

# UNIT 2

# MORALS AND VIRTUES

The best portion of a good man's life is his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love.

—William Wordsworth



# GENEROSITY

**In this unit, you will**

- 1 read about a compassionate doctor, Lin Qiaozhi.
- 2 listen to discussions about moral dilemmas and the power of kindness and talk about the virtues that we cherish.
- 3 write a review of a moral fable.
- 4 explore the importance of moral values and virtues.

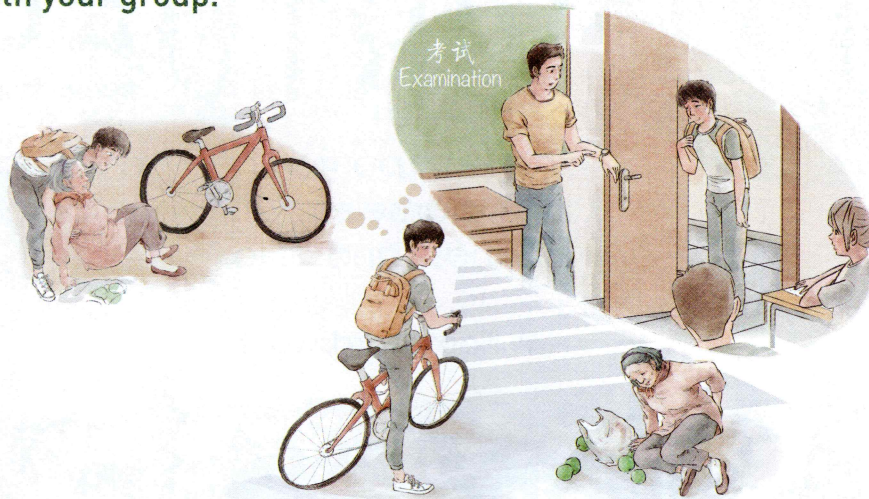
## Look and discuss



## Talk about moral dilemmas

- 1 Before you listen, look at the definition and the picture below. Then discuss the questions with your group.

A moral dilemma is a situation in which you have two or more difficult choices to make. If you choose one, you might get in trouble for not choosing the other(s).



- What moral dilemma is the boy in the picture facing?
- Have you ever faced a moral dilemma or heard of someone who did? Describe it.

- 2 Listen to the conversation and complete the table to describe the moral dilemma that Jane is talking about.

Situation	The girl is taking the entrance examination for _____ in Beijing. During the exam, the student next to her fainted.	
The girl's choices	She can _____.	or She can _____.
Possible results	_____, but _____.	_____, but _____.

- 3 Listen again and decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- Jane is eager to share the magazine article with Luke. T ☐ F ☐
- Luke doubts that young people face moral dilemmas all the time. T ☐ F ☐
- Jane admires what the girl in the story did. T ☐ F ☐
- Luke doesn't believe anybody would do what the girl in the story did. T ☐ F ☐
- Jane wonders how the girl became a doctor later. T ☐ F ☐



### Listen for attitudes

When you listen, you should pay attention not only to the words but also to HOW the speaker is talking. If people strongly disagree with something, they might exaggerate their intonation. If you hear people speaking very quickly or loudly, they may be excited or angry. If they speak slowly or stop often, they may be confused or not sure about what they are saying.





#### 4 Listen to the conversation carefully and answer the questions.

- 1 What did the girl do to help the student?
- 2 What was the girl's name? What was she famous for?
- 3 What did Jane say about the girl's life?

#### 5 Think about what you would do if you were ever faced with the same situation as the girl. Then share your thoughts with your group, and explain the reasons for your choice.

##### EXAMPLE

**A:** If I were ever in a situation like the girl faced, I think I would choose to ...

**B:** Why? Are you sure?

**A:** Because I think that ... is most important. What about you?

**B:** I think I would ...

#### Pronunciation



#### 1 Listen to the conversations and match each rising intonation with its meaning.

1 **A:** You know Angela?

**B:** ↗ Yes.

2 **A:** You volunteer at the local shelter,  
↗ don't you?

**B:** Yes. It's a great experience.

3 **A:** Did you hear that James helped an old woman who fell down while crossing the street?

**B:** Yes. It was a bit ↗ dangerous, but he got all the cars to stop.

**A** Having more to say.

**B** Hoping the other person will continue to talk.

**C** Asking for confirmation.



#### 2 Read the conversation and mark ↗ in the correct places. Then listen to the recording to check. Notice the meaning of each rising intonation.

