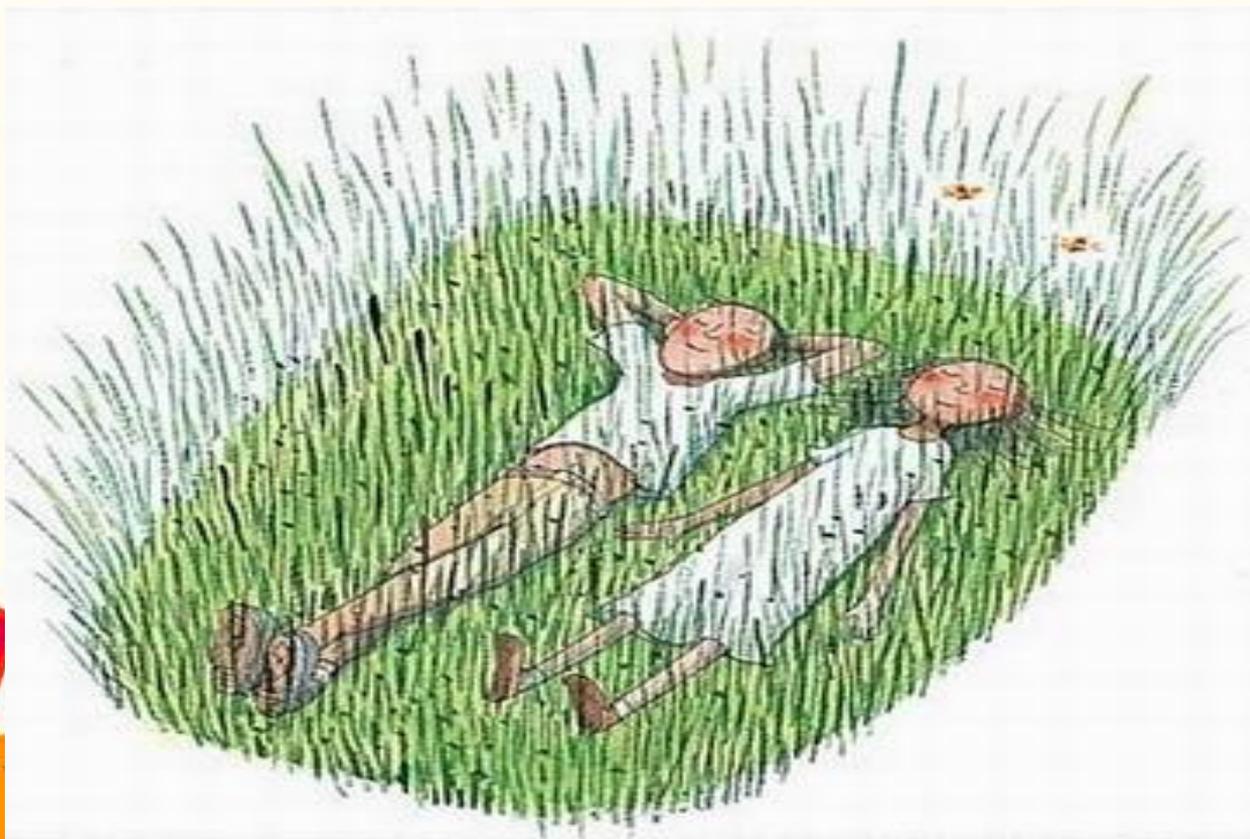


Lesson 3

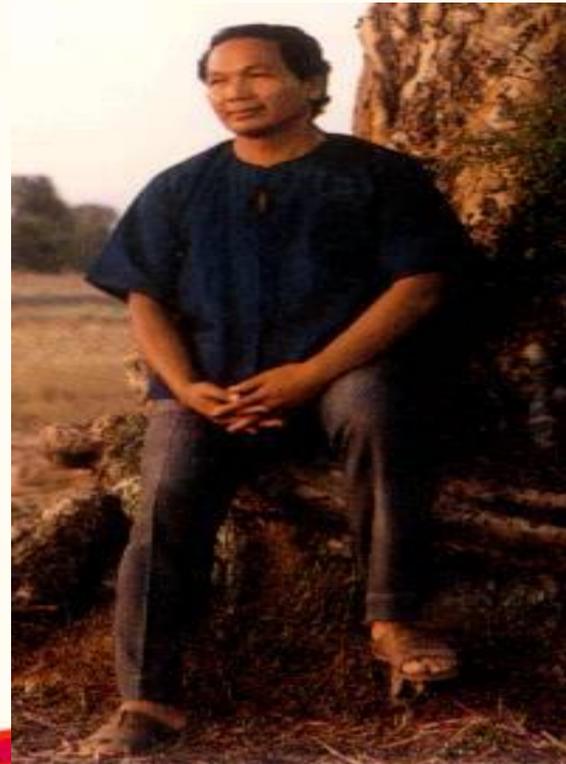
Message of the Land



Background Information

I. About the Author: Pira Sudham

- ① 1942, a leading English writer in Thailand.
He was born to a poor sarn.



Background Information

② Pira Sudham spent his childhood in the rice fields, helping his parents and tending a herd of buffaloes until he went to **Bangkok** at the age of **fourteen** to be a servant to monks in a Buddhist temple where he was also admitted to a school.

Background Information

