

Low-Fi Prototype and Testing

Mandarin Trainer!

Team 7

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Team Members



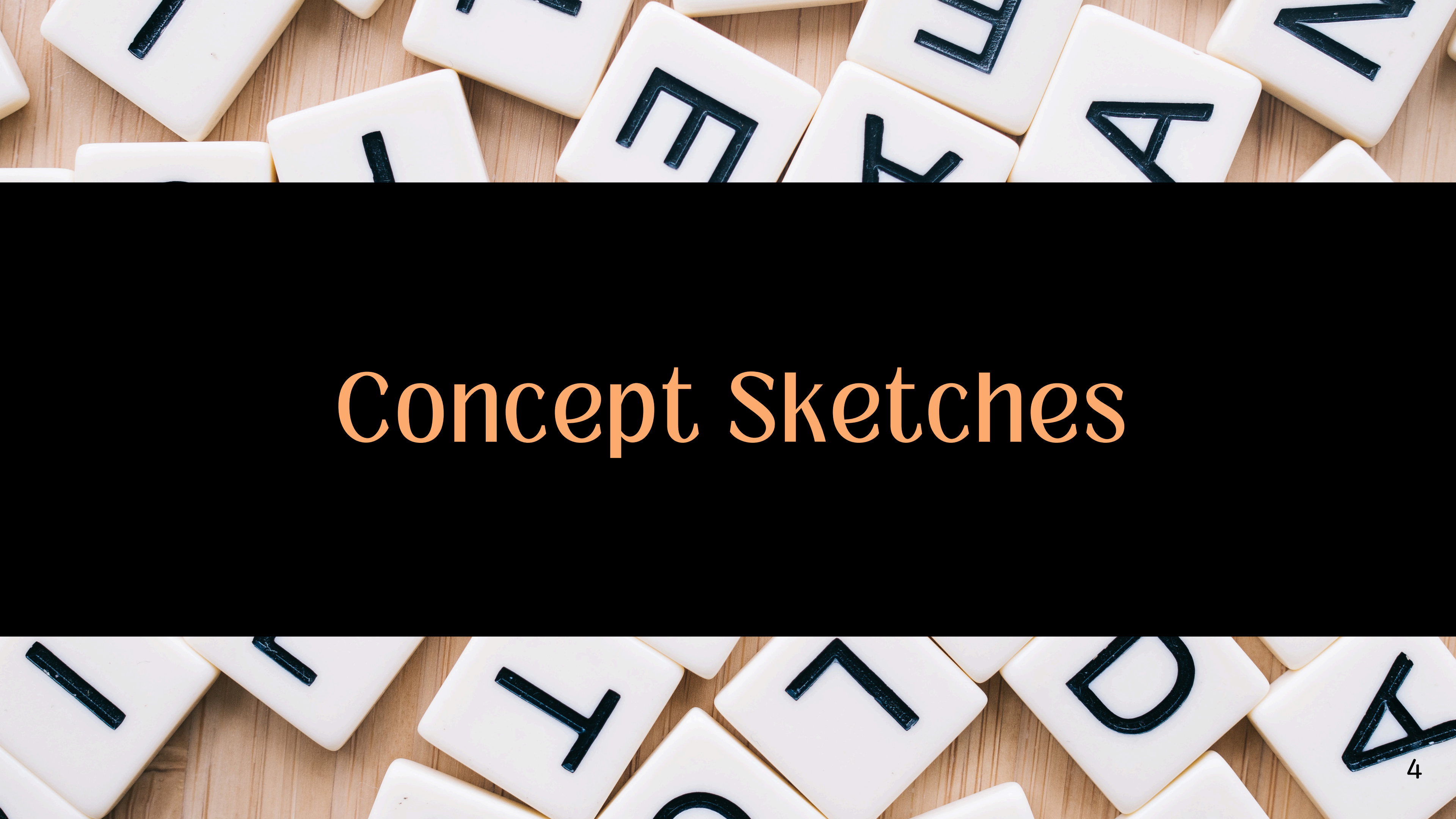
Shiny



Eric

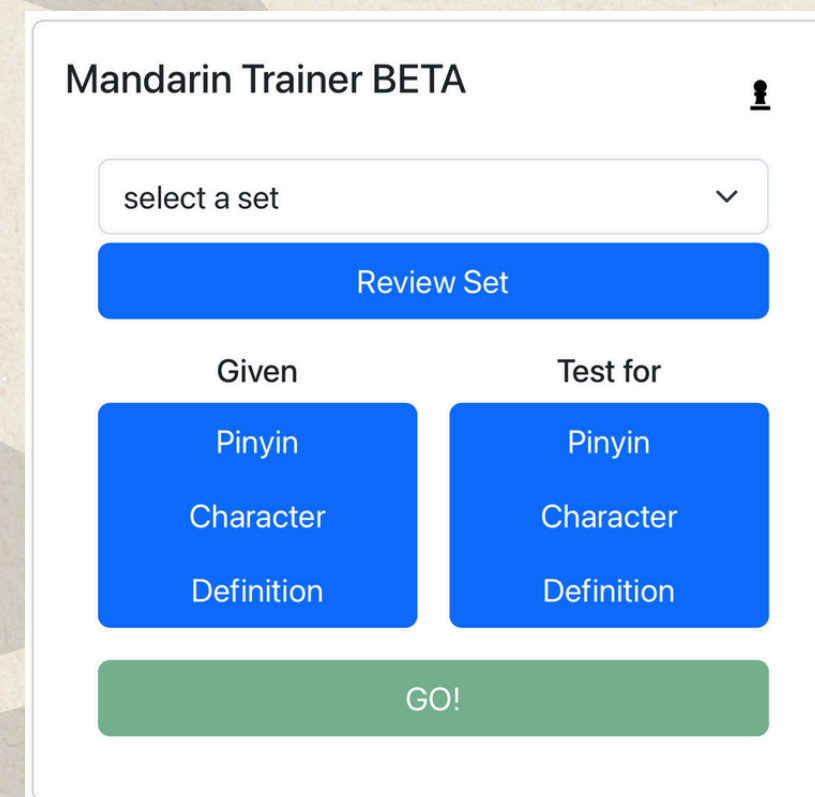
