

# Main Contents of *The Art of War by Sun Zi*

《孙子兵法》的主要内容



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**Sun Wu**

**Sun Wu**

**( 500 B.C.)**

**孙武**

**( 公元前500年间 )**

**Sun Wu, styled himself**

**Chang Qing,**

**Sun Zi, an honorific title**

**字：长卿；**

**尊称：孙子**



# Main Contents of “The Art of War”

《孙子兵法》的主要内容



# The 13 Chapters of Art of War by Sunzi

《孙子兵法》十三篇

- |      |                                  |
|------|----------------------------------|
| I    | Strategic Assessments            |
| II   | Waging War                       |
| III  | Attack by Stratagem              |
| IV   | Disposition of Military Strength |
| V    | Use of Energy                    |
| VI   | Weakness and Strength            |
| VII  | Maneuvering                      |
| VIII | Variation of Tactics             |
| IX   | On the March                     |
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| XI   | The Nine Varieties of Ground     |
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# 13 Chapters 孙子兵法十三篇

**I. Strategic Assessments** 《计篇》

**II. Waging War** 《作战篇》      **III. Attack by Stratagem** 《谋攻篇》

**IV. Disposition of Military Strength** 《形篇》

**V. Use of Energy** 《势篇》      **VI. Weakness and Strength** 《虚实篇》

**VII. Maneuvering** 《军争篇》

**VIII. Variation of Tactics** 《九变篇》

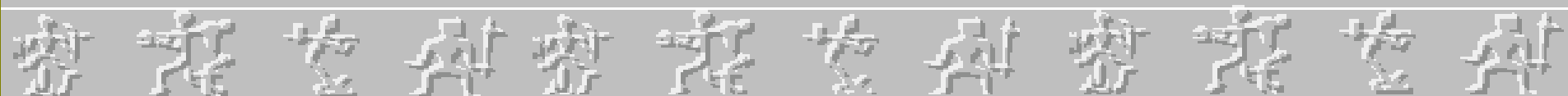
**IX. On the March** 《行军篇》

**X. Terrain** 《地形篇》

**XI. The Nine Varieties of Ground** 《九地篇》

**XII. Attack by Fire** 《火攻篇》

**XIII. Use of Spies** 《用间篇》





# Chapter One, Making Assessment

## 第一 计篇

Main idea: making assessment on yourself as well as the enemy, and assessing the enemy's situation and create conditions for victory.

中心思想：审己量敌，料胜决策

計

篇

计篇白话





# Chapter One, Making Assessment

## 第一 计篇

### 1. To understand war and attach great importance to war

#### 一、认识、重视战争

計

篇

计篇白话





# Chapter One, Making Assessment

## 第一 计篇

2. To win war through comprehensive assessment on various factors with “the way” as the priority.

二、以“道”为首的综合制胜思想

計

篇

计篇白话







# Chapter One, Making Assessment

## 第一 计篇

### 3. To take highlighting “advantages” as the basic means of win victory

三、以“利”为宗旨的实现胜利的基本手段

計

篇

计篇白话





# Chapter One, Making Assessment

## 第一 计篇

4. He makes full assessment of the situation is more likely to win.

He who makes insufficient  
assessment of the  
situation is less likely to win.

四、多算胜，少算不胜

計

篇

计篇白话



## Chapter Two Waging War

### 第二、作战篇

Main idea: what is important in war is  
quick victory,  
not prolonged operations

作战篇白话

中心思想：兵贵胜，不贵久





## Chapter Two Waging War

### 第二、作战篇

# 1. War is of huge consumption

## 一、战争消耗巨大

# 2. What is important in war is quick victory

## 二、战争以速胜为佳

作战篇

作战篇白话





## Chapter Two Waging War

### 第二、作战篇

3. To commandeer provisions from the enemy territory and boost one's own strength in the process of overpowering the enemy

#### 三、因粮于敌，胜敌而益强

4. Generals shoulder heavy and major responsibilities

#### 四、将帅的重大责任

作战篇

作战篇白话







## Chapter Three Attacking by Stratagem

### 第三、谋攻篇

Main idea: to win with wisdom  
and stratagem

中心思想：以智谋胜敌

谋攻篇白话

謀  
攻  
篇





## Chapter Three Attacking by Stratagem

### 第三、谋攻篇

# 謀 攻 篇

1. The best policy of defeating the enemy is to win a complete victory

一、破敌之法，全胜为上

谋攻篇白话





2. The best method of attacking by  
stratagem is taking all  
under heaven with his  
“whole and intact strategy”





### 3. The best leadership is unity between the sovereign and commander

三、统帅之法，君将齐心

谋攻篇白话





4. The best way of win victory is based  
on awareness of  
the five factors determining  
the outcome of war

四、谋胜之法，以知为本







## Chapter Four Disposition (xing)

### 第四、形篇

**Main idea: to accumulate combat strength and make oneself invincible and then subdue the enemy by finding opportunity**

