SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

CSL

Mandarin Vocabulary

VOLUME A OF 8

Sentence builders

Chinese characters
Pinyin · CSL sound clues · English

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

Nine-month conversation program

Review edition · September 2026

Make these words your own

This is a conversation companion for adult CSL members. You do not need to memorize everything before speaking. Start with a useful question, listen to another person, and build from there.

Eight slim volumes keep the language layers readable: A Sentence builders; B Numbers & measure words; C Everyday foundations; D Meeting people & family; E Food, time & plans; F Places & shopping; G Daily life & travel; H Socializing & hosting.

The full set contains 421 vocabulary entries and 30 conversation models. Repeated examples and charts are practice, not extra headwords. Numbers and times are built from reusable parts.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Manuscript/design edition 1.0 - 29 September 2026
Pronunciation source checks and human audio review pending.

Use lesson numbers: the Wednesday sequence runs September-May; the Thursday sequence runs October-June. The same nine themes serve both groups.

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Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

A few minutes at a time is enough to begin. Choose three to five entries and one model. Listen first, say the words aloud, then hide one support layer and try again. Use one word in a question to a partner. Revisit it on another day.

LISTEN: scan the listening QR. Google Translate opens the Chinese text; check that Chinese is the source and tap the source-language speaker. It may need an internet connection and a tap to start. Its automatic Pinyin is not the booklet's editorial source.

SAY: follow the booklet Pinyin and the recording. Keep neutral syllables light. Speak a short thought, not a string of English sound clues.

PRACTICE: open toneperfect.app/practice. Enter or paste the Chinese and choose Start Practice. Recording needs your microphone permission. Review the feedback, try once more, and ask a teacher about unclear results. AI scores are guidance, not a grade. Access limits may change.

USE: ask someone a real question and listen to their answer. If you get stuck, use a clarification model. The digital reader links work without a camera; a printed QR has a short address and text fallback beside it.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

PRACTICE ONE PHRASE
TonePerfect pronunciation practice
Fallback: toneperfect.app/practice
Type the Chinese example above.

Pinyin and the CSL sound clues

Read the four layers from top to bottom: Chinese, Pinyin, CSL sound clue, English. Chinese is the text to recognize and say. Pinyin carries the tones. Sound clues are an approximate bridge for English speakers; use the audio and Pinyin to refine them.

The marks show first tone (high and level), second (rising), third (low, with a rise when pronounced alone), and fourth (falling). A syllable without a mark is neutral: light and brief. A third tone often changes before another third tone. Yi and bu also change in connected speech. Printed citation tones and natural spoken changes can coexist.

In CSL clues, hyphens join syllables inside a word; spaces separate words. The star (*) marks rounded lips with an ee-like tongue position. Do not read it aloud. The shrr/chrr/jrr family is not an English “ee.” Pinyin r and the j/q/x and zh/ch/sh contrasts need listening practice. A final r in dianr or huir is joined erhua, not a separate er syllable.

Clues have no tone arrows. Read the Pinyin tone, listen once, and then imitate the whole word rather than sounding out English letters.

Read the labels

n. = noun; proper n. = name; time n. = time noun. pron. = pronoun; det. = determiner. v. = verb; modal = can/want/should-type helper. adj. = adjective or descriptive predicate; adv. = adverb. conj. = connector; prep. = preposition/coverb. num. = number; mw. = classifier; verbal mw. = action counter; unit = time, weight, or money unit. part. = grammatical particle; prefix = bound beginning such as ordinal di.

Some labels describe a learning function rather than a strict word class: demonstrative, place word, response, title, expression, and formula. A slash means that more than one selected use is taught. A complete conversational sentence is a model, not one part of speech.

Active entries have a lesson number beside “Active.” Reference entries remain available for supported reading and listening. An entry may be active in more than one lesson. Entry IDs identify the same word across the entire set, even when the IDs are not printed in numerical order.

