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presents

FS360 – Life Partner Selection



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MARRIAGE OR LIFE PARTNER SELECTION

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Introduction

This class introduces the theory and practice of determining compatibility between two people through astrological information. There will also be some discussion of picking a wedding date as a remedy to certain types of astrological incompatibilities.

In the old days in China, marriages were arranged by the families of the bride and groom, based in part on the social, political, or economic benefit it would bring the families, and in part on the compatibility of the couple, determined by their astrological charts.

Traditionally, the matchmaker would compare the four pillars of the prospective couple to check compatibility. The four pillars include the stem and branch for the birth year, month, day, and hour. Using the four pillars is the most accurate way. However, there are useful calculations that are not as complex as the four pillars. These calculations can still determine degrees of compatibility, even without the complete four pillars system. In some cases, remedies can be applied to strengthen a relationship, if the match is not of the highest level.

In this class, we will use the stem and branch of the birth year, and the branch of the birth hour. The *Stems and Branches Class* (or prior knowledge of the stems and branches) is a prerequisite for this *Partner Selection Class*. The *Day Selection Classes* also explain additional useful information about selecting a wedding date. These two classes can be taken before or after this class.

This information can be applied to relationships besides marriage. It can be quite useful, for example, when choosing a business partner. In my personal experience (Lorraine Wilcox), I find that my daughter and I have a high degree of compatibility according to this class material. Even though she is now a teenager, we rarely have disagreements and are still very close. So this information can be used to analyze many types of relationships.

Today, most people get married for love, and listen to their hearts more than to an astrologer. At the same time, their expectations are quite high. When the magic of love and attraction wanes and reality sets in, many of these relationships cannot last. While an arranged marriage may not have the spark of romance, if the two people are compatible and the expectations are not excessive, this marriage can last long. We are not suggesting that society returns to this custom, but perhaps if people balance their heart's desire with other means of evaluating a relationship, the outcome may be better.

Determining the Birth Year Stem and Branch

Check the stem and branch the birth year. Remember, February 4th is the beginning of the Chinese solar year.

CYCLE OF 60		YEARS		CYCLE OF 60		YEARS	
1	Jia Zi	1924	1984	31	Jia Wu	1954	2014
2	Yi Chou	1925	1985	32	Yi Wei	1955	2015
3	Bing Yin	1926	1986	33	Bing Shen	1956	2016
4	Ding Mao	1927	1987	34	Ding You	1957	2017
5	Wu Chen	1928	1988	35	Wu Xu	1958	2018
6	Ji Si	1929	1989	36	Ji Hai	1959	2019
7	Geng Wu	1930	1990	37	Geng Zi	1960	2020
8	Xin Wei	1931	1991	38	Xin Chou	1961	2021
9	Ren Shen	1932	1992	39	Ren Yin	1962	2022
10	Gui You	1933	1993	40	Gui Mao	1963	2023
11	Jia Xu	1934	1994	41	Jia Chen	1964	2024
12	Yi Hai	1935	1995	42	Yi Si	1965	2025
13	Bing Zi	1936	1996	43	Bing Wu	1966	2026
14	Ding Chou	1937	1997	44	Ding Wei	1967	2027
15	Wu Yin	1938	1998	45	Wu Shen	1968	2028
16	Ji Mao	1939	1999	46	Ji You	1969	2029
17	Geng Chen	1940	2000	47	Geng Xu	1970	2030
18	Xin Si	1941	2001	48	Xin Hai	1971	2031
19	Ren Wu	1942	2002	49	Ren Zi	1972	2032
20	Gui Wei	1943	2003	50	Gui Chou	1973	2033
21	Jia Shen	1944	2004	51	Jia Yin	1974	2034
22	Yi You	1945	2005	52	Yi Mao	1975	2035
23	Bing Xu	1946	2006	53	Bing Chen	1976	2036
24	Ding Hai	1947	2007	54	Ding Si	1977	2037
25	Wu Zi	1948	2008	55	Wu Wu	1978	2038
26	Ji Chou	1949	2009	56	Ji Wei	1979	2039
27	Geng Yin	1950	2010	57	Geng Shen	1980	2040
28	Xin Mao	1951	2011	58	Xin You	1981	2041
29	Ren Chen	1952	2012	59	Ren Xu	1982	2042
30	Gui Si	1953	2013	60	Gui Hai	1983	2043

1. General Types of Relationships

Based on the Branch of the Birth Year

There are a few factors in determining the compatibility of relationships based on the *year fate* (年命). The *year fate* is the branch of the birth year. These factors include five element analysis and the various branch relationships.

A. Use the element of the year branch to analyze whether the relationship between two people is productive or domination.

a. Productive relationship (相生): A productive relationship is generally beneficial.

EG: A zi person (water element) produces a mao person (wood element).

The gender doesn't matter; however, the person who is produced will receive more benefit than the person who produces him or her. In the above example, whether male or female, the mao person receives more benefit than the zi person because zi water feeds mao wood.

A productive relationship that is yin to yang or yang to yin is the best type. A productive relationship that is yin to yin or yang to yang is still good, but not quite as smooth as when the polarity of yin and yang is the opposite. Think of it like magnets. The north and south poles attract each other.

See the table on the next page.

Productive Relationships							
SELF		Benefits spouse			Benefits self		
BRANCH		PRODUCES	YANG	YIN	PRODUCED BY	YANG	YIN
Zi	Yang water	Wood	Yin	Mao	Metal	Shen	You
Chou	Yin earth	Metal	Shen	You	Fire	Wu	Si
Yin	Yang wood	Fire	Wu	Si	Water	Zi	Hai
Mao	Yin wood						
Chen	Yang earth	Metal	Shen	You	Fire	Wu	Si
Si	Yin fire	Earth	Chen, Xu	Wei, Chou	Wood	Yin	Mao
Wu	Yang fire						
Wei	Yin earth	Metal	Shen	You	Fire	Wu	Si
Shen	Yang metal	Water	Zi	Hai	Earth	Chen, Xu	Wei, Chou
You	Yin metal						
Xu	Yang earth	Metal	Shen	You	Fire	Wu	Si
Hai	Yin water	Wood	Yin	Mao	Metal	Shen	You

Later, you will learn a relationship called an *injury*. Once you learn it, you will need to factor injuries into the above table to determine compatibility.

Besides productive relationships, branches that are in the relationship of the three combinations or the six combinations are also beneficial. The six combinations are generally not considered as strong as the three combinations but still bring benefit. The three combinations and the six combinations were discussed in the *Stems and Branches Class*, under Branch Relationships.

b. Domination relationship (相剋): Domination relationships generally cause problems.

EG: a mao person (wood element) dominates a chou person (earth element).

Domination Relationships							
SELF		Harms spouse more			Harms self more		
BRANCH		DOMINATES	YANG	YIN	DOMINATED BY	YANG	YIN
Zi	Yang water	Fire	Wu	Si	Earth	<u>Chen,</u> Xu	Wei, <u>Chou</u>
Chou	Yin earth	Water	<u>Zi</u>	Hai	Wood	Yin	Mao
Yin	Yang wood	Earth	Chen, <u>Xu</u>	Wei, Chou	Metal	Shen	You
Mao	Yin wood		Chen, <u>Xu</u>	<u>Wei</u> , Chou		Shen	You
Chen	Yang earth	Water	<u>Zi</u>	Hai	Wood	Yin	Mao
Si	Yin fire	Metal	<u>Shen</u>	<u>You</u>	Water	Zi	Hai
Wu	Yang fire		Shen	You		Zi	Hai
Wei	Yin earth	Water	Zi	<u>Hai</u>	Wood	Yin	<u>Mao</u>
Shen	Yang metal	Wood	Yin	Mao	Fire	Wu	<u>Si</u>
You	Yin metal		Yin	Mao			<u>Si</u>
Xu	Yang earth	Water	Zi	Hai	Wood	<u>Yin</u>	<u>Mao</u>
Hai	Yin water	Fire	Wu	Si	Earth	Chen, Xu	<u>Wei</u> , Chou

Three Combinations

Six Combinations

Oppositions

Further discussion of domination relationships:

- If a domination is part of a three combinations relationship, it will not cause a lot of harm. The couple may argue some, but they will still love each other. EG: chen (earth) and zi (water) are part of the combination of shen zi chen. Red branches in the above table are in the three combinations relationship. The six combinations also bring some benefit, but they are generally not considered as strong as the three combinations. Orange branches in the above table are in the six combinations relationship. (The three combinations and the six combinations were discussed in the *Stems and Branches Class*.)
- If domination is also an opposition, it is even worse. **Bolded** branches in the above table are also oppositions. (Oppositions were discussed in the *Stems and Branches Class* and will also be discussed more below.)
- Once again, gender of the person doesn't matter. The person receiving the domination will be harmed more than the person who is the dominator. However, even the dominator will not be happy in this type of relationship.
- In the above relationships, we also take yin – yang into account. It is always smoother for a yin and a yang branch to be together. Two yin branches or two yang branches do not have as much chemistry.

