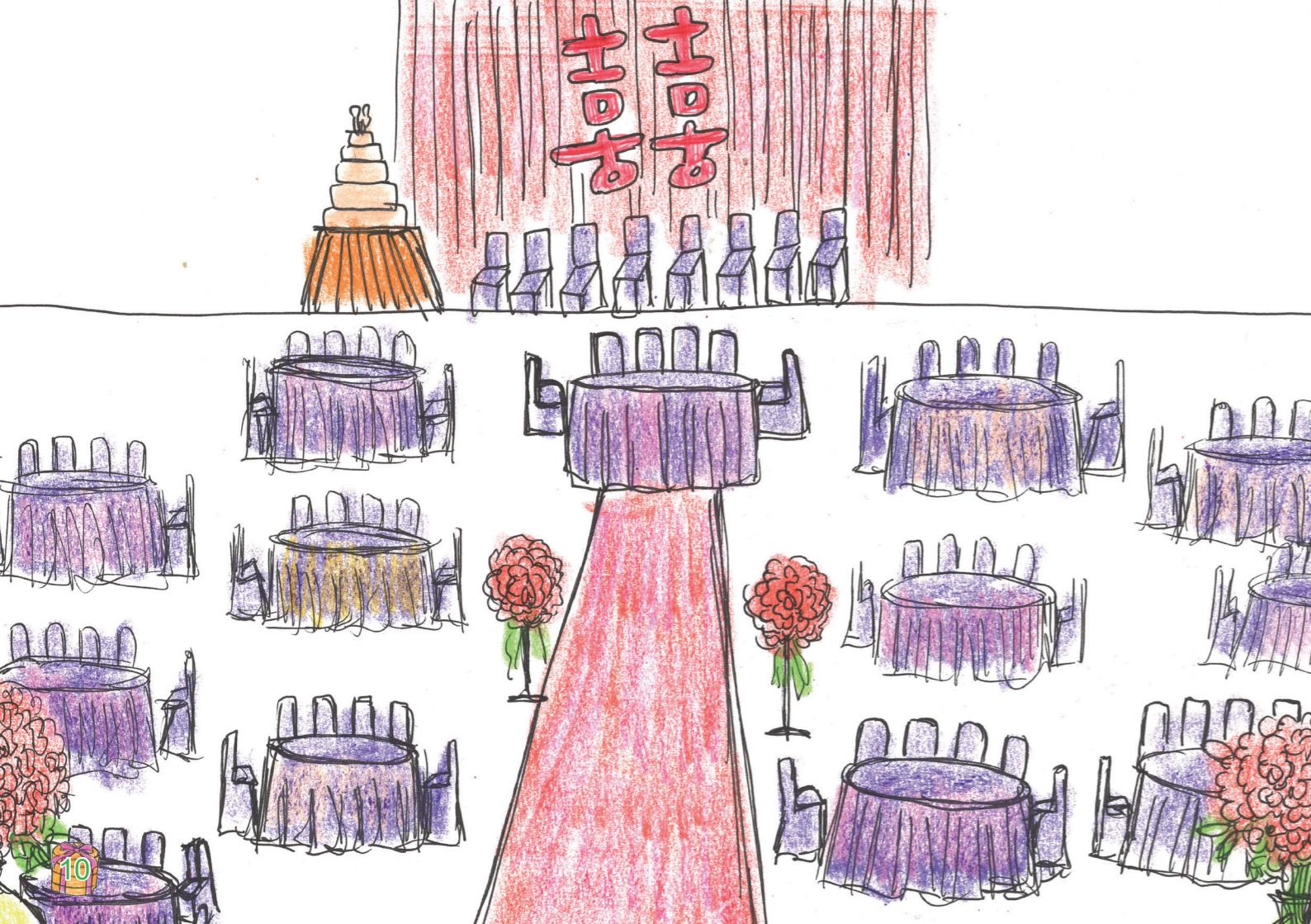
台美：美國的新郎新娘會寫出一張禮物清單，客人可以選禮物，買來送給他們。

Táiměi: Měiguó de xīnláng xīnniáng huì xiě chū yīzhāng lǐwù qīngdān, kèrén kěyǐ xuǎn lǐwù, mǎi lái sònggěi tāmen.

萱萱：聽起來很實用！那我可能會列出一百個禮物，哈哈！

Xuānxuān: Tīngqǐlái hěn shíyòng! Nà wǒ kěnéng huì lièchū yibāigè lǐwù, hāhā!





當萱萱和台美走進婚禮會場時，台美忍不住大叫：好多桌子！

Dāng Xuānxuān hé Táiměi zǒujìn hūnlǐ huìchǎng shí, Táiměi rěnbúzhù dà jiào: Hǎoduō zhuōzì!

萱萱：今天有五十桌，下禮拜的那場婚禮有三十桌。

Xuānxuān: Jīntiān yǒu wǔshí zhuō, xià lǐbài de nà chǎng hūnlǐ yǒu sānshí zhuō.

台美：什麼？為什麼有兩場婚禮？

Táiměi: Shénme? Wèishénme yǒu liǎngchǎng hūnlǐ?

萱萱：在台灣，新郎和新娘從不同地方來，會辦兩次，才能讓兩個人的親人朋友都可以參加婚禮，但是，現在越來越多人只辦一場，比較方便。

Xuānxuān: Zài Táiwān, xīnláng hé xīnniáng cóng bùtóng dìfāng lái, huì bàn liǎngcì, cainéng ràng liǎnggèrén de qīnrén péngyǒu dōu kěyǐ cānjiā hūnlǐ, dànshì, xiànzài yuèlái yuèduō rén zhǐ bàn yīchǎng, bǐjiào fāngbiàn.

台美：今天有很多人來！他們都是新娘很熟的家人朋友嗎？

Táiměi: Jīntiān yǒu hěnduōrén lái! Tāmen dōushì xīnniáng hěn shú de jiārén péngyǒu ma?

萱萱：不完全是，其實有的賓客不是新娘的朋友，而是新娘父母親那邊的。有時候，婚禮成為新人家長與老朋友聚會的一個場合喔！

Xuānxuān: Bù wánquán shì, qíshí yóude bīnkè bùshì xīnniáng de péngyǒu, érshì xīnniáng fùmǔqīn nàbiān de. Yóushíhòu, hūnlǐ chéngwéi xīnrén jiāzhǎng yǔ lǎopéngyǒu jùhuì de yīgè chǎnghé ō!

台美：難怪好多人啊！

Táiměi: Nánguài hǎoduō rén ā!

婚宴開始了。

Hūnyàn kāishǐ le.

台美：太幸福了 ... 每道菜都好好吃！

Táiměi: Tàixìngfú le.....měidào cài dōu hǎohǎo chī!

萱萱：你最喜歡哪一道呢？

Xuānxuān: Nǐ zuì xǐhuān nǎ yīdào ne?

