Lesson 7 of Lungteng Book 6
Shopping for Souvenirs in Taiwan

Presented by
Yeh Yu-ying (葉玉瑛),
Kaohsiung Senior High School
Introduction

- This teaching activity focuses on how intensive reading can help students improve their writing skills and organization ability.

- “Shopping for Souvenirs in Taiwan” serves as a good example of description.
  Language → vivid descriptions of Taiwanese souvenirs
  Structure → a well-organized arrangement of paragraphs.
Teaching Focus:
1. Students can learn the language used to describe objects through their reading.
2. Students can analyze the structure of a descriptive essay.
3. Students can write a descriptive essay.

Teaching Procedure:
1. Students are led to study how the author recommends and describes Taiwanese souvenirs.
2. Students identify the descriptive statements used to promote souvenirs.
3. Students are led to find out how the author connects and arranges his ideas.
4. Students apply the transitional phrases or persuasive statements they have learned to organize their ideas into a descriptive essay.
Lesson Plan of Shopping for Souvenirs in Taiwan

I. Raising Students’ Awareness
II. Presenting the Text
III. Practice – A Bridge between Reading and Writing
IV. Students’ Works
V. Conclusion
I. Raising Students’ Awareness

A. Discuss what a souvenir is.

B. Show and talk about souvenirs.
   1. What tourist attractions have you visited?
   2. If you did, did you buy souvenirs in memory of your trips?
   3. What are your souvenirs like?
   4. Do you like the souvenir? Why or why not?
C. Talk about local souvenirs in Taiwan.

1. Why do you buy this object as a souvenir?
2. What do you think about this souvenir?
3. If you were a foreigner, which souvenir would you like?
II. Presenting the Text

1. Lead the class to read the entire article and discuss some questions.
2. Divide students into groups to complete the graphic organizer.
3. Discuss the conclusion with students.
4. Lead students to study the author’s language.
5. Review the content and structure of the whole article.
1. Lead the class to read the entire article and discuss some questions.

A. What is the main idea or the purpose of the article?

B. What does the author recommend as Taiwanese souvenirs?

C. What does the author not recommend to do or to buy?
2. Divide students into groups to complete the graphic organizer.

The Graphic Organizer of Lesson 7
**Introduction: Definition**
A souvenir is ____________________________
Taiwan is not famous for distinctive souvenir-type products. So, what souvenir can a foreigner find here?

**Body:** Here are a variety of recommendations for your choices of souvenirs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
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<td>name chops</td>
<td>Chinese characters seem dazzlingly intricate to most Western people. They can use name chops to mark books, CDs, and so on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
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<td>4th</td>
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<td>5th</td>
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<td>6th</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion: Generalization**
Anything with Chinese characters on it is well received as a souvenir.
**Introduction:**
A souvenir is *a thing that serves as a reminder of a person, place or events.*
Taiwan is not famous for distinctive souvenir-type products. So, what souvenir can a foreigner find here?

**Body:** Here are a variety of recommendations for your choices of souvenirs.

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<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>tea sets</td>
<td><em>Even if the recipients never drink Chinese-style tea, the little pots and dainty cups make excellent decorations.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>handheld fans</td>
<td>A dainty handheld is associated with Chinese and Japanese ladies of yesteryear. This makes it a popular choice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>hand-painted oil-paper umbrella</td>
<td>Hand-painted oil-paper umbrellas symbolize unique Meinong culture. Also, they are delicate. Thus, they can make suitable souvenirs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Chinese art of calligraphy</td>
<td>Unlike <em>alphabetical</em> writing, Chinese words seem concise and mysterious. That’s why many foreigners have interest in Chinese calligraphy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>CDs</td>
<td>In recent years, “world music” and “roots music” have taken westerners by storm. So Taiwanese aboriginal music may be a good choice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>waterproof hats and raincoats (made of grass and bamboo fiber)</td>
<td>Although those hats and raincoats was replaced by plastic ones in the 1950s, it reappeared in the 1980s as decorations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Others**
name chops, bamboo, anything with Chinese characters on it

**Conclusion: Generalization**
Anything with Chinese characters on it is well received as a souvenir.
3. Discuss the **conclusion** with students.