Summary of Element Relationships:

1	productive	yin to yang or yang to yin	very harmonious
2	productive	yin to yin or yang to yang	harmonious
3	dominating	yin to yang or yang to yin	not so harmonious
4	dominating	yin to yin or yang to yang	inharmonious

The last level of yin to yin or yang to yang domination also includes many of the oppositions, which are very inharmonious. We will discuss oppositions in the next section.

Example 1:

Partner 1	Partner 2
Wei branch year	Wu branch year
Yin earth	Yang fire
Productive, yin and yang, also one of the six combinations: very harmonious	

Example 2:

Partner 1	Partner 2
Chou branch year	Si branch year
Yin earth	Yin fire
Productive, yin and yin, also one of the three combinations: quite harmonious	

Example 3:

Partner 1	Partner 2
Si branch year	Zi branch year
Yin fire	Yang water
Domination, yin and yang: not so harmonious	

Example 4:

Partner 1	Partner 2
Xu branch year	Zi branch year
Yang earth	Yang water
Domination, yang and yang: inharmonious	

Example 5:

Partner 1	Partner 2
Hai branch year	Wei branch year
Yin water	Yin earth
Domination, yin and yin, but one of the three combinations, so not too bad.	

Quiz 1

1. One partner was born in a si year. The other was born in a shen year. Compare the yin-yang and five element relationship and predict the quality of the relationship.
2. One partner was born in a zi year. The other was born in a mao year. Compare the yin-yang and five element relationship and predict the quality of the relationship.
3. One partner was born in a yin year. The other was born in a xu year. Compare the yin-yang and five element relationship and predict the quality of the relationship.
4. One partner was born in a shen year. The other was born in a yin year. Compare the yin-yang and five element relationship and predict the quality of the relationship.

Quiz 1 Answers

1. One partner was born in a si year. The other was born in a shen year. Compare the yin-yang and five element relationship and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Si is yin fire. Shen is yang metal. Fire dominates metal, but one is yin and the other is yang. It is also one of the six combinations. Therefore, the relationship is not perfectly harmonious, but not the worst either.

2. One partner was born in a zi year. The other was born in a mao year. Compare the yin-yang and five element relationship and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Zi is yang water. Mao is yin wood. This is productive, with one yin and the other yang. It is very harmonious.

3. One partner was born in a yin year. The other was born in a xu year. Compare the yin-yang and five element relationship and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Yin is yang wood. Xu is yang earth. Wood dominates earth, but yin, wu, and xu are also one of the three combinations. So at first, it looks inharmonious, but actually they will argue some, but still love each other: not so bad.

4. One partner was born in a shen year. The other was born in a yin year. Compare the yin-yang and five element relationship and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Shen is yang metal. Yin is yang wood. Metal dominates wood, and both are yang. To make it even worse, yin and shen are an opposition. They are likely to be incompatible. (see below for more details)

B. Does the year ming (branch) have an opposition (相冲)?

For example, zi and wu oppose each other. This is quite inharmonious. It is worse than a simple domination.

Oppositions	
Branch	Opposes
zi rat	wu horse
chou ox	wei sheep
yin tiger	shen monkey
mao rabbit	you rooster
chen dragon	xu dog
si snake	hai pig
wu horse	zi rat
wei sheep	chou ox
shen monkey	yin tiger
you rooster	mao rabbit
xu dog	chen dragon
hai pig	si snake

While overall, oppositions are quite difficult relationships, sometimes they can work. Here we are only using one eighth of the information in the four pillars. Sometimes there is something else in the chart that can overcome this. However, in general, these couples will tend to have more arguments and friction in their relationship, even if they continue to stay together.

Remedies for oppositions: Sometimes we can work out a remedy to soften the problem, using the branches. This will not make the relationship perfect, but it can help. Let's examine the oppositions one by one.

Zi and wu: Here we have water and fire opposing each other. Wood would harmonize this relationship somewhat. Therefore yin or mao wood reduces the domination. Mao is a little better, as it is yin wood, which is more compatible with the yang branches of zi and wu. This couple could get married on a mao year, month, or day. They could live in a house that sits to the east mao (g) direction. Or, they could have a baby in a mao year. Any of these could soften the opposition but may not fully remedy it.

Chou and wei: Here, we can use the three combinations. Si – you – chou is a combination that makes metal, which is productive with wei earth. So now we need a wedding date that includes a si and a you time, for example, a si month and a you hour. We cannot use hai – mao – wei, because together they make wood. Wood is not compatible with earth.

Yin and shen: Shen – zi – chen makes water, which feeds yin wood. Use zi and chen when picking the wedding date.

Mao and you: The three combinations can't help here, but we can use hai or zi water to reduce the domination. Zi is better than hai as it is yang, while mao and you are yin.

Chen and xu: Yin – wu – xu makes fire, which feeds chen's earth. Use yin and wu when picking the wedding date.

Si and hai: Si – you – chou makes metal, which feeds hai's water. Hai – mao – wei makes wood, which feeds si's fire. Here we can either use mao and wei or we can use you and chou in the wedding date.

Using the three combinations is a more powerful remedy than just adding the element that reduces the domination. Here, a good branch relationship counteracts a bad branch relationship.

More discussion of using the wedding date as a remedy for an inharmonious relationship will be included below.

C. Does the year ming (branch) have an injury (相害)?

Here is another inharmonious relationship:

In the *Ten-Thousand Precious Jade Boxes Golden Book* there is a memorization song about marriage matches with no benefit. Here is a rough translation:

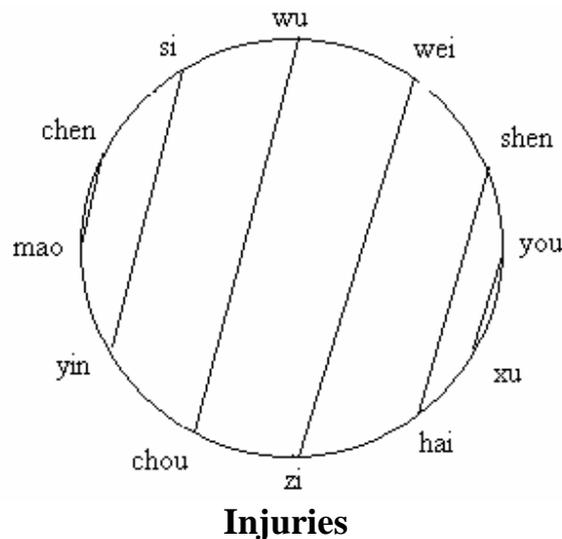
如《萬寶玉匣記金書》中記有不利配婚的歌訣：

從來白馬怕青牛，	Since ancient times, the ox has feared the horse,
羊鼠相逢一旦休。	If sheep meets rat, one day will come divorce.
蛇見猛虎如刀斷，	If snake sees tiger, its like a knife cutting through,
豬遇猿猴不到頭。	If pig meets monkey, it is no benefit to you.
龍逢兔兒雲端去，	If dragon meets rabbit, it is time to go,
金雞見犬淚交流。	If rooster sees dog, tears are going to flow.

This information can be put into a table:

Injuries	
Branch	Injures
zi rat	wei sheep
chou ox	wu horse
yin tiger	si snake
mao rabbit	chen dragon
chen dragon	mao rabbit
si snake	yin tiger
wu horse	chou ox
wei sheep	zi rat
shen monkey	hai pig
you rooster	xu dog
xu dog	you rooster
hai pig	shen monkey

It can also be put into a diagram:



For example, zi and wei injure each other. There is no benefit to this relationship. Chou and wu injure each other, but since they are earth and fire, they are also productive. Even so, it is not a very good match; it has good and bad mixed.

Now we can revise the earlier chart on productive relationships to show where injuries reduce the benefit:

Productive Relationships							
SELF		Benefits spouse			Benefits self		
BRANCH		PRODUCES	YANG	YIN	PRODUCED BY	YANG	YIN
Zi	Yang water	Wood	Yin	Mao	Metal	Shen	You
Chou	Yin earth	Metal	Shen	You	Fire	<u>Wu</u>	Si
Yin	Yang wood	Fire	Wu	<u>Si</u>	Water	Zi	Hai
Mao	Yin wood	Fire	Wu	Si	Water	Zi	Hai
Chen	Yang earth	Metal	Shen	You	Fire	Wu	Si
Si	Yin fire	Earth	Chen, Xu	Wei, Chou	Wood	<u>Yin</u>	Mao
Wu	Yang fire	Earth	Chen, Xu	Wei, <u>Chou</u>	Wood	Yin	Mao
Wei	Yin earth	Metal	Shen	You	Fire	Wu	Si
Shen	Yang metal	Water	Zi	<u>Hai</u>	Earth	Chen, Xu	Wei, Chou
You	Yin metal	Water	Zi	Hai	Earth	Chen, <u>Xu</u>	Wei, Chou
Xu	Yang earth	Metal	Shen	<u>You</u>	Fire	Wu	Si
Hai	Yin water	Wood	Yin	Mao	Metal	<u>Shen</u>	You

Injuries are shown in blue.

