

# SOS

## Teachers' notes

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### 1. Purpose statement

SOS is an interactive game where students see, hear and/or read Chinese, the aim of SOS is for students to:

- explore the use of the Chinese language within the context of a Chinese space station
- practise their language skills in a fun and motivational way through interactive activities
- manipulate information and language to solve problems by engaging in higher order thinking.

### 2. Overview

Students will assume the role of Xiao Jingling, a crew member on the Kookaburra No.1 spacecraft, which has been damaged in an asteroid shower. Xiao Jingling and all the crew have been stranded with life support and other critical functions damaged. There is only enough power in the transporter to beam one person out to the closest space station to secure help and supplies. Xiao Jiaoling has a bag of spacoos (money) and a backpack with an energy barometer. It refills each time Xiao Jingling makes a successful interaction. It goes down when he/she makes mistakes. If Xiao Jingling fails in his/her mission, the spacecraft expires like a balloon losing air and buzzing down through space.

To meet this challenge, Xiao Jingling must call on his/her language resources to interact with various personalities in each room of the space station. Xiao Jingling does this by selecting Hanzi from a pool of Hanzi in the different rooms, which can be arranged in the language constructor (a bar with three or four squares) to build sentences. To make Xiao Jingling 'say' a sentence, students click on a 'speak' icon. If the sentence is correct, the audio plays and a response from a character in the room or an action ensues. If the sentence is incorrect, nothing will happen and the students will need to reconstruct the sentence. After passing through Information, Decontamination and Immigration, Xiao Jingling may visit the rooms in any order although he/she must collect and pay for everything before being able to depart. Xiao Jingling will have a personal robotic assistant, Prak, who will prompt students by flashing a message in English on the screen, if students have not reacted within a certain time frame. Students can also click on Prak at any time for help. The rules for navigation are contained within the game.

### 3. Language level (Prior knowledge)

Exchanges between Xiao Jingling and other characters are short and use familiar vocabulary and structures. They are written in Hanzi with some audio but no Pinyin support.

Students should be familiar with some vocabulary for:

- daily ablutions
- numbers
- parts of the body
- nationality
- time words
- food and some measure words for food
- furniture
- directions

and with the language for:

- simple greetings
- formulaic expressions for expressing and responding to thanks
- asking and giving name, age, nationality and date of birth
- expressing wants using 要
- describing injuries using 受伤了
- asking and saying what they want to buy
- giving directions
- describing past events using 了
- asking about and expressing likes and wants
- asking and responding to questions using the question particle 吗
- asking and responding to questions using the question words 什么 and 在哪里.

## 4. Learning outcomes

Students will enhance their understanding of the Chinese language and come to appreciate language used in various situations. Students will collect useful language and structures to assemble their own sentences in order to complete necessary tasks. To succeed in their mission to save the space station, students will need to learn and use new language in context.

Specifically, students will learn to:

- recognise words, phrases and simple sentences in Chinese
- identify familiar patterns and features of Chinese
- recognise and follow Chinese script while listening to it
- identify features of written Chinese
- respond to spoken and written texts using written language.

Students will consolidate their knowledge of:

- currency and exchange rates
- nationalities
- the use of ICTs for communicative purposes.

## 5. Suggested classroom activities:

- Work in pairs. Imagine you are filling in a visa application form. Take turns asking and answering questions about names, age, nationality and any other relevant information.
- Draw pictures of different body parts, make copies and cut them into cards to create individual cards. Shuffle the cards and have them face down. Students work in pairs, take turns to select a card and in Chinese ask the question 'What's wrong?' or give an answer 'I hurt my [body part]'.
- Role play a scenario in a doctor's surgery asking and giving information about where it hurts. To practice the vocabulary, a handy resource is the *Tai Hao Le!* CD-ROM available from Curriculum Corporation, [www.curriculum.edu.au](http://www.curriculum.edu.au); Module 1, *My body*.
- Find pictures of food from magazines and cut them out. Make multiple copies of the food items, then set up an imaginary shop. Role play shop assistant and a customer buying different quantities of different items and calculating cost.
- Go to a currency conversion web site to find out the current exchange rate between the 'renminbi' and the Australian dollar. Use Chinese advertising brochures or menus from restaurants to work out how much the items would cost in Australian dollars. Work in pairs and practise asking and giving prices for these items.
- Students draw a map of their school or their local areas and ask each other for directions to various destinations.
- Students work out an activity schedule in Chinese. Working in pairs, students instruct their partner to act out the activities.
- Imagine you are Xiao Jingling. Write an email home describing some of the rooms you went to, and the tasks you carried out.
- Write the script of a conversation Xiao Jingling might have with his/her Chinese-speaking colleague after he/she returns from the Chinese space ship.

