



THE FRIED NOODLE

[CHINA HORIZONS NEWSLETTER]



Chambre & Liz & Michael & their friend on a weekend trip to the Li River



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you can also find us on



My 13-15 year old students **MICHAEL GRIFFIN**



LIZ, RICHARD, SHAWN, MICHAEL, CHAMBREY in Guilin

About 2 weeks ago I discovered my 13-15 year old students are geniuses. They are taking physics, chemistry, biology, college level math, English, Chinese, and three others courses. The English they are learning is harder than some college English. Give this question a shot:

I doubt _____ I'll be picked for the team
A. if
B. when
C. that
D. whether

...Yeah, I thought it was C too.
Apparently, the "best" answer is A.

They are first taught to read and write English and perfect, extremely difficult grammar patterns, and then it's my job to teach them how to speak.

I have also learned if my students are not having fun, they won't try. I strive to teach them rudimentary English while tricking them into thinking they are not learning! Oftentimes they leave class thinking they didn't learn anything but I can almost always see improvement from the beginning of class to the end.

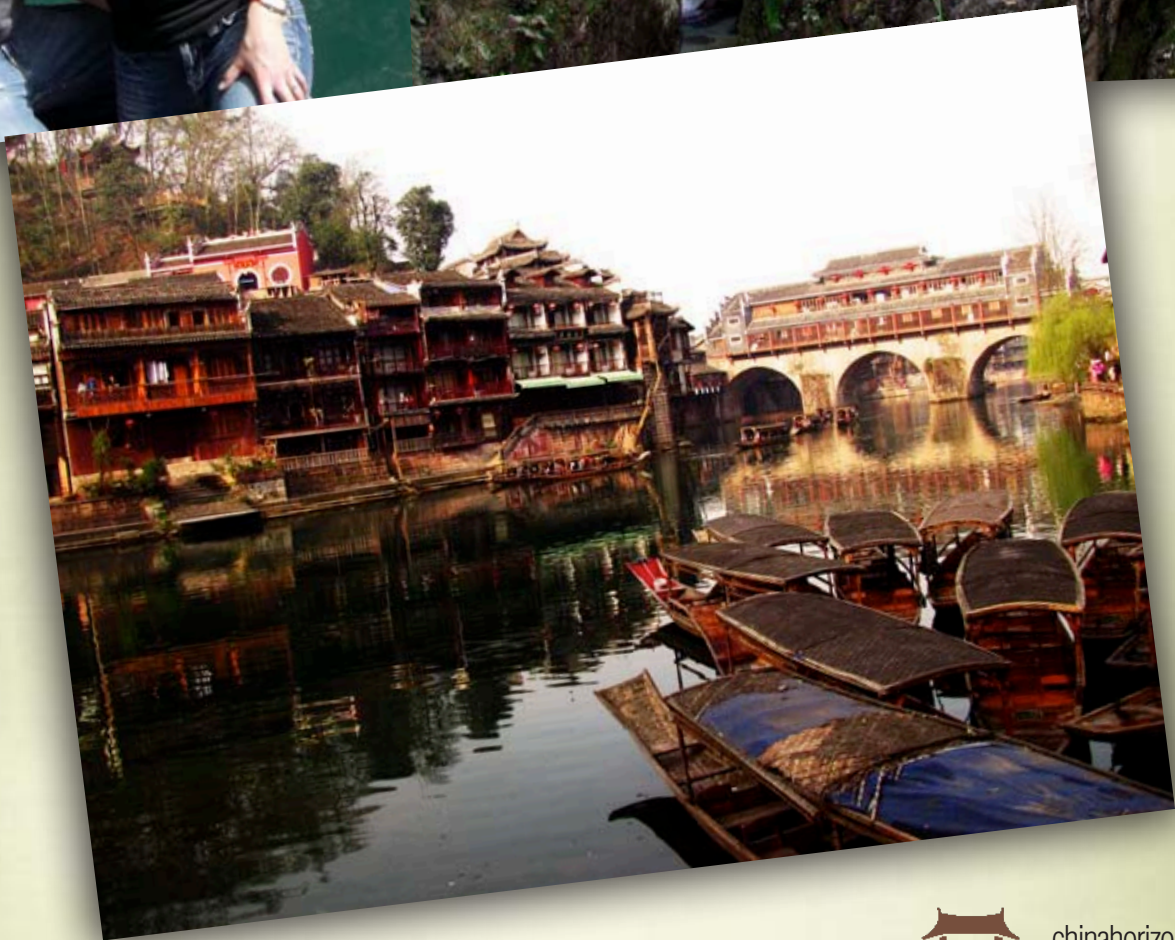
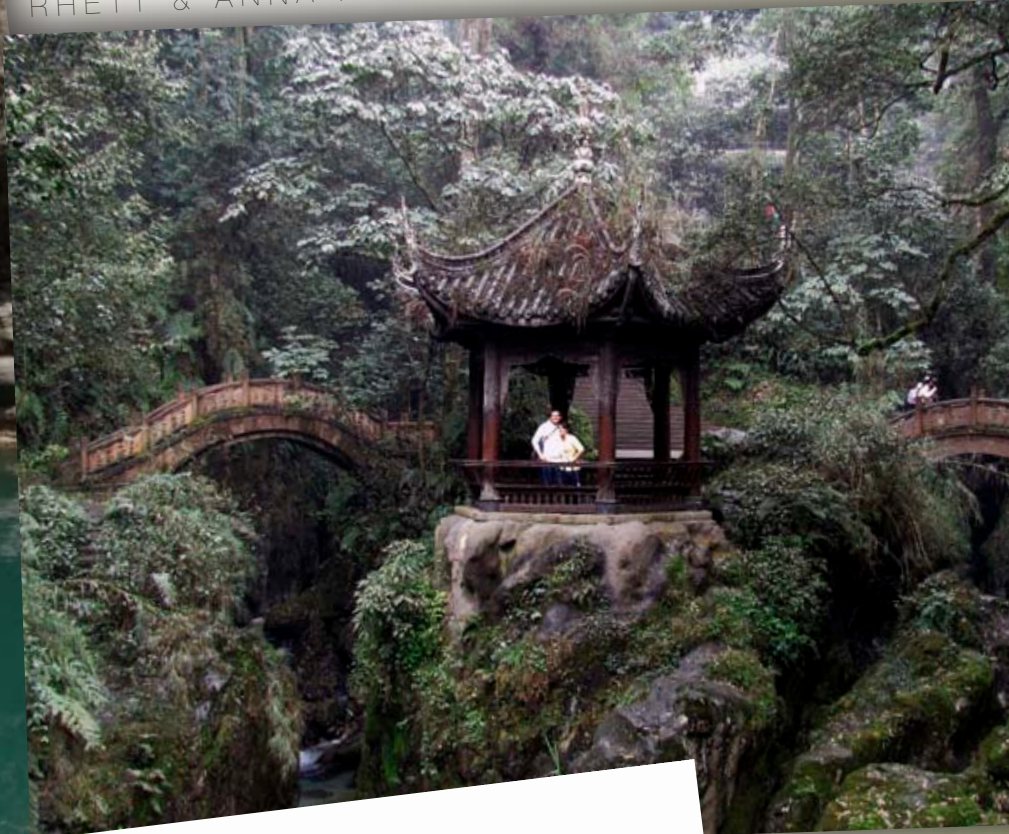
The biggest thing I have learned is English is HARD!



ZACH & JESSICA HARALSON



RHETT & ANNA FERRIN



Rhett vs The Monkeys

We went to ZhangJiaJie (the inspiration for the scenery in Avatar).

Mist enshrouded mountains? Yes. Beautiful blossoming trees? So many! Getting attacked by monkeys? Affirmative.

I hope I never forget Rhett's face when after he'd opened up his bag of peanuts, a monkey came down from the trees, hissing...Rhett was terrified. First I told him to put the bag up his shirt.



