

Asian RolePlay Cards

- Chinese
- Japanese
- Korean



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INTERMEDIATE CARDS include simple social or transactional situations which elicit basic conversation.

ADVANCED CARDS include social or transactional situations, often with a complication, which elicit explanation, description, narration, reporting.

SUPERIOR CARDS elicit formal or informal speech, sometimes in the context of unfamiliar situations, and often requiring support of opinion and hypothesis.



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Task-based Asian role play cards provide situations for teaching and testing in East Asian cultural contexts. Some Chinese, Japanese, and Korean cards differ, although many of the most universal situations are included in all three sets. The original 1994 project was carried out in with partial funding from the US Department of Education by Kyoko Hijirida, David Hipple, Soo-ah Kim-Yuen, and Cynthia Ning, who thank the teachers and students who reviewed and field tested the situations.



1

Call and invite a friend to have dinner with you at a restaurant. Tell your friend three or four things s/he needs to know.

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2

Call and ask a friend to go to the movies with you. Make arrangements regarding time, place, and getting something to eat afterwards.

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3

You have been absent from class for a week. Call a classmate and arrange to borrow his/her notes to study for an exam.

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4

You are at the reception desk of a hotel in Guangzhou. Find out if a room within your price range and of the type you want is available.

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5

You want to take an end-of year vacation with your friend. You have no particular destination in mind but your budget is limited. Talk with a travel agent and plan a trip.

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6

You are left alone in a room with a friend's grandparent. Make conversation with him/her while you wait for your friend.

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7

Your (child/younger sister or brother) is lost in a department store. Give a description to store personnel and get help.

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8

You need a ride to work/school tomorrow. Call a friend and make arrangements to be picked up.

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9

You left a package on a train. Call the lost-and-found office in the station, explain the situation, describe the package, and make arrangements to pick it up.

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10

You need a few items from the market. You are unable to go, but you think your friend is going. Find out if s/he can pick up the items for you. Be specific.

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11

You are interviewing for a part time job in a convenience store. Ask four or five questions about the job.

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12

Your home/room was robbed. Call the authorities, explain what happened, describe the scene, and find out what to do.

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13

You were in a traffic accident in Taipei. Explain to a police officer how the accident happened, describe your condition, and find out what to do.

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14

You meet your old teacher, now retired, at your ten-year school reunion. Describe what you have done during the past ten years.

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15

You are talking to your friend A, trying to convince him/her to go out with your friend B. Describe B, including looks, background, and occupation, and relate an interesting or amusing experience you shared with B.

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16

You are at the baggage claim area of Beijing airport, and your bags do not appear. Explain the situation to the agent, describe your bags, and arrange a solution.

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17

A Chinese exchange student has been invited to an American friend's wedding. S/he asks you what to expect. Describe a typical wedding.

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18

You have booked a room for three nights at a Xi'an hotel. When you arrive you discover that the hotel is full, even though you have a reservation, and that you are expected the next day. Convince the clerk to find you a room for the night.

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19

You are talking with a Chinese acquaintance in Chengdu. Your friend mentions that s/he will soon be visiting your city in the US and wants to know more about it. Describe your town, mentioning particular points of interest and historical significance to a visitor.

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20

For some time, you have been disturbed on a regular basis by your noisy neighbor. Since you want to remain on good terms, speak to him/her about the problem without creating hard feelings.

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21

You borrowed a friend's bicycle and had an accident. Call your friend, explain what happened, describe the damage, and offer a solution.

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22

Your best friend asks you for advice. S/he is considering marriage but is undecided. You have a definite opinion. Persuade your friend accordingly.

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23

You are about to return to the US after working in China for two years and are being honored at a farewell reception. Make a short speech to the group that is gathered.

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24

Your close friend is considering studying at a US university. Tell your friend about the pros and cons of higher education in the US as opposed to China, including academic and/or social factors.

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25

You have just received an award from the Chinese-American Cultural Society for your work in promoting multicultural awareness. Make a brief speech accepting the award.

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You have just received an award from the Chinese-American Cultural Society for your work in promoting multicultural awareness. Make a brief speech accepting the award.

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