

A Magical Book That Can Talk

— recording the
**Dialogues,
Pictures and 9
Vlogs**

Reporter Zhang Yiting

:

From Qingdao University
of Technology

My Pen Pal and



1st

Week

Chelsea: Hi Yiting, you're from Linqing, right? What kind of place is that? I'm from California, but I don't know much about cities in China yet.

Zhang Yiting: Linqing is a small city in Shandong Province. Although it's not as bustling as Shanghai or Beijing, it has a lot of historical charm. There are many ancient canals and cultural relics here, such as the Linqing Canal, which was once an important part of the Grand Canal. What about you? What's California like?

Chelsea: Wow, that sounds so culturally rich! California is a completely different place—sunshine, beaches, and tech companies in Silicon Valley. I live near Los Angeles, where there are lots of movie stars and the Hollywood sign!

Zhang Yiting: Hollywood! I know about that. Many Chinese people love watching American movies. However, Linqing's economy is mainly based on agriculture and small-scale manufacturing, not as high-tech as California. Is the economy there very developed?

Chelsea: Yes, California's economy is very strong, especially in tech and entertainment. Silicon Valley has many world-famous companies, like Apple and Google. But I think agriculture is also important. California is one of the largest agricultural states in the U.S., producing a lot of fruits and nuts.



The Grand Canal

Silicon Valley



Vlog 1



2nd

Chelsea: I'm very interested in Chinese culture. Recently I've been learning Chinese pinyin. Do you have any good methods to learn **what?** pinyin is what I learnt from kindergarten. It's just like phonetic symbol I think. You will quickly learn it well after finding similarity between them. For Chinese culture, I really enjoy calligraphy and traditional Chinese painting.

Chelsea: Wow, that sounds so cool! I usually like watching movies and basketball games, especially NBA games.

Zhang Yiting: Basketball is also very popular in China! Many people love playing basketball, and the NBA has a lot of fans here. Do you think American sports culture has an impact on the economy?

Chelsea: Absolutely! The sports industry is a huge economic pillar in the U.S. Leagues like the NBA and NFL drive sales of related products. How about traditional Chinese **culture?**

Zhang Yiting: Well, many people buy artworks, and calligraphy and painting works are also very popular. People like Chinese elements, which is reflected in fashion, movies and so **on.**

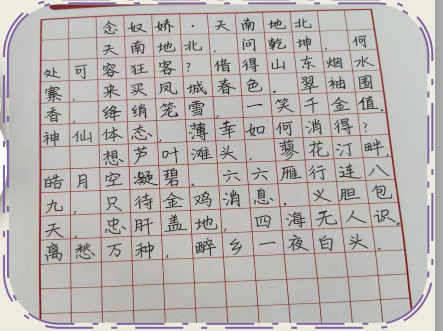
Chelsea: Yeah, Hollywood movies and pop music has a huge impact on the global economy. Many movies and songs are popular worldwide and create enormous economic **value.**

Zhang Yiting: That's true! I also love watching American movies, especially sci-fi films. Culture really connects different countries.



La La Land concert

My calligraphy work



Vlog 2



3rd

Chelsea
a:

Week China's fashion industry is becoming increasingly influential. Do you usually follow fashion?

Zhang
Yiting:

Of course! China's fashion industry has developed rapidly in recent years, especially the "Guochao" trend. Many young people love integrating traditional cultural elements into modern designs.

Chelsea
a:

What about you? American fashion leans more toward streetwear and sportswear, like sneaker culture, which is super popular. I think fashion has a big impact on the economy.

Zhang
Yiting:

Absolutely! The fashion industry really boosts e-commerce and logistics. For example, during China's "Double Eleven" shopping festival, many fashion brands participate.

Chelsea
:

Right! America's "Black Friday" is similar—fashion brands and tech products all go on sale. Technology really has a big impact on the economy.

Zhang
Yiting:

Definitely! Technology is a core driver of economic growth. For instance, China's mobile payment systems and e-commerce platforms have transformed how people shop and have spurred many emerging industries.

Chelsea
:

Agree! Technologies like VR and AR are already being used for commerce.

