

Unit 2

Colorful Yunnan

Pre-reading

Topic: traveling experience

Grammar focus: past simple & past progressive

Objectives:

- Use correct forms to describe past events.
- Distinguish the difference between past simple and past progressive.
- Actively use the target language in real communication, as well as transfer this ability in writing tasks.

Getting Started

- Name the nature features of the following pictures.
- Have you been to these places?
Discuss with a partner and share your traveling experiences.

Shangri-La



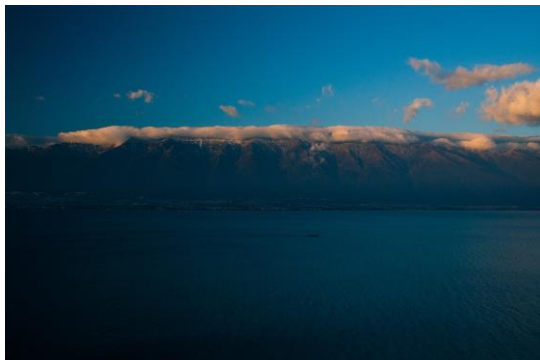
Lijiang



Xishuangbanna



Reading I



April 5, 2017, Monday

Today our families went to Yunnan Province. It was an *impressive* journey. First, we went to Dali (大理). Cangshan and Erhai *National Nature Reserve* (自然保护区) are some of the most famous scenic spots in Yunnan province. There is a snow-covered mountaintop, a deep blue sky and a clear lake. These made us feel relaxed and happy. Aside from this, Dad helped me take lots of photos, and I *fell in love with photography*.



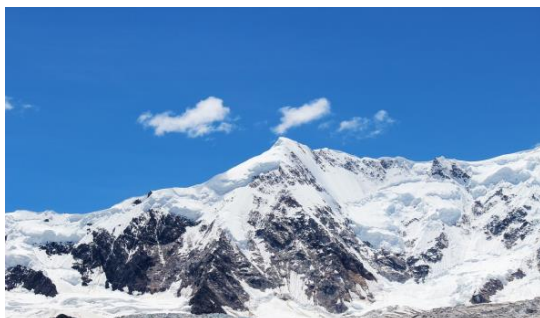
April 6, 2017, Tuesday

Today we went to Xishuangbanna (西双版纳). We went there during the Water-Splashing Festival (泼水节). It is the New Year of the Chinese Dai Minority (傣族). This festival generally lasts for three days. In the morning, people take a bath and dress carefully before they going to the temples, and then *sprinkle* water on each other as a symbol of luck. There was a large pool, and people were standing there and sprinkling water on each other. I saw some of them were dancing, and others were singing and laughing. Everyone was excited. I really love this festival.



April 7, 2017, Wednesday

Today we went to Kunming. It is the capital of Yunnan Province. Kunming is called 'spring city', because it is usually sunny and warm all year round. On the street, you can find flowers everywhere. Thus the flower industry is an important economic income in Kunming. In addition, Kunming is known for its natural hot spring (温泉). We also had a try the outdoor bathing pool. It was so *pleasant* when we were bathing under the blue sky while listening to the music.



April 8, 2017, Thursday

Today was the last day in Yunnan, we...

Answer these questions about the article.

1. Where did the author visit?

2. What did people do during the Water-Splashing Festival?

3. What is Kunming famous for?

Reading tips:

1) It will be easier to find certain information if you circle or underline some key words or sentences when you are reading.

2) Try to guess the meanings of new words according to the context. Do not always rely on the dictionary.

Complete the following sentences with these words.

impressive fall in love with photography sprinkle pleasant

1. Never stop smiling, not even when you are sad, someone might _____ your smile.

2. _____ some water before you sweep the floor.

3. His most _____ qualities were his leadership and excellent capacities.

4. They often remember the _____ days they had with you.

5. _____ is a very special type of art.

According to the picture, can you guess where the author went and what he did?

Please share the story with your partner.

For example: The last day we went to a snow-mountain. The sky was very blue and the air was fresh ...



Grammar Task

1. Look at the sentence underlined in the second paragraph. Find two different verb forms.

Which one describes a situation in progress? Which one describes a sudden action?

2. Find other past progressive (*was/were + V-ing*) and past simple (*V-ed*) forms in the article.

Why do you think the writer uses these tenses? Explain the answer with your partners.

