

Duolingo Inc DUOL under CEO Luis Von Ahn



6		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
5		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
4		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
3		H	H	H		3	3	3		9
2		H	H	H		3	3	3		9
1		T	T	T		2	2	2		6

Hexagram 46 – Sheng - Pushing Upward

Above K'UN THE RECEPTIVE, EARTH
Below SUN THE GENTLE, WIND, WOOD

- The lower trigram, Sun, represents **wood**, and
 - the upper, K'un, means the **earth**.
- Linked with this is the idea that wood in the earth **grows upward**. In contrast to the meaning of Chin, PROGRESS (35), this pushing upward is associated with **effort**, just as a plant needs **energy** for pushing upward through the earth.

That is why this hexagram, although it is connected with success, is associated with **effort of the will.**

- In PROGRESS the emphasis is on **expansion**;
- PUSHING UPWARD indicates rather a **vertical ascent** - **direct rise**
 - from obscurity and lowliness
 - to power and influence.

THE JUDGMENT

PUSHING UPWARD

has supreme success.

One must see the great man.

Fear not.

Departure toward the south

Brings good fortune.

The pushing upward of the good elements

- encounters **no obstruction** and
- is therefore accompanied by **great success.**

The pushing upward is made possible

- **not by violence**
- **but by modesty and adaptability.**

Since the individual is borne along by the propitiousness of the time, he advances.

He must go to see authoritative people.

He need not be afraid to do this, because success is **assured.**

But

he must set to work, for **activity** (this is the meaning of "the south") brings good fortune.

THE IMAGE

Within the earth, wood grows: The image of PUSHING UPWARD.

Thus the superior man of devoted character

Heaps up small things

In order to achieve something high and great.

- Adapting itself to obstacles and bending around them, wood in the earth grows upward without haste and without rest.

Thus too

- **the superior man**
 - **is devoted in character and**
 - **never pauses in his progress.**

THE LINES

Six at the beginning means:

Pushing upward that meets with confidence

Brings great good fortune.

This is the situation at the **beginning** of ascent.

Just as

- **wood draws** strength for its upward push from the root, which in itself is in the lowest place,
- so
- the power to **rise comes** from this low and obscure station.

- But there is a **spiritual affinity** with the rulers above, and
- this **solidarity** creates the confidence needed to accomplish something.

Nine in the second place means:

If one is sincere,

It furthers one to bring even a small offering.

No blame.

Here a strong man is presupposed.

It is true that

- he does not fit in with his environment, inasmuch as
- he is too brusque and pays too little attention to form.

But as

he is upright in character,

- he meets with response, and
- his lack of outward form does no harm.

Here

- uprightness is the outcome of sound qualities of character, whereas in the corresponding line of the preceding hexagram
- it is the result of innate humility.

Nine in the third place means:

One pushes upward into an empty city,

All obstructions that generally block progress **fall away** here.

Things proceed with **remarkable ease**.

Unhesitatingly one follows this road, in order to **profit** by one's success.

Seen from without, everything seems to be in the **best of order**.

However, no promise of **good fortune** is added.

It is a question **how long** such unobstructed success can last.

But it is wise **not to yield** to such misgivings,

because they only inhibit one's power.

Instead,

the point is to **profit** by the **propitiousness** of the time.

Six in the fifth place means:

Perseverance brings good fortune.

One pushes upward by steps.

When a man is advancing farther and farther,

- it is important for him not to become intoxicated by success.

Precisely when he experiences great success it is necessary

- to remain sober and
- not to try to skip any stages;

- he must go on slowly, step by step, as though hesitant.

Only such calm, steady progress, overleaping nothing, leads to the goal.

Six at the top means:

Pushing upward in darkness.

It furthers one to be unremittingly persevering.

- He who pushes upward blindly deludes himself.

- He knows only advance, not retreat.

But this means exhaustion.

In such a case it is important to be constantly mindful that one

- must be conscientious and consistent and
- must remain so.

Only thus does

one

- become free of blind impulse, which is always harmful.

MOVING HEXAGRAM

HEXAGRAM 42 – I - Increase

Above SUN THE GENTLE, WIND

Below CHEN THE AROUSING, THUNDER

The **idea of increase** is expressed in the fact that

the strong lowest line of the upper trigram

- has sunk down

and

- taken its place under the lower trigram.

This conception also expresses

the fundamental idea on which the Book of Changes is based.

To rule truly is to serve.

A sacrifice of the higher element that produces an increase of the lower is called an out-and-out increase: it indicates the spirit that alone has power to help the world.

THE JUDGMENT

INCREASE.

- It furthers one To undertake something.
- It furthers one to cross the great water.

Sacrifice on the part of those above for the increase of those below

- fills the people with a sense of joy and gratitude that
 - is extremely valuable for the flowering of the commonwealth.
- When people are thus devoted to their leaders,
- undertakings are possible,
- and
- even difficult and dangerous enterprises will succeed.

Therefore in such times of progress and successful development it is necessary to

- work
- and
- make the best use of the time.

This time resembles that of the marriage of heaven and earth, when the earth

- partakes of the creative power of heaven,
- forming and bringing forth living beings.

The time of INCREASE does not endure, therefore it

must be utilized while it lasts.

THE IMAGE

Wind and thunder: the image Of INCREASE.

Thus the superior man:

If

- he sees good,
 - he imitates it;

If

- he has faults,
 - he rids himself of them.

While observing how thunder and wind increase and strengthen each other, a man can note the way to

- self-increase

and

- self-improvement.

When he discovers good in others,
he should

- imitate it

and thus

- make everything on earth his own.

If

- he perceives something bad in himself,
 - let him rid himself of it.

In this way

- he becomes free of evil.

This ethical change represents the most important increase of personality.