The last paragraph of the text:

**Generally speaking, anything with Chinese characters on it — even a T-shirt — is well received.** I’ve been asked to carry Taiwan Beer cans and Coca-Cola cans back to the UK for a friend’s collection. What is to you an everyday item of no particular interest — something you might toss in the trash without a second thought — may be an exotic treasure for someone living in a different part of the world!
4. Lead students to study the author’s language.

A. Students are asked to examine the whole text to find out what **transitional words or phrases** are used.

B. Students have to identify the **expressions or sentences** they consider useful to start a paragraph or describe objects.
A. Transitional Words or Phrases

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Other Useful Transitional Phrases
  first / firstly, at first, first of all, to begin with, initially, second / secondly, third / thirdly, then, next, after that, following that, in addition (to), besides, last / lastly, at last, last of all, last but not least, finally, to sum up

B. Useful Expressions
1. As everybody knows, S + V…
A. Transitional Words or Phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>for example</th>
<th>then</th>
<th>more recently</th>
<th>fortunately</th>
<th>even if</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>however</td>
<td>In recent years</td>
<td>due to</td>
<td>by the way</td>
<td>even though</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for the time being</td>
<td>Generally speaking</td>
<td>In general</td>
<td>in a whole</td>
<td>although</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Useful Transitional Phrases**

first / firstly, at first, first of all, to begin with, initially, second / secondly, third / thirdly, then, next, after that, following that, in addition (to), besides, last / lastly, at last, last of all, last but not least, finally, to sum up

B. Useful Expressions

1. As everybody knows, S + V…
2. It is the problem that … has in mind.
3. You might just ignite a lifelong passion for…
4. Sth. of mine
5. Sth. are always reliable.
6. Among the most popular items sold here are…
7. What is to you an everyday item of no particular interest may be a … treasure for someone…
III. Practice — A Bridge between Reading and Writing

1. The teacher asks students to write down their reflections on the lesson.
2. The teacher guides students to write a descriptive essay on the topic of birthday gifts.
3. Students organize their ideas into a descriptive essay.
1. The teacher asks students to write down their reflections on the lesson.
   A. If you were a foreigner, which of the recommended souvenirs would you like best? Why?
   B. Besides the souvenirs mentioned in the text, what souvenir do you recommend? Why?
   C. Have you ever bought any special souvenir either abroad or on a domestic trip? Please give a detailed description of it.
2. The teacher guides students to write a descriptive essay on the topic of birthday gifts.

I. Writing Practice – Recommendations for a Birthday Gift
1. What have you ever received for your birthday?
2. Among them, which one is the most impressive or memorable to you?
3. What gifts would you recommend to a friend who is looking for one as his girlfriend’s birthday gift? Why do you recommend them? Please describe your recommended gifts as well.

<table>
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<th>Gift</th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IV. Writing Practice – Recommendations for a Birthday Gift

1. What have you ever received for your birthday?
   *I have received several birthday gifts. All in all, they were delicate objects such as a cute glass kitten and some candies and cakes, but most of them were birthday cards with heart-felt words on them. Sometimes they were merely blessing words; for example, “Happy Birthday.”*

2. Among them, which one is the most impressive or memorable to you?
   *No doubt, it should be the hand-written card flooded with genuine words, at the same time some obscure admiration. It was the special card from the girl that I liked.*
3. What gifts would you recommend to a friend who is looking for one as his girlfriend’s birthday gift? Why do you recommend them? Please describe your recommended gifts as well.

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<tr>
<th>Gift</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hand-made chocolate</td>
<td>It can be a heart shape with some admiring words like “To the most special girl in my world.”</td>
<td>Sweet chocolate is sure to overwhelm your girlfriend, who may have the candy and meanwhile taste the admiration from you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a hand-made card with a rose</td>
<td>Cut from card boards, shaped like a heart, this card should also present your care for her. What’s more, remember to grab a red rose for her, too.</td>
<td>The card can tell of a implication that you really care for her because you spend time making something to make her feel happy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a necklace with both of their names on it</td>
<td>Buy at a jewelry store a exquisite necklace, which has both their names.</td>
<td>This necklace, which may symbolize: As your girlfriend gets older, the love owned by you two can prosper as well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a special dinner at a fancy restaurant</td>
<td>French cuisine and vintage wine with violinists playing classical works embellish the romantic candlelit dinner.</td>
<td>Get her to enjoy the romantic atmosphere. This is how you can improve your affection to each other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>take her to Xin Yi Real Estate Agency</td>
<td>Join hands with her, and go to the agency to pick up a house whatever she likes, but the precondition is that you can afford the formidable cost.</td>
<td>On the special day of you two, you commit all your rest of life to her, and she is sure to be moved by your deed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Students organize their ideas into a descriptive essay.

