

When you start the recording, you will hear the sounds of the Chinese language. You will then hear English phrases immediately translated into Chinese. The Chinese phrase is repeated, then followed by a pause. During the pause, say the phrase aloud. Each phrase is spoken at normal conversational speed and you should try to repeat the phrases at this speed.

Tests show that a word spoken ten to twenty times is remembered more readily than a word seen fifty to one hundred times, so say the phrases aloud as often as possible. When you hear words spoken by Chinese people, in conversation and on television or radio, say them to yourself.

PRONUNCIATION HINTS

Unlike English, Chinese is a tonal language: each character, when pronounced, has one of four distinct tones. The tones are listed below and will be marked in the text over each syllable in Pinyin. Any words in the text that do not have tone markers are unstressed. Since the tones are pronounced correctly on the recording, you need only pronounce the words as you hear them and your own tones will be correct.

Now start the audio recording.

CD 1, Track 1

Cassette Side 1

TONES

Listen to the Chinese tones, and then to the pronunciation of the Chinese sounds. The tones and their markings are:

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| First tone: | - | high and level, as in <i>ma</i> , meaning <i>mother</i> |
| Second tone: | ˊ | a rising tone as in <i>má</i> , meaning <i>hemp</i> |
| Third tone: | ˇ | the tone dips then rises as in <i>ma</i> , meaning <i>horse</i> |
| Fourth tone: | ˋ | a sharp falling tone, as in <i>mà</i> , meaning <i>to scold</i> |

SOUNDS OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE

DIPHTHONGS

		Pinyin
<i>ai</i>	-as in <i>cry</i>	mài
<i>ao</i>	-as in <i>now</i>	hǎo
<i>ei</i>	-as in <i>prey</i>	běi
<i>ia</i>	-sounds like <i>ee-ya</i> , spoken rapidly	jiǎ
<i>ie</i>	-sounds like <i>ee-yeh</i> , spoken rapidly	jiě
<i>iu</i>	-sounds like <i>ee-yo</i> , spoken rapidly	níu
<i>ou</i>	-as in <i>oh</i>	tóu
<i>ua</i>	-similar to the sound <i>wa</i>	huà
	-when preceded by <i>x</i> , the sound is closer to <i>we</i> as in <i>swell</i>	xuǎn
		xué
<i>ue</i>	-a combination of <i>oo</i> and a short <i>e</i> , as in <i>bed</i>	xīng
<i>iong</i>	The letter combination <i>iong</i> is pronounced like the <i>ung</i> in the German name <i>Jung</i> .	

VOWELS

-as in <i>father</i>	fàn
-as in <i>hey</i>	é
-or similar to <i>uh</i>	è
-as in <i>see</i>	bǐ
-like the <i>u</i> in the German name <i>Jung</i>	sǒng
-or as in <i>waw</i>	pò
-as in the name <i>Lou</i>	lù
-pronounced with the lips rounded, like the short <i>u</i> in <i>cute</i>	qǔ

CONSONANTS		Pinyin
c	-like the <u>ts</u> of cats	cóng
q	-sounds like the <u>ch</u> of <i>chip</i>	qǐng
r	-like a cross between the <u>s</u> in <i>Asia</i> and an <u>r</u>	rì
x	-most closely resembles a <u>sh</u> sound in English	xíng
y	-before <u>i</u> and <u>i</u> not pronounced Elsewhere, sounds like the <u>y</u> in <i>yet</i>	yú yào
zh	-sounds like the <u>j</u> in <i>jacket</i>	zhǎo

All other consonants are pronounced much as in English, with the exception of ɹ, which does not occur in Chinese.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
GENERAL EXPRESSIONS		
SALUTATIONS	<i>CD 1, Track 2</i>	問候語
Hello!	Nín hǎo!	您好!
Welcome!	Huān-yíng!	歡迎!
Good morning.	Zǎo ān.	早安。
Good night.	Wǎn ān.	晚安。
Goodbye.	Zài jiàn.	再見。
EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS	<i>CD 1, Track 3</i>	日常用語
Yes.	Shì.	是。
No.	Bú shì.	不是。
OK.	Hǎo.	好。
Really?	Zhēn-de ma?	真的嗎?
Please.	Qǐng.	請。
Thank you.	Xiè-xiè.	謝謝。
Thank you very much.	Duō-xiè.	多謝。
You're welcome. or	Bú xiè. Bú kè-qì.	不謝。 不客氣。
I don't know.	Wǒ bù zhī-dào.	我不知道。
I think so.	Wǒ rèn-wéi shì zhèi-yàng.	我認爲是這樣。
I don't think so.	Wǒ bú rèn-wéi shì zhèi-yàng.	我不認爲是這樣。
What do you think?	Nín rèn-wéi rú-hé?	您認爲如何?

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Why not?	Wèi-shén-me bù?	為什麼不?
Are you sure?	Nín kěn-dìng ma?	您肯定嗎?
It's fine.	Xíng.	行。
Certainly.	Dāng-rán.	當然。
Maybe.	Yé-xǔ.	也許。
Of course.	Dāng-rán le.	當然了。
Is it possible?	Kě-néng ma?	可能嗎?
I'm very grateful.	Fēi-cháng gǎn-xiè.	非常感謝。
It doesn't matter.	Méi guān-xì.	沒關係。
Good luck!	Zhù nín hǎo-yùn!	祝您好運。
Be careful.	Xiǎo-xīn diǎr.	小心點兒。
Look at this!	Kàn zhèi-ge!	看這個!
Listen to this!	Tīng zhèi-ge!	聽這個!
Come here!	Guò-lái!	過來!
Come with me!	Gēn wǒ lái!	跟我來!
What's this?	Zhèi-ge shì shén-me?	這個是什麼?
What's that?	Nèi-ge shì shén-me?	那個是什麼?
What are you doing?	Qǐng wèn nín zài gàn má?	請問您在幹嗎?
How do you say it in Chinese?	Zhōng-wén zěn-me shuō?	中文怎麼說?
What's it like?	Shén-me yàng?	什麼樣?
Do you like it?	Nín xǐ-huan ma?	您喜歡嗎?
It's beautiful, delicious, wonderful	Zhēn piào-liang, hǎo-chī bàng	真漂亮, 好吃, 棒