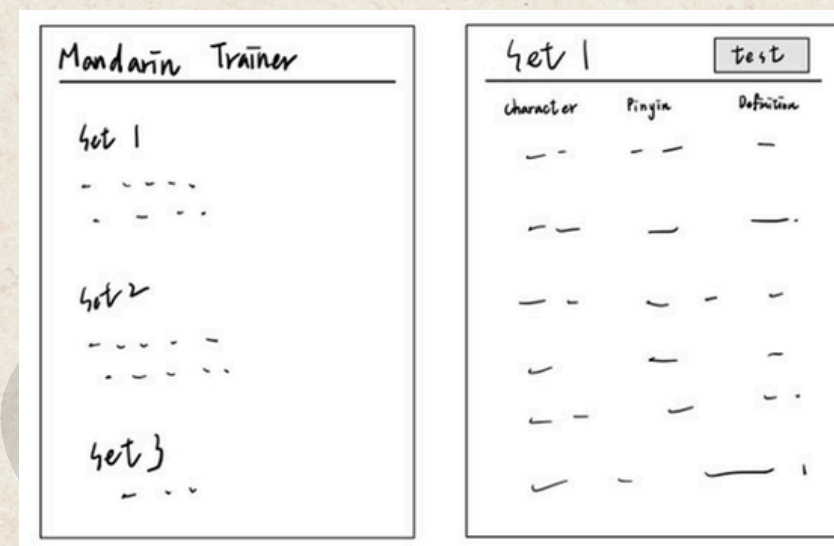
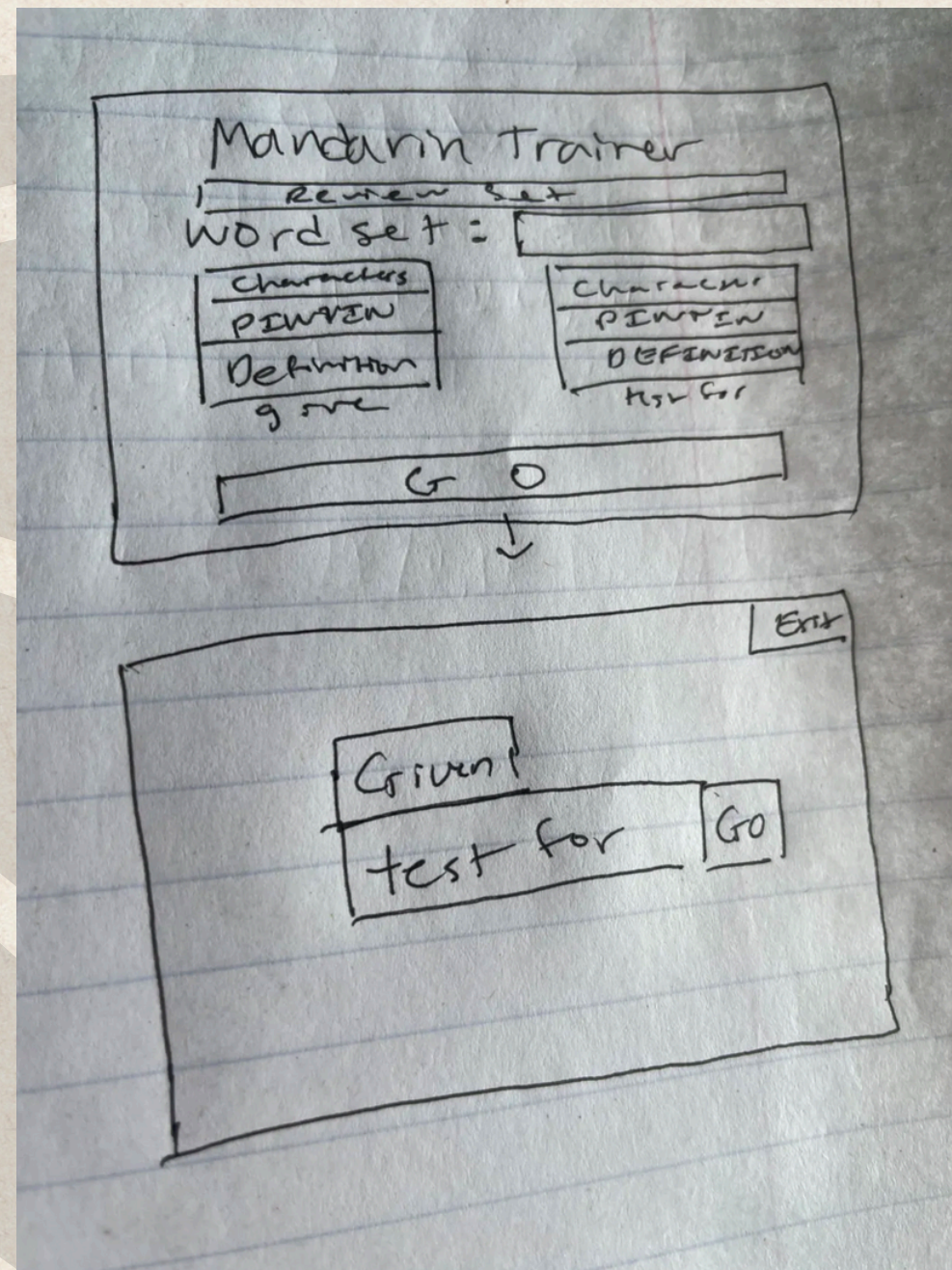
Value Proposition and Solution

