

2021 Instructional Material Summer Review Institute

**Review Team Appraisal of Title
K-8 World Languages**

This appraisal form is provided for use by educators responsible for the selection of instructional materials for implementation with districts and charter schools across New Mexico to meet the need of their student populations.

This appraisal form should be used in conjunction with the publisher provided Form D: Research Based Effectiveness Determination that supports this reviewed material which can be found on the Instructional Material Bureau website.

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/instructional-materials/the-adoption-cycle/>

Text Title	Zhen Bang! - Level 1	Publisher	Carnegie Learning, Inc.
SE ISBN	9781533865007	TE ISBN	9781533865038
SW ISBN		Grade Level/Content	Grades 7-8 World Languages: Chinese

Core Instructional Material Designation (*Core Instructional Material is the comprehensive print or digital educational material, including basal material, which constitutes the necessary instructional components of a full academic course of study in those subjects for which the department has adopted content standards and benchmarks.*)

Recommended (90% and above)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Recommended with Reservations (80-89%)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Recommended and Not Adopted (below 80%)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Total Score - <i>The final score for the materials is averaged between the team of reviewers.</i>	Average Score
	92%

Cultural and Linguistic Relevance Recognition - *Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the material regarding cultural relevance and the inclusion of a culturally responsive lens. Those materials receiving a score of 90% or above on the CLR portion of the review are recognized as culturally and linguistically relevant.*

CLR Recognized	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Average Score

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from All Content Appraisal tab):

A variety of cultural perspectives from the Chinese-speaking world are presented in the materials, along with some guidance for instructors on how to engage different perspectives and backgrounds in the classroom community. Graphics display some diversity, but are lacking in differently-abled and broadly diverse imagery.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from All Content Appraisal tab):

Introductions to the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Chinese-speaking world may be used to engage students in reflection about their own cultures, although such reflection is seldom an explicit component of the content and instructions. Some of the activities outlined in the Teacher's Edition are designed to elicit active participation and knowledge building based on the unique makeup of the class and perspectives in surrounding communities, but most focus on developing knowledge of mainstream Chinese culture, sometimes comparing it with mainstream American culture.

Standards Review - Materials are reviewed for alignment with the state adopted content standards, benchmarks and performance standards.

Average Score

93%

Materials align with World-Readiness standards overall.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Zhen Bang Level 1 has been carefully crafted to align with the ACTFL and New Mexico World Readiness Language Standards. From the layout of the text, to the accompanying Teacher's Edition and digital resources, *Zhen Bang* offers ready-to-use, high-quality instructional materials appropriate for middle and high school students. In addition to adherence to the 5 Cs, best practices for instruction and for students' collaborative and independent study and assessment are also showcased throughout.

Materials align with communication standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The textbook consistently and accurately identifies activities as exercising one of the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. In addition, an entire volume in the digital resources provides Integrated Performance Assessments (IEPs), which engage students in all three modes to complete comprehensive and standards-based assessments.

Materials align with cultures standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

A focus on the Three Ps--Practices, Perspectives, and Products--is maintained in each section of the text. Group and individual activities presented in the Teacher's Edition guide students to investigate Chinese cultural practices and products to broaden their understanding of mainstream Chinese perspectives.

Materials align with connections standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

One unique feature of this textbook is to include six "Foundation" lessons before entering into the "Communication" contents. Foundation A: Chinese geography/history—China on the World Map; B: China's 22 Mainland Provinces; C: The Four Municipalities and Two Special District; D: China's Population Density; E: Important Food Crops in China; F: Natural Environment of China. These lessons expand students' knowledge of other disciplines, and students will develop understanding of diverse perspectives. The only concern is that the teacher may not have the hours available to cover all the contents.

Materials align with comparisons standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials provide opportunities for learners to develop insight into language and culture. The Teacher's Edition includes tools and activities for students to compare Chinese culture with their own. In the Student Edition, there are Culture Window and Language Note sections in every lesson. Consistent visual design of language pattern in highlighted bold face text and comparisons box help students understand how language works and the relationship between language and culture.

