

**EdUHK Corpus-based ELT Lesson Design Competition**  
**Lesson Topic/Title: Reading-Mother of Ten Thousand Babies**

**Competition No.** CH 40

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**Target Students:** Senior one

**Corpora Used:**

- *Mother of Ten Thousand Babies* and *Tu Youyou Awarded Nobel Prize* in the textbook of Senior High School English published by People's Education Press (attached at the end of the lesson design)
- Free iWeb corpus downloaded from the website [https://www.corpusdata.org/iweb\\_samples.asp](https://www.corpusdata.org/iweb_samples.asp)

**Corpus Tools:** AntConc 3.2.4w (Windows), VersaText

**Lesson Duration:** 45 minutes

**Learning Objectives:**

At the end of this lesson, students are expected to

1. predict the main idea of the text according to the word clouds
2. identify the text type according to the keyword list
3. grasp and restructure information about Lin Qiaozhi's life experiences
4. conclude the qualities of Lin Qiaozhi by listing some supporting evidence in concordance lines



Teacher Tips: Show how to use Versatext to get the word clouds of the content words and ask students to circle and group these words based on the name of the character, job, possible description of the character's life and characteristics.

Name: Lin Qiaozhi

Job/job-related: Dr, Doctor(s), physician, medicine, patients(s), medical

Life: single, tired, hard, poor

Characteristics: responsible, amazing

[Purpose] To make students have a general idea of what the text talks about and inspire them to discover more in the passage

### Step 2. Fast-reading

1. Try to identify the text type according to the keyword list of the text below. How do you know?  
A. Travel journal    B. Biography    C. Letter    D. Expository writing

Teacher Tips: It is a biography. Biography is a kind of literary form mainly describing the experiences of characters. Many pronouns *she/her* are used in the text to refer to the main character and many words to address someone are used such as *Dr, doctor, patient, woman, and physician*. These are the features of biography.

Concordance		Concordance Plot		File View		Clusters		Collocates		Word List		Keyword List	
Hits		Keyword Types Before Cut: 285				Keyword Types After Cut: 78							
Rank	Freq	Keyness	Keyword										
1	9	134.981	Lin										
2	4	80.202	Qiaozhi										
3	3	60.151	PUMC										
4	13	56.783	she										
5	3	44.309	GYN										
6	3	44.309	OB										
7	5	39.640	department										
8	6	33.510	Dr										
9	10	33.005	her										
10	6	28.493	She										
11	3	24.748	doctors										
12	4	24.382	patients										
13	1	20.050	BABIES										
14	1	20.050	Wenhai										
15	2	19.701	precious										
16	2	18.844	Don										
17	2	17.658	resident										
18	1	17.278	THOUSAND										
19	2	16.578	babies										
20	1	16.232	MOTHER										
21	3	15.509	woman										
22	2	14.740	phvsician										

\*The Keyword List above uses 110 free full-text iWeb samples as the reference corpus

2. Read the whole text quickly to check your prediction and think about in what order the text is written. (In chronological order)

[Purpose] To instruct students to pay attention to text features

### Step 3. Jigsaw reading

- Form groups of five
- Each group member reads one different paragraph (chosen from paragraphs two to six)
- Find out the important events related to Dr Lin, her choice and the results at different times by reading and asking your group members the information you need. Finish the table below.

Time	Important events	Her choice	Results
In 1906			
At age 18			

At age 26			
In 1939			
...			

[Purpose] To train students' ability of grasping and restructuring detailed information about Lin's life experiences according to the timeline by independent reading and group sharing

#### Step 4. Further-understanding

Think of the questions:

1. What achievements did Dr Lin gain after making the choices? (You can see the sentences below as a hint.) Could you use some adjectives to describe her?

Query: [lemma="first"], hits: 3.

#	Sentences
1	She immediately became the <b>first</b> woman ever to be hired as a resident physician in the OBGYN department of the PUMC Hospital.
2	In 1941, Dr Lin became the <b>first</b> Chinese woman ever to be appointed director of the OBGYN department of the PUMC Hospital, but just a few months later, the department was closed because of the war.
3	In 1954, she was elected to the <b>first</b> National People ' s Congress and, over the next several decades, she held many important positions.