Example 1:

Partner 1 Year Branch	Partner 2 Year Branch
Chen	Xu
Yang earth	Yang earth
The elements are compatible, but this is an opposition.	
Remedy: Use yin and wu branches in the wedding date as yin wu xu makes fire, which feeds earth.	

Example 2:

Partner 1 Year Branch	Partner 2 Year Branch
Zi	Wu
Yang water	Yang fire
The elements dominate and it is also an opposition.	
Remedy: Use mao wood to reduce the domination.	

Example 3:

Partner 1 Year Branch	Partner 2 Year Branch
Chen	Mao
Yang earth	Yin wood
Wood dominates earth and this is also an injury.	
Remedy: The injury cannot be remedied, but si or wu fire in the wedding date can help the domination.	

Example 4:

Partner 1 Year Branch	Partner 2 Year Branch
Yin	Si
Yang wood	Yin fire
Wood and fire are productive, but this is also an injury. Good and bad is mixed.	
Remedy: Sorry, there is no remedy for injuries.	

Quiz 2

1. One partner was born in a chou year. The other was born in a wei year. Compare the branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

2. One partner was born in a xu year. The other was born in a you year. Compare the branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

3. One partner was born in a zi year. The other was born in a wei year. Compare the branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

4. One partner was born in a chou year. The other was born in a si year. Compare the branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Quiz 2 Answers

1. One partner was born in a chou year. The other was born in a wei year. Compare the branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Although both branches belong to the earth element, they are not compatible, as these two branches oppose each other. You can use si and you in the wedding date to make si you chou, which combine to make metal. Metal is productive with wei earth. This will soothe the opposition.

2. One partner was born in a xu year. The other was born in a you year. Compare the branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Xu earth should be compatible with you metal according to the elements. However, this is one of the injury relationships. Not so good. No remedy.

3. One partner was born in a zi year. The other was born in a wei year. Compare the branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Zi water and wei earth are not compatible elements. In addition, zi and wei have an injury relationship. Perhaps using some metal in the wedding date can soothe it a little.

4. One partner was born in a chou year. The other was born in a si year. Compare the branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Chou is earth and si is fire. This is productive. In addition, si, you, and chou are one of the three combinations, giving further benefit to this relationship.

A Summary of the Branch Relationships

SPECIAL BRANCH RELATIONSHIPS												
Branch	Zi	Chou	Yin	Mao	Chen	Si	Wu	Wei	Shen	You	Xu	Hai
Zi	same	SC			TC		OP	INJ	TC			
Chou	SC	same				TC	INJ	OP		TC		
Yin			same			INJ	TC		OP		TC	SC
Mao				same	INJ			TC		OP	SC	TC
Chen	TC			INJ	same				TC	SC	OP	
Si		TC	INJ			same			SC	TC		OP
Wu	OP	INJ	TC				same	SC			TC	
Wei	INJ	OP		TC			SC	same				TC
Shen	TC		OP		TC	SC			same			INJ
You		TC		OP	SC	TC				same	INJ	
Xu			TC	SC	OP		TC			INJ	same	
Hai			SC	TC		OP		TC	INJ			same

TC: three combinations

SC: six combinations

OP: opposition

INJ: injury

Analysis of Relationships for Each Branch

Branch: Zi									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi									x
Chou			x			x			
Yin							x		
Mao							x		
Chen			x		x				
Si				x					
Wu	x			x					
Wei		x	x						
Shen					x			x	
You								x	
Xu			x						
Hai									x

Branch: Chou									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi				x		x			
Chou									x
Yin			x						
Mao			x						
Chen									x
Si					x			x	
Wu		x						x	
Wei	x								x
Shen							x		
You					x		x		
Xu									x
Hai				x					

Branch: Yin									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi								x	
Chou				x					
Yin									x
Mao									x
Chen				x					
Si		x					x		
Wu					x		x		
Wei				x					
Shen	x		x						
You			x						
Xu				x	x				
Hai						x		x	

Branch: Mao									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi								x	
Chou				x					
Yin									x
Mao									x
Chen		x		x					
Si							x		
Wu							x		
Wei				x	x				
Shen			x						
You	x		x						
Xu				x		x			
Hai					x			x	

Branch: Chen									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi				x	x				
Chou									x
Yin			x						
Mao		x	x						
Chen									x
Si								x	
Wu								x	
Wei									x
Shen					x		x		
You						x	x		
Xu	x								x
Hai				x					

Branch: Si									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi			x						
Chou					x		x		
Yin		x						x	
Mao								x	
Chen							x		
Si									x
Wu									x
Wei							x		
Shen				x		x			
You				x	x				
Xu							x		
Hai	x		x						

Branch: Wu									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi	x		x						
Chou		x					x		
Yin					x			x	
Mao								x	
Chen							x		
Si									x
Wu									x
Wei						x	x		
Shen				x					
You				x					
Xu					x		x		
Hai			x						

Branch: Wei									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi		x		x					
Chou	x								x
Yin			x						
Mao			x		x				
Chen									x
Si								x	
Wu						x		x	
Wei									x
Shen							x		
You							x		
Xu									x
Hai				x	x				

Branch: Shen									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi					x		x		
Chou								x	
Yin	x			x					
Mao				x					
Chen					x			x	
Si			x			x			
Wu			x						
Wei								x	
Shen									x
You									x
Xu								x	
Hai		x					x		

Branch: You									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi							x		
Chou					x			x	
Yin				x					
Mao	x			x					
Chen						x		x	
Si			x		x				
Wu			x						
Wei								x	
Shen									x
You									x
Xu		x						x	
Hai							x		

Branch: Xu									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi				x					
Chou									x
Yin			x		x				
Mao			x			x			
Chen	x								x
Si								x	
Wu					x			x	
Wei									x
Shen							x		
You		x					x		
Xu									x
Hai				x					

Branch: Hai									
Branch	Opposition	Injury	Dominates Me	I Dominate	Three Combos	Six Combos	I Feed	Feeds Me	Same
Zi									x
Chou			x						
Yin						x	x		
Mao					x		x		
Chen			x						
Si	x			x					
Wu				x					
Wei			x		x				
Shen		x						x	
You								x	
Xu			x						
Hai									x

2. Using the Year Pillar (Stem and Branch)

We can build on the previous information by also taking the birth year stem into account.

If one partner's year stem dominates the other partner's year stem and their year branches oppose each other (天剋地冲), it is easy for this marriage to end in divorce. This is the worst possible combination.

Remember, the stem and branch for a year will both be yin or both be yang. You cannot have a yin stem with a yang branch, and vice versa. In addition, in this situation both partners' year pillars will be yang or both will be yin, because oppositions are always of the same polarity.

For example:

YEAR PILLARS	
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2
Jia	Geng
Zi	Wu

STEMS: Geng metal dominates jia wood. Both are yang.

BRANCHES: Zi and wu oppose each other.

YEAR PILLARS	
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2
Yi	Xin
Chou	Wei

STEMS: Xin metal dominates yi wood. Both are yin.

BRANCHES: Chou and wei oppose each other.

YEAR PILLARS	
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2
Bing	Ren
Yin	Shen

STEMS: Ren water dominates bing fire. Both are yang.

BRANCHES: Yin and shen oppose each other.

Below is a table of all possible combinations of this sort:

CYCLE OF 60		Domination	Oppose	CYCLE OF 60		Domination	Oppose
1	Jia Zi	Geng or Wu	Wu	31	Jia Wu	Geng or Wu	Zi
2	Yi Chou	Xin or Ji	Wei	32	Yi Wei	Xin or Ji	Chou
3	Bing Yin	Ren or Geng	Shen	33	Bing Shen	Ren or Geng	Yin
4	Ding Mao	Gui or Xin	You	34	Ding You	Gui or Xin	Mao
5	Wu Chen	Jia or Ren	Xu	35	Wu Xu	Jia or Ren	Chen
6	Ji Si	Yi or Gui	Hai	36	Ji Hai	Yi or Gui	Si
7	Geng Wu	Bing or Jia	Zi	37	Geng Zi	Bing or Jia	Wu
8	Xin Wei	Ding or Yi	Chou	38	Xin Chou	Ding or Yi	Wei
9	Ren Shen	Wu or Bing	Yin	39	Ren Yin	Wu or Bing	Shen
10	Gui You	Ji or Ding	Mao	40	Gui Mao	Ji or Ding	You
11	Jia Xu	Geng or Wu	Chen	41	Jia Chen	Geng or Wu	Xu
12	Yi Hai	Xin or Ji	Si	42	Yi Si	Xin or Ji	Hai
13	Bing Zi	Ren or Geng	Wu	43	Bing Wu	Ren or Geng	Zi
14	Ding Chou	Gui or Xin	Wei	44	Ding Wei	Gui or Xin	Chou
15	Wu Yin	Jia or Ren	Shen	45	Wu Shen	Jia or Ren	Yin
16	Ji Mao	Yi or Gui	You	46	Ji You	Yi or Gui	Mao
17	Geng Chen	Bing or Jia	Xu	47	Geng Xu	Bing or Jia	Chen
18	Xin Si	Ding or Yi	Hai	48	Xin Hai	Ding or Yi	Si
19	Ren Wu	Wu or Bing	Zi	49	Ren Zi	Wu or Bing	Wu
20	Gui Wei	Ji or Ding	Chou	50	Gui Chou	Ji or Ding	Wei
21	Jia Shen	Geng or Wu	Yin	51	Jia Yin	Geng or Wu	Shen
22	Yi You	Xin or Ji	Mao	52	Yi Mao	Xin or Ji	You
23	Bing Xu	Ren or Geng	Chen	53	Bing Chen	Ren or Geng	Xu
24	Ding Hai	Gui or Xin	Si	54	Ding Si	Gui or Xin	Hai
25	Wu Zi	Jia or Ren	Wu	55	Wu Wu	Jia or Ren	Zi
26	Ji Chou	Yi or Gui	Wei	56	Ji Wei	Yi or Gui	Chou
27	Geng Yin	Bing or Jia	Shen	57	Geng Shen	Bing or Jia	Yin
28	Xin Mao	Ding or Yi	You	58	Xin You	Ding or Yi	Mao
29	Ren Chen	Wu or Bing	Xu	59	Ren Xu	Wu or Bing	Chen
30	Gui Si	Ji or Ding	Hai	60	Gui Hai	Ji or Ding	Si

