

Learning Mandarin and Cantonese

in Health Communication Context - Materials development process

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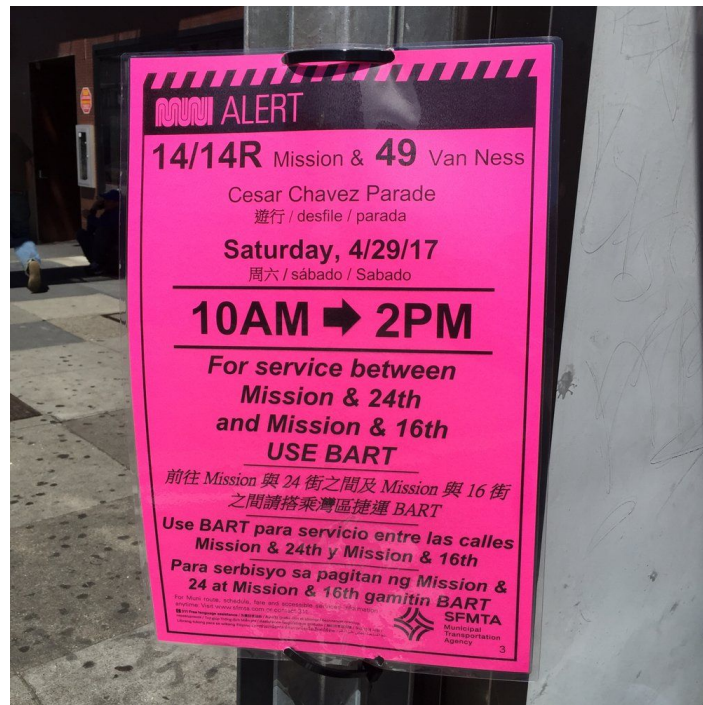
BLC fellowship Spring 2023

Overview

1. Background
2. Objectives
3. Process
4. Summary and Implications

Background

Mandarin & Cantonese in Bay Area



San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) 2019

- 19th century
Cantonese-speaking
Chinese immigrated to
San Francisco
- 75% in SFUSD
Cantonese as home
language

<https://www.sfusd.edu/school/chinese-immersion-school-cis-de-avila/about/why-chinese-immersion>



San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) 2019

“...Mandarin is the official language of China, and with more than a billion people speaking it...”



San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) 2019

Chinese immersion

- K-5 (Cantonese)
- 6-8 (Mandarin)
- “...The transition to Mandarin is easier”
- Become literate in Chinese

<https://www.sfusd.edu/school/chinese-immersion-school-cis-de-avila/about/why-chinese-immersion>



Mandarin and Cantonese @ Berkeley EALC



Chinese 1A Elementary Chinese

Chinese 1X Elementary Chinese for Mandarin speakers

Chinese 1Y Elementary Chinese for dialect speakers

Chinese 3A Elementary Cantonese

Chinese 3X Elementary Cantonese for heritage speakers

Similarities and differences

		<u>Mandarin</u>	<u>Cantonese</u>
Times	次	cì (Tone 4)	chi (Tone 3)
Tax	稅	shuì (Tone 4)	seui (Tone 3)
To stir	煽	shān (Tone 1)	sin (Tone 3)

Similarities and differences

		<u>Mandarin</u>	<u>Cantonese</u>
Sand	沙	Shā	sā
Poem	詩	Shī	sī
Luxury	奢	Shē	X sē

Same concept, different words

Mandarin

Kōngxīncài

(hollow)

Cantonese

Tūng choi

(through)



