

My MEP Projects

Project: Learning Chinese Through Technology

Project Series: ICT

Time: 1 Week



Name: _____

Choose this Project because it is fun and because it will teach you lots of useful ways to look up words on the internet, a tablet or a smartphone. You will also discover amazing tools that will help take your Chinese to new levels!

By completing this Project, you will earn 1 Badge. Remember to tick the box at the bottom of every Task you complete.

Go for it!

1. Learning Chinese keyboard input

- Find a computer OR tablet for this task.
- If it runs on **Windows**, search Youtube for the tutorial called 'How To Add Chinese Keyboard on Windows 10' (**0:43** minutes long).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOpSLXrp-I4>

If you don't have Windows 10, try searching for 'How to type Chinese in Windows 7' (or 8). Mac users, keep reading.

If you're using a **Mac**, search for the Youtube tutorial: 'How to Type Chinese on a Mac' (**3:09** minutes long, roughly the 9th video down).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVx3ZpK42DY>

The video thumbnail should look like this:



- Try installing Chinese input yourself. **Don't worry** if you can't get it to work! Just try your best.
- Open Word or Pages and type a short text about yourself in characters.
- Save the document.
- Make a note in the box below if you had any problems installing the keyboard or typing in Chinese.

Problems with the keyboard or typing?

★	Task 1 complete	
---	-----------------	--

2. Online dictionaries and smartphone apps

Many people don't realise how many great tools there are to help them improve their Chinese skills. *You* are going to be one of the lucky ones who know tons!

- a. Go to Youtube and search for a video called 'Top Tech Tips for Chinese Learners' (6:47 minutes long).
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHqZi4EO80o>
- b. Watch the video and note down the names of the different apps and websites introduced in the box below.

Names of apps	Names of websites

- c. If you have a smartphone or tablet, download Pleco (if your phone is full, you might need to delete things like pictures or music, but it's worth it!). If you don't have a smartphone, use MDBG on a computer (<https://www.mdbg.net/chindict/chindict.php>).
- d. Now, look up the following words and write down the Chinese characters and pinyin in the box provided.

NOTE: On Pleco, some words have a character in brackets – use that one as it is simplified Chinese, which you are learning! For example, mobile phone is 手機 (-机), so use 手 with 机.

English 英文	Chinese 中文	Pinyin 拼音
Mobile phone		
Online		
Computer		

★ Task 2 complete



3. Getting playful

Try out as many of the apps and websites from the previous exercise as you can. Get to know them a little and then make notes about your experiences in any of the relevant boxes below. For example, you could say why you like one of the apps, or what you managed to do with it.

Pleco

Strokes Order

Pinyin Trainer

Google Translate (app)

MDBG

Google Translate (website)

Perapera

★ Task 3 complete

4. Challenge: from English to stroke order!

Open the app called **Strokes Order**. Look at the three words you searched for on **page 2 (mobile phone, online, computer)** and use the pinyin to find the correct stroke order for the words. Write each word out three times with the right stroke order.

OR, if you are working on a PC, go to <http://ce.linedict.com/> and type the pinyin word, click search, then click on 'strokes', and you will see a stroke order animation.

<i>Mobile phone</i>					
<i>Online</i>					
<i>Computer</i>					

★ Task 4 complete

5. E-Challenge

Using Pleco or MDBG, see if you can figure out which order these four blocks need to go in to make sense? Then turn the page to complete the challenge!

电子 diànzǐ

件 jiàn

发 fā

邮 yóu

- a. Copy out the five characters in the correct order without pinyin:

- b. What does it mean in English? _____

- c. Now try and read the phrase out loud FOUR times. Non-Chinese speakers probably won't have a clue what you're saying! 😊

★ Task 5 complete

6. Super challenge

Below are some Chinese words that might be used when people speak about technology. Your challenge is to find the English and pinyin for as many of them as possible. Some you may know already, others may require you to **use the handwriting function** in an app or on a website.

玩儿电脑游戏	Pinyin:
	English:

很快	Pinyin:
	English:

上网	Pinyin:
	English:

网吧	Pinyin:
	English:

新闻	Pinyin:
	English:

地图	Pinyin:
	English:

方便	Pinyin:
	English:

★	Task 6 complete	
---	-----------------	--

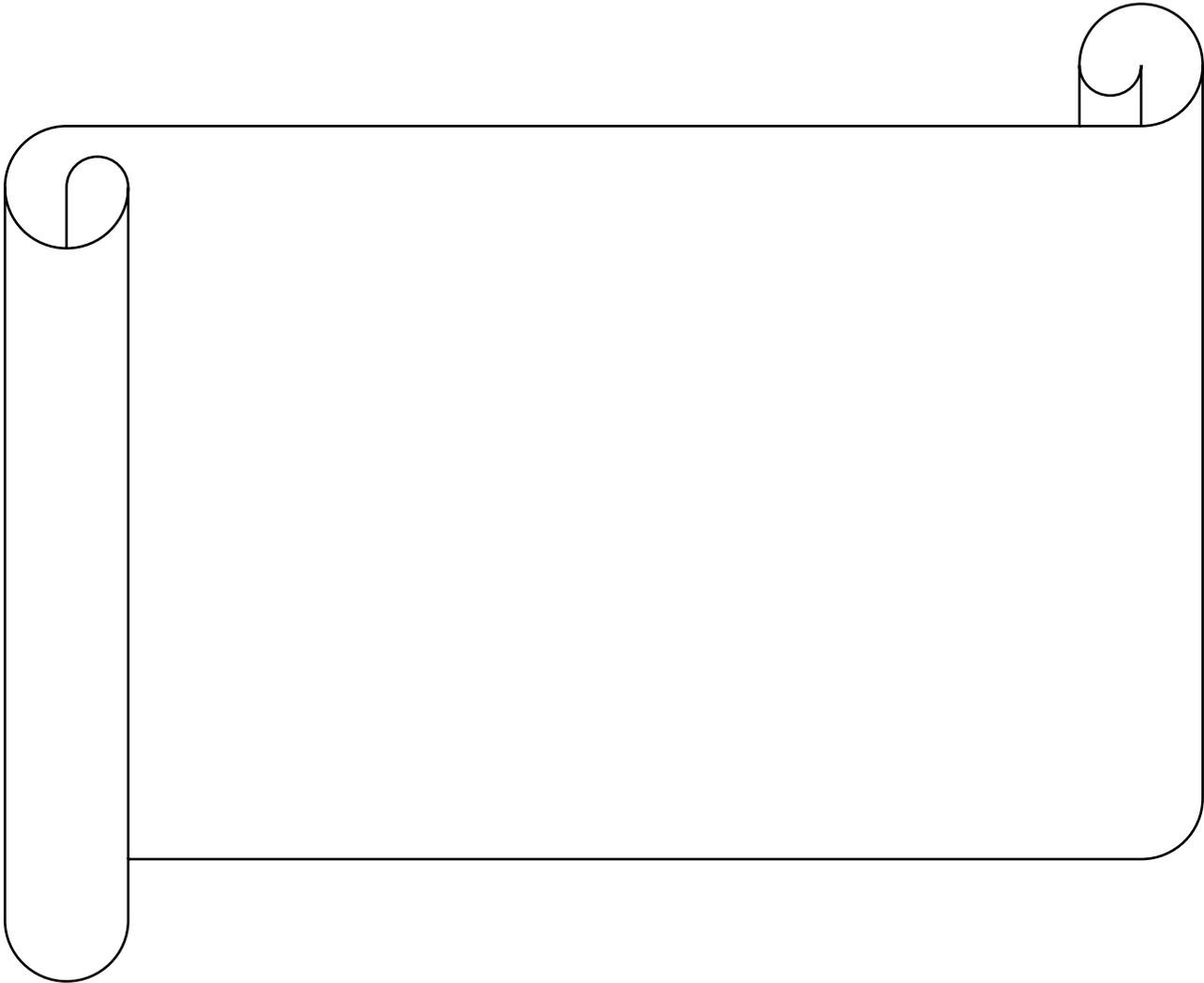
7. Flashcards to the Rescue!

Flashcards are a *brilliant* way to master new vocab quickly. **Download the Quizlet app or go to www.quizlet.com.** If you can, create an account and see if you can figure out how to make your own flashcard course for as many of the words in **Tasks 5 and 6** as you were able to find. Now try studying with your flashcards!

★	Task 7 complete	
---	-----------------	--

8. Freestyling

- a. Visit the ~~extraordinary~~ Hacking Chinese website at: <http://www.hackingchinese.com/>. Add this site to your favourites. You'll want to re-visit it soon!
- b. Click on 'Resources', then 'Beginner'. Scroll down and spend any remaining time you have exploring the many wonderful resources you will find there.
- c. Make any notes on the scroll below of cool things you find or want to go back to one day.



☆	Task 8 complete	
---	-----------------	--

Well done!



太棒了!

Your Achievements

Congratulations on completing 1 MEP Project!

- You can now use a smartphone and/or PC to look up and learn new words
- You have the power to perform many, if not all, of the following feats:
 - Typing in Chinese and texting in Chinese on a smartphone
 - Finding a character just from pinyin or English
 - Finding out the stroke order and pinyin of a character
 - Drawing in a character to look it up
 - Finding the English meaning of a character you have never seen before
- You may know how to make flashcards for new vocab topics you learn in class
- You know about an enviable number of awesome language apps and websites that will make you 'victorious' in times of need!

Finally, list your **four** favourite new apps and/or websites here:



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

*If your teacher signs you off,
you will collect 1 Badge!*