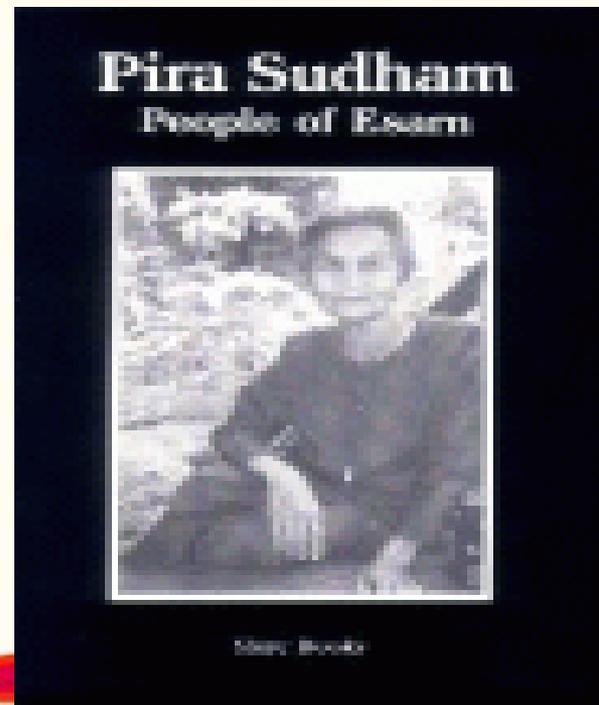
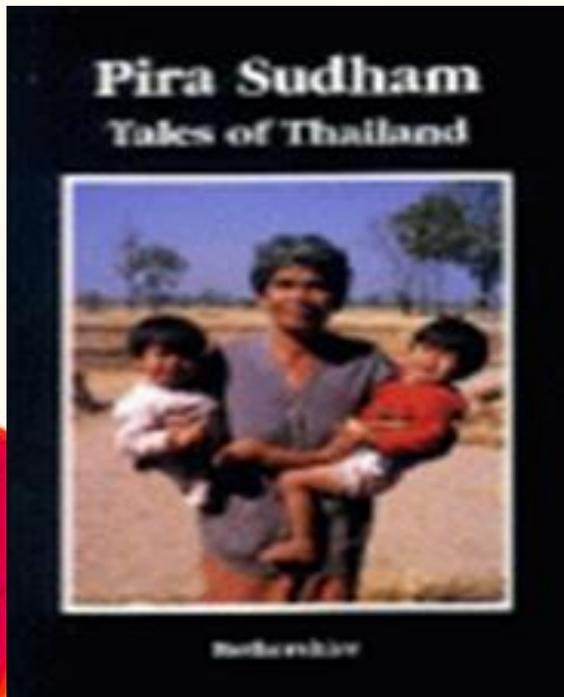
③ To support himself through high school and the first year at the Faculty of Arts, **Chulalongkorn University**, he sold souvenirs to tourists until he won a **New Zealand government scholarship** to study English literature at Auckland University and later at Victoria University, Wellington.

Background Information

④ He traveled and studied in New Zealand, Australia, and Europe, but he never forgotten Esarn. This experience provided **inspiration** for many of his novels and short stories.