Same words, different concept



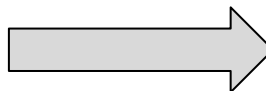
姑娘

Mandarin: gū niang

Young girl

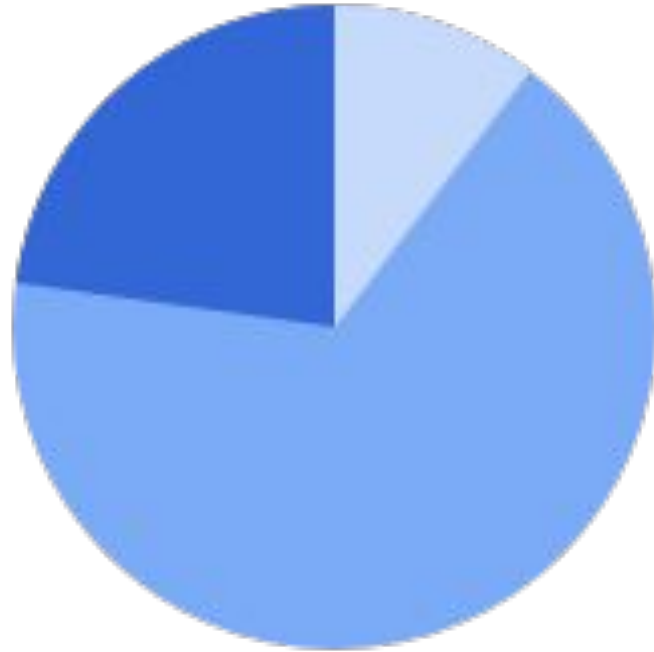
Cantonese: gū nèuhng

Nurse



Transferable knowledge : Predictability

- Consonants
- Tones
- Professions
- Food



Objectives

Accurate language use is essential

- When Mandarin speakers learn Cantonese (vice versa), they enjoy abundant transferable knowledge, yet suffer from tricky exceptions.
- The situation is more acute when it comes to professional contexts, such as linguistic competence demanded in health communication context. Accurate language use is essential.

Language proficiency and health communication

...According to San Francisco's language diversity data, more than 110,000 AAPI residents have **limited English proficiency, with roughly 80% being of Chinese descent....**

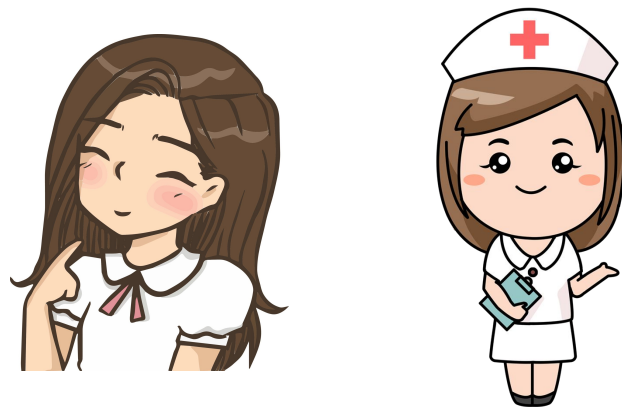
...one-third of Asians who reported **difficulty** accessing health care and mental health services cited limited language skills as a reason...

(San Francisco Chronicle, Mar 2023)