## 6. Language structures

### 1. Arrivals hall

Xiao Jingling hears an overhead announcement. He/she greets the information officer and in turn greets and welcomes Xiao Jingling.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
敬爱的旅客们，请你们现在 前往询问处。	<i>Jìngài de lùkèmen, qǐng nǐmen xiànzài qiánwáng xùnwènchù.</i>	Dear travellers, would you please proceed to the Information Centre now.
你好！	<i>Nǐ hǎo!</i>	Hello!
欢迎，欢迎！	<i>Huānyīng, huānyīng!</i>	Welcome!
再见！	<i>Zàijiàn!</i>	Goodbye!
开门！	<i>Kāimén!</i>	Open the door!

## 2. Information

Xiao Jingling is greeted by the space station's information officer and given his/her Personal Robotic Assistant.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin</i> <i>(for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
你好!	<i>Nǐ hǎo!</i>	Hello!
给你。	<i>Gěi nǐ.</i>	This is for you.
谢谢。	<i>Xièxie.</i>	Thank you.
再见!	<i>Zàijiàn!</i>	Goodbye!
开门!	<i>Kāimén!</i>	Open the door!

### 3. Decontamination unit

Xiao Jingling must go to the cubicle with the correct icon for each ablution as directed by the robot. Xiao Jingling must then voice activate the ablution by selecting and 'speaking' the correct language.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
欢迎，欢迎！	<i>Huānyíng, huānyíng!</i>	Welcome!
去洗澡吧！	<i>Qù xǐzāo ba!</i>	Go and have a shower.
去洗头吧！	<i>Qù xǐtóu ba!</i>	Go and wash your hair.
去刷牙吧！	<i>Qù shuāyá ba!</i>	Go and clean your teeth.
去厕所吧！	<i>Qù cèsuǒ ba!</i>	Go to the toilet.
我要洗澡。	<i>Wǒ yào xǐzāo.</i>	I want to have a shower.
我要洗头。	<i>Wǒ yào xǐtóu.</i>	I want to wash my hair.
我要刷牙。	<i>Wǒ yào shuāyá.</i>	I want to clean my teeth.
我要上厕所。	<i>Wǒ yào shàng cèsuǒ.</i>	I want to go to the toilet.
很好！	<i>Hěn hǎo!</i>	Very good!
再见！	<i>Zàijiàn!</i>	Goodbye!
开门！	<i>Kāimén!</i>	Open the door!

#### 4. Immigration

Xiao Jingling listens to the questions and fills in the immigration form by selecting and 'speaking' the correct language.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
你好！	<i>Nǐ hǎo!</i>	Hello!
你叫什么名字？	<i>Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?</i>	What 's your name?
你多大？	<i>Nǐ duōdà?</i>	How old are you?
你是哪国人？	<i>Nǐ shì nǎguó rén?</i>	What nationality are you?
你是什么时候出生的？	<i>Nǐ shì shénme shíhòu chūshēng de?</i>	When were you born?
小精灵	<i>Xiǎo Jīnglíng</i>	Xiao Jingling
十二岁	<i>Shí'èr suì</i>	Twelve years old
澳大利亚人	<i>Àodàlìyà rén</i>	Australian
一九九四年九月十八日	<i>Yījiǔjiǔsì nián jiǔ yuè shíbā rì</i>	18 September 1994
谢谢！	<i>Xièxie!</i>	Thank you!
再见！	<i>Zàijiàn!</i>	Goodbye!
开门！	<i>Kāimén!</i>	Open the door!



## 5. Clinic

A wall chart displays relevant body parts labelled in Chinese with roll over audio for support. In turn, individual pictures will display on a screen showing injured members of Xiao Jingling's spacecraft. A nurse will ask Xiao Jingling what is ailing each crew member. Xiao Jingling will respond by selecting and 'speaking' the correct language to match each picture. At the end the nurse responds that she understands and gives Xiao Jingling some medication.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
他 / 她怎么了？	<i>Tā zěnmē le?</i>	What's wrong with him/her?
他的头受伤了。	<i>Tā de tóu shòushāng le.</i>	His head is injured.
她的腿受伤了。	<i>Tā de tuǐ shòushāng le.</i>	Her leg is injured.
他的胳膊受伤了。	<i>Tā de gèbo shòushāng le.</i>	His arm is injured.
她的眼睛受伤了。	<i>Tā de yǎnjīng shòushāng le.</i>	Her eye is injured.
我知道了。	<i>Wǒ zhīdao le.</i>	I understand.
给你药。	<i>Gěi nǐ yào.</i>	Here's some medicine.
谢谢！	<i>Xièxie!</i>	Thank you!
再见！	<i>Zàijiàn!</i>	Goodbye!
开门！	<i>Kāimén!</i>	Open the door!