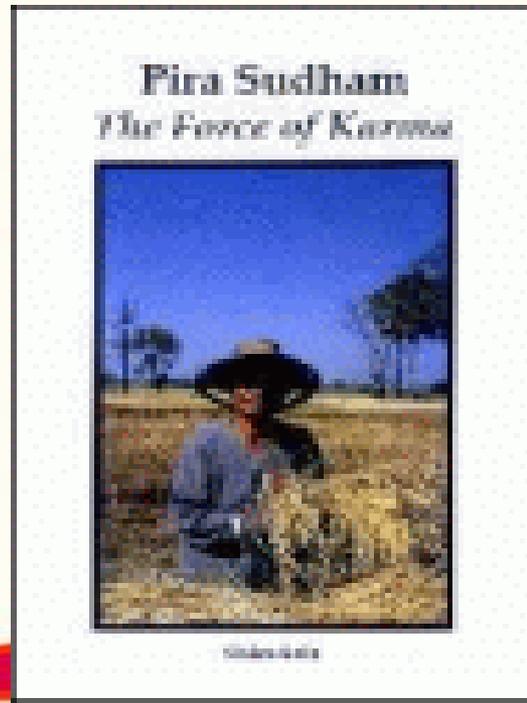
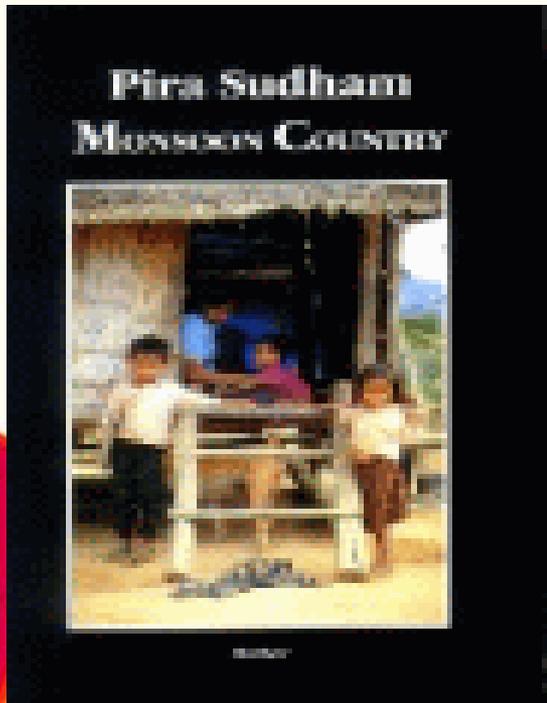
His Works:

1. his first book, *Siamese Drama* (entitled *Tales of Thailand* in the latest editions) was published in 1983, followed by *People of Esarn* in 1987.



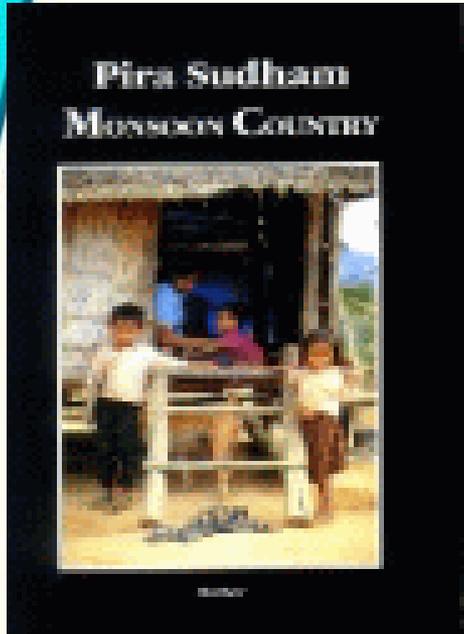
His Works:

2. He has lived for over ten years in Australia and the United Kingdom, where he wrote *Monsoon Country* (1988), and its sequel, *The Force of Karma* (2002).



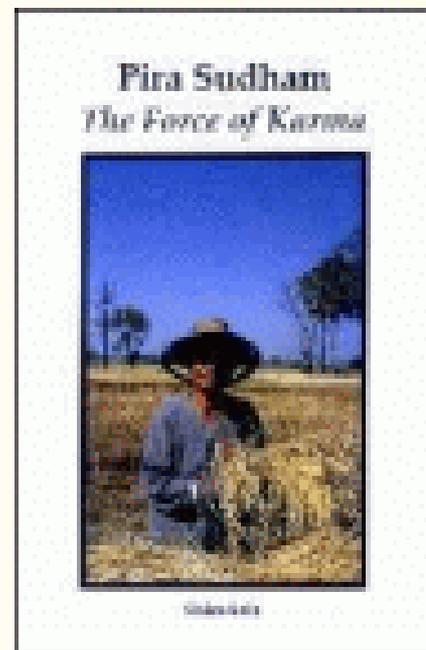
- *Monsoon Country*

It is set in Thailand, England and Germany to convey the cultural tension between the East and the West, the clashes between the new powers and the old values, covering the span of 25 years of the socio-economic and political changes occurring in Thailand.



