

STRUCTURE OF A PEN AND CHOPSTICK ASSEMBLY

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the invention

The present invention relates to a pen and chopstick assembly, more particularly one, which is easy to carry, intended to be used repeatedly, and usable as a pen to provide convenience.

2. Brief Description of the Prior Art

Many persons buy meals or eat outside therefore a lot of disposable chopsticks and dining wares are used. Disposable chopsticks and disposable dining wares are used in many restaurants because they provide convenience, saving the labor spent in washing chopsticks and dining wares.

However, disposable chopsticks are found to have the following disadvantages:

1. They are made of bamboos or wood therefore it will cause significant reduction to bamboos and trees to acquire the materials of disposable chopsticks.
2. To make disposable chopsticks preservable over long time, and prevent them from going moldy, they are soaked in solutions of Sulphur Dioxide in manufacturing, which will harm the users' health.
3. Used disposable chopsticks are prone to cause increased amount of garbage and dirty the environment.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is a main object of the invention to provide a pen and chopstick assembly to overcome the above-mentioned problems. The pen and chopstick assembly of the present invention is intended to be used repeatedly, not made of bamboos or wooden materials, and it includes a pen unit, a chopstick unit, and a holding unit; the pen unit includes a trunk part, and a head part; each of the trunk part and the head part has several receiving cavities on an outer side thereof; the chopstick unit is joined to an upper end of the pen unit; the holding unit has several fit-in protrusions to be fitted in the receiving cavities of one of both the trunk part and the head part of the pen unit. Therefore, the pen and chopstick assembly is usable as a pen when the holding unit is positioned around the pen unit. And, the pen and chopstick assembly is usable as a chopstick when the holding unit is positioned around the head part of the pen unit to leave the chopstick non-covered. It won't have impact on the environment or cause increase to the amount of trash to manufacture and use the pen and chopstick assembly.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will be better understood by referring to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is an exploded perspective view of the present invention,

Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the present invention,

Fig. 3 is a view of the present invention used as a pen,

Fig. 4 is a view of the present invention used as a chopstick,

Fig. 5 is a lateral sectional view of the second preferred embodiment, and

Fig. 6 is a view of the second preferred embodiment in an in-use position.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, a preferred embodiment of a pen and chopstick assembly of the present invention includes:

a pen unit 1, the pen unit 1 includes a trunk part 11, a moving part 12, a central part 13, a head part 14, and a covering part 15; the trunk part 11 has a sloping guide rail 111, a fit-in protrusion 112 on an upper end, and two receiving cavities 113 on an outer side thereof; the moving part 12 has a protruding portion 121, and it is fitted in the trunk part 11 with the protruding portion 121 being connected with the sloping guide rail 111 of the trunk part 11 such that it will move linearly relative to the trunk part 11 when the trunk part 11 is rotated; the moving part 12 has a hole 122 and a screw hole 123 aligned and communicating with the hole 122; the central part 13 has a threaded connecting portion 131, and it is passed through the hole 122 and the screw hole 123 of the moving part

12 to threadedly engage the moving part 12; the head part 14 has two receiving cavities 141 on an outer side thereof; the covering part 15 has a through hole 151, and it is joined to a lower end of the head part 14; the head part 14 is positioned around a lower end of the trunk part 11, and the central part 13 is passed through the through hole 151 of the covering part 15;

a chopstick unit 2, the chopstick unit 2 has a receiving recess 21, and it is positioned around the upper end of the trunk part 11 with the fit-in protrusion 112 being fitted in the receiving recess 21; and

a holding unit 3, the holding unit 3 has two fit-in protrusions 31, and it has a clip 32 and a covering part 33 fitted thereon; the clip 32 is used to fasten the pen and chopstick assembly to an object such as the user's pocket; the holding unit 3 can be positioned around the chopstick 2, and joined to the trunk part 11 of the pen unit 1 with the fit-in protrusions 31 thereof being fitted in the receiving cavities 113; or alternatively, the holding unit 3 can be fitted around the head part 14 of the pen unit 1 with the fit-in protrusions 31 being fitted in the receiving cavities 141.

Therefore, the protruding portion 121 of the moving part 12 of the pen unit 1 will move along the sloping guide rail 111 of the trunk part 11, and the central part 13 together with the moving part 12 will move linearly relative to the head part 14 when the trunk part 11 is rotated.

Referring to Fig. 3, the pen and chopstick assembly is usable as a pen when the holding unit 3 is positioned around the chopstick 2, and

joined to the trunk part 11 of the pen unit 1 with the fit-in protrusions 31 thereof being fitted in the receiving cavities 113. Referring to Fig. 4, the pen and chopstick assembly is usable as a chopstick when the holding unit 3 is fitted around the head part 14 of the pen unit 1 with the fit-in protrusions 31 thereof being fitted in the receiving cavities 141. Thus, the user is allowed to pick up foods with two such chopsticks.

Figs. 5 and 6 shows a second preferred embodiment of the present invention. The holding unit 3 has an extension portion 34, and it is fitted in a tube part 35 at the extension portion 34 thereof; thus, the pen and chopstick assembly can be lengthened according to the user's need when it is in the in-use position.

From the above description, it can be easily seen that the pen and chopstick assembly of the present invention has the following advantages over the currently existing disposable chopsticks:

1. It won't have impact on the ecological environment to manufacture the pen and chopstick assembly because the material of the pen and chopstick assembly is neither bamboos nor wood.
2. The pen and chopstick assembly is washable by the user after use, and it doesn't have harmful chemical residuals thereon.
3. The pen and chopstick assembly is washable by the user and repeatedly usable therefore it won't cause increased amount of garbage to use the pen and chopstick assembly.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A pen and chopstick assembly structure, comprising
a pen unit, the pen unit including a trunk part, and a head part;
each of the trunk part and the head part having a plurality of receiving
cavities on an outer side thereof;

a chopstick unit joined to an upper end of the pen unit; and

a holding unit, the holding unit having a plurality of fit-in
protrusions to be fitted in the receiving cavities of a chosen one of both
the trunk part and the head part of the pen unit;

whereby the pen and chopstick assembly will be a pen when the
holding unit is positioned around the pen unit; and whereby the pen and
chopstick assembly will be a chopstick when the holding unit is
positioned around the head part of the pen unit to leave the chopstick
non-covered.

2. The pen and chopstick assembly structure as recited in claim 1,
wherein the trunk part of the pen unit has a fit-in protrusion on an upper
end, and the chopstick unit has a receiving recess, in which the fit-in
protrusion of the trunk part is received.

3. The pen and chopstick assembly structure as recited in claim 1,
wherein the holding unit has an extension portion, and it is fitted in a
tube part at the extension portion thereof; thus, the pen and chopstick
assembly can be lengthened for use.