

Learning Chinese
Characters
and Culture

CARDS and the NET



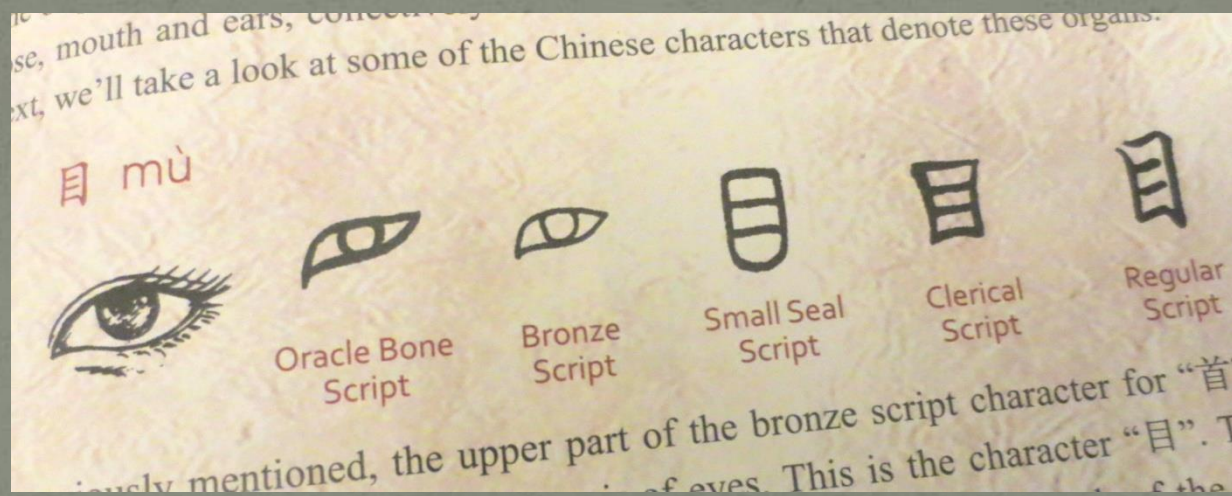
Character cards

- Students can make cards themselves
 - By drawing pictures of the characters



From scarcity to creativity

- Teacher can creatively use material to make cards
 - "most common" character lists
 - Radical lists
 - Giving life to old "useless" books



Old familiar games are easy to play...

- Pictionary, memory games, alias etc.
- Students can create new ways to play
- Students can play whenever they're ready with other tasks and play in pairs or small group or the whole class can play together

What can be learned?

- Most common pictographic characters
- Radicals
- Learning to "see" the different parts of the characters
- Memory techniques and rules
- Non-verbal communication
- Aspects of Chinese culture, society and geography
- Social skills, group work, discipline
- Creativity



Limits



- Separate characters without context must be complemented with reading of texts
- Organizing and making "Hundreds / thousands of cards" is time-consuming

QR-codes

- Adding internet dimension to the game
- You can link pictures, videos, text...anything that can be found on the internet
- A good way to teach cultural contents
- Path to authentic materials
- iPads and smartphones can read QR-codes



Creating and reading QR-codes

- QR-code generator:
<https://www.the-qr-code-generator.com/>
- Free QR-code readers for iPad and smartphones
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qr-reader-for-iphone/id368494609?mt=8>
- Flickr for storing photographs
- Fronter or other learning platforms