

International Children Basic Chinese Reading Contest



11th - 20th
August 2023

Progress thru' Competitions

Healthy competitions give us a benchmark to measure our progress and compare ourselves to others. They help us identify where we need to improve and set new goals.

We are more likely to make mistakes in competitions. These mistakes provide valuable feedback for us to learn and grow, ultimately improving our abilities.

The desire to win is a powerful motivator that drives us to put in extra effort and take our skills to the next level.

Competitions help us grow~



Contest Spirit

To acknowledge children's effort and achievements.

Awards and prizes as extra motivation for children to learn Chinese.

Provide parents with the guideline of the 4 basic elements in language learning: word recognition, comprehension, listening, and reading aloud.

Contests push children forward~



Contest Spirit

Provide children with guidelines to studying Chinese.

Promote children's overall interest in learning with various activities.

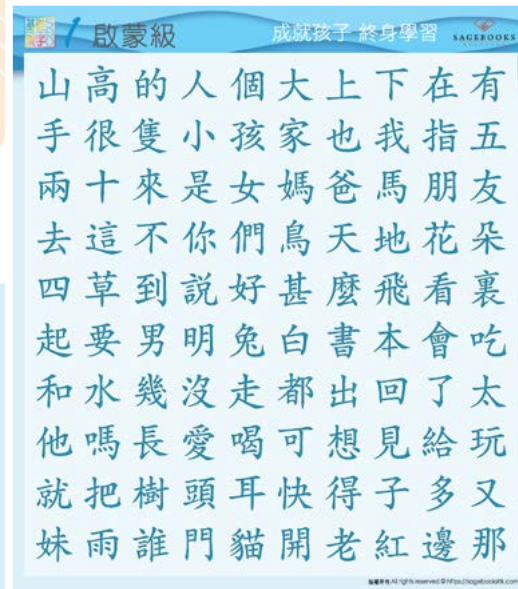
Contests push children forward~



Scope

字 (characters)

The first 200 characters of the Basic Chinese 500 course - Beginning Reader and Budding Reader.



Beginning





Scope

Beginning

詞 (words)

Basic words that are formed from the above-mentioned 200 characters, within the grasp of a 5-year-old. These include nouns, verbs, adjectives, exclamations, questions and particles.

水手

人像

又高又大

看書

跑得快

花園

河馬



Scope

Beginning

句 (sentences)

Short sentences of 5-13 characters, including punctuation marks such as commas, question marks, full-stops and exclamation marks.

你知道嗎？

小魚要找媽媽。

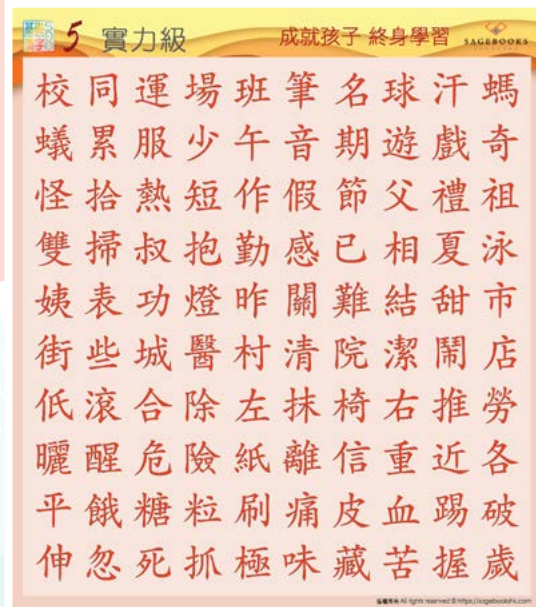
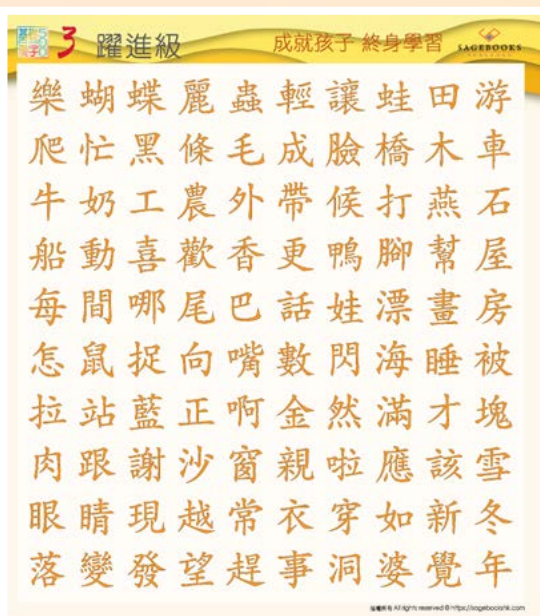
他愛聽笑話，也愛吃東西。



