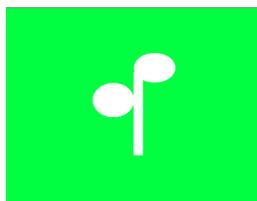


RENREN CHINESE 人人中文



CHIEF EDITOR

**SHERRY
ZHU**

JOINT EFFORTS OF

JEAN CHENG

LU LEE

XUEJUN YANG

SHAOPING

ZHANG

Ray Chinese School
P.O.Box 4018
Naperville, IL 60567

630-401-9851
rcsonline@yahoo.com

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CHINESE LEARNERS

书法

Chinese Calligraphy

Chinese Calligraphy

In China, calligraphy occupies a distinguished position in the field of traditional art. It is not only a means of communication, but also a means of expressing a person's inner world in an aesthetic sense.

Ancient people paid great attention to calligraphy. It was the essential whereby a candidate could manifest his literary talent in the Imperial Examination, for it gave a first impression to the examiners. Children of high officials had to learn and try to write a good hand; even emperors themselves were good at calligraphy, for example, the versatile Emperor Qianlong in the Qing Dynasty (1644 – 1911) has left us many examples of his handwriting on steles in temples and palaces.

Four Treasures of the Study

The writing brush, ink stick, paper and ink slab (stone) are the four traditional implements and materials for writing and painting in China. These four stationery items are called “Four Treasures of the Study” in China. Each of the four items is represented by its best, the Xuan Paper, Hui ink stick, Hu brush and Duan ink slab are highly valued by Chinese.

Once the brush movement hesitates, a black mark is created, so speed, strength and agility is the essence of fine artwork. When writing, many calligraphers will forget all worries and even themselves, combining all thoughts in the beauty of their art. Thus it can be compared with Qigong, which also can mold and improve a person's temper and promote well being.



What's in a Chinese Character

What's in a Chinese Character



Word of the Month



5 strokes

Written character

白色 : white color

明白 : understand

As the sun (日) peeps above the horizon its very first ray begins to dispel the shadowy haze of night. Hence 白: the symbol for clear, white or plain. Man easily understands anything that is bright (明) and clear(白), so “bright and clear” means to understand (明白).



Practice Chinese Characters here:

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RCS Calendar and Holidays

November 2011

日	一	二	三	四	五	六
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	Thanks-giving	25	no Chinese School
no Chinese School	28	29	30			

December 2011

日	一	二	三	四	五	六
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	Last day of fall semester
Last day of fall semester	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Thanksgiving In China

Culture Express

Thanksgiving is a unique American holiday, but the idea of an annual celebration to thank God for his bounty stretches back in time and around the world.



Like many American cultural activities, the Thanksgiving holiday that originated in the United States is catching on in China -- slowly. It is mainly celebrated amongst Canadians and Americans who live in China, and by some teachers who teach about the holiday. But the kids and adults reinterpret the day to be a day for giving thanks to their parents, teachers, friends and other people.

In China, many North Americans like to have a Thanksgiving meal and invite their local friends and workmates. However, finding turkey is problematical in most cities unless there are foreign-oriented stores there. So people usually roast geese or chicken instead. In many of the best international hotels, turkey can often be found on Thanksgiving Day. New Chinese supermarkets in the big cities may also stock frozen turkey.

gǎn ēn jié kuài lè

感恩节快乐!



Jokes for Thanksgiving



Q: Who is not hungry at Thanksgiving?

A: *The turkey because he's already stuffed!*

Q: In what country is Thanksgiving ironically not celebrated?

A: *Turkey*