The Force of Karma

- This sequel to *Monsoon Country* covers the **tumultuous** (骚乱的) **years** of the economic crisis, the political **upheavals** and the **massacre** of May 1992, right up to the beginning of the year 2002.



Comments

1. Considered Thailand's leading English language writer, he was **nominated** (提名) for the 1990 **Nobel prize for literature**. (*Monsoon Country*)
2. Pira Sudham has given a voice to the **poor** of Thailand.”

2. Bangkok

① It is the **capital and largest** city of Thailand. The city is located on the east bank of the Chao Phraya River(湄南河).

② **Bangkok** is the economic center of Thailand. The Chao Phraya River allows Bangkok to function as a **port**. The **Stock Exchange of Thailand** is located in Bangkok.

2. Bangkok

③ Tourism is a major source of revenue(财政收入). The city contains many **Buddhist temples** (known in Thai as **Wats**(泰国的寺庙), among the best known being Wat Pho(卧佛寺(菩提寺)) and Wat Arun(郑王庙).



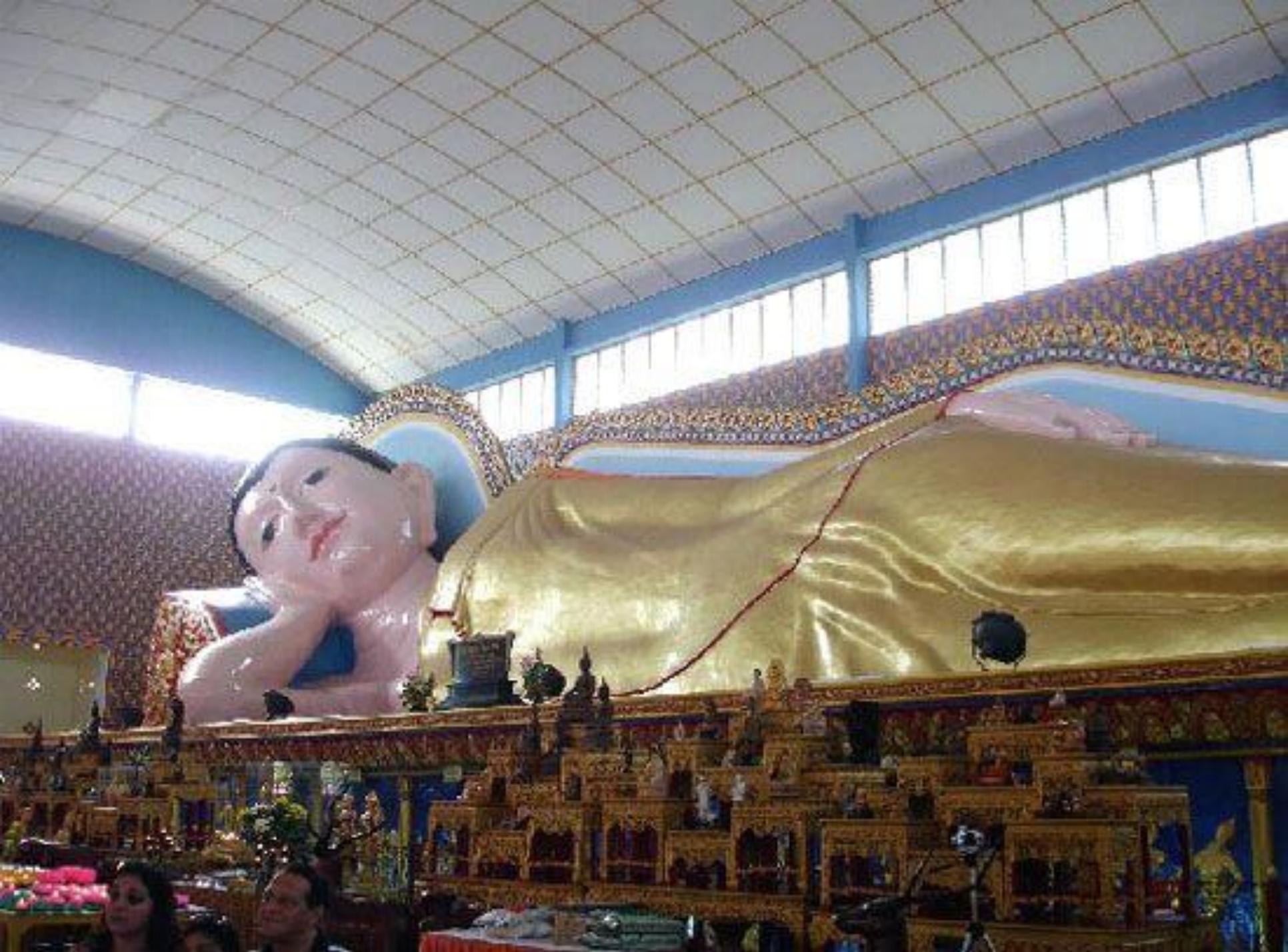








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Thailand Minutes



Glossary



1. infancy

n. **a.** early childhood

b. early stage of development or growth

Examples:

- In the past, many children died in **infancy**.
- He came to England in his **infancy**.
- The research stretched from the **infancy** of radio broadcasting through to today.
- Genetic engineering is still in its **infancy**.



2. afford

v. **a.** to have enough money/time to do sth.

b. (with *can/could*) to run a risk by doing sth.

c. (*fml.*) to provide; give

afford a new car

afford the rent

afford a chance

(can't) afford to neglect one's work

afford this high price

afford a clue to

afford a pleasant shade



3. bully

v. a. to threaten to hurt someone or frighten them, especially someone smaller or weaker

b. to put pressure on someone in order to make them do what you want

Examples:

● The child was bullied almost out of its life.

● Don't let them bully you into working on Saturdays.



4. insult

v. to offend someone by saying or doing something they think is rude

Examples:

- I hope Andy won't be **insulted** if I don't come.
- She **insulted** him by calling him a coward.
- You **insult my intelligence** with your crude
- methods! (= to say or do something that
- suggests you think someone is stupid)



5. pierce

- v. **a.** to make a small hole with a sharp point