- Vocab learning platform that fits the complexity of Chinese language learning
- While a variety of vocab tools exist on the market today, nothing quite integrates the complexity of learning Chinese while keeping both customizability ease of use. We propose a tool which fills this void, providing beginner to advanced Chinese learners with a tool to fit the way they learn perfectly.

The image features a wooden surface with several white square tiles, each containing a black geometric symbol. These tiles are arranged in a pattern that frames the central text. The symbols include a vertical line, a horizontal line, a right angle, a square, a triangle, and a circle. The tiles are slightly offset from each other, creating a sense of depth and movement.

Concept Sketches

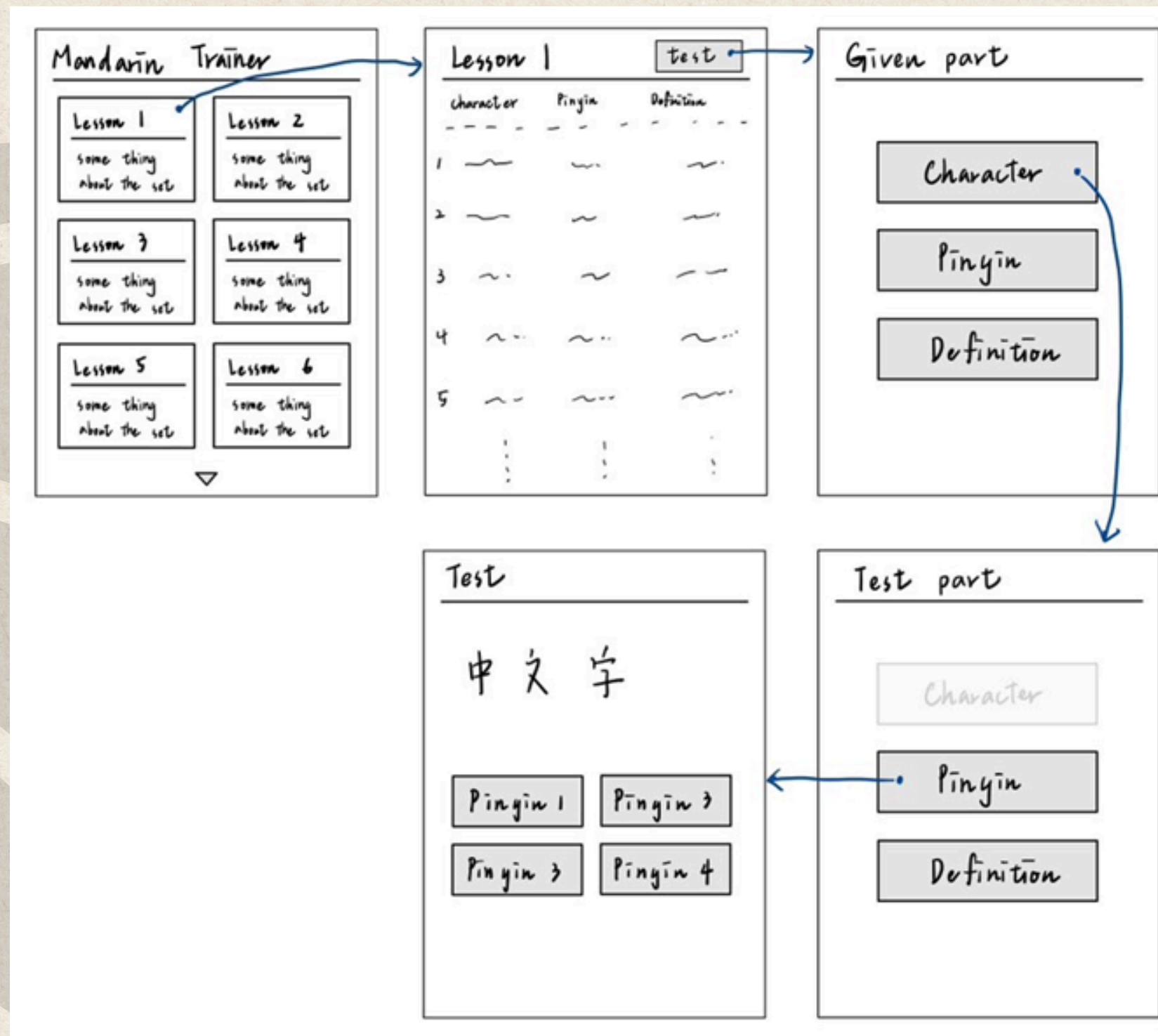
Sketches





Final 2 Designs (UI Sketches)