The materials

1. Highlight the non-transferable and/or unpredictable areas.

- Pronunciation
- Vocabulary
- Idioms



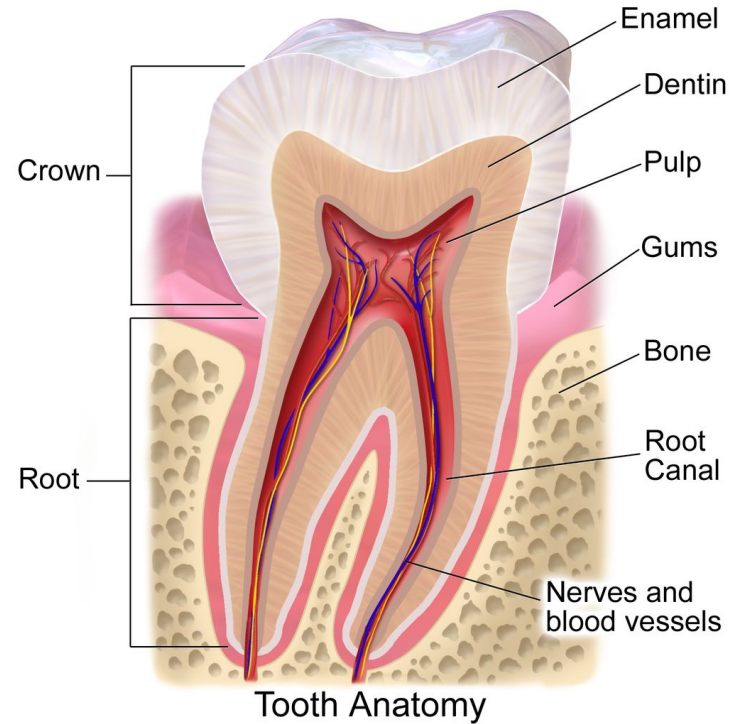
(especially useful for unbalanced Mandarin/Cantonese bilinguals)

The materials

2. Highlight the formal words.

Examples:

- Terminologies
- Organizations



(especially useful for heritage speakers)

The materials

3. Incorporate the words in health communication contexts

- Telling symptoms
- Giving commands
- Requesting services
- Conducting surveys
- Discussing treatments
- Debating about practices
- Disseminating information



Reach out to the community

...California has announced a new college service program, called Californians for All College Corps, that will give eligible students \$10,000 in exchange for 450 hours of volunteer work during an academic year...beginning in fall 2022...

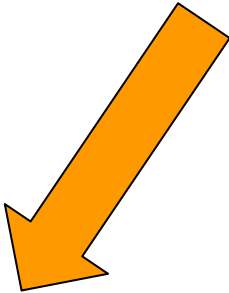
(Higher Ed Dive, by Laura Spitalniak, 2022)



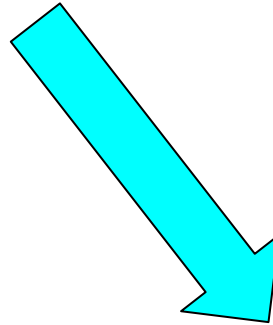
Process

Process

Spreadsheet

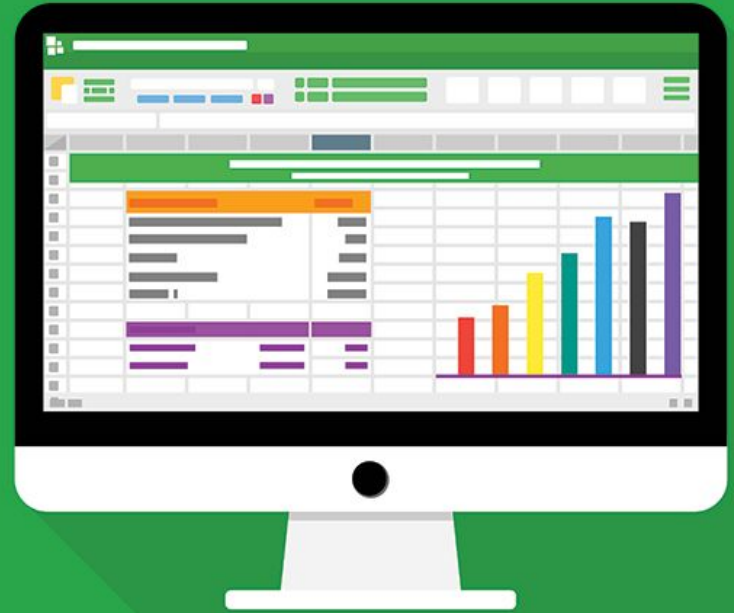


Phrase book



Language
Textbook and
exercises

The spreadsheet



Making entries

Columns:

1. Source / Inspiration
2. English
3. Mandarin characters
4. Mandarin pinyin
5. Cantonese characters
6. Cantonese Romanization
7. Table of content
8. Pronunciation
9. Syntax
10. Cultural notes



One entry looks like this

1. Source / Inspiration
2. English
3. Mandarin characters
4. Mandarin pinyin
5. Cantonese characters
6. Cantonese Romanization
7. Table of content
8. Pronunciation
9. Syntax
10. Cultural notes

Book name

I have a hoarse voice and I don't want to talk a lot.

