

ica, Japan, and China as well as first-hand current authentic sources. The book has two parts. The first shows how language development links to the recent social changes in China. The second part deals in detail with these social changes and their influence on verbal and non-verbal behaviour; with gender-specific issues; and modern Chinese culture in general. It further describes changes of customs brought about by political and economic factors, and emphasizes the central role of Chinese language & culture in the Asian context especially in relation to Japan. Colour photographs and vignettes illustrate the reality of contemporary China. The new approach to teaching Chinese language and culture draws from theory in the field of Second Language Acquisition. Culture is introduced to learners not as a monolithic and static stereotype, but a dynamic and fluid entity that is closely linked to language and society. In this sense, the book is path breaking in its attempt to address both language and culture. As professor of Chinese at a Japanese university, Sheri Zhang accepted the position of professor and associate dean of language teaching at Nanchang University in southern China in 2005. She presently does research at home in Canada.

The book can be ordered online from the publisher at <http://www.cjkware.com/book>  
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中高级汉语视听说教程——走进中国百姓生活  
*Reality Chinese—A Multi-skill Chinese Course  
for Intermediate and Advanced Students*

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《中高级汉语视听说教程——走进中国百姓生活》由多位在海外从事汉语教学工作的教师编写，其语言材料取材于10集反映中国百姓日常生活的短剧。每集短剧内容独立，时间约30分钟，其长度非常适合课堂教学。短剧内容根据场景每集分为3~4幕，将生词、注释、语法等语言点及练习附加在每幕之后。

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该书适合具有中高级汉语水平的学习者使用。“利于教、便于学”是该视听说教程的特点。

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### Pinyin TextField

([www.geocities.com/shixilun/pinyintextfield.html](http://www.geocities.com/shixilun/pinyintextfield.html) for the web page, or [www.geocities.com/shixilun/pinyintextfield.zip](http://www.geocities.com/shixilun/pinyintextfield.zip) to download the stand-alone version)

This web page contains a simple text editor written for the Macromedia (now Adobe) Flash Player 8 that allows users to type *pinyin* syllables and sentences with ease. To add a tone mark, all you need to do is type the appropriate number (1 through 4) while the caret is positioned

on the syllable to be marked. You can type the number at the end of the syllable (e.g., ping2) or along the way (pi2ng or pin2g) and get ping. You can go back and add or change a tone by moving the caret and typing the number; remove the mark by typing 0. You can put an umlaut on a *u* by typing a colon (:) right after it; if there's already a tone mark on the *u*, the umlaut positions itself correctly. Once you're done, you can copy and paste to any application you desire.