MANDARIN CHINESE · GRADE 3 · AGES 8–9

# Grade 3 Mandarin

**Parent guides.** A step-by-step script for every lesson, with materials, what to read aloud and a checklist.

**First edition** **5 units** **10 lessons · one quarter** **Simplified characters with pinyin**

**A song or video for every lesson** **Quick reference**

FIRST EDITION

## Course guide

Grade 3 Mandarin is a short course of 10 lessons (5 units of 2), one lesson a week for a quarter, with three sessions of 20–30 minutes a week.

The student learns the four tones and pinyin, reads and writes eight picture-characters in the 田 grid, and says who he or she is and where from with 是, asking questions with 吗 and 谁.

Then the student counts money and says dates, uses 有, 没有 and the measure words 个, 只, 本, 张 and 杯, and talks about food with 喜欢, 吃 and 喝. Every Chinese word is shown in simplified characters with pinyin.

> Every embedded video comes from a channel approved for School Launch: ChineseClass101 (short lessons by native-speaking teachers, the workhorse of the older grades), Little Fox Chinese (animated Mandarin songs and graded stories with Chinese subtitles) and Miss Panda Chinese (songs and picture words), with a few single pinyin and grammar lessons from Yoyo Chinese, each one approved individually. The videos play in YouTube's privacy-enhanced player. ChineseClass101 videos usually end with an invitation to visit its website; you can stop the video when the lesson's part ends. Please preview every video yourself before you show it to your child. The videos were chosen by title and channel from channels approved for School Launch and checked one by one, and YouTube may show its own suggestions when a video ends, so stay nearby and stop the player when the lesson's part is done.

**Start with Lesson 1.1 →**

## Who it is for

Written for students in grade 3 (about ages 8–9) who read independently. No earlier Chinese is needed: the course reviews the sounds and the first characters and builds from there, though a student who has done earlier grades will feel at home. A parent or teacher reads along, joins the speaking practice and checks the practice answers with the key. Nothing needs to be bought: every activity uses paper, index cards, pencil and household things. Families who speak Chinese at home use the same lessons with the *At home in Chinese* notes.

## How to use this course

1. **The weekly rhythm.** The quarter has 10 lessons, one a week, each with three sessions of 20–30 minutes. Session 1 is the warm-up, the video, the teaching and the picture study (in the first lesson of each unit). Session 2 is the activity and the Chinese notebook, with the characters written in squares. Session 3 is the worked examples, the practice and a recitation: the student says the week's Chinese out loud to the family. In the second week of each unit, use part of Session 3 for the unit review and the unit challenge.
2. **Say it every day.** Chinese is learned out loud, a few minutes a day. Open every session by saying the sentences learned so far, with their tones. Five minutes of cheerful speaking beats an hour of silent staring.
3. **Story, then how Chinese works, then doing.** The core ideas are written to be read aloud or read by the student. *The story* tells what happened; *How Chinese works* explains the pattern; *Say it out loud* gives the sounds. After each paragraph, ask the student to tell it back.
4. **Characters, stroke by stroke.** Each lesson has a few characters to write. Write them in squares (a 田字格 tiánzìgé grid is on every worksheet, or use graph paper), stroke by stroke in the right order, saying the sound and meaning each time. Order matters: top before bottom, left before right, outside before inside, and close the box last.

5. **Flashcards.** Every lesson adds new words. Make a flashcard for each one: the character on the front, the pinyin with tone marks and the meaning on the back.
6. **Unit review and unit challenge.** Each unit ends with a short review (25 points), which may be done orally, and a unit challenge. Keep the challenge work in a folder.
7. **Tones are part of the word.** Every Chinese syllable has a tone, and the tone changes the meaning. Say every new word with its tone from the first day, draw the tone in the air with your hand, and copy the tone marks carefully. A word said with the wrong tone is a different word.
8. **Characters and pinyin.** The course writes Chinese in simplified characters, the form used in mainland China and Singapore and by most learners, with pinyin printed above the characters. Each vocabulary card also gives the traditional form, used in Taiwan and Hong Kong, when it is different. Families who read traditional characters at home are welcome to use them.
9. **The word list.** The quarter teaches 55 words and phrases, in this order. Unit 1: 妈 (mā), 麻 (má), 马 (mǎ), 骂 (mà), 吗 (ma), 声调 (shēngdiào), 人 (rén), 口 (kǒu), 大 (dà), 小 (xiǎo), 日 (rì), 月 (yuè). Unit 2: 是 (shì), 美国 (Měiguó), 中国 (Zhōngguó), 英国 (Yīngguó), 国 (guó), 学生 (xuésheng), 他 (tā), 她 (tā), 谁 (shéi), 吗 (ma), 不 (bù). Unit 3: 钱 (qián), 块 (kuài), 毛 (máo), 多少 (duōshao), 贵 (guì), 便宜 (piányi), 月 (yuè), 号 (hào), 年 (nián), 今天 (jīntiān), 生日 (shēngrì). Unit 4: 有 (yǒu), 没有 (méiyǒu), 个 (gè), 朋友 (péngyou), 只 (zhī), 本 (běn), 张 (zhāng), 杯 (bēi), 几 (jǐ). Unit 5: 喜欢 (xǐhuan), 吃 (chī), 喝 (hē), 什么 (shénme), 菜 (cài), 茶 (chá), 早饭 (zǎofàn), 午饭 (wǔfàn), 晚饭 (wǎnfàn), 饿 (è), 好吃 (hǎochī), 想 (xiǎng).
10. **Word games.** The crossword, word-find and hangman games used in other School Launch language courses need typed letters; Chinese needs characters or pinyin with tone marks, so the games are turned off for Mandarin. Each lesson has a spoken game instead.
11. **Printables.** Each lesson has a one-page worksheet, and the answers are in a separate key for the parent. Each unit review also has a printable key.
12. **The Chinese Bible.** Chinese verses are quoted from the Chinese Union Version (和合本 Héhéběn), the Mandarin translation finished in 1919 by a team of missionaries and Chinese scholars and still the Bible of most Chinese-speaking churches. The 1919 text is in the public domain. The course prints it in simplified

characters, the form taught in this course, with modern punctuation; every verse has been checked word for word against the 1919 edition, and where the 1988 New Punctuation edition changed a word, the 1919 word is printed. A small space is printed before 神 (shén, God) in this version, as in the original: it was a mark of reverence, and it let the same printing plates serve the edition that used the two-character name 上帝 (Shàngdì). God's name, printed LORD in the King James Version, is 耶和华 (Yēhéhuá, Jehovah) in the Union Version. The pinyin under each verse was added by School Launch to help with reading aloud. The English verse is always the King James Version, quoted exactly.

## Scope and sequence

**UNIT 1 · WEEKS 1–2**

### Pinyin, Tones and First Characters

How Chinese sounds and how it is written: the four tones and the light tone, pinyin as a guide to sound, and the first picture-characters, 人 口 大 小 日 月 山 木. An oracle bone from the Shang dynasty, three thousand years old.

**1.1** The Four Tones: mā má mǎ mà

**1.2** 人 口 大 小: The First Picture-Characters

**UNIT 2 · WEEKS 3–4**

### 我是...: Who I Am

Saying who you are with 是: 我是美国人 (I am American), 你是哪国人? (what country are you from?), 他是谁? (who is he?), and yes-or-no questions with 吗. Matteo Ricci and Xu Guangqi, an Italian and a Chinese scholar who became friends.

**2.1** 你是哪国人? What Country Are You From?

**2.2** 他是谁? Who Is He? Questions with 吗

**UNIT 3 · WEEKS 5–6**

### Money and Dates: 多少钱?

Chinese money (元/块, 毛, 分), asking 多少钱? (how much?), and dates: months, days and 今天几月几号? Old Chinese coins with square holes, treasure in heaven, and our times in God's hand.

**3.1** 多少钱? How Much Is It?

**3.2** 几月几号? Months and Dates

**UNIT 4 · WEEKS 7–8**

### 有 and 没有: Having, and Measure Words

Saying what you have with 有 and 没有, and counting things with measure words: 个, 只, 本, 张. Zhao Mengfu's Sheep and Goat, abundant life, and two sparrows that God does not forget.

**4.1** 我有…: I Have, I Don't Have

**4.2** 三本书, 两只猫: Measure Words

**UNIT 5 · WEEKS 9–10**

### 我喜欢吃...: Food I Like

Talking about food: 喜欢 and 不喜欢, 吃 (eat) and 喝 (drink), 好吃 (tasty), 饿 (hungry), and meals: 早饭, 午饭, 晚饭. Muqi's Six Persimmons, "O taste and see," and eating to the glory of God.