我嚟子啞了, 不想多說話。

....

我把聲沙咗, 唔想講咁多嘢。

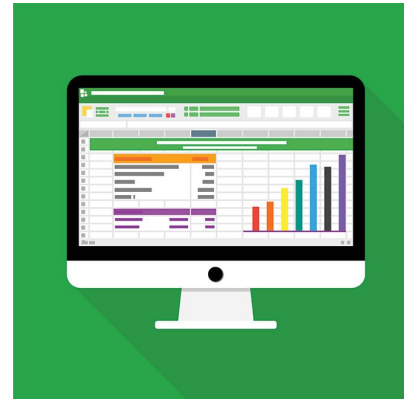
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Chapter 2

/

Classifier

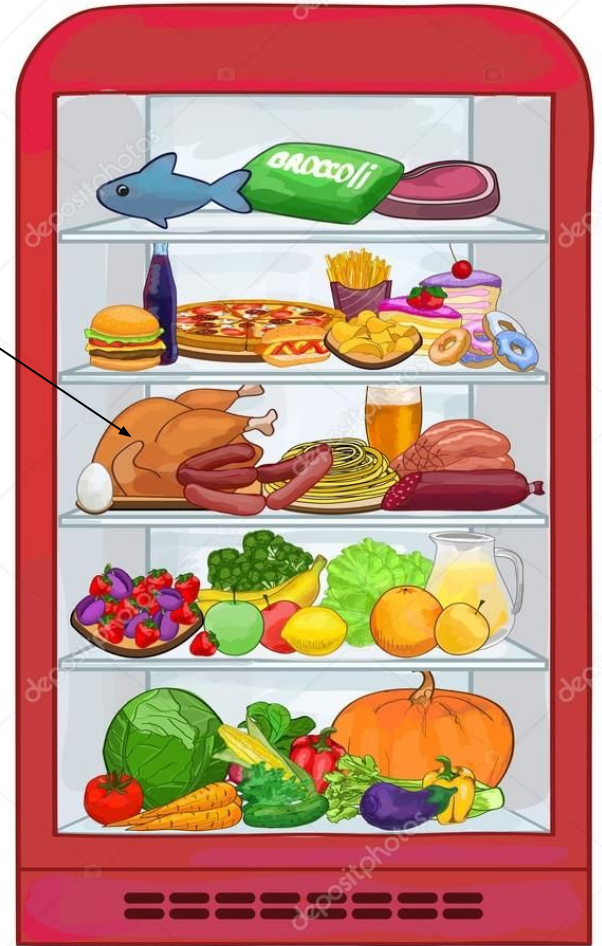
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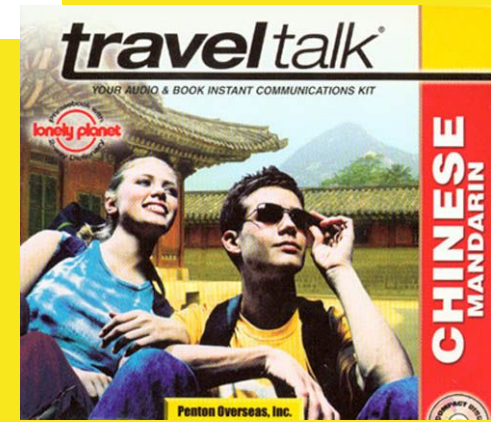
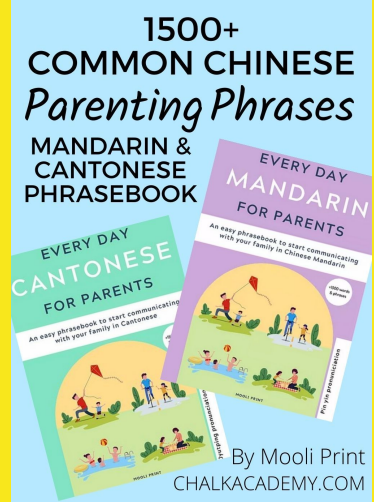
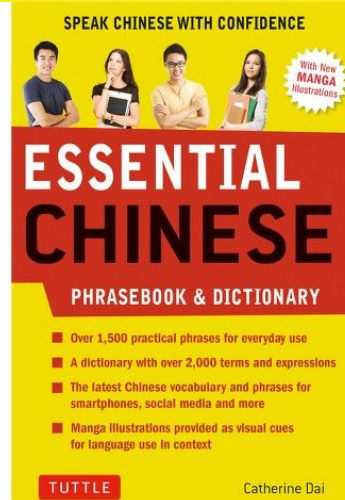
Spreadsheet