- b.** (of cold, pain, sound) to force a way into
- c.** to force a way through something

Examples:

- She had her ears **pierced** in order to be able to wear earrings.
- Her shrieks **pierced** the silence.
- Her memories sometimes **pierced** her heart.
- Our forces **pierced** through the enemy's lines.



6. fertile

a. **a.** (of land, plants) producing much

b. (of a person, his mind) full of ideas, plans

c. a **fertile** situation is one in which something can easily develop and succeed

Examples:

- This shrub likes sun and water as well as a **fertile** well-drained soil.
- a **fertile** imagination/mind/brain



7. replace

- v. **a.** to take the place of
 b. to get a new one for sth. broken or stolen
 c. to put back in its place

Examples:

- Lectures have **replaced** the old tutorial system.
- I'll **replace** the vase I broke as soon as possible.
- He **replaced** the book on the shelf.



8. condemn

v. **a.** to disapprove sth. or sb., esp. because you think it is morally wrong

b. to give judgment against

Examples:

- Local authorities have been **condemned** for failing to tackle the problem of homelessness.
- The law has been **condemned** as an attack on personal liberty.
- He was found guilty and **condemned** to death.



Warming-up

1. Are you a country boy or girl? If you are a country boy /girl, can you tell us your feelings of land? How about your parents' feelings?

Warming-up

2. What are the differences among “land”, “soil” and “earth”?

Land: solid part of the earth's surface (contrasted with sea or water)

Soil: upper layer of earth in which plants, trees, etc grow; ground

Earth: the surface of the world as opposed to the sky or sea

Warming-up

3. Chinese history is a history of land revolution? Do you think so?

Past:

Lived in caves, hunted animals, by hands, invented many tools

Now:

Machinery: reaper. seeder,

A Guess

Do you know what these nicknames refer to?



Do the match work.



Text Analysis



I. Text Analysis of Para.1

It was I who stayed with my parents till they
died. (Para.1)



Emphatic Sentence:

it + be + 强调部分 + who/ that + others

More Examples: P.60



I. Text Analysis of Para.1

My husband moved into our houses as is the way with us in Esarn. (1)



“As” introduces a defining relative clause and functions as its subject, representing what is stated in the main clause.