II. Writing a Description

Directions: Your best friend, Vincent, has trouble picking a birthday gift for his girlfriend. Write an email to give him some recommendations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dear</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yours,</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Writing a Description

Directions: Your best friend, Vincent, has trouble picking a birthday gift for his girlfriend. Write an email to give him some recommendations.

To: Vincent

Subject: How to choose the best gifts for your girlfriend.

Dear Vincent,

Choosing gifts always makes everyone confused. But if you can put the following suggestions into forth then you can make the best choice. First, you should pick the gifts that the receiver really wants. They are always better than those which are expensive but of no use. Second, the gifts which can symbolize your relationship with the receiver are another good choice. Third, why do you want to give him/her a gift? To make him/her happy or to deliver some massage? These play an important part in choosing gifts and you should show your sincerity through these gifts.

Here are some items which can be a good choice for you. Necklace, you and your girlfriend can wear them as a close relation between you and her. A hand-made decoration is always a reliable gift because it cost you not much and your girlfriend will feel warm when she receives it. The time and effort you spend on it make it the most touching gifts. A whole-day company, you can take her to go seeing movies or having a dinner, etc. A considerate company is better than any gifts without true heart. True heart, it is the most important thing you should show. If you do it then any gifts will be the best gifts.

Yours,

sincerely

Tim
IV. Students’ Examples

- Example 1 – Low Level
- Example 2 – Intermediate Level
- Example 3 – High Level
Example 1 – Low Level

Comments:

Obviously, the students made many errors in grammar and spelling. Besides misspelling several simple words, he also had problems with the plural of nouns and the basic forms of verbs. Several of his sentences are not complete in terms of structure. Like many other Taiwanese students, the students made several Chinglish statements which were poorly translated from Chinese into English, so that it may be difficult for readers to understand his writing. Overall, the student’s writing has left much to be desired.

As far as the entire writing activity is concerned, the student did not perform too poorly. Though he did not do well in studying the text, he attempted to make good use of the expressions and transitional words in his writing he had learned. As a result, his writing looks organized and most of his ideas are clearly expressed.
**I. The Content of the Text**

**Introduction:**
A souvenir is something which foreigners will buy as a remembrance. Taiwan is not famous for distinctive souvenir-type products. So, what souvenir can a foreigner find here?

**Body:**
Here are a variety of recommendations for your choices of souvenirs.

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<td>name chops</td>
<td>Chinese characters seem dazzlingly intricate to most Western people. They can use name chops to mark books, CDs, and so on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>tea sets</td>
<td>To foreigners, the cups and pots are delicate, pretty, and full of Chinese style. They can use them as a living room decoration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>handheld fans</td>
<td>They like those carried by Chinese ladies in the past. They are easily to carry with.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>oil-paper umbrella</td>
<td>It can be used to shield users from sunshine rather than to shield rain as usual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>calligraphy</td>
<td>The unique characters and great symmetry make itself a beautiful artifact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>CDs</td>
<td>They are the most reliable gifts! Although the recipients don’t understand the language they can still be enchanted with the rhythms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>waterproof hat and raincoat</td>
<td>They are made of grass and bamboo fibers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Others**
Tattoo stamps: Taiwan’s beautiful tattoos are famous, and we can let foreigners get the true words ‘rather than a Chinese word with a weird meaning.’

**Conclusion: Generalization**
Anything with Chinese characters on it is well received as a souvenir.

**II. Language Focus**

**A. Transitional Words or Phrases**

- For example
- then
- more recently
- Fortunately
- even if
- however
- In recent years due to
- by the way
- even though
- For the time being (generally speaking)
- In general
- in a whole

*Other Useful Transitional Phrases*

- second, first, first of all, the initially, secondly, secondly, thirdly, thirdly, then, next, after that
2. It is the problem that the --- has in mind

3. you might just ignite a ( ) lifelong passion for ( )

4. 5th of mind

5. 5th are always reliable...