台美：我愛吃甜食，所以我最喜歡「炸湯圓」！早上在新娘的家裡，我們也吃了甜湯圓，現在又有炸湯圓，沾滿花生粉實在對味，而且湯圓小小圓圓的，好可愛。

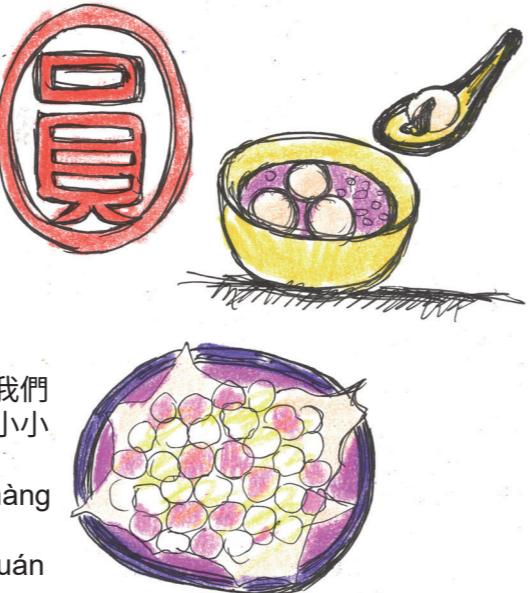
Táiměi: Wǒ ài chī tiánshí, suǒyǐ wǒ zuì xǐhuān "zhàtāngyuán"! Zǎoshàng zài xīnniáng de jiālǐ, wǒmen yě chī le tiántāng tāngyuán, xiànzài yòu yǒu zhàtāngyuán, zhān mǎn huāshēngfěn shízài duìwèi, érqiè tāngyuán xiǎoxiǎo yuányuán de, hǎo kěài.

萱萱：湯圓是圓的，餐桌是圓的，中秋節賞月的月亮也是圓圓的滿月，在我們文化裡，圓形象徵「圓滿」、「團圓」，所以湯圓代表給新人的祝福喔！

Xuānxuān: Tāngyuán shì yuánde, cānzhōu shì yuánde, Zhōngqiūjié shǎngyuè de yuèliàng yě shì yuányuán de mǎnyuè, zài wǒmen wénhuà lǐ, yuánxíng xiàngzhēng "yuánmǎn", "tuányuán", suǒyǐ tāngyuán dàibiǎo gěi xīnrén de zhùfú ō!

台美：沒想到小小的湯圓具有重大的意義，我太小看它了！

Táiměi: Méi xiǎngdào xiǎoxiǎo de tāngyuán jùyǒu zhòngdà de yìyì, wǒ tài xiǎokàn tā le!



台美：我好飽 ... 等一下的跳舞時間，我想去跳舞！

Táiměi: Wǒ hǎobǎo.....děngyíxià de tiàowǔ shíjīān, wǒ xiǎng qù tiàowǔ!

萱萱：跳舞時間？

Xuānxuān: Tiàowǔ shíjīān?

台美：咦？美國的婚禮通常有跳舞時間，台灣呢？

Táiměi: Yí? Měiguó de hūnlǐ tōngcháng yǒu tiàowǔ shíjīān, Táiwān ne?

萱萱：台灣的喜宴，如果有跳舞的部分，通常是在台上表演，安排賓客一起跳舞是比較少見的！

Xuānxuān: Táiwān de xǐyàn, rúguǒ yǒu tiàowǔ de bùfèn, tōngcháng shì xīnrén zài tái shàng biǎoyān, ānpái bīnkè yǐqǐ tiàowǔ shì bījiào shǎo jiàn de!

台美：原來如此。在美國，新人會請婚禮歌手在婚宴上唱歌，也會有跳舞時間，新郎新娘共舞是很浪漫的畫面，而新娘和父親跳舞則是很感人的時刻，再來就是派對時間，賓客們可以一起跳舞喔！

Táiměi: Yuánlái rúcǐ. Zài Měiguó, xīnrén huì qǐng hūnlǐ gēshǒu zài hūnyàn shàng chànggē, yě huì yǒu tiàowǔ shíjīān, xīnláng xīnniáng gòngwǔ shì hěn làngmàn de huàmiàn, ér xīnniáng hé fùqīn tiàowǔ zé shì hěn gǎnrén de shíkè, zài lái jiùshì pàidìu shíjīān, bīnkè men kěyǐ yīqǐ tiàowǔ ō!

萱萱：有機會我也想參加美式婚禮，感覺好好玩！

Xuānxuān: Yǒu jīhuì wǒ yě xiǎng cānjiā měishì hūnlǐ, gǎnjué hǎo hǎo wán!



婚宴差不多快結束了，賓客們在門口排隊著。

Hūnyàn chàbùduō kuài jiéshù le, bīnkè men zài ménkǒu páiduì zhe.

台美：萱萱，大家還在排什麼呢？

Táiměi: Xuānxuān, dàijiā hái zài pái shénme ne?

