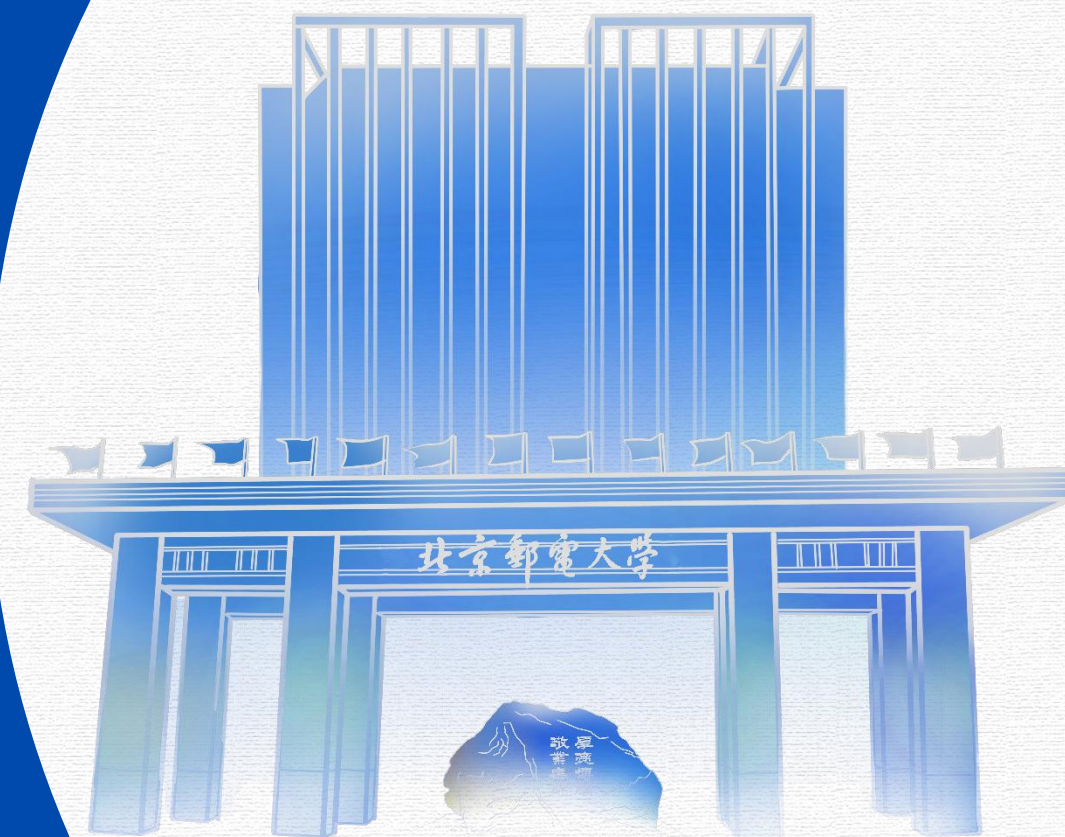




What Should Beginner Chinese Learners Still Learn in the Age of AI?

