

# **CCLTC Annual Spring Professional Development Workshop**

## **April 9, 2011**

### **A Sample Lesson Plan on Teaching ‘Culture’ in the Chinese Language Classrooms**

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**Subject:** Chopsticks

**Goals:**

- To introduce to the students Basic Chopsticks Etiquette
- To expose students to chopsticks usage
- To learn the Chinese characters “筷子” and measure word “双，雙”

**Time for the lesson:** 30-40 minutes

**Level:** 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and above

**Materials:**

- A short video on “How to use chopsticks” (A good one is a 3:42 Youtube video with the same title.)
- Sets of chopsticks
- Pompoms of different sizes and colors
- Paper plates or bowls
- Chinese table setting realias
- Food items if permissible by your school

**Procedures:**

1. Show and ask students to do some movements, such as walking, running in place, waving. Command them to be SLOW and FAST in Chinese, emphasizing the pronunciation of FAST “kuai”
2. Introducing the object and written characters “筷子”. Connecting the meaning of 快 (fast) with the pronunciation of chopsticks and the possibility of chopsticks was invented to make eating faster, thus called the name with a bamboo radical. (Higher grades can add an extended character writing activity.)
3. Read some questions for the video to remind students the attention points.
4. Show the short video
5. Ask questions about the video and have a classroom discussion
6. Distribute chopsticks
7. Show how to use chopsticks
8. Let students practice using chopsticks using pompoms. Ask students who already know how to use chopsticks to help.

**Assessment:**

- Written test on chopsticks etiquette as well as the written characters and origin of “筷子”
- Have a presentation on how to use chopsticks.

Some questions to the students after showing video:

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Some questions to ask students after showing video:

(These can also be use as part of the assessment.)

1. Why do we rub wooden disposable chopsticks together before using them?
2. Which end of chopsticks is for picking up food, narrow end or broad end?
3. Which is **not** a good practice when dishing out food from the serving plate or bowl? Why?
  - a) Use serving chopsticks or spoon
  - b) Use the broad end of one's own chopsticks
  - c) Use the narrow end of one's own chopsticks
4. Where should one rest his/her chopsticks?
  - a) On the edge of one's own bowl
  - b) On the chopstick stand
  - c) Any where convenient
5. Which is considered bad manner when using chopsticks?
  - a) Do not finish all the food in your bowl
  - b) Digging around in the serving plate or bowl to find your choice
  - c) Picking up food by stabbing at it
  - d) All of the above
6. True or false? Never stick and rest chopsticks in a bowl because it is a funeral ritual and is considered a symbol of death.