



English

Class: 12th

Subject: English

Lesson 8: WAY TO PROGRESS

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❖ **Exercise Short Questions:**

1. Why has the world changed its attitude towards China?

Ans: The world changed its attitude towards China after realizing that ignoring one-fourth of mankind was unreasonable. China's political stability, social discipline, and successful social and economic system forced the world to recognize its importance.

2. Discuss Chinese agriculture system.

Ans: Chinese agriculture is based on communes. Farmers work collectively in production brigades and teams. Mechanization is introduced carefully, and peasants are kept in rural areas with local industries to prevent migration to cities.

3. How does China rely on its own resources?

Ans: China relies on indigenous machines and equipment instead of importing foreign technology. Self-reliance reduces costs, saves money, and strengthens revolutionary spirit among the people.

4. Describe a day in the life of a Chinese student.

Ans: A Chinese student starts the day early, attends school in two shifts, completes most homework at school, and spends free time reading newspapers, listening to the radio, and playing sports like ping-pong.

5. Write a note on the Chinese women.

Ans: Chinese women enjoy equal status with men. They receive social benefits such as an eight-hour workday, free medical care, paid maternity leave, and childcare facilities, which give them confidence and dignity.

6. What are the social security benefits provided to the Chinese workers?

Ans: Chinese workers receive free medical treatment, paid sick leave, pensions after retirement, subsidized housing, low-cost meals, paid holidays, and financial assistance if their income falls below the cost of living.

7. “It is the people and not the things that are decisive.” Discuss.

Ans: This statement means that human effort and collective will are more important than machines or money. China believes that disciplined and united people can overcome all difficulties.

8. “The heart of matter is the need to root out selfishness.” Discuss.

Ans: China aims to eliminate selfishness and promote selflessness. Citizens are trained to serve society and work for collective welfare rather than personal gain.

❖ Important Short Questions:

1. Why was China ignored by the Western world for many years?

Ans: China was ignored for about twenty-two years due to Western disregard and misunderstanding. It was even confused with one of its provinces and kept out of major international affairs.

2. What is meant by the “Chinese bamboo curtain”?

Ans: The “Chinese bamboo curtain” refers to China’s political and diplomatic isolation from the Western world for many years.

3. Why did many countries feel guilty about their past attitude towards China?

Ans: Many countries felt guilty because China was kept out of the United Nations for a long time despite being one-fourth of mankind.

4. Why did China suddenly become the centre of world attention?

Ans: China became important due to its political stability, social discipline, and successful social experiment which attracted world leaders and diplomats.

5. When did the Communists come to power in China?

Ans: The Communists came to power in China in 1949.

6. What was the condition of China's economy in 1949?

Ans: In 1949, China had a very backward economy similar to an early Iron Age system with little industrial development.

7. What problems of Asian countries did China try to solve?

Ans: China tried to solve problems like food shortage, low nutrition, unemployment, inequality of income, and uncontrolled urban expansion.

8. Why does the writer call the Chinese system an exemplary social experiment?

Ans: Because China adopted a new approach to development based on collective welfare, discipline, and self-reliance instead of Western economic models.

9. What does the absence of automobiles in Chinese cities signify?

Ans: It signifies a conscious rejection of Western materialism, not backwardness or delay.

10. What is meant by economic decentralization in China?

Ans: Economic decentralization means giving more independence to provinces and local enterprises, reducing bureaucracy and encouraging local self-sufficiency.

11. Why do Chinese peasants not migrate to cities?

Ans: Peasants are kept in rural areas through communes and local industries, so they do not need to move to cities for work.

12. What is the significance of Mao's maxim "Rely on your own forces"?

Ans: It emphasizes self-reliance by using indigenous equipment, saving money, and strengthening the revolutionary spirit of the people.

13. Who is Je Wen-Siu and where does she live?

Ans: Je Wen-Siu is a sixteen-year-old Chinese schoolgirl. She lives in the workers' district of Peng Pu in Shanghai.

14. At what time does Je Wen-Siu start her school in the morning?

Ans: She goes to school at 8 o'clock in the morning after doing household chores and breakfast.

15. How is Je Wen-Siu's school day divided?

Ans: She attends school from 8 to 11 a.m., then again from 1:30 to 3 p.m., with a break for lunch at home.

16. Where does Je Wen-Siu usually do her homework?

Ans: She usually completes her homework at school, not at home.

17. How does Je Wen-Siu spend her leisure time?

Ans: From 4 o'clock onwards, she relaxes by reading newspapers and listening to the radio.

18. What kind of news interests Je Wen-Siu the most?

Ans: She is most interested in political news related to national and international affairs.

19. How do Chinese girls spend time with their friends?

Ans: They go out with friends, do sports activities, and often play ping-pong.

20. Why do Westerners think Chinese women lack femininity?

Ans: Westerners think so because Chinese women do not use beauty products and there is no open discussion of sex in films or literature.

21. What does Mao mean by saying that “women hold up half the sky”?

Ans: Mao means that women are equal to men and play an equally important role in society.

22. What social benefits are enjoyed by Chinese women?

Ans: They enjoy an eight-hour workday, free medical care, childcare facilities, and 56 days paid leave before childbirth.

23. What is the monthly cost of living in Peking?

Ans: The monthly cost of living in Peking is about 12–14 yuan.

24. What medical facilities are provided to Chinese workers?

Ans: Chinese workers receive free medical and hospital treatment, while their family members pay only 50 percent.

25. What is meant by the statement “It is the people and not things that are decisive”?

Ans: It means that human effort, unity, and discipline are more important than machines or material resources.

Note:

This chapter is designed to provide a solid foundation of knowledge, with the goal of deepening understanding and encouraging further exploration of the subject.

The content has been carefully selected to support effective learning and inspire students to engage with the topic more deeply.

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Purpose: To contribute to education by offering insightful, valuable content that enhances learning and understanding.

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