形篇白话

中心思想：积蓄军队的作战力量，  
使自己立于不败之地，然后寻机战胜敌人



Chapter Four Disposition (xing)

第四、形篇

# 1. To win assured victory after make oneself invincible

一、先求不败，再求必胜

形

篇

形篇白话





Chapter Four Disposition (xing)

第四、形篇

**2. The policy of win victory is to  
seek victory by cultivating  
the way and strengthening rules  
and regulations**

形篇白话

二、修道保法，胜败之政





## Chapter Four Disposition (xing)

### 第四、形篇

3. The weaker side will be defeated by  
the stronger side and  
outcome of war is determined by  
comparison of strength

形篇白话

三、强胜弱败，实力制胜





## Chapter Five Momentum (shi)

### 第五、势篇

Main idea: to give full play to the military strength and attack the enemy with the most efficient way

中心思想：充分发挥军队的作战力量，  
最有效地打击敌人

势篇白话







## Chapter Five Momentum (shi)

### 第五、势篇

# 1. To pay high attention to the four key links

## 一、把握4个根本环节

势篇白话





## Chapter Five Momentum (shi)

### 第五、势篇

## 2. To combine the use of qi and zheng tactics and win victory with flexible tactics

二、奇正结合，善变取胜

势篇白话





## Chapter Five Momentum (shi)

### 第五、势篇

3. It is necessary to create a good posture which provides one with an irresistible momentum and when he attacks, it is with lightning speed

势篇白话

三、须造“险势”，击“节短”





## Chapter Five Momentum (shi)

### 第五、势篇

**4. One who is skilled at directing war  
is able to select the right man and  
exploit the situation**

四、择人而任势

势篇白话





## Chapter Six Weaknesses and strengths

### 第六、虚实篇

Main idea: to avoid the enemy's strong points and seeking out his weak points

中心思想：避实击虚

虚实篇白话







## Chapter Six Weaknesses and trengths

### 第六、虚实篇

# 1. To gain initiative over the enemy and avoid being moved by the enemy

## 一、争取主动，避免被动

虛  
實  
篇

虚实篇白话





## Chapter Six Weaknesses and strengths

### 第六、虚实篇

## 2. Method of avoiding the enemy's strong points and seeking out his weak points

### 二、避实击虚的方法

虛  
實  
篇

虚实篇白话





## Chapter Six Weaknesses and strengths

### 第六、虚实篇

3. There is no fixed pattern in the use of tactics in war, so it is necessary to win the war by modifying the tactics in accordance with the changing enemy situation

三、兵无常势，因敌制胜

虛  
實  
篇

虚实篇白话





## Chapter Seven, Contest to Gain the Initiative

### 第七、军争篇

Main idea: to gain the initiative

中心思想：争取先机之利

军争篇

军争篇白话





# 1. Being clear about the relations between “tortuous and direct”, between adversity and advantage

一、明“迂直”关系，知“患利”道理

军争篇白话







Chapter Seven, Contest to Gain the Initiative

第七、军争篇

## 2. Troop maneuvering can be a source of both advantage and disaster

二、明“军争”利危，析“军争”之险

军争篇白话





Chapter Seven, Contest to Gain the Initiative

第七、军争篇

### 3. To know the restrictive factors and follow the principles of action

三、明制约因素，立行动原则

军争篇白话





## Chapter Seven, Contest to Gain the Initiative

### 第七、军争篇

4. To keep abreast of the situation in  
the battlefield and grasp the priorities  
of contending to gain the initiative

四、明了战场实情，掌握“军争”重点

军争篇白话





## Chapter Eight Varying the Tactics

### 第八 九变篇

Main idea: acting according to the  
circumstances and being flexible  
in the use of troops

中心思想：随机应变，灵活用兵

九变篇白话





## Chapter Eight Varying the Tactics

### 第八 九变篇

# 1. To know the advantages of five different terrains and the art of varying tactics

一、精通五地之利，知晓九变之术

九变篇白话







## Chapter Eight Varying the Tactics

### 第八 九变篇

**2. The wise commander, in his deliberations, will take into account both the favorable and unfavorable factors**

**二、智者之虑，必杂于利害**

九  
變  
篇

九变篇白话





## Chapter Eight Varying the Tactics

### 第八 九变篇

# 3. To take preventive measures and precautions averts perils

三、防患未然，有备无患

九  
變  
篇

九变篇白话





## Chapter Eight Varying the Tactics

### 第八 九变篇

**4. Attaching great importance to the professionalism of the commander and advice the commander to overcome the five weakness of character**

**四、明察素质之重，克服“五危”之害**

九  
變  
篇

九变篇白话





## Chapter Nine Deploying the Troops

### 第九、行军篇

**Main idea:** to position troops in light of geographical conditions and assess the enemy in accordance to the situation

