



SOUTHEAST ASIAN MINISTERS OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION (SEAMEO)
REGIONAL CENTRE FOR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FOR TEACHERS AND
EDUCATION PERSONNEL (QITEP) IN LANGUAGE (SEAQIL)

Information Note

**Virtual Mandarin Club
Training on Digital Storytelling Development
11 September—2 November 2023**

A. Background

SEAMEO QITEP in Language (SEAQIL) is a SEAMEO Regional Centre that aims to enhance the quality of Arabic, German, Indonesian Language as a Foreign Language, Japanese and Mandarin teachers and education personnel in Southeast Asia. SEAQIL supports the education policies of the Republic of Indonesia and incorporates the latest trends in the field of foreign language teaching and learning in its programme design. In recent years, SEAQIL has also been adapting its programmes and activities to cater to the needs of pre-service language teachers. We believe that they should be given more opportunities to expand their knowledge, upgrade their skills and gain real-world experiences outside the classroom to prepare for their entry into the professional world. Improving foreign language skills is a crucial way to enrich their knowledge and improve their competence. Along with foreign language skills, students must also develop higher-order thinking skills as well as practical and soft skills to help them succeed in interacting as members of the global community and competing professionally.

To promote the quality improvement of Mandarin language pre- and in-service teachers in the region, SEAQIL initiated the **Virtual Mandarin Club** in 2021. This programme has been held four times in the last two years. Through this programme, SEAQIL provides opportunities for Mandarin pre- and in-service teachers to improve their language skills together with native speaker facilitators. The activities also facilitate the production of materials that can be used in the teaching process. In the last two years, programme participants have produced 81 teaching videos and 25 animation videos on various topics related to Mandarin language and culture. These videos are available for free access on SEAQIL's website and YouTube channel.

In 2023, SEAQIL will again hold the Virtual Mandarin Club programme aimed at undergraduate students of the Mandarin language study programme (educational and non-educational) in Southeast Asia. The programme entitled "**Training on Digital Storytelling Development**" will be held from 11 September to 2 November 2023, every Monday and Thursday with an online mode. This programme not only facilitates training participants to communicate with native

speaker facilitators, but also involves them in the project of creating Mandarin digital storytelling video. Digital storytelling combines the art of storytelling with various digital multimedia, such as images, audio, and video (Robin, 2006).

Digital storytelling can be a powerful learning experience that encompasses much of what society hopes that students will know and be able to perform in the 21st century. The push for students to gain 21st century skills by using the latest technology to communicate effectively is facilitated by students actively participating in the creation process of digital storytelling (Jakes & Brennan, 2005). As they do so, students develop enhanced communication skills as they learn to conduct research on a topic, ask questions, organise their ideas, express opinions and construct meaningful narratives. Students who participate in the full digital storytelling experience may also benefit from learning to critique their own work, as well as the work of others, facilitating social learning and emotional intelligence (Robin, 2008).

Through this programme, SEAQIL hopes that participants will have the opportunity to improve their professional competence in Mandarin language skills and gain a full complement of literacy skills, technology skills as well as thinking and social skills through the multiple steps of designing, creating and presenting their own digital stories. In addition, interactions with fellow participants and facilitators are expected to expand their network with other students from China and various regions in Southeast Asia.

B. Objective

This programme aims to improve participants' Mandarin language skills, ICT literacy as well as thinking and social skills through the project of digital storytelling video development.

C. Expected Outputs

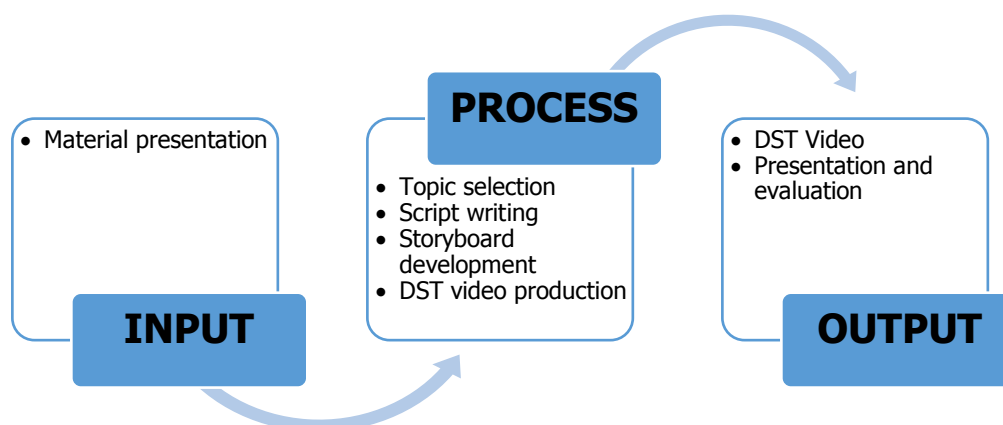
By the end of the training, each participant is expected to:

1. improve participants' Mandarin language skills
2. produces 2 digital storytelling videos in Mandarin language. The duration of each video is 3 to 5 minutes. The production process includes: scriptwriting, storyboard development and digital storytelling video production.

D. Training Period and Mode

The activity will be held on **11 September—2 November 2023** with an online mode. The virtual meetings are scheduled **every Monday and Thursday (16 online synchronous sessions), from 3.00—4.30 pm (GMT+7/Jakarta Time)**

E. Training Scenario



The following is a detailed explanation of the scenario.

1. Material presentation

Participants will receive information from the trainer team regarding the Virtual Mandarin Club, storytelling, and other materials related to the process of producing digital storytelling video.

2. Topic selection

Participants will choose a topic and define the purpose of the digital stories they will create for their project. Each participant may discuss their selected topic and interact one-on-one with their facilitators, brainstorm ideas, and explore relevant information regarding the topic of digital stories.

3. Script writing

- a) Each participant will explore the essential elements of a script, such as introduction, character development, tension, and resolution that are necessary for developing their story/script.
- b) Each participant is expected to create and develop two scripts of digital stories for their project. During this process, participants can create, develop, and discuss their scripts with their facilitators.

4. Storyboard development

- a) Each participant will explore several useful and effective ways in selecting appropriate images/pictures/graphics/other visual aids for their digital stories. A step-by-step approach will be used to illustrate how these images support their script as a part of creating a digital story.
- b) Each participant is expected to envision their story's script in a visually interesting and meaningful storyboard. During this process, participants can create, develop, and discuss their storyboards with their facilitators.

5. Digital storytelling video production

- a) Each participant will explore ways to improve their audio recording narrating the story with basic editing tools and how to find and download suitable background music in public domain or are free of copyright restrictions for their digital stories.

- b) Each participant will assemble all of the elements (text, images, narration, music, etc.) to create the full version of their digital stories. Participants may use basic editing techniques to produce their digital storytelling videos.

6. Presentation and Evaluation

- a) Each participant will present their digital storytelling videos in their class. The facilitators and other participants will provide input in the terms of content, language, and technical aspects.
- b) Each participant will revise the final version of their digital storytelling videos according to the input provided by their facilitators and other participants.

F. Targeted Participants

This training targets the participation of 20 undergraduate students of the Mandarin language study programme (educational and non-educational) in Southeast Asia.

G. Requirements

1. Undergraduate students in semester 5 and 7 of the Mandarin language study programme (educational and non-educational) in Southeast Asia.
2. Proficiency in Mandarin language (minimum HSK 3 or equivalent to CEFR level A2 to B1).
3. Proficiency in English for communication purposes (written and spoken).
4. Interest in making digital storytelling video.
5. Interest in developing digital media/video.
6. Basic understanding of simple audio and video editing is a plus.
7. Have a computer/laptop/computer tablet/smartphone equipped with a stable internet connection.
8. Ability to use Zoom and Google Workspace (Google Form, Google Drive, etc.).
9. Complete the provided letter of declaration and attach it during the online registration.

H. Registration Procedures

1. Download letter of declaration on <https://s.giteplanguage.org/LoDVMC2023>, fill in and save in PDF format (max.10mb).
2. Fill in the registration form through <https://giteplanguage.org/form/RegisVMC2023>, do not forget to attach the letter of declaration and academic transcript on **Friday, 18 August 2023 at the latest.**

I. Important Dates

Below are the important dates regarding the activity and registration.

27 July—18 August 2023	Registration period
24 August 2023	Announcement of the selected participants (The selection criteria and results are determined by SEAQIL and cannot be contested)
11 September 2023	Opening ceremony
11 September—2 November 2023	Training session Every Monday and Thursday, 3.00—4.30 pm (GMT+7/Jakarta Time)
2 November 2023	Closing ceremony

J. Contact Person

For more information, please contact us through training@qiteplanguage.org with “**Virtual Mandarin Club 2023**” as the e-mail subject.