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
interesting	yǒu yì-sì	有意思
exciting	rè-nao	熱鬧
Where's the bathroom?	Cè-suǒ zài nǎr?	廁所在哪兒?
INTRODUCTIONS	<i>CD 1, Track 4</i>	介紹用語
My name is Wang Hao-wei.	Wǒ jiào Wáng Hǎo-wéi.	我叫王好為。
What is your name?	Nín jiào shén-me míng-zì?	您叫什麼名字?
What is his name?	Tā jiào shén-me?	他叫什麼?
What is her name?	Tā jiào shén-me?	她叫什麼?
Pleased to meet you.	Hěn gāo-xìng jiàn-dào nín.	很高興見到您。
I've heard so much about you.	Jíu-yǎng, jíu-yǎng.	久仰, 久仰。
How are you?	Nín hǎo ma?	您好嗎?
I'm fine, thanks, and you?	Wǒ hěn-hǎo, xiè-xie, nǐ-ne?	我很好, 謝謝, 你呢?
How are things?	Zěn-me yàng?	怎麼樣?
Here is my business card.	Zhèi shì wǒ-de míng-piàn.	這是我的名片。
Where are you from?	Nín cóng nǎ lǎi?	您從哪兒來?
I am from the U.S.A.	Wǒ cóng Měi-guó lái.	我從美國來。
Great Britain	Yīng-guó	英國
Canada	Jiā-ná-dà	加拿大
Australia	Ào-zhōu	澳洲

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Where do you live?	Nín zhù zài nǎr?	您住在哪兒?
I live in New York.	Wǒ zhù zài Nīu-yuē.	我住在紐約。
Do you speak English?	Nín huì shuō Yīng-wén ma?	您會說英文嗎?
Chinese	Zhōng-wén	中文
Yes, a little.	Huì shuō yì-diǎr.	會說一點兒。
Please speak more slowly.	Qǐng nín shuō màn yì-diǎr.	請您說慢一點兒。
Do you understand?	Nín dǒng ma?	您懂嗎?
I don't understand.	Wǒ bù dǒng.	我不懂。
Please repeat it.	Qǐng nín zài shuō yí-biàn.	請您再說一遍。
I'm sorry.	Duì-bù-qǐ.	對不起。
or Excuse me.		
Excuse me. ¹	Láo-jià (PRC).	勞駕。
or	Duì-bù-qǐ (Tw).	對不起。
Are you Miss Zhang?	Nín shì Zhāng Xiǎo-jié ma?	您是張小姐嗎?
Let me introduce Mr. Zhao.	Wǒ lái jiè-shào Zhào Xiān-sheng.	我來介紹趙先生。
my colleague	wǒ-de tóng-shì	我的同事
my friends	wǒ-de péng-you	我的朋友
I'm here on business.	Wǒ lái zuò shēng-yì.	我來做生意。
as a tourist	lǚ-yóu	旅遊
to study	dú-shū	讀書
Where are you staying?	Nín zhù zài nǎr?	您住在哪兒?

¹In the PRC, *Duì-bù-qǐ* is a general expression of apology (for example, if you are late). *Láo-jià* is used only when you are trying to get past someone.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
I am at the Great Wall Hotel.	Wǒ zhù zài Cháng-chéng fàn-diàn.	我住在長城飯店。
Have you been to China before?	Nín yǐ-qián lái-guò Zhōng-guó ma?	您以前來過中國嗎?
This is my first visit to Taiwan.	Zhè shì wǒ dì-yī-cì lái dào Tái-wān.	這是我第一次來到臺灣。
Are you married?	Nín jiē-hūn le ma?	您結婚了嗎?
How is your wife?	Nín de tài-tai hǎo ma?	您的太太好嗎?
husband	xiān-sheng	先生
mother	mǔ-qīn	母親
father	fù-qīn	父親
daughter	nǚ-er	女兒
son	ér-zi	兒子
older sister	jiě-jie	姐姐
younger sister	mèi-mei	妹妹
older brother	gē-ge	哥哥
younger brother	dì-dì	弟弟
My best wishes to your family.	Wèn nín quán-jia hǎo.	問您全家好。
Would you like to come to my house on Saturday?	Nín xīng-qī liú lái wǒ jiā hǎo ma?	您星期六來我家好嗎?
Would you like to come for lunch?	Nín lái chī zhōng-fàn hǎo ma?	您來吃中飯好嗎?
a snack	diǎn-xīn	點心
Where are you going?	Nín qù nǎr?	您去哪兒?
I'm going to work.	Wǒ qù shàng-bān.	我去上班。
shopping	mǎi dōng-xi.	買東西

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Could I go with you?	Wǒ péi nǐ qǐ hǎo ma?	我陪你去好嗎？
Are you ready?	Hǎo le ma?	好了嗎？
We are in a hurry.	Wǒ-men gǎn shí-jian.	我們趕時間。
Is Zhou Hong-hong at home?	Zhōu Hóng-hong zài jiā ma?	周紅紅在家嗎？
She's not in.	Tā bú zài.	她不在。
He's not in.	Tā bú zài.	他不在。
When will he return?	Tā shén-me shí-hou huí lai?	他什麼時候回來？
When will she return?	Tā shén-me shí-hou huí lai?	她什麼時候回來？
Who is it?	Shéi ya?	誰呀？
Please come in.	Qǐng jìn.	請進。
Please sit down.	Qǐng zuò.	請坐。
Make yourself at home.	Qǐng biàn.	請便。
Would you like something to eat?	Nín xiǎng chī diǎr shén-me?	您想吃點什麼？
to drink	hē	喝
Do you smoke?	Nín chōu-yān ma?	您抽煙嗎？
I do not smoke.	Wǒ bù chōu-yān.	我不抽煙。
Would you mind not smoking, please?	Qǐng nín bú yào chōu-yān.	請您不要抽煙。

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Thank you for your warm hospitality.	Xiè-xie nǐ-men de rè-qíng zhāo-dài.	謝謝你們的熱情招待。
Please come again.	Qǐng zài lái wán.	請再來玩。
INQUIRIES ON THE STREET	<i>CD 1, Track 5 Cassette Side 2</i>	問詢
Where is the park? the U.S. Embassy?	Gōng-yuán zài nǎr? Měi-guó dà-shì-guǎn	公園在哪兒？ 美國大使館
Which is the way to the temple? the church the mosque	Dào sì-miao qù zǒu nǎ-tiáo lù? jiào-táng qīng-zhēn-sì	到寺廟去走哪條路？ 教堂 清真寺
What is the name of this street?	Zhèi tiáo lù jiào shén-me míng-zì?	這條路叫什麼名字？
How far are the Ming tombs?	Dào Míng-líng qù yǒu duō yuǎn?	到明陵去有多遠？
Which is the road north? south east west	Wǎng běi qù de lù shì nǎ yì tiáo? nán dōng xī	往北去的路是哪一條？ 南 東 西
I'm lost.	Wǒ mí lù le.	我迷路了。
Where am I?	Wǒ zài nǎr?	我在哪兒？
Please write it down.	Qǐng nín xiě xià-lai.	請您寫下來。
Turn right.	Xiàng yòu zhuǎn.	向右轉。
Turn left.	Xiàng zuǒ zhuǎn.	向左轉。
Go straight.	Zhí zǒu.	直走。

