



Yu-chin Chen <yuchin.chen2@gmail.com>

Pronunciation guide

Elaina Rose <erose@u.washington.edu>

Sat, Mar 16, 2013 at 3:39 PM

To: Kar-yiu Wong <karyiu@uw.edu>

Cc: Yu-chin Chen <yuchin@u.washington.edu>, econfac <econfac@uw.edu>, Econ Staff <econstaff@u.washington.edu>

Maybe we can have a tutorial at the next faculty meeting?

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On Sun, 17 Mar 2013, Kar-yiu Wong wrote:

Hi

Let me be Yu-chin's TA for the time being. Her mandarin is much better than mine.

In the alphabetical system used by people in Mainland China, there are three consonants that sound very close to each other: x, s, and sh (like xi, si, and shi). For many people who are not too familiar with Chinese pronunciation and as a first approximation, they can be regarded as the same.

[If you are curious about their differences, x has to be said in an ordinary way like s; s has to be said with your upper and lower teeth closed together while your mouth is open and your tongue touching the inner part of your teeth; and sh should sound with your tongue touching the upper, inner part of your mouth. For details, Yu-chin may give a demonstration.)

There are two more triplets that have similar properties as (x, s, sh). There are (q, c, and ch) and (j, z, and zh). As a first approximation, all the elements in the same set can be regarded as the same.

Two more notes: q does not have to be followed by u, and if you find the first or last name of person that begins with x, q, or z, you can be 99.9% sure that the person comes from Mainland China (i.e., not from Taiwan or Hong Kong).

I hope that I have not made you more confused.

Kar-yiu

-----Original Message-----

From: econfac-bounces@mailman2.u.washington.edu

[mailto:econfac-bounces@mailman2.u.washington.edu] On Behalf Of Yu-chin Chen

Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2013 12:43 AM
 To: econfac; Econ Staff
 Subject: Re: [Econfac] Pronunciation guide

exam question:

Given that Xi = Shi, Xu = ?

(apologies for getting Xu's name wrong!)

On Fri, Mar 15, 2013 at 7:52 AM, Jacques Lawarree <lawarree@uw.edu> wrote:
 Who is Xi?

From: Yu-chin Chen
 Sent: 3/14/2013 10:38 PM
 To: econfac; Econ Staff
 Subject: [Econfac] Pronunciation guide

we have 6 months to practice:

- 1) "Gh"i roni: a HARD g, as in guess (courtesy of Phil who asked.)
- 2) Yanqin: Yan-"chin", as in Yu-chin
- 3) Quan, = Chuan, "Chew-an"
- 4) Xi = "Shi", like how you guys pronounce Lan "Shi" (which is wrong for Lan, but right for Xi)
- 5) Ji Hyung, ask CJ, MJ, or Seik

On Thu, Mar 14, 2013 at 11:26 AM, Oksana Leukhina
 <oml@u.washington.edu>
 wrote:

For the first time ever, I have to make effort memorizing the names
 of the newcomers.

Econfac mailing list
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