

CLTask: Quartets Card Game

by Danielle Coppée, Teacher of Chinese, the Netherlands

Activity Outline

Topic	Various: Use to review related groups of vocabulary
Learning Aims	To use and practise the “有没有” construction and review basic Chinese vocabulary. To use and practise common courtesy phrases like: 请问，你有没有。我有, 给你; 对不起，我没有; 谢谢，不客气; 该你了 etc.
Materials	Pre-prepared set of vocabulary cards grouped by theme/type. You will need items divided into groups of four. <i>Refer to Excel spreadsheet to use as is, or as a template from CLTalk Issue 16. http://www.mydiscoverchina.com/cltalk-issue-16/</i>

Stage	Procedure	Time mins.
Preparation	Print each complete set of cards (4 pages) on thick paper in different colours. This will make it easier to collect the cards afterwards. Explain that students will have to use the “有没有” construction to ask for cards and only use Chinese otherwise they have to pass. The goal of the game is to collect sets of 4 cards of the same “set”. The “set name” can be said in English (examples: Adjectives, Clothing, Family, Countries etc.).	10 mins
Presentation	As this is a review game, the vocabulary items used should have already been learned. However, you may want to use/distribute a presentation sheet with the key Q/A and courtesy phrases to use to play the game.	5 mins
Practice	Quartets is played with 3 or more players, and the object of the game is to win all the quarts (sets of 4). Each card has a “set name” at the top of the card. The cards are shuffled and dealt evenly between all the players.	30 mins per game

	<p>Each player holds the cards in their hand so only they can see their cards. The player to the dealer's left starts by asking another player if he has a certain card (example: Adjective 好) which would help the player create a quart.</p> <p>If the player does have the card, then he/she hands it over. If the player doesn't, then it becomes his/her turn to ask.</p> <p>When a quart is created, or a complete quart was dealt, then the cards creating the quart are placed in front of the player.</p> <p>The game ends when all the quarts have been created. The winner is the person with the most quarts.</p>	
<p>Feedback</p>	<p>Throughout the game, give feedback on grammar, pronunciation etc.</p>	
<p>Expansion</p>	<p>You can always add new sets of cards with new vocabulary.</p> <p>Alternatively, ask students to create their own cards/game to practice writing skills and stroke order.</p>	