**5.1** 我喜欢吃…: What I Like to Eat

**5.2** 好吃! Meals, Hunger and Thanks

## Weekly pacing calendar

| WEEK | PLAN |
|---|---|
| 1 | • Session 1: Lesson 1.1 The Four Tones: mā má mǎ mà: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 1.1 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (tone hand signs)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet<br>*Three sessions a week of 20–30 minutes. On the other days, say the week's words and verse aloud for five minutes and write two characters in the 田 grid.* |
| 2 | • Session 1: Lesson 1.2 人 口 大 小: The First Picture-Characters: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 1.2 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (character story cards)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet<br>• End of unit: Unit 1 review and unit challenge (my character cards) |
| 3 | • Session 1: Lesson 2.1 你是哪国人? What Country Are You From?: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 2.1 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (flags and people)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet |
| 4 | • Session 1: Lesson 2.2 他是谁? Who Is He? Questions with 吗: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 2.2 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (guess who cards)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet |

| WEEK | PLAN |
| --- | --- |
| | • End of unit: Unit 2 review and unit challenge (introduce a friend) |
| 5 | • Session 1: Lesson 3.1 多少钱? How Much Is It?: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 3.1 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (price tag shop)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet |
| 6 | • Session 1: Lesson 3.2 几月几号? Months and Dates: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 3.2 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (birthday calendar)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet<br>• End of unit: Unit 3 review and unit challenge (calendar and shop) |
| 7 | • Session 1: Lesson 4.1 我有…: I Have, I Don’t Have: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 4.1 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (family survey)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet |
| 8 | • Session 1: Lesson 4.2 三本书, 两只猫: Measure Words: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 4.2 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (measure word sorting)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet<br>• End of unit: Unit 4 review and unit challenge (my things inventory) |
| 9 | • Session 1: Lesson 5.1 我喜欢吃…: What I Like to Eat: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 5.1 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (like and dislike poll)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet |
| 10 | • Session 1: Lesson 5.2 好吃! Meals, Hunger and Thanks: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study<br>• Session 2: Lesson 5.2 video, speaking practice, characters and activity (cook a simple chinese dish)<br>• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet<br>• End of unit: Unit 5 review and unit challenge (a chinese menu) |

## Materials

**Chinese notebook (any notebook; graph paper is best)**
One for the quarter: vocabulary, tone charts, characters in squares and copywork.

**Index cards and a box, bag or ring to keep them**
For the flashcard deck that grows every lesson.

**Pencil, colored pencils and a fine-tip marker**
For charts, characters and lettering.

**Scissors, glue, tape and some poster board or taped printer paper**
For the unit challenges.

## Grading

Grades come mostly from the daily work: the recitations, the flashcard reviews, the notebook and the practice, because a language is learned by steady, honest repetition. A student who speaks Chinese out loud faithfully, keeps a neat notebook and corrects his or her own practice earns full credit.

| PART | % |
|---|---|
| Recitation and flashcards (daily speaking, vocabulary reviews, reading aloud) | **30** |
| Chinese notebook (dated pages, characters, copywork) | **25** |
| Practice (corrected with the answer key) | **15** |
| Unit reviews | **15** |
| Unit challenges | **15** |

**Scale:** A 90–100, B 80–89, C 70–79, D 60–69. Below 60: repeat the speaking drills and practice with help.

- A written answer is right when the characters are right, or the pinyin is right with its tone marks. A missing tone mark costs half a point.
- Unit reviews may be done orally for a student who writes slowly; the parent writes down the answers.

- Pronunciation is graded on courage and consistency, not perfection. The tones get steadier with every week of practice.

## A note to parents

You do not need to know Chinese to teach this course. Every Chinese word has its pinyin and meaning, every practice question has its answer in the key, and the videos do the explaining a specialist would. Learn alongside your child, quiz each other with the flashcards, and let your child catch your tones.

Please preview every video yourself before you show it to your child. The videos were chosen by title and channel from channels approved for School Launch and checked one by one, and YouTube may show its own suggestions when a video ends, so stay nearby and stop the player when the lesson's part is done.

Why Chinese? Because more people speak Mandarin than any other language on earth; because Chinese writing is one of the oldest still in use, a window onto three thousand years of history; and because there are tens of millions of Chinese Christians, many of whom have kept their faith through hard times, and a Chinese-speaking neighbor is never far away.

This is a course in the Chinese language and in the history and culture of the Chinese people, not in modern politics. Chinese festivals are taught as facts about Chinese life (what families do, eat and say), not as religious practice. Where a custom comes from Chinese folk religion, the lesson says so plainly, and it explains how Chinese Christians keep the day. The stories focus on courage, faith, family and good work, from the ancient scribes and painters to the missionaries who gave China the Bible.

UNIT 1

# Pinyin, Tones and First Characters

Lesson 1.1 teaches the four tones on mā má mǎ mà and the light tone ma, and how pinyin marks them.

Lesson 1.2 teaches eight picture-characters and the basic strokes, with an oracle bone from the Shang dynasty.

**PREREQUISITES**

- Any earlier Mandarin course is helpful; none is required.

**MASTERY CHECKLIST**

- ☐ I can say and hear the four tones.
- ☐ I can read tone marks in pinyin.
- ☐ I can read and write 人 口 大 小 日 月 山 木.

**LESSONS IN THIS UNIT**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1.1 | **The Four Tones: mā má mǎ mà** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |
| 1.2 | **人 口 大 小: The First Picture-Characters** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |

## Unit 1 Review

The student answers aloud or in writing. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Say mā, má, mǎ, mà. What does each mean?

2. **4 pts**
   Which tone mark shows a dipping (third) tone?

3. **4 pts**
   Write the characters for person, mouth and big.

4. **4 pts**
   What do 日 and 月 mean? What did they first look like?

5. **4 pts**
   Read aloud: 山, 木, 小.

**ANSWER KEY**

1. mā mother (妈), má hemp (麻), mǎ horse (马), mà scold (骂).
2. ˇ, as in mǎ.
3. 人, 口, 大.
4. Sun and moon; a round sun with a dot, and a crescent moon.
5. shān (mountain), mù (tree, wood), xiǎo (small).

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

**UNIT CHALLENGE: MY CHARACTER CARDS**

Make eight cards, one for each picture-character. On the front, draw the old picture; on the back, write the character in a 田 grid with its pinyin and meaning. Teach them to someone in your family.

| LOOK FOR | WHAT IT MEANS |
|---|---|
| **Speaking** | The student says each character with the right tone. |
| **Characters** | All eight are written with correct strokes. |
| **Using it** | The student teaches them clearly. |
| **Care** | Tones are said and marked carefully. |

**UNIT 1 · PINYIN, TONES AND FIRST CHARACTERS · LESSON 1.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES**

# 1.1 The Four Tones: mā má mǎ mà

**OBJECTIVES**

- Say and hear the four tones and the light tone.
- Read tone marks in pinyin.
- Understand that a change of tone changes the meaning.

> **Warm-up.** Say “yes” four ways: happy and high, as a question, unsure, and firm like a command. Your voice went up and down. In Chinese, those ups and downs change the meaning of a word!

**WATCH**

## Pinyin Lesson Series #2: An Introduction to Tones (Mandarin Chinese Pronunciation) | Yoyo Chinese

Yoyo Chinese · 3:57

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgHelJXrBzM

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; say each tone with the teacher.

**Note:** Yoyo Chinese: Pinyin Lesson Series #2, an introduction to the four tones (under 4 minutes).

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**BACKUP VIDEO**

**Ask a Chinese Teacher - What are Chinese Tones?**

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 2:39

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b783_f6QlKI

ChineseClass101: “What are Chinese tones?” in under 3 minutes.

**KEY TERMS**

**tone (声调 shēngdiào)**
The rise or fall of the voice on a syllable. Mandarin has four tones and a light tone.

**pinyin (拼音)**
The way of spelling Chinese sounds with the Latin alphabet, with marks for tones.

**first tone ā**
High and level, like singing a long note.

**second tone á**
Rising, like asking “what?”

**third tone ǎ**
Low and dipping, then rising a little.

**fourth tone à**
Falling sharply, like a command: “Stop!”

## VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

**妈**
*mā*
**mah (first tone)**
noun · traditional 媽
mother

**麻**
*má*
**mah (second tone)**
noun
hemp

**马**
*mǎ*
**mah (third tone)**
noun · traditional 馬
horse

**骂**
*mà*
**mah (fourth tone)**
verb · traditional 罵
to scold

**吗**
*ma*
**mah (light tone)**
particle · traditional 嗎
question particle

**声调**
*shēngdiào*
**shung-DYOW**
noun · traditional 聲調
tone

## CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** In English, a word means the same thing however you say it. In Mandarin, the tone is part of the word. mā 妈 (high) is mother, má 麻 (rising) is hemp, mǎ 马 (dipping) is horse, and mà 骂 (falling) is to scold. Then ma 吗 with no mark is light and short: it turns a sentence into a question.

**How pinyin shows it.** Pinyin puts the tone mark over the main vowel: ā á ǎ à. Draw it in the air as you say it: a flat line, a line going up, a check mark, and a line going down.

**Two tone rules.** When two third tones come together, the first one rises: 你好 is written nǐ hǎo but said ní hǎo. And 不 (bù) becomes bú before a fourth tone: 不是 bú shì.

**Practice.** Say 妈妈骂马吗? (Māma mà mǎ ma? Does Mom scold the horse?) slowly, then fast. Every tone is there!

**PICTURE STUDY**



*The Chinese Bible revision committee*, unknown photographer, about 1906 · Photograph · Wikimedia Commons

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

More than a hundred years ago, missionaries and Chinese scholars worked together for many years to translate the Bible into Mandarin: the Chinese Union Version, finished in 1919, the Bible quoted in this course. They had to listen carefully to every sound and tone, and choose characters that ordinary people could read aloud.

**Look closely**

- How many men can you count?
- Who looks like a Chinese scholar, and who looks like a missionary from the West?
- What is on the table?
- Why do you think they had their photograph taken together?

**Talk about it**

1. Why would it matter to get every tone and word right in a Bible translation?
2. How long do you think it took them?

ACTIVITY

## Tone hand signs

Make a set of tone cards and practice with hand signs.

**You will need**

- Four index cards
- Markers

**Steps**

1. Draw one tone mark large on each card: ā á ǎ à.
2. Make a hand motion for each: flat, up, dip, down.
3. A partner says a syllable (bā, bá, bǎ, bà); hold up the right card.
4. Then say the syllables while your partner holds up the card.

**Tips**

- Exaggerate the tones at first; it helps.

**Check your work**

☐ I can hear all four tones.

☐ I can say all four tones on any syllable.

> **From history.** Pinyin was made official in the 1950s. Before that, Western scholars used other spellings, which is why older books write Peking for Beijing and Mao Tse-tung for Mao Zedong.

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Which tone is on mǎ, and what does it mean?

▼ **Show solution**

1. The mark ˇ is the third tone.
2. mǎ is horse (马).

**Answer:** Third tone (dipping): horse.

**Example 2.** How is 你好 actually said, and why?

▼ **Show solution**

1. nǐ and hǎo are both third tones.
2. Two third tones: the first becomes second.

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**Answer:** ní hǎo. Still written nǐ hǎo.

### PRACTICE

1. Easy Draw the four tone marks and name each tone.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   ā first (high), á second (rising), ǎ third (dipping), à fourth (falling).

2. Easy What does 吗 do at the end of a sentence?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   It makes it a yes-or-no question.

3. Medium Read aloud: bā bá bǎ bà.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   High, rising, dipping, falling.

4. Medium How is 不是 said?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   bú shì (不 rises before a fourth tone).

5. Hard Say 妈妈骂马吗? and translate it.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Māma mà mǎ ma? Does Mom scold the horse?

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying all syllables with an English sentence melody. Each syllable carries its own tone.
- Putting the tone mark on the wrong letter. It goes on the main vowel: a, o or e first; in iu and ui on the second letter.

> **Make it a game · Tone toss.** Write ā á ǎ à on four paper plates on the floor. A partner says a syllable; toss a beanbag onto the right tone.

> **Scripture.** “Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.” (Psalm 150:6, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 凡有气息的都要赞美耶和华！你们要赞美耶和华！
> >
> > *Fán yǒu qì xī de dōu yào zàn měi Yēhéhuá! Nǐ men yào zàn měi Yēhéhuá!*
>
> Every voice, in every language and every tone, is made to praise the Lord.

UNIT 1 · PINYIN, TONES AND FIRST CHARACTERS · LESSON 1.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

# 1.2 人 口 大 小: The First Picture-Characters

**OBJECTIVES**

- Read and write 人, 口, 大, 小, 日, 月, 山 and 木.
- Know that many characters began as pictures.
- Learn the basic strokes and the first rules of stroke order.

> **Warm-up.** Draw a quick picture of a person, a mouth, a mountain and a tree, using as few lines as you can. Chinese characters started this way more than three thousand years ago.

WATCH

## Ask a Chinese Teacher - What are Chinese Characters?

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 2:33

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtiGYBV1KVg

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; then write each character with the teacher.

**Note:** ChineseClass101: “What are Chinese characters?” in under 3 minutes.

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**BACKUP VIDEO**

### Introduction to Chinese Writing

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 7:04

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OctDk8ga-qM

ChineseClass101: an introduction to Chinese writing.

**KEY TERMS**

**character (汉字 hànzì)**
One written unit of Chinese. Each character is one syllable and usually has a meaning.

**stroke (笔画 bǐhuà)**
One line made without lifting the pen.

**stroke order**
The set order of strokes: top before bottom, left before right, horizontal before vertical.

**pictograph**
A character that began as a picture.

**VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK**

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

人

*rén*

**run (rising)**

noun

person

口

*kǒu*

**koh (dipping)**

noun

mouth

大

*dà*

**dah (falling)**

adjective

big

小

*xiǎo*

**shyow (dipping)**

adjective

small

日

*rì*

**rr (falling)**

noun

sun; day

月

*yuè*

**yweh (falling)**

noun

moon; month

CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** About three thousand years ago, Chinese kings had questions carved on ox bones and turtle shells. These oracle bones show the oldest Chinese writing we have, and many of their little pictures are still the characters people write today.

**Eight picture-characters.** Look at the table below. 人 is a person walking. 口 is an open mouth. 大 is a person with arms stretched wide: big! 小 is three little dots: small. 日 was a round sun, 月 a crescent moon, 山 three peaks and 木 a tree.

**Stroke order.** Top before bottom (三), left before right (人: the left stroke first), horizontal before vertical (十), and for a box like 口: left side, then top-and-right in one stroke, then the bottom last to “close the door.”

PICTURE STUDY



*Oracle bone (ox shoulder blade)*, photograph by Gary Lee Todd, Shang dynasty, about 1200 B.C. · Carved ox bone · Yin Ruins Museum, Anyang

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

About three thousand years ago, the kings of the Shang dynasty had questions carved on bones like this one, about the harvest, the weather and war. The bones were heated until they cracked. Scholars found thousands of these bones near the town of Anyang about a hundred and twenty years ago.

**Look closely**

- Find the cracks in the bone.
- Find the rows of little carved marks.
- Do any marks look like pictures?
- What color is the bone?

**Talk about it**

1. Why do you think people wrote on bone instead of paper?
2. We know God speaks to us through His Word, not through cracks in bones. How is the Bible different from an oracle?

ACTIVITY

## Character story cards

Make picture-to-character cards.

**You will need**

- Eight index cards
- Pencil, markers
- The 田 grid on the worksheet

**Steps**

1. On the front of each card draw the old picture (a person, a mouth…).
2. On the back write the character large in a 田 grid, with pinyin and meaning.
3. Practice each character three times on the worksheet grid.
4. Quiz a partner: show the picture, have them write the character.

**Tips**

- Say the stroke order out loud as you write.

**Check your work**

☐ I wrote eight characters in the right stroke order.

☐ I can read them all.

> **From history.** There are tens of thousands of Chinese characters, but about 3,000 are enough to read most of a newspaper. Simplified characters, used in mainland China and Singapore, have fewer strokes; Taiwan and Hong Kong use traditional characters.

### WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Which character is a person with arms stretched wide, and what does it mean?

▼ **Show solution**

1. A person (人) with a stroke across for the arms.
2. Stretched wide = big.

**Answer:** 大 (dà): big.

**Example 2.** In 口, which stroke is written last?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Left side, then top-and-right.
2. The bottom line closes the box.

**Answer:** The bottom stroke.

### PRACTICE

1. Easy Write 人 and give its meaning.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   人, person.

2. Easy What is 山?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   shān, mountain.

3. Medium Which two characters began as pictures of the sky?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   日 (sun) and 月 (moon).

4. Medium How many strokes in 木?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Four.

5. Hard Write 大 and 小 and use each in an English sentence about something in your house.

▼ **Show answer**

Any sentence, e.g. The sofa is 大; the cup is 小.

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Writing 人 with the right stroke first. The left-falling stroke comes first.
- Mixing 日 (sun) and 目 (eye). 目 has two lines inside.

### CHARACTER STUDY: EIGHT PICTURE-CHARACTERS

| CHARACTER | PINYIN | MEANING | STROKES | HOW TO REMEMBER IT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 人 | rén | person | 2 | a person walking |
| 口 | kǒu | mouth | 3 | an open mouth |
| 大 | dà | big | 3 | a person with arms stretched wide |
| 小 | xiǎo | small | 3 | little dots |
| 日 | rì | sun; day | 4 | the sun with a spot |
| 月 | yuè | moon; month | 4 | a crescent moon |
| 山 | shān | mountain | 3 | three peaks |
| 木 | mù | tree; wood | 4 | a tree with branches and roots |

> **Make it a game · Air writing.** One person writes a character in the air with big strokes; the other guesses it. Then write it on the partner's back with a finger.

> **Scripture.** “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” (Genesis 1:27, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 神就照着自己的形像造人
> >
> > *Shén jiù zhào zhe zì jǐ de xíng xiàng zào rén*
>
> God made people, 人, in His own image. Every person is precious to Him.

UNIT 2

# 我是...: Who I Am

Lesson 2.1 teaches 是 (to be), 人 after a country name (美国人, 中国人), and 你是哪国人?, with Kircher’s picture of Matteo Ricci and Xu Guangqi.