6. Among the most (popular, ) items sold here are ---

7. What is to you an everyday item (of no particular interest) may be ( ) treasure for someone...

III. Questions:
1. If you were a foreigner, which of the recommended souvenirs would you like best? Why?

   1. I take delight in sipping tea to relax after an exhausted day.

2. Besides the souvenirs mentioned in the text, what souvenir do you recommend? Why?

   2. Stamps & stamps usually have the characteristic of the country which it is inexpensive and easy to take with you as the best souvenirs.

3. Have you ever bought any special souvenir either abroad or on a domestic trip? Please give a detailed description of it.

   I have bought a key ring in a harbor. There are some shells, seaweeds and sand in it. Whenever I see it I remember the picturesque scenes in the harbor.

IV. Writing Practice – Recommendations for a Birthday Gift
1. What have you ever received for your birthday?

   1. birthday cards, books, a decoration and a stuffed puppy toy for my birthday.

2. Among them, which one is the most impressive or memorable to you?

   The fishbowl-shaped decoration

3. What gifts would you recommend to a friend who is looking for one as his girlfriend's birthday gift? Why do you recommend them? Please describe your recommended gifts as well.

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<td>necklace</td>
<td>A well-designed necklace which can express love to her</td>
<td>You and your girlfriend can wear them as a symbol of your close relationship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bracelet</td>
<td>Simple and easy to wear</td>
<td>It is warm when you have it in hands with her, the same as the sun shines on us.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hand-made</td>
<td>Something you spend much time crafting.</td>
<td>The time and effort you spend on it make the most touching feeling to become think of you.</td>
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<tr>
<td>decoration</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>pillow</td>
<td>An adorable pillow in the shape of her heart</td>
<td>Your girlfriend can miss you every time she puts her head on it.</td>
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Dear Vincent,

Choosing gifts always makes everyone confused. But if you can put the following suggestions into practice, then you can make better choices. First, you should pick the gifts that the receiver really wants. They are always better than those which are expensive but of no use. Second, the gifts which can symbolize your relationship with the receiver are another good choice. Third, why do you want to give him/her a gift? To make him/her happy or to deliver some massage? These play an important part in choosing gifts and you should show sincerity through these gifts.

Here are some items which can be a good choice for you:

Necklaces. You and your girlfriend can wear them as a symbol of the bond between you and her. A hand-made decoration is always a reliable gift because it costs you not much and your girlfriend will feel warm when she receives it. The time and effort you spend on it make it the most touching gift! A whole day together. You can take her to go see a movie or have a dinner, etc. Considerate company is better than any gift without a true heart. It is the most important thing you should show. If you do it then any gift will be the best gift.

Yours,

Sincerely,

Tim
Example 2 – Intermediate Level

Comments:

The students did a fantastic job in studying the text. He found out the descriptions for the recommended souvenirs and clearly put them on the worksheet. His brainstorming on the birthday gifts is well-done too. As for the composition, his writing is fluent and he smoothly connected his ideas with the help of transitional phrases. Nevertheless, the student didn’t make good use of expressions that he was supposed to learn from the text.
**Introduction:**
A souvenir is a thing that serves as a reminder of a person, place, or event. Taiwan is not famous for distinctive souvenir-type products. So, what souvenir can a foreigner find here?

**Body:**
Here are a variety of recommendations for your choices of souvenirs.

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<td>waterproof hats and raincoats</td>
<td>Although these hats and raincoats were replaced by plastic ones in the 1980s, it reappeared in the 1990s as decorations.</td>
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<td>Others</td>
<td>religious items (for Buddhists or Taoists), name chops, bamboo, anything with Chinese characters on it.</td>
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**Conclusion: Generalization**
Anything with Chinese characters on it is well received as a souvenir.

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**II. Language Focus**
A. Transitional Words or Phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>For example, ...</th>
<th>Unlike N ...</th>
<th>Fortunately, ...</th>
<th>Even if ... ...</th>
<th>As sb. know(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In recent years</td>
<td>For many people, ...</td>
<td>For many (people), ...</td>
<td>That's why, ...</td>
<td>However, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Of course, ...</td>
<td>Generally speaking, ...</td>
<td>In this regard, ...</td>
<td>In the meantime, ...</td>
<td>Worst of all, ...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III. Questions:
1. If you were a foreigner, which of the recommended souvenirs would you like best? Why?
   An oil-paper umbrella from Meinong. I prefer it because it’s a traditional item in the region. And what makes me interested is that local ladies use it to shield themselves from sunshine. It’s perfect if there are Chinese characters on the inside of it.