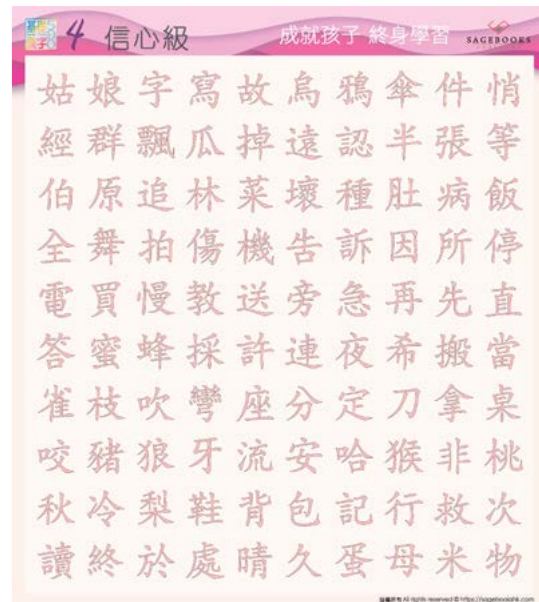
Scope

字 (characters)

The 200 characters of the Beginning Group, plus the 201-500 characters of the Basic Chinese 500 course (i.e. all 500 characters of the course).



Progressing





Scope

Progressing

詞 (words)

Basic words that are formed from the above-mentioned 500 characters, within the grasp of a lower primary student (under 8). These include nouns, verbs, adjectives, idioms, exclamations, questions and particles.

毛筆

怪物

光明正大

假話

常綠樹

昨天

經常



Scope

Progressing

句 (sentences)

Short sentences of about 20 characters (max 25 characters), plus punctuation marks.

小心不要發生危險。

如果吃飯前不先洗手，
就會肚子痛。

大街上人山人海，十分熱鬧。



Format & Content

There are 4 sections in each group.

Reading &
matching

Fill in the
blanks

Listening

Reading
aloud

Language version choices:

Simplified Chinese or **Traditional Chinese**

Listening and Reading aloud choices:

Cantonese or **Putonghua**



Format & Content

Beginning

Reading & matching (8)

- Read and comprehend common words
- Choose the correct answer from 2 images



Format & Content

Beginning

Fill in the blanks (5)

- Read a sentence for each question, which contains one blank.
- Choose the correct character from two given choices to fill in the blank.



Format & Content

Beginning

Listening (5)

- There are 1 audio clip and 2 sentences in each question.
- Listen to the audio. You can listen to the audio up to a total of 3 times.
- Choose the sentence you heard.



Format & Content

Beginning

Reading aloud (5)

- Read a sentence for each question.
- Read the sentence out loud, record and upload the reading with the help of a parent.



Format & Content

Progressing

Reading & matching (12)

- Read and comprehend common words
- Choose the correct answer from 2 images



Format & Content

Progressing

Fill in the blanks (8)

- Read a sentence for each question, which contains 1–2 blanks. The sentence may include idioms and expressions.
- Choose the correct characters, from two sets of given choices, to fill in the blanks.



Format & Content

Progressing

Listening (8)

- There are 1 audio clip and 2 sentences in each question.
- Listen to the audio. You can listen to the audio up to a total of 3 times.
- Choose the sentence you heard.



Format & Content

Progressing

Reading aloud (8)

- Read a sentence in each question.
- Read the sentence out loud, record and upload the reading with the help of a parent.



Awards & Prizes

Awards & Prizes for each group (individuals)

- **Champion (1):** HK\$3800 (~US\$500) + cup + certificate
- **1st runner-up (1):** HK\$2000 (~US\$250) + cup + certificate
- **2nd runner-up (1):** HK\$800 (~US\$100) + cup + certificate
- **Gold [Top 10%]:** medal + certificate
- **Silver [Top 11%–25%]:** medal + certificate
- **Bronze [Top 26%–50%]:** medal + certificate
- **Excellence award:** gift + certificate

* There are separate group awards for schools and institutions.

「養兵千日，用在一朝。」

[lit.] Train an army for a thousand days to use it for one morning.

[fig.] Extensive preparation eventually pays off.

How confident are you?



Strategise

Why do you want your child to join the contest?

An external target with a set date to motivate my child's study.

My child can build a strong CV for their future.

To win awards, prizes and cash.

Mindset



Strategise

Why do you want your child to join the contest?

To test my child's current level in Chinese.

To prove my child's abilities and help them build confidence.

For my child to gain exposure and experience in competitions.

Mindset



Strategise

Set

S



Specific

明確的

M



Measurable

可衡量的

A



Achievable

可達成的

R



Realistic

務實的

T



Timely

有時限的

Goals

Mindset



Strategise

Set

S

M

A

R

T

Goals

Specific

明確的

Specific requirements are set for each group and each section.

Mindset



Strategise

Set

S

M

A

R

T

Goals

Measurable 可衡量的

Set up study plans for your child (refer to the case studies below). Measure their progress regularly.

Mindset



Strategise

Set

S

M

A

R

T

Goals

Achievable 可達成的

By learning a lesson a day and one new character each day, your child can easily achieve the goals.

Mindset



Strategise

Set

S

M

A

R

T

Goals

Realistic

務實的

Check your child's current level with the Contest date in mind. Can your child achieve the goal if they learn one new character each day? Refer to the suggestions in the case studies.

Mindset



Strategise

Set

S

M

A

R

T

Goals

Timely

有時限的

From now until the end of the Contest,
this is a timely project.