Design #1



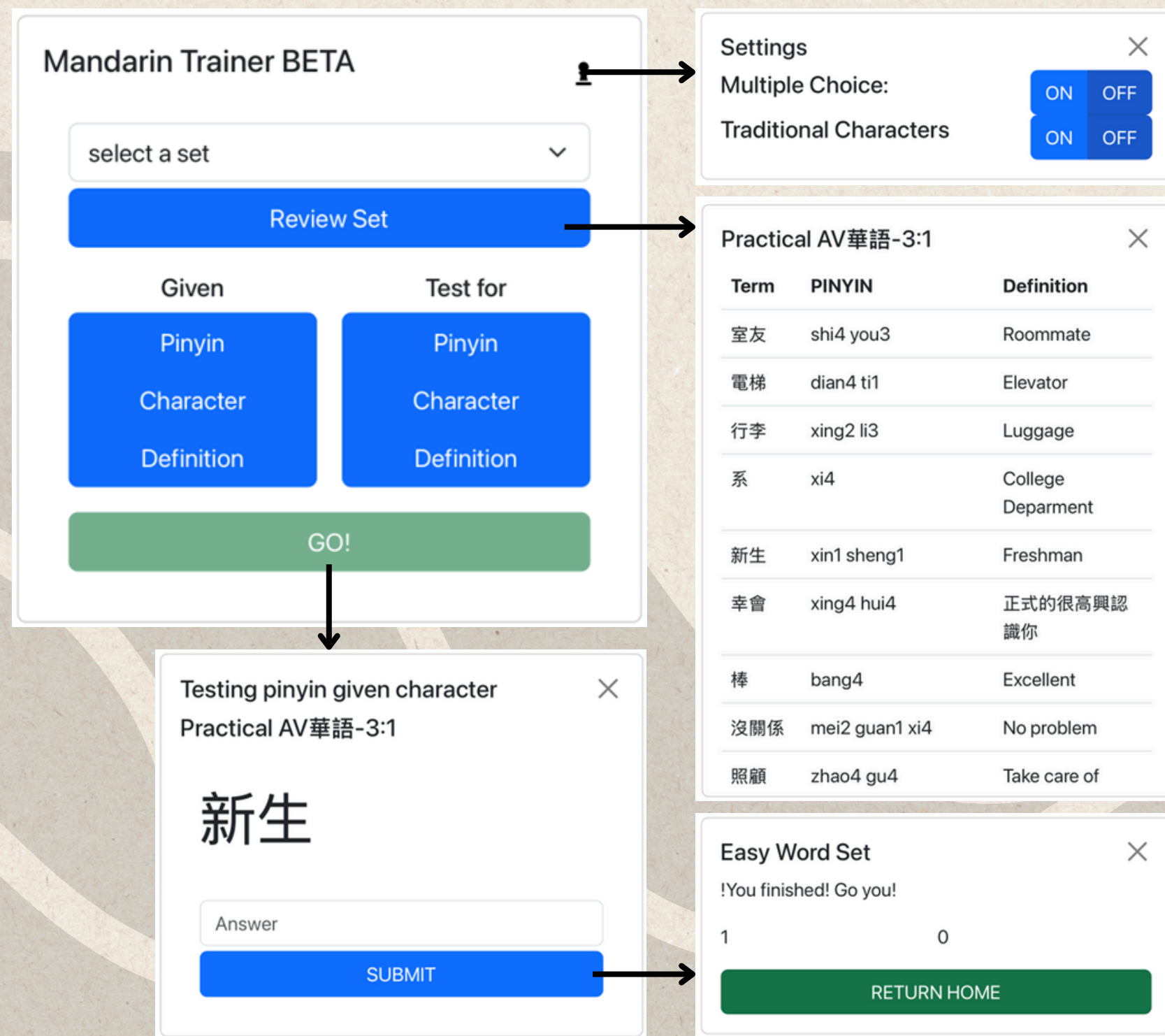
Pros

- Multiple choice support
- Built in 'review' page

Cons

- More pages
- More 'linear' behavior (users would have to use "back" button more)

Design #2



Pros

- Multiple choice support
- Built in learning algorithm

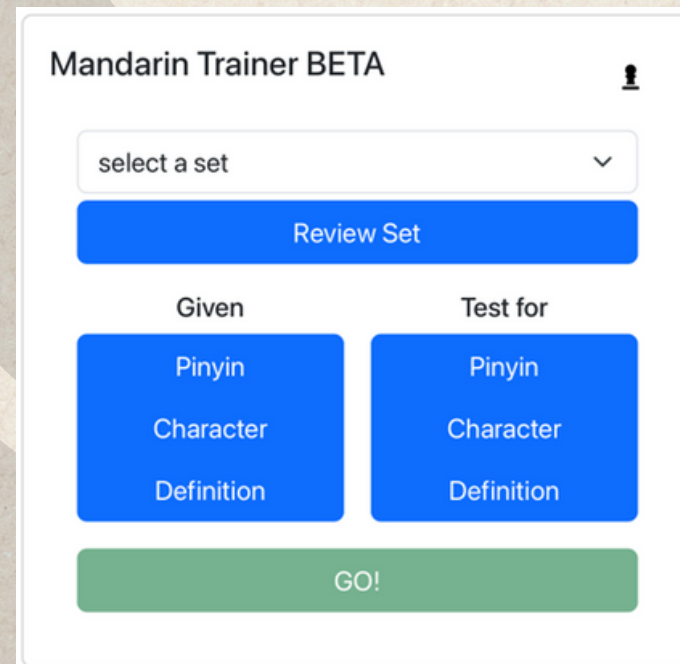
Cons

- No searching
- Simplistic design
- No completion analysis
- No 'flashcard' mode

Selection Rationale

Design #2

- Maximizes functionality while minimizing complexity
- Other reason**
- Have access to it already, allows for much more in depth testing



The screenshot shows the 'Mandarin Trainer BETA' interface. At the top, there is a header with the title and a user icon. Below the header is a dropdown menu labeled 'select a set'. Underneath the dropdown is a blue button labeled 'Review Set'. Below this, there are two columns of options. The left column is titled 'Given' and contains three blue buttons: 'Pinyin', 'Character', and 'Definition'. The right column is titled 'Test for' and also contains three blue buttons: 'Pinyin', 'Character', and 'Definition'. At the bottom of the interface is a green button labeled 'GO!'.

