

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 248 [English]

Kirin: Chinese Learn Online lesson 248 .

Hello everyone , I am Teacher Yang .

Raphael: Hello everyone , I am Teacher Lai .

Adam: And hello, I'm Adam.

Kirin: Welcome to our learning Chinese course .

Raphael: Today is the 8th lesson of level 5 . So from level 4 to now , what difference do you think there is between level 4 and level 5 ?

Kirin: Umm, I think the words used in level 5 seem to be more difficult , and the articles are longer .

Raphael: Right . It has been arranged this way on purpose .

Kirin: Why is that ?

Raphael: Actually, that's the topic of today's lesson . Let's first take a look at the new words that we are going to use in today's lesson .

Kirin: All .

Adam: All.

Kirin: Formal / Official .

Adam: Formal or official.

Kirin: Colloquial speech .

Adam: Colloquial speech.

Kirin: Manner of speaking .

Raphael: It comes from the yǔ in language , and the qì in angry .

Adam: Manner of speaking.

Kirin: **Emphasize** .

Adam: Emphasize.

Kirin: **Sarcastic** .

Adam: Sarcastic.

Raphael: In all languages , we find that how people use the language is different . For example the manner we use to speak to our friends , compared to the manner used to talk to our boss , is probably going to be quite different .

Kirin: You're right . Normally I use more colloquial ways to chat with my friends , this way is more relaxing . But when communicating with my boss , I use a more formal manner of speaking .

Raphael: I am the same way . As well, the articles that we see in newspapers and magazines , use a more formal way of writing . In the past few levels , most of the content we heard was colloquial , since they were dialogues between two friends . But from level 5 onwards , we are going to listen to more articles , so you can slowly get used to more formal Chinese .

Kirin: Now when Westerners use colloquial manners of speaking , how is it different from ours ?

Raphael: Oh, excellent question . I heard that the biggest difference is that Westerners use more sarcasm when speaking .

Kirin: Oh ? What do you mean ?

Raphael: Actually, I don't completely understand their thinking either . For example, if it was raining outside now , which annoys a Western person , he might just say “Wow, how come today's weather is so great !”

Kirin: Huh ? Why would he say that a rainy day is good weather ?

Raphael: I just told you . I'm not clear either , better ask Adam .

Kirin: Hmm, well it's a good thing you told me first . Otherwise if a foreigner used this type of sarcastic way of speaking when speaking to me , I probably wouldn't understand what meaning they were trying to emphasize .

Raphael: So if you often use sarcastic ways of speaking , you should be careful when speaking to Asians , since we might get confused as to what you are trying to say .

Kirin: So are there any other examples to let our students compare the differences between colloquial speech and formal speech ?

Raphael: Yes there are . Normally when we speak in a formal manner , it is to give others the feeling of more respect . For example our most basic greeting is "Hello ." Now if you wanted someone to feel more respected , how would you say that ?

Kirin: Hello .

Raphael: Right, as well when we ask for someone's name , or when discussing a client's company matters , what word can we use to let someone feel respected ?

Kirin: Honorable .

Raphael: Right . For example

Kirin: What's your last name ? Your honorable company .

Raphael: Finally you can use "wèi" the measure word to describe people . For example

Kirin: The two of them . How many of you ?

Raphael: Ok, let's take a moment to review the words we taught you today .

Adam: All.

Kirin: All .

Adam: Formal or official.

Kirin: Formal / Official .

Adam: Colloquial speech.

Kirin: Colloquial speech .



Adam: Manner of speaking.

Kirin: [Manner of speaking](#) .

Adam: Emphasize.

Kirin: [Emphasize](#) .

Adam: Sarcastic.

Kirin: [Sarcastic](#) .

Raphael: [Ok, our premium subscribers can visit our website chineselearnonline-com for more practice](#) .

Kirin: [Keep at it](#) !