Mindset



Strategise

Case study

Case Study 1

My child knows many words, but has never studied Basic Chinese 500.

Read Treasure Box stories to assess their level; if your child can read and understand all the stories in Beginning and Budding Readers, enter the Beginning Group. If they can accomplish all 5 levels, enter the Progressing Group.

Level check



Strategise

Case study

Case Study 2

My child is currently on Building Reader.

Come and challenge the Beginning Group this year. Don't forget to keep learning so they can enter the Progressing Group next year!

Level check



Strategise

Case study

Case Study 3

My child is on Fluent Reader (or has graduated).

What are you waiting for? Come and join the Progressing Group contest now. Finish the course, practise with the Treasure Box stories and do the preparatory exercises: the prize could easily be yours!

Level check



Skilled craftsmen know

Tools

... the importance of good tools

From learning and practising, to participating in contests...

good preparation helps your child **build confidence**,

reduce stress and most importantly,

it improves their overall language development!



Skilled craftsmen know

Basic tools

Beginning learning course

- > Basic Chinese 500: Beginning Reader & Budding Reader
- > Treasure Box: Beginning Reader & Budding Reader

was ~~HK\$1464~~

NOW HK\$1287

[Buy NOW](#)

Progressing learning course

- > Basic Chinese 500 full set
- > Treasure Box full set
- > Idioms in Comic full set
- > Flip-Flop Fun

was ~~HK\$3968~~

NOW HK\$3487

[Buy NOW](#)



Skilled craftsmen know

Practice tools

Focused practice (Beginning / Progressing)

- Reading & matching - vocabulary course
- Fill in the blanks - reading & grammar course
- Listening course
- Read aloud course

(*Focused practice are online courses)

[Shop Focused Practice Courses](#)



重要日期 **Key dates**

1st May – Focused practice courses open

30th June – Registration closes

11th Aug – Contest starts

20th Aug – Contest ends



Entry requirements

Two groups of the Contest:

Beginning Group

1. DOB: 11 Dec 2018 – 11 Feb 2019
2. Learnt 200 Chinese characters.

Progressing Group

1. DOB: 11 Feb 2016 – 10 Dec 2018
2. Learnt 500 Chinese characters.



Regulations

1. The contest is organised by Sagebooks Hongkong (SBHK), under the guidance and supervision of the International Institute of Chinese Studies for Children (IICSC), together as “the organiser”.
2. The contest will be online.
3. The contestants must register for entry within the application period.
 - a. Each contestant may only enter once a year.
 - b. Each contestant will have the option to choose, at the time of registration, to compete in:
 - i. Traditional Chinese or Simplified Chinese, and
 - ii. Putonghua or CantoneseThese choices cannot be changed after registration.
4. There will be a non-refundable entry registration fee. The registration fee can be used as rebate when purchasing designated books or courses.
5. The contest will run over a specific period of 10 days, providing contestants time flexibility.
6. Once started, the contestants will have 60 minutes to complete all tasks.
7. While parents are expected to assist contestants with operation and technical issues, they must not provide answers or clues. Any cheating will result in disqualification.
8. The following software and hardware are required for the Contest: the latest Edge/Chrome browser (with language settings matching the target language for the Contest for proper display of text), a webcam and a microphone that are connected to your computer for capturing video and audio of your performance during the whole process of the Contest.
9. All personal data collected will be handled in a manner strictly adhering to our privacy policy and data collection policy.
10. ID proof of the child (DOB and school) will be required at the time of issuing certificate. The child’s full name as shown on the ID proof will be printed on the certificate.
11. The organiser’s decisions regarding qualification and results shall be final.



Assessments

1. Contestant's answers will be checked against the model answers, and points will be awarded accordingly.
2. Highest score wins.
3. In the event of 2 or more contestants achieving the same score, the one who completed all the questions in the least amount of time will win.



FAQ Ask it

[Click or tap here to ask your questions.](#)



Application

(click/tap to apply)

Introducing...

思展SUPER教學法

*Sagebooks SUPER learning

Scientific 科學化

Contestants are assessed based on their reading and comprehension abilities of the commonly used modern Chinese words. The two groups are adapted to children's language and cognitive developments.

Understand 易於理解

The Contest includes words, sentences and punctuation which are within the curriculum of Basic Chinese 500. It aims to encourage children to practise what they have learnt.

Professional 專業系統化學習

The Contest is designed by professionals in child education and linguistics. It focuses on the four fundamental skills of language study, in a scientific and systematic way.

Entertaining 寓學習於娛樂

The Contest is a game that motivates children to apply what they have learnt, to engage in practising and to have fun. The questions are creative and interesting.

Read to Learn 從閱讀養成終生學習

The child exercises autonomy in the Contest. Alongside language skills, they also learn time management, gain experience and build confidence through this process. They become better life-long learners.

思展使命宣言 Sagebooks Mission

**教育三百萬兒童學會漢字
認讀及閱讀理解**

**To teach 3 million children to
read and write Chinese**

成就孩子 終身學習

Learn to Read Read to Learn

[Apply Now](#)



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HONGKONG