**8年级英语第26课时**

**《开启人生之旅—面对疫情的居家生活》拓展资源**

**Holiday homestay**

The Spring Festival was supposed to be a time for family gathering. But that tradition, and all of its celebratory activities, came to a halt (停止) this year due to an epidemic (流行病) outbreak.

The disease, named novel coronavirus pneumonia (NCP), was first spotted in Wuhan, Hubei in December. In less than three months, the virus has infected more than 81,000 people in China and other places in the world. And as for March 15, 3,204 people were reported killed in China.

One of the main reasons that the novel coronavirus has been spreading so quickly is that it's transmitted (传播) through droplets (飞沫) coughed and sneezed (打喷嚏) by infected people. These droplets can travel as far as two meters in the air, which makes it risky to get too close to people. And even after the droplets fall and land on surfaces they can stay alive for up to five days, according to Jiang Rongmeng, a member of China's National Health Commission expert group. This means everything you touch in a public place - the door knobs (门把手) and the elevator buttons, for example-might be giving you this deadly virus.

In a new development, announced at a news conference on Feb 8, it seems possible that the virus can be transmitted through aerosol (气溶胶), which is a suspension (悬浮) in the air (or in gas) of fine solid particles (微粒) or liquid droplets. These super fine aerosol particles can stay afloat (飘浮的) for quite some time and travel tens of meters. No further evidence has been found to support that announcement. Even so, it's one more reason for you to stay home-just in case.

Avoiding people and public spaces is definitely not how we planned to spend this festival season. But perhaps there is something positive we can take away from this outbreak.

For starters, we've developed better hygienic (卫生的) habits, including washing our hands thoroughly after coming home. We've also learned to cherish the simple pleasures that we've been taking for granted-being able to take a walk, go to a restaurant or hang out with friends.

Thinking about all the things you'll be free to do after this "invisible (隐形的) enemy" is defeated, you probably won't find the idea of staying temporarily (暂时地) at home to be so unbearable after all.

**阅读短文，根据短文内容回答问题。**

1. Why did we stop family gathering and celebratory activities?
2. How does this virus spread?
3. How far do these droplets can travel?
4. How do we prevent from the virus?
5. From this outbreak, what are the positive things we have got?