2. What was the main principle of life that guided Dr Lin to make the choices in her life? What qualities do you think she has? An example has been done for you.

- Read the concordance lines
- Identify the description of Dr Lin's words, behaviors and personalities in the surrounding context
- Draw a conclusion about what qualities Dr Lin has
- Share your opinions with your group members and finish the brace map together

Teacher Tips: Teacher can ask students how to search the words "I, Lin, she" on AntConc to get the concordance lines if computers are available; if not, print the concordance lines and show how to search these words on the computer in the classroom.

Concordance Plot File View Clusters Collocates Word List Keyword List

Hit KWIC

1 entrust me with that life, how could I refuse that trust, saying I'm cold, hungry, or tired? These words of Dr Lin  
 2 complained, thinking of the high tuition fees. She responded, 'I'd rather stay single to study all my life'. Eight  
 3 And even as she lay dying, her final thoughts were for others. I'm ready to go, she said. Don't try to rescue  
 4 han their life, and if they entrust me with that life, how could I refuse that trust, saying I'm cold, hungry, or tir  
 5 of the war. Thinking of all the people still in need of help, Dr Lin opened a private clinic. She charged very low fee  
 6 'd rather stay single to study all my life! Eight years later, Lin graduated from Peking Union Medical College (PUMC  
 7 t trust, saying I'm cold, hungry, or tired? These words of Dr Lin Qiaozhi give us a look into the heart of this ama  
 8 onable for the patients and treat them as our sisters. Though Lin Qiaozhi never married, she was known as the 'mot  
 9 abies, having delivered over 50,000 babies in her lifetime. Dr Lin did not retire until the day she died, 22 April 1  
 10 provide medical care. The new People's Republic of China saw Dr Lin Qiaozhi playing a key role. In 1954, she was elec  
 11 y impressed her American colleagues, who invited her to stay. Dr Lin, however, rejected the offer. She wanted to serve  
 12 She wanted to serve the women and children at home. In 1941, Dr Lin became the first Chinese woman ever to be appoint  
 13 ied her through a life of hard choices. As a five-year-old girl, Lin Qiaozhi was deeply affected by her mother's deat  
 14 ,000 babies in her lifetime. Dr Lin did not retire until the day she died, 22 April 1983. Since she had no children of  
 15 th the Wenhai Scholarship, the highest prize given to graduates. She immediately became the first woman ever to be hir  
 16 dying, her final thoughts were for others. I'm ready to go, she said. Don't try to rescue me any more. Don't  
 17 avings to a kindergarten and a fund for new doctors. And even as she lay dying, her final thoughts were for others.  
 18 epublic of China saw Dr Lin Qiaozhi playing a key role. In 1954, she was elected to the first National People's Congre  
 19 eat patients and often reduced costs for poor patients. At times she was even seen riding a donkey to faraway villages  
 20 y she died, 22 April 1983. Since she had no children of her own, she left her savings to a kindergarten and a fund for  
 21 al! her brother complained, thinking of the high tuition fees. She responded, 'I'd rather stay single to study all  
 22 s, she was sent to study in Europe and then, in 1939, in the US. She greatly impressed her American colleagues, who in  
 23 d treat them as our sisters. Though Lin Qiaozhi never married, she was known as the 'mother of ten thousand babies,  
 24 t National People's Congress and, over the next several decades, she held many important positions. Her heart, however  
 25 eld many important positions. Her heart, however, was elsewhere. She was more interested in tending patients, publishi  
 26 n the OB-GYN department of the PUMC Hospital. Within six months, she was named a chief resident physician, a position  
 27 ation of doctors. The OB-GYN department cares for two lives, she told new staff in her department. As doctors, w  
 28 Lin did not retire until the day she died, 22 April 1983. Since she had no children of her own, she left her savings  
 29 ually took four years to achieve. After working for a few years, she was sent to study in Europe and then, in 1939, in  
 30 s, who invited her to stay. Dr Lin, however, rejected the offer. She wanted to serve the women and children at home. I  
 31 ing the traditional path of marriage like the majority of girls, she chose to study medicine. Why should girls learn  
 32 he people still in need of help, Dr Lin opened a private clinic. She charged very low fees to treat patients and often

