

Introducing Chinese ILR 3+ Cohort Lessons

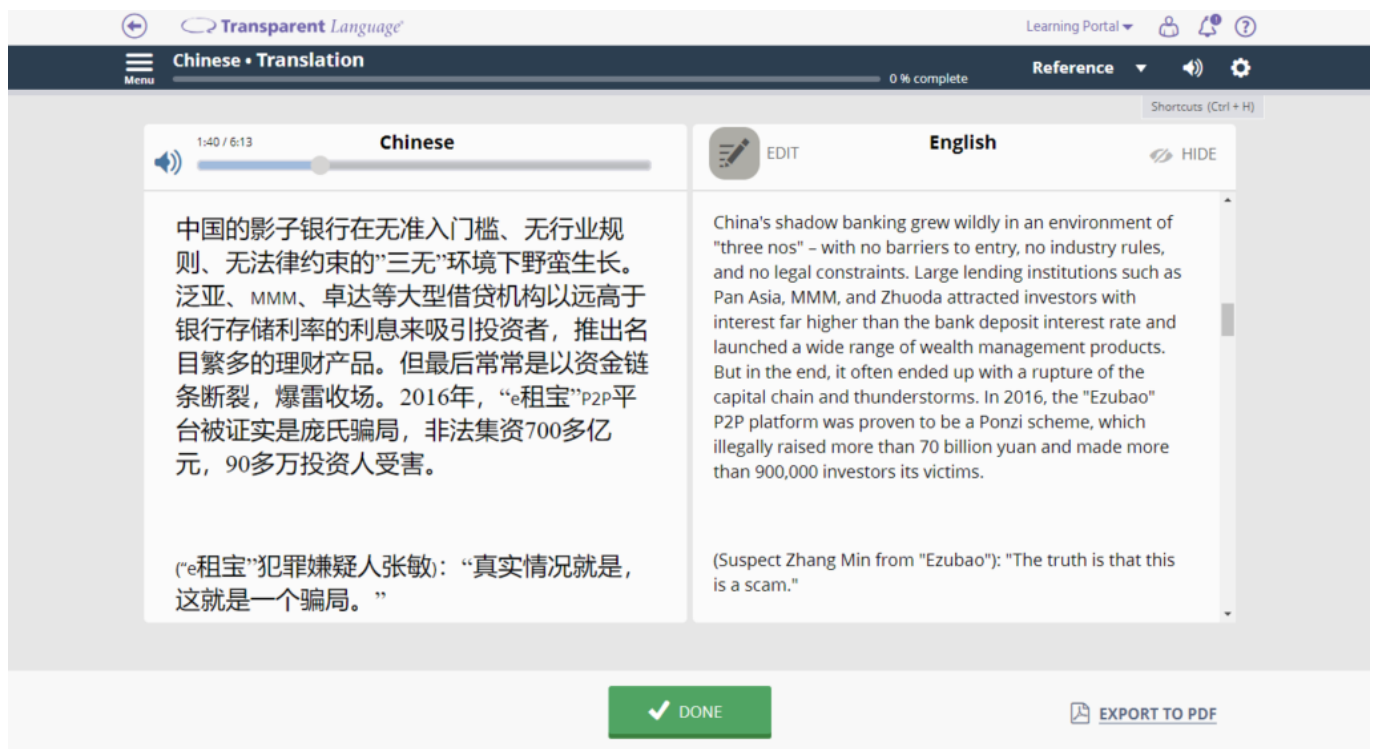
When you enroll in a CL-150 Cohort, you receive a new sustainment lesson every week at your ILR level. But what makes those lessons “at level”?

Let’s take a look at the new Mandarin Chinese ILR 3+ lesson stream to see the choices made to ensure lessons are sufficiently challenging for your specific proficiency level.

Choosing A Source

Lesson sources vary greatly by level, from short and factual at ILR 2 to longer persuasive pieces at ILR 3.

For ILR 3+, we look for authentic texts and audio sources that not only aim to persuade, but also exemplify the ILR 4 goal of *moving* the audience.



The screenshot displays the Transparent Language interface for a Chinese-English translation lesson. The interface is split into two columns: Chinese and English. The Chinese column shows a paragraph of text about shadow banking in China, followed by a quote from a suspect. The English column shows the corresponding translation of the same text. The interface includes a progress bar at the top, a 'DONE' button at the bottom, and an 'EXPORT TO PDF' button.