**Peter:** It's a nice day, isn't it?

**Nick:** Yes, but it looks gloomy to me.

**Peter:** Why? What happened?

**Nick:** You know Tony?

**Peter:** Yes.

**Nick:** He asked me to write an essay for him. But I don't think it's the right thing to do. Do you?

**Peter:** No, it's not.

**Nick:** But I'm afraid to lose him as a friend.

**Peter:** Well, good friends should help each other. But it doesn't mean you should help him cheat! Why not help him with his schoolwork?

**Nick:** Good idea!



## Learn to make choices in life

1 Before you read, think about this question and share your ideas with your partner: What are some important life choices?

2 Read the text about Lin Qiaozhi and then answer the following questions.

- 1 What hard choices was Dr Lin faced with throughout her life? Underline the sentences about these choices.
- 2 What were the results of her choices?
- 3 What does the author want to **illustrate** by mentioning Dr Lin's life choices?

## MOTHER OF TEN THOUSAND BABIES



Lin Qiaozhi (1901—1983)

“Life is **precious**. ... To a person nothing is more precious than their life, and if they entrust me with that life, how could I refuse that trust, saying I’m cold, hungry, or tired?” These words of Dr Lin Qiaozhi give us a look into the heart of this amazing woman, and what carried her through a life of hard choices.

As a five-year-old girl, Lin Qiaozhi was deeply affected by her mother’s death. At age 18, instead of following the traditional path of **marriage** like the **majority** of girls, she chose to study medicine. “Why should girls learn so much? Finding a good husband should be their final goal!” her brother **complained**, thinking of the high tuition **fees**. She **responded**, “I’d rather stay single to study all my life!”

Eight years later, Lin graduated from Peking Union Medical College (PUMC) with the Wenhai

**Scholarship**, the highest prize given to graduates. She immediately became the first woman ever to be **hired** as a resident **physician** in the OB-GYN department of the PUMC Hospital. Within six months, she was named a chief resident physician, a position that usually took four years to achieve. After working for a few years, she was sent to study in Europe and then, in 1939, in the US. She greatly impressed her American colleagues, who invited her to stay. Dr Lin, however, **rejected** the offer. She wanted to serve the women and children at home.

In 1941, Dr Lin became the first Chinese woman ever to be appointed director of the OB-GYN department of the PUMC Hospital, but just a few months later, the department was closed because of the war. Thinking of all the people still in need of help, Dr Lin opened a private **clinic**. She charged very low fees to treat patients and often reduced costs for poor patients. At times she was even seen riding a donkey to faraway villages to provide medical care.



The new People's Republic of China saw Dr Lin Qiaozhi playing a key role. In 1954, she was elected to the first National People's Congress and, over the next several **decades**, she held many important positions. Her heart, however, was **elsewhere**. She was more interested in **tending** patients, **publishing** medical research on care for women and children, and training the next generation of doctors. "The OB-GYN department cares for two lives," she told new **staff** in her department. "As doctors, we should be responsible for the patients and treat them as our sisters."

Though Lin Qiaozhi never married, she was known as the "mother of ten thousand babies", having delivered over 50,000 babies in her lifetime. Dr Lin did not **retire** until the day she died, 22 April 1983. Since she had no children of her own, she left her **savings** to a **kindergarten** and a fund for new doctors. And even as she lay dying, her final thoughts were for others. "I'm ready to go," she said. "Don't try to rescue me any more. Don't waste the medicine any more."



### 3 Read the text again and answer the questions. Use the facts and details from the text to support your conclusions.

- 1 What was the main **principle** guiding Dr Lin through the choices in her life?
- 2 What kind of person do you think Dr Lin was?



#### Draw conclusions

As you read, pay attention to facts and details mentioned by the author, and put them together to draw conclusions about the topic.

### 4 Complete the following sentences using suitable verbs from the text. Be sure to use the correct forms.

- 1 Many studies have shown that shy, **passive** children tend to be socially \_\_\_\_\_ by their classmates.
- 2 She was so scared during the interview that she completely forgot how she should \_\_\_\_\_ to the questions.
- 3 Many Americans \_\_\_\_\_ about the **sharp** increase in the cost of health care and health **insurance** recently.
- 4 One of the advantages of \_\_\_\_\_ **energetic** and positive young people is that they \_\_\_\_\_ to show interest in their work and they are eager to learn.
- 5 The student union will hold a special meeting in January to \_\_\_\_\_ someone to **replace** the secretary.