Clever monkey. Still hissing. Then Rhett thought he would trick the monkey by throwing the peanut shells in his hand off the

mountain. Air-borne peanut shells don't go too far. Monkey even angrier...hissing is louder, paws are in striking position. Finally, I tell Rhett to just give him the bag!! Rhett hurls the

bag off the side of mountain with a face of fury, fear and a bit of embarrassment for getting held up by a monkey for his peanuts.

-Rhett & Anna Ferrin



What I have learned about teaching English

I have learned the best thing a teacher can do for his students is be willing to learn and improve as well. It is important to be prepared, but more important to accept that there is no substitute for making mistakes. Don't be scared. Love makes it work.

-Brad Johnson



Brad and his students talking after class

I teach kindergarten. I don't speak Chinese and my kids don't speak much English, but they always find a way to express their love towards me. I have learned that even the simplest things have an impact on them; that truly makes me want to be a better teacher.

-Betsabe Ruiz



Betsabe learning some traditional Chinese music from one of her students



SHAWN STODDART



BETSY RUIZ & JESSICA STEWART singing karaoke



JESSICA HARALSON



CHINESE CORNER

FAMILY



Phrases

我家有 __#__ 个人。 (List family, eldest to youngest) 和我。

(Wǒ jiā yǒu __#__ gè rén. (List family, eldest to youngest) hé wǒ.)

I have __#__ people in my family. (List oldest to youngest) and me.

我是结婚了。 (wǒ shì jiéhūn le.)

I am married.

Vocabulary Words

- Family - 家庭 (jiāting)
- Father - 爸爸 (bàba)
- Mother - 妈妈 (māma)
- Elder Brother - 哥哥 (gēge)
- Elder Sister - 姐姐 (jiějie)
- Younger Brother - 弟弟 (dìdi)
- Younger Sister - 妹妹 (mèimèi)
- Siblings - 兄弟姐妹 (xiōngdìjiěmèi)
- Child - 孩子 (háizi)
- Wife - 老婆 (lǎopó)
- Husband - 老公 (lǎogōng)
- Girlfriend - 女朋友 (nǚpéngyou)
- Boyfriend - 男朋友 (nánpéngyou)

A Little Numbers Reminder

1 = 一 (Yī)

2 = 二 (Èr)

3 = 三 (Sān)

4 = 四 (Sì)

5 = 五 (Wǔ)

6 = 六 (Liù)

7 = 七 (Qī)

8 = 八 (Bā)

9 = 九 (Jiǔ)

10 = 十 (Shí)



CHINESE CORNER

GREETINGS



Hello

你好
(nǐ hǎo)

hello

早好
(zǎo hǎo)

good morning

晚好
(wǎn hǎo)

good evening

Q: 怎么样?
(zěn me yàng)

How's it going?

A: 不错 / 还行?
(bù cuò / hái xíng)

Not bad / OK?

很高兴认识你!(hěn gāo xìng rèn shi nǐ!) - **Its very nice to meet you!**

Greetings

Q: 你叫什么名字?
(nǐ jiào shénme míng zi)

What is your name?

A: 我叫____?
(wǒ jiào ____)

My name is ____?



We are innocent!

I swear!

This past week all of the American websites on the internet stopped working. We couldn't sign onto our email, lds.org, BYU-Idaho, or Google.

Monday night, after helplessly trying to watch General Conference, we made dinner and just before we took the first bite there was a loud KNOCK on the door. We both looked at each other shocked because we have never had anyone knock on our door. The knocking continued more loudly and quickly. Then Matthew opened the door and there were two policemen demanding something in Chinese. We were thinking, "oh no, what did we do?" We soon

learned that they wanted us to give them money. We called our school director and he spoke to them in Chinese. It was a loud conversation; we could hear our director through the phone. Then after about 10 minutes they hung up, smiled and left.

We still have no idea what they wanted. We need to ask our director but we think it has something to do with the rent on our apartment because there was a guy with the two policemen that was standing in the doorway offering his comments. Anyway we got our internet to work and General Conference was great.

-Matt & Marisa Rascon

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Facebook DISCUSSIONS

What is the best souvenir you brought home from China?