Summary:

1. 130 entries
2. Some columns are blank
3. Revisit
4. Refrigerator



1. Phrase book



Don't rub your eyes

Mandarin

不要揉眼睛。

Búyào róu yǎnjīng 。



Cantonese

唔好捽眼。

m̄ hóu jēut ngáahn.

Tips

- (1) “Don't (verb)”: In Mandarin, it's 不要 búyào or 別 bié, but in Cantonese, it's NOT 唔要 m̄ yiu, but 唔好 m̄ hóu. 唔要 m̄ yiu means “I don't want”.
- (2) “To rub”: 揉 róu in Mandarin generally corresponds to 捽 jēut in Cantonese. For example, “A lot of people rub the temple when they have a headache” 很多人頭疼的時候揉按太陽穴 hěn duō rén tóuténg de shíhòu róuàn tàiyáng xué (Mandarin); 好多人頭痛個陣捽太陽穴 hóu dō yàhn tàuh tung gó jahn sìh iēut taai vèuhng vuht (Cantonese).

Commands

Comparison

Syntax,
verb

I feel like something stuck in my throat.

Symptoms

Mandarin

Cantonese

我覺得有些東西卡在喉嚨。我覺得有啲嘢棘住喺喉嚨。

Comparison

Wǒ jué de yǒu xiē dōng xi kǎ zài hóu lóng。

Ngóh gok dāk yáuh dī yéh kīk jyuh hái hauh lùhng.



Tips

In Cantoese literary pronunciation, 棘 is usually read as gīk, such as 荊棘 gīng gīk, which means thorns. In Cantonese colloquial pronunciation, 棘 is usually read as kīk, such as “棘親” kīk chān, which corresponds to “絆倒” bàndǎo in Mandarin.

Pronunciation

Cover one eye with your left hand

Mandarin

Cantonese

用左手蓋著一隻眼。用左手摀住一隻眼。

Yòng zuǒshǒu gàizhe yìzhīyǎn。

Yuhng jó sáu ám jyuh yāt jek ngáahn.



Tips

“用”: In both Mandarin and Cantonese, 用 could mean “to use”, such as “to use computer” 用電腦 yòng diànnǎo (Mandarin) yuhng dihn nóuh (Cantonese). It could also mean “with +ways, method, tools”. For example, ‘Eat with chopsticks’ is 用筷子吃飯 yòng kuàizi (Mandarin) yuhng faai jí sihk faahn (Cantonese)

Commands

Comparison

Syntax

Phrase book

Summary:

1. 30 entries
2. Health communication
3. Comparison
4. Highlight
5. Light lunch



2. Language Textbook



Textbook - Cover

Learning Mandarin and Cantonese in Health Communication Context



By: Chileung Chan chanchileung@berkeley.edu

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Mandarin & Cantonese

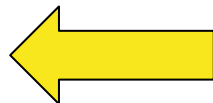
Healthy food

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Learning Mandarin and Cantonese in Health Communication Context

