



LESSON C.5

FORTUNE TELLING

算命

SUÀNMÌNG





- Share with the class a **memorable word or phrase** you have learned from the last lesson.
- Working as a pair, make up a **simple but meaningful dialogue** that must consist with the memorable words or phrases given by both of you.
- Below is an example:

fruit
水果
shuǐguǒ

eat egg friend rice
吃鸡蛋炒饭
chī jīdàn chǎofàn

我喜欢水果。
wǒ xǐhuān shuǐguǒ

我们先吃鸡蛋炒饭吧！
wǒmen xiān chī jīdàn chǎofàn ba

然后吃水果。
ránhòu chī shuǐguǒ



CLASSROOM ICE-BREAKER: WHAT DOES HE SAY?



对不起，我老婆才
是最重要的。
*duìbùqǐ, wǒ lǎopó cái shì zuì
zhòngyào de*



知己 <i>zhījǐ</i>	拒绝 <i>jùjué</i>	丈夫 <i>zhàngfū</i>	???	妻子 <i>qīzi</i>
	鼓励 <i>gǔlì</i>		打击 <i>dǎjī</i>	
	夸奖 <i>kuājiǎng</i>		吵架 <i>chǎojià</i>	
	关心 <i>guānxīn</i>		唠叨 <i>láo dāo</i>	

CLASSROOM ICE-BREAKER: WHAT DO THEY SAY?



老婆，我爱你。
lǎopó, wǒ ài nǐ

老公，我也爱你。
lǎogōng, wǒ yě ài nǐ

丈夫
zhàngfū

包容
bāoróng

妻子
qīzi

打击
dǎjī

吵架
chǎojià

唠叨
láodāo

DESCRIBE SOMEONE'S CHARACTER



形容人物性格 xíngróng rénwù xìnggé

					
健谈 jiàntán	果断 guǒduàn	稳重 wěnzhòng	好记性 hǎo jìxìng	保守 bǎoshǒu	爽快 shuǎngkuài

					
啰嗦 luōsuo	多心 duō xīn	冲动 chōngdòng	健忘/马大哈 jiànwàng / mǎdàhā	现代的 xiàndài de	敏感 mǐngǎn

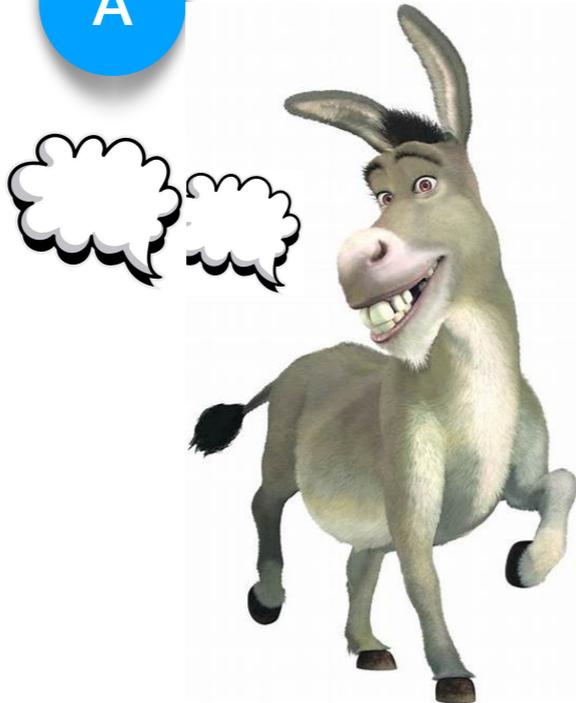
CLASSROOM EXERCISE: GUESS A FIGURE



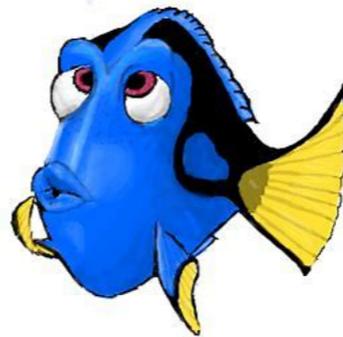
猜一个人物 cāi yīgè rénwù

- Describe the character of the following figures and let others guess who that is.
- The rest of the group may ask questions.