Zhang
Yiting:

I think the future economy will rely more and more on the combination of technology and innovation.



Guo
chao



Street
wear

Vlog 3



4th

Zhang Yiting:

I went to Zhanqiao Pier today and fed lots of pigeons. If you come to China one day, this is what you must not miss!

Chelsea:

Got you. I heard that Qingdao is a beautiful city and I've always been interested at it.

Zhang Yiting:

You can visit the Golden Beach, a landmark of Qingdao with stunning sea views. There's also May Fourth Square, which has a spectacular light show at night. If you love natural scenery, you must go to Mount Lao — it has both mountains and sea, and the views are like a painting!

Chelsea:

That sounds fantastic! I especially love natural landscapes, and Mount Lao seems perfect for hiking.

Zhang Yiting:

Oh, and the Badaguan Scenic Area is also famous—it has many European-style buildings, perfect for taking photos.

Wow, European-style buildings? That reminds me of my travels in Europe. I think traveling really broadens your horizons and helps you understand different cultures.

Zhang Yiting:

Absolutely! Traveling promotes cultural exchange. In fact, travel is closely tied to global trade. Tourism drives the development of hotels, transportation, and retail

Chelsea:

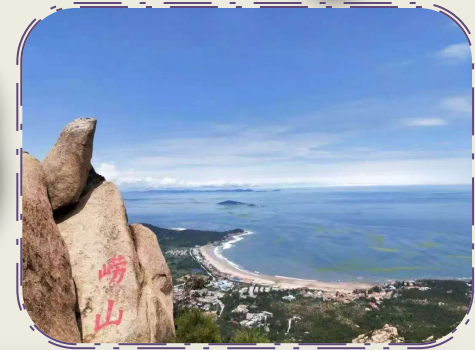
industries. I think future global trade needs to be more sustainable, like promoting green logistics and fair trade. By the way, if I visit Qingdao, could I go visit

Zhang Yiting:

Of course! Welcome at any time!



The Huashi House



Mount Lao

Vlog 4



5th

Zhang Yiting:

Hi, Chelsea! I heard that Christmas is coming up soon. How do you celebrate it in America?

Chelsea:

We decorate Christmas trees, exchange gifts, and have a big meal with family. What's the most important holiday in China?

Zhang Yiting:

I'd say it's the Spring Festival! We celebrate by having a family reunion dinner, watching the Spring Festival Gala, setting off firecrackers, and giving red envelopes! But I've noticed that holidays can create a lot of waste, especially air pollution generated by fireworks.

Chelsea:

I completely agree! In the U.S., many people are promoting eco-friendly holidays, like using reusable wrapping paper or giving digital gifts.

Zhang Yiting:

That's great! In China, many people now choose digital red envelopes instead of paper ones, and some businesses offer eco-friendly gift packaging.

Chelsea:

Right! I think sustainable development isn't just the government's responsibility—each of us can start with small actions.

Zhang Yiting:

Absolutely! Actually, during China's Qingming Festival, there's a tradition of using flowers instead of burning paper to reduce air pollution. Holidays and environmental protection don't have to conflict—it's all about finding a balance.

Chelsea:

Sounds great! I hope in the future we can promote more eco-friendly ways to celebrate holidays, making them greener and more meaningful!



My firework



Chelsea's Christmas tree



Vlog 5

6th

Chelsea
aZhang
Yiting:

Hi, Yiting! What have you been up to lately?
Hi, Chelsea! I'm working on my English paper for finals. The topic is about cross-cultural communication. How about you?

Chelsea
a:

I'm also busy with finals! For my social work major, I have to write a case analysis on community service and prepare a group presentation.

Zhang
Yiting:

That sounds challenging! Are your exams more focused on practical skills and case studies?

Chelsea
:

Yes! We not only write papers but also design practical community service programs. For example, my current case is about helping children from low-income families access better educational resources. What about your English major exams?

Zhang
Yiting:

We are mainly writing papers and giving oral presentations. My paper is about how cultural differences between China and the West affect language learning, and the oral presentation is a simulated cross-cultural communication scenario.