Reading II



Lijiang Old Town is one of the most fantastic places in China. It was first built in the late Song Dynasty. Old Town covers an area of about six acres. The buildings here today were mostly constructed in the Ming and Qing dynasties, which are praised by Chinese and foreign architectural experts as the "residence museum". In the Yuan Dynasty, the Mongolian army (蒙古军) was invaded (入侵) China and stayed there for several months. During this period, Lijiang was only a small town with 3 streets and no more than 30 buildings. The Ming and Qing dynasties were the "Golden Era" (黄金时代) for the development of Lijiang Old Town, during which canals were constructed to develop economy. Also, lots of tea traders who came from Southeast Asia were trading here, which provided a good opportunity for Lijiang Old Town to develop and expand. In addition, some religious architecture like Taoist temples (道观), Buddhist temples (佛寺) and mosques (清真寺) were built during this period, which added more diversity to Lijiang Old Town. However, when it comes to the period of Cultural Revolution, which destroyed lots of ancient spectacular architectures, made the Lijiang Old Town looked like a ruin. Fortunately, the remaining parts are protected and restored by today's government. Nowadays, Lijiang Old Town is becoming an attraction for both Chinese and foreign tourists.

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the reading article?

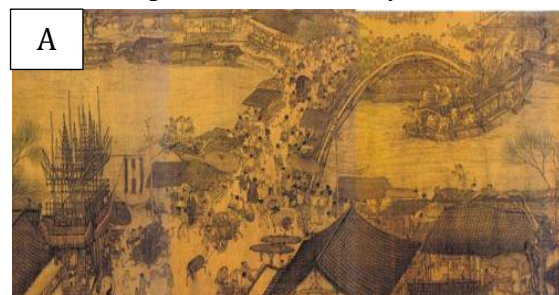
True *If the statement agrees with the information*

False *If the statement disagrees with the information*

1. Lijiang Old town was firstly built in the Yuan dynasty.
2. Most of the buildings in the Lijiang Old Town were built in the Ming and Qing dynasties.
3. Many religious architectures could be found in Lijiang.
4. Cultural Revolution ruined all of the buildings in the Old Town.

According to the article, guess what did Lijiang Old Town looked like in the history?

Match the pictures with the dynasties.



a. Yuan Dynasty



b. Cultural Revolution



c. Ming and Qing dynasties

According to the context, match the words with the correct meaning.

unit of measurement

a far-reaching change

occupy the area of

the design and construction of buildings

very impressive

cover an area of

revolution

acres

spectacular

architectural

Grammar Awareness

Definition

a. Past Simple

Very often the past simple ends in **-ed (regular form)**.

- ✧ I work in a school now. Before that I **worked** in an educational institution.
- ✧ We **invited** him to our party but he **decided** not to come.
- ✧ They **passed** their entrance examination because they **studied** hard.

But many verbs are **irregular**. The past simple **does not end in -ed**.

- ✧ go - went I **went** to the hospital two times last month.
- ✧ see - saw They **saw** a small airplane
- ✧ write - wrote Jack **wrote** more than 50 poems.

b. Past progressive

We use past progressive to talk about the action **had already started** before a certain time but had **not finished**.

I started doing.



past

I was doing.



past progressive

I finished doing.



past simple



now

- ✧ I **was running** when I met Lisa.
- ✧ I saw some of them **were dancing**, and others **were singing** and laughing.
- ✧ They **were playing** football at 11 am.

c. Compare the past simple and past progressive

Past progressive	Past simple
Use at a certain time in the past	A finished action or state in the past
When another completed action happened	An action regularly happened in the past
Background in a story	Two actions happened one after the other
while/ as	in, on, at, ago

