

## E-plan Project – FJU 2010 Fall -- basic unit

### **Episode 1:**

#### **Reading: 短文聽讀**

It is quite common nowadays for people all over the world to follow personality analyses and daily readings on their astrological signs (星座). In fact, very few people *don't* know stereotypes (刻板印象) created by this system: for example, Leos (獅子座) are more proud than others, Scorpios (天蠍座) love as strongly as they hate, and Virgos (處女座) are cleanliness freaks (潔癖). Many of us even follow our daily fortune-telling religiously, believing everything it foretells (預言) to be true. However, it is important to know that a constellation (星宿) is just a group of stars, named by Ancient Greeks for whatever the group looked like. Sagittarius (人馬座、射手座) was a constellation named because it looked like a centaur (人馬). Gemini (雙子座) looked like two children. The Western Zodiac (黃道帶) only includes twelve groups of stars in it. To date, there are at least eighty-eight documented constellations known to man. Other than the twelve of the Zodiac, Orion (獵戶座), Aquila (天鷹座), and Ursa Major (大熊座) and Minor (小熊座) are all very common constellations.

A constellation is not the same as an astrological sign. When the word “astrology” is used, there is always an unscientific element included: the fortune-telling, in-depth personality analyses, etc. Much like the Chinese Zodiac, these include a certain stereotype for each sign. The Chinese “Zodiac” does not, however, represent any type of constellation in the sky, but follows the ancient tradition of numbering (天干地支) and a certain traditional lore (知識).