Pros

- Multiple choice support
- Built in learning algorithm

Cons

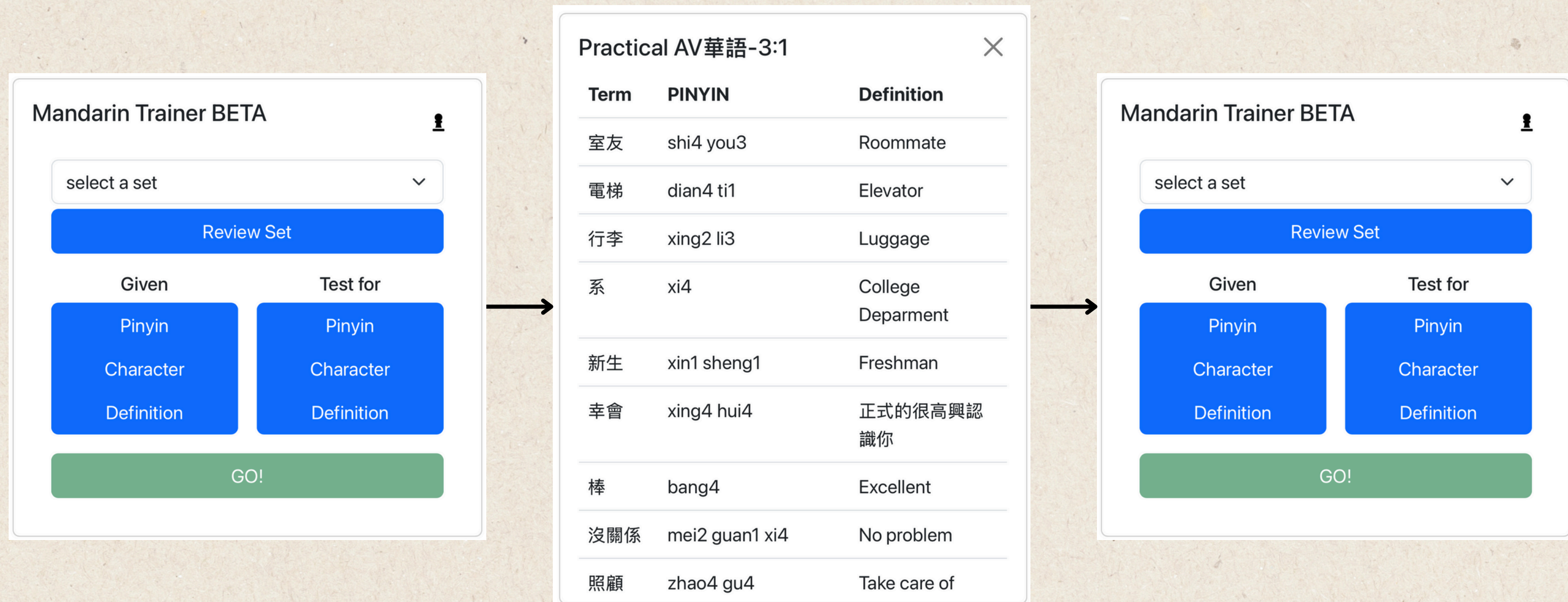
- No searching
- Simplistic design
- No completion analysis
- No 'flashcard' mode
- Hard to understand as a brand new user

The image features a decorative border at the top and bottom consisting of white square tiles with black geometric patterns, set against a light-colored wooden background. The central area is a solid black rectangle containing the title text.

Task Flows

Simple Task

Select a vocab set, review the words contained within it, and return to the home screen



Moderate Task

Select a vocab set and a method of testing, and begin testing

Mandarin Trainer BETA

select a set

Review Set

Given	Test for
Pinyin	Pinyin
Character	Character
Definition	Definition

GO!

Mandarin Trainer BETA

Easy Word Set

Review Set

Given	Test for
Pinyin	Pinyin
Character	Character
Definition	Definition

GO!

