

Unit 10
Reading A

The Analects of Confucius 《论语》

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1 The Analects were written over a period of 30 to 50 years. Begun some time during the Spring and Autumn Period, the work was probably finished during the Warring States Period, though the exact publication date of the first complete Analects cannot be pinpointed. Much as the Republic purports to be a collection of Socrates' discussions but actually contains original material from his disciple Plato, the Analects were almost certainly penned and compiled by disciples and second-generation disciples of Confucius, albeit being mostly about Confucius himself and his thought.

《论语》的撰写历时 30 到 50 年。这部著作始于春秋时期（的某个时候），可能完成于战国时期，不过第一部完整《论语》的确切出版日期无法确定。就像《理想国》声称是苏格拉底言论的集子，但实际上包含了其弟子柏拉图的原创内容一样，《论语》几乎可以肯定是由孔子的弟子及再传弟子撰写和编纂的，尽管其中大部分内容是关于孔子本人及其思想的。

2 Chapters in the Analects are grouped by individual themes. However, the chapters are not arranged in any sort of way so as to carry a continuous stream of thought or idea. In fact, the sequence of the chapters could be said to be completely random, with the themes of adjacent chapters completely unrelated to each other.

《论语》中的章节是按照不同的主题进行分组的。然而，这些章节的排列并没有遵循任何能够传达连续的思想或理念的方式。事实上，可以说章节的顺序是完全随机的，相邻章节的主题彼此完全无关。

3 Moreover, central themes recur repeatedly in different chapters, sometimes in exactly the same wording and sometimes with small variations. This has led some to believe that the book was not written by a single individual, but was the collective effort of many. However, the final editors of the Analects were likely disciples of Zengzi, who was one of the most established students of Confucius.

此外，核心主题在不同的章节中反复出现，有时措辞完全相同，有时略有变化。这使得一些人认为这本书不是由一个人所写，而是许多人的共同努力成果。然而，《论语》的最终编辑者很可能是曾子的弟子，曾子是孔子最著名的学生之一。

4 A version of the Analects, written on bamboo strips from before 55 BC, was discovered in a tomb at Dingzhou/Dingxian in Hebei province in 1973 and published in 1997. Although fragmentary, the version could shed considerable light on the textual tradition of the Analects if its readings were ever fully employed in a critical edition.

1973 年，在河北省定州/定县的一座古墓中发现了写在公元前 55 年以前的竹简版《论语》，并于 1997 年出版。虽然这个版本是残缺不全的，但如果其内容在一个校勘版本中被充分采用，它可能会为《论语》的文本传统提供相当多的启示。

5 Towards the late Western Han Dynasty, Zhang Yu, who was a teacher of Emperor Cheng,

combined the Lu and Qi versions of Analects but kept to the number of chapters in the Lu Analects. Zhang's version then came to be known as the Marquis Zhang Analects, which is largely the version we know today.

在西汉晚期，成帝的老师张禹把《鲁论语》和《齐论语》进行了整合，但保留了《鲁论语》的章节数目。张禹的这个版本后来被称为《张侯论语》，在很大程度上就是我们今天所知道的版本。

6 E. B. Brooks and A. T. Brooks, in their work *The Original Analects*, suggest an alternative interpretation of the chapters' organization, based on language usage patterns within the text. This work suggests that the text of the Analects as we have received them is heavily accreted, and represents the additions of many generations of school heads. Due to the changing political, social, and cultural environments, different heads of the Confucian school chose to praise or denigrate different of their predecessors, and even described very different social practices and ritual environments.

