

CHIN 203: Advanced Intermediate Chinese

AHS Capstone Presentation
Fall 2007

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What is Language?

Merriam-Webster's:

1.
 - (a) the words, their pronunciation, and the methods of combining them used and understood by a community
 - (b) audible, articulate, meaningful sound as produced by the action of the vocal organs
2. a systematic means of communicating ideas or feelings by the use of conventionalized signs, sounds, gestures, or marks having understood meanings

What we did not learn

- Very little focus on the first definition
 - Class geared for native speakers
 - Absolutely no emphasis on pronunciation
 - Class taught almost exclusively in Chinese

Learning Format

- Initially one Chapter per week
 - ~50 vocabulary phrases per week
 - ~5 grammar patterns
- How we spent the time:
 - One day of reading
 - One day of vocabulary
 - One day of grammar
 - One day review

Traditional or Simplified?

qìng: to celebrate

Part of my name:

慶 versus 安庆

Zeng qing an

爲了學理工，我來到這裡上大學。

为了学理工，我来到这裡上大学。

In order to study engineering, I came here to go to college.

What did we learn?

- Literacy
 - Grammar Structure
 - Reading
 - Roughly 10,000 Chinese Characters
 - Need to know about 4,000 to comfortably read
 - Writing
 - Simplified versus Traditional
 - ~~Stroke order~~
 - Etymology

Sample Etymology

Pronunciation: dǎi
Meaning: broken bones



Pronunciation: yòu
Meaning: right hand
(Pictograph)

Pronunciation: cān

Pronunciation: shí
Meaning: food

Meaning: eat/meal

我們去了餐館吃飯。

Wo men qu le can guan chi fan.

餐館

晚餐

餐桌

We went to the restaurant to eat.

cān guǎn

wǎn cān

cān zhuō

Restaurant

Dinner

Table

How did we learn?

- Visual
 - Readings
 - Flash cards
 - Essays
 - Chalkboard exercises
 - Translation
- Auditory
 - Role Playing
 - Presentations
 - 聽寫

What did I get?

- Literacy
- Comfort in speaking
- Importance of practice
- Humility