#### Chinese Conversation Corner (Week 5, Semester 2, 2020)

## 孟母三迁

### **Mencius's Mother Moved Three Times**

#### 一、孟母三迁的故事 The story about Mencius's mother moving three times

孟子是中国古代著名的思想家、教育家,他和孔子一样,是儒家学派的主要代表人物之一。 Mencius was a famous thinker and educator during ancient China. Like Confucius, Mencius is also a major representative of the Confucian School.

孟子小时候,他的母亲为了让他有一个好的教育环境,曾经搬过三次家。刚开始,他们住在 坟墓的附近,孟子经常喜欢模仿别人办丧事。孟母看到后认为那个地方不适合教育儿子。于 是就带着孟子搬到市场附近。可是,孟子又模仿着做生意,孟母觉得那里也不适合教育儿 子。于是他们又搬到了一个学校旁边。从那以后,孟子就开始好好儿学习了,最后成为了有 才德的圣人。这个故事说明,环境能改变一个人的爱好和习惯,创造一个好的环境对一个人 的成长非常重要。

When Mencius was young, his mother moved home three times to find a good educational environment for him. At first, they lived near a graveyard, where Mencius constantly imitated people who were holding funerals. Seeing this his mother believed that this place wasn't good for her son's education, so they moved to a place near a market. Here however, Mencius began to imitate people doing business there which made his mother think it wasn't a good place for him either. Then she moved again, this time near a school. Hereafter, Mencius studied hard and became a sage at last. The story of 'Mencius's Mother Moved Thrice' tells us that environment can change one's behaviors and habits and having a good environment is very important to one's development.

现在很多中国父母也是这样,为了让孩子受到更好的教育,想了很多办法。购买学区房,甚至从一个城市搬到另一个城市,有的还出国陪读。

Nowadays, many parents are like Mencius's mother and try every way to provide a better education for their children. They purchase 'School District Housing' and some even move to a different city, or





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taken their children overseas, and even accompany them while they are going to school there.

# 二、任务 Tasks

- Qǐng yòng hànyǔ jiǎngshù mèngmǔsānqiān de gùshi 请 用 汉语 讲述 孟母三迁 的故事。
   Please tell the story of 'Mencius's Mother Moved Three Times' in Chinese.
- Mèngmǔ sānqiān de gùshi shuōmíng le shénme 孟母 三迁 的 故事 说明 了 什么? What does the story tell us?
- Nǐ rènwéi huánjìng duì yígèrén de chéngzhǎng zhòngyào ma wèishénme 你认为 环境 对 一个人的 成长 重要吗? 为什么?
  Do you think a good environment is important to one's development? Why?
- 4. Nǐ zěnme kàndài xuéqūfáng nǐ de guójiā yǒu xuéqūfáng ma 你怎么 看待"学区房"?你的国家 有"学区房"吗? What do you think of 'School District Housing'? Is there 'School District Housing' in your own country?



