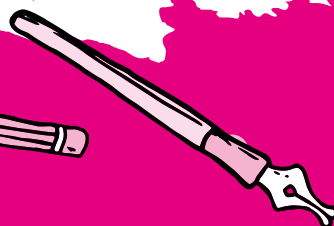




Unit 1



Greek Mythology





Part One

Listening and Speaking



Task 1 Listen to a telephone conversation about greetings and answer the questions.

Questions:

1. What is the conversation about?
2. Have the speakers met recently?
3. What was the weather like when they were talking to each other?
4. What has Speaker 2 done in recent days?
5. What is Speaker 1 going to do?



Task 2 Tom is introducing someone to Rose. Listen to their conversation and fill in the blanks with what you hear.

Tom: Hi, Rose, I'd like you to 1. _____, Miss Li. 2. _____?

Rose: No, I don't think so. How do you do, Miss Li?

Miss Li: How do you do?

Tom: You two are fellow workers now. Miss Li, if you have any questions, just go to ask Rose.
She'll 3. _____ help you.

Miss Li: Thanks, Tom. Thank you, Rose.

Rose: 4. _____. I hope you'll like the job here.

Miss Li: Oh, I've been 5. _____ working here. I'll definitely like it and 6. _____.

Rose: Great! Let me show you your office first. Right this way.

Miss Li: Thanks. Oh, the office is so spacious. I love it.

Rose: I am so glad that you like it. The job duties include bookkeeping, meeting arrangements, answering phone calls, sending and receiving e-mails.

Miss Li: I got it. I'll keep them in mind. Thanks for your help.



Task 3 Work in groups. Suppose that several students are greeting each other after the winter vacation. Start a conversation with reference to the expressions below.

Useful Expressions

Addressing forms

Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms./Prof. _____

The first common way to begin greetings

It's good/great/nice/wonderful/delightful/marvelous/exciting to see you (again).

Responses

I'm delighted to see you here.

It is a pleasure to meet you too.

I'm pleased to meet you too.

The pleasure is mine.

The second common way to begin greetings

How are you?

How were things with you?

How's everything?

How were things going with you?

How do you do?

How are you doing?

Responses

Good/Fine/Great/OK/Very well/Alright/Not bad/Not so well, thank you. How are you?

The third common way to begin greetings

Beautiful day/Lovely day/Nice day/Miserable weather/Awful weather, isn't it?

It's so hot/a bit cooler/extremely windy today, isn't it?

Responses

Yes, isn't it? /It certainly is!/I should say so.

The fourth common way to begin greetings

I think I've seen you before.

I've heard so much about you.

Sb. often talks about you.

Responses

Really? I do feel the same way/I don't think so.

I am so flattered.

So nice/Good to hear that. What did sb. say?



The fifth common way to begin greetings

It's been a long time.

Haven't seen you for ages/some time.

Responses

Yes. I miss you so much!

Yes, this is a pleasant surprise.

Yes, fancy meeting you here.

Part Two



Active Reading

In Greek culture, there is no greater achievement than the world-famous Parthenon at the top of the Acropolis of Athens. The Parthenon is regarded as both an enduring symbol of Ancient Greece and one of the world's greatest cultural monuments. Though it has not been in use for many centuries, it still holds power over local residents and tourists alike.

Text A

The Parthenon Temple

The Parthenon is a temple in the Athenian Acropolis, Greece, dedicated to the Greek goddess Athena, whom the people of Athens considered their protector. It represented the amazing power of the ancient Athenian state, and is now the most important surviving building of ancient Greece. Artistically it is considered to be the culmination of the Doric order.

The Parthenon was created as a tribute to the goddess Athena, the patron goddess of Athens.

After the Greek victory in the Persian Wars, the Parthenon was proposed by Pericles (the Archon of Athens) as a way to thank the goddess for protecting the city and to perpetuate the glory of the city of Athens.

The construction began in 447 BC, and was completed in 438 BC, and the exterior and interior decorations continued until 431 BC. Detailed financial documents still exist today, and they clearly show that the building was an endeavor that cost the Athenians a large amount of money.