A



B



C



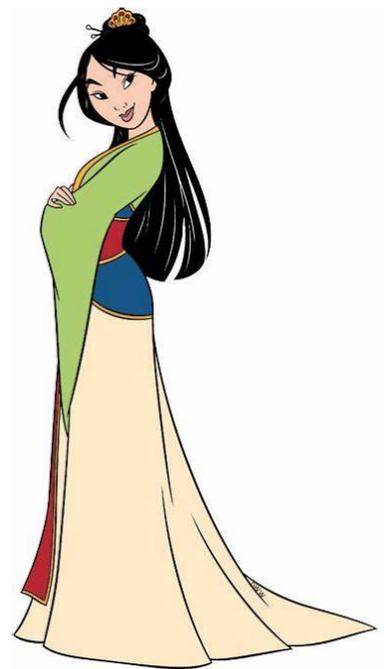
D



E



F





算命

suànmìng

- Chinese fortune-telling or “suan ming” –the **calculation of fate**–has many variations.
- The basis for Chinese fortune-telling is rooted in the firm belief of **fate 命运 (mìngyùn)**. We are all born with **different destinies** because each of us is a **unique being 独特的人 (dútè de rén)**.
- There is much that is **outside our control 我们无法控制 (wǒmen wúfǎ kòngzhì)**, and as such, fate is essentially **neither knowable nor amendable**. Only the gifted may be able to occasionally glimpse bits of it and find patterns within.
- In Chinese society, fortune telling is a **respected 受人尊敬 (shòu rén zūnjìng)** and **important 重要的 (zhòngyào de)** part of social and business culture.
- As **psychotherapists 心理治疗师 (xīnlǐ zhìliáo shī)**, fortune-tellers **算命先生 (suànmìng xiānshēng)** help people discuss and resolve personal issues **个人问题 (gèrén wèntí)**.
- As **management consultants 管理顾问 (guǎnlǐ gùwèn)**, they advise business people on **business and investment decisions 商业和投资决策 (shāngyè hé tóuzī juécè)**. Many major business decisions involve the input of fortune tellers.





你相信算命吗?
nǐ xiāngxìn suànmìng ma?



算命先生是先知吗?
suànmìng xiānshēng shì xiānzhī ma

这是假设的，
不一定是真实的。
*zhè shì jiǎshè de,
bù yīdìng shì zhēnshí de*



一个人可以通过自己的行
动，改变自己的命运。
*yīgè rén, kěyǐ tōngguò zìjǐ de
xíngdòng, gǎibiàn zìjǐ de
mìngyùn*

随缘吧!
suíyuán ba

What is Zhouyi fortune-telling?

The eight trigrams of Zhouyi 周易 (*zhōuyi*), namely Qian, Kun, Zhen, Xun, Kan, Li, Gen and Dui, are the basic elements of **divination** 占卜 (*zhānbǔ*) in the book of Zhouyi (part of 易经 *yì jīng*). In the book of Zhouyi, the eight trigrams are combined into 64 hexagrams, and then 64 hexagrams are used to account for the fortune of divination.



KAU CHIM – FORTUNE STICKS



求签 qiúqiān

- Kau Chim, literally meaning to **request or beg a stick**, is a popular way to find out one's fortune. You will find fortune sticks in most Taoist temple.
- This requires the shaking of a **bamboo cylinder** 竹筒 (*zhútǒng*) with a bundle of sticks (32, 60 or 100), until **one stick falls out** of the cylinder.
- The number inscribed on the stick corresponds to a line of poem that is analyzed by an interpreter.
- The meanings of the poem **predicts your future** 预测你的未来 (*yùcè nǐ de wèilái*). The prediction is short range, as it only covers one Chinese calendar year.
- Some fortune sticks have 9 categories: 上上、中上、下上、上中、中中、下中、上下、中下、下下 (*shàng shàng, zhōng shàng, xià shàng, shàng zhōng, zhōng zhōng, xià zhōng, shàngxià, zhòng xià, xià xià*). The best stick is 上上签 (*shàng shàng qiān*). It has become a new internet buzzword meaning "**outstanding**".
- It's a bit like **tarot card reading** 塔罗牌占卜 (*tǎ luō pái zhānbǔ*) in that the client makes the **selection** 选择 (*xuǎnzé*) themselves.



