

CLTA Workshop
San Antonio, TX

Title: "Learner-Friendly Grammar for Chinese Instruction"

ACTFL Workshop W30

Date: Sunday November 18, 2007

Time: 9 AM - Noon

Fee: \$75 if registered by October 8, 2007

Workshop Organizer:

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Workshop Description:

The "grammar" of a language is a set of generalizations about how phrases and sentences are formed. Learners who understand the rules of grammar can make the leap from reciting sentences in a textbook to expressing their own ideas. The challenge for the language teacher (and the language textbook) is to present grammar in jargon-free terms, and to help students to use the rules of grammar to communicate. This workshop introduces a learner-friendly grammar of Mandarin Chinese, focusing on the presentation of resultative verbs, the "ba" construction, and sequence structures involving "yihou" *after* and "yiqian" *before*. It examines some "do's" and "don'ts" in the presentation of grammar, and presents communication-based activities that support the learning of these structures.