The Parthenon was the largest Doric Greek temple, although it was innovative in that it

mixed the two architectural styles of Doric and the newer Ionic. Parthenon Temple was built in the classical Greek style—a colonnade around a rectangular building. The temple measured 30.88 meters by 69.5 meters. Ancient architects put all their skills into giving the temple its elegance. For example, anything of that scale or size seems to be curved from a certain distance. To give the illusion of true straight lines, the columns were made to lean slightly inwards, a feature which also gives a lifting effect to the building, making it appear lighter than its construction material would suggest. Also, the floor of the temple is not exactly flat but rises slightly in the center. The columns also have a slight fattening in their middle, and the four corner columns are imperceptibly fatter than the other columns. The combination of these refinements makes the temple seem perfectly straight, symmetrically in harmony, and gives the entire building a certain vibrancy.

For a thousand years, the Parthenon was the most important Greek temple. Even after Greek subjugation to the Roman Empire, the Parthenon was still a prominent feature of the Athens landscape, except that the great statue of Athena in the Parthenon temple was looted by one of the Roman emperors in the 5th century. The statue has never been found and is believed to have been destroyed.

By the 13th century the temple was turned into a Christian church by the Byzantine Empire. Much of the original sculpture work was removed, as it was blatantly pagan. By the 15th century, the Parthenon switched hands again, this time to the Ottomans. They converted it from a Christian church to a mosque, and added a large minaret to the site.

Great disaster occurred in 1687 when the Venetians engaged in warfare with the Turks. The greatest damage to the temple was caused by a cannonball that struck the roof and exploded inside the temple. The massive explosion ripped apart the Parthenon. The major structures were destroyed. All the interior walls except the east side were blown out, columns collapsed on the north and south sides. The Venetians further damaged the central figures of the west pediment in an unsuccessful attempt to loot them and smashed to pieces the horses of the west pediment.

From the rubble, the Turks cleared a space and built a smaller mosque, but no attempt was made to gather together the fallen ruins or protect them from any artifact robbery. In the 18th century, foreign tourists frequently helped themselves to a souvenir from the ruin.

The remaining sculptures were taken to England in the 19th century, where they have been stored properly.

Tourists can still visit the Parthenon in its severely damaged and decaying state. To really understand what this building means, you have to go there and experience the entire Acropolis. The Parthenon was truly a grand achievement, but it is also an example of how the brutal wars can ruin treasures of civilization.



New Words

temple	['templ]	<i>n.</i> 庙宇, 寺院; 神殿
artistically	[ɑ:ri'tɪstɪkli]	<i>adv.</i> 在艺术上; 富有艺术地
culmination	[,kʌlmɪ'neɪʃn]	<i>n.</i> 顶点; 高潮
tribute	['trɪbjʊ:t]	<i>n.</i> 礼物; 贡物; 颂词
patron	['pætrən]	<i>n.</i> 保护人; 赞助人; 主顾
perpetuate	[pə'petʃueɪt]	<i>vt.</i> 使不朽
exterior	['ɪk'stɪriəl]	<i>adj.</i> 外部的; 表面的, 外在的
interior	['ɪn'tɪriəl]	<i>adj.</i> 内部的; 室内的
decoration	[,dekə'reɪʃn]	<i>n.</i> 装饰, 装潢; 装饰品
endeavor	['ɪn'devər]	<i>n.</i> 努力, 尽力
innovative	['ɪnə'veɪtɪv]	<i>adj.</i> 革新的, 创新的; 新颖的; 有创新精神的
colonnade	[,kɑ:lə'neɪd]	<i>n.</i> [建] 柱廊
rectangular	[rek'tæŋgjələ]	<i>adj.</i> 矩形的; 成直角的
illusion	['ɪlu:ʒn]	<i>n.</i> 幻觉, 错觉
imperceptibly	[ɪmpər'septəbli]	<i>adv.</i> 极微地, 微细地; 察觉不到地
refinement	[rɪ'faɪnmənt]	<i>n.</i> 精制; 文雅; 改进, 改善
symmetrically	[sɪ'metrɪkli]	<i>adv.</i> 对称地; 平衡地; 匀称地
vibrancy	['vaɪbrənsɪ]	<i>n.</i> 活力; 振动
subjugation	[,sʌbdʒu'geɪʃn]	<i>n.</i> 征服; 镇压; 克制
loot	[lu:t]	<i>vt.</i> 抢劫, 强夺 <i>vi.</i> 洗劫, 掠夺, 抢劫
blatantly	['bleɪtəntli]	<i>adv.</i> 公然地
pagan	['peɪgən]	<i>adj.</i> 异教的; 异教徒的
mosque	[mɑ:sk]	<i>n.</i> 清真寺
minaret	[,mɪnə'ret]	<i>n.</i> 尖塔
occur	[ə'kɜ:r]	<i>vi.</i> 发生; 出现; 存在
pediment	['pedɪmənt]	<i>n.</i> 三角楣饰
rubble	['rʌbl]	<i>n.</i> 碎石, 碎砖; 粗石堆
artifact	['ɑ:rtɪfækt]	<i>n.</i> 人工制品; 手工艺品
treasure	['treʒər]	<i>n.</i> 财富, 财产; 财宝, 珍品