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Module 1 -Senses

1. Visual
2. Taste
3. Touch and smell
4. Perceptual

Module 2- Body parts


5. Head
6. Upper body
7. Lower body
8. Whole body

Textbook - 1.1 Conversation

1.1 Listening and Speaking practice - Conversation

Display option:	Display option:
Mandarin Cantonese Pinyin Yale Romanization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jyutping English translation	Mandarin Cantonese <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pinyin Yale Romanization Jyutping English translation

Situation: Grandpa was happy to see his grandson visiting

	<p>Preview questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How long has it been since they met last time? What about you and your grandparents?2. How did grandpa react when he saw the gifts from her grandson?3. How did grandson react to his grandpa's hospitality?4. Based on the conversation, do you think grandson and grandpa are close to each other? Why?5. Based on your own experience, how do Chinese people react to compliments and hospitality among family, close friends, co-workers?6. Why doesn't grandpa want to change his old glasses? Do you think grandpa is similar to your grandparents in some ways?
---	---

Display options

Scaffolding

Visiting seniors

Textbook - Conversation

孫仔：阿爺，好耐冇見呀，一眨眼
就一個月喇，好掛住你呀。買咗
你最鐘意食嘅生果呀。

...

阿爺：你咪話想做眼科醫生嘅？
你就快考試嘅喇，溫晒書未呀？
唔好掛住玩呀！

...



Yellow - Cantonese only



Green - Both

Textbook - Core vocabulary

Mandarin versus Cantonese highlights

English	Cantonese		Mandarin	
1 Paternal grandfather	阿爺	a-yèh	爺爺	yé ye
2 To miss (someone)	掛住	Gwa jyuh	想念	xiǎng niǎn
3 Fruits	生果	Sāng gwó	水果	shuǐ guǒ
4 A lot (colloquial)	大把	Daaih bá	很多	hěn duō
5 To finish off eating (something halfway done)	食埋	Sihk máaih	吃完	chī wán
6 To rub	搽	jéut	揉擦	róu cā
7 A pair of glasses	副眼鏡	Fu ngáahn gèng ¹	一副眼鏡	yí fù yǎn jìng ¹
8 To take off glasses	除低	Chèuhh dāi	摘下	zhāi xià
9 To put back on (glasses)	戴返	Daai fān	再戴上	zài dài shàng
10 Isn't it OK? (rhetorical)	咪得囉	Maaih dāk ló	不就行了嗎	bù jiù xíng liǎo ma

Advanced vocabulary highlights

English	Chinese characters	Cantonese Yale Romanization	Mandarin Pinyin
1 In the blink of an eye	一眨眼	yāt jáam ngáahn	yí zhǎ yǎn
2 ophthalmologist	眼科醫生	ngáahn fó yí sāng	yǎn kē yī shēng
3 (literal) ten lines at a glance	一目十行	yāt muhk sahp hòhng	yí mù shí háng
4 glass frame	鏡框	gèng kwāang	jìng kuàng
5 degree	度數	douh sou	dù shù
6 Optometrist	視光師	sih gwóng sī	shì guāng shī
7 vision	視力	sih lihk	shì lì
8 control by voice	聲控	sīng hung	shēng kòng
9 glaucoma	青光眼	chèng gwóng ngáahn	qīng guāng yǎn
10 Unwilling to make the slightest change	一成不變	yāt sīhng bát bin	yí chéng bù biàn