Testing pinyin given character

Practical AV 華語-3:1

新生

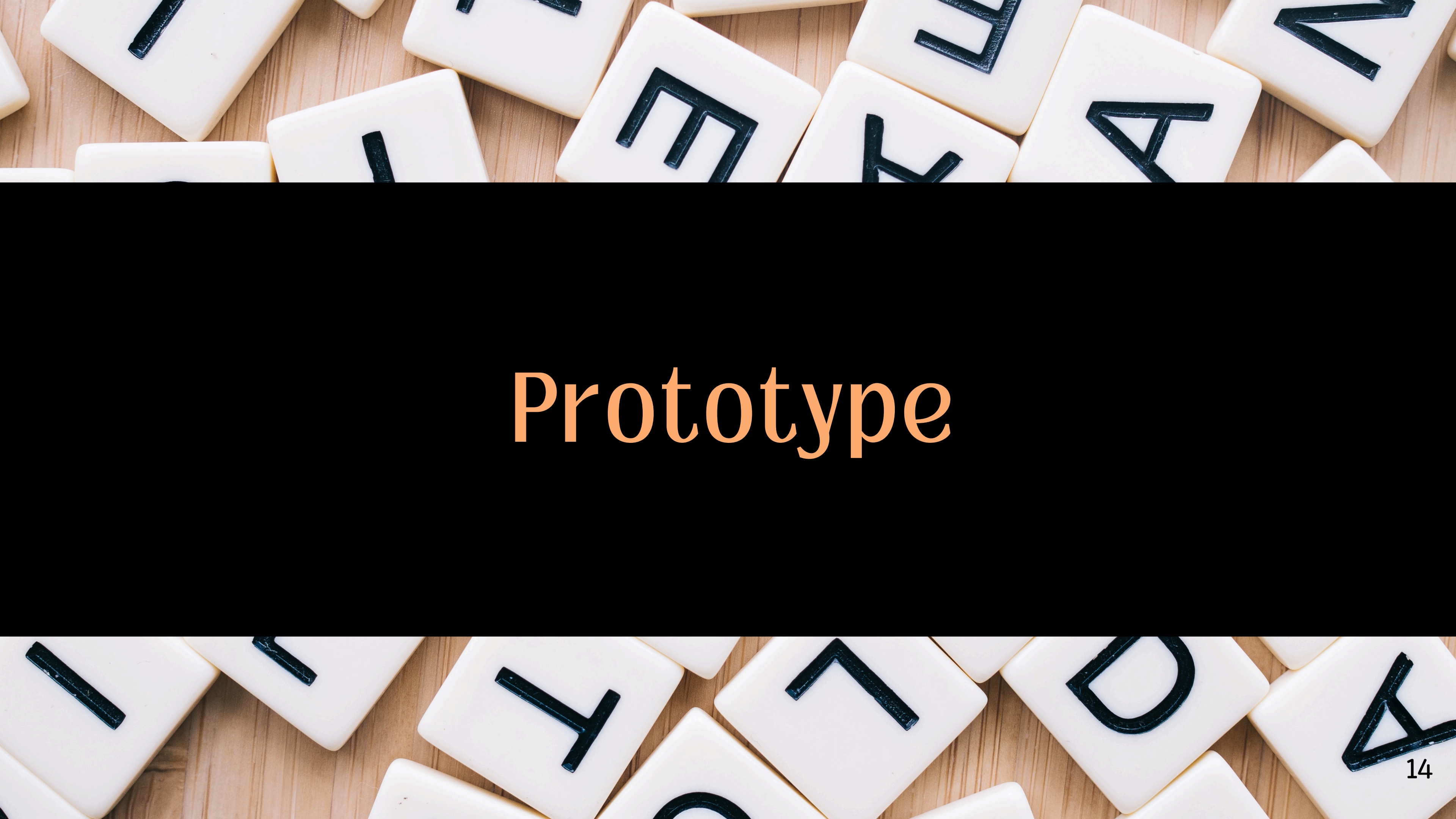
Answer

SUBMIT

Complex Task

Change the setting to multiple choice mode, choose the vocab set ExampleSet, review the vocab set, select a method of testing, and complete the testing until reaching completion.





Prototype

Prototype

Mandarin Trainer BETA



select a set

▼

Review Set

Given

Test for

Pinyin

Character

Definition

Pinyin

Character

Definition

GO!



The image features a decorative border at the top and bottom consisting of white square tiles with black geometric patterns, set against a light wood-grain background. The central area is a solid black rectangle containing the word "Testing" in a large, orange, serif font.

Testing

Testing Methodology

For each of the three testees:

- Introduced the prototype website, as well as the purpose of it (without going in depth about any details of using it)
- 1 conducted in person, 2 conducted online with screen sharing
- Gave the instruction of each level of complexity, instructed the testee to complete the task while describing the thought process behind it

Tester 1 (completely new to Language learning)

Simple Task

- Understood the drop down very easily, but didn't understand how the current system would work with more vocab sets
- When reviewing was confused what "PINYIN" was
- Thought that "Term" should be labeled "Character(s)"

Moderate Task

- Understood the the "Given" and "Test For" system very easily without explanation

Complex Task

- Understood how to get to settings, but noted he was clicking the button not because it was obviously settings, but because it was the only button that wasn't obvious
- Didn't realize anything about the built in learning algorithm (when getting anything wrong believed he "wouldn't have another opportunity to try")

Tester 2 (experienced Chinese Language learner)

Simple Task

- When using a vocab set with many terms, easily understood how to scroll down, but suggested having a description of how many words are in the set at the top

Moderate Task

- Wished couldn't select the same type for Given/Test for

Complex Task

- Clicked the 'x' before completing and was forced to redo much of the learning
- Noticed that two of the potential MC answers were the same (pictured ->)

Testing character given pinyin ×

Easy Word Set

xiang3

到	想
到	我



Mandarin Trainer BETA ?

Easy Word Set ▼

Review Set

Given	Test for
Pinyin	Pinyin
Character	Character
Definition	Definition

GO!

