5. Speaking Game: Chūjú 出局  Chinese, Part 4: Asking about family

This is a game of elimination. The winner is the last one standing.

For this game you need:

1. a large space, enough for the class to spread out. If necessary, move furniture to sides of room.
2. a list of words and phrases in English, for the players to say in Chinese. Use the printable vocabulary lists for each part of this module as a source of words. Decide which words/phrases are more difficult, and reserve these as “wild cards”.
3. a quiet activity such as a word puzzle for students to do once they are eliminated

Procedure:

1. Students spread out around the room, and stand still and quiet. They are not to move unless they answer correctly.
2. The teacher (or a nominated student) says a word or phrase in English.
3. Students are to raise their hands to answer. The first one with hand up has the first chance to say the word(s) in Chinese.
4. If the student answers incorrectly or with incorrect pronunciation, he/she is out and must sit down (and start on the quiet activity if you think this distraction is necessary). Hands go up again, and another player has the chance to say the word in Chinese.
5. If the player answers correctly, he/she takes no more than two steps in any direction. If he/she can reach to tap another player on the shoulder without taking another step, then that player is eliminated and returns to a seat.
6. The student who answers correctly is allowed to get only one person out at a time.
7. The process is repeated: the teacher calls out a word/phrase and students try to translate correctly and eliminate each other, until only one is left standing.
8. The teacher can ask the eliminated players to keep a watch on those left standing, to make sure they don’t sneak any steps.
9. If the students still playing don’t know a particular word, and don’t raise their hands, the eliminated players are allowed to have the chance to answer. If one translates correctly, he/she can return to the game.
10. At certain points in the game, the teacher can call out a “wild card word” that is more difficult. If the student answers correctly, he/she has a choice: either take only two steps but eliminate as many other as he/she can, OR take up to four steps to eliminate one other player.