(When we got married) my husband came to live in our house. It was the tradition here in Esarn that the bridegroom should come to live with the bride’ s family.

I. Text Analysis of Para.1

1. **As is known to all**, Taiwan belongs to China.

(**as**—subject of the clause)

2. **As is often the case**, girls learn a language more quickly than boys.

(**as**—subject of the clause)

More Examples: P.64



I. Text Analysis of Para.1

The rest, two boys and two girls, went away as soon as we could afford to buy jeans for them. (1)

the remaining people; the others

to have enough money to do

appositive of “the rest”

Our other children—two boys and two girls—left as soon as we had the money to buy them jeans.



I. Text Analysis of Para.1

The rest, two boys and two girls, went away as soon as we could afford to buy jeans for them. (1)

**Symbolism:
Jeans---Modern Civilization**



I. Text Analysis of Para.1

In Para.
1

- ① Yes, these are our rice fields. They belonged to my parents and forefathers. The land is more than three centuries old.

Question: Why does the wife start her conversation with the talk about the land?

The wife has already **regarded the land as part of her life**. This is the land where her parents and forefathers lived and it is bound with **family history and tradition**. It represents the **root of her family**.



I. Text Analysis of Para.2

Sometimes, they get bullied and insulted, and it is like a knife piercing my heart.

Present participle---

knife

More Examples: P.60

Simile

subject	simile marker	reference
Records (fell)	like	ripe apples (on a windy day.)
The data processing (is going on)	as (slow) as	a snail.



Writing Devices

Metaphor

<i>subject</i>	<i>reference</i>
He (is)	a wolf (in sheep's clothing.)



I. Text Analysis of Para.2

It's easier for my husband. He has ears which don't hear, a mouth which doesn't speak, and eyes that don't see. (2)

restrictive relative clause

parallel structure

News about my children's problems doesn't make my husband as sad as me. He doesn't bother about what is happening around us and to our children. He never says anything about them.



I. Text Analysis of Para.3

Our piece of land is small, and it is no longer fertile, bleeding year after year and, like us, getting old and exhausted. (3)

present participle phrases
functioning as adverbials of
cause

personification

Referring to inanimate things or
abstractions as if they were human.

ⁿOur land is getting poorer with each passing year, like us who are getting old, weak and tired.



**Present
participle
phrases act as
adverbials of
cause.**

- 1.They sent us their statement, hoping to get our support.**
- 2. Not having received an answer, he decided to write another letter to them.**



I. Text Analysis of Para.3

... but in a bad year, it' s not only the ploughs that break but our hearts too. (3)

emphatic structure

“break” governs both
“ploughs” and
“hearts” .

... but when there is a drought, the land is so hard that the ploughs break. And we become very, very sad.



I. Text Analysis of Para.4

Shops have sprung up, filled with colorful plastic things and goods we have no use for. (4)

a p p e a r
suddenly

past participle phrase
functioning as post-modifier to
modify "shops"

relative clause

Many shops **appear in a short time**. In these shops there are lots of colorful plastic things and things that are useless for us.



I. Text Analysis of Para.4

In my day, if I were to put on a pair of trousers like they do now, lightning would strike me.

(para.4)

When sb. was young,

Lightning
Lightening

In some Asian countries, to be struck by lightning is believed to be punished by God.



Text Analysis

Question: What is the topic sentence of

Para. 4? What are the supporting details?

Topic sentence:
“... we two haven’ t changed much, but the village has.”

Supporting details:

- Cash instead of barter
- Paid help
- Plastic things instead of village crafts
- The old alone on the land
- Young people’ s different way of thinking, dressing and behaving

I. Text Analysis of Para.6

If that kind of thing had happened when I was young, the whole village would have condemned such an ungrateful son, and his father would surely have given him a good beating. (6)

subjunctive mood

hit him as a punishment

If + S. +had done, S. + would/should/could have done

More Examples on P. 63



Text Analysis

Question: What is the function of the first sentence in

Para. 5?

What is the main idea of Paras. 5—

^{6?}
With the first sentence in Para. 5 serving as a **transitional sentence**, the wife **shifts** her talk to the things that **should not change**, which include people' s worship, and young people' s respect to their parents and the aged.