E. B. 布鲁克斯和 A. T. 布鲁克斯在他们的著作《原始论语》中，基于文本中的语言使用模式，对章节的组织提出了一种不同的解释。这部作品表明，我们所收到的《论语》文本经过了大量的累积，代表了许多代学派领袖的添加。由于不断变化的政治、社会和文化环境，不同的儒家学派领袖选择赞扬或诋毁他们的不同前辈，甚至描述了非常不同的社会习俗和礼仪环境。Brooks and Brooks view a subset of Analects as representing the ideas of the original Confucius, who lived during a time when the traditional bonds of a warrior-based, personality-based society were breaking down to change to a more mediated society with a broader nobility from the old military elite and with less direct access to the king: these early chapters represent the old military ethic of extreme faithfulness to superiors and paternal care for inferiors, with almost no emphasis on mannered ritual, as chronologically later chapters might suggest.

布鲁克斯夫妇认为《论语》的一个子集代表了原始孔子的思想。孔子生活在一个以武士为基础、以个性为基础的社会传统纽带正在破裂，向一个由旧军事精英中更广泛的贵族组成的、与国王的直接联系更少的更具调解性的社会转变的时期。这些早期章节代表了旧的军事伦理，即对上级极度忠诚，对下级像父亲般关怀，几乎没有像年代较晚的章节可能暗示的那样强调礼仪规矩。

7 Since Confucius' time, the Analects has heavily influenced the philosophy and moral values of China and later other East Asian countries as well. Together with the other three volumes of the Four Books, it teaches the basic Confucian values including propriety, righteousness, loyalty, and filial piety, all centered about the central thought of Confucius—humanity.

自孔子时代以来，《论语》极大地影响了中国以及后来其他东亚国家的哲学和道德价值观。它与“四书”中的其他三卷一起，传授包括礼、义、忠、孝在内的基本儒家价值观，这些都围绕着孔子的核心思想——仁。

8 For almost two thousand years, the Analects had also been the fundamental course of study for any Chinese scholar, for a man was not considered morally upright or enlightened if he did not study Confucius' works. The imperial examination, started in the Jin Dynasty and eventually abolished in the dying years of the Qing Dynasty, emphasized Confucian studies and expected candidates to quote and apply the words of Confucius in their essays.

在近两千年的时间里，《论语》一直是中国文人的基础课程，因为一个人如果不学习孔子的著作，就不会被认为品德端正或有学识。始于晋朝并最终在清朝末年被废除的科举考试强调儒家学说，并期望考生在文章中引用和运用孔子的言论。

9 The Analects of Confucius has also been translated into many languages, most notably into English by James Legge, Arthur Waley, Charles Muller, and William Edward Soothill. Portions were translated into Latin by western Christian missionaries in the late 16th century.

《论语》也被翻译成了许多种语言，其中最著名的英文译本有有理雅各（James Legge）、阿瑟·韦利（Arthur Waley）、缪勒（Charles Muller）和苏慧廉（William Edward Soothill）所译的版本。16 世纪末，西方基督教传教士将其部分内容翻译成了拉丁文。

10 A particular point of interest lies in Chapter 10 of the book, which contains detailed descriptions of Confucius' behaviors in various daily activities. This has been pointed at by Voltaire and Ezra Pound to show how much Confucius was a mere human. Simon Leys, who recently translated the Analects into English and French, said that the book may well have been the first in human history to describe the life of an individual, historic personage. Similarly, Elias Canetti writes: "Confucius' Conversations are the oldest complete intellectual and spiritual portrait of a man. It strikes one as a modern book; everything it contains and indeed everything it lacks is important."

一个特别有趣的地方在于这本书的第十章（乡党篇），其中包含了孔子在各种日常活动中的行为的详细描述。伏尔泰和埃兹拉·庞德曾指出这一点，以表明孔子仅仅是一个凡人。最近将《论语》翻译成英语和法语的西蒙·莱斯（Simon Leys）说，这本书很可能是人类历史上第一本描述一个个体、历史人物生活的书。同样，埃利亚斯·卡内蒂（Elias Canetti）写道：“《孔子的对话》是人类历史上最古老的关于一个人的完整的智力和精神画像。它给人的感觉像是一本现代书；它所包含的一切，实际上它所缺少的一切，都是重要的。”