Speaker: Sijie Cui

Date: 29/05/2026





Student profile



HSK1
beginner
learners



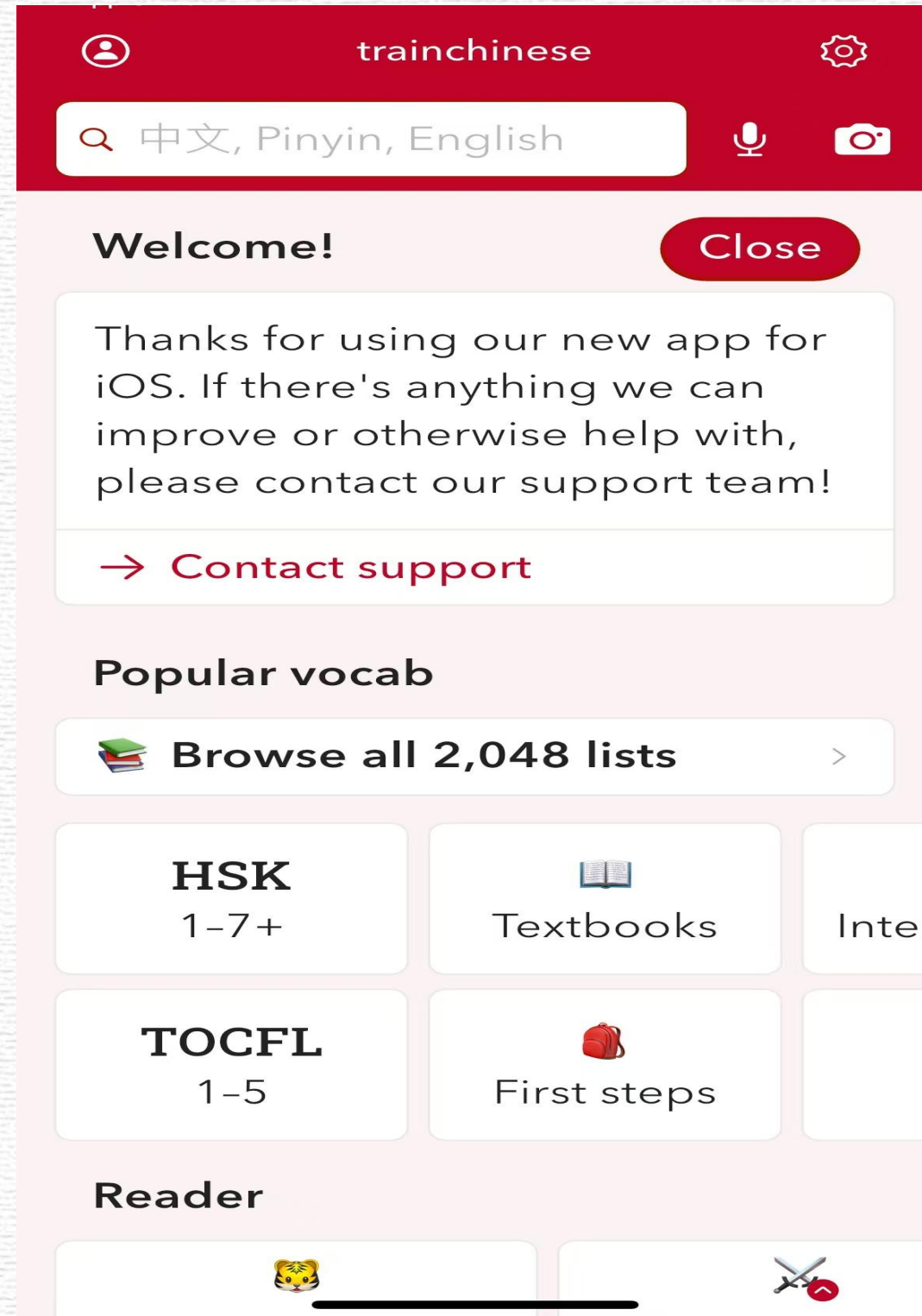
Students
aged 11–16



Limited
exposure to
Chinese outside
class



AI Supports learning



Vocabulary practice

01

Using AI tools like TrainChinese for vocabulary drills, memorization, and quizzes.

02 Pronunciation support

AI-powered tools can identify pronunciation errors and help students correct tones and articulation.



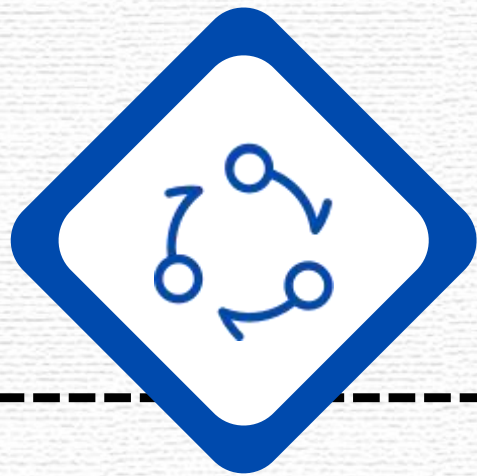
AI Supports learning



04

Sentence examples

Generating simple, level-appropriate example sentences for HSK1 vocabulary.



03

Translation assistance

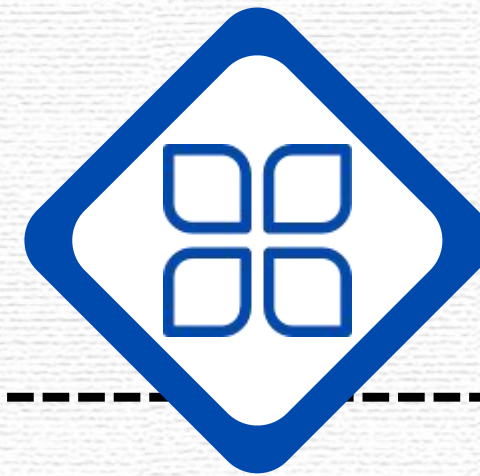
AI provides quick translation references for new words or sentences students encounter.