Materials align with communities standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The Teacher's Edition provides Parent Communication tips to encourage students to use the language beyond the classroom, e.g. take family to Chinese restaurant and order in Chinese, or teach family members simple Chinese expressions. The Student Edition also includes a Culture Window on the topic of going to China or studying abroad programs. However, the material does not provide clear instruction on how to help students set goals for lifelong learning.

WL Content Review - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the specific content area reviewed.

Average Score

95%

Materials provide a selection and range of high-quality texts worthy of students' time and attention, exhibiting exceptional craft and thought and/or providing useful information.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

A wealth of information about China and the Chinese language is contained in the textbook. In addition, there are two online graded readers for beginning levels, presenting age-appropriate fictional stories. The English-language contents in the textbook are designed to deepen students' knowledge on subjects which are too advanced to be explored in the target language, and accompanying lessons in Chinese link this knowledge with basic vocabulary and sentence structures. The result is a well-rounded promotion of students' knowledge ranging in depth from the most basic to the more intellectually stimulating, on a wide range of topics.

Questions in the materials are high-quality text-dependent and text-specific questions. The overwhelming majority of these questions are text-specific and draw student attention to the particulars in the text.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Texts in both Chinese and in English (for cultural topics) are followed up with text-specific questions requiring careful reading and thorough understanding of the material by students. Chinese-language texts (the majority of which are accompanied by pinyin) are followed by questions in Chinese, while the questions about English passages are asked and answered in English.

Materials provide scaffolding and supports to enable students' learning of world languages.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Ample supports and scaffolding, not only in the text itself but also in the online supplemental materials, provide a rich foundational text for students' acquisition of Mandarin, Chinese. Recycling of vocabulary and sentence structures is carefully maintained to promote retention and further development, accompanied by listening activities, flashcards, and projects in all three modes of communication.

All Content Review - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the material regarding the progression of the standards, lesson structure, pacing, assessment, individual learners and cultural relevance.

Average Score

88%

Materials are coherent and consistent with the standards that all students should study in order to be college and career ready.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The Teacher's Edition includes the 10 skills statements from the ACTFL World Languages 21st Century Skills Map; all contents are coherent and consistent with ACTFL and New Mexico World Readiness Language Standards. There are few activities to address the skills of Flexibility and Adaptability, Initiative and Self-Direction, and Social and Cross-Cultural Skills.

Materials are well designed and take into account effective lesson structure and pacing.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The Teacher's Edition includes Lesson Planning and Pacing guide for Traditional (50-minute classes) and Block schedule (90-minute classes) in 180 days. As all units contain the same instructional components, teachers may reference the provided Sample Lesson Plan for a Unit for effective lesson pacing.

Materials support teacher planning, learning, and understanding of the standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The strong emphasis on standards throughout the text, particularly the labeling conventions wherein each section is labeled with a communication mode, supports teacher and student understanding of the standards. In the Teacher Edition, suggested activities in the margins, in Chinese, are not delineated in terms of standards.

Materials offer teachers resources and tools to collect ongoing data about student progress on the standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

There is one example of a proficiency rubric for teachers to refer to in collecting data about student progress on the standards. It is only available in the online Annotated Teacher's Edition. The Carnegie Learning Passport website also offers "My Classes," where scores on assigned work can be collected and stored.

Materials support effective use of technology to enhance student learning.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Students can access the digital resource "Passport" for eBooks, complete assignments, practice activities, submit work, receive feedback and track progress. These resources/apps are listed as a Margin Icon in the Student Edition.

Materials can be easily customized for individual learners.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The textbook and the online workbook are only customizable in terms of whether and to whom they are assigned, but with the activities available online, including flashcards on Quizlet and a direct link to Flipgrid, teachers are encouraged to branch out and explore ways to engage learners in creativity. There is even an option to "create activities" within the online Assignment Library.