Pronouns and question words

V001 | pron. | Active 1

我

wǒ

waw

I; me

Use it: E001 / A-27

V002 | pron. | Active 1

你

nǐ

knee

you

Use it: E001 / A-27

V003 | pron. | Active 1

您

nín

neen

you, polite

Use it: E002 / A-27

V004 | pron. | Active 2

他

tā

tah

he; him

Use it: E003 / A-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Pronouns and question words

V005 | pron. | Active 2

她

tā

tah

she; her

Use it: E003 / A-27

V006 | pron. | Reference

它

tā

tah

it

Use it: E004 / A-27

V007 | pron. | Active 2

我们

wǒmen

waw-mun

we; us

Use it: E005 / A-28

V008 | pron. | Reference

你们

nǐmen

knee-mun

you, plural

Use it: E006 / A-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Pronouns and question words

V009 | pron. | Active 2

他们

tāmen

tah-mun

they; them

Use it: E007 / A-28

V010 | pron. | Reference

自己

zìjǐ

dzuh-jee

oneself

Use it: E008 / A-28

V011 | pron./det. | Active 2

这

zhè

juh

this

Use it: E009 / A-28

V012 | pron./det. | Active 2

那

nà

nah

that

Use it: E009 / A-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Pronouns and question words

V013 | place word | Reference

这里

zhèlǐ

juh-lee

here

Use it: E010 / A-29

V014 | place word | Reference

那里

nàlǐ

nah-lee

there

Use it: E010 / A-29

V015 | question pron. | Active 2

谁

shéi

shay

who

Use it: E011 / A-29

V016 | question pron. | Active 1

什么

shénme

shun-muh

what

Use it: E012 / A-29

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Pronouns and question words

V017 | question det. | Reference

哪

nǎ

nah

which

Use it: E013 / A-29

V018 | question place word | Active 1

哪里

nǎlǐ

nah-lee

where

Use it: E014 / A-29

V019 | question num. | Active 2

几

jǐ

jee

how many, expecting a small number

Use it: E015 / A-30

V020 | question num. | Active 6

多少

duōshao

dwaw-shaow

how many; how much

Use it: E016 / A-30

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Pronouns and question words

V021 | question adv. | Reference

怎么

zěnme

dzuhn-muh

how

Use it: E017 / A-30

V022 | question adv. | Reference

为什么

wèishénme

way-shun-muh

why

Use it: E018 / A-30

V023 | question phrase | Active 4

什么时候

shénme shíhou

shun-muh shrr-ho

when

Use it: E019 / A-30

V024 | question expression | Reference

怎么样

zěnmeyàng

dzuhn-muh-yahng

how; what ... is like

Use it: E020 / A-31

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Pronouns and question words

V025 | n. | Reference

国

guó

gwaw

country; nation, as in 哪国人

Use it: E013 / A-29

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Connectors and relationship words

V026 | conj./prep. | Reference

和

hé

huh

and, between nouns; with

Use it: E021 / A-31

V027 | prep./conj. | Reference

跟

gēn

gun

with; and, between nouns

Use it: E022 / A-31

V028 | conj. | Reference

或者

huòzhě

hwaw-juh

or, in statements

Use it: E023 / A-31

V029 | conj./adv. | Active 3

还是

háishi

high-shrr

or, offering a choice in a question

Use it: E024 / A-31

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Connectors and relationship words

V030 | conj. | Reference

但是

dànshì

dahn-shrr

but

Use it: E025 / A-32

V031 | conj. | Reference

因为

yīnwèi

een-way

because

Use it: E026 / A-32

V032 | conj. | Reference

所以

suǒyǐ

swaw-ee

so; therefore

Use it: E026 / A-32

V033 | conj./adv. | Reference

然后

ránhòu

rahn-ho

then; after that

Use it: E027 / A-32

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Connectors and relationship words

V034 | conj. | Reference

如果

rúguǒ

roo-gwaw

if

Use it: E028 / A-32

V035 | adv. | Reference

也

yě

yeh

also; too

Use it: E029 / A-32

V036 | adv. | Reference

都

dōu

doh

all; both

Use it: E003 / A-27

V037 | adv. | Reference

还

hái

high

still; also; in addition

Use it: E030 / A-33

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Connectors and relationship words

V038 | adv. | Active 4

一起

yīqǐ

ee-chee

together

Use it: E005 / A-28

V039 | adv. | