

About this script

Please note that this is not a word for word transcript of the programme as broadcast. In the recording and editing process, changes may have been made which may not be reflected here.

关于台词的备注:

请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。

Terracotta Warriors 兵马俑

Neil: Ok, Sun Chen, I have a test for you.

Sun Chen: A test? That's not fair. Neil 为什么一上来先想考考我呀。

Neil: Well, it's about Chinese history, so you shouldn't have any problems.

Sun Chen: 关于中国历史的问题，你肯定难不倒我。

Neil: Listen to the man and tell me which Chinese historical site he's talking about:

Insert

The first figures were discovered in 1974, and though there's been a steady programme of excavation ever since, it's thought that the 1,000 or so figures here in front of me represent just a small part of a vast Imperial Guard.

Sun Chen: Neil 想知道，这位男士所说的，是中国的哪个历史古迹。 Can I hear again?

Neil: Of course. And here are some words to help you. Figure.

Sun Chen: 人物。 Figure.

Neil: Discovered.

Sun Chen: 被发现。 Discovered.

Neil: Excavation.

Sun Chen: 考古挖掘。 Excavation.

Neil: Imperial Guard.

Sun Chen: 帝国的卫队。 Imperial Guard.

Neil: Here he is again:

Insert

The first figures were discovered in 1974, and though there's been a steady programme of excavation ever since, it's thought that the 1,000 or so figures here in front of me represent just a small part of a vast Imperial Guard.

Sun Chen: Well, it's easy now. 他说的是兵马俑。兵马俑英语怎么说呢？

Neil: We say the 'Terracotta Warriors'.

Sun Chen: Terracotta Warriors. 兵马俑。不过我们的节目说的是在英国生活，为什么会聊到兵马俑呢？

Neil: Because the Terracotta Warriors are coming to Britain?

Sun Chen: What, all of them?

Neil: No, not all of them, but quite a few will be displayed at the British Museum as part of an exhibition about the first Emperor.

Sun Chen: Wow, sounds interesting. 大英博物馆将会有关于中国第一位皇帝——秦始皇的展览，这个展览当中的一些兵马俑是从中国借来的。

Insert

Yes, I would say it is the most important archaeological excavation in China, if not in the world, because the First Emperor had such significance in Chinese history and he unified China, he made China as we know it today.

Neil: There's that word 'excavation' again.

Sun Chen: 考古挖掘。

Neil: Archaeological excavation. Archaeological.

Sun Chen: 考古学的。

Neil: That was Jane Porter, who's in charge of the Chinese collection at the British Museum. She says the Terracotta Warriors are the most important archaeological excavation in China, or perhaps the world. She thinks it's because the First Emperor had such significance for Chinese history. Significance.

Sun Chen: 具有重要意义。 Significance.

Neil: He unified China and made it the country we know today. To unify.

Sun Chen: 就是统一。我们再来听听他是怎么说的：

Insert

Yes, I would say it is the most important archaeological excavation in China, if not in the world, because the First Emperor had such significance in Chinese history and he unified China, he made China as we know it today.



Sun Chen: Have you ever seen the Terracotta Warriors, Neil?

Neil: Yes, actually, I have. I was lucky enough to visit Xi'an a couple of years ago. It was an incredible sight, but I've forgotten some of the history, I'm afraid.

Sun Chen: 虽然我们的 Neil 以前曾经去过中国的西安，看过兵马俑了，不过对于这段历史，Neil 还得需要别人给他提个醒儿。

Neil: Well, here's a man who knows his Chinese history, but first, some words to help you: warring.

Sun Chen: 敌对的。

Neil: Factions.

Sun Chen: 派别。

Neil: Warring factions.

Sun Chen: 敌对的派别。

Neil: Megalomania.

Sun Chen: 自高自大的。

Neil: To decree.

Sun Chen: 命令，宣布。

Neil: The afterlife.

Sun Chen: 来世。

Neil: Court.

Sun Chen: 皇宫。

Neil: To be replicated.

Sun Chen: 复制。

Neil: Listen to the expert.

Insert

They were built on the orders of the first Emperor of China, the man who united the warring factions and who ruled the new nation for just 11 years. But in an act of fantastic megalomania, he decreed that he would continue to rule from the afterlife, and he ordered his entire court and army to be replicated in terracotta to keep him company after his death.

Neil: Ah, yes, I'm beginning to remember now. The First Emperor wanted to rule from the afterlife, after he died, so he built an army out of terracotta to protect him.

Sun Chen: 看起来，我们的 Neil 终于想起来了...

Neil: Here's the director of the British Museum. He's speaking about what makes the First Emperor so special:

Insert

The First Emperor, Qin Shi Huangdi, was able to dream on a scale that nobody else ever dreamt. I don't think anybody in history has tried to create a parallel universe, life-size, in which he would rule forever. So much of what modern China is, is a consequence of what that man did, and I think there are very, very few historical figures who changed the world in such a way that we are still living with the consequences of that change.

Sun Chen: 他梦想的境界简直是没有人能够企及。

Neil: He tried to create a parallel universe. Parallel.