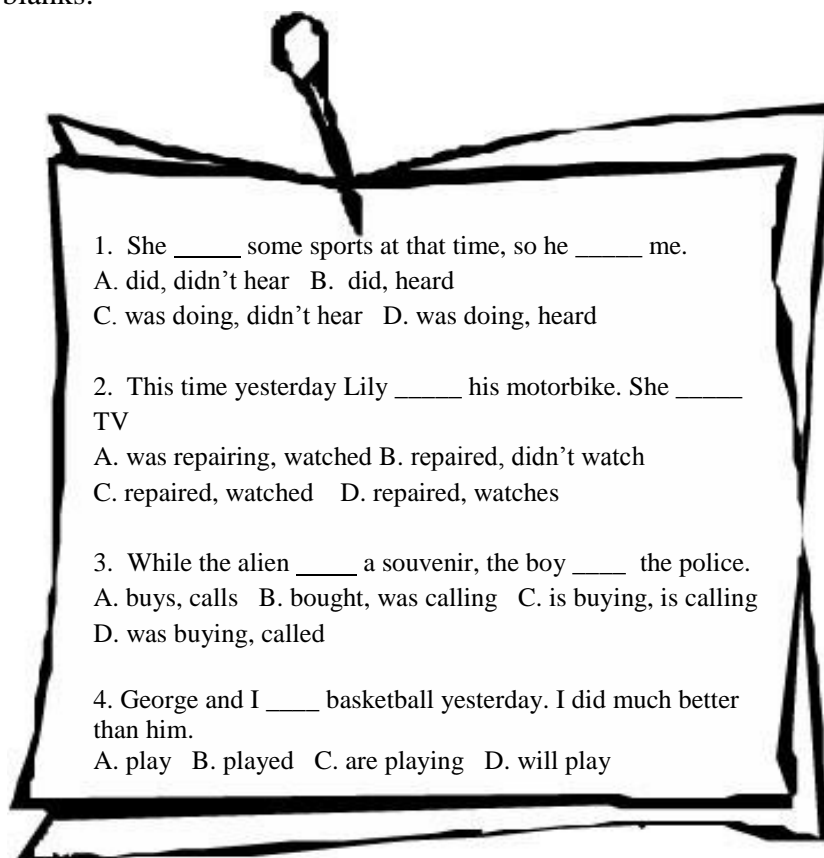
Grammar Task

Look at the past simple and past progressive in the sentence below, and consider these questions.

I **was driving** slowly down the street. At the crossing, I **knocked over** a woman **who was walking** across the road.

- a. Which verbs describe the main event in this sentence?
- b. Which describes the situation at the time?
- c. Which action started first?

Fill in the blanks.



Listening

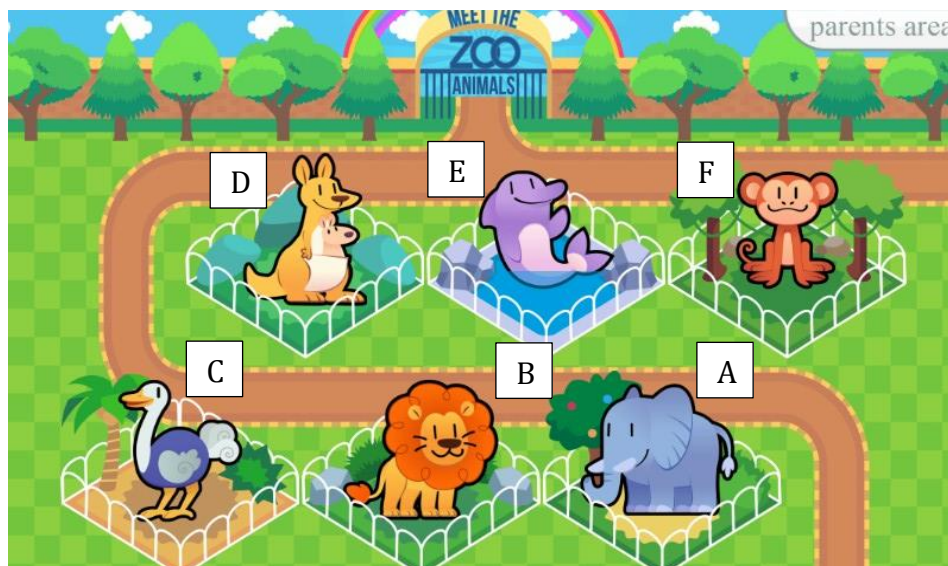
Your classmate is giving a speech to share his experience in a wild animal park. Listen and circle the correct words to complete the timetable below.

Time	Place	Case
10 a.m.	Panda/Peafowl House	Pandas took/were taking exercise under the guidance of their breeder.
2 p.m.	Baboon/ Bear House	Visitors around there fed/were feeding bears carrots and Mike's and his family also tried/were trying to feed them.
3 p.m./3.30 p.m.	Mike and his father: Elephants' Show/Bird Art	Mike and his families went to watch the animals' shows.
	Mike's sister and mother: Elephants' Show/Bird Art	
4 p.m./4.30 p.m.	Monkey House	when a visitor fed/was feeding a monkey tofu with chili sauce, the monkey tore off/was tearing off a little and had a taste.

Speaking Task

Look at the following zoo map. Imagine that you have been there before. Work with a partner to describe your traveling experience in the zoo.

