

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 195 [English]

Kirin: Chinese Learn Online lesson 195 .

Hello everyone , I'm Kirin .

Raphael: Hello everyone , I'm Raphael .

Adam: And hello, I'm Adam.

Kirin: Welcome to Taiwan and our progressive course teaching Chinese . What are we studying today ?

Raphael: Recently we taught you a class to do with Chinese proverbs , do you remember ?

Kirin: Yes I do . Many students liked that lesson , because when we speak Chinese we often use proverbs .

Raphael: So today's topic is similar to proverbs .

Kirin: And what is that ?

Raphael: It's called proverbs .

Adam: Proverb.

Kirin: Proverb .

Raphael: Normally, the characters used in a proverb , are more than the ones in Chinese idioms , since Chinese idioms only use four characters . Ok, let's look at today's first proverb .

Kirin: All roads lead to Rome .

Raphael: Luómǎ (Rome) is a city in Italy .

Adam: Rome.

Raphael: Do you remember what *tiáo* (measure word) means ? It's a type of measure word . In this sentence , ”*tiáo*” is used to describe “road” , as well, it's a big road . So “*tiáo tiáo dàlù*” means “all roads” . Lastly, this is the “*tōng*” in “*jiāotōng*” (traffic) .

Adam: And in this context that means “through.” So together that gives us “All roads lead to Rome.”

Kirin: All roads lead to Rome .

Raphael: It means that , when we have something to do , there are many ways to choose , and these ways can all help us accomplish what we want to do .

Kirin: Wow, that's a useful sentence . I should remember it .

Raphael: The next proverb is

Kirin: You are never too old to learn .

Raphael: This is the “*huó*” in “*shēnghuó*” (life) , the “*lǎo*” (old) in “*lǎoshī*” (teacher) , and the “*xué*” (study) in “*xuéshēng*” (student) .

Kirin: You are never too old to learn .

Raphael: So this proverb means that , when we become old, we should keep studying . So what does this proverb teach us ?

Kirin: It probably means that when we become old , we will become dumber . So we should keep studying , and not let ourselves become dumb .

Raphael: Hmm, I have another explanation .

Kirin: Ok, go ahead and let's listen .

Raphael: Many old people think that they are too old , so there's no way to learn new things . But this proverb tells us , studying isn't related to how old we are , so we should keep studying .

Kirin: I think your meaning is similar to mine .

Raphael: Ok then . The next proverb is

Kirin: Out of sight, out of mind .

Raphael: This is the “yǎn” in “yǎnjīng” (eye) . So the first part says , if your eyes can't see . We then have the “xīn” from “kāixīn” (happy) .

Adam: And that means “heart.”

Raphael: At the end we have the “fǎn” from “máfan” (trouble) .

Kirin: Out of sight, out of mind .

Raphael: So what does this proverb mean ?

Kirin: It probably means , if you can't see a problem , you won't find it so troublesome .

Raphael: Right . So when can say this proverb ?

Kirin: If there is something now , that often makes your head ache , but you don't know how to fix it , you could instead choose to go out for fun, or go to sleep , so you can forget about this problem . The problem will then go away on its own .

Raphael: I don't think that's what this proverb means .

Kirin: Ok, teacher Raphael , please tell us what it means ?

Raphael: I think what it means is the opposite of what you just said . If you don't focus on your problems , your problems will become worse .

Kirin: Hmm .

Raphael: Ok, our last proverb today is

Kirin: Deeds are males and words are females .

Raphael: This proverb is quite simple . What do you think about what it means ?

Kirin: I don't really like what it means . Since it makes me feel , that most things , are done by men , we women are just for talking .

Raphael: Hmm, I think this was written by a man . Ok, let's review the proverbs we taught you today .

Kirin: Proverb .

Adam: Proverb.

Kirin: [All roads lead to Rome](#) .

Adam: All roads lead to Rome.

Kirin: [You are never too old to learn](#) .

Adam: You are never too old to learn.

Kirin: [Out of sight, out of mind](#) .

Adam: Out of sight, out of mind.

Kirin: [Deeds are males and words are females](#) .

Adam: Deeds are males and words are females.

Raphael: [If you need more practice](#) , [or the English translations for this lesson](#) , [you can go to our website chineselearnonline-com](#) .

Kirin: [Keep at it](#) !