

NEW SECONDARY CHINESE SYLLABUS

Let's hear from experienced teachers on the new Secondary Chinese syllabus and how it benefits students' learning.

By EPH Editorial Team

The new Secondary Chinese Language syllabus was introduced to the new Secondary 1 cohort in 2021 and will be fully implemented across all levels by 2024. What are the key changes and how will the new syllabus bolster students' mastery of the Chinese language? Experienced teachers 許可馨老师 and 汤玲轩老师, authors of **Secondary Express Chinese Weekly Revision** (\$8.90 - \$12.90) and **Secondary Higher Chinese Weekly Revision** (\$8.90 - \$13.90) respectively, share with us their observations thus far.

Q What are the major differences featured in the revised Secondary Chinese textbook based on the new syllabus?

許老师: For Express Chinese, every unit (单元) features a theme (主题) that closely revolves around students' everyday life, current affairs, and Chinese and local cultures. With themes that are more relevant to the modern context, students can now better apply the knowledge that they have learnt from the textbook to real-world scenarios. These texts also serve as reference materials for writing.

汤老师: The new Higher Chinese textbook adopts a thematic approach as well, wherein each unit of four lessons is centred around one theme. There are also segments that relate closely to everyday life. Such content piques students' interest to delve deeper into

the given theme and acquire related skills. This, in turn, comes in handy for oral and composition writing.

Q What are the main skills taught in the new Secondary Chinese syllabus? How do these benefit students' learning?

許老师: The skills covered for Express Chinese can be grouped into four categories: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. There is also a short section on cultural knowledge, which helps spark students' interest in learning the language.

汤老师: Each unit of the new Higher Chinese textbook focuses on a particular set of skills, such as argumentative essay writing techniques, ways to describe people and scenarios, etc. A systematic approach is used to introduce the skills to students, starting with the basics and progressing to more advanced levels through four lessons in each unit. Students can make use of the skills learnt to better analyse comprehension passages and write compositions.

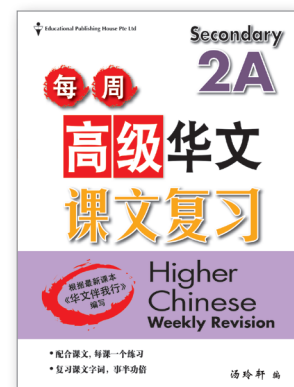
Q How does Secondary Express/ Higher Chinese Weekly Revision help students in their revision based on the new syllabus?

許老师 & 汤老师: This series by Educational Publishing House helps students to consolidate, revise, and hone their skills for the Paper 2 components. The comprehension passages cover a wide variety of topics

and styles which expose students to different genres of writing. Questions are also designed based on the skills learnt in each unit. Through these practices, students can identify their areas of weakness and assess their understanding of the skills taught in each unit. This will help boost students' confidence in tackling their weighted assessments and examinations in the long run.



(Available for Secondary 1 – 3)



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