

The Teaching Design of Prepositions "Chao", "Xiang" and "Wang"

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Abstract: "Chao", "Xiang" and "Wang" are three words that are frequently used in our daily lives but they have very similar meanings. Due to their similarity in meaning and usage, these three words are difficult to distinguish. This article firstly summarizes the similarities and differences among these three words, then summarizes their main types of errors, and finally make a teaching design.

Keywords: "Chao", "Xiang", "Wang"; Teaching Design.

1. Introduction

"Chao", "xiang" and "wang" are prepositions in modern Chinese, derived from the virtualization of transitive verbs. Among them, the function words "chao" and "xiang" are only used as prepositions, while the function word "wang" is both a preposition and can be used as a conjunction and particle. The meanings of "chao", "xiang" and "wang" are very similar, with similar usage but subtle differences. Under certain usage conditions, it can also be interchanged or used as a substitute. For Chinese learners, this group of words is relatively easy to confuse.

2. Similarities and Differences

2.1. "Chao" Acts as a Preposition to Indicate the Direction. "Chao" +NP

(1) When NP is a directional noun, such as east, south, up, down etc. and the particle "De" is added, it generally serves as an attributive.

He is in a house facing north.

Help me hold the box facing outward.

(2) When NP is a common noun, such as sky, ground, etc. adding a verb generally serves as an adverbial.

I glanced at the sky.

The plane flew towards the ground.

2.2. "Xiang" Acts as a Preposition to Indicate the Direction. "Xiang" +NP

(1) "Xiang"+directional noun/locative noun/specialized noun indicating place

He ran towards the mountaintop.

I looked into the distance.

(2) "Xiang"+common noun/pronoun

Mary walked towards us.

(3) "Xiang"+abstract noun

Towards success/towards communism/learning from him

2.3. "Wang" leads to the Direction of the Action, Usually Followed by a Locative Word. "Verb+go+place"

fly to Xi'an

"Chao", "xiang" and "wang" can all indicate direction, but there are the following differences. The verbs following

"chao", "xiang", and "wang" are concrete action words, and they all can be used. State verbs can only be used with "chao" or "xiang". When the verb comes before it, it can only be used "xiang" or "wang", not "chao".

3. Main Types of Errors

The main errors made by learners in learning prepositions "chao", "xiang" and "wang" are as follows:

1. Omitting Prepositions

You should go (to) the classroom.

2. Missing Verbs

This bus goes (to) Xiaozhai.

3. Mixing Prepositions

I asked the teacher (for) advice.

Anyway, you must think positively.

From the above errors, it can be seen that international students tend to omit verbs, prepositions, and other components when using "chao", "xiang" and "wang", resulting in incomplete sentences. At the same time, inadequate mastery of the usage of "chao", "xiang", and "wang" can lead to mixed use.

4. Teaching Design

4.1. Teaching Object: International Students Who are not Native Speakers of Chinese and have a Certain Foundation in Chinese.

4.2. Course Type: Comprehensive Course

4.3. Teaching Content: Usage of "Chao", "Xiang" and "Wang"

4.4. Teaching Design Ideas

The overall teaching idea of this lesson is to firstly explain the basic meanings and usage of "chao", "xiang", and "wang", and conduct simple exercises to make students aware of the differences between these words. In the second lesson, I will start to analyze "chao", "xiang" and "wang" and practice at different points to consolidate the knowledge points. Then, I will conduct comprehensive exercises to test students' mastery. Finally, I will set homework and strengthen students' consolidation after class.

4.5. Teaching Objectives:

(1) Knowledge objective: To help students understand the meaning of "chao", "xiang" and "wang". By analyzing "chao", "xiang" and "wang". Students will master their grammatical and pragmatic characteristics, as well as the accurate application of "chao", "xiang" and "wang".

(2) Skill objective: Students are able to use "chao", "xiang" and "wang" correctly and fluently, and use them correctly according to actual communication situations and contexts.

(3) Emotional objective: Cultivate students' enthusiasm to speak Chinese boldly and their awareness of using Chinese correctly.

4.6. Key and Difficult Points in Teaching

(1) Teaching key point: Students can master the usage of "chao", "xiang" and "wang".