I. Text Analysis of Para.7

Yes, this bag of bones dressed in rags
can still plant and reap rice from morning
till dusk. (7)

very thin

**past participle phrase
functioning as post-
modifier**

metaphor:
as thin as a bag of bones



I. Text Analysis of Para.8

My eyes do see—they see more than they should. My ears do hear—they hear more than is good for me. (8)

“do” is used to emphasize verb.

“more than is good” is the same as “more than what is good”.

Examples



**1.He drank more than (what) was good
for him.**

2.Kate meant more than (what) was said.



Text Analysis

Question: How does the wife present her speech? What is her attitude toward the changes around her?

By **comparison/contrast and exemplification**, the wife presents her idea of this changing world. She **dislikes** the changes around her. She **won't accept** the changes and even **refuses to change** with the life.



Text Analysis

It' s good to smell the scent of ripening rice
in November. The soft cool breeze moves the
sheaves, which ripple and shimmer like waves
of gold. (11)

gerund
functioning as
modifier

non-restrictive
relative clause

simile



Structure of the text

Part I the wife's speech

(paras. 1—7)

(paras. 1—3) The wife tells us briefly about her family and how all her children left.

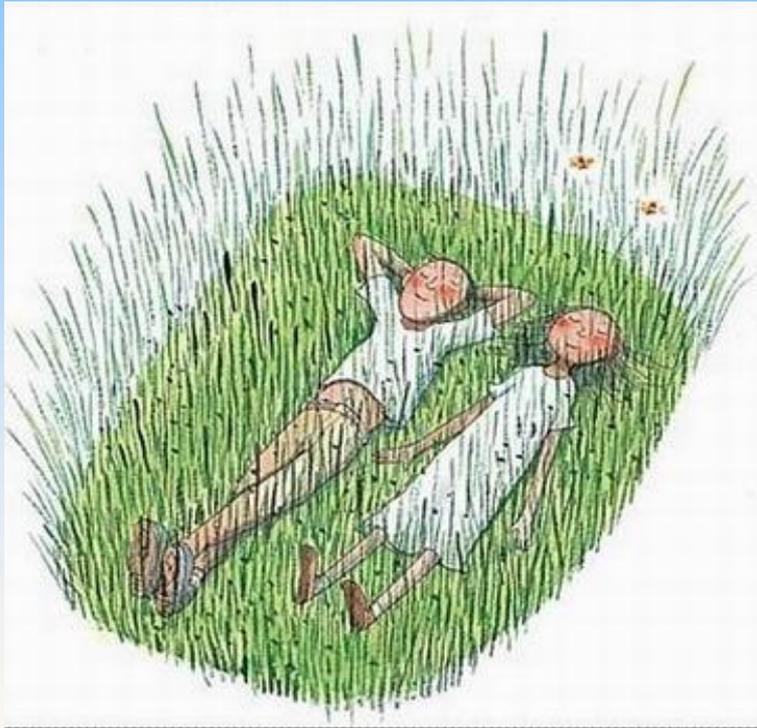
(paras. 4—7) This part focuses on the changes that she finds she can't adjust to.

Part II the farmer's speech

(paras. 8—11) The farmer tells about what he thinks are the root of all evils and what joys he finds in life and farming.



Theme of the story



The text tells about the **deep regret** of the old people over the loss of **traditional values and the way of life.**



Style

Style:

interview

The interviewees:

a farmer and his wife

Stylistic feature:

colloquial



What' s the message of the land?

It' s our history, our culture, our tradition and our life. In a word, it is our root which we cannot live without.



Assignment 1

- 1. Review Glossary**
- 2. Exercise 3 and 4 on P.59,
Exercise 4 on P.60.
Exercise 6 on P.62.**

Assignment 2

1. **Exercise 7 on P.62,
Exercise 1 on P.63.**

Assignment 3

1. Dictation
2. Exercise 5 P.61,
Exercise 3 on P.64.

Answers for Lesson 3



Exercise 4 (P.59)

1. represent, represented
2. employer, unemployed, employees, reemployed
3. well-informed, information
4. informer, inform, authorities
5. complaints, complain, unemployment
6. insult
7. insulting, insult
8. representative
9. be insulted



Exercise 3 (P.60)

Example 2

1. who are begging for food with a golden bowl.
2. trying to fly by lifting his hair.
3. leading the blind.

Example 3

1. She used to be rather weak in English.
2. Our country used to be called a country of bicycles.
3. There used to be lot of fish,shrimps and crabs.



