

## My MEP Projects: Y9

# Y9 Project: KTV

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*What we call Karaoke in Britain, the Chinese call KTV. It's a hugely popular pastime in China and if you go out with friends, chances are they'll take you to KTV. What a surprise you'll get when you see how different these KTV venues are to anything you may have encountered at home. In this project you'll find out lots more about KTV in China, get to grips with some key vocab and expressions so you can enjoy the experience to the full, explore some Chinese characters and maybe learn a popular song so you can really impress your friends.*

**Go for it!**



## Task 1: Where does the word KTV come from?

Here are a few questions for you to research so you find out a little bit about the origins of Karaoke and KTV. See if you can find the answers without using Wikipedia! 😊

1. The word "Karaoke" comes from the Japanese language. Many Japanese words use Chinese characters (called "kanji" in Japanese). The Japanese word for Karaoke contains the character 空. What does this mean, and what is its pinyin in Mandarin?

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2. What does KTV stand for?

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3. Name two other places in Asia that use the term KTV for Karaoke.

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★	Task 1 complete	
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## Task 2: Seven key expressions you'll need for KTV

When you visit a KTV studio in China, you'll get allocated a room for your group to party in. There's a big screen, sofa seats, a table, a KTV machine and lots of microphones. On your way in, you'll pick up snacks and drinks in the KTV shop and the attendants will bring these to your room for you. Here are seven key expressions you should learn so you can join in the fun. Match the Chinese characters to the correct English and then fill in the correct pinyin. One has been done for you.



中文	Write the pinyin in this column	English (draw an arrow to the correct translation)
我们点一打汽水吧	wǒmen diǎn yī dǎ qìshuǐ ba	I've sung myself hoarse!
我们点薯条吧		Sing it again!
你要点什么歌?		Let's order chips
再唱一遍		You sound just like the original!
你唱得像原唱		Please give me the mic
请给我麦克风		Let's order a dozen soft drinks
我声音都唱哑了		What song do you want?

你唱得像原唱！

nǐ chàng de xiàng yuán  
chàng!

Remember that smart trick for language learners: learn useful phrases by heart that will trip easily off the tip of your tongue when you need them. Choose one of these KTV phrases, write it on a post-it and stick it somewhere you'll see it frequently, such as your phone or your bedroom wall. Keep it there for a week and say it (or even shout it) out loud every time you see it.

☆ Task 2 complete

### Task 3: Students transform their dorm room

Decorating a student dorm is a common way of brightening up college life. In this article from the website The Chairman's Bao, you'll read about how some KTV-loving students took this to the extreme. Click on the link below and take the following steps to ensure that you get the most out of this important learning resource.



Tick each step as you complete it on the table below. Remember, **repetition, repetition, repetition** is a key trick for successful language learners. You'll listen to the short audio five times (don't worry it's only fifty-four seconds long!) *but don't skimp on it!*

<http://bit.ly/TCBDorm>

Tick each step as you complete it:

Tasks	✓
Listen to the audio without looking at the text. Jot down in pinyin any words you recognize in the scroll below.	
Listen to the audio again while reading the text	
Listen to it <b>again</b> while reading the text	
Hover your mouse over the words you don't know, the website will give you the translation	

Listen to it again while reading the text	
Click on the small green scholar's hat at the top left hand corner of the picture. This will take you to some matching and missing word exercises. Do these exercises.	
Choose five Chinese characters that are new to you in this article. Click on each character. This will take you to the Stroke Order and Writing Tool. Use this to check and practice stroke order for those characters.	
Listen to the audio <b>one more time</b> without reading the text. Enjoy how much better you understand it now!	



★	Task 3 complete	
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### Task 4: Don't get called a 麦霸 (màibà)!

You might hear someone at KTV being called a 麦霸. What are they being accused of? Read the following blog post by 16-year-old 艾莉 (Àilì) to find out what a 麦霸 is. Answer the questions in English below.

Hi! 我叫艾莉，十六岁，上十年级。因为我快要考高考，天天作业太多了。每个晚上都要学习到很晚。我只有星期六下午可以跟朋友一起去玩儿。我家附近有一家 KTV。我们常常一起去唱歌。上次我的表



哥也来了。他比我大两岁。他真麻烦！每次我选了一首歌，他不让我唱，占着麦克，他就一直唱。我朋友选了歌，他也这样。我们都称他为“麦霸”

### Language Tips!

表哥	<i>biǎo gē</i>	“older male cousin”
占	<i>zhàn</i>	“to take possession of”
称…为 X	<i>chēng…wéi</i>	“to call somebody X”

1. What school year is Aili in?

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2. Why is she so busy?

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3. When does she go with her friends to KTV?

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4. Why was her cousin so annoying?

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5. From reading this, can you think up a good expression in English to translate 麦霸 *mài bà*?

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☆	Task 4 complete	
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## Task 5: Getting some practice using 再 zài

The character 再 zài is probably one of the first you ever learnt as it's in the word for "goodbye", 再见 (zài jiàn)! You might also know how to say "Please repeat it" – 请再说一遍 (Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn). And 再 is also very useful in KTV:

### Language Tips!

再唱一遍 zài chàng yībiàn "Sing it again!"

再来一次 zài lái yīcì "Encore!"

The key thing to remember is:

- 再 goes before the verb because it's a 'time when' adverb.
- 再 means 'again' and is used about something that has already happened and will happen again.

Here are five sentences using 再. The English translation is given first, then the jumbled sentence in Chinese. Write the characters in the correct order.

English	Jumbled sentence	Correct order
Let's go to the cinema again!	院电我去吧们再影	
I'm full, I can't eat anymore	吃了包吃我了再能不	
I want to go to France again	法我想国法再	
He isn't home, please come again tomorrow	来明再天他家请不在	
The teacher told me to write it again	再一次老叫我师写	

You'll also have come across another word meaning "again": 又 yòu

他昨天来了, 今天又来了

tā zuó tiān lái le, jīn tiān yòu lái le

"He came yesterday, he came again today."

If you're not sure if you should use 再 or 又 yòu, ask yourself whether it's in the future (再) or in the past (又).

Here's an example of a sentence where both are used:

我昨天又吃面条, 明天不要再吃

wǒ zuó tiān yòu chī miàn tiáo, míng tiān bù yào zài chī

"I ate noodles again yesterday, I don't want to eat them again tomorrow"

Have a look at these sentences. If you were translating them into Chinese would you use zài or yòu? (tick the correct box)

	再 (zài)	又 (yòu)
Let's go and see that movie again.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I went to that movie again last week.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We went to that KTV lounge again yesterday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I'm definitely going to that KTV place again.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

★ Task 5 complete

## Task 6: Taking a closer look at the character 乐

### Task 6a

When you first learnt the Chinese word for 'music' 音乐 yīn yuè, you were probably glad the character 乐 was an easy one to write. But then you may have been confused because it was the same character as 乐 lè in 快乐 kuài lè, "happy". Your

teacher probably explained that there are a few characters that can be pronounced in more than one way. These are called 多音字 *duō yīn zì*, “many sounds characters”. Here are two others you are probably familiar with. Write the two different ways these can be pronounced in the table below:

Character	Pinyin 1	Pinyin 2
乐	yùe	lè
行		
长		

The following sentences have examples of these different pronunciations. Translate them into English.

1. 银行再市中心

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2. 中国人喜欢在欧洲旅行

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3. 她有长头发

---

4. 他长得很瘦

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Do you know what the English word ‘etymology’ means? If you don’t, look it up in a dictionary. Write the English definition here:



The 'etymology' of Chinese characters is an endlessly fascinating subject. Finding out what the character looked like when it first appeared on oracle bones or bronzes can also help with learning a character. For example, you may have learnt the 'grain' radical 米 as in 米饭 "rice" and 蛋糕 "cake". If you research its origins, you will see that it originally looked like this:



Rice grows in a paddy field in water, if you look carefully you will notice that the character looked like a plant with its reflection in water.

