EDUCATIONAL APP STORE

CERTIFIED

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

2024

很好

Congratulations!

You received 5 Stars!

App Name: Simple Chinese Drill

Link:

https://apps.apple.com/ke/app/simple-chinese-drill/id6445864902

In-App Purchases? Yes

In-App Ads? If yes, are they 1st party or 3rd party ads? No

Subjects:

Languages, Reference, Teaching Resources

Learning Outcomes

Communication Skills, Academic Relevance

Ages:

Apps for 12-18 Months	Kindergarten (3-5 Years)
☐	☐
Primary School (5-7 Years)	Primary School (8-11 Years)
☐	☐
Secondary School (12-14 Years)	Secondary School (14-18 Years)
☑	☑

College/University (18+ Years of Age)

☑

EAS Star Rating: 5

Summary:

Simple Chinese Drill is a language learning app aimed at helping users master the Chinese language through various interactive tools and resources. The app caters to learners at all levels, offering a comprehensive approach to building vocabulary, understanding grammar, and improving overall language skills.

EAS Review:

Key Features

Device Synchonization, AI, Offline

Best Features

- Vocabulary database for various HSK proficiency levels – currently Level 1-4, with Levels 5-9 on the way

- Interactive learning exercises including flashcards, quizzes, listening, and typing

- Integrated AI for answering grammar questions and providing detailed character information

- Character stroke animations for better memorization and understanding

- Comprehensive Chinese-English dictionary with over 100,000 words including slang phrases for a more real-world learning experience

  Continuous updates and feature enhancements based on user feedback

- Social features allowing users to connect and compete with friends

- Support for both simplified and traditional Chinese characters

Data and Security

Which permissions and data does the app request or require?

Email

Does the app provide a secure experience for its intended users? Yes

Does the app provide a safe experience for its intended users? Yes

Educational value

Is the app easy to use and accessible? Yes

Is this app well-made and presented? Yes

Is this app useful for its intended users? Yes

Educational Value

Simple Chinese Drill provides users with a good, interactive range of learning exercises, including flashcards, quizzes, listening activities, and typing practice. This multifaceted approach ensures that users can engage with the material in ways that best suit their needs, thus enhancing their retention and understanding of the language.

The app offers a robust vocabulary database tailored to different proficiency levels – at the moment encompassing HSK Levels 1 to 4. The exercises are engaging and interactive, which help to reinforce learning and progressively build confidence. The app boasts integrated AI support for answering grammar questions, providing additional learning insights, and a comprehensive Chinese-English dictionary for reference and expanding vocabulary.

Users will see detailed character information and stroke animations to aid memorization and comprehension. Should any issues be found, user-friendly error reporting will maintain an accurate and reliable learning experience. Users can opt to colour coordinate words by type, i.e. verb, noun, adjective, etc. This aids retention and understanding.

Simple Chinese Drill stands out as a versatile and effective tool for learning Chinese, which focuses on practical usage and repetition, helping users to not only learn individual words but also understand how to use them within context. This approach supports the development of conversational skills and a deeper grasp of sentence structures. Its engaging features and comprehensive content make it a solid choice for anyone looking to improve their proficiency in the language.

Cost

Simple Chinese Drill is free to download but offers varying in-app purchases to unlock additional content. HSK Levels 1 and 2 are available for a one-off payment of $1.99. For HSK Level 3 and 4, you can make a one-off payment of $2.99. Further HSK Levels will be soon available.

Pros

- Comprehensive Vocabulary Coverage: Offers extensive vocabulary lists tailored to different HSK levels.

- AI Integration: The app's SmartDrill feature provides instant grammar support and detailed character information, enhancing and personalising the learner experience. The questions will adapt to user mistakes and allow for reinforcement to improve attainment.

- Character Stroke Animations: Aids in memorising and correctly writing Chinese characters.

- Practical Phrase Lists: Includes common phrases to help learners use the language effectively in real-life situations.

- Audio Pronunciations: Provides pronunciations to help improve listening and speaking skills.

- Gamified learning: Incorporates achievements and rewards to make learning more fun and engaging.

- Social Features: Encourages a collaborative learning environment through connection and competition with peers in the leaderboards.

What benefits do this app's features have for students?

In Simple Chinese Drill, students will find a wide range of features to support them at every stage of proficiency. They'll engage in interactive exercises to strengthen their understanding and retention of Chinese vocabulary, tailored to different skill levels, including HSK 1-4. The SmartDrill feature uses AI to provide personalized learning support in real time.

Visual aids help learners grasp the strokes of Chinese characters, while the extensive Chinese-English dictionary aids in expanding your vocabulary.

Students can track their progress with the analytics tools, setting goals and monitoring improvement as they go. Audio pronunciations aid in refining listening and speaking abilities, while exemplar sentences provide context for words and phrases. gamified elements provide a fun learning experience complemented by cultural insights and language tips. Connect with peers through social features, fostering a supportive learning community.

Simple Chinese Drill offers personalized study plans tailored to learners' individual learning needs and pace.

What benefits do this app's features have for Teachers?

Simple Chinese Drill is an app designed to support teachers in their language instruction with a range of robust features. It boasts an extensive vocabulary database aligned with HSK levels, facilitating structured teaching and instruction. The app offers a variety of interactive exercises that enhance student engagement and retention, ensuring differentiation in learning.

Teachers can track student progress and access performance analytics for personalized feedback, and the app's offline capabilities allow for learning without internet dependency. Audio pronunciations help students refine their listening and speaking skills, and exemplar sentences showcase vocabulary and phrases in context.

The app also includes gamified elements to motivate students and encourage consistent practice. Cultural insights and language tips enrich the learning experience, offering a more rounded approach to language acquisition. Social and competitive features create a collaborative and interactive classroom environment.

Our suggestions for improvements

- Vocabulary sorting: It would be beneficial if vocabulary could be dissected into logical or themed lists, allowing users to study by specific need and/or context.

- Customisation Options: Allow users to create their own vocabulary lists and tailor exercises to focus on specific areas of improvement.

- Dictionary refinement: The dictionary feature is a little confusing and lacks interactivity. I would like to see an audio feature to allow you to hear the words/phrases. The script and text are also quite confusing and lack clarity. It is unclear where the Mandarin script is, as it seems to blend with the English. Users, novice users, in particular, will find this challenging to navigate.

- Parental Controls: Introduce features that allow parents to monitor and manage their child's learning activities and progress. Within this, I would advise an ability to filter language by age, as some vocabulary would not be appropriate for underage users.

Our reviewer's recommendation

Simple Chinese Drill is a versatile app for learning Chinese, suitable for users across a range of proficiency levels – currently, HSK 1–4. It offers a comprehensive vocabulary database tailored to these different HSK levels, as well as a variety of interactive learning tools such as flashcards, quizzes, and the highly effective AI-integrated SmartDrill feature.

This app enhances the learning experience with character stroke animations, audio pronunciations, and practical phrase lists, making it highly engaging and effective. Users can benefit from progress tracking, customisable settings, and offline access, ensuring a flexible and personalised learning journey. While there are some suggestions for improvement, Simple Chinese Drill represents a useful and user-friendly tool for learning the Chinese language.