Useful Expressions

dedicate to	献身; 把(时间、精力等)用于……, 从事于
as a tribute to	赞颂; 致敬
a large amount of money	一大笔钱
convert sth. from...to...	把(某物)从……转化为……
engage in	从事, 忙于

rip apart	撕开
blow out	爆裂；吹熄
smash to pieces	砸成碎片，粉碎

Proper Names and Cultural Notes

Parthenon	帕特农神庙（古希腊用以祭祀雅典娜女神的神庙）
Athenian	雅典的；雅典人的；雅典人
Acropolis	（古希腊都城的）卫城；城堡
Athena	雅典娜（智慧与技艺的女神）
Doric order	多利克柱式（古希腊建筑风格之一）
Pericles	伯里克利（古雅典城邦政治家）
Archon	执政官（古代雅典九名统治者之一）；统治者
Ionic	爱奥尼亚柱式的（柱顶有涡卷形装饰）
Byzantine Empire	拜占庭帝国，即东罗马帝国，395—1453，在欧洲东南部和亚洲西南部，由古罗马帝国分裂而来。
Ottoman	奥斯曼人；土耳其人
Venetian	威尼斯人
Turk	土耳其人

Reading Comprehension



Task 1 Read the text and answer the following questions.

1. What is the original purpose of building the Parthenon?
2. What is the importance of the Parthenon?
3. How did ancient architects build the Parthenon? What were the features of its construction?
4. What caused the damage to the Parthenon?
5. What can today's tourists learn from the Parthenon in its severely damaged and decaying state?



Task 2 Read the text and choose the best answer to the questions.

1. How many years were spent on construction of the Parthenon?

A. 6	B. 7
C. 8	D. 9
2. What was the Parthenon originally used for?

A. A temple.	B. A church.
C. A mosque.	D. A monument.



3. According to the text, which one among the four things below was not destroyed during the warfare?
- A. Columns on the south side. B. Columns on the north side.
C. The interior wall on the east side. D. The west pediment.
4. Which of the following statements is not true?
- A. The greatest damage to the temple was caused by a cannonball that struck the roof and exploded inside the temple.
B. For a thousand years, the Parthenon was the most important Greek temple, even after Greek subjugation to the Roman Empire.
C. Parthenon Temple was built in the classical Greek style—a colonnade around a rectangular building. The temple measured 30.88 meters by 69.5 meters.
D. From the rubble, the Turks cleared a space and built a smaller mosque and made efforts to gather together the fallen ruins or protect them from any artifact robbery.

Language in Use



Task 1 Match the underlined words in column I with their corresponding meanings in column II.

I

- The Parthenon is a temple in the Athenian Acropolis, Greece, dedicated to the Greek goddess Athena, whom the people of Athens considered their protector.
- Artistically it is considered to be the culmination of the Doric order.
- The Parthenon was created as a tribute to the goddess Athena, the patron goddess of Athens.
- Ancient architects put all their skills into giving the temple its elegance.
- From the rubble, the Turks cleared a space and built a smaller mosque.
- Even after Greek subjugation to the Roman Empire, the Parthenon was still a prominent feature of the Athens landscape.
- The greatest damage to the temple was caused by a cannonball that struck the roof and exploded inside the temple.