萱萱：他們等著排隊和新郎新娘拍照。

Xuānxuān: Tāmen děng zhe páiduì hé xīnláng xīnniáng pāizhào.

台美：哇，我也要和他們合照！

Táiměi: Wā, wǒ yěyào hé tāmen hézhào!

萱萱：好啊，走，我們去排隊！

Xuānxuān: Hǎo ā, zǒu, wǒmen qù páiduì!

拍完照後 ...

Pāi wán zhào hòu.....

台美：萱萱，新娘好美、新郎好帥！而且新娘還送了每個人糖果，好好喔！

Táiměi: Xuānxuān, xīnniáng hǎoměi, xīnláng hǎoshuài! Érqiè xīnniáng hái sòng le mēigérén tángguǒ, hǎo hǎo ô!

萱萱：對啊，表姊和姊夫「郎才女貌」、「天作之合」，我真的很為他們開心；至於新娘送的糖果叫做「喜糖」，吃了會帶來好運！

Xuānxuān: Duì ā, biǎojiě hé jiěfū "lángcái nǚmào", "tiānzuò zhīhé", wǒ zhēnde hěn wéi tāmen kāixīn; zhìyú xīnniáng sòng de tángguǒ jiàozuò "xǐtáng", chī le huì dài lái hǎoyùn!

台美：真的？我要多吃幾顆！

Táiměi: Zhēnde? Wǒyào duō chī jǐ kē!



回台北的路上，台美拿出表姊的婚紗小卡，回味今天的幸福，而且手上拿著一盒精美的喜餅，同樣是美國所沒有的習俗。能有機會參加台灣的婚禮，台美真的感到無比幸運。

Huí Táibēi de lùshàng, Táiměi náchū biāojiě de hūnshā xiǎokǎ, huíwèi jīntiān de xìngfú, érqiě shǒushàng ná zhe yī hé jīngměi de xǐbǐng, tóngyàng shì Měiguó suǒ méiyǒu de xíssú. Néng yǒu jīhuì cānjiā Táiwān de hūnlǐ, Táiměi zhēnde gǎndào wúbǐ xìngyùn.



情景表達 Common Expression

Part A

下列句子什麼時候說？

1. 我太小看它了！
2. 原來如此。
3. 聽起來很實用。

Part B

下列情景怎麼說？

1. 你一直覺得你的朋友不會唱歌，可是你突然發現他唱歌唱得很好。（沒想到 ...）
2. 你的朋友找你一起去買東西，你剛好也想買東西。（好啊！走，我們 ...）
3. 你一直想做什麼事，可是沒有機會做？（有機會，我也想 ...）

語言實踐 Practical Usage

訪問你的朋友，說一說他們參加婚禮的經驗。

1. 你參加過婚禮嗎？有沒有什麼特別印象？
2. 那是誰的婚禮？你是去哪裡參加婚禮的？
3. 你最喜歡婚禮的哪一個部分？為什麼？
4. 你在婚禮上看到什麼了嗎？跟你的國家什麼不同？
5. 你送新郎新娘禮物嗎？你送他們什麼禮物？這個禮物有什麼意思？

文化點滴 Cultural Tips

台灣婚禮

1. 在台灣，新郎新娘會在婚禮前先拍好婚紗照，還會把婚紗照做成小卡片送給客人。
2. 在台灣的文化中，除了「四」以外，「雙數」都是好的數字，所以在婚禮上很多東西都是「雙數」，像是「囍」、「六輛禮車」等等。
3. 「拜別父母」是新娘跟父母說再見的儀式，拜別父母之後，新娘會丟扇子，父母會潑水，意思是新娘已經離開家了。
4. 在台灣參加婚禮時，客人們送紅包給新郎新娘。
5. 在台灣婚禮，給紅包時，一定要包「雙數」。
6. 在台灣婚禮上，菜也有特別的意思，像是「湯圓」的意思就是「圓滿」。
7. 有的人會辦兩場婚禮，讓新郎、新娘的家人朋友都可以參加婚禮。
8. 除了新郎新娘的朋友會來參加婚禮，新郎新娘父母的朋友也可能來參加。

