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Hacking Chinese

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### On the menu tonight

- Who am I
- Essential tools and resources
- Getting the most out of a course
- Learning with a busy schedule
- Learning without studying
- Frequently asked questions



#### Who am I

- Olle Linge
- www.hackingchinese.com
- Centre for Professional Development, Uppsala University
- Teaching, coaching, consulting
- Skritter, WordSwing



### How I learnt Chinese

- Started in Sweden in 2007
- Language schools in Taiwan
- Teacher courses in Sweden
- Master's programme at National Taiwan Normal University
- Nows



### Learning resources

- Resources and tools should meet needs of learners and teachers
- Identify the need first, then look for the resource that satisfies the need
- Five key needs and the best resources for meeting them



## Digital dictionary

- A good, digital dictionary with character/word information, handwriting input, audio and sentences.
- My pick: <u>Pleco</u> It has all of this and more! OCR, File reader, multiple dictionaries (including <u>Outlier Linguistics</u>).



### Spaced repetition software

- To review efficiently, the spacing effect needs to be exploited and spaced repetition software is the easies way to do this.
- My picks: <u>Anki</u> (everything), <u>Skritter</u> (handwriting), <u>Pleco</u> (integrated).



### Audio software

- A tool to play, capture, edit, record and compare audio for listening and speaking (mimicking).
- My pick: <u>Audacity</u> (free, cross platform).

Links: 1, 2



### Feedback and help

- Regardless of learning environment, all students need to get help, feedback and to ask questions.
- My picks: Native speakers, nonnative speakers, online (<u>Chinese</u> <u>Forums</u>, <u>HelloTalk</u>, <u>Italki</u>)

More here.



### Comprehensible input

- Large amounts of reading/listening material at or below your level.
- My pick: All graded readers your can find, podcasts (the more the merrier), <u>text games</u>.



# Adventure text games for Chinese learners





### More resources

Hacking Chinese Resources

400+ resources sorted and tagged by level, topic and type:

resources.hackingchinese.com



## Getting the most out of a course

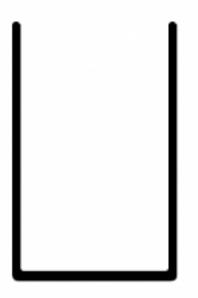
- Goal comparison, mismatch analysis
- Compensatory strategies
- Regulate minimum output
- Curriculum design
- Narrow but advanced knowledge
- Early introduction of difficult content



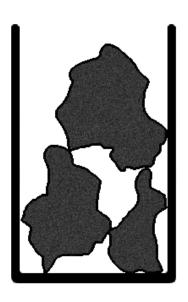
# Learning with a busy schedule

- Time quality
- Study the right thing at the right time
- The time barrel

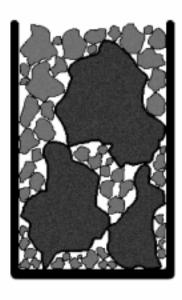




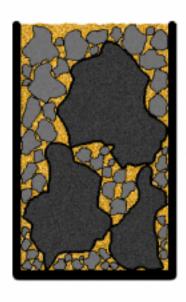




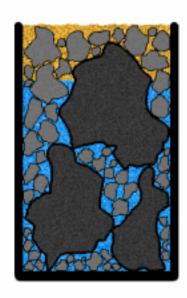














### Learning without studying

- Three roads to mastery:
- 1. A keen and undying interest
- 2. A Chinese-speaking partner
- 3. Working with Chinese directly



### Learning without studying

How to keep learning (forever):

- Substitute (at a cost)
- Integrate into other activities
- Increase the minimum output
- Make it enjoyable
- Teach!



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