



## Undergraduate assignment feedback form

(to be completed by marker)

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*Module Code: SICH5007*

Student number: 2012792

*Module title: Sinological English II: Translation of Daoist Literature*

*For completion by marker:*

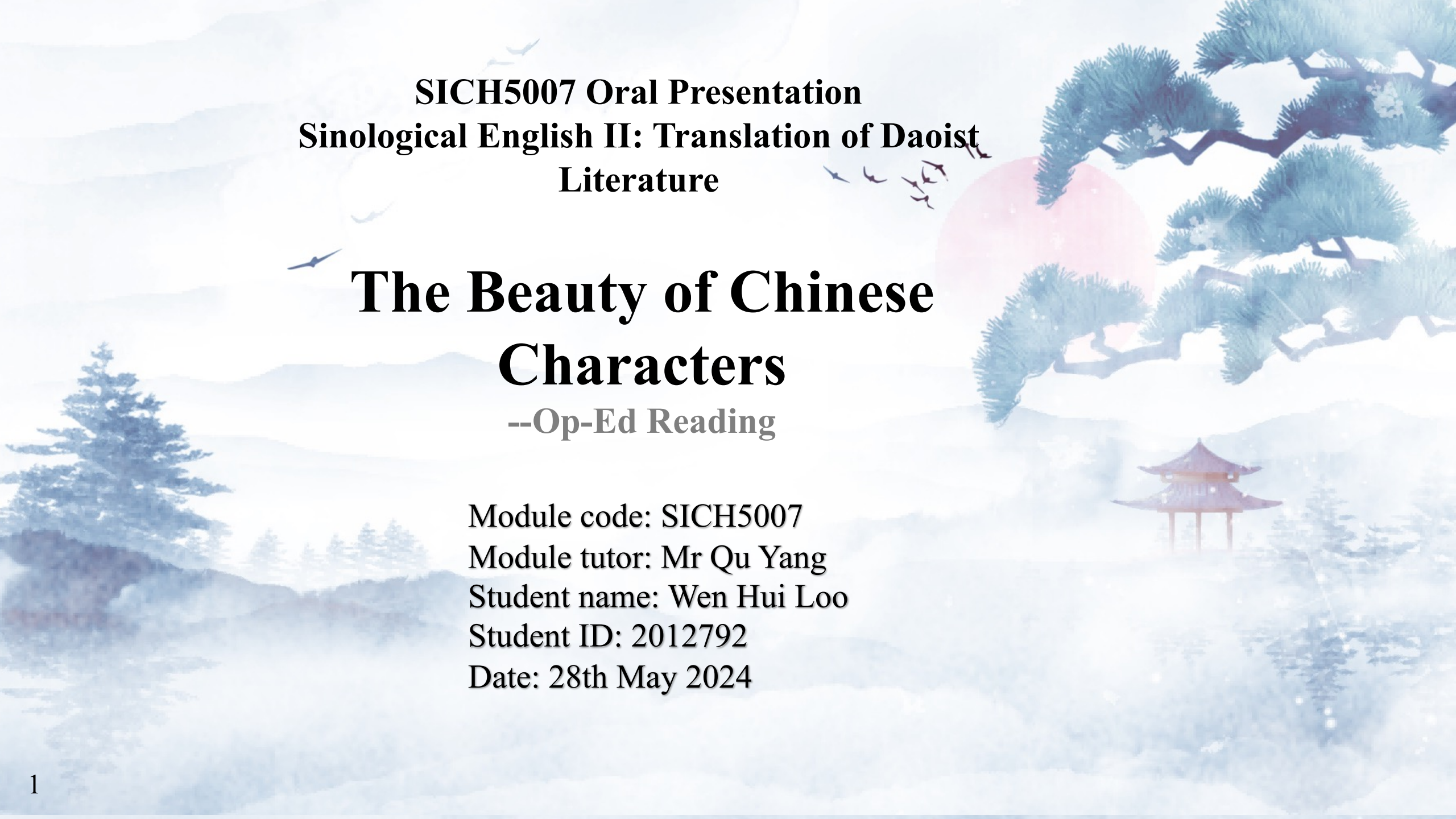
*Comments:*

Marker's signature:

