China Story - Nanpu Bridge
(The first bridge crossing the Huangpu River in Shanghai)

Part One: Bridge Construction

**Host:** The Huangpu River is the mother river of Shanghai and also has a profound Shanghai cultural background. The people of Shanghai love the Huangpu River and rely on it to aid in the development of the cultural economy. Meanwhile, the Huangpu River is the last significant tributary of the Yangtze before it empties into the East China Sea. The Huangpu River running through Shanghai, divides the city into two parts - Pudong New District (east of the river) and Puxi Area (west of the river). Promoting the development of Pudong and Puxi has become the long standing goal of generations of Shanghai-born residents.

**Narrator:** Completed in 1991, the Nanpu Bridge has realized the Shanghainese dream of flying across the Huangpu River. Before this the only connection between the 2 sides of the Huangpu river, between pudong and puxi, was by ferry. Since then, Shanghai has built 8 bridges and over 10 tunnels on the Huangpu River, including Yangpu Bridge, Xupu Bridge, Lupu Bridge, Xiangyin Road Tunnel, Dalian Road Tunnel, Dapu Road Tunnel, and so forth. These bridges and tunnels have enabled people to cross the river with ease. In addition, the Pudong District has undergone rapid development. Today, you can find a large number of landmarks and buildings within the Pudong District. Both Pudong and Puxi districts maintain a high level of economic prosperity, which has made Shanghai a shining pearl of the east.

**Host:** Today, let’s enjoy the beauty of the Nanpu Bridge, the first bridge crossing the Huangpu River in the 1990s.

Part Two: Bridge Tour

**Host:** Hello, everyone! Now we are en route to the Nanpu Bridge. Soon, you will discover this impressive bridge.

**Host:** What you see here is the approach bridge of Pudong District in the shape of a rectangle, this bridge connects the Pudong South Road and leads to the Yanggao Road.

**Narrator:** The Nanpu Bridge was unveiled on 19 November 1991. Its total length is 8,346 meters, and the total investment exceeds 800 million RMB. For the past 25 years, the Nanpu Bridge has maintained daily traffic of over 45,000 vehicles each day. The people of Shanghai are very proud of owning this modern bridge.

**Host:** Look at that! The main bridge gradually becomes visible. There is a bridge tower on each side of the bank of the main bridge, which is steel and concrete-structured, 150 meters high in the shape of an “H”. Each tower is connected with the main girder suspended by 22 pairs of steel cables, distributing in a circular formation. The main bridge is more than 30 meters wide with 7 vehicle lanes, among which 3 are from Pudong District to Puxi District and 4 are from Puxi District to Pudong District. In the past, the Puxi District was so densely populated that many people chose to cross the river over to Pudong from Puxi. Today, a great number of vehicles come and go, which makes it quite difficult to distinguish in which direction the traffic volume is higher.
Host: Construction of the Nanpu bridge was completed in only 3 years, total! On the girder of the main bridge tower is carved “Nanpu Bridge”, which is written by Mr. Deng Xiaoping. When it comes to the Chinese name of the bridge, every one of the Chinese characters covers an area of 16 square meters.

Narrator: The main bridge is slightly convex and symmetrically structured. It is cable-stayed and has several hundred cables distributed symmetrically on each side. The Nanpu Bridge across the Huangpu River looks like a recumbent harp from a distance. It is a combination of art and architecture, serving with both great functionality and aesthetic joy for Shanghai’s citizens.

Narrator: The steel girder of the main bridge weighs nearly 80 tons. The main bridge is composed of 180 steel cables suspended on the bridge tower. The steel cable has a maximum diameter of up to 146mm. Its length is 223 meters, which is three times the height of the Taj Mahal. All these parameters are second to none in China.

Host: Now we have arrived at the approach bridge of Puxi District. This approach bridge is considered the most unique and fascinating part of the Nanpu Bridge.

Narrator: Spiraling into three circles from top to bottom, the approach bridge of Puxi District looks like a giant spiral dragon.

Host: This spiral-shaped bridge is a rollercoaster for our car. When we look outside the window, the constantly-changing bridge height and centrifugal force makes everyone feel like we are flowing smoothly through the air.

Host: The nightlife sceneries along the bridge are more attractive with colorful lighting system. A countless number of vehicles are passing through the bridge. The Nanpu Bridge across Huangpu River has witnessed the rapid development of Pudong District. It still makes me feel magnificent at this moment. The grace and beauty of this technological and aesthetic monument are a point of great civic pride.