

Snapshots Volume 1 Story Summaries

Chapter	Title	Content	Culture notes	IC Lesson
1 Family and Names	Story 1: A family photo 我的家人 我的家人	An American student looks at a photo of her Chinese friend's family.	1. Family portrait 2. Addressing one's friends' siblings	L1 Greetings L2 Family
	Story 2: What's my name? 我叫什么名字 我叫什麼名字	A young girl wonders about the various ways her family members and others address her.	Nicknames for Children	
2 Birthday Celebrations	Story 1: Weekend with friends 王有朋和朋友的周末 王有朋和朋友的週末	An American student celebrates his birthday with friends in China.	Paying for birthday dinners	L3 Time and Date L4 Hobbies
	Story 2: Ansong's 19th birthday 安松的 19 岁生日 安松的 19 歲生日	An American student celebrates his 19th birthday with his teacher's family in Tianjin.	1. Celebrating birthdays 2. Asking age and relationship status	
3 Cross-Cultural Gatherings	Story 1: Guipeng and Honora's Thanksgiving 去朋友家玩儿 去朋友家玩兒	An American student confronts traditional assumptions about identity and relationships in Beijing.	1. Heritage and Identity 2. Privacy, Personal Topics and Heteronormativity	L5 Visiting Friends
	Story 2: Different Views 在茶馆聊天 在茶館聊天	A Chinese student celebrates Thanksgiving at his American friend's house.	1. Address and Courtesy 2. Indoor Etiquette 3. Beverage and Bathing Preferences	

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4 Schedules and Appointments	Story 1: Mr. Li's busy day 一位中国老人 一位中國老人	The busy daily life of a senior in China (Tianjin)	Family support	L6 Making Appointments
	Story 2: Mahjong and matchmaking 约朋友 約朋友	The same senior calls his friends to play mahjong and has matchmaking plans for a younger friend of his.	1. English Tests in China 2. School Community	
5 New Perspectives	Story 1: Building relationships 有朋友真好 有朋友真好	Relationships between an American student and her boyfriend in Beijing	Receiving gifts	L7 Studying Chinese
	Story 2: A trip to the Great Wall 好汉小文 好漢小文	A Chinese American child visits the Huangyaguan Great Wall with his parents.	The Huangyaguan Great Wall	
6 Studying Abroad in Taiwan	Story 1: Moving to Taiwan 到台湾去学中文 到台灣去學中文	A student travels to Taiwan to learn Chinese with the encouragement of his husband from Taiwan.	Breakfast culture in Taiwan	L8 School Life
	Story 2: Falling in love with calligraphy 写毛笔字是他们的爱好 寫毛筆字是他們的愛好	The same student practices calligraphy.	Calligraphy	

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7 Shopping and Holidays	Story 1: The perfect gifts 在商店买东西 在商店買東西	A student from New York buys clothes as birthday gifts for her boyfriend in Beijing and learns about some cultural taboos.	Gift taboos	L9 Shopping
	Story 2: Celebrating the Chinese New Year 过春节 過春节	The same student celebrates the Chinese New Year with her boyfriend's family in Beijing.	Red in Chinese Culture	
8 Transportation and (Mis)communication	Story 1: A bus ride to the tea store 在杭州买茶叶 在杭州買茶葉	Two friends take a bus to buy the famous Longjing tea in Hangzhou.	Tea in China	L10 Transportation
	Story 2: A bewildering emoji 这是什么意思？ 這是什麼意思？	An American student misunderstands the emoji her Chinese friend used in a chat.	Emojis are not universal	