2. Besides the souvenirs mentioned in the text, what souvenir do you recommend? Why?
   A map of Taiwan. A map that shows Taiwan is a country, not a province of Mainland China. And we can also give a national flag as well for the red, white, and blue symbols.

3. Have you ever bought any special souvenir either abroad or on a domestic trip? Please give a detailed description of it.
   My family and I visited Australia when I was nine. We bought a delicate bottle half-filled with clear sand. The sand shows that we once left footprints on the secluded and beautiful land.

IV. Writing Practice – Recommendations for a Birthday Gift
1. What have you ever received for your birthday?
   When I was five, I received a old horse toy from a superintendent. At four years old, one of my friends gave me a dog toy.

2. Among them, which one is the most impressive or memorable to you?
   The dog toy is the most memorable. I even took a photo of it as a memento and put it on my cell phone.

3. What gifts would you recommend to a friend who is looking for one as his girlfriend’s birthday gift? Why do you recommend them? Please describe your recommended gifts as well.

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<td>doll</td>
<td>A doll especially an adorable one suits either a boy or a girl recipient.</td>
<td>Most people like dolls even if they no longer play with them. Dolls symbolize innocent mind and friendship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diamond</td>
<td>The hardest thing in the world. What makes them precious is that they are both rare and beautiful.</td>
<td>We humans are mortal, but fine diamond along with love can last forever.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>key chain</td>
<td>A gadget tied to keys.</td>
<td>It will be a recommended gift because it is useful in everyday life. Also, we often keep sight of it when we use keys and recall the giver.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>milk chocolate</td>
<td>Milk chocolate is sweet and delicious.</td>
<td>Although some people think chocolate is sweet, it is also healthy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Vincent,

Well, I heard that you worried about what to choose for Tina's birthday. In fact, simple and symbolic items will make the best gifts. For example, chocolate would be a good choice. Although some people think chocolate is a too common gift, it is still a pleasing one due to a variety of flavors you can choose from. And if she doesn't like sweetened one, you may as well turn to dark chocolate. It is healthful and as pure as your love. Another choice for gifts go to a key chain. It will be a recommended gift because it is useful in everyday life. Also, when she catches sight of it, it will remind her of your bond of affection just as the gadget tied to keys. The last one I suggest is a doll. A doll? Yes, most people like dolls even if they no longer play with them for they symbolize an innocent mind. In my opinion, a doll, especially an adorable one, will stand for your simple and sincere friendship. These recommendations above are all I could do for you. Wish you, my friend!

Yours,

Rong

Good luck.
Example 3 – High Level

Comments:

The student made several errors in grammar and spelling. Some of his statements are really awkward to read, but it is noticeable that he writes far better than many high school students. Also it is highly impressive that the student had a close reading of the text, also singling out many useful transitional phrases and expressions. What’s even better, he applied some phrases and expressions he had found in his composition. On the whole, the student’s writing is smooth and well-organized.
Souvenir is what a visitor buy in local stores usually serves as a reminder.

Taiwan is not famous for distinctive souvenir-type products. So, what souvenir can a foreigner find here? Here are a variety of recommendations for your choices of souvenirs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Souvenir</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>name chops</td>
<td>Chinese characters seem dazzlingly intricate to most Western people. They can use name chops to mark books, CDs, and so on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>traditional tea sets</td>
<td>a set of utensils used for making tea. The Chinese-style little pots and dainty cups can serve as delicate living-room decorations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>delicate, handheld fans</td>
<td>fans carried usually by Chinese ladies of yesteryear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>hand-painted oil-paper umbrellas</td>
<td>umbrellas used to shield a person from scorching sunlights. They are made in Meinang, Kaohsiung County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Chinese are of calligraphy</td>
<td>a form of art which presents Chinese characters written on complete scrolls or custom-made banners. It usually appears in wedding ceremonies or traditional events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>CDs</td>
<td>discs recording tribal original music CDs like this can arouse interests in indigenous cultures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>spirit money; incense sticks; incense burners</td>
<td>These kinds of traditional items are usually used for God and ancestor worshipping. But actually, they are not really proper souvenirs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Others: swords and spiked clubs; items made of bamboos such as kitchenware, furniture, and those used in wedding and religious rituals; waterproof hats and raincoats made of grass and bamboo fiber; Taiwanese liquor; Chinese-style clothing; items with Chinese characters on them; beer can Coca-Cola; coffee, etc.