The character 乐 meaning 'music' or 'joy' looks like this in traditional characters:



Notice the two 'silk' radicals at the top and the 'wood' radical at the base. Here are some very early versions of this character:



Scholars aren't sure what the original picture meant. Was it the strings (silk) on a wooden zither or was it the music of birds in a tree? Whatever the right answer, it certainly looks like someone joyfully playing or dancing to music.

One of the best websites for researching the origins of characters is this one started by an American scholar and which now has over 31,000 characters!





<http://bit.ly/MEPHanzi>



Simply type in a Chinese character and it will show you all the early forms of that character that have been discovered so far.

## Task 6b

Choose 5 of your favourite Chinese characters – they could be ones you like the shape of, or that you like the meaning of ('cat', perhaps, or something abstract like 'love'). Type them into the website page and draw any three early versions of the character.

What the character looks like now	Early versions of the character		
			

★	Task 6 complete	
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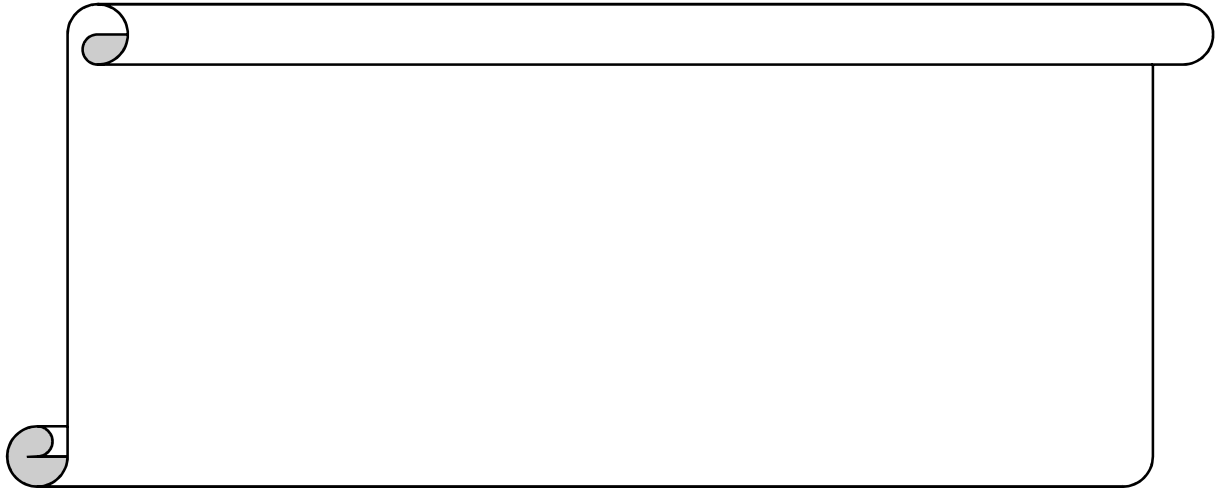
## Task 7: A mobile KTV van!

Just like you can use your phone to order takeaway meals, now in Chengdu you can order a KTV van! In this article from the website The Chairman's Bao, you'll find out how the citizens of Chengdu have KTV just one click away from their house. Click on the link below and take the following steps to ensure that you get the most out of this important learning resource.