## Describe people's actions

1 Read the sentences below and discuss the function and meaning of each *-ing* form. Then find more examples from the unit.

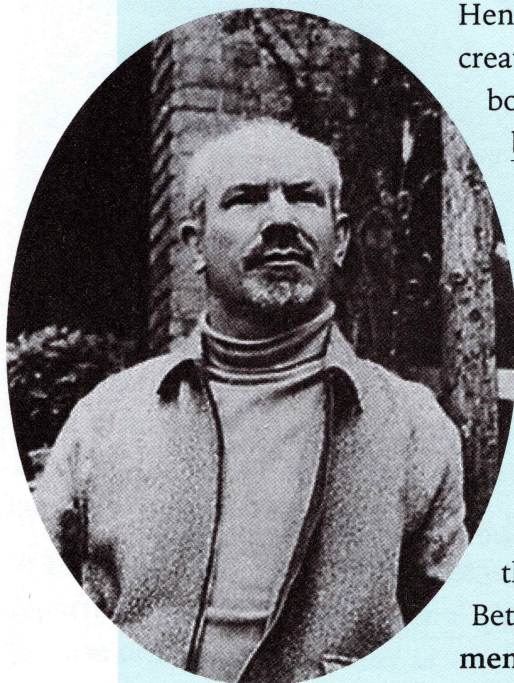
- 1 ... her brother complained, *thinking* of the high tuition fees.
- 2 *Thinking* of all the people still in need of help, Dr Lin opened a private clinic.
- 3 The new People's Republic of China saw Dr Lin Qiaozhi *playing* a key role.

2 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in the box.

feel    want    face    smile    return    worry    hear    knock

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ that his wife had been injured in an **accident**, Mr Johnson hurried to the hospital.
- 2 During the **operation**, she sat in the waiting room for over an hour \_\_\_\_\_ about him.
- 3 I saw her **whispering** something into his ear, obviously not \_\_\_\_\_ to be heard.
- 4 He suddenly woke up at **midnight** when he heard someone \_\_\_\_\_ at his door.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ higher **import** and **export** costs, the company is looking for ways to survive.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ from the North **Pole**, the traveller wrote a book about his experience and had it published the following year.
- 7 The child lay on her mother's **lap**, \_\_\_\_\_ sweetly.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ hurt by the rejection, she **bit** her lip and quietly walked away.

3 Read the following story and rewrite the underlined parts using the *-ing* form.



Henry Norman Bethune was a Canadian doctor with a very creative mind and a determination to help people. As a small boy, he became very interested in medicine and decided to become a doctor. After he graduated from medical college in 1916, Bethune worked as a doctor in England, the US, and Canada. He reinvented or redesigned over 10 medical instruments to make them more useful. In 1938, Bethune left for China, after he heard that many people were dying in the war. Despite the difficult situation, Dr Bethune did whatever he could to assist the Chinese people. He helped to organise hospitals, taught doctors and nurses, and showed people how to give first aid. Sadly, Dr Bethune passed away in November the following year and was buried in Shijiazhuang. After Dr Bethune's death, Chairman Mao Zedong wrote an article in memory of him, in which he praised Dr Bethune as a hero to be remembered in China.



## Talk about the importance of kindness



### 1 Listen to a radio show and answer these questions.

- 1 What is the name of the radio show?
- 2 What does "paying it forward" mean?
- 3 What does the guest want the listeners to do?



### 2 Listen to the radio show again and fill in the blanks to complete the story.

I'm sure you've heard the famous country music song "**Chain** of Love". The song starts with a man who helps a lady whose car \_\_\_\_\_. The lady wants to pay him, but he won't accept payment, instead telling the lady to just \_\_\_\_\_ to another person. Later, when the lady stops at a **café**, she notices her waitress is pregnant and \_\_\_\_\_. When the lady finishes eating, she pays for her meal with a \_\_\_\_\_. Then the lady walks out, \_\_\_\_\_ the change and a note for the waitress. Her note tells the waitress to continue the chain of kindness. The song has a \_\_\_\_\_ ending. The waitress goes home to her \_\_\_\_\_, happy because of the kindness the lady showed her. Finally we find out that he is the man who first \_\_\_\_\_ the chain of kindness!