Lesson 2.2 teaches 他/她 (he/she), 谁 (who), 不是 (is not) and questions with 吗.

**PREREQUISITES**

- Unit 1 (tones and pinyin).

**MASTERY CHECKLIST**

- ☐ I can say my name and my country.
- ☐ I can ask what country someone is from.
- ☐ I can ask and answer yes-or-no questions with 吗 and 不是.
- ☐ I can ask 他是谁?

**LESSONS IN THIS UNIT**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2.1 | **你是哪国人? What Country Are You From?** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |
| 2.2 | **他是谁? Who Is He? Questions with 吗** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |

## Unit 2 review

The student answers aloud or in writing. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**

   Say “I am American.”

2. **4 pts**

   Ask a new friend what country he is from.

3. **4 pts**

   Turn 他是老师 into a question.

4. **4 pts**

   Answer “No, he is not a teacher.”

5. **4 pts**

   What do 中国人 and 英国人 mean?

**ANSWER KEY**

1. 我是美国人 (wǒ shì Měiguó rén).
2. 你是哪国人? (nǐ shì nǎ guó rén?)
3. 他是老师吗? (tā shì lǎoshī ma?)
4. 不是, 他不是老师.
5. Chinese person; English (British) person.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

### UNIT CHALLENGE: INTRODUCE A FRIEND

Make a little poster about a missionary or a famous person from another country. Introduce the person to your family in Chinese: 他是…. 他是英国人. 他是老师吗? 不是, 他是….

| LOOK FOR | WHAT IT MEANS |
|---|---|
| **Speaking** | The student speaks clearly with 是, 不是 and 吗. |
| **Characters** | The poster has the Chinese sentences written neatly. |
| **Using it** | The introduction answers who, what country and what work. |
| **Care** | Tones are said and marked carefully. |

UNIT 2 · 我是…: WHO I AM · LESSON 2.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

# 2.1 你是哪国人? What Country Are You From?

### OBJECTIVES

- Say 我是… (I am…).
- Add 人 to a country to name its people: 美国人, 中国人.
- Ask 你是哪国人?

> **Warm-up.** On a map or globe, find America, China, England, Canada and Italy. Do you know anyone from another country? Today you learn to say where people are from.

WATCH

## How to ask "Where are you from?" in Chinese | Yoyo Chinese Learning Tips

Yoyo Chinese · 1:58

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9fJ1YYgear4

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; answer for yourself out loud.

**Note:** Yoyo Chinese: how to ask “Where are you from?” in Chinese (2 minutes).

---

**BACKUP VIDEO**

### Learn Chinese - Chinese in Three Minutes - How to Introduce Yourself in Chinese

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 3:37

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCik9yll7o8

ChineseClass101: “Chinese in Three Minutes,” introducing yourself.

## KEY TERMS

shì
**是 shì**

To be (am, is, are) before a noun.

Měiguó
**美国 Měiguó**

America (the United States).

Zhōngguó
**中 国 Zhōngguó**

China (literally “Middle Kingdom”).

nǎ guórén
**哪国人 nǎ guó rén**

A person of which country?

## VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

# 是

*shì*

**shr (falling)**

verb

to be (am, is, are)

# 美国

*Měiguó*

**may-GWOH**

noun · traditional 美國

America

# 中国

*Zhōngguó*

**jong-GWOH**

noun · traditional 中國

China

# 英国

*Yīngguó*

**ying-GWOH**

noun · traditional 英國

England; Britain

# 国

*guó*

**gwoh (rising)**

noun · traditional 國

country

# 学生

*xuésheng*

**SHWEH-shung**

noun · traditional 學生

student

## CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** 是 links two nouns: 我是学生 (wǒ shì xuésheng) (I am a student). To say what country you are from, add 人 (person) to the country: 美国人 (Měiguórén) (American), 中国人 (Zhōngguórén) (Chinese), 英国人 (Yīngguórén) (English), 加拿大人 (Jiānádàrén) (Canadian).

**Asking.** 你是哪国人? (nǐ shì nǎguórén) (You are which-country person?). The answer puts the country in the same place: 我是美国人.

**Names.** 美国 means “beautiful country” and 中国 “middle kingdom.” Many country names in Chinese imitate the sound: 意大利 (Yìdàlì) is Italy.

**PICTURE STUDY**



*Matteo Ricci and Xu Guangqi*, from Athanasius Kircher, China Illustrata, 1667 · Engraving · printed in Amsterdam

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Matteo Ricci was an Italian missionary who went to China in 1582 and learned to speak and write Chinese so well that scholars admired him. His friend Xu Guangqi was a Chinese scholar and official who became a Christian. Together they translated a famous math book into Chinese.

**Look closely**

- Which man is from Italy and which from China? How can you tell?
- What are they wearing?
- Find the cross and the picture of Mary and Jesus.
- Find the Chinese characters on the wall. What do you think they say?

**Talk about it**

1. Why do you think Ricci dressed like a Chinese scholar?
2. What would it take for you to learn a language as well as Ricci did?

ACTIVITY

## Flags and people

Make a chart of countries and their people in Chinese.

**You will need**

- Paper, markers
- A world map

**Steps**

1. Draw five small flags: America, China, England, Canada, Italy.
2. Under each, write the country and the people word: 美国 → 美国人.
3. Interview family members: 你是哪国人?
4. Write their answers on the chart.

**Tips**

- Say each word aloud with its tones.

**Check your work**

- ☐ My chart has five countries.
- ☐ I asked 你是哪国人 and wrote the answers.

> **From history.** Ricci made the first map of the whole world in Chinese, showing China in the middle so Chinese readers would feel at home. Copies still survive.

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Say “He is Chinese.”

▼ **Show solution**

1. He = 他 (tā).
2. Chinese person = 中国人.

**Answer:** 他是中国人 (tā shì Zhōngguó rén).

**Example 2.** Ricci was from Italy. Say “He is Italian.”

▼ **Show solution**

1. Italy = 意大利.
2. Add 人.

---

**Answer:** 他是意大利人 (tā shì Yìdàlì rén).

### PRACTICE

1. Easy What does 美国人 mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   American.

2. Easy Say “I am a student.”

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我是学生.

3. Medium Ask what country someone is from.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   你是哪国人?

4. Medium Say “She is English.”

   ▼ **Show answer**

   她是英国人.

5. Hard Introduce yourself: name, country and that you are a student.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: 我叫 Anna. 我是美国人. 我是学生.

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Using 是 with adjectives: 我是高 is wrong. 是 links nouns (我是学生); adjectives use 很 (我很高).
- Forgetting 人: 我是美国 means “I am America.”

> **Make it a game · Passport stamps.** Make paper passports. Each player picks a country. Others ask 你是哪国人? and stamp the passport when the answer is correct.

> **Scripture.** “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;” (Revelation 7:9, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 是从各国、各族、各民、各方来的
>
> *Shì cóng gè guó, gè zú, gè mín, gè fāng lái de*
>
> In heaven there will be people from every nation, tribe and language, worshipping the Lamb together.

UNIT 2 · 我是…: WHO I AM · LESSON 2.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

# 2.2 他是谁? Who Is He? Questions with 吗

**OBJECTIVES**

- Say 他 (he) and 她 (she), and ask 他是谁? (who is he?).
- Make a yes-or-no question with 吗.
- Answer 是 or 不是.

> **Warm-up.** Show photos of family or famous people. Ask in English: Who is he? Is she a teacher? Then learn to ask in Chinese.

WATCH

## ❓❓❓ How to Ask a YES/NO Question in Chinese

Yoyo Chinese · 1:26

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kT2wskblMi8

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; make three questions of your own with 吗.

**Note:** Yoyo Chinese: how to ask a yes-or-no question in Chinese (under 2 minutes).

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**BACKUP VIDEO**

## Learn the Top 10 Chinese Questions You Should Know

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 6:39

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4O3uuL0zRw

ChineseClass101: the top 10 Chinese questions.

### KEY TERMS

tā tā
他 / 她 **tā**

He / she (same sound, different characters).

shéi
谁 **shéi**

Who.

ma
吗 **ma**

Turns a statement into a yes-or-no question.

bú shì
不是 **bú shì**

Is not; no.

### VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

# 他

*tā*

**tah (high)**

pronoun

he; him

# 她

*tā*

**tah (high)**

pronoun

she; her

# 谁

*shéi*

**shay (rising)**

question word · traditional **誰**

who

# 吗

*ma*

**mah (light)**

particle · traditional **嗎**

yes-or-no question marker

# 不

*bù*

**boo (falling)**

adverb

not; no

## CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** To make a yes-or-no question, just add 吗(ma) to the end: 他是老师 (he is a teacher) → 他(tā)是(shì)老师(lǎo shī)吗(ma)? To answer yes, repeat the verb: 是. To answer no: 不(bú)是(shì).

**Who?** Put 谁(shéi) where the answer goes: 他(tā)是(shì)谁(shéi)? → 他是我哥哥. Chinese questions keep the same word order as the answer.

**He and she.** 他 and 她 are both said tā. In speech you cannot hear the difference; in writing, 她 has the 女 (woman) part.

