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Splash Class: Chinese

Introductions, favorite part of Splash so far, and why you were interested in taking this class.

How many of you already know Chinese? How about a language other than English?

Learning Chinese is hard:

- Mostly because sounds and characters are separate...for the most part
- There are a lot of characters...not as simple as 26 letters in the alphabet

But...some characters have unique origins and symbolize their meanings.

Three types of characters:

- Pictographic (象形) - Look like what they represent
 - Think: Hieroglyphics or cuneiform
 - Oracle bones
- Ideographic (指事) - Signify what they mean
 - Simple ideographs
 - Compound ideographs
- Phono-semantic (形声) - Look like what they sound
 - Includes parts of words for same/slant sounds
 - We won't be covering these, but you will encounter many if you study more!

Go through worksheet together

- Describe the words
- Write the definition and trace the character

Parting shots:

Chinese is hard; you still have to memorize a lot up front

However, understanding the origin of certain characters helps with interpretation