### 3 Think of a story of showing or receiving kindness, either your own story or one that you have heard of. Then share it with your group. Here are some words and expressions that may help you.

#### Telling a story

once upon a time	long ago	
first of all	then	after that
later	finally	so
however	although	but

- I remember this happened when I was ...
- I was on my way to ...
- I was sitting ... when ...
- It was a ... day/morning ...
- There were ... on the street ...



#### Tell a story

When telling a story, you can start by saying what the story is about. Give the background to the listeners, including when and where it took place. Say what happened step by step and be sure to use correct tenses. Do not forget to use sequencing words or linking words. Finally, finish your story by saying why it is important to you or why you remember it.





## Share your opinions about a moral story

 1 Read the fable below and answer the questions.

- 1 What was the king's idea for teaching an important lesson to his people?
- 2 What was the **response** from most of the people?
- 3 What did the young girl think and do when she saw the coins?

### THE STONE IN THE ROAD

Once upon a time there was a king who often thought, "Nothing good can come to a nation whose people only complain and expect others to solve their problems." One day, he had an idea.

Early one morning, the king disguised himself and went to a local village. He placed a large stone in the middle of the main street and hid gold coins under the stone. Then he hid behind a huge maple tree and watched.

The first person down the street was a milkman with his cart. He crashed into the stone, spilling the milk everywhere. "What fool put this stone here?" he shouted. He picked himself up and angrily went away.

After a while, a group of women came along, each balancing a pot of water on her head. One woman tripped over the stone and her water pot went crashing to the ground. She picked herself up and limped away in tears. Neither she nor her friends thought about moving the stone out of the road.

The king watched all day as many people complained about the stone, but he found nobody making an attempt to move it. The king was in despair. "Is there no one in this village who feels any responsibility to keep their neighbours from harm?"

Just then, the king saw a young girl coming along. She was the daughter of a local farmer. She had been working all day and was very tired. But when she saw the stone, she said to herself, "This stone is a danger to anyone who comes down the street after dark. I'll move it out of the way."

The girl pushed the stone with all her might. After a great deal of effort, she finally succeeded in moving it to the side of the street. Imagine her surprise when she saw the gold coins where the stone had been!

Just then, the king stepped out from behind the tree. "Oh sir," the girl said, "does this gold belong to you? If not, we surely must find the owner, for he will certainly miss it."

The king said, "My dear, the gold is mine. I put it in the road and moved the stone over it. Now the gold is yours, because you are the only person who has learnt the lesson I wanted to teach my people."



- 2 This story presented different people's emotions and responses when they came across the same problem. Complete the table according to the story.

Person	Experience	Emotion	Response
milkman	crashed into the stone	angry	went away
woman with water			
other villagers			
young girl			

- 3 Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- 1 What do you think this fable is trying to tell us? Do you think the king was wise? Why or why not?
- 2 Can you think of times in your own life when you felt and acted like the girl or like the other people in the story? Give examples.



#### Write a review

The main purpose of a review is to give your opinion about a piece of writing. You should first give a short description of the writing, and then clearly state your opinion and your reasons.

- 4 Write a review of the fable. Use the outline below to help you.

<b>Paragraph 1:</b> <b>Basic information about the story</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the title of the story?</li> <li>• What kind of story is it?</li> <li>• What is the main idea of the story?</li> </ul>
<b>Paragraph 2:</b> <b>Your analysis of the story</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the author's purpose?</li> <li>• Were the details of the story clear?</li> <li>• Do you think the story achieved its purpose?</li> </ul>
<b>Paragraph 3:</b> <b>Your opinion about the story</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What did you like about the story?</li> <li>• What did you not like about the story?</li> <li>• Would you recommend this story to others?</li> </ul>

- 5 Exchange drafts. Use the checklist to give feedback on your partner's draft.

- ✓ Does the writer give a short description of the story?
- ✓ Does the description include the most important details of the story?
- ✓ Does the writer give his/her opinion about the characters or their actions?
- ✓ Is the review well-organised?
- ✓ Does the writer use the *-ing* form as the adverbial in the review?
- ✓ Are there any grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors?

- 6 Get your draft back and revise it. Then put your review up in the classroom.