- All these combinations are between people who have six years difference in age, younger or older.
- There is an additional factor called the nayin element, which will be explained below. Sometimes this helps a match, but sometimes it makes it even worse.

The Five Combinations (Wu He 五合)

The five combinations were described in detail in the *Stems and Branches Class*. The heavenly stems are attracted to each other and try to combine in the following way:

STEMS				ELEMENT
1 Jia	+	6 Ji	=	Earth
2 Yi	+	7 Geng	=	Metal
3 Bing	+	8 Xin	=	Water
4 Ding	+	9 Ren	=	Wood
5 Wu	+	10 Gui	=	Fire

Note that in each combination, one is yang and the other yin, and that the yang element dominates the yin element.

If the two partners' year pillar stems make a combination and their branches are productive (天合地生), this is the best possible match.

For example:

YEAR PILLARS		
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2	OR
Jia	Ji	Ji
Zi	Mao	You

STEMS: Jia and ji are one of the Five Combinations.

BRANCHES: Zi water produces mao wood. You metal is also a good match for zi, as you metal produces zi water.

YEAR PILLARS		
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2	OR
Yi	Geng	Geng
Si	Xu	Yin

STEMS: Yi and geng are one of the Five Combinations.

BRANCHES: Xu earth produces si fire. Yin wood is also a good match for si, as wood produces si fire. But yin and si injure each other, so this one is not in the category of best.

YEAR PILLARS		
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2	OR
Xin	Bing	Bing
Mao	Wu	Zi

STEMS: Xin and bing are one of the Five Combinations.

BRANCHES: Mao wood produces wu fire. Zi water is also a good match for mao, as zi water produces mao wood.

Below are all possible combinations. Injuries are marked in blue. They are no longer considered the best possible combination.

CYCLE OF 60		Combination	Productive	CYCLE OF 60		Combination	Productive
1	Jia Zi	Ji	You, Mao	31	Jia Wu	Ji	Mao, <u>Chou</u> , Wei
2	Yi Chou	Geng	<u>Wu</u> , Shen	32	Yi Wei	Geng	Wu or Shen
3	Bing Yin	Xin	Hai or <u>Si</u>	33	Bing Shen	Xin	Chou, Wei, <u>Hai</u>
4	Ding Mao	Ren	Zi or Wu	34	Ding You	Ren	Chen, <u>Xu</u> , Zi
5	Wu Chen	Gui	Si or You	35	Wu Xu	Gui	Si or <u>You</u>
6	Ji Si	Jia	<u>Yin</u> , Chen, Xu	36	Ji Hai	Jia	<u>Shen</u> or Yin
7	Geng Wu	Yi	Mao, <u>Chou</u> , Wei	37	Geng Zi	Yi	You or Mao
8	Xin Wei	Bing	Wu or Shen	38	Xin Chou	Bing	<u>Wu</u> or Shen
9	Ren Shen	Ding	Chou, Wei, <u>Hai</u>	39	Ren Yin	Ding	Hai or <u>Si</u>
10	Gui You	Wu	Chen, <u>Xu</u> , Zi	40	Gui Mao	Wu	Zi or Wu
11	Jia Xu	Ji	Si or <u>You</u>	41	Jia Chen	Ji	Si or You
12	Yi Hai	Geng	<u>Shen</u> or Yin	42	Yi Si	Geng	<u>Yin</u> , Chen, Xu
13	Bing Zi	Xin	You or Mao	43	Bing Wu	Xin	Mao, <u>Chou</u> , Wei

14	Ding Chou	Ren	<u>Wu</u> or Shen	44	Ding Wei	Ren	Wu or Shen
15	Wu Yin	Gui	Hai or <u>Si</u>	45	Wu Shen	Gui	Chou, Wei, <u>Hai</u>
16	Ji Mao	Jia	Zi or Wu	46	Ji You	Jia	Chen, <u>Xu</u> , Zi
17	Geng Chen	Yi	Si or You	47	Geng Xu	Yi	Si or <u>You</u>
18	Xin Si	Bing	<u>Yin</u> , Chen, Xu	48	Xin Hai	Bing	<u>Shen</u> or Yin
19	Ren Wu	Ding	Mao, <u>Chou</u> , Wei	49	Ren Zi	Ding	You or Mao
20	Gui Wei	Wu	Wu or Shen	50	Gui Chou	Wu	<u>Wu</u> or Shen
21	Jia Shen	Ji	Chou, Wei, <u>Hai</u>	51	Jia Yin	Ji	Hai or <u>Si</u>
22	Yi You	Geng	Chen, <u>Xu</u> , Zi	52	Yi Mao	Geng	Zi or Wu
23	Bing Xu	Xin	Si or <u>You</u>	53	Bing Chen	Xin	Si or You
24	Ding Hai	Ren	<u>Shen</u> or Yin	54	Ding Si	Ren	<u>Yin</u> , Chen, Xu
25	Wu Zi	Gui	You or Mao	55	Wu Wu	Gui	Mao, <u>Chou</u> , Wei
26	Ji Chou	Jia	<u>Wu</u> or Shen	56	Ji Wei	Jia	Wu or Shen
27	Geng Yin	Yi	Hai or <u>Si</u>	57	Geng Shen	Yi	Chou, Wei, <u>Hai</u>
28	Xin Mao	Bing	Zi or Wu	58	Xin You	Bing	Chen, <u>Xu</u> , Zi
29	Ren Chen	Ding	Si or You	59	Ren Xu	Ding	Si or <u>You</u>
30	Gui Si	Wu	<u>Yin</u> , Chen, Xu	60	Gui Hai	Wu	<u>Shen</u> or Yin

Quiz 3

1. One partner was born in a jia wu year. The other was born in a geng zi year. Compare the stems and branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

2. One partner was born in a ding mao year. The other was born in a ren zi year. Compare the stems and branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

3. One partner was born in a ji hai year. The other was born in a jia shen year. Compare the stems and branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

4. One partner was born in a gui wei year. The other was born in a ji chou year. Compare the stems and branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Quiz 3 Answers

1. One partner was born in a jia wu year. The other was born in a geng zi year. Compare the stems and branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Geng metal dominates jia wood. Zi and wu oppose each other. The stems dominate and the branches oppose. This is the worst possible partnership.

2. One partner was born in a ding mao year. The other was born in a ren zi year. Compare the stems and branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Ren water dominates ding fire. However, ren is yang and ding is yin, and this is one of the five combinations. It is good. Zi water produces mao wood. The stems make a combination and their branches are productive. This is the best possible match.

3. One partner was born in a ji hai year. The other was born in a jia shen year. Compare the stems and branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Jia wood dominates ji earth. However, jia is yang and ji is yin, and this is one of the five combinations. It is good. Shen metal produces hai water. The stems make a combination and their branches are productive. This would be the best possible match, except that shen and hai have an injury relationship.

4. One partner was born in a gui wei year. The other was born in a ji chou year. Compare the stems and branches and predict the quality of the relationship.

Answer: Ji earth dominates gui water. Both are yin. Chou and wei oppose each other. The stems dominate and the branches oppose. This is the worst possible match.

3. Matches That Are Less Than Perfect and Their Remedies

If you cannot have a perfect match, as in the previous section, then the second best is as follows: the two partners' year pillar stems make a combination and their branches do NOT oppose or injure each other.

Example 1		
PARTNER 1	PARTNER 2	OR
Jia	Ji	Ji
Zi	Si	Chou

STEMS: Jia and ji are one of the Five Combinations.

BRANCHES: Zi water dominates si fire, but they do not oppose or injure each other. Chou earth dominates zi water, but they do not oppose or injure each other. In fact, chou and zi are one of the six combinations.

