

Final Project

This project will be divided into 5 stages, each built on the previous. The theme of the project revolves around Chinese culture, language, and your feelings about both. The topic expands stage by stage and you will be asked to integrate the current into the work done previously. For each new stage, you need to add 150 characters AND reorganize the whole essay instead of writing 2 totally unrelated paragraphs.

Each essay will be graded on grammar, vocabulary, coherence and content. Your final grade will be determined by your progress over the course of the term. Please keep all the essays and grading sheets in the homework folder (or in another folder) and hand in all new and past essays and grade sheets each time .

All except the last essay should be hand-written.

Essay 1 due 02/28/02

Topic: 中文和我

Incorporate the following ideas in your essay (200-250 characters)

Why do you want to learn Mandarin?

What kind of technical problems have you encountered when taking Mandarin at MIT? Discuss such things as learning pinyin, simplified and complex characters, standard pronunciation, and grammar.

If you studied Chinese before taking Mandarin at MIT, do you have any conflicts in your learning process? Do you resist the methods used in class? If so, why?

How do you deal with it?

Sample grading sheet

Essay 1

A. Content

1 overall structure	1	2	3	4	5
2 coherence	1	2	3	4	5

B. Language

1 correct characters	1	2	3	4	5
2 grammar/ sentence structure	1	2	3	4	5
3 effective use of new vocabulary	1	2	3	4	5

C. Grade