II

- decide to give a lot of time and effort to sth.
- a person who supports and gives money to artists, writers, or musicians
- a final climactic stage
- an object kept as a reminder of an event, trip, place, etc.
- a refined quality of gracefulness and good taste
- (Islam) a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret
- the process of gradually becoming inferior

8. The Venetians further damaged the central figures of the west pediment in an unsuccessful attempt to loot them and smashed to pieces the horses of the west pediment.
9. In the 18th century, foreign tourists frequently helped themselves to a souvenir from the ruin.
10. Tourists can still visit the Parthenon in its severely damaged and decaying state.
- H. conspicuous in position or importance
- I. a triangular part above the entrance of a building
- J. a solid projectile that in former times was fired from a cannon



Task 2 Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words given below.

curve	elegant	build	lift	fat
innovate	architecture	slight	exact	vibrant

The Parthenon was the largest Doric Greek temple, although it was 1. _____ in that it mixed the two 2. _____ styles of Doric and the newer Ionic. Parthenon Temple was 3. _____ in the classical Greek style—a colonnade around a rectangular building. The temple measured 30.88 meters by 69.5 meters. Ancient architects put all their skills into giving the temple its 4. _____. For example, anything of that scale or size seems to be 5. _____ from a certain distance. To give the illusion of true straight lines, the columns were made to lean 6. _____ inwards, a feature which also gives a 7. _____ effect to the building, making it appear lighter than its construction material would suggest. Also, the floor of the temple is not 8. _____ flat but rises slightly in the center. The columns also have a slight 9. _____ in their middle, and the four corner columns are imperceptibly fatter than the other columns. The combination of these refinements makes the temple seem perfectly straight, symmetrically in harmony, and gives the entire building a certain 10. _____.



Task 3 Translate the following Chinese sentences into English.

- 帕特农神庙内部装修一直持续到公元前 431 年。(interior)
- 他们把它从一个基督教教堂变成了一个清真寺。(convert)
- 巨大的爆炸撕裂了帕特农神庙。(rip apart)
- 帕特农神庙是为表达对女神雅典娜的敬意和称颂而建造的。(tribute)
- 1687 年, 在威尼斯人和土耳其人交战中, 大灾难发生了。(engage in warfare)



Text B

Muses: Goddesses of Poetry, Music and Arts

In Greek mythology, the nine Muses are goddesses of the various arts such as music, dance, and poetry and are blessed not only with wonderful artistic talents themselves but also with great beauty, grace, and allure. Their gifts of song, dance, and joy help the gods and mankind forget their troubles and inspire musicians and writers to reach ever greater artistic and intellectual heights.

The Muses were the daughters of Zeus and the Titan Mnemosyne (Goddess of Memory) after the couple slept together for nine consecutive nights. According to a passage by Plutarch, the Muses were also referred to as Mneiai (Memories). Because much of the poetry of the time was committed to memory, rather than written words, the Muses were brought to life to help people commemorate, in words and songs, the glorious deeds of the Olympian gods, who won victory in the war against the Titans.

The goddesses are beautiful, intelligent and carefree divinities, and each has a special kind of artistic talent, such as epic poetry, music, sacred hymns, tragedy, dance, etc., so in ancient Greece, they were thought as patrons of poets and musicians.

The Muses are free-spirited, and their mission in the world seems to make the world forget evil and relieve its sorrows. Any mortal who is blessed by the Muses can use the beauty of their songs, or the grace of their dance, to heal the sick and comfort the heartbroken. By calling upon and receiving the blessings of the Muses, a poet or dancer or musician can transcend the normal bounds of talent and rise to unimagined levels of creative insight.

The nine Muses were believed to reside above the golden clouds that covered the two sacred Greek mountain peaks of Mount Olympus and Mount Helicon. The Muses often frequented Mount Helicon in central Greece, where they had sanctuaries and a dancing area near the top. It was this mountain which inspired the legendary Greek poet Hesiod to sing the beginning of the gods. Hesiod in his *Theogony* claimed that he spoke with the Muses on Mount Helicon, and they gave him a luxuriant laurel branch and breathed into him their divine voice so that he could proclaim the glory of the gods and their descendants. Thus, the shepherd was transformed into one of the most important poets in history. Under the influence of their immortal guidance, Hesiod composed many poems but his crowning achievement might be considered *Theogony* (*The Origins of the Gods*). That poem demonstrates exactly what the Muses do best—sing the praises of the immortal gods and goddesses.

Although they were bringers of festivity and joy, the Muses were not to be trifled with when it came to the superiority of their artistic talents. The nine daughters of Pierus foolishly tried to compete musically with the Muses on Mount Helicon and were all turned into magpies for their impertinence. The Thracian musician Thamyres (son of the Nymph Agriope) was another who challenged the Muses in music and after inevitably coming second best to the goddesses was