英文翻譯 English Translation

page 2

Taimei Fu has been in Taiwan for about half year. She has made a lot of good friends because of her outgoing and energetic personalities, and one of her friends is named Xuanxuan. Because it was going to be the spring break next week, Xuanxuan asked where Taimei planed to go for traveling. Taimei told Xuanxuan that she hadn't made up any plan yet, so Xuanxuan invited Taimei to attend her cousin's wedding. Taimei was happy and curious about the wedding in Taiwan, so she accepted the invitation right away.

page 3

On the wedding day, Xuanxuan and Taimei took the High Speed Rail(HSR) to Taichung City in the morning. Both of them were very curious about the wedding because they could see Taiwanese traditions about wedding.

On the HSR, Xuanxuan took out her cell phone and showed her cousin's Instagram to Taimei. There were all the wedding photos of her cousin and her brother in law. There were the photos of her cousin not only wearing white wedding dress but also in red cheongsam.

Taimei asked surprisedly: Wow! It's so beautiful! Can the groom see the bride in her white wedding dress before they marry in Taiwan?

Xuanxuan: Yes, he can. Why would you ask this?

Taimei: Generally it's not acceptable in the US because the Americans believe that would

bring misfortune to their marriage.

Xuanxuan: Then how do the Americans take wedding photos if you have this taboo?

page 4

Taimei: In the US, people seldom take wedding photos before they get married. Most people take wedding photos on the wedding only, and those are the real "wedding photos."

Xuanxuan: Wow, that's quite different!

Taimei: However your cousin's wedding photos are so beautiful. After I see her wedding photos, it makes me want to take wedding photos in Taiwan.Haha!

Xuanxuan: You might even become a Taiwanese daughter in law in the future. Hehe!

Xuanxuan and Taimei arrived in Taichung City shortly while they were talking and laughing on the way.

page 5

The wedding ceremony was about to start when they reached Xuanxuan's cousin's home. Taimei was curious about everything she saw, especially the red paper cutting.

Taimei: Xuanxuan, why are there red cut paper posted all around your cousin's house? And they look like the "Xi" of "XiHuān", but there are two "Xi" in the same character.

Xuanxuan: Exactly! They are actually two "Xi" characters. When they are combined

together into a single Chinese character, it becomes "Xi" used especially at wedding. Do you know why?

Taimei: Well, is it for the groom and the bride loving each other?

Xuanxuan: Bingo! You're so clever, aren't you? What's more is that 'two' is a good number in Chinese culture. It means 'in pairs.'

Taimei: Well then , are 'two, four, six and eight' all popular numbers?", asked Taimei.

Xuanxuan: Except the number 'four,' the other even numbers are good and popular.

page 6

The groom and the groomsmen arrived. There were six limos in total. "Why is it six limos? Oh yup! 'Six' is an even number as well.", thought Taimei.

The wedding ceremony began. Taimei and Xuanxuan were observing it excitedly by the side. This was actually a happy day, but there was a part of the ceremony that made everybody's eye tear. It was "Bài bié fùmǔ", meaning farewell to the parents.

Xuanxuan: Once I think of I also have to say good bye to my parents in my wedding, I feel I can't bear the sadness. I'd love to accompany my parents forever.

Taimei: In the US, the bride's father would hold the bride's hand in the wedding while walking into the hall, and then he gives his daughter to the groom. That moment makes people wanna cry as well.

Xuanxuan: Woo, that's so true! Why is it necessary that girls leave their home after marriage?

page 7

After farewelling to her parents, the bride got into the wedding limo, and she threw a fan out of the car. Then, the bride's mother poured the water out off the house, and the water went pretty high.

Taimei: Xuanxuan, why did your cousin throw out the fan?