05

Revision activities

Creating practice exercises and review lists to help students consolidate what they've learned.





A Real Classroom Example



One student used AI to generate
a self-introduction in Chinese,
but...



AI Cannot Replace



01 Spontaneous interaction

This refers to unscripted, real-time classroom dialogue—like teachers asking follow-up questions or students chatting freely. AI cannot replicate the natural, unpredictable flow of these in-person exchanges.

Confidence-building 02

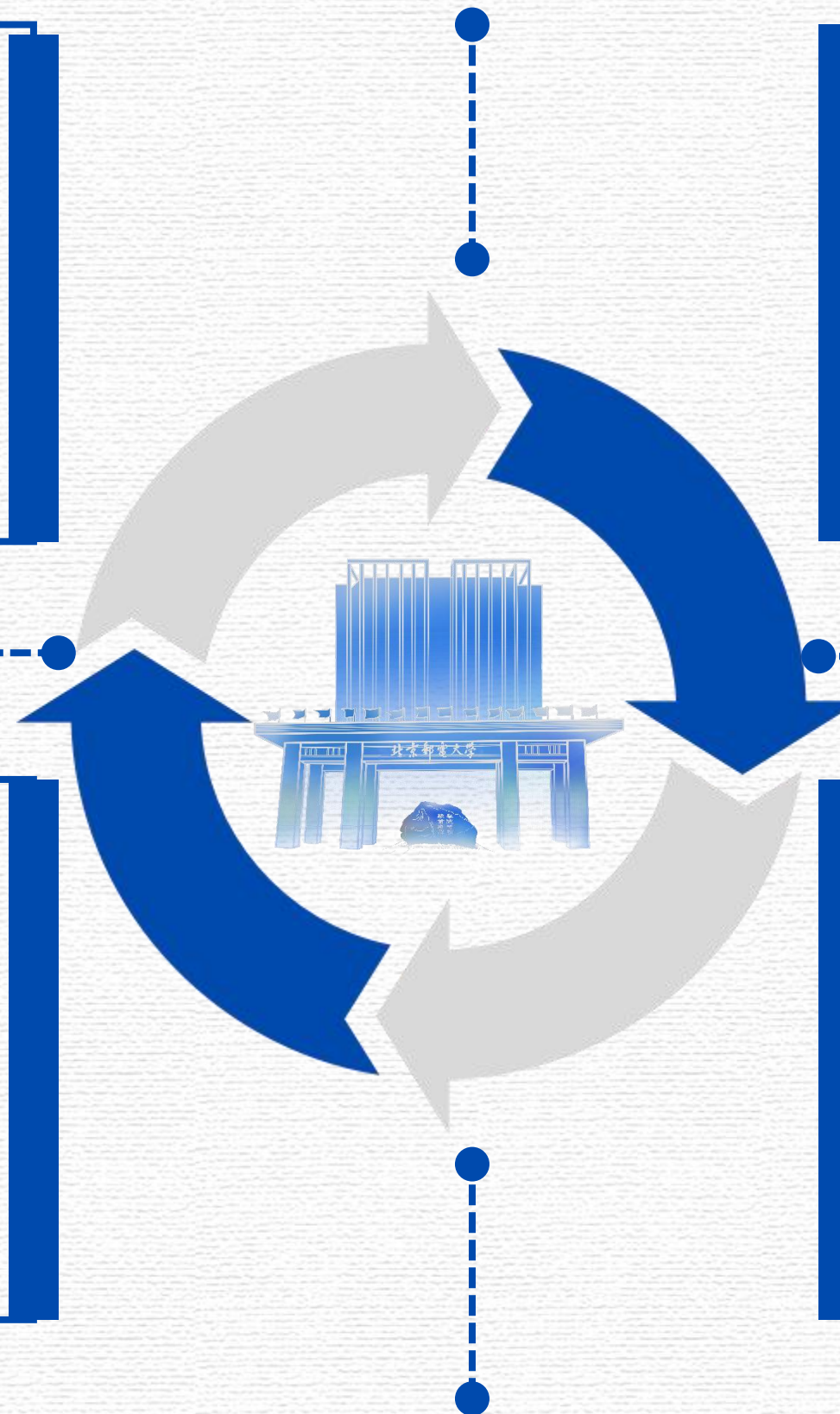
True confidence comes from being encouraged and accepted, even when you make mistakes in real conversations. This kind of supportive feedback is something AI cannot provide.

