

Symtalk Sample Card Lesson

The Symtalk method teaches students the fundamentals of the target language through visual symbols that represent nouns, verbs, prepositions, and other parts of speech. Students learn to associate a word or expression in the target language with its corresponding symbol. With the first Symtalk lesson, your students will be able to speak in complete sentences using the target language!

This Symtalk sampler will allow you and your students to experience learning another language in an easy and fun way. The symbol cards, combined in various ways, can create many sentences. With these eight cards, teachers can show students syntax, how verbs change depending on the subjects, how adjectives agree, and how to negate an affirmative sentence. Place the cards on your board and watch what happens!

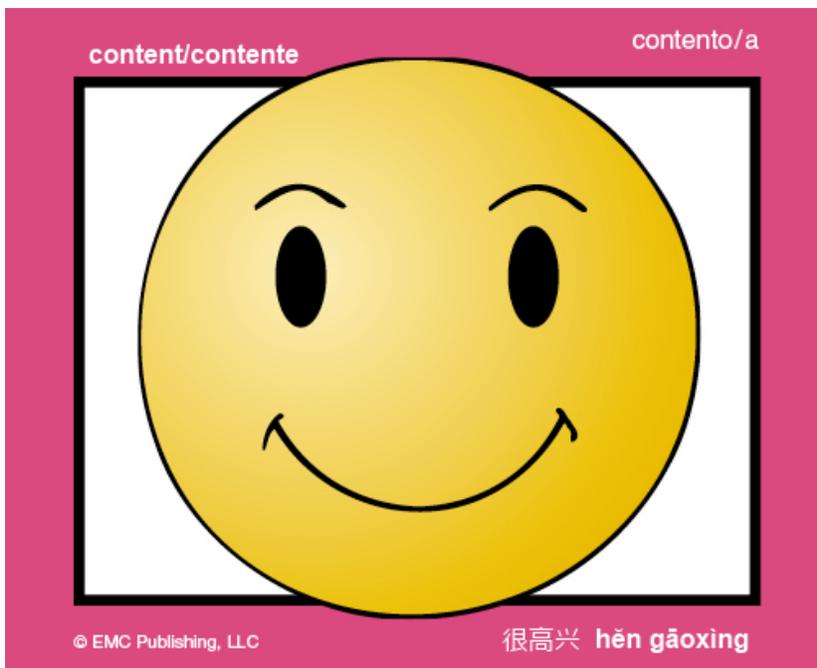
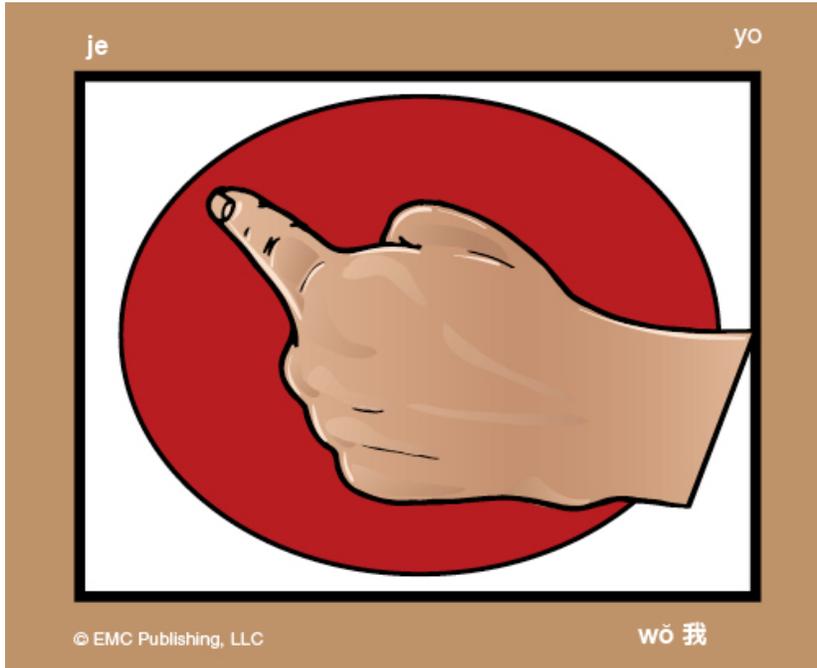
How to Introduce the Vocabulary