*Date:*

Provisional mark:

**NB.** All marks are provisional until confirmed by the final examination board.



**SICH5007 Oral Presentation**  
**Sinological English II: Translation of Daoist**  
**Literature**

# **The Beauty of Chinese** **Characters**

**--Op-Ed Reading**

Module code: SICH5007  
Module tutor: Mr Qu Yang  
Student name: Wen Hui Loo  
Student ID: 2012792  
Date: 28th May 2024



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Difference Kinds of Chinese Characters in the Past

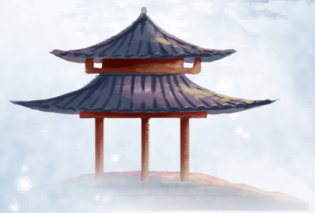
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# 01 Introduction

Purpose of Writing, Value Publication



# Introduction

## ➤ Purpose of Writing:

- Interesting in the form of the Chinese characters which have been helping me in learning Chinese classics and books.
- Introduce the features of the Chinese characters.
- Sharing my experiences in learning Chinese characters.

## ➤ Value Publication:

- General readers of newspapers which get interesting in Chinese field.



02

02

# The Historical Trend of the Chinese Characters

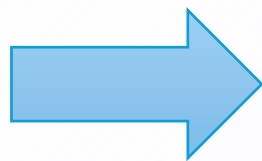
Difference Kinds of Chinese Characters in the Past



# The Historical Trend of the Chinese Characters

## Chinese Characters – *Hanzi* 漢字

漢



- ❖ Graphic *Zixing* 字形
- ❖ Pronunciation *Ziying* 字音
- ❖ Meaning *Ziyi* 字義

Regular Scripts *Kaishu* 楷書



# The Historical Trend of the Chinese Characters

## Chinese Characters – *Hanzi* 漢字

- 从水，難省聲

Hàn

Regular Scripts *Kaishu* 楷書

說文·水部

甲903(甲)  
商

熹.易.說卦  
(隸)  
東漢

說文·鳥部

趙君碑(隸)  
東漢



# The Historical Trend of the Chinese Characters

## Chinese Characters – *Hanzi* 漢字



Hàn

Regular Scripts *Kaishu* 楷書

- ❖ The name of a river.
- ❖ The meaning of Chinese/ a kind of symbol of Chinese (Han Dynasty)



# The Historical Trend of the Chinese Characters



天  
'Heaven'

## Oracle Bone Script *Jiaguwen* 甲骨文

- Late Shang Dynasty
- Write on the bone of turtle shell
- Lines are neat and regular



## Clerical Script *Lishu* 隸書

- Late Qin Dynasty (Spring and Autumn and Warring Period)
- Write on bamboo slips
- Lines were less angular in appearance



## Bronze Script *Jingwen* 金文

- Zhou Dynasty
- Write on clay mould
- Lines were less angular in appearance



## Regular Script *Kaishu* 楷書

- Han Dynasty until now
- Write on paper
- Lines were more smooth



## Small Seal Script *Xiaozhuan* 小篆

- Qin Dynasty
- Write on stone tablet and stele
- Lines were less angular in appearance



03

03

# The Form of the Chinese Characters

Two Principles of Forming the Chinese Characters



# The Form of the Chinese Characters

## Chinese Characters – *Hanzi* 漢字

漢

Logographic – consist two principles of character formation (*Ershushuo* 二書說):

