Reading Activity Set

**Target Students:** 3rd year Chinese language learners in U.S. high school settings

**Objectives:** Students will be able to read and understand the advertisements of travel agencies posted in local Chinese newspaper to get the travel information they need.

**Activities:**

1. **Pre-reading discussion.** The students will imagine that they are in a summer program in Nanjing, China. Different from other summer programs, this program offers their students four days to travel by themselves. They will brainstorm where they may find the travelling information they need, and what kind of information they may get from those resources. (Note: possible resources: local newspaper, travel agencies, TV ads)

2. **Reading Activities.** Each student will be provided with a copy of a travelling advertisement page from a local newspaper in Nanjing, China. (See attachment) They will be guided by the teacher to read the page multiple times for different information.

   **First reading:** Students will be asked to go through the whole page quickly, and find out what major information this page provides. (The page includes the following information: ads of two travel agencies for their traveling packages, discount flight ticket information of different air lines, ads for 3 tourist attractions.)

   **Second Reading:** The teacher will direct the students’ attention to the ads of two travel agencies. Students will be asked to find out the major difference in the services provided by these two agencies. (One focuses on local traveling, the other focuses on domestic and international traveling)

   **Third Reading:** The teacher will direct the students’ attention to some of the abbreviations used in the two travel agencies’ ads. They will combine their language knowledge and the contexts to figure out the meanings of the following words and phrases:

   a. 全包含餐（all the fees included, meals included）
   b. 周六、周日发团（tours available on Saturdays and Sundays.）
   c. 双卧（by train, with sleeping berth, for the round trip）
   d. 双飞（by flight for the round trip）

   **Fourth reading:** Students will be given the information of two travelers, and they will find proper travel packages for them based on the services the two travel agencies provide. (Handout 1)

   **Fifth reading:** Students will work in pairs and discuss what information is not clearly stated in the ads. They will write down a list of questions that they will ask when they call the travel agency.
Self-Reflection
In today’s class, what I feel most interesting is the idea of multiple reading. One of the reasons that I like this idea is that teachers are training students to use different reading strategies when doing such a multiple reading activity. Students may scan the text for the first time for general ideas, read for a second time for detailed information, and maybe a third time for the meanings between lines. To serve these purposes, they need to use strategies such as skimming and scanning. This kind of training will help students become independent learners. Other than that, multiple reading will also help reduce students’ anxiety about reading authentic materials. It’s not hard to imagine how students will be overwhelmed by the huge amount of language information when a teacher simply gives a page of newspaper in target language to the students and asks them to get every piece of information that page has. However, if teachers break down the big reading task into several smaller reading tasks, ask students to get part of the information each time, it will make authentic materials more usable to language learners.
Handout 1

请根据以下两位旅行者的情况为他们选择适合的旅行团。

张先生
● 预算 150 元
● 一天行程
● 南京周边城市
● 游览两到三个景点
● 倾向于自然景点

李小姐
● 预算 2500 元
● 十天以内行程（4月25日---5月10日）
● 中国境内
● 倾向于自然景点

Translation
Please recommend appropriate travelling packages to the two travelers based on the following information.

Mr. Zhang
● Budget: 150 yuan
● Within a day
● Around Nanjing City
● 2 to 3 spots
● Natural scenery preferred

Ms. Li
● Budget: 2500 yuan
● Within 10 days from Apr.25 to May 10
● Within China
● Natural scenery preferred