



A Level Mandarin

为什么学汉语？ Why study Chinese?

了解中国文化， 历史和社会 To expand our knowledge of Chinese culture, history and society

更有效的交流沟通 To become a well-informed and effective communicator.

发展自我学习和研究的能力 To develop independent studying and research skills.

更精准的运用汉字和语法 To develop precision in manipulating Chinese characters and grammar.

提高分析和细节观察能力 To increase analytical skills and attention to detail.

欣赏和比较中英文化和社会 To appreciate the differences and similarities between Chinese and British cultures and societies.

Topics areas

1 Family

2 Young people

3 Education

4 The media

5 Work and leisure

6 Equality of opportunity

课程活动 - Activities you will be involved in :

- Debates on a range of issues.
- Role plays.
- Presentations.
- Translations into and from Chinese.
- Researching cultural, sociological, geographical or historical issues and topics.
- Interviews.
- Chinese films analysis and critique.
- Reading authentic texts in Chinese.
- Memorising a wide range of characters.
- Exploring the internet for appropriate materials in Chinese.

如何准备- How to prepare for the course

- Practise writing Higher vocabulary characters from memory.
 - Throughout the summer, write a simple diary (2-3 sentences a day) to keep writing all the key characters you have learnt to date. Vary your structures and vocabulary as much as possible.
- Revise and practise Higher GCSE vocabulary and grammar.
 - organise your GCSE vocabulary into flashcards, mindmaps or lists (depending on what works well for you). Review it regularly.
 - log onto www.vocabexpress.com to practise the GCSE higher vocabulary.
- Start collecting articles about China in newspapers and on the internet. The following free websites will be useful in keeping you aware of current affairs and social issues in China:
 - <http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/china/index.html>
 - www.bbc.co.uk (select World news, then Asia)
 - www.independent.co.uk (select World news, then Asia)
 - www.telegraph.co.uk (select World news, then China)
 - www.guardian.co.uk (select World news, then China)
- Use the internet to find and watch Mandarin Chinese TV programmes, news or films. The following websites will be useful to practise your Chinese listening and reading skills:
 - <http://english.cntv.cn/learnchinese/> short video lessons that are normally broadcast on Chinese TV. Choose a programme series from the Beginners or the Intermediate Learners box.
 - <http://english.cntv.cn/news/china/> TV news about China in English.
 - <http://cctvnews.cntv.cn/index.shtml> A portal that allows you to access the state Chinese TV channels, including a film channel, music, Beijing Opera...
 - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/zhongwen/simp/> BBC news in Chinese.
- It is advisable, but by no means compulsory to buy a Mandarin Chinese Dictionary. However, due to the expense involved, we suggest you first make use of online dictionaries such as <http://www.nciku.com/> or <http://www.mdbg.net/>, both of which give you access to example sentences and pronunciation audio files, before making such a purchase.
- Similarly, you might find it useful to purchase a grammar reference book, though this is not compulsory. If you wish to do so, we recommend
« **Modern Mandarin Chinese Grammar – a practical grammar** », Claudia Ross and Jing-Heng Sheng Ma, Routledge (ISBN 978-0-415-70010-8 for the paperback).
- Build basic knowledge of Chinese modern history, so as to have a simple frame of reference that will help you understand the background to some of the issues discussed in texts. The following websites are both useful and simple:
 - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-13017877> a good overview of China, including history and economy
 - http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/timelines/china_timeline.htm a clear, if a bit dry, history timeline.
 - <http://www.britishmuseum.org/pdf/Comparative%20timeline.pdf> a comparative, very simplified, history timeline showing the history of China in parallel to the world.

Further information: Fan Yang (Teacher of Mandarin)