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Go back.	Huí qū.	回去。

NUMBERS, TIME, COLORS

NUMBERS	CD 1, Track 6	數字
zero	líng	零
one	yī	一
two	èr	二
or	liǎng ²	兩
three	sān	三
four	sì	四
five	wǔ	五
six	liù	六
seven	qī	七
eight	bā	八
nine	jiǔ	九
ten	shí	十
eleven	shí-yī	十一
twelve	shí-èr	十二
thirteen	shí-sān	十三
fourteen	shí-sì	十四
fifteen	shí-wǔ	十五
sixteen	shí-liù	十六
seventeen	shí-qī	十七
eighteen	shí-bā	十八
nineteen	shí-jiǔ	十九
twenty	èr-shí	二十
twenty-one	èr-shí-yī	二十一
twenty-two	èr-shí-èr	二十二
thirty	sān-shí	三十
forty	sì-shí	四十

²Èr and liǎng both mean two, but èr is generally used in counting, while liǎng is used with measure words to specify two units or two nouns. An exception to this rule is that liǎng can be used to count two hundred, two thousand, and twenty thousand (liǎng wàn, or two ten thousands), etc.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
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fifty	wǔ-shí	五十
sixty	liù-shí	六十
seventy	qī-shí	七十
eighty	bā-shí	八十
ninety	jiǔ-shí	九十
one hundred	yī-bǎi	一百
two hundred	liǎng-bǎi	兩百
one thousand	yī-qiān	一千
ten thousand	yí-wàn	一萬
one million	yī-bǎi wàn	一百萬

once	yí-cì	一次
twice	liǎng-cì	兩次

ten percent	bǎi fēn zhī shí	百分之十
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How old are you?	Nín duō dà nián-líng?	您多大年齡?
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I am 34.	Wǒ sān-shí-sì suì.	我三十四歲。
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TIME	CD 1, Track 7	時間
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a second	yí-miǎo zhōng	一秒鐘
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a minute	yí-fēn zhōng	一分鐘
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an hour	yí-ge zhōng-tóu	一個鐘頭
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three hours	sān-ge zhōng-tóu	三個鐘頭
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What time is it?	Xiàn-zài jǐ-diǎn zhōng? ³	現在幾點鐘?
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It's two o'clock.	Xiàn-zài liǎng-diǎn.	現在兩點。
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It's ten to five.	Xiàn-zài chà shí-fēn wú-diǎn.	現在差十分五點。
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It's a quarter past nine.	Xiàn-zài jiǔ-diǎn shí-wǔ.	現在九點十五。
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³Zhōng means clock or hour, so phrases having to do with the hour often include the word zhōng.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
It's half past one.	Xiàn-zài yì-diǎn bàn.	現在一點半。
It's midnight.	Xiàn-zài wǎn-shàng shí-èr diǎn.	現在晚上十二點。
It's early.	Hái zǎo.	還早。
It's late.	Wǎn le.	晚了。
Shall we meet at noon?	Wǒ-men zhōng-wǔ jiàn-miàn hǎo ma?	我們中午見面好嗎？
tomorrow at ten in the afternoon	míng-tiān shí-diǎn xià-wǔ	明天十點下午
this evening	jīn-tiān wǎn-shàng	今天晚上
DAYS OF THE WEEK	CD 1, Track 8	日期
Monday	xīng-qī yī	星期一
Tuesday	xīng-qī èr	星期二
Wednesday	xīng-qī sān	星期三
Thursday	xīng-qī sì	星期四
Friday	xīng-qī wǔ	星期五
Saturday	xīng-qī liù	星期六
Sunday	xīng-qī tiān	星期天
every day	měi-tiān	每天
I leave today.	Wǒ jīn-tiān lí-kāi.	我今天離開。
tomorrow	míng-tiān	明天
the day after tomorrow	hòu-tiān	後天
next week	xià-ge xīng-qī	下個星期
I arrived yesterday.	Wǒ zuó-tiān dào de.	我昨天到的。
the day before yesterday	qián-tiān	前天
last week	shàng-ge xīng-qī	上個星期
the other day	zuì-jìn	最近

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
MONTHS OF THE YEAR	CD 1, Track 9	年月
January	yī yuè	一月
February	èr yuè	二月
March	sān yuè	三月
April	sì yuè	四月
May	wǔ yuè	五月
June	liù yuè	六月
July	qī yuè	七月
August	bā yuè	八月
September	jiǔ yuè	九月
October	shí yuè	十月
November	shí-yī yuè	十一月
December	shí-èr yuè	十二月
What day is it today?	Jīn-tiān xīng-qī jǐ?	今天星期幾？
What is the date today?	Jīn-tiān jǐ hào?	今天幾號？
It is the sixth of May.	Jīn-tiān shì wǔ yuè liù hào.	今天是五月六號。
this year	jīn-nián	今年
next year	míng-nián	明年
last year	qù-nián	去年
this month	zhèi-ge yuè	這個月
next month	xià-ge yuè	下個月
last month	shàng-ge yuè	上個月
It's spring.	Xiàn-zài shì chūn-tiān.	現在是春天。
summer	xià-tiān	夏天
autumn	qiū-tiān	秋天
winter	dōng-tiān	冬天

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
THE WEATHER	<i>CD 1, Track 10</i>	氣候
How's the weather today?	Jīn-tiān tiān-qì zěn-me yàng?	今天天氣怎麼樣?
It's cold today.	Jīn-tiān hén lěng.	今天很冷。
sunny	hén hǎo	很好
hot	hén rè	很熱
windy	yǒu fēng	有風
How will the weather be tomorrow?	Míng-tiān tiān-qì zěn-me yàng?	明天天氣怎麼樣?
Tomorrow it will be cloudy.	Míng-tiān yīn-tiān.	明天陰天。
cool	yǒu yí-diǎr liáng	有一點兒涼
It's raining.	Xià yǔ le.	下雨了。
snowing	xuě	雪
COLORS	<i>CD 1, Track 11</i>	顏色
What color is it?	Shén-me yán-sè?	什麼顏色?
It's black.	Hēi-sè de.	黑色的。
blue	lán	藍
brown	zōng	棕
or	kā-fēi	咖啡
gray	huī	灰
green	lǜ	綠
pink	fěn-hóng	粉紅
purple	zǐ	紫
red	hóng	紅
white	bái	白
yellow	huáng	黃
I like this color.	Wǒ xǐ-huan zhè-ge yán-sè.	我喜歡這個顏色。

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
PERSONAL NEEDS		
AT THE HOTEL	<i>CD 2, Track 1 Cassette Side 3</i>	在旅館
I wish to make a reservation.	Wǒ xiǎng dìng ge fáng-jiān.	我想訂個房間。
I have a reservation.	Wǒ yǐ-jīng dìng hǎo le.	我已經定好了。
Do you have a double room? a single room	Yǒu shuāng-rén fáng-jiān ma? dān-rén	有雙人房間嗎? 單人
Do you have a room with a bath?	Nǐ-men yǒu dài yǔ-shì de fáng-jiān ma?	你們有帶浴室的房間嗎?
Does the room have a shower? air conditioning twin beds	Nèi-ge fáng-jiān yǒu lín-yǔ ma? lěng-qì liǎng-ge dān-rén chuáng	那個房間有淋浴嗎? 冷氣 兩個單人床
What's the rate per day?	Měi tiān duō-shǎo qián?	每天多少錢?
Is dinner included?	Bāo-kuò wǎn-fàn ma?	包括晚飯嗎?
I'll be staying for two nights.	Wǒ zài zhèr zhù liǎng-ge wǎn-shàng.	我在這兒住兩個晚上。
Do you have a better room? cheaper larger smaller quieter	Yǒu gèng hǎo de fáng-jiān ma? pián-yì dà xiǎo ān-jìng	有更好的房間嗎? 便宜 大 小 安靜

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Please wake me up at 6 a.m.	Qǐng zài liù-diǎn zhōng jiào xǐng wǒ.	請在六點鐘叫醒我。
Could I have my key, please?	Qǐng géi wǒ yào-shi.	請給我鑰匙。
On what floor is my room?	Wǒ-de fáng-jīan zài jǐ-lóu?	我的房間在幾樓?
Take the elevator.	Zuò diàn-tī.	坐電梯。
Go up the stairs. down	Shàng lóu. Xià	上樓。下
There's no hot water.	Méi-yǒu rè-shuǐ.	沒有熱水。
Can you please get me some ice?	Qǐng géi wǒ yì-xiē bīng-kuài.	請給我一些冰塊兒。
another blanket	lìng-wài yì-tiáo tǎn-zi	另外一條毯子
some drinking water	kāi-shuǐ	開水
a drinking glass	yì-ge bēi-zi	一個杯子
an electric fan	diàn-shàn	電扇
a heater	yì-ge qǔ-nuǎn-qì	一個取暖器
an iron	yì-ge yùn-dǒu	一個熨斗
a pillow	yì-ge zhěn-tou	一個枕頭
some shampoo	xǐ-fà-jī	洗髮劑
some soap	féi-zào	肥皂
some toilet paper	wèi-shēng-zhǐ	衛生紙
a towel	máo-jīn	毛巾
Can we still order breakfast?	Wǒ-men hái ké-yǐ dìng zǎo-fàn ma?	我們還可以訂早飯嗎?

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Is it possible to have these clothes washed?	Xǐ-xǐ zhè-sē yī-fu xíng ma?	洗洗這些衣服行嗎?
Please have these clothes dry cleaned.	Qǐng bǎ zhè-sē yī-fu gān-xǐ.	請把這些衣服乾洗。
Please may I have the bill.	Qǐng bǎ zhàng-dān géi wǒ.	請把帳單給我。
I wish to speak to the manager.	Wǒ xiǎng gēn jīng-lǐ shuō-huà.	我想跟經理說話。
Please call a taxi for me.	Qǐng bāng wǒ jiào liàng chū-zū-chē. (PRC) or jì-chéng-chē (Tw)	請幫我叫輛出租車。 計程車
PERSONAL COMFORT	<i>CD 2, Track 2</i>	個人需要
What's the matter?	Zěn-me le?	怎麼了?
Are you all right?	Nín méi shìr ba?	您沒事兒吧?
I'm cold. thirsty	Wǒ hěn lěng. kě	我很冷。渴
I'm hot. hungry	Wǒ hěn rè. è	我很熱。餓
tired	lèi	累
I'm angry about this.	Wǒ duì cǐ hěn shēng-qì.	我對此很生氣。
I'm fine.	Wǒ hěn hǎo.	我很好。
I'm happy. sad	Wǒ hěn gāo-xìng. nán-guò	我很高興。難過
Please leave me alone.	Qǐng bié dá-rǎo wǒ.	請別打擾我。

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
MONEY	<i>CD 2, Track 3</i>	貨幣
Where is the bank?	Qǐng wèn yín-háng zài nǎr?	請問銀行在哪兒?
Where can I exchange foreign currency?	Qǐng wèn zài nǎr huàn wài-bì?	請問在哪兒換外幣?
What is today's dollar exchange rate?	Jīn-tiān měi-yuán duì-huàn-lǜ shì duō-shǎo?	今天美元兌換率是多少?
Please change this money into wai-hui-juar (PRC). ⁴	Qǐng bǎ zhèi-xiē qián huàn-chéng wài-hui-juar.	請把這些錢換成外匯券兒。
ren-mín-bì (PRC)	rén-mín-bì	人民幣
tai-bì (Tw)	tái-bì	臺幣
small bills	líng-qián	零錢
coins	yìng-bì	硬幣
Do you accept this credit card?	Nín jiē-shòu zhèi-ge xìn-yòng-kǎ ma?	您接受這個信用卡嗎?
traveler's checks	lǚ-xíng zhī-piào	旅行支票

FOOD AND DRINK	PRONUNCIATION	中文
FOOD AND DRINK	<i>CD 2, Track 4</i>	食品與飲料
Where's the market place?	Shì-chǎng zài nǎr?	市場在哪兒?
supermarket	chāo-jí-shì-chǎng	超級市場
bakery (Tw) ⁵	miàn-bāo-diàn	麵包店

⁴Although the *yuán* is the basic unit of currency in both the PRC and Taiwan, they are not interchangeable, and the money itself is referred to differently. It is called *rén-mín-bì* in the PRC, and *tái-bì* in Taiwan. However, in the PRC, foreigners must use a separate money called *wài-hui-juar*.

