**New Practical Chinese Reader (NPCR)** is a series of textbooks designed for non-Chinese speaking adults to learn Chinese. It consists of 60 lessons in six volumes, covering beginning to intermediate levels for three years of instruction. It has been compiled under the guidance of the new HSK Guideline and in consultation with the International Curriculum for Chinese Language Education of Hanban. The objective of this series is to develop students’ ability to communicate in Chinese through the study of language structure, language function, and related cultural knowledge along with the training in listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Learning of the Chinese language will be conducted in the cultural settings of Chinese society with several international students, Ding Libo (son of Gu Bo and Ding Yun in Practical Chinese Reader), Lin Na, Ma Dawei and their Chinese friends Song Hua, Wang Xiaoyun, Lu Yuping, etc. Through many interesting experiences, students will not only learn authentic Chinese, but also understand Chinese society and culture.

This book emphasizes the instruction of functional items. The concept of “learning by using” is promoted from the very beginning. Students are encouraged to engage in communicative and task-based activities after learning Chinese language structures.

Special attention is paid to the instruction of pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary and discourse, and a gradual increase in difficulty, orderly advances and multiple repeats are stressed along with the arrangement of three large cycles to help students understand and master the unique language structures of Chinese.

A new method of teaching Chinese characters is utilized to help students read and write intriguing characters.

Combined instruction of the four basic skills, listening, speaking, reading and writing, is emphasized.

Tremendous flexibility is offered. The instructional materials are suitable for users at different starting points and with different goals.

Abundant practice materials, both print and digital, are supplied for students to use inside and outside the classroom.

Each volume is made up of a Textbook, a Workbook, an Instructor’s Manual, a Companion Reader, and a book of Tests and Quizzes. Apart from the Instructor’s Manual and the Companion Reader, each of them comes with an MP3 disk. The teaching plan and courseware for each lesson in the Textbook, answers to the exercises and other supporting resources are provided at www.blcup.com.