For example: I went to a zoo last weekend. First, I saw an elephant. He had a long nose. Next, I...



Work in groups of 4. Please make sure that you use the past simple or past progressive to answer the following questions. You will need a dice and a watch to play the game. Who is the winner in each group?

FINISH	Talk about your favorite TV program	Miss a turn	Tell a story	Have you been to amusement park?
Go on 3 spaces	Recommend a book	What did you do yesterday?	Tell a joke	Go back 2 spaces
Did you ever tell a lie?	Share a embarrassing experience	Miss a turn	Talk about your favorite teacher	Sing a song
START	Talk about your favorite movie that you have seen	Talk about your most impressive traveling experience	Go on 2 spaces	What did you do last weekend?

Writing

Ask your classmates questions about where he/she went last summer holiday and what he/she did. Look at the box below for ideas. You can also use other words you have learned. Take notes about your classmates' answers.

Verb	go, play, arrive, have, take, make, watch, happen...
Temporal conjunction	then, later, meanwhile, at the same time, afterwards, after a while, lately, finally, in the end...

Classmate 1: _____

Classmate 2: _____

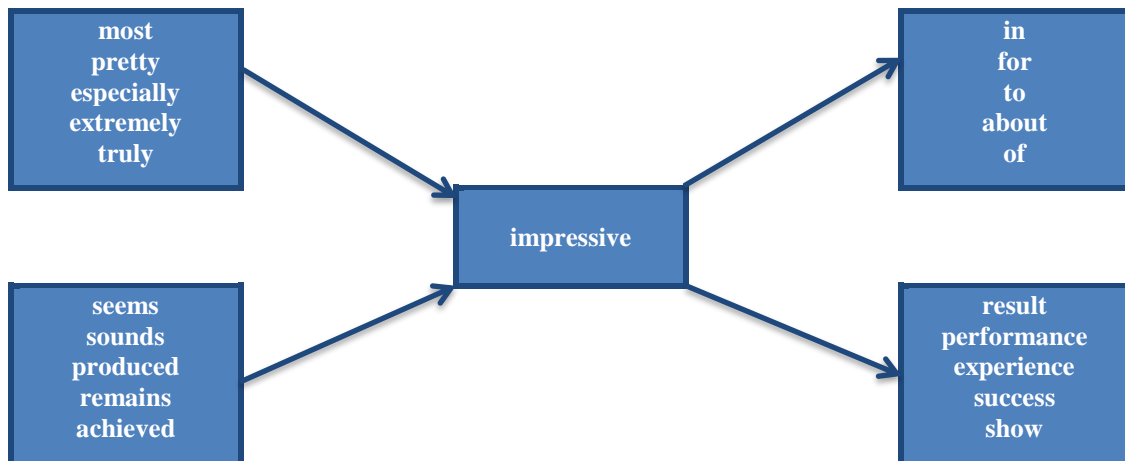
Classmate 3: _____

Write a letter (about 150 words) to your friend Lisa about one of your impressive traveling experience. You should include:

- ✧ a description of your trip (time, place, who did you go with, etc.).
- ✧ an impressive thing happened during the trip.

Word Awareness

The top left box shows how *impressive* is modified by adverbs. The bottom left box shows the verbs that commonly used with *impressive*. The top right box shows the prepositions that collocate with *impressive*. The bottom right box shows how *impressive* used with nouns.



Examples:

Peter is one of the **most impressive** people he had ever met.

This moment is **pretty impressive** and we will remember it forever.

His first speech as president was **impressive to** his audience.

This trip to Paris has been very **impressive for** me.

Working on eight things at once might **seem impressive**, but actually it is exhausting and highly stressful.

This might not **sound impressive** since Britain is known for cloudy weather.

This is an **impressive result**, because it has been a tough period for us.

Singing contests are my most **impressive experience** on campus.