CLASSROOM DISCUSSION: FINGER READING



看手指：你的命运掌握在你的手中

kàn shǒuzhǐ: nǐ de mìngyùn zhǎngwò zài nǐ de shǒuzhōng

A

Ring Finger Index Finger

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食指比无名指长
shízhǐ bǐ wúmíngzhǐ cháng
意志坚强、勇敢、自私
yìzhì jiānqiáng, yǒnggǎn, zìsī

B

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食指与无名指一样长
shízhǐ yǔ wúmíngzhǐ yīyàng cháng
聪明、诚实、占有欲强
cōngmíng, chéngshí, zhànyǒu yù qiáng

C

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食指比无名指短
shízhǐ bǐ wúmíngzhǐ duǎn
可能会遇到麻烦、贪图美色
kěnéng huì yù dào máfan, tāntú měi sè

D

Ring Finger Index Finger

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无名指与中指一样长
wúmíngzhǐ yǔ zhōngzhǐ yīyàng cháng
敏感、感性、婚姻幸福
mǐngǎn, gǎnxìng, hūnyīn xìngfú

拇指
mǔzhǐ

食指
shízhǐ

中指
zhōngzhǐ

无名指
wúmíngzhǐ

小指 / 尾指
xiǎozhǐ / wěizhǐ



一命二运三风水，
yī mìng èr yùn sān fēngshuǐ
四积阴德五读书，
sì jī yīndé wǔ dúshū,
六名七相八敬神，
liù míng qī xiāng bā jìngshén
九交贵人十养生。
jiǔ jiāo guìrén shí yǎngshēng

- The above popular maxim 格言 (*géyán*) describes what factors affect a person's life, leading to the **good or ill fortune** 好运或不幸 (*hǎo yùn huò bùxìng*)
- Actual interpretations of this maxim vary. Some claim that it signifies that a person's destiny is under his or her **own control** 自己控制 (*zìjǐ kòngzhì*).
- Other interpretations may suggest that the **order** in which the components are stated are important in determining the course of person's life. For example, education (5th fortune) is not useful if fate (1st fortune) does not put you in the proper place at the beginning of your life.
- Other interpretations may suggest that there is no inherent order to the sequence.

1. fate
2. luck/fortune
3. fengshui
4. cultivate good merits
5. education/study
6. name
7. face/look
8. honour the Gods
9. relations with nobleman (benefactor)
10. keep living healthy