Example 2		
PARTNER 1	PARTNER 2	OR
Yi	Geng	Geng
Si	Zi	Shen

STEMS: Yi and geng are one of the Five Combinations.

BRANCHES: Si fire is dominated by zi water, but they do not oppose or injure each other. Si fire dominates shen metal, but they do not oppose or injure each other. In fact, shen and si are one of the six combinations.

Example 3		
PARTNER 1	PARTNER 2	OR
Xin	Bing	Bing
Mao	Shen	Xu

STEMS: Xin and bing are one of the Five Combinations.

BRANCHES: Mao wood is dominated by shen metal, but they do not oppose or injure each other. Mao wood dominates xu earth, but they do not oppose or injure each other. In fact, mao and xu are one of the six combinations.

Remedies

This relationship needs a remedy to soften it, but it can be a good match. To remedy this type of imbalance:

1. Choose the wedding month and time carefully. First, analyze the three elements involved:
 - a. the element of the year stems' combination,
 - b. the element of one partner's year branch,
 - c. the element of the other partner's year branch.

2. Choose month and hour branches that have the element(s) that would remedy the domination. Use this to choose the wedding date. You can also use a baby's birth year, or the sitting direction of their house (if the house has good Feng Shui).

For example:

YEAR PILLARS		
PARTNER 1	PARTNER 2	
Jia	Ji	Jia and ji combine to make earth.
Zi	Si	Zi is water and si is fire.

ANALYSIS: Here, we have si fire producing the earth from the stem transformation. The zi water dominates the si fire, and wood would remedy it. In addition, the earth from the stem transformation dominates zi water, and metal would remedy it.

Wood	Fire	Earth	Metal	Water
	Spouse 2 year branch: si	Stem transformation for jia and ji		Spouse 1 year branch: zi
		Dominates Spouse 1 Branch		Dominates Spouse 2 branch
Wood remedies water dominating fire			Metal remedies earth dominating water	
Use wood month or time for wedding date			Use metal month or time for wedding date	

DISCUSSION: If the wedding were in the spring, in a yin or mao (both wood branches) month, this would soothe one of the dominations. This is the ‘medicine month.’ If the wedding were held at the shen or you (metal) time (3 – 7 p.m.), this would soothe the other domination. This is the ‘medicine time.’ This way all five elements can circulate within the marriage.

Let’s look at the previous examples:

Example 1		
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2	Analysis
Jia	Ji	Jia and ji combine to make earth.
Zi	Chou	Chou earth dominates zi water
Here we have earth dominating water. Use a metal (shen or you) month and/or hour for the wedding to harmonize it.		

Example 2		
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2	Analysis
Yi	Geng	Yi and geng combine to make metal.
Si	Zi	Si fire is dominated by zi water
The metal of the stems is productive to the zi water branch, but zi water dominates si fire and si fire dominates the metal of the stems. Use a yin or mao (wood) month and a chen, wei, xu, or chou (earth) hour to soften the dominations. You could also do it the other way around, but a yin or mao hour is probably too early for a wedding.		

Example 3		
SPOUSE 1	SPOUSE 2	Analysis
Xin	Bing	Bing and xin combine to make water.
Mao	Shen	Mao wood is dominated by shen metal
Shen (metal) feeds the water from the stems, which feeds mao (wood). No remedy is necessary. There is no domination.		

The Happy Spirit Day

We did not use the day for a remedy because it is best to choose a *happy spirit day* for the wedding, if possible.

Happy Spirit Day (xishen 喜神)			
CURRENT MONTH			Happy Spirit Day
1st	yin	February 4-5	xu
2nd	mao	March 5-6	hai
3rd	chen	April 5-6	zi
4th	si	May 5-6	chou
5th	wu	June 6-7	yin
6th	wei	July 7-8	mao
7th	shen	August 7-8	chen
8th	you	September 8-9	si
9th	xu	October 8-9	wu
10th	hai	November 7-8	wei
11th	zi	December 7-8	shen
12th	chou	January 6-7	you

But you must be sure that the happy spirit day does not oppose one of the partners or the current year, or have sha. See the *Day Selection Classes* for details.

We also did not use the year as a remedy because most people are unwilling to wait for a better year to get married.

Summary of remedy using wedding date		
Wedding	Remedy	Be careful:
Month	Branch with 'medicine' element	Avoid consumers, breakers, sha, etc.
Day	Happy Spirit day	
Hour	Branch with 'medicine' element	

Quiz 4

Figure the remedies for the following couples who want to get married:

1. She is born in a ren chen year and the partner is born in a ding hai year.
2. She is born in a gui mao year and the partner is born in a wu yin year.
3. He is born in a xin si year and the partner is born in a bing zi year.
4. He is born in an yi chou year and the partner is born in a geng zi year.

Quiz 4 Answers

Figure the remedies for the following couples who want to get married:

1. She is born in a ren chen year and the partner is born in a ding hai year.

Wood	Fire	Earth	Metal	Water
Ren and ding stem transformation		Spouse 1 branch: chen		Spouse 2 branch: hai
Dominates Spouse 1 Branch		Dominates Spouse 2 branch		
	Fire remedies wood dominating earth		Metal remedies earth dominating water	
	Use fire month or time for wedding date		Use metal month or time for wedding date	

2. She is born in a gui mao year and the partner is born in a wu yin year.

Wood	Fire	Earth	Metal	Water
Spouse 1 & 2 branch: mao and yin	Stem transformation for gui and wu			

This is all productive, no domination, so no remedy needed.

3. He is born in a xin si year and the partner is born in a bing zi year.

Wood	Fire	Earth	Metal	Water
	Spouse 1 branch: si			Stem transformation for bing and xin and Spouse 2 branch: zi
				Dominates Spouse 1 Branch
Wood remedies water dominating fire				
Use wood month and/or time for wedding date				

4. He is born in an yi chou year and the partner is born in a geng zi year.

Wood	Fire	Earth	Metal	Water
		Spouse 1 branch: chou	Stem transformation for geng and yi	Spouse 2 branch: zi

This is all productive, no domination, so no remedy needed.

4. The Nayin Sixty Jiazi (納音六十甲子)

There is another factor we can examine in compatibility: the nayin of the 60 stem-branch combinations. The sixty nayin were first discussed by a Chinese doctor and alchemist named 葛洪 Ge Hong (284-341 CE) in a book called 《抱朴子》 Baopuzi. 納 *Na* means to take or accommodate. 音 *Yin* is a sound or tone.

The sixty nayin are listed in the following table:

jiazi yichou metal in the sea	bingyin dingmao fire in the oven	wuchen jisi wood in the big forest	gengwu xinwei earth on the side of the road	renshen guiyou metal of the sword's edge
jiaxu yihai fire on the mountain top	bingzi dingchou water in the bottom of the ravine	wuyin jimao earth on the top of the city wall	gengchen xinsi metal of white wax	renwu guiwei wood from a willow tree
jiashen yiyu water in a spring	bingxu dinghai earth on the top of the house	wuzi jichou fire of a thunderbolt	gengyin xinmao wood from a pine tree	renchen guisi water constantly flowing
jiawu yiwei metal in sand	bingshen dingyou fire on the bottom of a mountain	wuxu jihai wood on level ground	gengzi xinchou earth on a wall	renyin guimao metal of gold foil
jiachen yisi fire inside a lampshade	bingwu dingwei water in the heavenly river	wushen jiyou earth in a big post station	gengxu xinhai metal of hairpins and bracelets	renzi guichou wood from a mulberry tree
jiayin yimao water in a big creek	bingchen dingsi earth in sand	wuwu jiwei fire in heaven	gengshen xinyou wood from a pomegranate	renxu guihai water in the big sea

The nayin are discussed in more detail in American Feng Shui Institute's *Advanced Case Study 13 Class*, including how they are calculated.

The concept of nayin is very profound, although it is not well known. It has many applications.

Here, we will point out that each pair of adjacent stem-branch combinations has an associated element that is generated by that combination. However, it is not just a generic quality of the element; it has a characteristic associated with it. For example:

- Either jiazi or yichou are metal in the sea. Seawater corrodes metal, so this metal is relatively weak.
- Either jiawu or yiwei are metal in sand. Sand is part of earth, which supports metal.
- Either renshen or guiyou are metal of the sword's edge. This is metal as a weapon, aggressive and sharp.
- Either gengxu or xin Hai are metal of hairpins and bracelets. This is a delicate and elegant use of metal.
- Either gengchen or xinsi are metal of white wax. Something made of wax and painted to look like metal may look hard on the outside but easily melts.
- Either renyin or guimao are metal of gold foil. This is bright, reflective, and decorative, but not very strong.

You can see the characteristics of each type of metal are different. Please use your common sense and imagination to understand the other elements in a similar fashion. We will discuss the importance of this below.

When two people's year branches oppose each other, check the year branch's nayin. If it is productive, it remediates the situation somewhat. If their nayins dominate, it makes it even worse.

