

China Foreign Teachers Union

CFTU Monthly Newsletter #128 – September 05, 2020 - ChinaForeignTeachersUnion@gmail.com

Greetings to all our members and friends around the world. We hope you are all enduring the Pandemic (real or not) with your loved ones and managing to keep all the bills paid. At present there are 32,179 ESL and TEFL teachers stranded abroad due to travel restrictions and mostly eaching Zoom or Skype classes on line. Here in China the students have mostly returned to the classrooms in most provinces, and the restaurants and movie theaters are getting back to normal. As for the borders, opening up, see our Update report on Page 3. Moving right along, here is our monthly joke...

TEACHER: Ling my dear, why don't you have last night's homework?

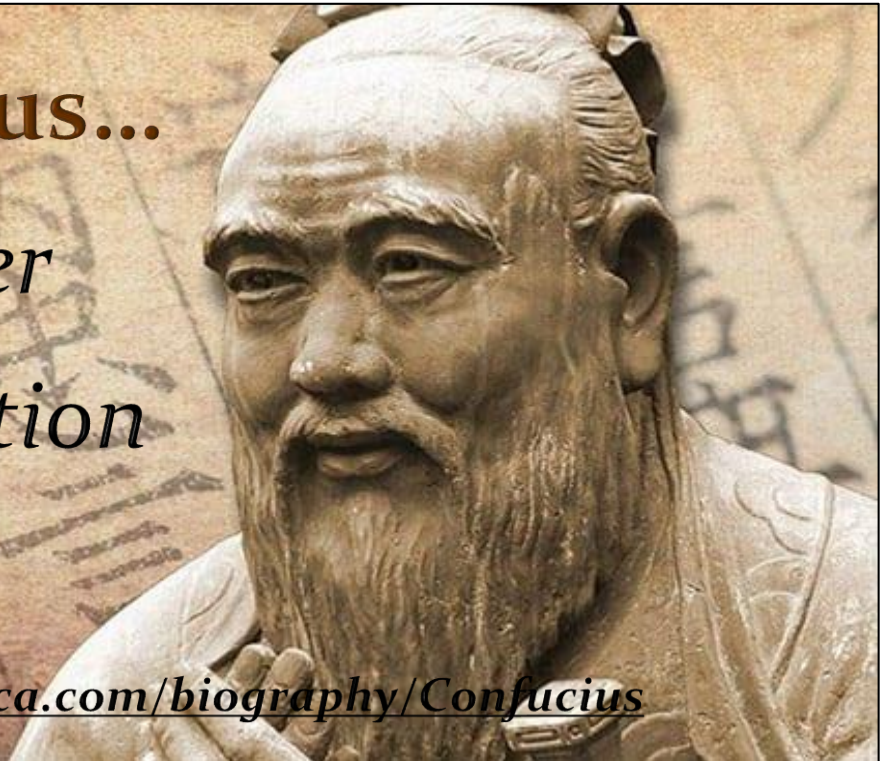
LING: It's not my fault teacher, my mom fell asleep on the sofa watching a movie last night.

In this month's issue we want to address teaching methods, tips, and resources for the new teacher arrivals, as well as the labor laws and employee rights of foreign teachers and expats in general who decide to work in China – even part time.

Confucius...

*The father
of Education*

<https://britannica.com/biography/Confucius>





FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Teaching in China is unlike any other teaching assignment you will ever have in your career. The culture is so unique, it is not hard to get in trouble with your school, parents, student, and even the police. To get the full story you can visit <https://reddit.com/r/chinateachers> but the short version is the following.

Chinese parents do not only want you to teach their kids, you are expected to entertain them and make them happy. If you don't they ask your principal for a new teacher. Whether YOU agree with this policy or not, in China it is reality and you either deal with it or go into private tutoring with university students. To survive and thrive as foreign Art, IB, Subject or English TEF teacher in China, you must never do any the the following. Ignore this warning and you will either be fired or deported following an embarrassing arrest and a 30-60 stay in a Chinese jail.