CLASSROOM GAME: FORTUNE COOKIE



12

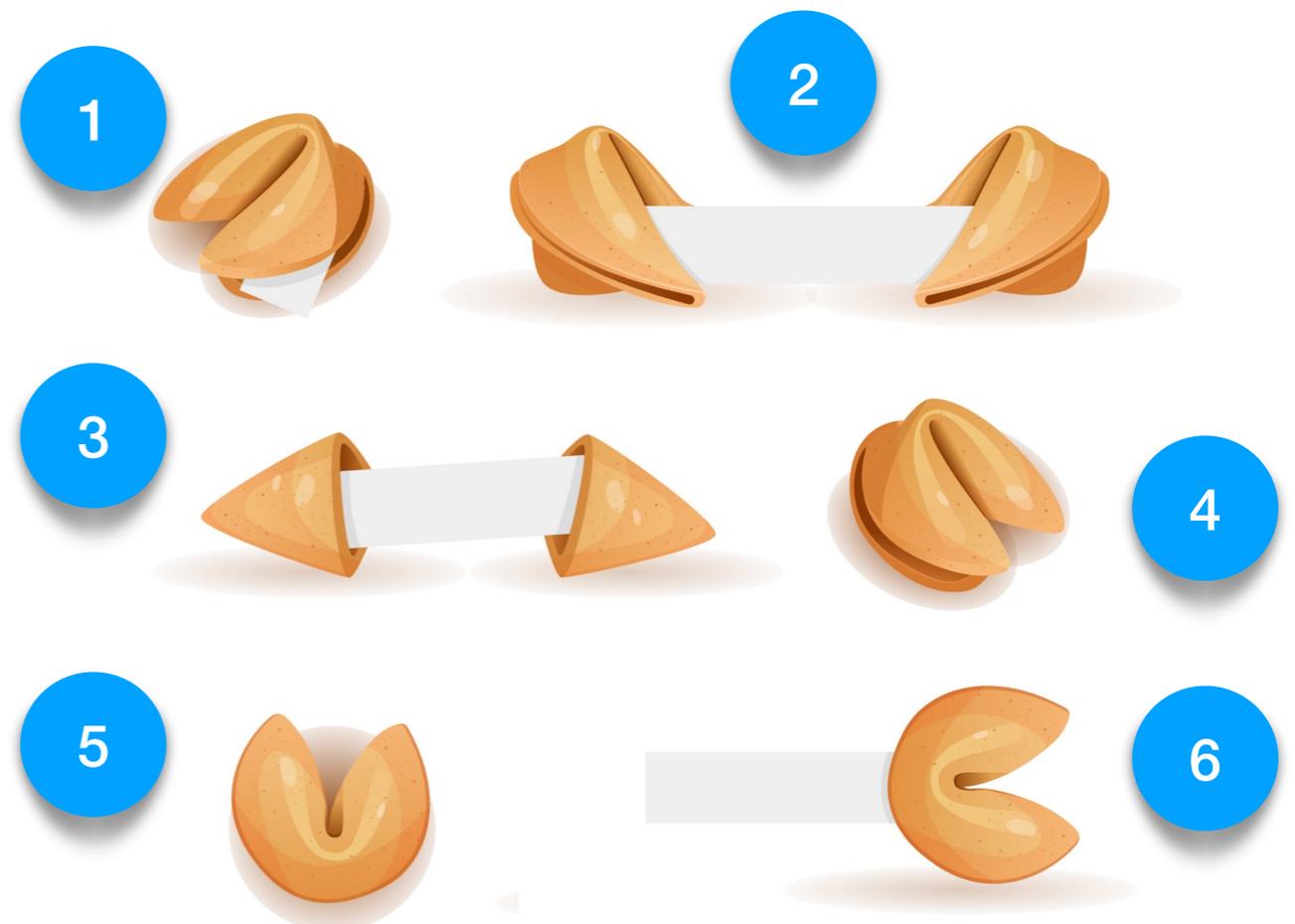
幸运饼干

xìngyùn bǐnggān

- Fortune cookies, while largely an American favourite, are often served in Chinese restaurants all over the world apart from China.
- The exact origin of fortune cookies is **unclear** 不清楚 (*bù qīngchǔ*). We know for sure they are not Chinese in origin.
- Everyone loves cracking open a fortune cookie at the end of a meal, inside which contains a paper written with Chinese **wisdom saying** 智慧语 (*zhìhuì yǔ*).

- 选择你的幸运数字 (*xuǎnzé nǐ de xìngyùn shùzì*).
- You tutor will reveal the wisdom inside on the next slide.