⁵There are no bakeries, per se, in the PRC.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Where can I buy fruit?	Zài nǎr néng mǎi dào shuǐ-guō?	在哪兒能買到水果?
apples	píng-guō	蘋果
bananas	xiāng-jiāo	香蕉
cherries	yīng-táo	櫻桃
figs	wú-huā-guō	無花果
grapes	pú-tao	葡萄
lemons	níng-méng	檸檬
lichees	lì-zhī	荔枝
mangoes	máng-guō	芒果
oranges	jú-zi	橘子
papaya	mù-guā	木瓜
peaches	táo-zi	桃子
pears	lí	梨
pineapples	bō-ló (PRC)	菠蘿
or	fèng-lí (Tw)	鳳梨
plums	lǐ-zi	李子
raisins	pú-tao-gār	葡萄乾兒
strawberries	cǎo-méi	草莓
watermelon	xī-guā	西瓜
I prefer vegetables.	Wǒ gèng xǐ-huan shū-cài.	我更喜歡蔬菜。
bamboo shoots	zhú-sūn	竹筍
beans	dòu-zi	豆子
bean sprouts	dòu-yár	豆芽兒
broccoli	lǜ-cài-huā (PRC) ⁶	綠菜花
or	jiè-lán (Tw)	芥藍
cabbage	yuán-bái-cài	圓白菜
Chinese cabbage	dà-bái-cài	大白菜
carrots	hú-luó-bo	胡蘿蔔
cauliflower	cài-huā	菜花
cucumbers	huáng-guā	黃瓜
eggplant	qīé-zi	茄子

⁶Broccoli is also called *gài-lán* in southern China.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
garlic	suàn	蒜
green peppers	qīng-jīāo	青椒
leeks	jīu-cài	韭菜
lettuce	shēng-cài	生菜
dry mushrooms	dōng-gū	冬菇
fresh mushrooms	mó-gu	蘑菇
onions	yáng-cōng	洋葱
peas	wān-dòu	豌豆
potatoes	tǔ-dòu (PRC)	土豆
or	mǎ-líng-shù (Tw)	馬鈴薯
string beans	biǎn-dòu	扁豆
tomatoes	xī-hóng-shì (PRC)	西红柿
or	fān-qié (Tw)	番茄
water chestnuts	bī-qi	荸薺
I would like to buy	Wǒ yào mǎi nǚ-ròu.	我要買牛肉。
beef.		
beef steak	nú-pái	牛排。
chicken	jī-ròu	雞肉
ham	huó-tuǐ	火腿
lamb	yáng-ròu	羊肉
pork	zhū-ròu	豬肉
sausages	xiāng-cháng	香腸
I like fish.	Wǒ xǐ-huan yú.	我喜歡魚。
clams	gē-li	蛤蜊
crab	páng-xiè	螃蟹
seafood	hǎi-wèi (PRC)	海味
or	hǎi-xiān (Tw)	海鮮
lobster	lóng-xiā	龍蝦
oysters	háo	蠔
scallops	gān-bèi	乾貝
sea slug	hǎi-shēn	海參
shrimp	xiā	蝦
I need bread.	Wǒ xū-yào miàn-bāo.	我需要麵包。

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
bean curd	dòu-fu	豆腐
butter	huáng-yóu (PRC)	黃油
or	nǎi-yóu (Tw)	奶油
a cake	dàn-gāo	蛋糕
candy	táng-guǒ	糖菓
cheese	rǔ-lào	乳酪
chocolate	qiǎo-ke-li	巧克力
cookies	bǐng-gān	餅乾
cream	nǎi-yóu	奶油
milk	nú-nǎi	牛奶
noodles	miàn-tiáo	麵條
nuts	gān-guǒ	乾果
peanuts	huā-shēng	花生
rice (uncooked)	mǐ	米
a sandwich	sān-míng-zhì	三明治
a steamed dumpling	bāo-zi	包子
yogurt	sūān-nǎi	酸奶
Where can I buy	Zài nǎr néng mǎi	在哪兒能買到
soda water?	dào sū-dá-shuǐ?	蘇打水?
bottled water	píng-zhuāng-shuǐ	瓶裝水
I'd like a jin	Wǒ yào yì-jīn	我要一斤
of eggs. ⁷	jī-dàn.	雞蛋。
half a jin	bàn-jīn	半斤
May I have tea?	Wǒ yào chá hǎo mā?	我要茶好嗎?
tea with milk	chá jiā niú-nǎi	茶加牛奶
tea with lemon	chá jiā níng-méng	茶加檸檬
some sugar	yì-xiē táng	一些糖
black coffee	hēi kā-fēi	黑咖啡
coffee with milk	kā-fēi jiā niú-nǎi	咖啡加牛奶
Would you like	Nín yào níng-	您要檸檬水嗎?
lemonade?	méng-shuǐ ma?	
fruit juice	shuǐ-guǒ-zhī	水果汁
a soft drink	qì-shuǐ	汽水

⁷A jin is equal to half a kilo.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
I'd like a beer, please.	Qǐng géi wǒ yì-píng pǐ-jiǔ.	請給我一瓶啤酒。
AT THE RESTAURANT	<i>CD 2, Track 5</i>	在飯館兒
Could you recommend an inexpensive restaurant?	Nín néng tuī-jìàn yì-jia pián-yì de fàn-guǎn ma?	您能推薦一家便宜的飯館兒嗎？
Waiter, ⁸ please bring another bowl of rice.	Fú-wù-yuán, qǐng zài lái yì-wǎn mǐ-fàn.	服務員，請再來一碗米飯。
May I see the menu?	Qǐng géi wǒ cài-dān, hǎo ma?	請給我菜單，好嗎？
Do you have any vegetarian dishes?	Yǒu méi yǒu sù-cài?	有沒有素菜？
Enjoy your meal.	Qǐng màn-mǎn yòng.	請慢慢兒用。
Please bring me a knife.	Qǐng géi wǒ dāo-zi.	請給我刀子。
a fork	chā-zi	叉子
a spoon	sháo-zi	勺子
some chopsticks	kuài-zi	筷子
a plate	pán-zi	盤子
a napkin	cān-jīn	餐巾
a cup	bēi-zi	杯子
a bowl	yì-ge wǎn	一個碗
a glass of water	yì-bēi shuǐ	一杯水
a wine glass	jiǔ-bēi	酒杯
some salt	yán	鹽