Xuanxuan: The pronunciation of 'fan' and 'temper' are similar in Taiwanese dialect, so throwing away the fan means people hope the bride become a good and gentle wife or mother without bad temper after getting married.

page 8

Taimei: Now I see. It's so tiring for girls. Girls have to live with her husband's family, and they can't have their own temper.

Xuanxuan: I feel the same way! I am a girl with ill-humour, so I might have to throw away an 'electrical fan'! Haha!

Taimei: Haha, you're way too over. And why does the bride's mother pour the water out of the house?

Xuanxuan: Some people say the married daughter will never come back just like the 'pouring water'. However, the other meaning of 'pouring water' is 'giving blessings' to the daughter. The higher the pouring water goes, the more blessings the married daughters will receive.

Taimei: I prefer the second meaning of ‘pouring water’; otherwise it would be too heartbreaking.

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Right after the wedding ceremony ended, Xuanxuan and Taimei arrived at the wedding restaurant.

Taimei: Xuanxuan, look! Those are small wedding cards!

Xuanxuan: Yes, they are. I hope I can meet the Mr. Right soon.

Taimei: And then I am going to be your bridesmaid.

Xuanxuan: And I want to be yours too!

Taimei: Aw! I am so looking forward to the day. By the way, Xuanxuan, I’ve seen the guests brought red envelopes. Is this one of the traditions you have when attending a wedding in Taiwan?

Xuanxuan: Yes, it is. And the money inside the envelope must be in even numbers. Guests who are more familiar to the groom and the bride would give more in the red envelopes.

What about in the US?

Taimei: Grooms and brides in the US would make a list of gifts. Their guests can choose the gift they would like to buy for the newlyweds.

Xuanxuan: It sounds practical! Then I might list a hundred gifts. Haha!

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Taimei couldn’t help screaming, “so many tables!” when she and Xuanxuan walked into the restaurant.

Xuanxuan: Here are fifty tables today. The wedding banquet next week will have thirty tables.

Taimei: Why? Why are there two wedding banquets?

Xuanxuan: Taiwanese think because the groom and the bride come from different places, holding two ceremonies will be more likely for all of the relatives and friends from both sides of the couple to participate in. However, there have been more and more people hold just one wedding banquet now because it’s more convenient.

Taimei: There are so many people today! Are they all very familiar family members and friends to the bride?

Xuanxuan: Not exactly. Some guests are actually the friends of the bride’s father; they are not the bride’s guests. Sometimes, weddings become occasions for the newlyweds’ parents reunion with their old friends.

Taimei: No wonder there are so many people!

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The banquet began.

Taimei: We are so much blessed! Every dish is so delicious.

Xuanxuan: Which dish is your favorite?

Taimei: I love sweets, so my favorite dish is the ‘fried rice balls.’ We also ate rice balls with sweet soup at the bride’s place in the morning. Now this is the rice balls covered with peanut powder. And the rice balls are round, small and cute.

Xuanxuan: The rice balls are round. The dining tables are round. And the full moon we

enjoy on Moon Festival is round as well. In our culture, the shape of circle symbolizes 'complete or reunion'; therefore, rice balls symbolizes the blessings to the newlyweds. Taimei: I didn't expect this tiny rice ball actually means a lot. I looked way down upon it.

page 13

Taimei: I'm so full. I'd like to go to dance at the dancing time later!

Xuanxuan: Dancing time?

Taimei: Eh~ There's usually a time for dancing at the weddings in the US. What about Taiwan?

Xuanxuan: In Taiwanese weddings, it is usually the newlyweds performing on stage if there is the part of dancing. It's less often to arrange dancing for the guests in the wedding.

Taimei: So that's how it goes. I see. In the US, the newlyweds would have wedding singers sing in the wedding, and there is dancing time. It's such a romantic picture for the groom and the bride to dance together. Moreover, it's the touching moment for the bride dancing with her father. Following, it will be the party time when the guests can dance.

Xuanxuan: I feel like it's so interesting. I'd love to attend an American wedding if I get a chance.

page 14

The banquet was almost over. The guests were lining up at the door.

