

I'M SICK!

Communicative Task for Chinese as a Second Language Chinese Language and Culture 30 (3-Year)

TASK SUMMARY

Students will provide personal information to a receptionist in a Chinese clinic.

Student Focus for the Task

I can ask questions and give information to get help at a clinic.

PRINCIPLE OUTCOME FOR THIS TASK

General Outcome	Specific Outcome
Applications: A-1.1: share factual information	a. provide information on several aspects of a topic
Applications: A-5.1: discover and explore	a. ask questions to gain knowledge and clarify understanding

SUPPORTING OUTCOMES FOR THIS TASK

General Outcome	Specific Outcome
Language Competence: LC-2.3: lexicon	a. use a range of vocabulary and expressions in familiar contexts within a variety of lexical fields, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• health and safety
Strategies: S-2.1: interactive	a. select and use interactive strategies to enhance language use

PREPARING FOR THE TASK

- Introduce the “I can” statement to the class. Ensure it is visible throughout the task. Ask students what types of words and phrases people use when they are talking about their illnesses.
- With students, build a list of indicators that will help them know they have achieved the “I Can” statement.

I can ask questions and give information to get help at a clinic.

I know this because...

- I shared information about how I feel.
- I asked questions to find out what can help me.
- I used strategies to understand my partner better.

- Review simple words and phrases related to health, including:
 - body parts
 - adjectives to describe physical states
 - statements dealing with common illnesses, such as, “My leg hurts. I have a headache. My back is sore. My throat hurts,” etc.
 - questions asking for assistance, such as, “Can you help me? What should I do? What medicine do I need?”

- Review strategies that may assist students during the task. If students run into problems such as not comprehending a partner's questions or answers, then they can use words and phrases such as "I don't understand you." "Could you repeat that?", "What did you say?"
- Any words or phrases students need to complete the task should be visible throughout the task.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

- Students work with a partner to role-play a patient visit to a Chinese clinic. Each student in the pair assumes the role of both the patient and receptionist, but the target skill involves only the language used when the student is acting in the role of the patient.
- Provide students with any statements they would need to use when acting in the role of the receptionist, such as:
 - "Hello. How can I help you? What do you feel? Anything else? Yes, we can help you." Etc.
- Students work with different partners and take turns playing the role of receptionist and patient.

FEEDBACK FOR LEARNING

- While students are asking and answering questions, observe their performances.
- After students have had completed the activity, ask them to consider their performance in relation to the indicators.
- Students share, either orally or in writing, whether or not they achieved the "I can" statement, and provide evidence of why they think that is so. They may need the opportunity to elicit feedback from a few peers to find out if their conversation partners were able to understand them.
- Compare your teacher observations to students' self-reflections. In cases where students' perspectives do not match the teacher observations, take the opportunity to discuss why this is so with the student.

This task was developed by teachers at the Alberta Assessment Consortium (AAC) Summer Workshop for Second Languages, funded by a grant from Alberta Education

I'M SICK! - Student Task

You are not feeling well and decide to visit a Chinese acupuncturist clinic staffed by a Chinese-speaking receptionist. Since it is your first visit, you have to answer questions about your medical condition to the receptionist who has a standardized medical information form. Make sure you answer all the questions by the receptionist so that you can get the proper medical treatment you need.

The following is the suggested procedure:

1. Review the medical information form to ensure you know how to ask questions in Chinese and how to answer in turn.
2. Familiarize yourself with useful phrases such as “你是说……, 对吗?” for clarification or “请你再说一遍” for repetition in order to carry on the dialogue.
3. Team up with a partner and conduct the interview. Take turns playing the role of receptionist and patient.
4. Find at least two more partners to conduct the dialogue as a receptionist and as a patient.

For the role play you are expected to:

1. greet one another.
2. introduce yourself by sharing your name and age.
3. state at least two of your ailments.
4. end the interview appropriately.