1. Point to the symbol cards and ask students to repeat several vocabulary words at a time.
2. Combine the new vocabulary words in different ways to make phrases and sentences. Ask students to read the word groups.
3. Practice choral and individual repetition of the sentences.
4. Remove random cards from the sentences, replace them with question marks and encourage students to recall the missing symbol cards as they read the sentences again.
5. Cover up the symbol cards so that students rely on their memory to reconstruct a sentence

Activities Using the Symbol Cards

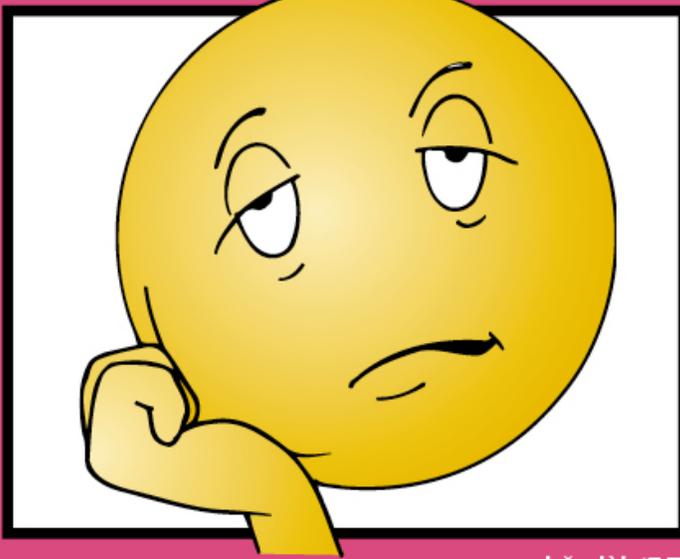
1. Place a word bank on the board, made of all the symbol cards. Ask students to write out a sentence on a piece of paper using the symbol cards on the board. A student selects one of the papers turned in and reads it aloud. Another student forms the sentence on the board using the symbol cards. The class compares the sentence on the board to the one that was read aloud. Do any changes need to be made? Work as a class to correct the sentence if needed.
2. Affirmative and negative sentences can be practiced by the teacher holding up an emotion card and saying a sentence that is different than what he/she is holding. For example, the teacher holds up the card that represents "happy," and says in the target language "The teacher is sad." Students would reply "The teacher is not sad."
3. Instruct the students how to respond to or create a question. For example, ask the students "How is the teacher?" The students would respond with "The teacher is happy." The student may practice asking and answering questions with a partner. Refer to Activity 4 below for symbol card placement for partner activity with questions.
4. Practice verb conjugation by placing the character (subjects) on the left of the board vertically. Place the verb card "to be" to the right of the first character and place the emotion cards to the right of the verb card. Slide the verb card down to each subject cards so students practice the different forms of the verb. For example, "The teacher is happy" or "The students are tired." The activity will also practice subject/adjective agreement.

Here's eight cards you can use to create sample sentences:



fatigué/fatiguée

cansado/a



© EMC Publishing, LLC

hěn lèi 很累

le prof / la prof

el profesor / la profesora



© EMC Publishing, LLC

lǎoshī 老师

triste

triste



© EMC Publishing, LLC

很难过 hěn nánguò

est

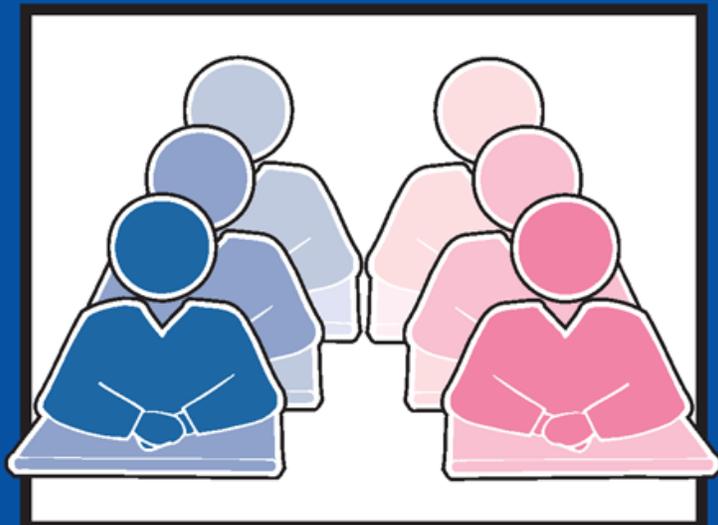
estar



© EMC Publishing, LLC

les étudiants

los estudiantes



© EMC Publishing, LLC

xuéshēng 学生

ne pas

no



© EMC Publishing, LLC

bù / 不