Taimei: What are people still lining up for?

Xuanxuan: They're waiting to take photos with the groom and the bride. Taimei: Wow, I'd like to take a picture with them as well. Xuanxuan: Sure, let's go and get into the line.

After taking the photo with the newlyweds.....

Taimei: Xuanxuan, the bride is so beautiful, and the groom is so handsome! The bride even gave candies to everyone. It was so sweet.

Xuanxuan: Yah! My cousin and brother-in-law both are great people, and they are the perfect match. I am really happy for them. About the candies sent by the bride, it's called 'xítáng', which will bring good luck to the people who eat them.

Taimei: Really? Then I have to eat some more.

page 16

On the way back to Taipei, Taimei took out a small wedding card of Xuanxuan's cousin and recalled the happiness today. Moreover, having a box of exquisite wedding cookies is the custom that people in the US don't have. Taimei really felt incomparably lucky to have the chance of attending the Taiwanese wedding.

常用句 Word Bank

問候 Greetings Wènhòu

好久不見！ Long time no see. Hǎojiǔbújiàn!

最近怎麼樣？ How's it going? Zuijìn zěnmeyàng?

最近好嗎？ How are you lately? Zuijìn hǎo ma?

祝福 Blessing Zhùfú

祝你好運！ Good luck! Zhù nǐ hǎoyùn.

祝你新的一年心想事成！ May all your wishes come true in the new year. Zhù nǐ xīn de yì nián xīnxiāngshìchéng!

祝你新的一年身體健康，天天開心！ May you be healthy and happy for the new year! Zhù nǐ xīn de yì nián shēntǐjiànkāng, tiāntiān kāixīn!

感謝 Appreciation Gǎnxiè

你(您)太客氣了，別放在心上。No problems. Never Mind. Nǐ(nín) tài kèqì le, bié fàngzài xīnshàng.

太感謝您了！ Thank you so much! Tàì gǎnxiè nín le!

謝謝你給我的幫助，辛苦了。Thank you for your great efforts. Xièxie nǐ gěi wǒde bāngzhù, xīnkǔ le.

道歉 Apology Dàoqiàn

對不起，讓你久等了。Sorry for keeping you wait. Duìbùqǐ, ràng nǐ jiǔděng le.

不好意思，我來晚了。Sorry, I'm late. Bùhǎoyìsi, wǒ lái wǎn le.

不好意思，打擾您了。Sorry for bothering you. Bùhǎoyìsi, dǎrǎo nín le.

擔心 Worry Dānxīn

我很擔心我們也要脫衣服。I'm worried that we have to take off our clothes as well. Wǒ hěn dānxīn wǒmen yě yào tuōyīfú.

我很不放心。I don't feel easy. Wǒ hěnbù fàngxīn.

恐怕會來不及。I'm afraid that I won't make it. Kǒngpà huì láibùjí.

同意 Agreement Tóngyì

妳說得對！ You are right! Nǐ shuō dé duì !

好主意，我們走吧！ Good idea, let's go! Hǎozhūyì, wǒmen zǒu ba!

這真是個好主意。 It's such a wonderful idea. Zhè zhēnshì ge hǎozhūyì.

邀請 Invitation Yāoqǐng

妳有興趣參加嗎？ Are you interested in joining us? Nǐ yǒuxìngqù cānjiā ma?

下週跟我們一起去逛夜市吧！ Let's go to the night market next week! Xiàzhōu gēn wǒmen yìqǐ qù guàng yèshì ba !

我們一起搭一輛車去嘛！ Let's carpool! Wǒmen yìqǐ dā yí liàng chē qù ma!

要不要一起吃飯呢？ Do you want to have meal together? Yàoobú yào yìqǐ chīfàn ne?

接受邀請 Accepting Invitation Jíeshòu yāoqǐng

沒問題！ No problem! Méiwèntí!

太好了！ Great! Tàihǎole!