Tick each step as you complete it on the table below. Remember, **repetition, repetition, repetition** is a key trick for successful language learners. You'll listen to the short audio five times (don't worry it's only one minute and seven seconds long!) *but don't skimp on it!*

<http://bit.ly/TCBMobileKTV>

Tasks	✓
Listen to the audio without looking at the text. Jot down in pinyin any words you recognize in the scroll on the next page.	
Listen to the audio again while reading the text	
Listen to it <b>again</b> while reading the text	
Hover your mouse over the words you don't know, the website will give you the translation	
Listen to it again while reading the text	
Click on the small green scholar's hat at the top left hand corner of the picture. This will take you to some matching and missing word exercises. Do these exercises.	
Choose five Chinese characters that are new to you in this article. Click on each character. This will take you to the Stroke Order and Writing Tool. Use this to check and practice stroke order for those characters.	
Listen to the audio <b>one more time</b> without reading the text. Enjoy how much better you understand it now!	



★ Task 7 complete

## Task 8: The Chinese version of *The Voice*

Many young singers aspiring to be stars practise their routines at KTV and dream of being discovered. Talent shows are very popular on Chinese TV and one of the top shows is *Sing! China* (中国好声音 *zhōngguó hǎo shēngyīn*), with a format very like *The Voice*.

Here's a clip of a young busker trying his luck before the judges: (watch between 16.39 and 29.09 on the Youtube link below)

<http://bit.ly/SingBusker>

The judges are very famous stars in China – you can find more about them on Wikipedia.



Wang Leehom



Na Ying



Li Ronghao



Harlem Yu

Enjoy the performance, look out for any words you recognize in the song (Chinese TV always has Chinese character subtitles so that people who speak different dialects can understand). Then answer the following questions:

1. What is the young singer's name\*?

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2. How old is he?\*

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3. Which two judges choose him?

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4. Which judge does he then choose?

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*\*If you don't catch his name and age when he introduces himself, you'll see that information to the right of the screen while he's singing.*

☆	Task 8 complete	
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## Task 9: Your own Playlist 歌单 gē dān

Western music also has a huge fan base in China, and it doesn't take long for global hits to be translated into Chinese and performed by Chinese singers. It's easy to find examples on YouTube, just type in the English name of the song and performer and then type "Chinese version" or 中文版 *zhōng wén bǎn*.

List your current five favourite songs on the table on the next page and then find out the title in Chinese:

我的歌单	
Title of the song in English	Chinese version of the title

Now see if you can find a version of one of your favourite songs performed by a Chinese singer **in Mandarin**. Challenge yourself to learn the chorus and sing along. Singing in another language is a great way to improve your fluency and pronunciation, so don't be shy!

If you can't find a version of a song you like, try this hit from Taiwanese star Eric Chou released in early 2019. The title is 怎么了? (*zěnmě le?*) - "What's Wrong?"

<http://bit.ly/ZenmeLe>

It's a song with lots of familiar vocabulary so you may find yourself able to sing along after only a few listens. (The video is filmed in England, on the White Cliffs of Dover!). The lyrics with the translation can be found here:

<http://bit.ly/ZenmeLeLyrics>

Just imagine how this will impress your friends at a KTV party!



## Task 10: Reviewing this project

Which tasks in this project did you find most interesting and why? Which tasks were the hardest? Which task did you not enjoy doing and why?

Complete the following three sentences **in Chinese characters**. You'll find some useful vocabulary in the box below:

1. 我觉得最有意思的练习是 task number..... 因为 .....

.....

2. 我觉得最难的练习是 task number..... 因为 .....

.....

3. 我不喜欢 task number..... 因为 .....

.....

### Language Tips!

练习	<i>liàn xí</i>	“task/exercise”
难	<i>nán</i>	“difficult”
有意思	<i>yǒu yì si</i>	“interesting”
没意思	<i>méi yì si</i>	“boring”



## Your Achievements

Congratulations on completing 1 MEP Project!

- You can now enjoy KTV with your friends knowing you'll be able to use some key vocabulary to choose songs, order snacks and even exchange a bit of KTV banter!
- You can confidently use 再 and 又 in speaking and writing Chinese
- You know how to research the origins of Chinese characters
- You can sing along with a Chinese pop song!

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