

My MEP Projects

Project: Comic – màn huà
Series: Creative



Name: _____

This is a relaxing and creative project because you will have the chance to make your very own comic purely in Chinese. Don't worry if you are not a confident artist as tools will be given to you to help you create.

Sound amazing? Well it is amazing! So get your inner artist ready and ...

Go for it!

1. Manhwa 漫画



The word for comic or cartoon in Chinese is 漫画 màn huà (literally meaning 'overflowing pictures'). Comics are extremely popular in the Far East. In many cities there are even mini libraries devoted entirely to comic books, and getting dressed up as your favourite characters and going to "conventions" is very popular with young people, as you can see here! If you would like to find out more about *manhua*, visit this Wikipedia page which also has links to descriptions of the most famous and popular Chinese-language comics. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manhua>

Write out the characters for 'cartoon' in the boxes below.

漫	màn						
画	huà						

2. Your very own Chinese comic

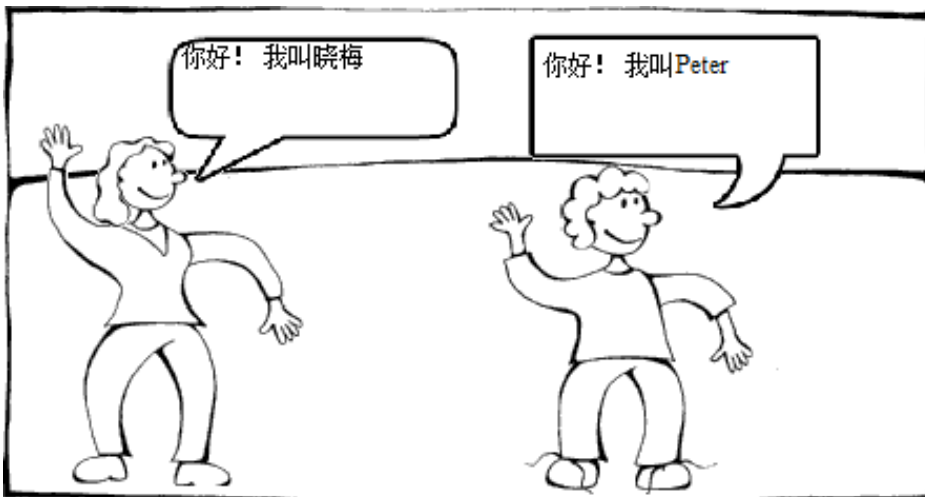
You are about to draw your first Chinese comic. The rules are simple. You can draw whatever characters you like in whatever situation, as long as it is not rude or offensive. Let's start with something simple... maybe you can draw yourself saying hello and what your name is, or introducing your family- it's up to you! If you enjoy drawing, then draw your comic as we want to see your talent. If you don't feel confident drawing, why not use one of the websites below to help you create a comic?

Comic-making websites

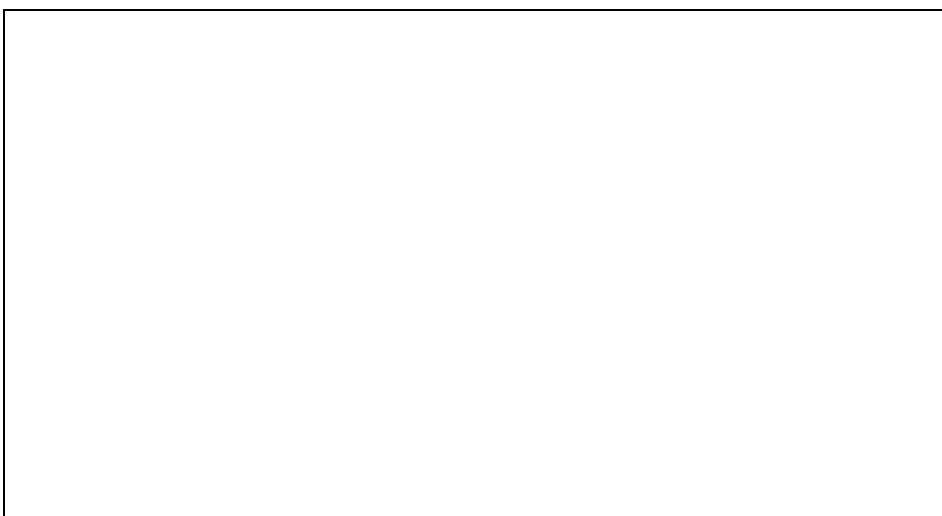
The **first two** allow you to type in Chinese. The third and fourth sites don't, but you could always print out a comic with the speech bubbles blank and then add the text by hand.