好啊，我也很期待！ Sure. I'm looking forward to it, too. Hǎo 啊, wǒ yě hěn qīdài!

拒絕邀請 Decline Invitation Jùjué yāoqǐng

謝謝你的好意，可是我今天有事。Thanks for your invitation but I have plans today. Xièxìe nǐde hǎoyì, kěshì wǒ jīntiān yǒushì.

改天再約。Take a rain check. Gǎitiān zài yuē.

真對不起，我今天晚上剛好有事，下次吧！I'm really sorry, but I have plan this evening. Maybe next time! Zhēn duìbùqǐ, wǒ jīntiān wǎnshàng gānghǎo yǒushì, xiàcì ba !

預測 Prediction Yùcè

看起來像是一個特別的活動。It seems a special event. Kànqǐlái xiàngshì yīge tè biéde huódòng.
也許有一天他們會懂吧！Maybe they will understand one day. Yěxǔ yǒu yìtiān tāmen huì dǒng ba!

建議 Suggestion Jiànyì

我們最好前一天就去。We'd better go there one day in advance. Wǒmen zuìhǎo qíányìtiān jiù qù.
我有個主意，等等我們去吃這裡最有名的夜市美食，好不好？I have an idea. Let's go have the most well-known night-market food here, shall we? Wǒ yǒu gè zhǔyi, děngděng wǒmen qù chī zhè lǐ zuì yǒumíng de yèshì měishí. Hǎobùhǎo?

請求允許 Request Permission Qǐngqiú yǔnxǔ

我們現在就可以開始泡茶了嗎？May we start making tea right now? Wǒmen xiànzài jiù kěyǐ kāishǐ pào chá le ma?

我可不可以……？May I.....？Wǒ kěbùkěyǐ.....？

可不可以請您送給我一條紅線？Could you give me a red thread? Kěbùkěyǐ qǐng nín sònggěi wǒ yī tiáo hóngxiàn?

約定 Agreement Yuēdìng

好，一言為定。OK, deal. Hǎo, yìyánwéidìng.

那我們就這麼說定了。Deal. Nà wǒmen jiù zhème shuōdìng le.

好，我們六點見，不見不散。OK, see you at 6. Be sure to wait! Hǎo, wǒmen liù diǎnjiàn, bújiàn bùsàn.

滿意 Satisfaction Mǎnyì

跟你們在一起，我太高興了。I'm so happy being with you. Gēn nǐmen zài yīqǐ, wǒ tài gāoxìng le.
我對這兒的生活很滿意。I'm satisfied with the life here. Wǒ duì zhèr de shēnghuó hěn mǎnyì.
這真是個難得的機會！What an incredible opportunity! Zhè zhēnshì ge nándé de jīhuì!

讚美 Compliment Zànměi

你穿的衣服不錯，我很喜歡。Nice shirt. I like it. Nǐ chuān de yǐfú bùcuò, wǒ hěn xǐhuān.
棒極了。你做得很棒！Great. Well-done! Bàngjíle. Nǐ zuò déhěn bàng!

你真是了不起。我很欣賞你對台灣的了解還真不少呢！You are amazing. I appreciate that you know a lot about Taiwan! Nǐ zhēnshì liǎobùqǐ. Wǒ hěn xīnshǎng nǐ duì Táiwān de liǎojiě hái zhēn bùshǎo ne!

困惑 Confusion Kùnhuò

我不懂他為什麼這麼說。I don't understand why he said that. Wǒ bù dǒng tā wèishénme zhème shuō.

我真的不懂。I really don't get it. Wǒ zhēnde bùdǒng.

我們是不是走錯了？Did we get the wrong way? Wǒmen shìbùshì zǒucuò le?

告別 Farewell Gàobié

(您)多保重！Take care! (Nín) duō bǎozhòng!

一路平安！Travel safe! Yílùpíngān!

別忘了，有空常打電話給我們。Don't forget to give us a call when you're free. Bié wàng le,
yóukōng cháng dǎdiànhuà gěi wǒmen.

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