

1.

The Four Famous Embroideries (刺绣) of China refer to the Xiang embroidery in Hunan Province, Shu embroidery in Sichuan Province, Yue embroidery in Guangdong Province and Su embroidery in Jiangsu Province.

Xiang embroidery

The earliest piece of Xiang embroidery was unearthed at the No. 1 Tomb of Mawangdui, Changsha City of the Han Dynasty (206 B.C. —A.D. 220). The weaving technique was almost the same as the one used in modern times, which shows that embroidery had already existed in the Han Dynasty. In its later development, it absorbs the characteristics of traditional Chinese paintings and reaches a high artistic level. Xiang embroidery crafts include valuable works of art, as well as products for daily use.

Shu embroidery

Shu embroidery has formed its own unique characteristics: smooth, bright, neat, etc. The works choose flowers, animals, mountains, rivers and human figures as their themes. The craftsmanship of Shu embroidery involves a combination of fine art and practical uses, such as the facings of quilts, pillowcases, coats and screen covers.

Yue embroidery

Influenced by national folk art, Yue embroidered pictures are mainly of dragons and phoenixes (凤凰), and flowers and birds, with neat designs and strong, contrasting colors.

Gold-and-silk thread embroidery is widely used, even for crafts of daily use.

Su embroidery

The weaving techniques of Su embroidery are characterized by the flat surface, dense lines, even pictures and harmonious colors. Su embroidery products fall into 3 major categories: costumes, decorations for halls and crafts for daily use. Double-sided embroidery is an excellent representative of Su embroidery.

【1】The unearthed embroidery at Mawangdui shows Xiang embroidery's \_\_\_\_\_.

A.time-honoured history B.excellent designs

C.artistic value D.advanced techniques

【2】If you receive a double-sided embroidery as a gift, it must be \_\_\_\_\_.

A.Xiang embroidery B.Shu embroidery

C.Yue embroidery D.Su embroidery

【3】What do we know about the four famous embroideries?

A.All are rooted in folk art. B.All are valuable artworks.

C.All share the same themes. D.All have practical use.

2.

He ran between two defenders, past a third, and a couple of seconds later his team had two more points. At the end of his final game, on April 11, he had scored 30 points.

This was the end of a career for Dwyane Wade, nicknamed "Flash". It was the 37-year-old's last game for the Miami Heat and his last appearance on an NBA basketball court. Over his storied career, Wade played in 1,054 regular-season games and 177 post-season games, scored more than 23,000 points, appeared in three NBA championships and earned one Finals Most Valuable Player (MVP) award.

Coming from Chicago, Wade's attitude and style of play moved many people, including former US President Barack Obama. "Whenever you got knocked down, you always showed us how to get back up," Obama said in a tribute video. "You showed some Chicago spirit... and you did us proud."

Wade broke down the door to the NBA in 2003 with his outstanding ball-handling skills and jumping ability. He had a strong principle, taking practice as seriously as he took games. He trained in the gym by himself during the off-season and exercised hard to stay in shape.

Wade has also spoken out on social issues. In 2012, 17-year-old Heat fan Trayvon Martin, an African-American, was shot in a racist attack on his way home from watching the NBA All-Star Game. Wade, together with LeBron James, led the Miami Heat squad, pulling up their hoodies (连帽衫) in support of justice for Martin, who had his hoodie up when he was killed. Wade hoped this action would bring attention to racist violence.

In 2003, he founded the Wade's World Foundation, which provides support to various education, health, and family service programs. "Obviously, I'm one person. I can't change the world, but I can help affect change in communities," Wade told ESPN. "That's what I want to continue to do."

This is not the end of Wade's story. He wants to continue fighting for economic and social equality in the US.

【1】How many games did Wade play in his professional career?

A.1,054. B.177. C.23,000. D.1,231.

【2】Wade was thought highly of by Obama because of \_\_\_\_\_.

A.his strong willpower B.his flexible playing style

C.his extraordinary skills D.his honourable ambition

【3】Why did Wade and his teammates pull up their hoodies?

A.To follow Martin's heroic behaviour. B.To speak out for Martin.

C.To try on the latest fashion. D.To show racial equality.

【4】This passage is mainly about Wade's \_\_\_\_\_.

A.outstanding professional career B.legendary life experiences

C.achievements in social equality D.influence in sports and society

3.

As a child, I never imagined that one day a man would walk on the moon. Yet this year we marked the 50th anniversary of the famous Apollo 11 mission. As those historic pictures were beamed (传递) back to Earth, millions of us sat transfixed (使...呆住) to our television screens, as we watched Neil Armstrong taking a small step for man and a giant leap for mankind--and, indeed, for womankind. It's a reminder for us all that giant leaps often start with small steps.

This year we marked another important anniversary: D-Day. On 6th June 1944, some 156,000 British, Canadian and American forces landed in northern France. It was the largest ever seaborne invasion and was delayed due to bad weather. I well remember the look of concern on my father's face. He knew the secret D-Day plans but could of course share that burden with no one.

For the 75th anniversary of that decisive battle, in a true spirit of reconciliation (和解), those who had formally been sworn enemies came together in friendly commemorations (纪念) either side of the Channel, putting past differences behind them. Such reconciliation seldom happens overnight. It takes patience and time to rebuild trust, and progress often comes through small steps.

Since the end of the Second World War, many charities, groups and organisations have worked to promote peace and unity around the world, bringing together those who have been on opposing sides. By being willing to put past differences behind us and move forward together, we honour the freedom and democracy (民主) once won for us at so great a cost.