Words You Need to Know

artistic (adj). Something about art or culture, something is good at drawing, something is creative. 艺术的, 美术的, 有创意的。He has an artistic talent.

arrive (v). (arriving, arrived, arrived) to get somewhere. 到达, 抵达。He will arrive at ten o'clock.

breeder (n). people who breeds animals or plant. 饲养员, 栽培者。It's very dangerous to be a tiger breeder.

consensus (n). an opinion which is agreed or accepted by a group of people. 一致意见, 共同想法。
We have a consensus that Chinese food tastes better than western food.

cover an area of the area or range of something or somewhere. Our school covers an area of 300 square kilometers.

evolution (n). a process of a gradual change or development. 进化, 演变, 逐步发展。Industrial evolution made a great contribution to human.

extend (v). (extending, extended) to widen or broaden something or to continue for a long time. 伸展, 扩大, 持续, 延长(期限)。The area of forest has been extended for the last ten years.

fall in love with start to love somebody or something. 爱上。He falls in love with Lucy.

forest (n). a large area of land with trees. 森林。Tiger is the king of forest.

grassland (n). a large area of land with grass. 草原。There are many sheep in grassland.

historical (adj). something related to the past, the study of history, or happened in the past. 有关历史的, 历史学的, 历史上的。The style of buildings in Lijiang is influenced by historical factors.

impressive (adj). something is impressive means that you won't forget it may because its great size, beautiful seeing and so on. 印象深刻的。The color of your hair makes people impressive.

lumber (v). (lumbering, lumbered) & n. to move in a slow and clumsy way. 缓慢地笨拙地移动。A bus is lumbering beside me. pieces of wood. 木材。We should protect forest because it provides a lot of lumber for us.

photograph (v). (photographing, photographed) & n. to take photo of something or somebody. 照相, 为.....拍照。I like photographing dogs; refers to picture or photo. 照片, 相片。I have many photographs of Taylor Swift.

pleasant (adj). feel happy about something or enjoyable. 令人愉快的, 舒适的。I am very pleasant that Mom allows me to play computer games for an hour.

split into (splitting, split) to divide something into different parts or groups. 分成, 分裂成。Mom is splitting an apple into two sides.

sprinkle (v). (sprinkling, sprinkled) & n. to scatter or pour something slightly. 撒, 洒。You should sprinkle more salt; a small amount of something. 少量, 一点。Please add a sprinkle of sugar.

revolution (n). a fundamental change in ways of thinking or working. 革命。Many people died in French Revolution.

rhythm (n). a regular change of sound or movement. 节奏, 律动。I really like the rhythm of Taylor's song.

snow mountain a mountain that is always covered by snow. 雪山。 The snow mountain in Lijiang is very beautiful.

tear off (tearing, tore, torn) to rip off something. 撕下, 扯掉。 He tore off a little from a bread to have a taste.

Answer Key

Reading I

1. The author visited Dali, Xishuangbanna and Kunming.
2. People take a bath and dress carefully before they going to the temple, and then sprinkle water on each other as a symbol of luck.
3. Kunming is famous for the hot spring.

1. fall in love with
2. sprinkle
3. impressive
4. pleasant
5. photography

1. Past progressive describes a situation in progress. Past simple describes a sudden action.
2. Open-ended question.

Reading II

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. F

A - c
B - a
C - b

acre: unit of measurement

revolution: a far-reaching change

cover: occupy the area of

architectural: the design and construction of buildings

spectacular: very impressive

Grammar Task

1. C
2. A
3. D
4. B

Listening

Time	Place	Case
10 a.m.	Panda House	Pandas were taking exercise under the guidance of their breeder.
2 p.m.	Bear House	Visitors around there were feeding bears carrots and Mike's and his family also tried to feed them.
3 p.m.	Mike and his father: Bird Art	Mike and his families went to watch the animals' shows.
	Mike's sister and mother: Elephants' Show	
4.30 p.m.	Monkey House	when a visitor fed a monkey tofu with chili sauce, the monkey tore off a little and had a taste.

Listening Transcript

Good afternoon everyone! I am Mike. It's my great honor to share my traveling experience here. Last summer holiday, my parents, my sister and I went to Yunnan Wild Animal Park. We had a great day there. When we first **arrived** in the park at ten o'clock, we went to Panda House. It was just the time that pandas were exercising under the guidance of their **breeder**. After lunch, we went to Bear House at 2 p.m. Visitors around there were **feeding** bears carrots. We were amused because of bears' **lumbering** actions. We also tried to feed them and spent an hour there. Afterwards, we decided to watch the animals' shows. But we **split into** two teams. While my mom and sister was watching Elephants' Show, and my dad and I were in Bird Art House. We made a **consensus** that we would meet in Monkey House after the shows at 4:30 p.m. We had our last stop at the Monkey House. An interesting thing happened there, when someone fed a monkey tofu with chili sauce, he just **tore off** a little and had a taste. Then there was a grin on his face which made us laugh. We all signed that he was so smart. That is one of my unforgettable days that spent in Yunnan. Thanks you for listening.