Search Term  Words  Case  Regex Concordance Hits Search Window Size  
 she|Lin|I Advanced 32 65

Dr Lin's main principle is to \_\_\_\_\_

Dr Lin's qualities

- 1. She is determined to chase her dream even though there are difficulties
  - Evidence 1: She'd rather stay single to study all her life
  - Evidence 2: .....
- 2. She is \_\_\_\_\_
  - Evidence 1: .....
  - Evidence 2: .....
- 3. She is \_\_\_\_\_
  - Evidence 1: .....
  - Evidence 2: .....

[Purpose] To practice students' skill of inductive reasoning through encouraging them to evaluate Dr Lin by finding the evidence; to let the students learn from the virtues and moral principles of Dr Lin.

### Step 5. Role-play

Conduct an interview in pairs. One student acts as Lin Qiaozhi, while the other acts as a reporter interviewing her.

The interview should include:

1. A brief introduction about Lin Qiaozhi;
2. The hard choices and achievements of Lin Qiaozhi during her life;
3. The reporter's comments on Lin Qiaozhi.

[Purpose] To wrap up and give students a chance to apply what they have learnt through speaking.

### **Homework**

Read the article *Tu Youyou Awarded Nobel Prize* with the help of word cloud and concordance

1. Paste the text on VersaText, get the word cloud and group the words to identify the possible topic(s);
2. Focus on the adjective word cloud of the text to form a better impression of Tu Youyou described in the text;
3. Use AntConc to make concordance lines of pronouns/names;
4. Try to analyze why Tu Youyou is considered a great person based on the adjective word cloud and concordance lines.

✧ For the reading lesson:

## Reading and Thinking

### Learn to make choices in life

1 Before you read, think about this question and share your ideas with your partner: What are some important life choices?

2 Read the text about Lin Qiaozhi and then answer the following questions.

- 1 What hard choices was Dr Lin faced with throughout her life? Underline the sentences about these choices.
- 2 What were the results of her choices?
- 3 What does the author want to **illustrate** by mentioning Dr Lin's life choices?

## MOTHER OF TEN THOUSAND BABIES



Lin Qiaozhi (1901 – 1983)

“Life is **precious**. ... To a person nothing is more precious than their life, and if they entrust me with that life, how could I refuse that trust, saying I’m cold, hungry, or tired?” These words of Dr Lin Qiaozhi give us a look into the heart of this amazing woman, and what carried her through a life of hard choices.

As a five-year-old girl, Lin Qiaozhi was deeply affected by her mother’s death. At age 18, instead of following the traditional path of **marriage** like the **majority** of girls, she chose to study medicine. “Why should girls learn so much? Finding a good husband should be their final goal!” her brother **complained**, thinking of the high tuition **fees**. She **responded**, “I’d rather stay single to study all my life!”

Eight years later, Lin graduated from Peking Union Medical College (PUMC) with the Wenhai **Scholarship**, the highest prize given to graduates. She immediately became the first woman ever to be **hired** as a resident **physician** in the OB-GYN department of the PUMC Hospital. Within six months, she was named a chief resident physician, a position that usually took four years to achieve. After working for a few years, she was sent to study in Europe and then, in 1939, in the US. She greatly impressed her American colleagues, who invited her to stay. Dr Lin, however, **rejected** the offer. She wanted to serve the women and children at home.

In 1941, Dr Lin became the first Chinese woman ever to be appointed director of the OB-GYN department of the PUMC Hospital, but just a few months later, the department was closed because of the war. Thinking of all the people still in need of help, Dr Lin opened a private **clinic**. She charged very low fees to treat patients and often reduced costs for poor patients. At times she was even seen riding a donkey to faraway villages to provide medical care.

The new People's Republic of China saw Dr Lin Qiaozhi playing a key role. In 1954, she was elected to the first National People's Congress and, over the next several **decades**, she held many important positions. Her heart, however, was **elsewhere**. She was more interested in **tending** patients, **publishing** medical research on care for women and children, and training the next generation of doctors. "The OB-GYN department cares for two lives," she told new **staff** in her department. "As doctors, we should be responsible for the patients and treat them as our sisters."