(2) Teaching difficult point: Students can distinguish the differences between "chao", "xiang" and "wang" and use them correctly.

4.7. Teaching Methods: Induction Method, Comparative Method, Situational Teaching Method Etc.

4.8. Preparation of Teaching Aids: Multimedia, Physical Objects (maps)

4.9. Lesson Schedule: 100 Minutes

5. Teaching Process

Lesson 1 (50 minutes)

(1) Lead-in (5 minutes)

Before the formal class, after a brief greeting, I present three English sentences related to "chao", "xiang" and "wang". Have students translate them into Chinese and introduce the prepositions "chao", "xiang" and "wang" in this lesson.

Mike walked slowly towards this screen

Shelley learned from him

I will go to France next week

(2) New lesson explanation (24 minutes)

1) Explain "chao"

A. Firstly, the teacher displays several sets of pictures "Zhaoyang" and "Zhaoxia". Point out the meaning of "zhao" and lead students to read "zhao".

B. Then, the teacher smiled at students. Explain to students that the word "chao" indicates the direction or object of the action. Lead students to read "chao". After explaining the different pronunciations and meanings of "chao", guide students to use the preposition "chao" to make sentences.

a. The teacher asks the students to step onto the stage and walk towards the door, guiding them to say the sentence "He is walking towards the door".

b. The teacher waves his hand at the student and guides them to say the sentence "The teacher waved his hand at him".

C. The teacher lists phrases related to "chao" and asks students to observe the usage structure of "chao".

waving her hand/walking towards the door

To summarize the structure of "chao"+NP+action.

The house facing south/potted plants facing left

To summarize the structure of "chao"+NP (directional word) + "de"

D. Practice "chao"

The teacher presents several sets of dynamic pictures and

images, and asks students to describe them with "chao".

looking forward/turning left/facing upwards

2) Explain "xiang"

A. The teacher shows the picture "Intersection" and describes the scene "Xiao Wang got lost and walked to an intersection. Which direction should he go?" "Left", "Right" or "Forward"? Introduce "xiang" and lead students to read "xiang" and related phrases.

speak to him/seek his advice/walk towards him/towards victory/towards success

Have students summarize the basic usage structure of "xiang".

"xiang"+NP+(verb)/ Verb+"xiang"+NP

B. Practice "xiang"

The teacher shows several sets of pictures and asks students to describe them using "xiang".

report to the boss/explain to him/walk towards the classroom

3) Explain "wang"

The teacher shows pictures of the flight itinerary, introduces "wang", and leads students to read "wang" and related phrases.

fly to Beijing/up the mountain/walking inside

Have students summarize the basic usage structure of "wang".

"wang"+NP+(verb) Verb+"wang"+NP

The teacher shows several sets of pictures and asks students to describe them using "wang"

Water flows lower./People walk higher./Looking at the blackboard.

(3) Practice (15 minutes)

1) The teacher shows pictures and asks students to describe them using "chao", "xiang" and "wang".

Kite flying towards the sky./Hand reaching out to me./Car driving towards Xi'an./Looking up

2) Fill in the blanks with "chao", "xiang" and "wang".

ZhangSan was sent () study in China.

The motorcycle () north.

He apologized () us, but we do not accept it.

Only by doing well in the present and taking one step at a time can we step () a better future.

His feet are extending ().

(4) Classroom review and summary (6 minutes)

The teacher leads students to read "chao", "xiang" and "wang" and related phrases, sentences etc. and asks students to briefly summarize "chao", "xiang" and "wang".

Lesson 2 (50 minutes)

(1) Review (5 minutes)

The teacher leads the students to briefly review the knowledge points of the previous lesson.

(2) Differentiate "chao", "xiang" and "wang" (25 minutes)

1) Lead-in

The teacher shows a map of the school and sets the scene "We are now in the teaching building, class is over, how do we get to the canteen?".

According to the map, the canteen is in front of the teaching building, so we need to walk forward.

How do we go to the library? Turn left

Where should I go if I want to exercise? Walk towards the playground.

2) Grammar summary.

The teacher summarizes the words after prepositions. "Front", "back", "left" and "right" are directional words, "where" is an interrogative pronoun, "playground" is a local

word.