## 6. Internet café

Xiao Jingling must send a message back to earth by selecting and ‘speaking’ the correct language to complete the email/ecard.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
昨天我们的太空船坏了。 今天我来到了长城太空站。 明天我回太空船。 后天我们回澳大利亚。 小精灵  再见！  开门！	<i>Zuótiān wǒmen de tàikōngchuán huài le.</i> <i>Jīntiān wǒmen láidàole</i> <i>ChángchéngTàikōngzhàn.</i> <i>Míngtiān wǒ huí tàikōngchuán.</i> <i>Hòutiān wǒmen huí Àodàlìyà.</i> <i>Xiǎo Jīnglíng</i>  <i>Zàijiàn!</i>  <i>Kāimén!</i>	Our spacecraft broke down yesterday. I arrived at the Great Wall Space Station today. I will go back to the spacecraft tomorrow. We will return to Australia the day after tomorrow. Xiao Jingling  Goodbye!  Open the door!

## 7. Convenience Store

Xiao Jingling needs to purchase some food supplies. The attendant will ask Xiao Jingling what he/she wants to buy, and he/she will respond by selecting and 'speaking' the correct language to match the electronic shopping list.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
你要买什么？ 我要买两百瓶矿泉水。	Nǐ yào mǎi shénme? Wǒ yào mǎi liǎng bǎi píng kuàngquánshuǐ.	What do you want to buy? I want two hundred bottles of mineral water.
还要别的吗？ 我要五十块巧克力。 我要二十五公斤米。 我要八打鸡蛋。 我要一百个苹果。	Hái yào bié de ma? Wǒ yào wǔshí kuài qiǎokèlì. Wǒ yào èrshíwǔ gōngjīn mǐ. Wǒ yào bā dá jīdàn. Wǒ yào yī bǎi gè píngguǒ.	Do you want anything else? I want fifty pieces of chocolate. I want twenty-five kilograms of rice. I want eight dozens of eggs. I want one hundred apples.
不要了，谢谢。	Bú yào le, xièxie.	No, thank you.
欢迎你再来。	Huānyíng nǐ zài lái.	Please come again.
再见！	Zàijiàn!	Goodbye!
开门！	Kāimén!	Open the door!

## 8. Hardware Store

Xiao Jingling needs to purchase some replacement parts for the spacecraft. He/she needs to find out where these are located in order to purchase them.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
门在哪里？ 窗户在哪里？ 厕所在哪里？ 电视机在哪里？ 电脑在哪里？  往右拐。 往左拐。 往前走。 往前走，往右拐。 往前走，往左拐。  再见！  开门！	Mén zài nǎlǐ? Chuānghu zài nǎlǐ? Cèsuǒ zài nǎlǐ? Diànshìjī zài nǎlǐ? Diànnǎo zài nǎlǐ?  Wáng yòu guǎi. Wáng zuǒ guǎi. Wáng qián zǒu. Wáng qián zǒu, wáng yòu guǎi. Wáng qián zǒu, wáng zuǒ guǎi.  Zàijiàn!  Kāimén!	Where is the door? Where is the window? Where is the toilet? Where is the TV? Where is the computer.  Turn right. Turn left. Go straight ahead. Go straight ahead, turn right. Go straight ahead, turn left.  Goodbye!  Open the door!

## 9. Checkout

Xiao Jingling must pay for all the goods he/she has purchased.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
你好！	<i>Nǐ hǎo!</i>	Hello!
多少钱？	<i>Duōshao qián?</i>	How much is it?
两万五千人民币。	<i>Liǎng wàn wǔ qiān rén mín bì.</i>	25,000 RMB.
给你五块太空币。	<i>Gěi nǐ wǔ kuài tài kōng bì.</i>	Here's five spacoos (space currency).
谢谢，再见。	<i>Xièxie, zài jiàn.</i>	Thank you, goodbye.
再见！	<i>Zài jiàn!</i>	Goodbye!
开门！	<i>Kāi mén.</i>	Open the door!

## 10. Departure Lounge

Xiao Jingling must pay a departure tax before departing.

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin (for teacher reference only)</i>	<i>English</i>
你好！	<i>Nǐ hǎo!</i>	Hello!
多少钱？	<i>Duōshao qián?</i>	How much is it?
一万人民币。	<i>Yī wàn rénmínbì.</i>	10,000 RMB.
给你两块太空币。	<i>Gěi nǐ liǎng kuài tàikōngbì.</i>	Here's 2 spacoec.
谢谢！	<i>Xièxie!</i>	Thank you!

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