Similarly, a couple who seems well matched according to the guidelines given earlier may actually have some friction which is revealed by the nayin; or the nayin may make their relationship even better.

If two partners' year nayin element dominates, it will not be the most harmonious marriage. Even if it has the three combinations, it will not be so smooth.

Some factors in the stability of marriage for an individual:

This is an analysis within one person's birth information that applies to the individual, regardless of who he or she pairs up with.

- If the elements of a person's birth year stem and branch dominate, there is a potential for multiple marriages.
 - Example 1: xin si has metal stem and a fire branch. The branch element dominates the stem element.
 - Example 2: bing shen has a fire stem and a metal branch. The stem element dominates the branch element.
- The same is true for the day stem and branch. (In four pillars, the day pillar represents the self and the spouse.)
- If the nayin element for the year pillar and the day pillar of an individual dominate, this also adds to the possibility.
 - Example: A xin si year has a metal nayin. A bing shen day has a fire nayin. A person born on a bing shen day in a xin si year is likely to have more than one marriage because the fire nayin of the day dominates the metal nayin of the year.
- The more of these factors someone has, the more likely he or she will have multiple marriages.
 - Example: This person born on a bingshen day in a xin si year is very likely to have more than one marriage because they have a domination in their year pillar, day pillar, and between their year and day nayins.

To analyze a relationship in more detail using the nayin characteristic:

- How do the two nayin elements interact? Productive, domination, or the same element?
- How do the characteristics of the nayin element influence this interaction?

Note: Compare the nayin elements to each other and the branch elements to each other. Do NOT compare the nayin elements to the branch elements.

Example 1: Gui wei is wood from a willow tree. Ren shen is metal from a sword. This metal can easily cut willow wood, which is soft. Not only is there a domination, but the hard metal and soft wood make it even worse. Xin si is metal of white wax; while it still dominates gui wei's wood nayin, it is not nearly as harmful.

Example 2: If xin chou earth on a wall and bing xu earth on top of a house marry, the nayin elements are harmonious but boring; all that earth is heavy and still. In addition, xin chou is metal over earth: productive; this person can have one spouse. Bing xu is fire over earth. It is also productive. The branches are xu and chou, both earth. The stems, xin and bing are a combination that transforms to water. It is true that the earth branches dominate the water transformation in the stems; however overall this relationship is stable but boring.

Example 3: A jia zi person wants to make a partnership with a ji you person. Jia and ji make earth together. You is metal and zi is water. These three elements are productive and harmonious. The nayin of jia zi is metal and the nayin of ji you is earth. These are also productive. This is a good match.

Quiz 5

1. Analyze a relationship between a gui si birth year and a xin chou birth year.
2. Analyze a relationship between a ji hai birth year and a ren yin birth year.
3. Analyze a relationship between a bing chen birth year and a ren xu birth year.
4. Analyze how likely it is that a person born on a ren wu day in a wu chen year will have multiple marriages.

Quiz 5 Answers

1. Analyze a relationship between a gui si birth year and a xin chou birth year.

Answer: Gui (water) and xin (metal) stems are productive, both yin. Si (fire) and chou (earth) are also productive by element, as well as belonging to one of the three combinations. When you look at all the elements, only wood is missing, so water dominates fire. This is good and bad mixed, but not horrible. The nayin of gui si is water constantly flowing. The nayin of xin chou is earth on a wall. The earth dams up water. This relationship is a mixture of good and bad. Actually, most of life is a mix of good and bad.

2. Analyze a relationship between a ji hai birth year and a ren yin birth year.

Answer: Ji (earth) and ren (water) stems dominate. Hai (water) and yin (wood) are productive, and belong to one of the six combinations. The nayin of ji hai is wood on level ground. The nayin of ren yin is metal of gold foil. This metal is not strong enough to harm the wood, but it is not compatible either. They may be attracted to each other because of the combination, but this is not a very good match.

3. Analyze a relationship between a bing chen birth year and a ren xu birth year.

Answer: Bing (fire) and ren (water) stems dominate, and both are yang. Chen (earth) and xu (earth) are the same element, but oppose each other. The nayin of bing chen is earth in sand. The nayin of ren xu is water in the big sea. This earth is not strong enough to dam up the water in the big sea, but it is not compatible either. This is quite a difficult match.

4. Analyze how likely it is that a person born on a ren wu day in a wu chen year will have multiple marriages.

Answer: Ren (water) stem dominates the wu (fire) branch. This is one strike. The wu stem and chen branch are both earth: no problem. Ren wu has a wood nayin. Wu chen also has a wood nayin. This person has only one of three possible strikes against them. There is a chance that this person can avoid multiple marriages as there is more good than bad here.

You can see in all of these examples, life is usually good and bad mixed. The extremely good and the extremely bad cases are less common.

5. Picking a Harmonious Match Using Birth Time

This method is independent of the earlier discussions of the year branch, the year pillar, and the nayin. If you find a good match in either method, you can probably make a connection. If you are able to make a good match in both methods, even better!

This method uses the lunar calendar, not the twenty-four solar terms. If you need to review the lunar calendar, please refer to the *Stems and Branches Class*. We need to know the client's birth information for the lunar month and the day of the lunar month.

1. Determine the person's yin/yang male/female status: check the birth year stem. The yin/yang nature of the stem determines the person's yin/yang nature.

Year Stems		
Stem	Western year ends in	Polarity
1. Jia	4	Yang
2. Yi	5	Yin
3. Bing	6	Yang
4. Ding	7	Yin
5. Wu	8	Yang
6. Ji	9	Yin
7. Geng	0	Yang
8. Xin	1	Yin
9. Ren	2	Yang
10. Gui	3	Yin

For example, a person born in 1971 (after February 4th) would be a yin person because xin is a yin stem.

Once you know if they are yin or yang, determine the direction of the calculation in the following table.

Yin/Yang Male/Female		
	Yin	Yang
Male	counter-clockwise	clockwise
Female	clockwise	counter-clockwise

2. Determine the LUNAR birth month branch or number (by looking in the *Ten-Thousand Year Calendar*) and find its location in the diagram below:

4 th month si	5 th month wu	6 th month wei	7 th month shen
3 rd month chen	Lunar month of birth		8 th month you
2 nd month mao			9 th month xu
1 st month yin	12 th month chou	11 th month zi	10 th month hai

3. Calling the palace with the month of birth '1,' count (clockwise or counter-clockwise depending on yin/yang male/female) until you reach the day of birth within the LUNAR month.
4. That palace contains the branch that is the most harmonious hour of birth for the spouse.

BRANCH	HOUR	MONTH
Zi	11pm-1am	11 th
Chou	1-3am	12 th
Yin	3-5am	1 st
Mao	5-7am	2 nd
Chen	7-9am	3 rd
Si	9-11am	4 th
Wu	11am-1pm	5 th
Wei	1-3pm	6 th
Shen	3-5pm	7 th
You	5-7pm	8 th
Xu	7-9pm	9 th
Hai	9-11pm	10 th

5. Branches that are related to the answer in Step 4 by the Three Combinations are also considered auspicious hours of birth for the spouse.

Three Combinations
Shen, Zi, Chen
Si, You, Chou
Yin, Wu, Xu
Hai, Mao, Wei

6. The hour that opposes the time found in Step 4 is inauspicious, as is the hour that injures it.

Oppositions		Six Injuries	
Branch	Opposes	Branch	Injures
Zi	Wu	Zi	Wei
Chou	Wei	Chou	Wu
Yin	Shen	Yin	Si
Mao	You	Mao	Chen
Chen	Xu	Chen	Mao
Si	Hai	Si	Yin
Wu	Zi	Wu	Chou
Wei	Chou	Wei	Zi
Shen	Yin	Shen	Hai
You	Mao	You	Xu
Xu	Chen	Xu	You
Hai	Si	Hai	Shen

EXAMPLE 1: Male, born on July 6th, 1935, the 6th day of the 6th lunar month of an yi hai year.

1. Yi is a yin stem (the 2nd stem), so he is a yin male. The calculation goes *counter-clockwise*.
2. The 6th lunar month is wei. Start counting from the wei palace.
3. From the wei palace as '1,' count counter-clockwise 6 positions (because he was born on the 6th day), arriving in the yin palace.
4. The yin hour (3 - 5 am) is the time of birth for a harmonious spouse.
5. Yin, wu, and xu are one set of the Three Combinations. So wu (11 am - 1 pm) and xu (7 - 9 pm) are also times of birth for a harmonious spouse.
6. Shen (3 - 5 pm) opposes yin, so it is the least harmonious time. Si (9 - 11 am) injures yin, so it is also not a harmonious time.

EXAMPLE 2: Female, born on October 21, 1969, the 11th day of the 9th lunar month of a ji you year.

