

Texas. In the first half of 2008, CLTA-Texas has organized workshops and Seminar in several cities in Texas, such as Dallas, Austin and College Station. CLTA-Texas and Dallas-Fort Worth Chinese Schools offered a two-day Chinese Teacher Workshop in Dallas on 1/18-19. The presenters included Dr. Jyun-gwang Chan, Graduate Institute of Teaching Chinese as a Second Language, Dr. Meng Yeh, Rice University and Dr. Yang Li, Jasper High School. The Workshop offered courses of *Performance-based Teaching and Assessment* and *Chinese Morphology*. More than 100 participants joined the Workshop. CLTA-Texas also held a half-day seminar on *Chinese Language Teaching in Greater Austin* on 3/29. We invited the Coordinators of Foreign Language of Austin Independent School District, high school teachers, instructors from universities and principals of heritage Chinese schools. Each group presented their views regarding the current state and future directions of the Chinese language education in Austin. CLTA-Texas and the Confucius Institute at Texas A&M University have collaborated to organize a Seminar on *Chinese Language Teaching and Learning* in College Station on 4/28. The Seminar focuses on establishing and sustaining a Chinese program in K-12.

Olympic Delegates Get Lessons in Language, Culture

Ten local Canadian Olympic Committee delegates are ready to depart for Beijing after finishing their basic language training in Mandarin.

The delegates were given once-a-week lessons by three University of Ottawa students from the department of modern languages who volunteered their time.

Sheri Zhang, professor of Chinese language and culture at the University of Ottawa, contacted the committee in mid-February, because she wanted to make sure Canada's Olympic representatives would be able to communicate with Chinese people and have an easier time living in China.

"It's just basic survival," Asyera Theng, another student teacher, said of the language training sessions. The delegates learned how to find a washroom and bargain for cheaper prices with merchants.

Brian Edey, a co-ordinator in Olympic preparation, is leaving Ottawa next Wednesday for a 10-day orientation session in Beijing and will be taking care of travel logistics for Canada's athletes during his 40-day stay at the Olympics.

"The tones need to be so exact, because you could be saying something completely different," said Mr. Edey. You could be trying to check into your hotel, but really be proposing marriage, he joked.

In addition to learning language basics, the delegates have been briefed on etiquette, nutrition, and environmental factors.

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2008年華語文能力測驗 在美國洛杉磯、紐約、舊金山舉行

<http://www.sc-top.org.tw/>

「華語文能力測驗」(Test Of Proficiency-Huayu)乃針對母語非華語之人士所設計,分為基礎、初等、中等和高等四個等級,為一套標準化的語言能力測驗,由國家華語測驗推動工作委員會負責研發推廣。

華語文能力測驗在2006年正式推出國際,分別於日本、韓國、泰國、美國(洛杉磯)、英國等五國進行施測;2007年另增越南、美國(紐約)、法國等三地;今年則新設印尼、馬來西亞、美國(舊金山)、加拿大、澳洲、巴拉圭、波蘭等,海外考點共達16個地區。

華語文能力測驗今年首先於美國紐約登場,紐約文化組籌辦多場測驗,第一個場次於1月29日(星期二)紐約市立大學舉行,接著在4月5日(星期六)