



Summary K-5 Chinese Word Frequency Dictionary Bands for L2 Learners

Legend for K-5 Word Frequency Dictionary Bands:

1. 序号 code: Is a number assigned to the word. The highest frequency word is coded as 1 and the next high frequency word as 2 and so on.
2. 词 word: The list of high frequency words
3. 拼音 pinyin: Pronunciation of the word
4. 出现次数 OF: The number of original occurrence in the text materials
5. 新增频次 AD: The additional number of occurrence of the word based on analysis and recalculation
6. 总频次 FO: The total occurrence of the word based on recalculation
7. 频率 F: The word frequency

Frequency calculation:

1. A total of 11,928 words were derived from the imputed text materials containing 2,595,956 characters based on linguistic analysis and adjustment.
2. From 11,928 words, 3,349 are tentatively determined as high frequency words for K-5 Chinese L2 immersion learners. The range of occurrence of the 3,349 word from the imputed materials is from 8,220 to 4. That is, the highest occurrence of a word is 8,220 and the lowest occurrence of a word is 4.
3. The frequency band for each level is tentatively determined based on the word frequency rate and taking into consideration elementary school students' word learning guidelines from the Chinese-speaking country and the practice of U.S. K-5 Chinese immersion schools (vocabulary lists provided by our Master Teachers). Below please see the suggested number of frequency word range for each grade level.

| GRADE | WORDS FROM LOWER GRADE(S) | NEW WORDS | TOTAL =WORDS FROM LOWER GRADE(S) +NEW WORDS |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------|--|
| K | 0 | 300 | 300 |
| 1 | 300 | 400 | 700 |
| 2 | 300+400=700 | 500 | 1200 |
| 3 | 300+400+500=1200 | 600 | 1800 |
| 4 | 300+400+500+600=1800 | 700 | 2500 |
| 5 | 300+400+500+600+700=2500 | 849 | 3349 |

Suggestions for using the World Frequency Dictionary Bands

This frequency list is not ideal because most of the materials input are from children's books. The lack of adopted and published textbooks for K-5 immersion curriculum in the US and abroad may have caused some high frequency words to be excluded while others may not be a true high frequency word in children's daily life. Thus, when using the list to determine the text difficulty for a particular grade level, we recommend that 70% of the words in a text should fall into the range of the word frequency dictionary band for a particular level.