

SOFTWARE AND WORLD WIDE WEB NEWS

Speak Chinese

By John W. Chang

This iPhone application will introduce you to the sound system of Mandarin Chinese.

It is designed to serve as an introductory course to get you started learning the language. It has very detailed explanations, and also many interactive exercises to help you learn the materials.

You will also have the opportunity to record yourself and upload the audio for a review. You can also listen to user uploaded recording to learn from others.

FEATURES:

* Tones:

demonstrating the four tones with graphs, audio, and interactive exercises

* Initials & Finals:

presenting all the consonants and vowels of Mandarin Chinese with detailed explanations and audio recorded by native speakers

* Quizzes:

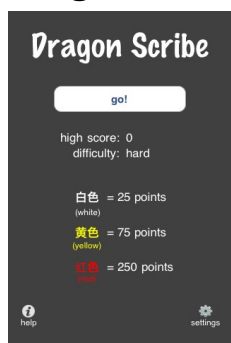
learning by doing for a firm grasp of the materials you are learning.

* YouSpeak:

record yourself and share it with others.

Downloadable for free from iTunes store

Dragon Scribe is a new game for the iPhone that provides a fun way to practice writing the Chinese language anytime you have a few minutes. Part puzzle game, part arcade game, and part language trainer, the object of Dragon Scribe is simple: draw the Chinese characters as they fall from the sky. Score as many points as you can through progressively harder levels. Along the way, you'll learn to write Chi-



nese characters quickly and correctly using your iPhone's built-in Chinese handwriting recognition system. Can you reach the final Dragon level?

Dragon Scribe Lite is free, and includes 10 of the easiest, most common Chinese characters. The full version of Dragon Scribe is \$0.99 and includes four difficulty levels and the 100 most common Chinese characters. Dragon Scribe Pro is \$4.99 and includes nearly 3,000 of the most common Chinese characters. *(Submitted by Jerry Malsam)*

MyChineseLab is the latest entry into the Pearson suite of MyLanguageLabs joining MySpanishLab, MyFrenchLab, and MyItalianLab. MyLanguageLabs is a highly successful online learning and assessment system for basic language courses. It was designed to serve the unique needs of language learners and language teachers.

The MyLanguageLab platform is Pearson owned and was developed in close collaboration with language instructors. Our Advisory Board and contributors are listed on www.mylanguagelabs.com > Learn About > Contributors and Reviewers.

Among the many exciting features of MyChineseLab are:

- **A calendar view of assignments.** Alarm clocks on the calendar represent assignments due that day, regardless of whether the assignment comes from the text, the student activities manual, or the video.
- **A “Readiness Check”** about English grammar concepts for each chapter help prepare students for the Chinese grammar that they will learn in that specific chapter.
- **Point-of-need support in multiple layers.** As students do their auto-scored homework in MyChineseLab, they are provided with **feedback bubbles** that provide questions to