Conclusion: Generalization: Anything with Chinese characters on it is well received as a souvenir.
Everyone who travels to —— For many people, ——
It is this problem that —— That’s why, whenever S. V. —— S. V. ——
Unlike —— S. V. —— S. V. be another good choice.
S. —— especially —— V. ——
And don’t overlook ——
S. the always a reliable gift. Generally speaking, ——
III. Questions:
1. If you were a foreigner, which of the recommended souvenirs would you like best? Why?
I would choose composites of Chinese calligraphy. To me, it is certainly the realistic
and arcane Chinese characters that represent the mystical artistic sensation of Chinese
2. Besides the souvenirs mentioned in the text, what souvenir do you recommend? Why?
A small bottle of star sand picked on the beach on Green Islet.
The sand is very rare. You can only find several grains of the precious sand on
the scenic sandy beach. The delicate grains can remind you of the beautiful coastal
3. Have you ever bought any special souvenir either abroad or on a domestic trip? Please give a detailed description
of it.
A copper small-sized Eiffel Tower bought in Paris. It is about 10
centimeters high and weighs approximately 300 grams. Its surface is coated with
copper making it endure several years, remaining shiny. In addition, it is very delicate as if the real for Eiffel Tower is up cl
IV. Writing Practice – Recommendations for a Birthday Gift
1. What have you ever received for your birthday?
I have received several birthday gifts. All in all, they were little delicate objects such as
cute glass kitten and some candies and cakes, but most of them were birthday cards with
genuine words at the same time some obscure admiration. It was no doubt, it should be the hand-written card flooded with
heart-felt words on them. Sometimes they were merely blessing words
2. Among them, which one is the most impressive or memorable to you?
3. What gifts would you recommend to a friend who is looking for one as his girlfriend’s birthday gift? Why do you recommend them? Please describe your recommended gifts as well.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gift</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>girl that I liked</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hand-made chocolate</td>
<td>It can be a heart shape with some adorning words like “To the most special girl in my world.”</td>
<td>Sweet chocolate is sure to overwhelm your girlfriend, who may have the ambition and meanwhile taste the admiration from her.</td>
<td>Of course, —— What is to you + αn + N. May be αn + N. for sb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a hand-made card with a rose</td>
<td>Cut from card boards, shaped like a heart, this card should also present your care for her. What’s more, remember to grab a red rose.</td>
<td>The card can tell of a implication that you really care for her because you spent time making something to make her feel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a necklace with both of their names on it</td>
<td>Lose for her, too! Buy at a jewelry store a exquisite necklace, which has both their names.</td>
<td>This necklace, which may symbolize: As your girlfriend gets older, the love owned by you two can prosper as well.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a special dinner at a fancy restaurant</td>
<td>French cuisine and vintage wine with violinists playing classical works embellish the romantic candlelight dinner.</td>
<td>Get her to enjoy the romantic atmosphere and feel the love.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Vincent:

You must be very worried about the gift. Since there are still a week before your girlfriend’s birthday, I have some advice to provide to you. For many people, a special dinner at a fancy restaurant is no doubt a good choice, because the romantic atmosphere can surely improve your mutual affection. And don’t forget to give her a bunch of red roses to embellish her beauty. However, if you are considering whether there is any other good alternatives, a traditional gift may be a warm and sweet one. Unlike those splendid and gorgeous presents such as a diamond ring or expensive jewels, a hand-made chocolate cake or cookies with both your names on it should be a nice gift. It is the exquisite cake that implies your sincere love for her and tells of that you really care for her. In general, a birthday gift is a form of your admiration and care. Therefore, what makes the perfect present depends on how you love her. I am sure that you are bound to give her a surprise.

Yours,

Eric
V. Conclusion

- It is a great challenge for students to write a good essay which contains good expressions and a perfect structure.
- Despite all this, there is no doubt that my students did benefit from this activity.
- Not all students could or should become good writers after the reading-writing activity.
- My work paid off when the students had fun and gained something useful for their writing.
THE END