"wang"+directional words/locative words+verbs

The preposition "wang" indicates a movement of position, and the following verbs have the characteristics of position movement, such as walking, crawling, running etc. Similarly, "chao" and "xiang" also apply to this structure.

3) Analysis

The teacher analyzes the use of verb positional changes and provides examples.

"wang"+directional word/locative word+verb can be transformed into verb+"wang"+directional word/locative word.

"Xiang" can also be transformed in this way, but "chao" can't.

Where does the bus go?

The plane is flying towards China/ The plane is flying to China.

Go straight to the end and turn left. / Go straight to the end and turn to the left.

4) Summarize similarities and differences.

Differences: "xiang" and "wang" can be placed before or after a verb. But "chao" can only be placed before the verb.

Similarities: "chao", "xiang" and "wang" can all be followed by directional and locative words.

(3) Practice

Fill in the blanks with "chao", "xiang" and "wang".

fly () Xi'an

() Xi'an airlines

go () Beijing

(4) Differentiate the components following the preposition "wang"

The teacher provides examples to help students feel whether the sentences are correct or not.

The teacher smiled at me.

He excitedly ran towards his old friend whom he hadn't seen in ten years

To conclude the following words of "wang" should not be personal pronouns. They should be directional words or locative words.

(5) Introduce the usage of "chao" and "xiang".

1) When personal pronouns and other words follow, "chao" and "xiang" can be used.

The teacher smiled at me.

He excitedly ran towards his old friend whom he hadn't seen in ten years.

2) When followed by a status word, use "chao" or "xiang".

She has been facing me on this matter.

That little dog is running towards me.

The teacher summarizes structures of "chao"/ "xiang" +personal pronouns+verbs and "chao"/ "xiang" +"zhe" +NP + (verbs).

3) Practice

We bow () the principal.

A little dog suddenly ran in and everyone laughed () it.

(6) Analyze the usage of the following verbs

1) The teacher lists two sets of verbs and asks students to summarize the categories of verb .

learn, ask for advice, explain, report, explain

walk, turn, run, laugh, say hello, wave hands

It can be concluded that the first group is an abstract action that can't be simply performed by gestures. The second group consists of specific actions that can be performed by gestures

The teacher lists several sets of words and asks students to summarize their usage.

learn from him/consult with the teacher/report to the boss

smile at me/walk towards me/walk towards the door

It can be concluded that when the verb is an abstract verb, "xiang" is generally used. When the verb is a specific action, "chao", "xiang" and "wang" can all be used.

2) Practice consolidation

explain () her/go () ahead/study () the excellent students/ say hello () us

Table 1. Usage of the table to summarize "chao", "xiang" and "wang"

Preposition	The positional relationship with verbs	Specific verbs	abstract verb	personal pronoun	Place words/locative nouns
"Chao",	before	yes	no	yes	yes
"Xiang"	before/after	yes	yes	yes	yes
"Wang"	before/after	yes	no	no	yes

(7) Summary of knowledge points (5 minutes)

The teacher lists the previous analysis examples on a page, asks the students to summarize and finally displays the usage of the table to summarize "chao", "xiang" and "wang".

(8) Classroom exercise (15 minutes)

1. Choose words and fill in the blank with "chao", "xiang" and "wang".

1) This batch of goods is being transported () the epidemic area.

2) Birds fly () the blue sky.

3) I want to learn () him.

4) Xiaoming waved () me.

5) If there is any need, can say () me.

6) Don't blow up () people casually.

7) A car is coming () me.

2. Scenario exercises

The teacher sets up a real-life scenario, such as getting lost and finding a way, campus daily life etc. Have students role-play and present on stage.

Example sentences: Where are we going?/ Turn left./ask

for advice from teachers and excellent students.

6. Assignment

Write a paragraph using "chao", "xiang" and "wang" to record your daily life.

Example: In the afternoon, my friends and I were sitting in the park. A girl walked towards us, said she was lost, and asked us where the pond was. I told her to walk along this road and when you see the intersection, turn left about one kilometer. The east is the pond. When my friend talked to me, they said they have been feeling down recently. I comforted her by thinking positively. As long as we take this earnestly, we will always move towards success.

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