Though Lin Qiaozhi never married, she was known as the "mother of ten thousand babies", having delivered over 50,000 babies in her lifetime. Dr Lin did not **retire** until the day she died, 22 April 1983. Since she had no children of her own, she left her **savings** to a **kindergarten** and a fund for new doctors. And even as she lay dying, her final thoughts were for others. "I'm ready to go," she said. "Don't try to rescue me any more. Don't waste the medicine any more."



**3 Read the text again and answer the questions. Use the facts and details from the text to support your conclusions.**

- 1 What was the main **principle** guiding Dr Lin through the choices in her life?
- 2 What kind of person do you think Dr Lin was?



**Draw conclusions**

As you read, pay attention to facts and details mentioned by the author, and put them together to draw conclusions about the topic.

**4 Complete the following sentences using suitable verbs from the text. Be sure to use the correct forms.**

- 1 Many studies have shown that shy, **passive** children tend to be socially \_\_\_\_\_ by their classmates.
- 2 She was so scared during the interview that she completely forgot how she should \_\_\_\_\_ to the questions.
- 3 Many Americans \_\_\_\_\_ about the **sharp** increase in the cost of health care and health **insurance** recently.
- 4 One of the advantages of \_\_\_\_\_ **energetic** and positive young people is that they \_\_\_\_\_ to show interest in their work and they are eager to learn.
- 5 The student union will hold a special meeting in January to \_\_\_\_\_ someone to **replace** the secretary.

✧ For the homework:

### TU YOUYOU AWARDED NOBEL PRIZE

6 October 2015



This year's Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine has been awarded to Tu Youyou (co-winner), whose research led to the discovery of artemisinin, a **crucial** new treatment for malaria. Artemisinin has saved hundreds of thousands of lives, and has led to improved health for millions of people. Over 200 million people around the world get malaria each year, and about 600,000 die from it. Artemisinin has become a **vital** part of the treatment for malaria, and is thought to save 100,000 lives a year in Africa alone.

Tu Youyou, a committed and patient scientist, was born in Ningbo, China, on 30 December 1930, and graduated from Peking University Medical School in 1955. After she graduated, she worked at the China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Beijing. In 1967, the Chinese government formed a team of scientists with the **objective** of discovering a new treatment for malaria, and Tu Youyou was among the first researchers chosen. In the beginning, Tu Youyou went to Hainan, where malaria was more common, to study malaria patients. In 1969, she became the head of the project in Beijing, and decided to review ancient Chinese medical texts to find traditional **botanical** treatments for the disease. Her team examined over 2,000 old medical texts, and **evaluated** 280,000 plants for their medical **properties**. From their research, they discovered and tested 380 **distinct** ancient Chinese medical treatments that showed promise in the fight against malaria.

One medical text from the fourth century suggested using the extract from sweet wormwood to treat a fever. Tu's team tested a collection of dried wormwood leaves but found no effect. They then tried **boiling** fresh wormwood, and using the **liquid obtained** from this to treat malaria, but this did not work either. Their project got stuck. However, Tu Youyou would not **acknowledge defeat**. She **analysed** the medical texts again, and by chance, she found one sentence suggesting a different way to treat the wormwood. She concluded that boiling the sweet wormwood **apparently** destroyed its medical properties.

2 UNIT 1 PEOPLE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Using a lower temperature to draw out the extract, she found a **substance** that worked. After failing more than 190 times, the team finally succeeded in 1971. Tu Youyou and her team members even **insisted** on testing the medicine on themselves to make sure that it was safe. Later, the medicine was tested on malaria patients, most of whom recovered. This medicine, which was called artemisinin, soon became a standard treatment for malaria.

According to Tu Youyou, the discovery of artemisinin was a team effort. Upon hearing that she had been awarded the Nobel Prize, she said, "The honour is not just mine. There is a team behind me, and all the people of my country. This success proves the great value of traditional Chinese medicine. It is indeed an honour for China's **scientific** research and Chinese medicine to be spread around the world."