

Chapter 2

修路工人

xiū lù gōng rén

Road Workers

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修	xiū	To repair
陽光	yáng guāng	Sunlight, sunshine
普照	pǔ zhào	Shining everywhere, bathed in (light)
悶熱	mēn rè	Stuffy, muggy
汗	hàn	Sweat, perspiration
Paragraph 2		
餐廳	cān tīng	Western-style restaurant
西瓜汁	xīguā zhī	Water melon juice
小吃	xiǎo chī	Snacks
播放	bō fàng	To play (recorded music)
輕快	qīng kuài	Light and lively, relaxing
音樂	yīn yuè	Music
空調	kōng tiáo	Air-conditioning

陣陣	zhèn zhèn	Bursts of, waves of
極了	jí le	Extremely: See Grammar Notes
Paragraph 3		
正當	zhèng dāng	Just as, just when
津津有味	jīn jīn yǒu wèi	With relish, with great pleasure
享受	xiǎng shòu	To enjoy
忽然	hū rán	Suddenly
刺耳	cì ěr	ear-piercing
鑽	zuān	To drill
傳	chuán	To spread, to transmit
噪音	zào yīn	Noise
皺	zhòu	To wrinkle, to crease
眉	méi	Eyebrow
究竟	jiū jìng	What exactly is happening, what is actually going on
原來	yuán lái	After all, in fact, it turned out to be ...
緊握	jǐn wò	To hold firmly
沉甸甸	chén diàn diàn	Heavy
彎	wān	To bend
烈	liè	Fierce
壯實	zhuàng shí	Sturdy

身體	shēn tǐ	Body
隨	suí	To follow, go along with
劇烈	jù liè	Violent, fierce
震動	zhèn dòng	To shake, to vibrate
沿	yán	To follow, to go along (a line or a track)
粗	cū	Rough
滴滴	dī dī	Drop by drop
Paragraph 2		
感動	gǎn dòng	To be moved, to be touched (in one's emotions)
混	hùn	To mix (in), to mingle (with)
羣	qún	A group, a crowd Often written 群
默默	mò mò	Quietly, without attracting attention, unknown (to the general public)
舒適	shū shì	Comfortable
Paragraph 3		
刻	kè	Moment
合奏	hé zòu	To play music together
起來	qǐ lái	See Grammar Notes
優美	yōu měi	Very beautiful, exquisite
悅耳	yuè ěr	Pleasing to the ear
樂章	yuèzhāng	Movement (of a symphony)

<p>舒服極了</p>	<p>"Very comfortable": 極了jile can be added to descriptive words to mean "very" or "extremely". For example : 好極了 "Great"! "Excellent!"</p>
<p>合奏起來</p>	<p>This means that the two kinds of sound (the music inside the restaurant and the drilling outside the restaurant) blended together into a single piece of music. 起來 can be put at the end of many kinds of action words to strengthen their meaning. It often follows words that have to do with combining things or putting things together, for example:</p>

Chapter 1 was about 疑問句 yíwèn jù interrogative questions.
Chapter 2 introduces 反問句 fǎnwèn jù rhetorical questions.

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REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

1. How were the environments inside and outside the restaurant different?
2. What were the working conditions of the road workers outside the restaurant like?
3. Why did "I" at first feel that the sound of the drilling was unpleasant but later feel that it was pleasant?
4. Do you think that road workers make a large contribution (to society)? Why?

LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE AND USAGE

Questions

1. Compare:



This is (a real question / a rhetorical question). "I" want to know where the noise is coming from.



This is (a real question/a rhetorical question). The answer is contained in the question.

2. Rewrite the following sentence as a rhetorical question.

認真	rènzhēn	seriously, (work) hard
練習	liànxí	to practise
比賽	bǐsài	competition
冠軍	guànjūn	championship

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Analyse "Road Workers" and fill in the missing information on the six story elements. (As in chapter 1)