15 Ways a China foreign teacher gets themselves fired, or worse! *By Debbie Sanders*

(1) Never ever scold a student in front of the others. Take them aside privately and talk with the child directly about the problem and tell them how much you like him/her but if their behavior does not change, you will transfer him to another teacher. Chinese are big on "saving face" and if you chew out a student in front of others, you will hear about from the principal and/o parent within 24-48 hours, and no matter if the student set another one on fire - it will be YOUR fault!

(2) Never forget to give homework to your class but keep it light and something that can be done in 30 minutes or less. Chinese kids are buried in homework and if do not give them any, the parents will think you are incompetent or don't care about the progress of their child. On Fridays, give them a fun homework assignment so they can enjoy more of their weekend which are full of still more classes... music, art, calligraphy, math, etc.

(3) Never mock or poke fun at any single student, about their appearance, answers, or attitude, for the same reason as no. 1 above.

(4) Never argue with your students. You must control the classroom and assert your authority. Do not raise your voice nor ever scream at a class no matter how unruly. Instead, slam your hand or book down on your desk to get their attention and simply pass around a piece of paper with a pencil and say, please write down your name and mother and father's mobile number. Most Chinese kids face sever discipline from their parents (ie. loss of the bicycle, toys, internet access, allowance, etc) They will get the message instantly and behave.

(5) Never be only a teacher with your students. Try to be their trusted friend as well. Compliment and encourage them in every class when their efforts deserve it. Do not give false praise ever. Always have a monthly rewards program posted in the classroom, where kids win stars for class participation, attitude and effort. Chinese kids love to compete with their peers. Schools will provide you with some stuffed animal, game, or trinket for the monthly prize.

(6) Never let your students leave the classroom angry, worried, or sad. When starting and ending a class, always tell an appropriate joke for their age so the greet and leave you with a smile on their face.

(7) If you notice something wrong with a student, perhaps some cuts and bruises, crying, or being very withdrawn, do NOT ask that student about his family life at home in the classroom. Talk to him/her privately. If you succeeded in No.5 above they will tell you.

(8) Do not ever speak negatively about China, their government or say how things are so much better in your homeland. Chinese people are very proud to be Chinese and will be insulted even if some of the parents who studied abroad privately agree with you.

(9) Do not be late for class or dressed too casually, curse, or smoke on the school premise. Parents are paying a lot of money for your services and they are always judging you by your actions, words, and appearance. You are always replaceable if two or mothers complain.

(10) If you have payment or issues with the school staff or principal, do not ever let the students or parents hear you bitch and moan about it, and do not argue with any staff member including TAs in front of them.

(11) Never discuss the three Ts in front of students nor parents, even if they ask you for your opinion. Taiwan, Tibet, and Tienanmen are the three most sensitive subjects in China.

(12) Never teach in any school, training center, or even tutor part time without a Z visa (work visa) no matter what anyone tells you. 30% of all foreign teachers get caught, jailed for 30-60 days, and deported