1. Ji is a yin stem (the 6th stem), so she is a yin female. The calculation goes *clockwise*.
2. The 9th lunar month is xu. Start counting from the xu palace.
3. From the xu palace as '1,' count clockwise 11 positions (because she was born on the 11th day), arriving in the shen palace.
4. The shen hour (3 - 5 pm) is the time of birth for a harmonious spouse.
5. Shen, zi, and chen are one set of the three Combinations. So zi (11 pm - 1 am) and chen (7 - 9 am) are also times of birth for a harmonious spouse.
6. Yin (3 - 5 am) opposes shen, so it is the least harmonious time. Hai (9 - 11 pm) injures shen, so it is also not a harmonious time.

EXAMPLE 3: Male, born on April 24th, 1952, the 1st day of the 4th lunar month of a ren chen year.

1. Ren is a yang stem (the 9th stem), so he is a yang male. The calculation goes *clockwise*.
2. The 4th lunar month is si. Start counting from the si palace.
3. The si palace is '1.' There is no need to count from here because he was born on the 1st day. The calculation remains in the si palace.
4. The si hour (9 - 11 am) is the time of birth for a harmonious spouse.
5. Si, you, and chou are one set of the Three Combinations. So you (5 - 7 pm) and chou (1 - 3 am) are also times of birth for a harmonious spouse.
6. Hai (9 - 11 pm) opposes si, so it is the least harmonious time. Yin (3 - 5 am) injures si, so it is also not a harmonious time.

EXAMPLE 4: Female, born on February 21, 1982, the 28th day of the 1st lunar month of a ren xu year.

1. Ren is a yang stem (the 9th stem), so she is a yang female. The calculation goes *counter-clockwise*.
2. The 1st lunar month is yin. Start counting from the yin palace.
3. From the yin palace as '1,' count counter-clockwise 28 positions (because she was born on the 28th day), arriving in the hai palace. You go around the square more than two times.
4. The hai hour (9 - 11 pm) is the time of birth for a harmonious spouse.
5. Hai, mao, and wei are one set of the Three Combinations. So mao (5 - 7 am) and wei (1 - 3 pm) are also times of birth for a harmonious spouse.
6. Si (9 - 11 am) opposes hai, so it is the least harmonious time. Shen (3 - 5 pm) injures hai, so it is also not a harmonious time.

Quiz 6

Find the harmonious birth times and the times to avoid for the following people:

1. A male born on September 3rd, 1979.

2. A female born on November 6th, 1981.

3. A female born on January 19th, 1977.

4. A male born on March 1st, 1972.

Quiz 6 Answers

Find the harmonious birth times and the times to avoid for the following people:

1. A male born on September 3rd, 1979.

Answer:

1979 is a ji wei year, so he is a yin male and the calculation goes counter-clockwise. September 3rd, 1979 is the 12th day of the 7th lunar month.

The 7th month begins in the shen palace. Call that '1.'

Count 12 positions counter-clockwise, to land in the you palace.

Therefore, si (9 – 11 am), you (5 – 7 pm), and chou (1 – 3 am) are good times.

Mao (5 – 7 am) opposes you and xu (7 – 9 pm) injures you. Avoid these times.

2. A female born on November 6th, 1981.

Answer:

1981 is a xin you year, so she is a yin female and the calculation goes clockwise.

November 6th, 1981 is the 10th day of the 10th lunar month.

The 10th month begins in the hai palace. Call that '1.'

Count 10 positions clockwise, to land in the shen palace.

Therefore, shen (3 – 5 pm), zi (11 pm – 1 am), and chen (7 – 9 am) are good times.

Yin (3 – 5 am) opposes you and hai (9 – 11 pm) injures you. Avoid these times.

3. A female born on January 19th, 1977.

Answer:

She was born in the Western year of 1977, but her birthday is before the lunar new year, which was on February 18th, so she belongs to 1976 in the Chinese lunar calendar. 1976 is a bing chen year, so she is a yang female and the calculation goes counter-clockwise.

January 19th, 1977 is the 1st day of the 12th lunar month.

The 12th month begins in the chou palace. Call that '1.'

The first day remains in the same palace. Chou is the answer.

Therefore, si (9 – 11 am), you (5 – 7 pm), and chou (1 – 3 am) are good times.

Wei (1 – 3 pm) opposes you and wu (11 am – 1 pm) injures you. Avoid these times.

4. A male born on March 1st, 1972.

Answer:

1972 is a ren zi year, so he is a yang male and the calculation goes clockwise.

March 1st, 1972 is the 16th day of the 1st lunar month.

The 1st month begins in the yin palace. Call that '1.'

Count 16 positions clockwise, to land in the si palace.

Therefore, si (9 – 11 am), you (5 – 7 pm), and chou (1 – 3 am) are good times.

Hai (9 – 11 pm) opposes you and yin (3 – 5 am) injures you. Avoid these times.

6. Predict the Direction of Origin for the Future Spouse

This information is interesting, but is not based on the long term practice of Master Sang. It is something he plays with, but has not totally verified. In any case, he taught us, so we can also play with it.

Complete Steps 1 – 4 in the calculation from Section 5: Picking a Harmonious Match Using Birth Time. In Step 4, you arrive at the harmonious birth time: one of the twelve branches. Use this same branch.

Your spouse is likely to come from the direction arrived at in Step 4 or from the opposite direction.

Finding this direction is based on the branch, which represents 15° in the luopan. However, when applying this method, we use the whole 45° of the eight directions, not just the 15°.

BRANCH		DIRECTION
Zi	a	North
Chou	c	Northeast
Yin	e	Northeast
Mao	g	East
Chen	i	Southeast
Si	k	Southeast
Wu	m	South
Wei	o	Southwest
Shen	q	Southwest
You	s	West
Xu	u	Northwest
Hai	w	Northwest

There are two possibilities:

1. Compare the place of birth (pre-heaven) of the two people, or
2. Compare the place of residence (post-heaven) prior to marriage.

A Chinese doctor told Master Sang he checked 100 married couples. 92 of them had at least one partner with this. Of the 8 couples that didn't, 6 got divorced, and one of the partners died early in the other two marriages.

Master Sang said he believes that if two people do not have this geographic relationship, it is hard for them to achieve a marriage partnership. However, one of them can move before marriage, to improve the chances that they will match up.

Let's look at the four examples from the previous section:

EXAMPLE 1: Male, born on July 6th, 1935, the 6th day of the 6th lunar month of an yi hai year.

1. Yi is a yin stem (the 2nd stem), so he is a yin male. The calculation goes *counter-clockwise*.
2. The 6th lunar month is wei. Start counting from the wei palace.
3. From the wei palace as '1' count counter-clockwise 6 positions (because he was born on the 6th day), arriving in the yin palace.
4. The yin hour (3 – 5 am) is the time of birth for a harmonious spouse. It also represents the northeast as the direction of origin for his spouse. The opposite, the southwest, is also possible.

EXAMPLE 2: Female, born on October 21, 1969, the 11th day of the 9th lunar month of a ji you year.

1. Ji is a yin stem (the 6th stem), so she is a yin female. The calculation goes *clockwise*.
2. The 9th lunar month is xu. Start counting from the xu palace.
3. From the xu palace as '1' count clockwise 11 positions (because she was born on the 11th day), arriving in the shen palace.
4. The shen hour (3 – 5 pm) is the time of birth for a harmonious spouse. It also represents the southwest as the direction of origin for her spouse. The opposite, the northeast, is also possible.

EXAMPLE 3: Male, born on April 24th, 1952, the 1st day of the 4th lunar month of a ren chen year.

1. Ren is a yang stem (the 9th stem), so he is a yang male. The calculation goes *clockwise*.
2. The 4th lunar month is si. Start counting from the si palace.
3. The si palace is '1.' There is no need to count from here because he was born on the 1st day. The calculation remains in the si palace.

4. The si hour (9 – 11 am) is the time of birth for a harmonious spouse. It also represents the southeast as the direction of origin for his spouse. The opposite, the northwest, is also possible.

EXAMPLE 4: Female, born on February 21, 1982, the 28th day of the 1st lunar month of a ren xu year.

1. Ren is a yang stem (the 9th stem), so she is a yang female. The calculation goes *counter-clockwise*.
2. The 1st lunar month is yin. Start counting from the yin palace.
3. From the yin palace as '1' count counter-clockwise 28 positions (because she was born on the 28th day), arriving in the hai palace. You go around the square more than two times.
4. The hai hour (9 – 11 pm) is the time of birth for a harmonious spouse. It also represents the northwest as the direction of origin for her spouse. The opposite, the southeast, is also possible.

Let's discuss Example 4 further. If this female was born in Los Angeles, she could make a close connection with someone who was born to the northwest, perhaps as far away as Alaska, or as close as a suburb to the northwest of her Los Angeles birthplace. On the other hand, they could have been born in the opposite direction, the southeast, perhaps Mexico.

If Ms Example 4 now lives in France, she could connect with someone currently living in the same city, to the northwest or southeast of her. She could also connect with someone living in England (northwest) or Italy (southeast), regardless of where they were born.

7. Conclusion

Living together or working together is hard work! If you wait for a perfect match, you may be alone for a long time. It is better not to ask for perfection. The practice of patience, tolerance, kindness, and forgiveness makes the give and take of marriage easier.