ACTIVITY

## Guess Who cards

Make cards for a guessing game.

**You will need**

- Eight index cards
- Pictures or drawings of people (family, Bible people, workers)

**Steps**

1. Draw a person on each card and write who it is on the back.
2. Your partner picks a card secretly.
3. Ask yes-or-no questions with 吗: 他是老师吗? 她是中国人吗?
4. Guess: 他是谁? 他是...!

**Tips**

- Answer with 是 or 不是.

**Check your work**

☐ I asked five questions with 吗.

☐ I answered with 是 and 不是.

> **From history.** Chinese did not use a separate character for “she” until about a hundred years ago; 她 was created by the scholar Liu Bannong in the 1910s.

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Make a question: 她是美国人.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Add 吗 at the end.

**Answer:** 她是美国人吗?

**Example 2.** Answer no: 他是老师吗? (He is a student.)

▼ **Show solution**

1. No = 不是.
2. Then say what he is.

**Answer:** 不是, 他是学生.

### PRACTICE

1. Easy What does 谁 mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Who.

2. Easy Add 吗: 你是学生.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   你是学生吗?

3. Medium Ask who she is.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   她是谁?

4. Medium Answer: 你是中国人吗? (You are American.)

   ▼ **Show answer**

   不是, 我是美国人.

5. Hard Write two questions with 吗 about a Bible person, with answers.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: 大卫是王吗? 是. 彼得是老师吗? 不是, 他是渔夫.

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Adding 吗 to a question with 谁. Do not: 他是谁吗 is wrong.
- Answering 是 with 是的 or yes in English only. A Chinese answer repeats the verb: 是.

> **Make it a game · Twenty questions in Chinese.** Think of a family member or Bible person. Others ask yes-or-no questions with 吗; answer only 是 or 不是.

> **Scripture.** "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 我就是道路、真理、生命
> >
> > *Wǒ jiù shì dào lù, zhēn lǐ, shēng mìng*
>
> Jesus said who He is: the way, the truth and the life. Notice 是 in the Chinese.

UNIT 3

# Money and Dates: 多少钱?

Lesson 3.1 teaches 钱, 块, 毛 and 多少钱?, with a picture of old Chinese coins.

Lesson 3.2 teaches the months (一月 to 十二月), days of the month (号), and 今天几月几号?, plus 生日 (birthday).

### PREREQUISITES

- Numbers to 100 (Grade 2), or learn them in Lesson 3.1.

### MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can ask how much something costs and understand the answer.
- ☐ I can say prices in 块 and 毛.
- ☐ I can say any date in Chinese.
- ☐ I can say my birthday.

### LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3.1 | **多少钱? How Much Is It?** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |
| 3.2 | **几月几号? Months and Dates** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |

# Unit 3 review

The student answers aloud or in writing. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Ask how much a book costs.

2. **4 pts**
   Say ¥15 and ¥3.50 in spoken Chinese.

3. **4 pts**
   Say “March 8.”

4. **4 pts**
   Ask today’s date.

5. **4 pts**
   Say your birthday.

**ANSWER KEY**

1. 这本书多少钱? (zhè běn shū duōshao qián?)
2. 十五块; 三块五 (or 三块五毛).
3. 三月八号 (sānyuè bā hào).
4. 今天几月几号?
5. 我的生日是…月…号.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

### UNIT CHALLENGE: CALENDAR AND SHOP

Make a calendar page for this month in Chinese, marking family birthdays and Sundays. Then run a little shop with price tags in 块 and 毛; customers ask 多少钱? and pay with play money.

| LOOK FOR | WHAT IT MEANS |
|---|---|
| **Speaking** | The student says dates and prices correctly. |
| **Characters** | Numbers and dates are written in characters on the calendar. |
| **Using it** | The shop works in Chinese from greeting to thank you. |
| **Care** | Tones are said and marked carefully. |

UNIT 3 · MONEY AND DATES: 多少钱? · LESSON 3.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

# 3.1 多少钱? How Much Is It?

### OBJECTIVES

- Say 钱 (money), 块 (yuan, spoken), 毛 (ten cents) and 多少钱?
- Say prices like 五块 and 三块五.
- Remember where our real treasure is.

> **Warm-up.** Set out a few things with price tags in dollars. How do you ask how much something costs? Chinese has a short, handy question for it.

WATCH

## Asking for the Price in Chinese

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 9:12

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cv3Cl78lbT8

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; pause and repeat each price.

**Note:** ChineseClass101: asking for the price in Chinese.

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**BACKUP VIDEO**

### Playful Chinese Podcast - Go Grocery Shopping in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 8:27

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I66byZhbug8

Miss Panda Chinese: going grocery shopping in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

**KEY TERMS**

qián
钱 **qián**

Money.

kuài
块 **kuài**

Yuan, the Chinese dollar (spoken word).

máo
毛 **máo**

A tenth of a yuan, like a dime (spoken word).

duōshaoqián
多少钱 **duōshao qián**

How much money?

rénmín bì
人民币 **rénmínbì**

The money of mainland China.

**VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK**

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name

the tone.

## 钱

*qián*

**chyen (rising)**

noun · traditional 錢

money

## 块

*kuài*

**kwai (falling)**

measure word · traditional 塊

yuan (spoken)

## 毛

*máo*

**mao (rising)**

measure word

ten cents (spoken)

## 多少

*duōshao*

**DWOH-shao**

question word

how much; how many

## 贵

*guì*

**gway (falling)**

adjective · traditional 貴

expensive

## 便宜

*piányi*

**PYEN-yee**

adjective

cheap

### CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** To ask a price, point and say 多少钱 (duōshaoqián)? (how-much money?). Or name the thing: 这个多少钱 (zhè ge duōshaoqián)? The answer: 五块 (five yuan).

**Money words.** The written unit is 元 (yuán), but people say 块 (kuài). A tenth of a yuan is 角 in writing and 毛 (máo) in speech. ¥3.50 is 三块五毛, or just 三块五. Taiwan uses the New Taiwan dollar (新台币) and Hong Kong the Hong Kong dollar (港币), and people there say 块 and 元 too.

**Shopping words.** 太贵了! (tài guì le, too expensive!), 便宜 (piányi, cheap), 我要这个 (I want this one).

PICTURE STUDY



*Old Chinese coins*, photograph by 5snake5, coins from various periods · Photograph · Wikimedia Commons

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

For more than two thousand years, Chinese coins were round with a square hole, so they could be strung together on a cord. The biggest coin here reads 天下太平, “peace under heaven.” The long one is knife money, an even older kind of coin shaped like a little knife. Some coins like these are later copies.

**Look closely**

- Why do you think the coins have square holes?
- Find the characters on each coin. Do you know any?
- Which coin is shaped like a knife?
- Which coin is the smallest?

**Talk about it**

1. How would you carry a thousand of these coins?
2. Jesus said our treasure should be in heaven. What does that mean?

ACTIVITY

## Price tag shop

Run a little shop with Chinese price tags.

**You will need**

- Small items or pictures
- Paper price tags
- Play money (paper slips with 一块, 五块, 十块, 五毛)

**Steps**

1. Make price tags in characters: 三块, 十块五.
2. One person is the shopkeeper, one the customer.
3. Customer: 这个多少钱? Shopkeeper: 三块.
4. Customer pays and says 谢谢; shopkeeper says 不客气.

**Tips**

- Try 太贵了! and see if the shopkeeper gives a better price.

**Check your work**

☐ I asked 多少钱 five times.

☐ I paid the right amount.

> **From history.** China was the first country to use paper money, about a thousand years ago in the Song dynasty, because heavy strings of coins were hard to carry.

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Say ¥12.80 in spoken Chinese.

▼ **Show solution**

1. 12 = 十二, then 块.
2. 8 tenths = 八毛.

**Answer:** 十二块八 (毛).

**Example 2.** Ask how much an apple costs.

▼ **Show solution**

1. An apple = 苹果.
2. How much money = 多少钱.

---

**Answer:** 苹果多少钱?

### PRACTICE

1. Easy What does 多少钱 mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   How much money? How much is it?

2. Easy Say ¥20 in spoken Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   二十块.

3. Medium Say ¥6.50.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   六块五 (毛).

4. Medium Say “Too expensive!”

   ▼ **Show answer**

   太贵了!

5. Hard Write a four-line shop dialogue in characters.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: 你好! 这个多少钱? 十块. 太贵了! 八块吧. 好, 谢谢!

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 元 in speech. People say 块.
- Saying 两块 vs 二块: for 2 yuan say 两块.

> **Make it a game · Price is right.** Show a picture of something. Each player guesses its price in Chinese (in 块). Closest guess without going over wins.

> **Scripture.** “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” (Matthew 6:21, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 因为你的财宝在哪里，你的心也在那里。
> >
> > *Yīn wèi nǐ de cái bǎo zài nǎ lǐ, nǐ de xīn yě zài nà lǐ.*
>
> Jesus said our hearts follow our treasure. Store up treasure in heaven.