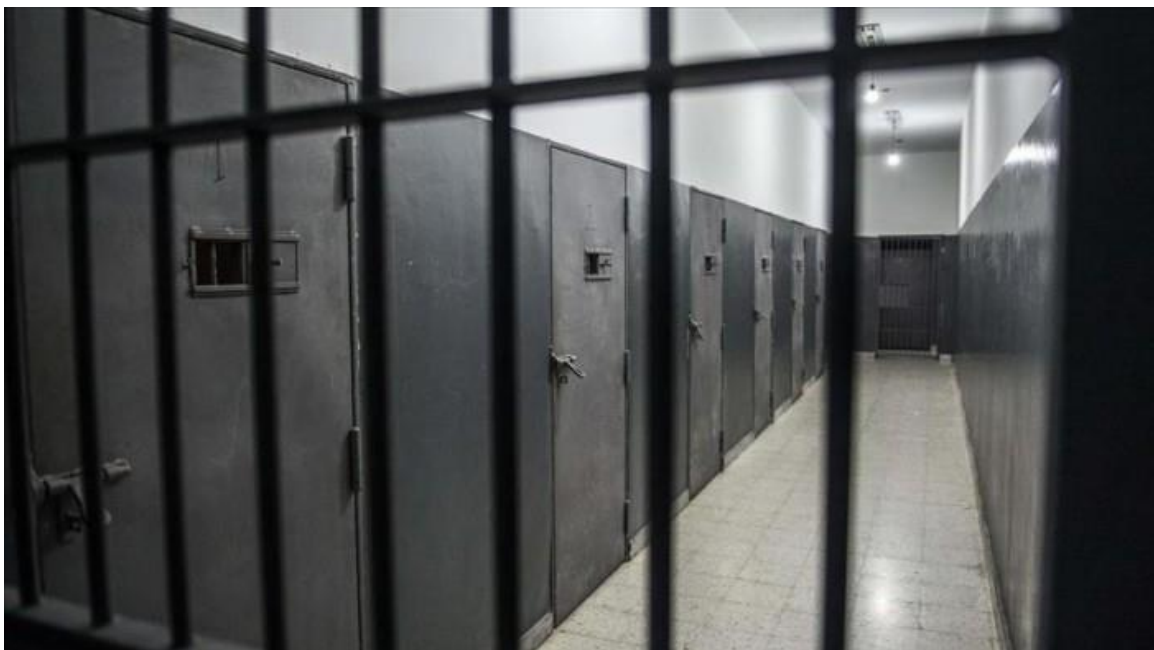
(13) Never allow yourself to be used as "marketing monkey" or let your image be used in false endorsements of the school. If that school gets blacklisted or is on the local news for mistreatment of students or exposed as a black school, YOU are automatically black-balled as well on a teacher's blacklist kept by principals and SAFEA.

(14) Never work for a school that is not registered with both SAFEA and the SAIC. 38% of all private schools in China fall into this category and are called "black schools". Sooner or later they will get caught. They will get fined, but YOU will be arrested, jailed and deported.

(15) The biggest No-No of all... Never EVER slap, push, kick, a student nor throw anything at them, no matter what they do or say. Your teaching career in China will come to a permanent end.

Don't let this be your last stop in China.

<https://youtu.be/9mW9l0-ZdO0>





China Scam Patrol

<http://chinascampatrol.wordpress.com>

China Job Scams **2020 TEFL Fraud Report**

You all know how much Jimmy loves statistics right? Well, he's been tracking complaints from 29 different scam report sites and posts from ESLCafe (before they get deleted) and he has concluded that 88% of all teach abroad scams from China and that 82% represents an average of 1,570 expat teachers victims every month. If we include all the expats including tourists, that number jumps to over 2,810 victims every month.

He also tracked the complaints online and found that 19 companies in China and one in the UK accounts for more than 90% of all the TEFL & ESL Teacher scams, but when you realize that these companies all belong to just 6 people, These six people own 32 different online companies and six of them have no bricks and mortar office in China, at least not in their name. Between them they post an average of 12,000 China job ads online. Those that take the bait soon learn the meaning of “bait and switch” when they arrive in China. Reddit is also a problem due to some covert China job agents working as moderators. See page 8. Anyway, here are the top 20 super job scams of China as of August 1, 2020:

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|--|---|
| 1. ForeignExpats.com | 12. Worlda English |
| 2. BeijingTeach.com | 13. I-To-I aka OnlineTEFL.com |
| 3. Laowai Career Center | 14. Wise Way Global aka Gi2C |
| 4. Haida HR | 15. CUCAS aka Beijing ChiWest |
| 5. Foreign HR | 16. New Life ESL (with Derrick Yazwa) |
| 6. Getin2China | 17. Wan Jia Education aka East-West Education |
| 7. China TEFL Network | 18. Golden Bridge Education aka Golden Bridge Visa |
| 8. Helen Group (Hangzhou Helen) aka TEFL.com | 19. China-Uni Ltd aka China ESL |
| 9. Echinacities.com aka Sinocities.com aka ChinaExpat.cn | 20. Best Learning aka Beile Education, gooverseas.com, internationalteflacademy.com |
| 10. Dave's ESLCafe.com | (3 way tie) |
| 11. Golden Bridge ESL | |

OWNERSHIP:

Companies in purple are owned by Ms. Liu aka Rebecca Tang aka Rosie Tang, aka Rose Tang, aka Ruby Tang

Companies in red are all owned by Yuri Khlystov

Companies in green are owned by Helen Chen of Hangzhou "Hangzhou Helen"

Companies in blue are owned by Canadian George Xu

Companies in Teal are owned by Peter Zheng and his wife.