快把它打开!
kuài bǎ tā dǎkāi



CLASSROOM GAME: FORTUNE COOKIE WISDOM



1



向悲观者借钱，他们不要求还钱。
*xiàng bēiguān zhě jiè qián, tāmen
bù yāoqiú huán qián*

2



把这一天当作最后一天来度过。
*bǎ zhè yītiān dàng zuò zuìhòu
yītiān lái dùguò*

3



你爱的人比你想象的更近。
*nǐ ài de rén bǐ nǐ xiǎngxiàng de
gèng jìn*

4



一个好机会就在你面前。
*yīgè hǎo jīhuì jiù zài nǐ
miànqián*

5



对你的工作、你的诺言和你的朋友忠实。
*duì nǐ de gōngzuò, nǐ de nuòyán hé nǐ de
péngyǒu zhōngshí*

6



爱不是你找到的东西，爱是找到你的东西。
*ài bùshì nǐ zhǎodào de dōngxī, ài shì zhǎodào nǐ
de dōngxī*

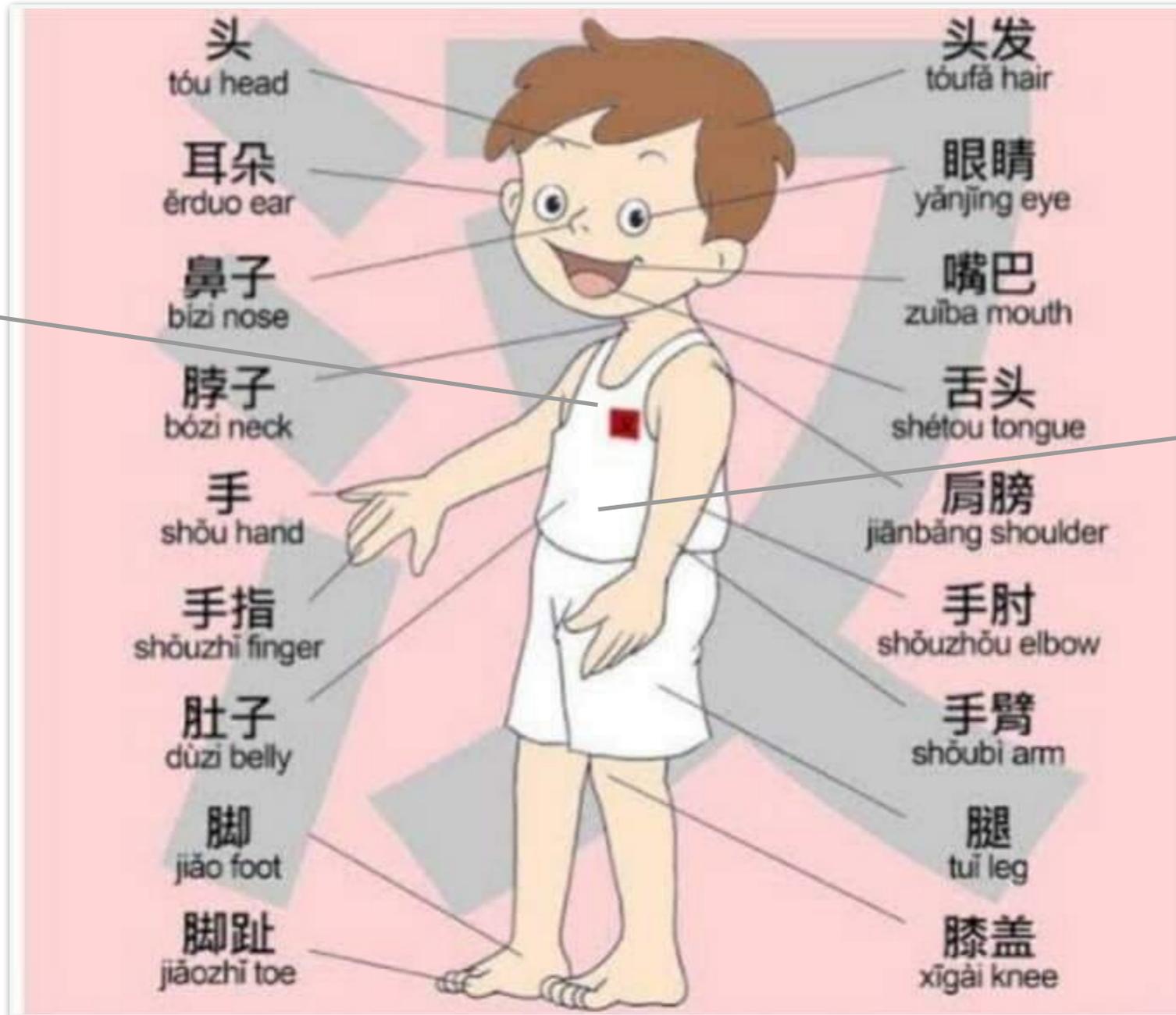
CLASSROOM LISTENING EXERCISE: MICRO-WORKOUT



微运动 wēi yùndòng

- Your tutor is going to give a set of simple instructions for seated workout 坐式运动 (zuò shì yùndòng).
- Try to follow as a group.

胸
xiōng chest



腹部
fùbù abdomen

CLASSROOM GAME: TRAITOR, WHO IS IT EXACTLY?



15

背叛者，究竟是谁？

bèipàn zhě, jiùjìng shì shéi

如何玩？ *rúhé wán*

- Amongst you lie a **"traitor"** 背叛者 (*bèipàn zhě*) who has been secretly pre-selected by your tutor. The rest of you are **"faithful"** 忠实的 (*zhōngshí de*).
- Your task is to **collectively determine** 一起判定 (*yīqǐ pàndìng*) who the "traitor" could be.
- You may ask each other questions. Make your judgment based on their **reactions** 反应 (*fǎnyìng*), **body language** 身体语言 (*shēntǐ yǔyán*), **eye contact** 眼神交流 (*yǎnshén jiāoliú*).

Why don't you
speak out?
你为什么不出声?
*nǐ wèishéme bù chū
shēng*



Are you snickering?
你在偷笑吗?
nǐ zài tōu xiào ma





背叛者仍在逃！ *bèipàn zhě réng zài táo*

你是不是背叛者？
nǐ shì bùshì bèipàn zhě

我是无辜的！
wǒ shì wúgū de

我没有说谎！
wǒ méiyǒu shuōhuǎng

你在骗我吗？
nǐ zài piàn wǒ ma

我说的都是真的！
wǒ shuō de dōu shì zhēn de

你在胡说吗？
nǐ zài húshuō ma



你有一张天使的脸。
nǐ yǒu yīzhāng tiānshǐ de liǎn

你看起来像魔鬼！
nǐ kàn qǐ lái xiàng móguǐ

你为什么不眨眼睛？
nǐ wèishéme bù zhǎ yǎnjīng

你眨眼睛眨不停！
nǐ zhǎ yǎnjīng zhǎ bù tíng