- i. <http://stripgenerator.com/strip/create/> (you can increase the number of boxes available by choosing 'custom')
- ii. <http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/comic/>
- iii. http://marvel.com/games/play/34/create_your_own_comic
- iv. <https://www.pixton.com/>

The cartoon below was created using the second link (and taking a screenshot)!



Your comic:



★ Task 2 complete

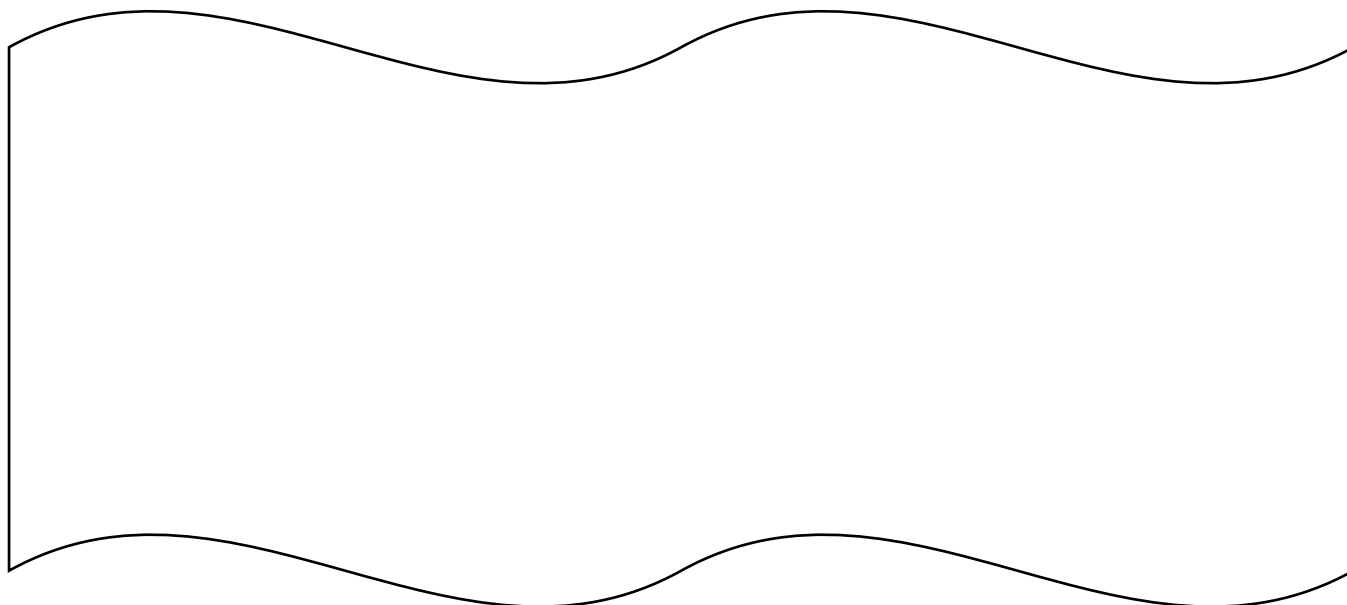
3. Developing a longer cartoon story

Ok, now you've had a first try at creating a cartoon, how about trying something a bit more difficult? If you find drawing difficult, it is alright for you to draw basic pictures. For example, you could use simple stick men/women with round heads so you can draw the expressions onto their faces. You are also allowed to cut out images from magazines to use in your comic- whatever you like. You need to more or less use a full A4 sheet and a **minimum of six boxes**.

First, think of a simple story that you want to write and draw. If you can't think of anything (and don't spend too long worrying!), here's some ideas you could use if you like:

- Two strangers are getting to know each other (asking about names, age, family members, pets and hobbies)
- Two family members are having a chat about what they want to eat and drink for supper.
- Two friends or classmates are talking about school subjects they like and don't like.
- Two friends or classmates are talking about what their hobbies are and/or what sports they like or can (会 hui) play.
- Two friends are arguing about what to do next (e.g. go shopping together or play computer games).
- Two animals are talking about types of transport, then they go on a trip together. What happens?
- A robot and a human being are talking about ...