Company in hot pink is owned by American Dave Sperling

Companies in Orange are owned by Max Kurasinski

These are the top offenders but there are now 324 blacklisted schools, companies, and Individuals. and another 12 on the CTA's blacklist. Companies. Those not listed on our White list should be avoided. Have a look here:

<https://www.scribd.com/document/371819349/2018-CFTU-Whitelist-of-Chinese-Schools-For-TEFL-ESL-Foreign-Teachers> and also here:

<https://www.scribd.com/document/371827789/2018-CFTU-Blacklist-of-China-Schools-TEFL-Recruiters-Visa-Agents>

Happy students learn more and faster. Make your classroom a fun place to be by starting and ending your class with a joke...

Q: When do astronauts eat?

A: At launch time!

Q: Why did nose not want to go to school?

A: He was tired of getting picked on!

Q: What do elves learn in school?

A: The elf-abet!

Q: How do you get straight A's?

A: By using a ruler!

Q: What did the ground say to the earthquake?

A: You crack me up!

Q: Why did the music teacher need a ladder?

A: To reach the high notes.

Q: What kind of plates do they use on Venus?

A: Flying saucers!

Q: What holds the sun up in the sky?

A: Sunbeams!

Q: What did the pen say to the pencil?

A: So, what's your point!

Q: Why did the kid study in the airplane?

A: Because he wanted a higher education!

Q: What object is king of the classroom?

A: The ruler!

Q: What did you learn in school today?

A: Not enough, I have to go back tomorrow!

Q: What's the worst thing you'll find in the school cafeteria?

A: The Food!

Q: How did the music teacher get locked in the classroom?

A: His keys were inside the piano!

Q: What do librarians take with them when they go fishing?

A: Bookworms!

Q: What did the pencil sharpener say to the pencil?

A: Stop going in circles and get to the point!

Q: How does the barber cut the moon's hair?

A: E-clipse it!

Q: What happened when the wheel was invented?

A: It caused a revolution!

Q: What is the world's tallest building?

A: The library because it has the most stories.

Q: What vegetables do librarians like?

A: Quiet peas.

Q: Why did the clock in the cafeteria run slow?

A: It always went back four seconds.

Q: Why didn't the sun go to college?

A: Because it already had a million degrees!

Q: Where does a gorilla sleep?

A: Anywhere he wants

Q: How do you catch a tiger?

A: Very carefully!





China Border UPDATE:

BORDER OPENING UPDATE: Sorry to tell you all that the Chinese consulate is still telling us that foreign workers will not be allowed back into China until after the New year. Stay tuned, if anything changes we will send emails to all our members and post the news at <https://reddit.com/r/CFTU> and also at <https://ruqqus.com/+CFTU>



From Kyle in Riverside: *“Why is it that every time I ask questions on the rTEFL or r/ChinaTefl or r/TeflBlacklist subs at Reddit I start getting bombarded with crappy job offers or people trying to sell me TEFL courses or visas for \$500? (I do my own visa application for free, are they crazy?)”*

Answer From Gregg: Rather than me having to bad-mouth people, I will just refer you to these links which are self-explanatory...

<https://opnltr.com/letter/reddit-mods-include-china-job-agents-hiding-truth-about-arrests-foreign-tefl-esl-teachers>

<https://www.scam.com/showthread.php?739390-SCAM-ALERT!-More-Moderator-Fraud-at-Reddit-in-Teachers-amp-TEFL-subsvia-Rosie-Tang>

<https://opnltr.com/letter/tefl-teachers-uniting-new-reddit-sub-rteflscams-shrink-victim-count-korea-and-china-job-scams>

<https://www.eslbase.com/forum/viewtopic/scam-alert-watch-where-you-swim-at-reddit-foreign-tefl-esl-teachers/>