03 Cultural understanding

Language is deeply tied to culture. AI can translate words, but it cannot teach the nuance, context, and lived experience behind them.

Taking linguistic risks 04

Learning a language means daring to speak, even when you might get it wrong. This trial-and-error process is how students truly improve, and it cannot be replaced by AI-generated perfect answers.





Critical AI Literacy

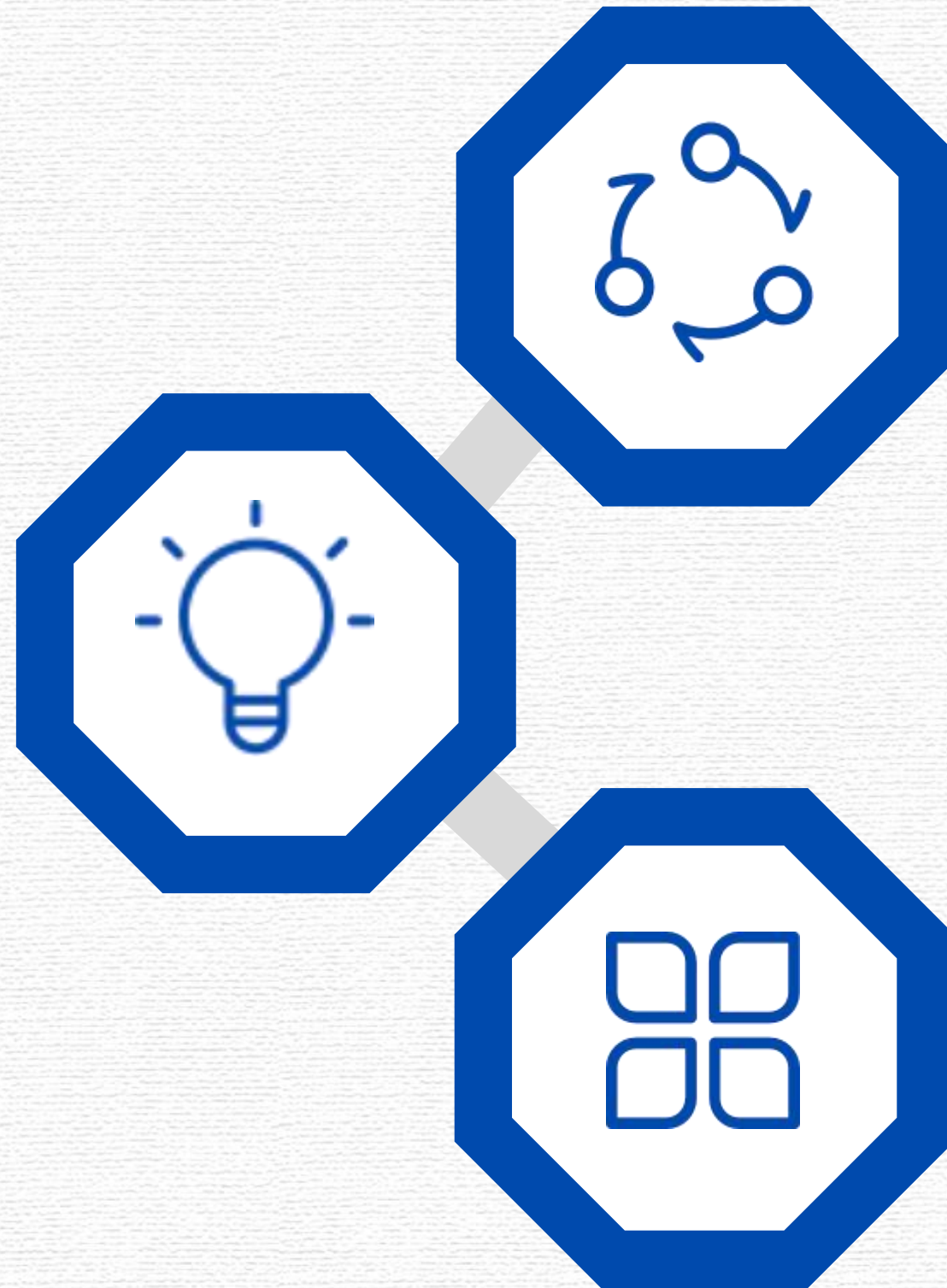


01

Knowing when to use AI — and when not to rely on it.

04

human interaction



02

learner agency

03

authentic communication



Final Reflection



If AI can generate language,
what does it mean to truly learn one?



北京邮电大学

Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications

Thank you!

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