中心思想：因地处军，视情相敌

行  
軍  
篇

行军篇白话





## Chapter Nine Deploying the Troops

### 第九、行军篇

# 1. Ways to position troops in four different situations

## 一、处军四法

# 2. Thirty two ways of assessing the enemy

## 二、相敌三十二法

行  
軍  
篇

行军篇白话







## Chapter Nine Deploying the Troops

### 第九、行军篇

3. The strength of an army does not lie  
in mere numbers

#### 三、兵非益多

4. A commander must win the soldiers  
over by treating them humanely and  
keep them in line with strict  
military discipline

#### 四、“文、武”治军

行  
軍  
篇

行军篇白话





## Chapter Ten The Terrain

### 第十、地形篇

Main idea: advantageous terrain can be  
a natural ally in battle

中心思想：地形，兵之助，将之道

地形篇

地形篇白话





# Chapter Ten The Terrain

## 第十、地形篇

### 1. A commander must know the six rules governing the use of terrain

一、六地之道，将必察之

地形篇

地形篇白话





# Chapter Ten The Terrain

## 第十、地形篇

**2. A commander must thoroughly  
examine the six ways to  
certain defeat**

二、六败之理，将必明之

地形篇

地形篇白话





## Chapter Ten The Terrain

### 第十、地形篇

**3. Superior military leadership  
lies in the ability to assess the  
enemy's situation and create  
conditions for victory**

**三、料敌制胜，将帅为本**

地形篇

地形篇白话







## Chapter Ten The Terrain

### 第十、地形篇

**4. Know your enemy and know yourself, victory will not be at risk; know both heaven and earth, and victory will be complete**

地形篇白话

**结论：知彼知己，胜乃不殆；知天知地，胜乃不穷**





## Chapter Eleven Nine Regions

### 第十一、九地篇

**Main idea:** in offensive operation,  
a commander must thoroughly  
look into the different handling  
of the nine kinds of regions and  
the vagaries of human nature

九地篇白话

中心思想：进攻要掌握九地之变，  
人情之理和决胜之法。





## Chapter Eleven Nine Regions

### 第十一、九地篇

# 1. To thoroughly look into the different handling of the nine kinds of regions

## 一、掌握“九地”之变

九地篇

九地篇白话





## Chapter Eleven Nine Regions

### 第十一、九地篇

**2. To move into action when it is to the  
advantage of the commander and  
speed should be the overriding  
consideration**

**二、合利而动，兵贵神速**

九地篇

九地篇白话





## Chapter Eleven Nine Regions

### 第十一、九地篇

3. The deeper you penetrate into enemy territory, the greater the cohesion of your troops and only when you plunge them into places where there is no way out will they fight to stay alive

三、深入则专，死地求生

九地篇

九地篇白话







## Chapter Eleven Nine Regions

### 第十一、九地篇

4. A commander should try to make  
the strong and the weak achieve a  
uniform level of courage and make  
the best use of both the high  
and low-lying grounds

九地篇白话

四、齐勇若一，刚柔相得







## Chapter Eleven Nine Regions

### 第十一、九地篇

# 九地篇

**5. It is the responsibility of the  
commander to be calm and  
inscrutable, to be impartial and strict  
in enforcing discipline**

九地篇白话

五、静以幽，正以治





## Chapter Eleven Nine Regions

### 第十一、九地篇

6. Being flexible when you decide your movements, ever ready to revise them according to the changing posture of the enemy

九地篇白话

六、践墨随敌，以决战事





## Chapter Twelve Attacking by Fire

### 第十二、火攻篇

Main idea: to support offensive  
operation with fire

中心思想：以火佐攻

火攻篇

火攻篇白话





## Chapter Twelve Attacking by Fire

### 第十二、火攻篇

**1. There are five targets for an attack with fire and a commander should employ them according to circumstances**

火攻篇白话

一、火攻五种，因变而应





## Chapter Twelve Attacking by Fire

### 第十二、火攻篇

**2. Using fire to assist in attacks can produce notable results, using the method of inundation can make the attacks more powerful**

火攻篇白话

二、以水助攻，火明水强





## Chapter Twelve Attacking by Fire

### 第十二、火攻篇

**3. War is merciless and a wise sovereign  
should approach  
the question of war with  
utmost caution**

**三、战争无情，君慎将警**

火攻篇

火攻篇白话







## Chapter Thirteen Using Spies

### 第十三、用间篇

Main idea: to know the enemy by  
using spies

中心思想：使用间谍了解敌情

用间篇白话





**1. To conquer the enemy at every  
move depends on the men who  
know enemy situation**

**一、动而胜人，必取于人**

用间篇白话





## 2. Types and methods of using spies

### 二、用间的种类及方法





### 3. Requirements on the use of spies

#### 三、用间的要求







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的主要内容

THANK YOU!  
QUESTIONS?

谢谢, 欢迎提问