⁸Fú-wù-yuán is a general term for service person, and may be used for waiter or waitress, or for men and women in a variety of other positions.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
some pepper	hú-jiāo	胡椒
some mustard	jiè-mo	芥末
some soy sauce	jiàng-yóu	醬油
some vinegar	cù	醋
I would like to order fried dumplings.	Wǒ xiǎng-yào guō-tiē.	我想要鍋貼。
boiled dumplings	jiǎo-zi	餃子
fried noodles	chǎo-miàn	炒麵
fried rice	chǎo-fàn	炒飯
Moo Shi pork	Mù-xū-ròu	木犀肉
Peking duck	Běijīng kǎo-yā	北京烤鴨
soup	tāng	湯
The check, please. ⁹	Qǐng nín bǎ zhàng-dān géi wǒ.	請您把帳單給我。
SHOPPING	<i>CD 2, Track 6</i>	購物
How can I help you?	Nín yào shén-me?	您要什麼？
Where can I buy souvenirs?	Zài nǎr néng mǎi dào jì-niàn-pǐn?	在哪兒能買到紀念品？
camera film	jiāo-juǎn	膠捲兒
video film	lù-xiàng-dài (PRC)	錄影帶
or	lù-yǐng-dài (Tw)	錄影帶
magazines	zá-zhì	雜誌
an English newspaper	Yīng-wén bào-zhǐ	英文報紙
a book	shū	書
stationery	wén-jù	文具

⁹There is no tipping in the PRC. In Taiwan some restaurants include a fifteen percent tip in the bill.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
I'd like to buy silk clothing.	Wó xiǎng mǎi sī-chóu yī-fu.	我想買絲綢衣服。
porcelain	cǐ-qì	瓷器
cloisonné art objects	jǐng-tài-lán gōng-yì-pǐn	景泰藍工藝品
I'd like to buy handicrafts.	Wó xiǎng mǎi shǒu-gōng-yì-pǐn.	我想買手工藝品。
I am going to the florist.	Wǒ yào qù huā-diàn.	我要去花店。
bookshop	shū-diàn	書店
pharmacy	yào-fáng	藥房
tea shop ¹⁰	chá-yè-diàn	茶葉店
department store	bǎi-huò gōng-sī	百貨公司
How much does it cost?	Duō-shǎo qián?	多少錢?
I bought a jacket.	Wó mǎi le yī-jǐàn jiǎ-kè.	我買了一件茄克。
pants	yī-tiáo kù-zi	一條褲子
a shirt or blouse	yī-jǐàn chèn-shān	一件襯衫
a sweater	yī-jǐàn máo-yī	一件毛衣
a skirt	yī-tiáo qún-zi	一條裙子
a dress	yī-tiáo lián-yī-qún	一條連衣裙
a coat	yī-jǐàn dà-yī	一件大衣
a raincoat	yī-jǐàn yǔ-yī	一件雨衣
a bathing suit	yī-jǐàn yóu-yǒng-yī	一件游泳衣
a pair of shoes	yī-shuāng xié	一雙鞋

¹⁰If you wish to drink a cup of tea you may go to a tea house (*chá-guǎn*), whereas a tea shop sells loose tea by the canister or bag.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
LEISURE	CD 2, Track 7 Cassette Side 4	閒暇娛樂
Would you like to see the city?	Nín xiǎng kàn-kan shì-róng ma?	您想看看市容嗎?
I would like to go to the mountains.	Wó xiǎng jìn-shān.	我想進山。
the beach	qù hǎi-bīn	去海濱
the pool	qù yóu-yǒng-chí	去游泳池
the country	qù nóng-cūn (PRC) qù xiāng-xià (Tw)	去農村 去鄉下
or the Dun-huang caves	qù Dūn-huáng shí-kū	去敦煌石窟
Could you take a photo of us, please?	Qǐng nín géi wǒ-men zhào zhāng xiàng hǎo ma?	請您給我們照張相好嗎?
We'd like to see a traditional dance festival	Wǒ-men xiǎng kàn chuán-tǒng wǔ-dǎo. jié-ri	我們想看傳統舞蹈。節日
I'd like two tickets for the ballet concert	Wǒ yào liǎng-zhāng bā-léi-wǔ piào. yīn-yuè-huì	我要兩張芭蕾舞音樂會
There are no tickets left.	Piào méi-yǒu le.	票沒有了。
I like to see plays, movies, Peking opera, the circus	Wǒ xǐ-huan kàn xì. diàn-yǐng jīng-jù zá-jì	我喜歡看戲。電影京劇雜技
I like to go to museums.	Wǒ xǐ-huan qù bó-wù-guǎn.	我喜歡去博物館。
At what time does the play begin?	Xì jǐ-diǎn kāi-shǐ?	戲幾點開始?

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
the tour	yóu-lǎn	遊覽
What film is playing tonight?	Jīn-tiān wǎn-shàng yǎn shén-me diàn-yǐng?	今天晚上演什麼電影?
Where is the ticket office?	Shòu-piào-chù zài nǎr?	售票處在哪兒?
Is there a bar nearby?	Fù-jìn yǒu méi-yǒu jiǔ-bā?	附近有沒有酒吧?
a discotheque	wǔ-tīng	舞廳

COMMUNICATIONS

THE POST OFFICE	CD 2, Track 8	在郵局
Where can I find the post office?	Qǐng wèn yóu-jú zài nǎr?	請問郵局在哪兒?
How much is it to send a letter to the USA?	Jì wǎng Měi-guó de xìn yào duō-shǎo qián?	寄往美國的信要多少錢?
Can I have money wired to me here?	Gěi wǒ wǎng zhèr diàn huì qián kě-yǐ ma?	給我往這兒電匯錢可以嗎?
I'd like to buy stamps, please.	Wǒ yào mǎi yóu-piào.	我要買郵票。
post cards	míng-xìn-piàn	明信片
an envelope	xìn-fēng	信封
I'd like to send this by registered mail.	Wǒ yào jì guà-hào-xìn.	我要寄掛號信。
air mail	háng-kōng-xìn	航空信
parcel post	yóu-bāo	郵包
express mail	kuài-jìàn	快件

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
I'd like to send money.	Wǒ xiǎng jì qián.	我想寄錢。
a telegram	dǎ diàn-bào	打電報
When will the mail arrive?	Yóu-jàn shén-me shí-hou dào?	郵件什麼時候到?
Where is there a mail box?	Nǎr yǒu xìn-xiāng?	哪兒有信箱?
This contains printed matter.	Zhè lǐ miàn yǒu yìn-shuā-pǐn.	這裡面有印刷品。
fragile material	yì-suì-pǐn	易碎品

AT THE OFFICE

CD 2, Track 9

在辦公室

Where can I make photocopies?	Wǒ kě-yǐ zài nǎr fù-yìn? (PRC)	我可以在哪兒複印?
or	yǐng-yìn (Tw)	影印
May I use the computer?	Wǒ néng yòng jì-suàn-jī ma? (PRC)	我能用計算機嗎?
or	diàn-nǎo (Tw)	電腦
fax machine	chuán-zhēn-jī	傳真機
How much do you charge per page?	Yì-zhāng duō-shǎo qián?	一張多少錢?
Could I send a telex?	Wǒ néng fā diàn-chuán ma?	我能發電傳嗎?

