Listening Ability

Proficiency Target: Novice Mid

How well do 1st Grade Chinese students understand what they hear?

Students can recognize and begin to understand a number of high frequency, highly contextualized words and phrases including aural cognates and borrowed words. Typically they understand little more than one phrase at a time and repetition may be required.

adapted from the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines—Listening

When students exhibit Novice Mid listening proficiency in Chinese, here are some examples of the kinds of things they are able to understand:

1. simple words and phrases about daily activities
2. simple questions on familiar topics
3. some multi-step directions or instructions, especially when accompanied by gestures and repetition
4. some of what people say in a short conversation on familiar topics.

Speaking Ability

Proficiency Target: Novice Low

How well do 1st Grade Chinese students speak?

These new speakers may be able to exchange greetings, give their identity, and name a number of familiar objects from their immediate environment. They can answer very simple questions in one or two-word responses.

adapted from the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines—Speaking

When students exhibit Novice Low speaking ability in Chinese, here are examples of the kinds of things they can do:

1. greet someone in a polite manner using single words or memorized phrases
2. introduce self
3. answer simple questions using one or two words or a memorized phrase
4. respond appropriately to the question “how are you?”
Reading Ability

**Proficiency Target: Novice Low**

**How well do 1st Grade Chinese students read?**

These new readers are able to recognize a limited number of characters. They are occasionally able to identify high frequency words and/or phrases when strongly supported by context.

adapted from the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines—Reading

When students exhibit Novice Low reading ability in Chinese, here are some examples of the kinds of things they can do:

1. connect characters to their sounds
2. connect some words and phrases to their meanings
3. recognize some words and phrases with help from visuals
4. follow along on the page when the text is being read aloud

Writing Ability

**Proficiency Target: Novice Low**

**How well do 1st Grade Chinese students write?**

They copy or transcribe familiar words or phrases. Given adequate time and familiar cues, they can reproduce from memory a limited number of isolated words or familiar phrases, but errors are to be expected.

adapted from the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines—Writing

When students exhibit Novice Low writing ability in Chinese, here are some examples of the kinds of things they can write:

1. their names
2. the date
3. label some familiar things
4. copy words that they see on the wall, in a book, on the board or on the computer

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