I absolutely love my painted scrolls. They're very large but worth dragging home. One is yellow with birds, the other is of blue mountains. they go great in my home and remind me of my travels.

-Harmoni Wallace

I have bought some pretty cool stuff. A custom made Chinese dresses, beautiful chopstick sets, pearls, a music box...But I must say my best souvenir when I get home is going to be my journal.

-Shelby Ann Nielsen

Hmmm that's a hard question. I have bought some pretty cool stuff. I got a custom made Chinese dress for \$21.50!!! The other thing I really like is a statue of dolphins that is swirled colors of white and blue.

-Cierra Van Leeuwen



What are the “Top 2” most useful phrases you used in China?

Wo yao qu (place name) -I
want to go to_____

Bu hui shuo zhongwen - I
don't speak Chinese

-Shelby Ann Nielsen

SHAWN eating a chicken foot



Duo shao qian? (How much is this)

Bu yao! (I don't want.)

Tai gui le (It's too expensive)

You mei you... (Do you have...) I used this all the time
in stores; it was easier to just ask than to have to look
for it.

-Kimberly Sechser

“Bao” means full. If people are bothering you to eat
there food and you say it they immediate leave you
alone, it's amazing!

-Cierra Van Leeuwen



YOU KNOW YOU HAVE BEEN IN CHINA TOO LONG WHEN...

"You know you've been in China too long when you refer to everything as "interesting"."

"Firecrackers help you sleep better"

"You try to order "Corn" or "Sweet Bean" ice cream at Cold Stone"

"You get home and measure the cost of everything in DVDs." That costs 80 DVDs?!?!?"

"You get offended when nobody stares at you because you're a lao wai."

"You see a western style toilet and think to yourself, ooo that looks terribly uncomfortable."

"You are tired and you see a bench and think, wow that would be a great bench to squat on!"

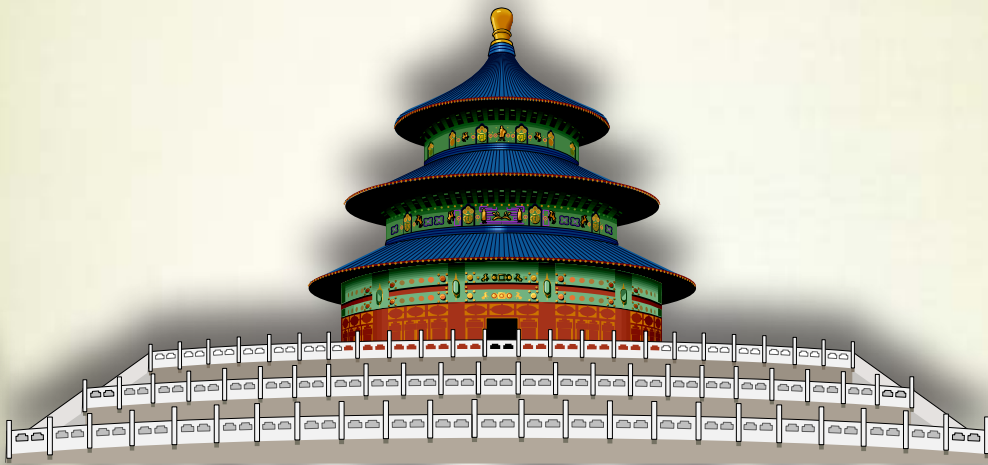
"You cannot say a number without using the appropriate hand sign for that number"

"You have convinced yourself a piece of plywood with a blanket over it ACTUALLY IS a mattress"

"You think a \$7 shirt is a rip-off"

"You buy a size XXXL shirt in America forgetting that is not your REAL shirt size"





CHINA TRIVIA

CHAMBREY, LIZ, MICHAEL, SHAWN



what year did the last
chinese dynasty end,
and what dynasty was
it?

How many provinces
are there in China
today?



RHETT & ANNA FERRIN

You can check out the answers to the trivia questions and
so much more on the [China Horizons Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/chinahorizons)