THE TELEPHONE

CD 2, Track 10

打電話

May I use the telephone?	Wǒ kě-yǐ yòng diàn-huà ma?	我可以用電話嗎?
Where is the phone directory?	Diàn-huà-bù zài nǎr?	電話簿在哪兒?

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
How do I make a call to Washington?	Wó zěn-me dǎ diàn-huà dào Huá-shèng-dùn?	我怎麼打電話到華盛頓？
I'd like to make a collect call.	Wó xiǎng dǎ-ge diàn-huà duì-fāng fù kuǎn.	我想打個電話對方付款。
an international call	guó-jì cháng-tú	國際長途
a long-distance call	cháng-tú diàn-huà	長途電話
What is the code for Shanghai?	Shàng-hǎi de dì-qū hào-mǎ shì shén-me?	上海的地區號碼是什麼？
The line is busy. or	Zhàn xiàn. (PRC) Yǒu rén zài jiǎng diàn-huà. (Tw)	佔綫。 有人在講電話。
Hello? ¹¹	Wéi?	喂？
Who's speaking?	Nǎ-yí wèi?	哪一位？
May I speak to Wang Mei-li?	Má-fan nín qīng Wáng Měi-lì jiē diàn-huà.	麻煩您請王美麗接電話。
Could you take a message?	Wǒ ké-yǐ liú ge huà ma?	我可以留個話嗎？

TRANSPORTATION

A TRIP	CD 2, Track 11	旅行
Have a good trip! or	Yí-lù píng-ān! Yí-lù shùn-fēng!	一路平安！ 一路順風！

¹¹Used when answering the phone.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Where can I rent a car?	Wǒ zài nǎr kě-yǐ zū liàng qì-chē?	我在哪兒可以租輛汽車？
a bicycle	zì-xíng-chē (PRC)	自行車
or	jiāo-tà-chē (Tw)	腳踏車
a motorbike	mó-tō-chē	摩托車
Where can I board the boat? the ferry	Wǒ zài nǎr kě-yǐ shàng chuán? dù-chuán	我在哪兒可以上船？ 渡船
Where is the metro station?	Dì-tiě-zhàn zài nǎr?	地鐵站在哪兒？
train station	huǒ-chē	火車
bus stop	gōng-gòng qì-chē	公共汽車
I need a porter. ¹²	Wǒ xū-yào fú-wú-yuán.	我需要服務員。
a luggage cart	xíng-lǐ-chē	行李車
I'd like a schedule, please.	Qǐng géi wǒ yí-fèn shí-kè-biǎo.	請給我一份時刻表。
How much is a one-way ticket?	Yí-zhāng dān-chéng-piào duō-shǎo qián?	一張單程票多少錢？
round-trip	lái-huí	來回
first-class	tóu-děng	頭等
second-class	èr-děng	二等
soft-sleeper ¹³	ruǎn-wò	軟臥
soft-seat	ruǎn-zuò	軟座
hard-sleeper	yìng-wò	硬臥
hard-seat	yìng-zuò	硬座

¹²In the PRC there are porters only in foreign hotels.

¹³In the PRC the trains are divided into hard and soft sleepers and seats. Tourists are generally encouraged to take the soft cars, but the hard sleepers are also perfectly comfortable.

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Could you tell me when we reach Nanjing?	Nín kě-yǐ gào-su wǒ shén-me shí-hou dào Nán-jīng, hǎo ma?	您可以告訴我什麼時候到南京, 好嗎?
Is there a dining car? sleeping car	Yǒu cān-chē ma? wò-pù	有餐車嗎? 臥鋪
At what time does the train leave for Guang-zhou?	Dào Guǎng-zhōu qù de huǒ-chē jǐ-diǎn kāi?	到廣州去的火車幾點開?
At what time does the train get to Hang-zhou?	Huǒ-chē jǐ-diǎn dào Háng-zhōu?	火車幾點到杭州?
Is it on time?	Zhèng diǎn ma?	正點嗎?
Does this train go to Cheng-du?	Zhèi tàng chē qù Chéng-dū ma?	這趟車去成都嗎?
How long do we stop in this place?	Wǒ-men zài zhèr tíng duō-jǐu?	我們在這兒停多久?
AT THE AIRPORT	<i>CD 2, Track 12</i>	在飛機場
Which is the gate for domestic flights? international	Guó-nèi háng-bān zài nǎi-ge mén? guó-jì	國內航班在哪个門? 國際
How long will the flight to Xi-an be delayed?	Qù Xī-ān de fēi-jī yào wǎn duō cháng shí-jiān?	去西安的飛機要晚多長時間?
I'd like to sit in the smoking section. non-smoking	Wǒ xiǎng zuò zài xī-yān qū. wú-yān qū	我想坐在吸煙區。 無煙區

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Please call the flight attendant.	Qǐng jiào chéng-wù-yuán.	請叫乘務員。
AT CUSTOMS	<i>CD 2, Track 13</i>	在海關
This is my luggage. handbag briefcase	Zhèi shì wǒ-de xíng-lǐ. shǒu-tí-bāo gōng-wén-bāo	這是我的行李。 手提包 公文包
I have nothing to declare.	Wǒ méi shén-me yào bào-guān de.	我沒什麼要報關的。
Please open your bag. close	Qǐng nín bǎ bāo dǎ-kāi. guān-shang	請您把包打開。 關上
I have some perfume. cigarettes gifts personal belongings	Wǒ yǒu yì-somē xiāng-shuǐ. xiāng-yān lǐ-wù sī-rén yòng-pǐn	我有一些香水。 香煙 禮物 私人用品
IN THE CAR	<i>CD 2, Track 14</i>	駕車外出
How many kilometers is it to Chong-qing?	Dào Chóng-qīng qù duō-shǎo gōng-lǐ?	到重慶去多少公里?
Can you direct me to the highway?	Qǐng gào-su wǒ gāo-sù gōng-lù zài nǎr?	請告訴我高速公路在哪兒?
a gas station the center of town	jiā-yóu-zhàn shì-zhōng-xīn	加油站 市中心
This doesn't work.	Zhèi-ge huài le.	這個壞了。