# 3.2 几月几号? Months and Dates

**OBJECTIVES**

- Say the months 一月 to 十二月.
- Say dates with 号: 五月三号.
- Ask 今天几月几号? and say your birthday.

> **Warm-up.** Say the months in English. Which month is your birthday? Chinese months are easy: they are just numbers!

WATCH

## Playful Chinese Podcast - What Month Is It in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 8:05

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVxw9wtH4pQ

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; say today's date in Chinese.

**Note:** Miss Panda Chinese: "What month is it?" in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

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BACKUP VIDEO

### Learn Chinese Vocabulary Matrix #4: Time Words

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 2:45

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tmc8OpP-fjc

ChineseClass101: Vocabulary Matrix, time words.

KEY TERMS

yuè
**月 yuè**

Month (also moon).

hào
**号 hào**

Day of the month (spoken); 日 rì in writing.

jǐ yuè jǐ hào
**几月几号 jǐ yuè jǐ hào**

Which month, which day?

nián
**年 nián**

Year.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

## 月

*yuè*

**yweh (falling)**

noun

month; moon

## 号

*hào*

**how (falling)**

noun · traditional 號

day of the month

## 年

*nián*

**nyen (rising)**

noun

year

## 今天

*jīntiān*

**jin-TYEN**

noun

today

## 生日

*shēngrì*

**shung-RR**

noun

birthday

### CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** January is month-one: 一月 (yī yuè). December is 十二月 (shí èr yuè). Dates go from big to small: year, month, day. July 4 is 七月四号 (qī yuè sì hào); 2026年10月18日 is October 18, 2026.

**Asking.** 今天几月几号? (jīn tiān jǐ yuè jǐ hào?) (today which-month which-day?). Answer: 今天十月十八号. In writing, 日 is used instead of 号.

**Years.** Years are read digit by digit: 2026年 is 二零二六年 (èr líng èr liù nián).

ACTIVITY

## Birthday calendar

Make a family birthday calendar in Chinese.

**You will need**

- Paper, ruler, markers

**Steps**

1. Make twelve boxes and write 一月 to 十二月.
2. Ask each family member 你的生日是几月几号?
3. Write each birthday in the right month: 三月八号.
4. Add Christmas (十二月二十五号) and Easter for this year.

**Tips**

- Say each date aloud.

**Check your work**

- ☐ My calendar has twelve months in Chinese.
- ☐ I wrote each birthday correctly.

> **From history.** Traditional Chinese festivals follow the old lunar calendar, so the New Year falls on a different day each year, between late January and mid-February.

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Say “December 25.”

▼ **Show solution**

1. December = 十二月.
2. 25 = 二十五号.

**Answer:** 十二月二十五号.

**Example 2.** How would 2026年5月1日 be read?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Year digit by digit.
2. Then month, then day.

---

**Answer:** 二零二六年五月一日 (or 一号).

### PRACTICE

1. Easy What month is 九月?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   September.

2. Easy Say “May.”

   ▼ **Show answer**

   五月.

3. Medium Ask today’s date.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   今天几月几号?

4. Medium Say “July 4.”

   ▼ **Show answer**

   七月四号.

5. Hard Say your birthday and today’s date in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我的生日是…月…号. 今天…月…号.

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Putting the day first, as in 4 July. Chinese goes big to small: 七月四号.
- Saying 一个月 for January. 一月 is January; 一个月 means “one month” (a length of time).

> **Make it a game · Date race.** One person writes a date in numbers (7/4). The other says it in Chinese as fast as possible: 七月四号!

> **Scripture.** “My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.” (Psalm 31:15, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 我终身的事在你手中
> >
> > *Wǒ zhōng shēn de shì zài nǐ shǒu zhōng*
>
> David trusted God with all his days. Every date on the calendar is in God’s hand.

UNIT 4

# 有 AND 没有: HAVING, AND MEASURE WORDS

Lesson 4.1 teaches 有 (to have, there is), 没有 (not have), and 你有…吗? with family and pets, and the general measure word 个. The picture is Zhao Mengfu’s Sheep and Goat.

Lesson 4.2 teaches the measure words 只 (animals), 本 (books), 张 (flat things) and 杯 (cups), and 几 for “how many?”

### PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–3 and numbers to 100.

### MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can say what I have and don’t have with 有 and 没有.
- ☐ I can ask 你有…吗?
- ☐ I can count things with 个, 只, 本 and 张.
- ☐ I can ask 几 + measure word?

### LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4.1 | **我有…: I Have, I Don’t Have** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |
| 4.2 | **三本书, 两只猫: Measure Words** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |

# Unit 4 review

The student answers aloud or in writing. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Say “I have two brothers.”

2. **4 pts**
   Say “I don’t have a dog.”

3. **4 pts**
   Fill in the measure word: 三___书, 两___猫, 一___纸.

4. **4 pts**
   Ask “How many cats do you have?”

5. **4 pts**
   Why is it 没有 and not 不有?

**ANSWER KEY**

1. 我有两个哥哥 / 弟弟 (wǒ yǒu liǎng ge…).
2. 我没有狗 (wǒ méiyǒu gǒu).
3. 本; 只; 张.
4. 你有几只猫?
5. 有 is always made negative with 没.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

### UNIT CHALLENGE: MY THINGS INVENTORY

Make an illustrated list of your things and your family: 我有三本书, 两只猫, 一个哥哥.... Use at least four different measure words. Read it aloud.

| LOOK FOR | WHAT IT MEANS |
|---|---|
| **Speaking** | The student reads the list clearly. |
| **Characters** | Each measure word is written correctly. |
| **Using it** | The list uses 有, 没有 and at least four measure words. |
| **Care** | Tones are said and marked carefully. |

UNIT 4 · 有 AND 没有: HAVING, AND MEASURE WORDS · LESSON 4.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

# 4.1 我有...: I Have, I Don't Have

### OBJECTIVES

- Say 我有... and 我没有....
- Ask 你有...吗?
- Use 个 between a number and a noun.

> **Warm-up.** Empty your backpack or pencil case. What do you have? What don't you have? Make two piles.

**WATCH**

## What Do You Have? (你有什么？) | Learning Songs 1 | Chinese song | By Little Fox

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 1:02

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVdjWLe5xcE

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; sing along, then answer 你有什么？ with 我有... for three things on your desk.

**Note:** Little Fox Chinese: “What Do You Have?” (你有什么？), a short song that asks and answers what you have.

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**BACKUP VIDEO**

### 家人儿歌｜Family Nursery Rhymes｜汉语启蒙｜Chinese Songs for Kids｜Little Fox Chinese

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 5:43

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztYkyzdjw1A

Little Fox Chinese: family songs.

**KEY TERMS**

yǒu
**有 yǒu**

To have; there is.

méiyǒu
**没有 méiyǒu**

Not have; there isn’t.

gè
**个 ge**

The general measure word, for people and many things.

**measure word (量词)**

A word that goes between a number and a noun, like “sheet” in “a sheet of paper.”

**VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK**

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

## 有

*yǒu*

**yoh (dipping)**

verb

to have; there is

## 没有

*méiyǒu*

**may-YOH**

verb · traditional 沒有

not have; there isn't

## 个

*gè*

**guh (often light: ge)**

measure word · traditional 個

general measure word

## 朋友

*péngyou*

**PUNG-yoh**

noun

friend

### CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** 我有 (wǒ yǒu) means I have. The opposite is 我没有 (wǒ méiyǒu). Never say 不有: 有 always uses 没.

**Measure words.** In Chinese you cannot say "two brother." You need a measure word between the number and the noun: 两个哥哥 (liǎng ge gē ge). The most common is 个. Remember: two is 两 before a measure word.

**Asking.** 你有哥哥吗? (nǐ yǒu gē ge ma) Answer: 有 (yes) or 没有 (no). Notice the answer repeats the verb.

PICTURE STUDY



*Sheep and Goat*, Zhao Mengfu, about 1300 (Yuan dynasty) · Ink on paper, handscroll · Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Zhao Mengfu was one of the greatest painters and calligraphers of China, about seven hundred years ago. He painted this sheep and goat with just black ink, and then wrote a note beside them. In Chinese, both animals are called 羊 (yáng); a sheep is 绵羊 and a goat is 山羊.

**Look closely**

- How many animals are there? Say it with a measure word: 两只羊.
- Which one is the sheep and which the goat?
- Find the writing. What do you think the painter wrote about?
- Did the painter use color?

**Talk about it**

1. Jesus called Himself the Good Shepherd. What does a shepherd do for his sheep?
2. Why might a painter use only black ink?

ACTIVITY

## Family survey

Survey your family and friends with 有 and 没有.

**You will need**

- A survey sheet with questions
- Pencil

**Steps**

1. Write three questions: 你有哥哥吗? 你有狗吗? 你有书吗?
2. Ask at least four people.
3. Record answers: 有 or 没有, and how many.
4. Report: 爸爸有一个哥哥. 妈妈没有狗.

**Tips**

- Use 个 for people.

**Check your work**

- ☐ I asked twelve questions.
- ☐ I reported the answers in Chinese.