Chelsea
:

I think your research could be really helpful for social work too. For instance, when helping immigrant families, we need to understand their cultural background to provide more effective services.

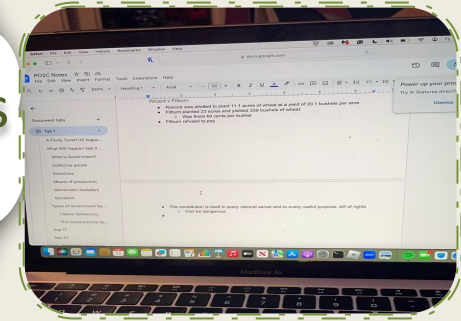
Zhang
Yiting:

Right! You could design a community service project for immigrant families, and I could help address language and cultural barriers.

Chelsea
:

That's a great idea! But now, let's cope with our final exams firstly. Hope we both have good grade!

Chelsea's
paper



My
presentation



Vlog 6



7th

Chelsea
a:

Hi, Yiting! If we ever get to meet in person someday, what would you most like to do together?

Zhang

I'd love to take you to try some Chinese food, like hot pot, soup dumplings, and some local snacks. What about you?

Yiting:

Chelsea
a:

That sounds amazing! I'd also like to take you to try American burgers, hot dogs, and California's famous burritos. But besides food, we could also visit some interesting places, like museums.

Zhang

Great idea! Then we could visit some trade-related exhibitions, like a history exhibit on U.S.-China trade. After all, China and the U.S. are major trading partners, and their economic cooperation has a huge impact globally.

Yiting:

Chelsea
:

Right! American tech products and Chinese-made consumer goods are found almost everywhere in the world. How do you think future trade cooperation will develop?

Zhang

I think future trade cooperation will focus more on sustainability and innovation. For example, green energy and the digital economy might become new areas of collaboration. The U.S. is strong in technology, while China has advantages in manufacturing and market size—there's a lot of potential for cooperation.

Yiting:

Chelsea
:

Completely agree! The two countries could also strengthen cooperation in education and cultural exchange, like more student exchange programs and joint research projects. If we meet, maybe we could even participate in something like that together!

Chelsea's
dessert



My hot pot

Vlog 7



8th

Zhang Yiting: Hey, Chelsea! What are you up to recently? It's been a long time we didn't talk.

Chelsea a: You know I'm already a senior student. Lately, I've been thinking about my life goals and feeling a bit lost.

Zhang Yiting: Actually, I've always felt that way too. When I was younger, I wanted to be a teacher, but now I'm more interested in interpreter, like working for cultural exchange . What about you?

Chelsea a: I think that's amazing. I've always wanted to become a social worker, helping those in need, especially vulnerable groups. But sometimes I wonder if I can really make a difference.

Zhang Yiting: I believe you can! Social work might not be easy, but it's incredibly meaningful. Actually, I often reflect on whether I'm suited for this path too, since cross-cultural communication requires strong communication skills and cultural sensitivity.

Chelsea : Right, self-reflection is so important. That's why life goals change over time, isn't it?

Zhang Yiting: Absolutely! Childhood goals might be more idealistic, but as we gain experience and grow, our goals become more specific and realistic. I now focus more on how to combine personal interests with social value.

Chelsea : Right. When I chose social work as my major, many people thought it wasn't as promising as finance or law, but I knew it was what I truly wanted to do.

Zhang Yiting: That's really brave! Life goals don't have to be grand. What's important is finding what you're truly passionate about and working hard for it.



Vlog 8

On the way to pursue dream, we both have self doubt and uncertainty. But we both know as long as to stay true, we will embrace our life that we really want it.



**Thank you
for
reading!**



The **magic** is the deep friendship that two girls who are miles apart formed; the **magic** is a wider world cross-cultural communication brought to us; the **magic** is our innate ability to communicate with each other, regardless of nationality or color.

Reporter: Zhang Yiting

Note:

1. The total duration of all the videos is 2 minutes and 24 seconds.
2. The total number of PPT pagees is 10.
3. Please read it on the computer because there might be the transcoding problem on the mobile phone.