Tester 3 (Fluent in Chinese, first language English)

Simple Task

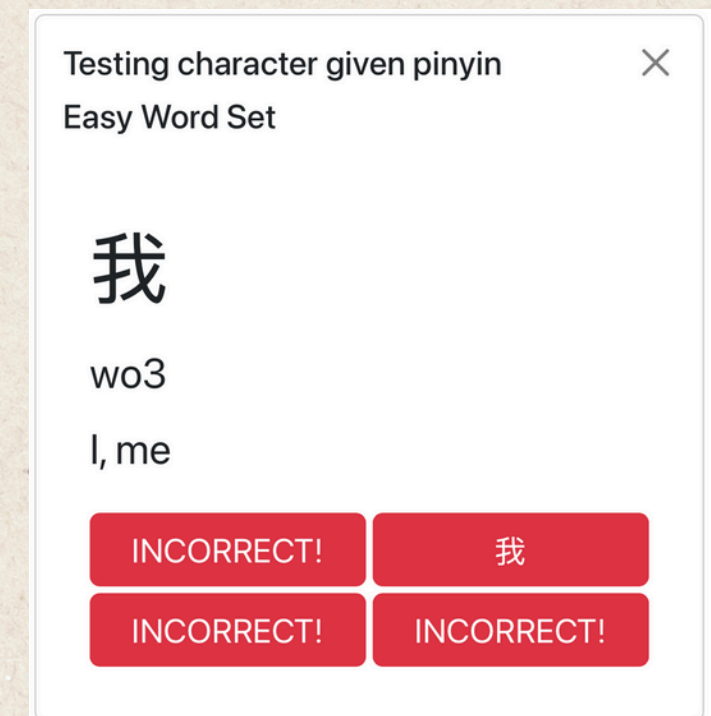
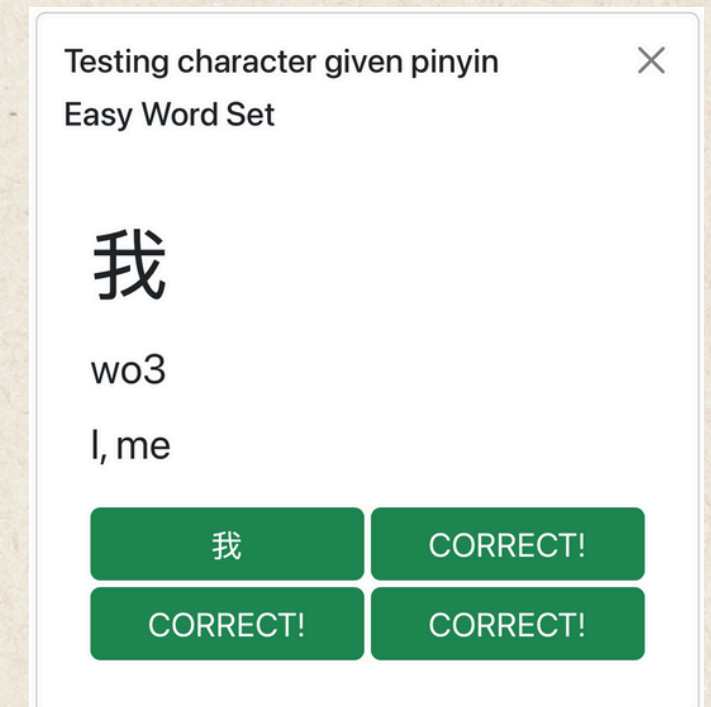
- Similar comments to first two testers (adding more, scrolling)

Moderate Task

- Was confused what the “Go!” button meant, and when completing the learning wasn’t sure the structure of the learning, or the progress throughout it

Complex Task

- Criticized the replacement of incorrect words with “CORRECT” or “INCORRECT”



Suggested UI Changes

Use gray to show wrong answers without removing them (and for home)

In “Review” page show the number of characters in the set

Add a progress bar to learning environment

Change the settings icon to a gear

- (Remove Traditional Characters from settings)

Easy Word Set		20 words	×
Term	PINYIN	Definition	
我	wo3	I, me	
很	hen3	Very	
你	ni3	You	
想	xiang3	Think/miss	
到	dao4	To	
節日	jie2 ri4	Festival	
按照	an4 zhao4	According to	
算法	suan4 fa3	Calculation	

Testing character given pinyin

×

Easy Word Set

15/20

很

hen3

Very

CORRECT!

很

CORRECT!

CORRECT!

Mandarin Trainer BETA

⚙

Easy Word Set

Review Set

Given

Pinyin

Character

Definition

Test for

Pinyin

Character

Definition

GO!

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Summary

Summary

The major parts of the prototype to improve on are:

- Allowing for user profiles and creation of sets
- Improving the “learning algorithm” and adding more ways to interact with the vocab set

Make the system more new-user friendly

- Add in some explanatory “first time” pop-ups that can be removed.

Extra note: Upon more literature review, could be interesting to integrate/allow the upload of Anki files

The image features a decorative border at the top and bottom consisting of white square tiles with black geometric patterns, set against a light wood-grain background. The central area is a solid black rectangle containing the text "Thank You" in a large, orange, serif font.

Thank You