## 1 Circle the correct word in each sentence.

- 1 Jack stood in front of the class, completely **forgetting/forgotten** every word that he had prepared for his speech.
- 2 **Seeing/Seen** the tennis star leaving the **court**, the girl quickly picked up her camera and ran over to him.
- 3 They were very proud to see their son **awarded/awarding** the university scholarship.
- 4 When **asking/asked** about their work schedules, many people preferred more **flexible** work hours.
- 5 John watched the woman **talking/talked** to the air, **thinking/thought** that she might be crazy.
- 6 **Impressed/Impressing** with her fluent English, the manager offered Julie a job interview.

## 2 Complete the passage with the correct forms of the words below. Then answer the question: What is the author's attitude towards the doctors?

clinic   complain   majority   staff   response   harm   physician

According to a recent survey, the \_\_\_\_\_ of doctors believed their **incomes** did not match how hard they worked. The survey found that about 50 percent of the doctors were not satisfied with their working conditions, especially those from hospitals in small towns.

A \_\_\_\_\_ working in a large public hospital often has to see 100 patients **per** day. The researchers conducting the survey concluded that if hospitals and \_\_\_\_\_ serving the general public received more support, it would help to keep their medical \_\_\_\_\_ from leaving the profession, and **therefore** the public would continue to receive good health services.

In \_\_\_\_\_ to a question about **tensions** between doctors and patients, some respondents \_\_\_\_\_ that misleading media reports about doctors have greatly \_\_\_\_\_ society, causing the public to distrust medical workers.

### REFLECTING

- ④ My favourite story of this unit was \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- ④ After studying this unit, I think \_\_\_\_\_ is/are the most important of all virtues.
- ④ I found it \_\_\_\_\_ to understand and use the grammar structures in this unit.
- ④ I had some problems with \_\_\_\_\_.
- ④ I would like to learn more about \_\_\_\_\_.
- ④ Overall, I thought this unit was ☐ interesting ☐ thought-provoking ☐ so-so ☐ difficult.



## \*Project: Make a poster to motivate others to practise virtues

- 1 In groups, brainstorm more virtues to add to the list below. Then discuss which of these virtues are most needed in our society today.



- 2 Make a poster to explain what virtue it is and to motivate people to practise it. Divide up the work among your group members.

- 1 Collect sayings or quotations about the virtue.
- 2 Analyse the sayings and group them in a logical way.
- 3 Look for or draw a picture to illustrate the virtue.

## THANKFULNESS

*Thankfulness is realising and appreciating what you have.*

### **Be thankful, because you have more than others!**

- If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies in yourself. (Indian proverb)
- I had no shoes and complained, until I met a man who had no feet. (Indian proverb)

### **Be thankful, because you have been given much!**

- If you can read this, thank a teacher. (Anonymous)
- When eating fruit, think of the person who planted the tree. (Asian proverb)

### **Be thankful, because it will shape your whole life!**

- Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. (Oprah Winfrey)







## Confucius and *Ren*

The teachings of Confucius, one of the most respected teachers of ancient China, are still known and studied around the world today. Confucius identified the concept *ren* as the most important principle in life, a principle which is still relevant in modern society.

### BEFORE YOU WATCH

Complete each sentence with your best guess.

- 1 The teachings of Confucius have been an important part of Chinese culture for more than \_\_\_\_\_ years.
- 2 His teachings are all about the most basic \_\_\_\_\_ of life.
- 3 Confucius thought that \_\_\_\_\_ was the most important moral principle.
- 4 According to Confucius, this highest principle begins with love for \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Confucius said, "Whatever you don't like done to yourself, don't \_\_\_\_\_."

### WHILE YOU WATCH

1 Check your answers in Before You Watch.

2 Circle the correct words to complete the sentences below.

- 1 Confucian thought is still greatly valued in China and in **other East/Southeast** Asian countries.
- 2 If students really understood Confucian ideas, it could change **society/their lives**.
- 3 In English, **only a few/many** different words can be used to translate Confucius's highest moral principle.
- 4 **Mencius/Zigong** explained this principle as "loving one's parents, loving people, loving everything in the world".
- 5 Confucius taught Zigong that the one single concept to take as a guide for all actions in life is **happiness/fairness**.

### AFTER YOU WATCH

Work in groups. Discuss the questions.

- 1 In what ways do you think Confucian thought still influences education and society in China?
- 2 Do you think that your life would change if you understood and practised *ren* every day?
- 3 How would the Confucian idea of fairness change society around you if everybody started practising fairness in everything?