# 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?

qing: to celebrate



Zeng qing an

爲了學理工, 我來到這裡上大學。

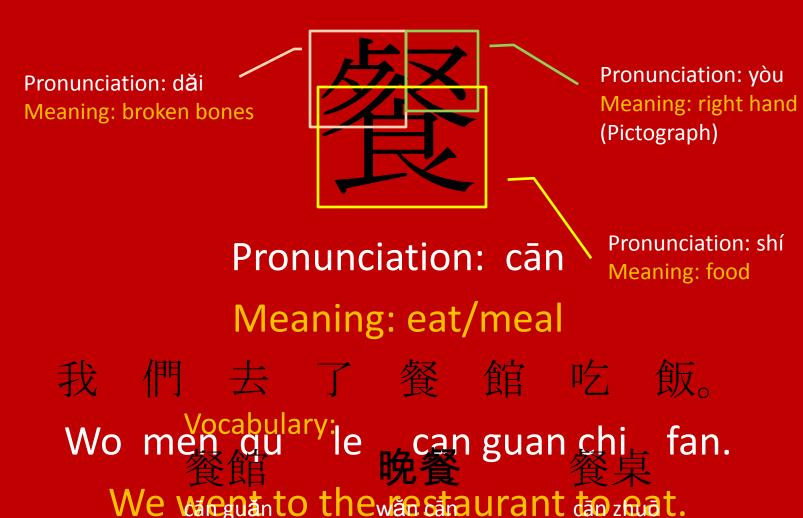
为了学理工,我来到这里上大学。

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



Dinner

**Table** 

Restaurant

#### 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