

“AP CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE” SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

In order to prepare for The AP Chinese Language and Culture Exam it is vital that students spend times this summer polishing their mandarin skills through reading and writing. “The AP Exam is approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes long and has two parts: multiple choice and free response questions. Each part of the exam (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) is worth 25% of the final exam grade.

The exam is not a knowledge-based exam like most other AP exams. You are “on-stage” in Chinese for almost 2.5 hours, integrating all of your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills, as well as cultural information acquired during your Chinese studies over the years.”

In order to keep your Chinese proficiency at a high level during the summer the following activities are to be completed before the first day of class.

Reading and Writing Assignment:

The Sixty-Year Dream (based on Washington Irving’s *Rip Van Winkle*)
<https://www.amazon.com/Sixty-Year-Dream-Companion-Simplified-ebook/dp/B00KCYJCDK>

Read “The Sixty-Year Dream and write a book review in English. The book review must contain a brief summary of each chapter as well as your own personal opinion about the strengths and weaknesses of the story. This assignment is to be completed in English and must be at least one full page. You are welcome to purchase the digital copy if you prefer.

Writing:

Write a one to two page paper in Chinese characters about your summer. Students are free to be as detailed as they would like to be and are encouraged to share their feelings about how their summer has gone. Students are also welcome to format this paper as journal entries and record events as they happen.

Speaking:

The “Show and Tell” presentation is about students’ summer – students are to highlight the most important aspects of their summer (what they have done and why they want to share that with the class). Students are expected to have appropriate visual support to go along with their presentation. The presentation must last at least THREE to FOUR minutes.

Listening:

Search Youtube (or Baidu if you prefer a Chinese site) for popular Chinese songs or worship songs. Choose a song that you like and listen to this song at least twice a week. Come to class prepared to share this song and explain the general meaning.

The Summer Assignment is worth a total of 200 points. The Book review and Writing assignment will be applied to your test average as a project worth 100 points. The Speaking and Listening assignments will be applied to your homework grade also with a value of 100 points.

Feel free to email me with any questions or concerns throughout the summer at keithmanning@thefirstacademy.org