Chinese

中国的影子银行在无准入门槛、无行业规则、无法律约束的“三无”环境下野蛮生长。泛亚、MMM、卓达等大型借贷机构以远高于银行存储利率的利息来吸引投资者，推出名目繁多的理财产品。但最后常常是以资金链条断裂，爆雷收场。2016年，“e租宝”P2P平台被证实是庞氏骗局，非法集资700多亿元，90多万投资人受害。

(“e租宝”犯罪嫌疑人张敏：“真实情况就是，这就是一个骗局。”)

English

China's shadow banking grew wildly in an environment of "three nos" - with no barriers to entry, no industry rules, and no legal constraints. Large lending institutions such as Pan Asia, MMM, and Zhuoda attracted investors with interest far higher than the bank deposit interest rate and launched a wide range of wealth management products. But in the end, it often ended up with a rupture of the capital chain and thunderstorms. In 2016, the "Ezubao" P2P platform was proven to be a Ponzi scheme, which illegally raised more than 70 billion yuan and made more than 900,000 investors its victims.

(Suspect Zhang Min from "Ezubao"): "The truth is that this is a scam."

DONE **EXPORT TO PDF**

For example, the source of a recent Chinese ILR 3+ lesson presents China’s peer-to-peer lending market in a negative light and forces the listener to question its impacts on the Chinese middle class.

These lessons explore the text but also the subtext and implicit meanings. That includes how and why the speaker uses rhetorical devices to strengthen their argument and evoke an emotional response.

Choosing Key Vocabulary

The majority of the key vocabulary featured in ILR 3+ lessons consists of rhetorical devices used in the source, such as:

- idiomatic language
- colloquialisms

- hyperbole
- irony
- cultural and historical allusions
- loaded (emotive) language
- neologisms (newly coined words)
- word play

The vocabulary includes detailed comments to help learners read between the lines and understand specific language choices and their intended effect on the audience. Some low-frequency jargon is also included to help with comprehension of specific topics.

The screenshot shows the Transparent Language interface for a lesson on the Chinese idiom '可乘之机'. The top navigation bar includes the logo, 'Chinese • Preview It', and a progress indicator '44 % complete'. A search bar and 'Reference' dropdown are also visible. The main content area features the idiom in large characters, its English translation 'opportunity that can be exploited', and a detailed tooltip explaining its negative connotation and usage. At the bottom, there are audio controls, 'PREVIOUS' and 'NEXT' buttons, and an 'AUTOPLAY' button.

Upon completing the lesson, all of these key words and phrases are added to your [Learned Vocab](#) so you can strategically review and keep them fresh long-term.

Choosing Learning Activities

The focus for ILR 3+ lessons is on building vocabulary *depth* rather than breadth, so the lessons include fewer vocab-focused activities like Pronunciation Practice or Matching. That means you'll spend more time understanding and internalizing the nuances of advanced and culturally-loaded expressions.

The activity flow varies from lesson to lesson depending on the grammatical focus. Each lesson focuses on one particularly interesting stylistic feature of the authentic source material and includes the most appropriate activities to present and practice that feature.

Transparent Language Learning Portal

Chinese • Money-Related Metaphorical Expressions 100 % complete Reference

Fill the blanks with answers from the right

Match the following English translations and explanations of money-related metaphoric expressions with their corresponding Chinese terms.

薙羊毛 (hāo yángmáo)	✓	"Hoarding coins." To stay invested in cryptos and buy more of them over time. The Western equivalent of "hodl."
币妈 (bì mā)	✓	"Candy." Free token giveaways in exchange for signing up for ICO projects.
囤币 (tún bì)	✓	"Pulling out the wool", which in financial markets refers to the activity of investors who try to make money in the long run by hunting for bonuses offered by banks and other financial institutions.
割韭菜 (gē jiǔcài)	✓	"Cutting leeks."
大佬 (dà lǎo)	✓	Literally "coin circle", which refers to the crypto space.
糖果 (tángguǒ)	✓	"Boss." Refers to a trader with a lot to invest. The equivalent to a "whale" in Western crypto slang.
狗庄 (gǒu zhuāng)	✓	"Dog banker." In gambling and stock-market parlance, retail investors use the term to refer to big-time traders who can easily move the market.

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✓ DONE

Ready to sustain proficiency with a new, authentic lesson every week that's targeted specifically to your proficiency level? **There are 37 Cohort lesson streams in 12 languages across ILR 2, 2+, 3, and 3+.** Explore what's available and enroll in your level [here](#).