

HSIIA L39 Video Comprehension review

Nanjing

Surrounded by mountains, Nanjing is located at the lower reaches of the Yangzi River in Eastern China. Nanjing, also known as Nanking, is the Venice or St. Petersburg of China. **It is a city with water flowing through** and around it. Two rivers go through the city, the Yangzi and Qinhuai Rivers. Lakes such as Xuanwu Lake, Pipa Lake, and Mochou Lake enhance the aesthetic. These lakes are landscaped with trees, kiosks, pavilions, and long covered corridors along the shores. During the rainy season in May, Nanjing is very wet and humid, but in summer it is so hot that it is nicknamed one of the Three Ovens of the country, along with two other cities along the Yangzi river, Chongqing and Wuhan.

Nanjing is a historical city. Some dynasties used Nanjing as their capital while others used Beijing. In fact, Nanjing means southern capital, as opposed to Beijing, which means northern capital. Before A.D. 600, Nanjing was the capital city for six dynasties. In 1368, the Ming Dynasty was founded there and the city again became the capital. From then until about 1425, Nanjing is believed to have been the largest city in the world with a population of about 487,000 people. Nanjing had the largest city wall ever constructed, much of which still stands today.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the pioneer of Chinese democracy, established the Republic of China in Nanjing in 1912. After his death, he was buried at Zhong Mountain not far from Nanjing. His mausoleum occupies 80,000 square meters with 392 steps leading up to the memorial hall and the coffin chamber. The Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum has been a major tourist destination for decades not only because of this famous historical figure, but also because of the majestic and magnificent views of Zhong Mountain.

The area along the Qinhuai River, the largest river in the city, has been a prosperous and bustling area since ancient times. In the early six dynasties, the wealthy and intellectual built their houses along the river. The area went into decline after the Tang dynasty fell in A.D. 910, but it experienced a period of renewal during the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1612). The area around the Qinhuai River became a business and recreational center that was crowded with commercial buildings. At night, the river was lit up by colorful lanterns along the riverbanks. Decorated with lights, gaily-painted boats lingered on the water for tourists to enjoy the music and scenery of the city. During the Lantern Festival, hundreds of thousands of lights floated on the water, echoing the lanterns along the banks.

Xuanwu Lake is a city park, another place you don't want to miss in Nanjing. Xuanwu Lake faces the city and is surrounded on three sides by green hills. Along the lake, there are places of both historic interest and scenic beauty. In addition to greenery on the lake shore, five islands rest in the lake. Pavilions, covered corridors and other traditional architecture were built to form a harmonious scene.

Nanjing is a great cultural city that meshes modernity with natural surroundings. It is the perfect city to visit if you're interested in history and beautiful scenery.

Q1 During Lantern Festival, hundreds of thousands of lights float on the rivers around the city of Nanjing.

Q2 Dr. Sun Yat-sen is the pioneer of Chinese democracy who established the Republic of China in Nanjing in 1912.

Q3 The name of Nanjing means southern capital in China.

Q4 Due to the water flowing through Nanjing, so Nanjing is known as the Venice of China.