- Semantographs
- Phonographs



# The Form of the Chinese Characters

**Semantographs:** represent objects through their appearance

- draw out the Chinese characters [*Xiangxing* 象形 (Pictographs)]
- point out the Chinese characters [*Zhishi* 指示 (Indicatives)]
- combine the meaning of the objects [*Huiyi* 會意 (Compound Ideographs)]



rì

The meaning of the sun

## *Xiangxing* 象形 (Pictographs)



The transformation process of the Chinese Character of *ri* 日



# The Form of the Chinese Characters

**Semantographs:** represent objects through their appearance

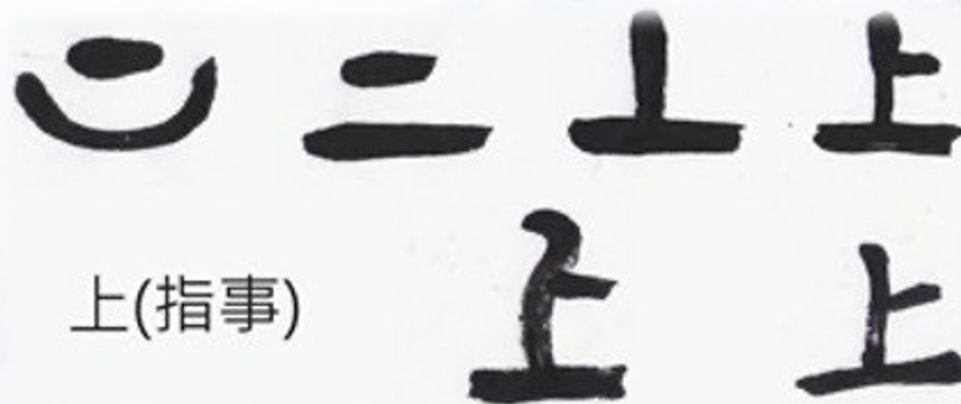
- draw out the Chinese characters [*Xiangxing* 象形 (Pictographs)]
- point out the Chinese characters [*Zhishi* 指示 (Indicatives)]
- combine the meaning of the objects [*Huiyi* 會意 (Compound Ideographs)]

## *Zhishi* 指示 (Indicatives)



shàng

The meaning of the up



The transformation  
process of the Chinese  
Character of *shang* 上



# The Form of the Chinese Characters

**Semantographs:** represent objects through their appearance

- draw out the Chinese characters [*Xiangxing* 象形 (Pictographs)]
- point out the Chinese characters [*Zhishi* 指示 (Indicatives)]
- combine the meaning of the objects [*Huiyi* 會意 (Compound Ideographs)]

## *Huiyi* 會意 (Compound Ideographs)



xiū

The meaning of rest



The transformation process of the Chinese Character of *xiu* 休



# The Form of the Chinese Characters

**Phonographs:** using the phonetic of the Semantography characters

- indicate the pronunciation of the Chinese Characters [*Xingsheng* 形聲 (Phono-semantic compounds)]
- borrowing the sounds of the other characters [*Jiajie* 假借 (Loangraphs)]
- citing other meanings of the characters [*Zhuanzhu* 轉注 (Sign)]