But you **can** make up your own scenario. Before you start drawing, write your ideas here:



★	Task 3 complete	
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Now you have some idea of what your story is, here's some useful phrases that you might want to try using, to make your story more exciting.

4 Some useful words and phrases

Look at the words and phrases you have **already** learned, many of them will be useful. It is fine to look up characters for words you don't know, but try to use as many words as you can from where you have got up to in your course at school. Here are a few extra words and phrases you may find helpful.

Question words

什么 shén me = what?

为什么 wèi shén me = why?

The answer to 'why' begins with 因为... yīn wèi (Because...)

Phrases

我知道 wǒ zhī dao = I know

我不知道 wǒ bù zhī dao = I don't know

我想吃... wǒ xiǎng chī = I want to eat ...

我不想去 wǒ bù xiǎng qù. = I don't want to go.

不要! bú yào = Don't!! / I DON'T WANT TO!

好。Hǎo = Alright, OK (when somebody agrees)

对不起 duì bù qǐ = Sorry.

没关系 méi guān xi = That's OK. / Don't worry.

谢谢 xiè xie = Thank you.

不客气 bú kè qi = You're welcome.

你去哪儿? nǐ qù nǎr? = Where are you going?

在哪里? zài nǎ lǐ = Where is (it)?

Other

哈哈 hā hā = haha, laughing out loud

呵呵 hē hē = hee hee, (sound of chuckling)

棒 bàng = brilliant, awesome

酷 kù = cool, hip

真的吗? zhēn de ma ? = Really?

真的 zhēn de . = (Yes) really.

Super Challenge! Amazingly useful Grammar

If you really want to add lots of Chinese in your comic, take a look at this language first, it will help you to talk about the past, the future, and ask questions. For **past tense**, add 了 le after the verb, e.g. 我今天早饭吃了鸡蛋。 = This morning I ate eggs for breakfast... BUT if it's negative (e.g. I didn't), use 没 before the verb, e.g. 我没喝茶。 = I didn't drink tea.

For **future**, use 要 yào before the verb, e.g. 我们今天晚上要去看电影。 = This evening we're going (out) to watch a movie.

Using '**positive-negative**' questions: You may have learned 忙不忙? máng bù máng? (Are you busy or not?). Well, the same type of question can be used with other verbs. E.g. one of your characters might want to say, 'Shall we watch a movie or not?': 我们要不要看电影? Or he/she might say, 'Do you want to go shopping or not?': 你想不想去买东西?



Tip

A nice way to spice up your Chinese is to use this sentence pattern to say something is 'very ...' or 'extremely ...'. Just put 太 tài and 了 le either side of an adjective.

For example:

太好了! = Very good/brilliant

太棒了! tài bang le = Awesome! / Fab!

Use this pattern to write 'extremely big': _____

☆	Task 4 complete	
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5 Rough draft



Now think of the scenario your comic is going to be about and make as many notes as you can before you do the real thing. Write down the Chinese lines you are going to use in your comic before you actually start it. This way you won't make lots of mistakes and make the final piece of work look messy. Use the blank space on this page to make notes and continue on an extra sheet if necessary.

Remember, your comic scenario is just a short one, so you do not need to come up with a very long story.

Notes:

★	Task 5 complete	
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6 Creating your comic

Before you begin your comic, look at the example below of a real Chinese comic to inspire you. Of course you won't be able to write as much (or read it), it's just there to give you some ideas!



Figure 1 Labelled on Google images for reuse. Link: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/bossmafia/7360591160>

Now that you have a clear idea of what will happen in your comic and what each character will say at each stage, create your comic on the next page. Make sure you have a ruler handy for drawing the six-or-more boxes needed- don't forget, you can make the boxes different sizes if you like.

You may use your own paper for your comic, but submit it with your project at the end. If you do your project on a website, be sure to print out the final version to hand in.

★	Task 6 complete	
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Well done!



太棒了！

Your Achievements

Congratulations on completing 1 MEP Project!

- You have created your very own comic in Chinese; now *that* is quite an achievement!
- You have practised your drawing skills.
- You have written a conversation in Chinese.
- You have used your Chinese in a very creative way, well done!

Now that you have completed your artwork, why not share it with your friends or your classmates who you study Chinese with?

*If your teacher signs you off,
you will collect 1 Badge!*