However, this information is still useful to help determine the potential for success early in a relationship. In some cases, imperfect matches can be smoothed out by carefully choosing the wedding date. If a match has some challenges in it, perhaps expectations of “living happily ever after” can be reduced to a more realistic level.

It may be easier to search for a good match with business partners as often people can choose more objectively when their heart is not involved.

If you have not yet taken the day selection classes, there is more information about finding romance, making a marriage proposal, choosing a wedding date, and increasing fertility there.

Final Exam

You have a client who wants to get married. She has met two men on the internet and wants to know if either is worth pursuing. She was born on April 16th, 1980 right at noon. She was born in Cairo, Egypt, but now lives in Shanghai, China.

First, gather the basic information about each person in the forms below. You will need your *Ten-Thousand Year Calendar* for this.

YOUR CLIENT: female, born April 16th, 1980, noon

Birth place: Cairo, Egypt

Current residence: Shanghai, China

Birth year pillar (stem and branch):

Nayin of year pillar:

Birth day pillar (stem and branch):

Nayin of day pillar:

Lunar birth date (month and day):

Birth hour branch:

BACHELOR #1: male, born November 11, 1978, 3:15 a.m.

Birth place: New York City

Current residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Birth year pillar (stem and branch):

Nayin of year pillar:

Birth day pillar (stem and branch):

Nayin of day pillar:

Lunar birth date (month and day):

Birth hour branch:

BACHELOR #2: male, born May 13th, 1981, 4 p.m.

Birth place: Hamburg, Germany

Current residence: Athens, Greece

Birth year pillar (stem and branch):

Nayin of year pillar:

Birth day pillar (stem and branch):

Nayin of day pillar:

Lunar birth date (month and day):

Birth hour branch:

Compare Bachelor #1 and your client.

1. Compare their year branches by element and by branch relationships:
2. Compare their year pillars:
3. Do they need a remedy in the marriage date? If so, what?
4. Compare nayin element of their year pillars:
5. Check the stability of the individuals by the year and day pillars and by nayin:
6. Check if the birth time is harmonious:
7. Check if the direction of origin is compatible:

Compare Bachelor #2 and your client.

1. Compare their year branches by element and by branch relationships:
2. Compare their year pillars:

3. Do they need a remedy in the marriage date? If so, what?

4. Compare nayin element of their year pillars:

5. Check the stability of the individuals by the year and day pillars and by nayin:

6. Check if the birth time is harmonious:

7. Check if the direction of origin is compatible:

Based on the analysis, what recommendations would you give your client, if any?

Final Exam Answers

You have a client who wants to get married. She has met two men on the internet and wants to know if either is worth pursuing. She was born on April 16th, 1980 right at noon. She was born in Cairo, Egypt, but now lives in Shanghai, China.

YOUR CLIENT: female, born April 16th, 1980, noon

Birth place: Cairo, Egypt

Current residence: Shanghai, China

Birth year pillar (stem and branch): geng shen

Nayin of year pillar: wood from a pomegranate

Birth day pillar (stem and branch): ji wei

Nayin of day pillar: fire in heaven

Lunar birth date (month and date): 2nd day of the 3rd lunar month

Birth hour branch: wu

BACHELOR #1: male, born November 11, 1978, 3:15 a.m.

Birth place: New York City

Current residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Birth year pillar (stem and branch): wu wu

Nayin of year pillar: fire in heaven

Birth day pillar (stem and branch): ding chou

Nayin of day pillar: water in the bottom of a ravine

Lunar birth date (month and date): 11th day of 10th lunar month

Birth hour branch: yin

BACHELOR #2: male, born May 13th, 1981, 4 p.m.

Birth place: Hamburg, Germany

Current residence: Athens, Greece

Birth year pillar (stem and branch): xin you

Nayin of year pillar: wood from a pomegranate

Birth day pillar (stem and branch): xin mao

Nayin of day pillar: wood from a pine tree

Lunar birth date (month and date) 10th day of 4th lunar month

Birth hour branch: shen

Compare Bachelor #1 and your client.

1. Compare their year branches by element and by branch relationships:

She is shen, yang metal. He is wu, the yang fire branch. Shen (metal) and wu (fire) are a yang to yang domination, but not an opposition or an injury. The branches do not have any special relationship, other than the domination.

2. Compare their year pillars:

She is geng shen, both yang metal. He is wu wu; the stem is yang earth and the branch is yang fire. Geng (metal) and wu (earth) stems are productive. In fact, the earth of wu eases the domination of the shen and wu branches. So actually, their year pillars are fairly compatible.

3. Do they need a remedy in the marriage date? If so, what?

No. Of course a good date must be chosen that is compatible with the couple, but no specific remedy is needed.

4. Compare nayin element of their year pillars:

Her geng shen year pillar has the nayin of wood from a pomegranate. His wu wu year pillar has the nayin of fire in heaven. This is productive. Good. As far as the elements go, his year stem and branch elements end up feeding her. In the nayin, she feeds him. It seems the relationship can bring benefit to both people.

5. Check the stability of the individuals by the year and day pillars and by nayin:

There is no domination in her year pillar or in her day pillar. The nayin for her year and day pillars are also productive. It seems she is capable of having a stable relationship.

Both the day and year pillar of Bachelor #1 are productive. However, day pillar nayin (water) dominates his year pillar nayin (fire). Still, he has two out of three good signs for stability.

6. Check if the birth time is harmonious:

Your client was born in the 3rd lunar month, in the chen palace. She is a yang female, so we count counter-clockwise from there 2 positions (since she was born on the second day). This is the mao palace. That means hai, mao, and xu (three combinations) hours are good matches but you (opposition) and chen (injury) hours are bad.

Bachelor #1 was born in the yin hour, neither good nor bad.

We can also check to see if your client was born at a good time for Bachelor #1. Bachelor #1 was born in the 10th lunar month, in the hai palace. He is a yang male, so we count clockwise from there 11 positions (since he was born on the eleventh day). This is the you palace. That means si, you, and chou (three combinations) hours are good matches but mao (opposition) and xu (injury) hours are bad.

Your client was born in the wu hour, neither good nor bad.

7. Check if the direction of origin is compatible:

Since your client's calculation for a harmonious birth time ends up with the primary answer of mao, the east or west directions are the best directions for her spouse to originate.

She was born in Cairo and lives in Shanghai. He was born in New York City and lives in Toronto.

Comparing the birth places, New York is at about 30 degrees of latitude and Cairo is at about 40 degrees. Actually, that is not very far off the east/west axis.

She now lives in Shanghai and he lives in Toronto. Shanghai is at about 30 degrees latitude and Toronto is at about 45 degrees. Not quite as close a match.

Bachelor # 1's calculation for a harmonious birth time ends up with the primary answer of you, the west or east are also the best directions for his spouse to originate.

Compare Bachelor #2 and your client.

1. Compare their year branches by element and by branch relationships:

She is shen, yang metal. Bachelor #2 was born in a you year, a yin metal branch. The elements are the same. This is not as good as a productive relationship, but it is certainly not bad. There is no special branch relationship.

2. Compare their year pillars:

She is geng shen, both yang metal. Bachelor #2 was born in a xin you year. Both are yin metal. This amount metal is a little strong. Too much metal can bring clashes, arguments, fights, etc.

3. Do they need a remedy in the marriage date? If so, what?

Perhaps some water element in the wedding date to reduce the strong metal. However, the hai branch should be avoided as it is an injury for her.

4. Compare nayin element of their year pillars:

Her geng shen year pillar has the nayin of wood from a pomegranate. His is also wood from a pomegranate. This is okay.

5. Check the stability of the individuals by the year and day pillars and by nayin:

We already saw that she is capable of having a stable relationship.

His year pillar is xin you: no domination. His day pillar is xin mao, metal and wood. This is a domination. His day and year nayins are both wood: no domination. So two out of three of his signs of stability are good.

6. Check if the birth time is harmonious:

We already found that hai, mao, and xu (three combinations) hours are good matches but you (opposition) and chen (injury) hours are bad for your client. Bachelor #2 was born at the shen hour. This is neither good nor bad.

Bachelor #2 is a yin male. He was born in the 4th lunar month, si. Count counter-clockwise 10 days to the shen palace. Therefore, his good times are shen, zi, and chen, (three combinations) and his bad times are yin (opposition) and hai (injury).

She was born in the wu hour, a neutral time for him.

7. Check if the direction of origin is compatible:

We already saw that the east and west are the best directions for her spouse to originate.

She was born in Cairo and lives in Shanghai. He was born in Hamburg and resides in Athens.

Because Bachelor # 2's calculation for a harmonious birth time ends up with the primary answer of shen, the northeast or southwest are the best directions for his spouse to originate.

Cairo is southeast of Hamburg. Athens. No match for either. However, Shanghai and Athens are more or less on an east/west axis, so this is a good match for her.

Based on the analysis, what recommendations would you give your client, if any?

Neither Bachelor is really bad for her, but Bachelor #1 has more beneficial aspects in his birth data.