

必先利其器：漢字教育的字典和電腦發展

Advancement in dictionary and computer usage for the teaching of Han characters

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摘要

學會寫字是漢字教育的不可或缺部分。能夠寫出正確的字，學員對詞彙的認知會更牢固透徹。我們之前已經報告漢字字母教學法可以為漢字提供結構細節的聽覺記憶，克服了以往漢字學習只能用抄寫死記，導致漢字難學的缺陷。學員也因此對學習漢字的能力、興趣和信心大增。我們現在描述漢字字母系統內的電腦和字典對漢字教育的作用。

雖然不少人都教學生用電腦輸入漢字，但所用的方法不外字音或代碼。字音和代碼輸入都不能夠增加學員對漢字結構的細節認識。字音輸入漢字，只能適合已知道字音的漢字，對用筆書寫漢字，不僅沒有幫助，反而會造成障礙。由於漢字圈內同一字符讀音不同，用音輸入也不適合跨地區的漢字輸入。漢字字母輸入法則是可以完整無缺地像用筆寫字一樣，按照筆畫擊鍵書寫漢字，因此為學員提供了自行學習漢字書寫的回饋校正機會，並且增加構詞認知，使學員更容易學好漢字。

字典又是漢字教育的另一重要環節。既有的索引系統對學員的自我學習都存有不足。我們建議用筆畫和筆順作為索引排序的根據。使用漢字以形為本的原有優勢，便可以解決字音變化、字形變化的影響，任何人都可以按照漢字字形和筆順省時省力快速查閱生字和資料。

Learning how to write is a necessary integral part of language learning. Students who know how to write correctly also will have a more solid and deeper lexical understanding. We have previously reported that the Chinese Alphabet teaching method can provide an audiovisual memory to the fine grained detailed structure of Han orthography, consolidating memory better and overcoming the necessity of rote copying and memorizing which makes the learning of Han character difficult. Students using this method have increased confidence, ability, and interest in learning. We now describe the use of computer and dictionary in this method.

Although others have also utilized the computer to teach students how to input Han characters, input by means of phonetic spelling or codes do not enhance the student's ability to acquire fine grained details of orthography, and therefore do not help with learning to recognize or writing of such characters. Because the same character has different pronunciation in different regions, such phonetic based method is also unsuitable for inputting cross regional characters. In the Han alphabet system however typing is similar to writing and therefore can be used to input all Han Characters. The system provides instant feedback for the student to learn and correct mistakes. Furthermore, it promotes morphological awareness and is suitable for inputting all Han characters irrespective of region of origin. By writing with the computer rather than the pen first, we find that second language learners will overcome their fear of the Han script, and also write better when they eventually use a pen.

Dictionary usage is another important tool in language education. Previous indexing systems of Han characters however are difficult to use, and have numerous problems. Our experience suggests a better an indexing system should be based on the strokes alphabets, so that indexing is same as writing. This can deal with changes in pronunciation or font, and make the use of dictionary or file indexing much more efficient and faster.

關鍵詞： 漢字字母、 電腦輔助學習、 漢字字典