Exercise 4 (P.60)

- (1) in, of, with, at, with, about/of, to, of, on, to
- (2) of, for, from, till, on, after, against/from, in
- (3) to, in, of, of, for, to, for, in, to,
- (4) down, over, with
- (5) by, over,
- (6) along, with, across
- (7) around/ round, away, with
- (8) to, up, off, off, on



Exercise 5 (P.61)

1. 祝英台虽然不愿意嫁给马家小少爷，但她不能不服从她父亲。她的心都碎了。

Zhu Yingtai had to (was forced to) obey her father and marry the young master of the rich Ma family although she was extremely unwilling. She was heartbroken.

2. 那个人从来没见过这么大的一张钞票。他说：“这东西看着好，摸着也好，的确就是好。”

The man had never seen such a large note. He said, “It looks good, feels good, and it is good.”

3. 树叶都变黄，变红，变紫了。看起来真是如天堂一样美。

Leaves had turned/got/gone/become yellow, red and purple, It really looked heavenly beautiful (beautiful like heaven).

Exercise 5 (P.61)

4. 随着年纪越来越老，她开始容易感到疲惫。

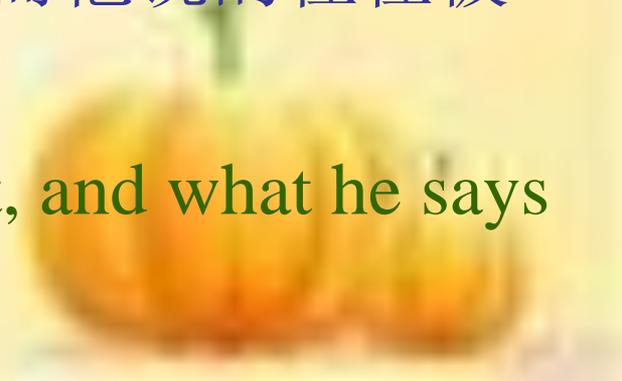
As she grew older, she began to feel tired easily.

5. 他的话听起来很有说服力，但好听的理由并不等于好的理由，两者之间存在很大差别。

What he said sounded very convincing, but reasons that sound good do not always mean sound reasons. There is a big difference between the two.

6. 他爱说话，他永远无法保持沉默，而他说的往往被证明是错的。

He likes to talk. He can never keep quiet, and what he says often proves (turns out to be) incorrect.



Exercise 5 (P.61)

7. 他在战斗中受了伤，流了很多血，变得十分虚弱，他的领导强迫他留在医院到伤口痊愈为止。

He got wounded in battle, lost a lot of blood, and became very weak. His leaders ordered him to stay in the hospital until he was completely recovered (healed).

8 他以为可以从我们手中滑过去；他们错了，他们休想干了坏事就溜走。

They thought they could slip through our fingers. They were wrong. They couldn't get away with what they had done.



Exercise 5 (P.61)

9. 长征的时候，红军需要越过大渡河，穿越草地，翻过雪山。

During the Long March, the Red Army had to get across the Dadu River, through the grassland and over the snow-covered mountains.

10. 你在哪里生活习惯了吗?你和同学相处的如何? 我们给你寄的钱够你凑合着用吗?

Are you used to the life there? How do you get along with your classmates? Can you get by with the money we send you? (Is the money we send you enough for you?)



Exercise 7 (P.62)

1. wish
2. hoping
3. hope, wish
4. wished
5. hope
6. can' t, can, won' t
7. should, would/could/might
8. happened/occurred, happen/occur
9. occurred, taken place/happened/occurred
10. happen, take place



Exercise 5 (P.65)

1. Supermarkets **have sprung up** everywhere in Beijing since the 1990s.
2. The old lady finds the shop filled with goods **she** has no use for(**her**).
3. If I **had had** time, I would have joined you for dinner yesterday.
4. The old couple told me that they had nothing to complain **about**.
5. My grandfather **advised** me to apply to Nanjing University for admission.



Exercise 5 (P.65)

6. He went back to work as soon as he was **back** on his feet.
7. He said he would pass **on** the message to all his friends.
8. We might have finished our work by 5 p.m if the manager **had not interfered**.
9. Any country will sooner or later fall behind if **it fails to keep up** with the times.
10. Maybe it is fate that **brought** my children back to our hometown.



Exercise 3 (P.64)

1. trying
2. enough
3. brought
4. without
5. first
6. simple
7. any
8. times
9. in
10. only