## *Xingsheng* 形聲 (Phono-semantic Compounds)

qíng 晴 ➡ 日 + 青 : the meaning of sunny

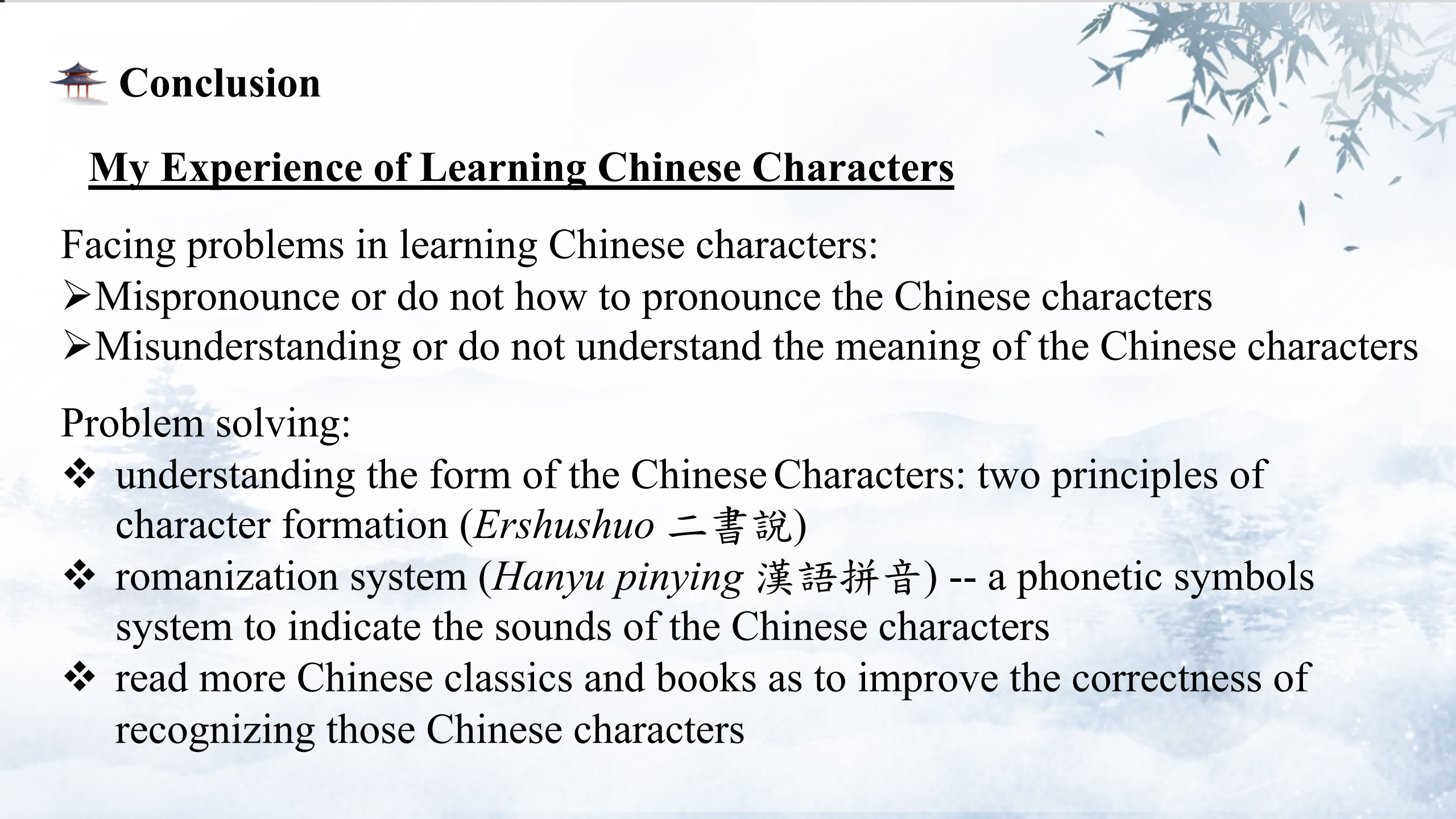
qíng 情 ➡ 心 + 青 : the meaning of emotional

qīng 蜻 ➡ 蟲 + 青 : the meaning of an insect, such as dragonfly



# 04 Conclusion

My Learning Experience



## Conclusion

### My Experience of Learning Chinese Characters

Facing problems in learning Chinese characters:

- Mispronounce or do not how to pronounce the Chinese characters
- Misunderstanding or do not understand the meaning of the Chinese characters

Problem solving:

- ❖ understanding the form of the Chinese Characters: two principles of character formation (*Ershushuo* 二書說)
- ❖ romanization system (*Hanyu pinyin* 漢語拼音) -- a phonetic symbols system to indicate the sounds of the Chinese characters
- ❖ read more Chinese classics and books as to improve the correctness of recognizing those Chinese characters



**THANKS FOR  
LISTENING**