Sun Chen: 平行的，并行的。

Neil: Parallel universe.

Sun Chen: 一个并行的宇宙。

Neil: Modern China is a consequence of what the First Emperor did. A consequence of.

Sun Chen: 如果你想说一个东西导致了另一个东西，你可以用说什么东西 is consequence of 另一个东西。

Neil: Have another listen.

Insert

The First Emperor, Qin Shi Huangdi, was able to dream on a scale that nobody else ever dreamt. I don't think anybody in history has tried to create a parallel universe, life-size, in which he would rule forever. So much of what modern China is, is a consequence of what that man did, and I think there are very, very few historical figures who changed the world in such a way that we are still living with the consequences of that change.

Neil: Let's hear some of today's words again. Archaeological.

Sun Chen: 考古学的。Archaeological.

Neil: Significance.

Sun Chen: 重大意义。Significance.

Neil: Factions.

Sun Chen: 派别。Factions.

Neil: Megalomania.

Sun Chen: 自高自大的。Megalomania.

Neil: To decree.

Sun Chen: 命令，颁布。To decree.

Insert

That's what so exciting about this whole site, that the Terracotta Warriors were excavated by chance, it's a never-ending, endless excavation site. I can't see it ever ending because there so much still to find.

Neil: That was Jane again from the British museum. She thinks the excavation in Xi'an is so exciting because it's never-ending.

Sun Chen: 永无休止的。

Neil: It's endless.

Sun Chen: 永久的，永恒的。

Neil: She thinks there's still a lot left to find.

Sun Chen: 如此庞大的发现，一个伦敦的博物馆，怎么能够展现得出来呢？

Neil: That's a very good point. Here's the Director of the British Museum again speaking from Xi'an.

Insert

You can't do justice to the story other than here of course. But I think what we can do is give the visitor some idea of the scale of the achievement and how different it is from anything that we know in Europe.

Neil: He says you can't do the site justice other than in Xi'an. You can't do it justice.

Sun Chen: 这种说法的意思，说的就是公正地，按照全貌地向什么人展示什么东西。

Neil: You can't do it justice, but he thinks the exhibition will give people an idea of the scale of the achievement. The scale of something, meaning the size of something.

Sun Chen: 规模。

Neil: Achievement.

Sun Chen: 成就。

Neil: The scale of the achievement.

Sun Chen: 如此规模宏大的成就。

Neil: He says it's very different to anything in Europe. Listen again.

Insert

You can't do justice to the story other than here of course. But I think what we can do is give the visitor some idea of the scale of the achievement and how different it is from anything that we know in Europe.

Neil: But despite that, it's still a very large exhibition and one that China thinks is important. He thinks the Chinese authorities have been generous.

Sun Chen: 慷慨。 Generous.

Neil: Listen to the Museum Director again.

Insert

It's very striking that the Chinese authorities have been so generous to us in London. This is the largest loan of material from the tomb of the First Emperor that's ever been allowed out of China and it's very pleasing that they've chosen to make that loan to the British Museum. It also, I think, suggests something about how important they think it is that the world outside understand the long history of China and obviously in London that will reach a very wide international audience.

Neil: So it's actually the largest loan of material from the tomb of the First Emperor ever to be allowed out of China. Tomb.

Sun Chen: 陵墓。 Tomb.

Neil: Tomb is spelt T.O.M.B. but the B is silent, so be careful. Tomb.

Sun Chen: 陵墓这个英语单词的拼写是 T.O.M.B. 最后的字母 b 是不发音的。

Neil: He thinks the outside world can learn a lot about China's long history because the British Museum has a very large international audience.

Sun Chen: 他认为全世界能够通过大英博物馆，更好地了解中国悠久的历史。而每年众多来大英博物馆参观的人，也是来自世界各地。我们再来听一遍。

Insert

It's very striking that the Chinese authorities have been so generous to us in London. This is the largest loan of material from the tomb of the First Emperor that's ever been allowed out of China and it's very pleasing that they've chosen to

make that loan to the British Museum. It also, I think, suggests something about how important they think it is that the world outside understand the long history of China and obviously in London that will reach a very wide international audience.

Neil: Well Sun Chen, I definitely think I'll go to that exhibition.

Sun Chen: Yes, I can tell you need some help with your Chinese history.

Neil: Yes, well, before we go, let's hear some of the words from today's programme again. To decree.

Sun Chen: 颁布, 命令。

Neil: The afterlife.

Sun Chen: 来生, 来世。

Neil: Replicated.

Sun Chen: 复制。

Neil: Tomb.

Sun Chen: 陵墓。

Neil: To do something justice.

Sun Chen: 公正地做什么事情。

Neil: If you want more help with your English, go to our website www.bbcchina.com.cn.

Sun Chen: 你要是想了解更多的英语知识, 别忘了随时登陆我们的网站 www.bbcchina.com.cn。

Neil: Or send us an email at chinaelt@bbc.co.uk.

Sun Chen: 还能给我们发电子邮件。我们的地址是 chinaelt@bbc.co.uk。

Neil: See ya!

Sun Chen: Bye!