Yellow - Cantonese only

Blue - Mandarin only

Green - Both

Textbook - Core vocabulary

To take off glasses

除低

Chèuih dāi

摘下

zhāi xià



Yellow - Cantonese only

Blue - Mandarin only

Textbook - Idiomatic expressions

Learning Mandarin and Cantonese in Health Communication Context

Yale Romanization	Cantonese
<p>chyühn tung jüng yí yuehk yáuh yát go góng faat, jauh haih' mihng muhk sei gwán jí, báau kut gáu géi jí, gúk fá, wóhng kèih túhng kyut mihng jí. gáu géi jí yáuh kong yéuhng fa ge gúng haauh, lihñ sái yí dóu jing mihng jó ní yát díng. gók fá háhm fá ching sou, bát jí deui yú ngáahn géng gón biht dahk biht yáuh haauh, yih ché juhng náhng gau wán díng hyut aat. wóhng kèih yuhng yú jh liuh maahn síng páih lóuh, yih kyut mihng jí ják yáuh ch'ing yihñ mihng muhk ge gúng haauh.</p>	<p>傳統中醫藥有一個講法，就係「明目四君子」，包括枸杞子，菊花，黃耆同決明子。枸杞子有抗氧 化跟功效，連西醫都證明呢一點。菊花含花青 素，不只對於眼瞼乾澀特別有效，而且仲能夠穩 定血壓。黃耆用於治療慢性疲勞，而決明子則有 清熱明目跟功效。</p>

Idiomatic expressions about eyes

Guess what the idiomatic expression mean in Mandarin and Cantonese :

Mandarin	Cantonese
<p>瞪眼說瞎話 Zhèngyǎn shuō xiǎhuà <i>Literal translation: Saying "blind words" with eyes wide open</i></p>	<p>睜大眼講大話 Maak daaih ngáahn góng daaih wah <i>Literal translation: Saying "big things" with eyes wide open</i></p>



Which one is the correct meaning of the above expression?

- A The blind leading the blind
- B To cry your eyes out
- C Turn a blind eye to
- D To tell an obvious lie



Yellow - Cantonese only

Blue - Mandarin only

Exercise

Idiomatic expressions

Mandarin: Saying 'blind words' with eyes wide open

Cantonese: Saying 'big' things' with eyes wide open

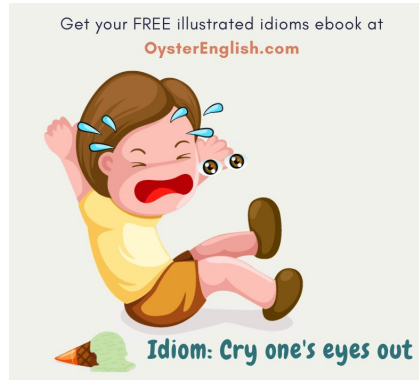
Get your FREE illustrated idioms ebook at
OysterEnglish.com



Idiom: Cry one's eyes out



Idiomatic expressions



Which one is the correct meaning of the above expression?

- A The blind leading the blind
- B To cry your eyes out
- C Turn a blind eye to
- D To tell an obvious lie

Language textbook

Summary:

1. 2 chapters (target 8)
2. Health communication
3. Comparison
4. Highlight
5. Full course dinner



Summary and Implication

Summary

1. Mandarin and Cantonese @ Bay Area.
2. Mutually beneficial, not exclusive.
3. Useful in health communication contexts.
4. Spreadsheet.
5. Phrase book.
6. Language textbook.





IMPLICATION

1. Start with your fridge.
2. Explore grocery stores and enrich your fridge.
3. Explore your food combinations.
4. Cook something light to test out.
5. Cook something heavier.
6. Consider what your guests need.
7. Apply for the BLC fellowship!

The End !

Q & A

San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) 2019

Chinese Immersion School – An ideal model

-1/3 Native English Speakers

-1/3 Native Chinese Speakers

-1/3 Bi-lingual and bi-literate Speakers



Language proficiency and health communication

...A volunteer at a Chinese hospital spoke about how her Cantonese speaking abilities helped her contribute to vaccinating “hundreds of people per day” against COVID....

(AsAmNews, by Julia Tong 2022)