Snapshots Volume 2 Story Summaries

Chapter	Title	Content	Culture Notes	IC Lesson
1 Travel Plans	Story 1: Winter Vacation Destinations 寒假去哪儿玩儿？ 寒假去哪兒玩兒？	Three friends discuss some possible places in China to visit during their winter break.	1. Winter in Harbin 2. Northeastern China	L11 Weather
	Story 2: Temperature Scales 二十多度冷不冷？ 二十多度冷不冷？	An American student in China is deciding where to travel and is confused by the weather forecast for Hainan.	Measuring Temperature	
2 A Dinner; A Discussion	Story 1: An Insistent Host 多吃！多喝！别客气！ 多吃！多喝！別客氣！	An American working in Shanghai attends a dinner with his employer and coworkers and notices some cultural differences.	1. Dining Venues 2. Dish Names 3. Ordering for the Table 4. Overwhelming Hospitality	L12 Dining
	Story 2: Varieties of Chinese 我们都说中文 我們都說中文	A few students in Taiwan hang out and start discussing different terms for and variations within spoken Chinese.	1. Beijing Mandarin vs. Taiwan Mandarin 2. Language Diversity and Regional Identity	
3 Navigating Tianjin	Story 1: Ansong's Experience on Campus 安松在天津师大 安松在天津師大	An American student's experience and impressions upon arriving at Tianjin Normal University's campus.	1. Transportation in China 2. Bring Your Own Toilet Paper	L13 Asking Directions
	Story 2: Going Out for a Meal 和同学去饭馆 和同學去飯館	Several international students in China discuss how best to get from campus to a particular restaurant in the city, where they plan to get a meal.	Affordable Public Transportation	

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4 Making Memories	Story 1: A Birthday Celebration in China 在中国过生日 在中國過生日	A Chinese American student celebrates her birthday with family in China.	1. Jade in Chinese Culture 2. Birthday Noodles	L14 Birthday Party
	Story 2: Karaoke Outing 唱卡拉OK 唱卡拉OK	A Chinese American student goes out with some Chinese friends to sing karaoke.	Karaoke in China	
5 Healthcare in Taiwan	Story 1: Watermelon Troubles 食物也有属性? 食物也有屬性?	An American living in Taiwan eats watermelon and then feels sick, resulting in a visit to the doctor's office.	Cool-Natured and Warm-Natured Foods	L15 Seeing a Doctor
	Story 2: Care for New Mothers 台湾的月子中心 台灣的月子中心	An American living in Taiwan visits his friend, who is a new mother, at a postpartum care center.	Postpartum Care and Benefits	
6 Budding Romance	Story 1: The First Date 第一次约会 第一次約會	After having spent time texting and video chatting, a Chinese man arranges his first in-person date with the Chinese woman he has been getting to know.	1. Chinese “Super-App” WeChat 2. Sichuan Cuisine	L16 Dating
	Story 2: At a Party 生日舞会 生日舞會	A Chinese American student feels a pull towards a Chinese student at a party and starts conversing with her.	Fragrant Hills Park	
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7 Cross-Cultural Friendship	Story 1: Apartment Hunting in the U.S. 在美國租房子真麻煩 在美國租房子真麻煩	A Chinese graduate student struggles to find an apartment in the U.S., eventually receiving help from her American classmates.	1. Using Connections 2. Furnished Apartments	L17 Renting an Apartment
	Story 2: Making Friends in China 一个美国人在中国: 一篇日记 一個美國人在中國: 一篇日記	An American in China is a bit confused by her Chinese friend's many requests for assistance.	A Helping Hand	
8 A Competition; A Myth	Story 1: A New Challenge 三铁比赛 三鐵比賽	A Chinese student learns to swim and then prepares to participate in a triathlon.	Swimming in China	L18 Sports
	Story 2: Lady White Snake 许仙和白娘子 許仙和白娘子	A simple retelling of the famous Chinese legend of Lady White Snake.	1. Legend of the White Snake 2. Leifeng Pagoda	
9 Ansong's Summer in China	Story 1: Ansong Books a Flight 安松订机票 安松訂機票	An American student prepares for his upcoming summer study abroad experience in China.	Chinese Visa	L19 Travel
	Story 2: Ansong Explores Tianjin and Beijing 安松爱旅行 安松愛旅行	An American student travels around Tianjin and Beijing, learning about several local attractions.	Wudadao	

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10 Family Bonds	Story 1: A Family Visit 去北京看儿子 去北京看兒子	A Chinese student has an internship in Beijing; his parents fly in to visit him and explore Beijing for the first time.	1. Beijing's Imperial Sites 2. Hutong	L20 At the Airport
	Story 2: Familial Love 家人的爱 家人的愛	A man comes out to his extended family by announcing his engagement and waits to see how they will respond to the news.	Expressing Care in Chinese Relationships	