Experience Chinese Culture: Chinese Language and Confucianism

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Outline

1. Chinese Language/ Chinese calligraphy
2. Confucius: Education, Family and Chinese Society
3. Experience Chinese Culture: Two Students’ Samples
The art of writing Chinese characters is called Chinese calligraphy
CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY IS USUALLY DONE WITH INK BRUSHES.
EACH CHARACTER HAS A SET NUMBER OF BRUSHSTROKES
Experience Culture
Calligraphy was the means by which scholars could mark their thoughts and personalities.
汉字的数量相当多。据统计，目前常用的汉字有两千五百多个。因此中国的学生学习读书写字要用很长时间。除此之外汉字笔画很多，有时超过二三十笔书写麻烦。为此，大陆从五十年代起推行简体字。大陆的出版物都使用简体字，然而台湾仍然使用繁体字。
Part II

Confucius: Family and Chinese Society
What is education’s goal?

孔子
Kong Fū zǐ
Confucius

Study for higher status

--- Learning Goal is to be a Government Official

U.S. - Critical Thinking
Confucianism

- Education: Confucianism believes that human beings are teachable.

- Family: Confucianism focuses on the family Harmony
1. The imperial examination was a civil service examination system in Imperial China to select candidates for the state bureaucracy.

2. Although there were imperial exams as early as the Han dynasty, the system became the major path to office only in the mid-Tang dynasty, and remained so until its abolition in 1905.

3. Positive: This common culture helped to unify the empire and the ideal of achievement by merit gave legitimacy to imperial rule.

4. Negative: Since the exams were based on knowledge of the classics and literary style, not technical expertise, successful candidates were generalists who shared a common language and culture.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Chinese</th>
<th>科舉</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Simplified Chinese</td>
<td>科举</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vietnamese name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese alphabet</td>
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<tr>
<td>khoa cử</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hán-Nôm</td>
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<tr>
<td>科舉</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Korean name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hangul</td>
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<td>Hanja</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Japanese name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hiragana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyūjitai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shinjitai</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# Daily Class Schedule, First Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00-7:30</td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30-7:45</td>
<td><strong>Self-study</strong></td>
<td><strong>Self-study</strong></td>
<td><strong>Self-study</strong></td>
<td><strong>Self-study</strong></td>
<td><strong>Self-study</strong></td>
<td><strong>Self-study</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45-8:00</td>
<td><strong>Aerobics</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aerobics</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aerobics</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aerobics</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aerobics</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aerobics</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00-8:45</td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:50-9:35</td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:45</td>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:50-11:35</td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Music</strong></td>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:35-13:30</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30-14:15</td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td><strong>Drawing Class</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>No class</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chinese</strong></td>
<td><strong>Drawing class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:25-15:10</td>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
<td><strong>No class</strong></td>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:20-15:50</td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>No class</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cleaning</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The class cadre system

- Given authority to control other students
- Causes bully behavior
Teaching Method

- Teacher-centered, Exam-centered, Students are listeners.
- Parents’ Roles: Authority and Tiger Mom
• Chinese students spend a lot more time in textbooks compared to American students

• China: College Test, Two days, One time per year
Chinese Educational Backgrounds (1)

- Elementary School: 6 years
- Junior High: 3 years
- High school is 3 years.
- Class size: 42 ~ 50
High Schools in China

In school they memorized and Recited Confucian philosophy

• After they complete senior middle school they have to take a College Test
Chinese Educational Backgrounds (3)

- Study focus is CCT (Chinese College Test). Whole city uses the same test to determine the high test.

- If the test score is below the line, students must pay a high price.
Relationship

- Networking/relationship/Guan xi: 关系

- China: Values the kinship.
  --- In China it’s difficult to find opportunity.

- U.S.: Values friendship.
  ---- Obama and Arne Duncan (Friends in Chicago and Basketball).
Comparison and Saving Face?

-- Comparison for saving face value.

- Compare brothers and sisters
- Asian students accept the American way to not compare each other in public. They don’t like to compare with others
- **US teachers** praise students a lot. “I know you can do better” “I am disappointed in you”
- **Chinese teachers** criticize “You are not smart” “you test scores are the worst in the class”.

--- Chinese teach thought that if teacher praise too much the students could not figure out their weaknesses and become arrogant.
Punishment Vs. Encouragement?

- U.S.: Grounded.
- China: Take away that you already have.

- U.S.: Should be nice and receive a award. Students only give punishment if they are very disruptive.
- China: Beating kids is not abuse in China, no legal protection.
  
  No punishment how to get your kids to have good behavior?
Confucianism is humanistic philosophy that believes that human beings are teachable, improvable and perfectible through personal and communal endeavor.

Confucianism focuses on the cultivation of virtue and maintenance of ethics, the most basic of which are ren, yi, and li.

Harmony Family and Society
Part III

Experience Chinese Culture
What to do in Beijing

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mptgbtMCtC
The Great Wall 长城 (chángchéng)

- The New Seven Wonders of the World 世界新七大奇迹 (Shì jiè xīn qī dà qí jī)
- The World Cultural Heritage List in 1987
- Rises and falls with the contours of the mountains spanning westwards
- Crossing nine provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions over 6,700 kilometers (4163.19 miles)
- Comprises walls, passes, watchtowers, castles and fortresses
Two Students’ Cultural Samples

- #1 Cheng Du
- #2 Taiwan