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
Please repair the tire.	Qǐng nín bǔ-bù lùn-tāi.	請您補補輪胎。
<i>CD 2, Track 15</i> EMERGENCY SITUATIONS		
Where is the hospital?	Yī-yuàn zài nǎr?	醫院在哪兒?
Call an ambulance!	Qǐng jiào jiù-hù-chē!	請叫救護車!
a doctor	yī-shēng	醫生
the police	jǐng-chá	警察
the fire department	jiù-huǒ-chē	救火車
Fire!	Zhāo huǒ la!	着火啦!
Help!	Jiù mìng a!	救命啊!
This is an emergency!	Qíng kuàng jǐn-jí!	情況緊急!
It's dangerous.	Hěn wēi-xiǎn.	很危險。
I'm sick.	Wǒ bìng le.	我病了。
Can you get me an interpreter?	Nín néng tì wó zhāo ge fān-yì ma?	您能替我找個翻譯嗎?
I've lost my family.	Wó zhǎo bú dào jiā-rén le.	我找不到家人了。
child	hái-zǐ	孩子
passport	hù-zhào	護照
My wallet has been stolen.	Wǒ-de qián-bāo bèi tōu le.	我的錢包被偷了。
I'm allergic to penicillin.	Wǒ duì pān-ní-xī-lín guò-mǐn.	我對盤尼西林過敏。
I'm diabetic.	Wǒ yǒu táng-niào-bìng.	我有糖尿病。

ENGLISH	PRONUNCIATION	中文
My arm hurts.	Wǒ-de gē-bo téng.	我的胳膊疼。
back	bèi	背
foot	jiǎo	腳
hand	shǒu	手
head	tóu	頭
leg	tú	腿
neck	bó-zi	脖子
stomach	dù-zi	肚子
My knees hurt.	Wǒ-de xī-gài téng.	我的膝蓋疼。
ankles	jiǎo-bó-zi	腳脖子
eyes	yǎn-jīng	眼睛
Thank you for your help.	Duō-xiè nín bāng-máng.	多謝您幫忙。

BASIC CHINESE GRAMMAR

Compared to many languages, Chinese grammar is not complex. Here are a few basic rules that will help you to remember simple sentence patterns.

Verbs in Chinese do not change form according to the tenses: the past, present, and future are understood by context or by reference to when the action or event occurs. An example of a statement that is understood by its context is:

Zuó-tiān wǒ dào shāng-diàn qù. *I went to the store yesterday.*

The form of the verb *qù* (*go*), does not change, even though the action occurred in the past. There are some important words which help to clarify the timing of an event: *guò*, placed after the verb, denotes the past, e.g.

Wǒ qù-guò Gui-lín. *I have been to Gui-lin.*

Le indicates either the past, as in:

Wǒ qù le. *I went.*

or that an action is continuing, as in:

Xià yǔ le. *It's raining.*

Huì followed by another verb expresses a future action, as in:

Wǒ huì qù Gui-lín. *I will go to Gui-lin.*

Yào plus another verb conveys the sense of *going to*, as in:

Wǒ yào qù. *I'm going to go.*

Negatives are formed in the present tense by putting the word *bu* in front of the verb, as in:

Wǒ bú qù. *I'm not going.*

When speaking in terms of the past, the verb is negated by putting the word *méi* or the words *méi-yǒu* in front of it:

Wǒ méi qù. } *I didn't go.*
Wǒ méi-yǒu qù. }

Questions are formed by adding the question particle, *ma*, at the end of a sentence. For example:

Nín qù ma? *Are you going?*

Nouns in Chinese do not change in the plural. Depending on the context, therefore, the word *niāo* can mean *bird* or *birds*. There are no words for *the* and *a* per se, but one can express the meaning *one* with a measure word.

Every Chinese noun has a **measure word** associated with it, such as the words *cup*, *dozen*, or *flock*, occasionally used in English. Unlike in English, however, measure words are always used when specifying a quantity of a noun in Chinese. The measure word for the noun meaning *bird*, or *niāo*, is *zhī*: *yī-zhī niāo* thus means *one bird*. The most common measure word is *ge*, usually associated with the nouns for *person*, *hour*, *dish of food*, etc. *Ge* can be substituted for the measure words of other nouns if you do not know them. Some other measure words you will see in this course include *jiàn*, for clothing, *liàng*, for vehicles and bicycles, etc.

In this text we have generally used the polite form, *nín*, of the pronoun *you*. This is used primarily when speaking to strangers, to older people, or to persons in positions

deserving of respect. The plain form of the pronoun is *nǐ*, and is used when speaking to close friends and family or, in Taiwan, to people in service positions.

中文	PRONUNCIATION	ENGLISH
IMPORTANT SIGNS		
汽車站	Qì-chē-zhàn	Bus Stop
小心	Xiǎo-xīn	Caution
停止營業	Tíng-zhǐ yíng-yè	Closed
自行車道	Zì-xíng-chē dào	Cyclists
危險	Wēi-xiǎn	Danger
禁止通行	Jìn-zhǐ tōng xíng	Detour
請勿打擾	Qǐng wù dǎ-rǎo	Do Not Disturb
請勿觸摸	Qǐng wù chù mō	Do Not Touch
緊急出口	Jǐn-jí chū-kǒu	Emergency Exit
入口	Rù-kǒu	Entrance
出口	Chū-kǒu	Exit
小心落石	Xiǎo-xīn luò shí	Falling Rocks
急救站	Jí-jù-zhàn	First Aid Station
出租	Chū zū	For Rent
出售	Chū shòu	For Sale
問詢處	Wèn-xún-chù	Information
靠左行	Kào zuǒ xíng	Keep Left
請勿踐踏草地	Qǐng wù jiàn-tà cǎo-dì	Keep off the Grass
靠右行	Kào yòu xíng	Keep Right
男	Nán	Men
請勿入內	Qǐng wù rù nèi	No Entry/ Keep Out
禁止停車	Jìn-zhǐ tíng chē	No Parking
禁止吸煙	Jìn-zhǐ xī-yān	No Smoking
單行綫	Dān-xíng-xiàn	One Way Street
現在營業	Xiànzài yíng-yè	Open
壞了	Huài-le	Out of Order
停車場	Tíng-chē-chǎng	Parking
人行道	Rén-xíng-dào	Pedestrians
拉	Lā	Pull
推	Tuī	Push
減速	Jiǎn sù	Reduce Speed

中文	PRONUNCIATION	ENGLISH
已預訂	Yǐ yù-dìng	Reserved
道路施工	Dào-lù shī-gōng	Roadworks
慢	Màn	Slow
廁所	Cè-suǒ	Toilets
油漆未乾	Yóu-qī wèi gān	Wet Paint
女	Nǚ	Women
讓行	Ràng xíng	Yield
開	Kāi	On
關	Guān	Off

VOCABULARY INDEX

Note that it is not always possible to translate phrases literally from one language to another. The page numbers in this index, along with the list of Contents, will guide you to the English words used in this course.

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P.O. Box 797
Rockville, MD. 20848-0797