> **From history.** Chinese families were often large in the past. Grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles and cousins sometimes all lived in one compound.

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Say “I have one older sister and two younger brothers.”

▼ **Show solution**

1. 一个姐姐.
2. 两个弟弟 (two = 两).

**Answer:** 我有一个姐姐和两个弟弟.

**Example 2.** Make it negative: 我有猫.

▼ **Show solution**

1. 有 → 没有.

**Answer:** 我没有猫.

### PRACTICE

1. Easy What does 没有 mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Don't have; there isn't.

2. Easy Say "I have a book."

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我有书 (or 我有一本书).

3. Medium Ask "Do you have a younger sister?"

   ▼ **Show answer**

   你有妹妹吗?

4. Medium Say "I have three friends."

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我有三个朋友.

5. Hard Write three sentences about your family with 有 and 没有.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: 我有两个哥哥. 我没有姐姐. 我有一个妹妹.

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 不有. Always 没有.
- Leaving out the measure word: 三哥哥 should be 三个哥哥.
- Saying 二个. Before a measure word, two is 两: 两个.

> **Make it a game · Go Fish, Chinese style.** Play Go Fish with picture cards. Ask 你有猫吗? Answer 有 (and hand it over) or 没有 (go fish!).

> **Scripture.** “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 我来了，是要叫羊得生命，并且得的更丰盛
> >
> > *Wǒ lái le, shì yào jiào yáng dé shēng mìng, bìng qiě dé de gèng fēng shèng*
>
> Jesus came to give His sheep life, and life more abundantly.

**UNIT 4 · 有 AND 没有: HAVING, AND MEASURE WORDS · LESSON 4.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES**

# 4.2 三本书, 两只猫: Measure Words

**OBJECTIVES**

- Use 只 for animals, 本 for books, 张 for flat things and 杯 for cups.
- Ask how many with 几 + measure word.
- Remember that God cares for even two little sparrows.

> **Warm-up.** In English we say “a sheet of paper,” “a cup of water,” “a herd of cows.” Chinese uses these little words all the time, for almost everything.

**WATCH**

## Ask a Chinese Teacher - What are the Most Commonly Used Measure Words?

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 3:46

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ejh8wK3niOQ

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; repeat each measure word with an object.

**Note:** ChineseClass101: the most commonly used measure words.

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**BACKUP VIDEO**

**[4K] 五只小猴子 (Five Little Monkeys) | Sing-Alongs | Chinese song | By Little Fox**

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 2:13

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdhVaKqnN2M

Little Fox Chinese: “Five Little Monkeys” (五只小猴子); listen for 只, the measure word for animals.

**KEY TERMS**

zhī
只 **zhī**

For animals (and one of a pair).

běn
本 **běn**

For books.

zhāng
张 **zhāng**

For flat things: paper, tables, tickets, beds.

bēi
杯 **bēi**

A cup of.

jǐ
几 **jǐ**

How many (for small numbers).

**VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK**

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

## 只

*zhī*

**jr (high)**

measure word · traditional 隻

for animals

## 本

*běn*

**bun (dipping)**

measure word

for books

## 张

*zhāng*

**jahng (high)**

measure word · traditional 張

for flat things

## 杯

*bēi*

**bay (high)**

measure word

a cup of

## 几

*jǐ*

**jee (dipping)**

question word · traditional 幾

how many

### CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** Each kind of thing has its own measure word. 三本书 (sān běn shū) (three books), 两只猫 (liǎng zhī māo) (two cats), 一张纸 (yì zhāng zhǐ) (a sheet of paper), 一杯水 (yì bēi shuǐ) (a cup of water). When in doubt, 个 is often understood.

**How many?** Use 几 (jǐ) + measure word: 你有几只猫? (nǐ yǒu jǐ zhī māo?) Answer with a number + the same measure word: 两只.

**Sparrows.** In Matthew 10:29 the Chinese Bible says 两个麻雀, using 个 for the birds. Jesus said not one sparrow falls without the Father.

ACTIVITY

## Measure word sorting

Sort objects by their measure word.

**You will need**

- Books, paper, toy animals, cups, a few other things
- Four labels: 本, 张, 只, 杯

**Steps**

1. Put the four labels on the table.
2. Sort each object under its measure word.
3. Count each group in Chinese: 三本书, 五张纸....
4. Quiz a partner: 你有几本书?

**Tips**

- Say the full phrase every time.

**Check your work**

- ☐ I sorted everything correctly.
- ☐ I counted each group with the right measure word.

> **From history.** Chinese has dozens of measure words. Some are poetic: 一条河 (a "strip" of river), 一朵花 (a "blossom" of flower), 一头牛 (a "head" of cattle).

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Say "four dogs."

▼ **Show solution**

1. Animals use 只.
2. Four = 四.

**Answer:** 四只狗.

**Example 2.** Ask “How many books do you have?”

▼ **Show solution**

1. How many = 几.
2. Books use 本.

**Answer:** 你有几本书?

### PRACTICE

1. Easy Which measure word goes with 书?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   本.

2. Easy Which measure word goes with 纸?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   张.

3. Medium Say “two cups of milk.”

   ▼ **Show answer**

   两杯牛奶.

4. Medium Say “five birds.”

   ▼ **Show answer**

   五只鸟.

5. Hard Write four things in your room with the right measure words.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: 一张床, 三本书, 两只猫, 一个椅子 (or 一把椅子).

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Using 只 for books. 只 is for animals; books use 本.
- Saying 两 without a measure word: 两书 → 两本书.

> **Make it a game · Measure word bingo.** Make bingo cards with nouns (书, 猫, 纸, 水...). The caller says a measure word; cover a noun that goes with it and say the phrase.

> **Scripture.** “Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.” (Matthew 10:29, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 两个麻雀不是卖一分银子吗?
> >
> > *Liǎng gè má què bú shì mài yì fēn yín zi ma?*
>
> Two sparrows were sold for almost nothing, yet God watches over each one. You are worth more than many sparrows.

UNIT 5

# 我喜欢吃...: Food I Like

Lesson 5.1 teaches 喜欢 / 不喜欢 with 吃 and 喝, and food words, with Muqi’s Six Persimmons.

Lesson 5.2 teaches meals, 饿 (hungry), 好吃 / 好喝 (tasty), 你想吃什么? and table manners. A course review ends the quarter.

### PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–4.

### MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can say what I like and don’t like to eat and drink.
- ☐ I can ask 你喜欢吃什么?
- ☐ I can name the three meals.
- ☐ I can say food is tasty and that I am hungry.

### LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5.1 | **我喜欢吃...: What I Like to Eat** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |
| 5.2 | **好吃! Meals, Hunger and Thanks** | 3 sessions of 20–30 minutes |

# Unit 5 review

The student answers aloud or in writing. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Say “I like to eat dumplings.”
2. **4 pts**
   Say “I don’t like to drink milk.”
3. **4 pts**
   Ask “What do you like to eat?”
4. **4 pts**
   Name the three meals.
5. **4 pts**
   Say “I am hungry. This is tasty!”

**ANSWER KEY**

1. 我喜欢吃饺子.
2. 我不喜欢喝牛奶.
3. 你喜欢吃什么?
4. 早饭, 午饭, 晚饭 (zǎofàn, wǔfàn, wǎnfàn).
5. 我饿了. 这个很好吃!

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

### UNIT CHALLENGE: A CHINESE MENU

Design a menu for a Chinese meal with at least six dishes and drinks, with prices in 块. Then act as waiter and customer: 你想吃什么? 我要… 多少钱? Finish by saying a blessing.

| LOOK FOR | WHAT IT MEANS |
|---|---|
| **Speaking** | The student speaks the whole meal in Chinese. |
| **Characters** | The menu is written in characters with pinyin. |
| **Using it** | The dialogue uses 喜欢, 要, 想 and 多少钱. |
| **Care** | Tones are said and marked carefully. |

UNIT 5 · 我喜欢吃…: FOOD I LIKE · LESSON 5.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

# 5.1 我喜欢吃…: What I Like to Eat

### OBJECTIVES

- Say 我喜欢吃… / 我不喜欢吃….
- Use 吃 (eat) and 喝 (drink).
- Ask 你喜欢吃什么?

> **Warm-up.** Make two lists: foods you love and foods you don’t. Today you learn to tell them in Chinese, politely!

WATCH

## Learn Chinese Vocabulary Matrix #5: Food

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 2:45

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1LlxjPjHD0

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; say which foods you like.

**Note:** ChineseClass101: Vocabulary Matrix, food.

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**BACKUP VIDEO**

**我喜欢冰淇淋（I Like Icecream 🍨）| Easy Chinese Story + Chants for Kids | 学汉语 | Mandarin | Little Fox Chinese**

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 3:32

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76LW2SAqXYU

Little Fox Chinese: “I Like Ice Cream,” an easy story and chant.

### KEY TERMS

xǐ huan
喜 欢 **xǐhuan**

To like.

chī
吃 **chī**

To eat.

hē
喝 **hē**

To drink.

shén me
什 么 **shénme**

What.

cài
菜 **cài**

Vegetable; dish of food.

### VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

## 喜欢

*xǐhuan*

**SHEE-hwahn**

verb · traditional 喜歡

to like

## 吃

*chī*

**chr (high)**

verb

to eat

## 喝

*hē*

**huh (high)**

verb

to drink

## 什么

*shénme*

**SHUN-muh**

question word · traditional 什麼

what

## 菜

*cài*

**tsai (falling)**

noun

vegetable; dish

## 茶

*chá*

**chah (rising)**

noun

tea

### CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** 我喜欢吃面条 (wǒ xǐ huan chī miàntiáo) (I like to eat noodles). 我不喜欢喝茶 (wǒ bù xǐ huan hē chá) (I don't like to drink tea). 喜欢 + verb + food.

**Asking what.** Put 什么 (shén me) where the answer goes: 你喜欢吃什么? (nǐ xǐ huan chī shén me) → 我喜欢吃饺子.

**Food words.** 米饭 (rice), 面条 (noodles), 饺子 (dumplings), 鸡肉 (chicken), 鱼 (fish), 菜 (vegetables), 水果 (fruit), 茶 (tea), 果汁 (juice).

PICTURE STUDY



*Six Persimmons*, Muqi, 13th century (Southern Song dynasty) · Ink on paper, hanging scroll · Daitoku-ji temple, Kyoto, Japan

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Muqi was a Chinese painter about eight hundred years ago. With just six brushstrokes of ink for six fruits, some light and some dark, he made one of the most famous still-life paintings in East Asia. Persimmons are sweet orange fruits that ripen in autumn.

**Look closely**

- Count the persimmons in Chinese with a measure word: 六个柿子.
- Which one is the darkest? The lightest?
- How many strokes do you think each one took?
- Where is the one fruit that is out of the row?

**Talk about it**

1. How can black ink show an orange fruit?
2. What fruit would you paint, and do you like to eat it? (我喜欢吃...)

ACTIVITY

## Like and dislike poll

Take a food poll of your family.

**You will need**

- A chart with food pictures down the side and names across the top

**Steps**

1. Ask each person: 你喜欢吃饺子吗? 你喜欢喝茶吗?
2. Mark 喜欢 with a smile and 不喜欢 with a frown.
3. Count the smiles for each food in Chinese.
4. Report: 三个人喜欢吃饺子.

**Tips**

- Use 吃 for food and 喝 for drinks.

**Check your work**

- ☐ I asked about six foods.
- ☐ I reported the results in Chinese.

> **From history.** Tea was first drunk in China thousands of years ago. Chinese tea spread to Japan, to Europe and to America, and the word “tea” itself comes from the way people say 茶 in southern China (te).

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Say “I like to drink juice.”

▼ **Show solution**

1. Drink = 喝.
2. Juice = 果汁.

**Answer:** 我喜欢喝果汁.

**Example 2.** Ask your friend what she likes to drink.

▼ **Show solution**

1. 什么 goes where the answer goes.

**Answer:** 你喜欢喝什么?

### PRACTICE

1. Easy What does 吃 mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   To eat.

2. Easy Say "I like fish."

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我喜欢吃鱼.

3. Medium Say "I don't like vegetables."

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我不喜欢吃菜.

4. Medium Ask "Do you like tea?"

   ▼ **Show answer**

   你喜欢喝茶吗?

5. Hard Write three sentences about foods you like and don't like.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: 我喜欢吃饺子. 我喜欢喝牛奶. 我不喜欢吃鱼.

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Using 吃 for drinks. Drinks use 喝.
- Putting 什么 at the start: 什么你喜欢吃? Keep the same order as the answer.

> **Make it a game · Yes or no snack.** Hold up food pictures. The child answers 喜欢! or 不喜欢! with a full sentence before the next card comes.

**Scripture.** “O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.” (Psalm 34:8, KJV)

Chinese Union Version (和合本):

> 你们要尝尝主恩的滋味，便知道他是美善
>
> *Nǐ men yào cháng cháng zhǔ ēn de zī wèi, biàn zhī dào tā shì měi shàn*

We taste food to know if it is good. David says: taste and see that the Lord is good.

UNIT 5 · 我喜欢吃…: FOOD I LIKE · LESSON 5.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

# 5.2 好吃! Meals, Hunger and Thanks

### OBJECTIVES

- Say 早饭, 午饭 and 晚饭.
- Say 我饿了 (I’m hungry) and 好吃 / 好喝 (tasty).
- Ask 你想吃什么? (what would you like to eat?).

**Warm-up.** What time do you eat breakfast, lunch and dinner? Which meal is your favorite?

**WATCH**

## Playful Chinese Podcast - Time to Eat in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 9:27

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ax1Mu2URnC4

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; say 我饿了 and 好吃 along with Miss Panda.

**Note:** Miss Panda Chinese: “Time to eat” in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

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**BACKUP VIDEO**

### Playful Chinese Podcast - I Am Hungry in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 4:40

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A19j_d0tSLQ

Miss Panda Chinese: “I am hungry” in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

**KEY TERMS**

zǎo fàn
早饭 **zǎofàn**

Breakfast.

wǔ fàn
午饭 **wǔfàn**

Lunch.

wǎn fàn
晚饭 **wǎnfàn**

Dinner.

è
饿 **è**

Hungry.

hǎo chī
好吃 **hǎochī**

Tasty (food).

xiǎng
想 **xiǎng**

To want to, would like to.

**VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK**

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name

the tone.

## 早饭

*zǎofàn*

**dzao-FAHN**

noun · traditional 早飯

breakfast

## 午饭

*wǔfàn*

**woo-FAHN**

noun · traditional 午飯

lunch

## 晚饭

*wǎnfàn*

**wahn-FAHN**

noun · traditional 晚飯

dinner

## 饿

*è*

**uh (falling)**

adjective · traditional 餓

hungry

## 好吃

*hǎochī*

**how-CHR**

adjective

tasty

## 想

*xiǎng*

**shyahng (dipping)**

verb

to want to; think

### CORE IDEAS

**The big idea.** 饭 means a meal (and cooked rice). Morning-meal is zǎo fàn 早饭, noon-meal wǔ fàn 午饭, evening-meal wǎn fàn 晚饭.

**Tasty!** 好 + 吃 = hǎo chī 好吃 (good to eat), 好 + 喝 = hǎo hē 好喝 (good to drink). wǒ è le 我饿了 means I'm hungry (now). nǐ xiǎng chī shén me 你想吃什么? asks what someone would like.

**At the table.** Chinese meals are often shared: dishes in the middle, each person with a bowl of rice. It is polite to serve others first and to say 我吃饱了 (I'm full) at the end. Christian families thank God before eating: 感谢主 (gǎnxiè zhǔ), thank the Lord.

ACTIVITY

## Cook a simple Chinese dish

Make egg fried rice or simple dumplings with a parent.

**You will need**

- Cooked rice, eggs, peas, soy sauce (or dumpling wrappers and filling)
- A grown-up cook

**Steps**

1. Wash hands and set out the ingredients, naming each in Chinese.
2. Cook together, following the parent's lead.
3. Set the table with bowls and chopsticks.
4. Pray, eat and say 好吃! and 我吃饱了.

**Tips**

- Use only Chinese at the table for the first five minutes.

**Check your work**

☐ I named the ingredients in Chinese.

☐ I used three meal phrases at the table.

> **From history.** A common greeting in China used to be 你吃了吗? (Have you eaten?), a kind way of asking how someone is.

WORKED EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Say "I'm hungry. I want to eat noodles."

▼ **Show solution**

1. Hungry now = 饿了.
2. Want to eat = 想吃.

**Answer:** 我饿了. 我想吃面条.

**Example 2.** Your grandma's soup is delicious. What do you say?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Soup is drunk in Chinese: 喝汤.
2. Tasty drink = 好喝.

**Answer:** 奶奶, 汤很好喝!

### PRACTICE

1. Easy What is 早饭?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Breakfast.

2. Easy Say "tasty" for food.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   好吃.

3. Medium Ask "What would you like to eat?"

   ▼ **Show answer**

   你想吃什么?

4. Medium Say "I'm full."

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我吃饱了.

5. Hard Describe your dinner last night in two Chinese sentences.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: 晚饭很好吃. 我吃了米饭和鸡肉.

### COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 好吃 for drinks. Drinks are 好喝.
- Saying 我是饿. Adjectives do not take 是: 我饿了 or 我很饿.

> **Make it a game · Restaurant.** Set up a restaurant with a menu from Lesson 5.1. Waiter: 你想吃什么? Customer orders, eats pretend food and says 好吃! 多少钱?

> **Scripture.** “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31, KJV)
>
> Chinese Union Version (和合本):
>
> > 所以，你们或吃或喝，无论做什么，都要为荣耀　神而行。
>
> *Suǒ yǐ, nǐ men huò chī huò hē, wú lùn zuò shén me, dōu yào wèi róng yào Shén ér xíng.*
>
> Whether we eat or drink, we can do it to the glory of God, with thanks.