Materials give all students extensive opportunities and support to explore key concepts.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Each unit in the Student Edition features illustrated vocabulary, easy-to-follow formulas, digital resources with dialogues, videos, audio excerpts, assessments, and Language Practice activities to review the language patterns or cultural concepts of the lesson.

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

A variety of cultural perspectives from the Chinese-speaking world are presented in the materials, along with some guidance for instructors on how to engage different perspectives and backgrounds in the classroom community. Graphics display some diversity, but are lacking in differently-abled and broadly diverse imagery.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Introductions to the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Chinese-speaking world may be used to engage students in reflection about their own cultures, although such reflection is seldom an explicit component of the content and instructions. Some of the activities outlined in the Teacher's Edition are designed to elicit active participation and knowledge building based on the unique makeup of the class and perspectives in surrounding communities, but most focus on developing knowledge of mainstream Chinese culture, sometimes comparing it with mainstream American culture.

Reviewers' Professional Summation - These materials are reviewed by Level II and Level III educators from across New Mexico. The reviewers have brought their knowledge, experience and expertise into the review of these materials. They offer here their individual summary of the material as a whole.

Reviewer #: 118

Background and experience:

This reviewer has a level III license, with endorsements in Modern and Classical Languages, Social Studies, and English Language Arts and has been a Chinese teacher since 2007. This reviewer has a Master's degree from UNM in Organizational Learning and Instructional Technology and a Bachelor's degree in Asian Studies. This reviewer has also been rated as fluent in Mandarin by the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language. This reviewer is a certified AP Chinese teacher in addition to being active in professional organizations: ACTFL, SWCOLT, NMOLE, CLTA-NM.

Professional summary of material:

Zhen Bang Level 1 is a valuable resource and a substantive foundational text for students and teachers, providing comprehensive coverage of novice to intermediate Chinese language and culture contents aligned with the ACTFL and New Mexico World Readiness Language Standards. Up-to-date instructional approaches, including spiral design and integrated performance assessments, are well-represented. And while cultural perspectives discussed in the text are mainly limited to mainstream China and America, the broad array of activities in the Student and Teacher Editions do offer some opportunities to broaden that cultural lens. Colorful illustrations and stimulating discussions of social and historical topics make for overall engaging and age-appropriate material.

Reviewer #: 119

Background and experience:

This reviewer has a level III license, with an endorsement in Modern and Classical Languages (Chinese) and has been a classroom teacher since 2006. This reviewer is also a Certified AP Chinese teacher and UNM adjunct lecturer with a Master's degree from Chinese Culture University in Journalism (Taiwan, Republic of China) and a Master's degree from Boston University in Public Relations. The reviewer is an active member of the Chinese Language Teacher Association of NM, the New Mexico Chinese Association, and the Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation.

Professional summary of material:

Zhen Bang Level 1 demonstrates collective efforts of Chinese classroom teachers in meeting ACTFL and New Mexico World Readiness Language Standards. The collection and design of authentic materials, photos, and drawings are impressive. The language notes, idiom stories, vocabulary charts and visual designs engage both teachers and students in understanding the culture and language. The challenge for teachers is to digest all the content and activities and modify them for individual classroom and teaching hours. According to the Author's note, the textbook series is designed for high school students; however, the contents and illustrations are appropriate for K-8 students.

Reviewer #: 120

Background and experience:

This reviewer has a level III License, with endorsements in Modern and Classical Languages (Chinese) and Mathematics. A classroom teacher since 2003, this reviewer also has a Master of Science for Teachers degree from NMT and a Bachelor's degree from Providence College in Chinese Literature (Taiwan, Republic of China). This reviewer is an active member of Chinese Language Teacher Association of NM and New Mexico Chinese Association.

Professional summary of material:

Zhen Bang Level 1 fulfills most of the ACTFL and New Mexico World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages. The content is well designed. It provides clear instructional guidance for teachers to implement. It provides bountiful authentic content and materials with easy-to-follow instructions to support and enhance student learning. The materials take into account cultural perspectives, but there are not enough materials for differentiating instruction for students with special needs and there is only one rubric example for teachers to refer to.