# Video worksheet – Radicals 101

Watch the video [The Building Blocks of Chinese Character (Radicals 101) (5:18)](https://youtu.be/F8PF7oyXwt0?t=21) and answer the following questions.

1. What are Chinese radicals? Write a short definition based on what you learned from the video.

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1. List 3 reasons why it is important to learn Chinese radicals.

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1. In your own words, explain how radicals can give you clues about a character’s meaning or pronunciation.

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1. In the table below, draw and label the 3 radicals that are discussed in the video. Include their English translation and a brief description of each one.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Radical | English translation | Brief description |
| ****Radical 1****: |  |  |
| ****Radical 2****: |  |  |
| ****Radical 3****: |  |  |

1. From the video, what is the difference between a left-positioned radical and a top-positioned radical?

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1. True or false: All Chinese characters have a radical.

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## For the teacher – answers

1. What are Chinese radicals? Write a short definition based on what you learned from the video.

**Chinese radicals are basic components or building blocks of Chinese characters. Each radical has its own meaning and can give clues about a character’s meaning or pronunciation.**

1. List 3 reasons why it’s important to learn Chinese radicals.
2. **To better understand character meanings.**
3. **To help with memorisation.**
4. **To gain insights into the construction and grouping of characters.**
5. In your own words, explain how radicals can give you clues about a character’s meaning or pronunciation.

**Radicals can give clues about a character’s meaning or pronunciation. For example, the radical for ‘water’ is also found in characters that have to do with liquid or fluidity.**

1. In the table below, draw and label the 3 radicals that are discussed in the video. Include their English translation and a brief description of each one.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Radical | English translation | Brief description |
| ****Radical 1****: 氵 | **water** | **Found in characters related to water or liquid.** |
| ****Radical 2****: 火 | **fire** | **Found in characters that relate to fire (physically or emotionally). For example, explosion, annoyed.** |
| ****Radical 3****: 忄 | **heart** | **Found in characters related to emotions or state of mind.** |

1. From the video, what is the difference between a left-positioned radical and a top-positioned radical?

**Left-positioned radicals usually provide information about the character’s meaning, while top-positioned radicals might give clues about the character’s pronunciation.**

1. True or False: All Chinese characters have a radical.

**False. Not all Chinese characters have a radical. Some characters are themselves radicals.**

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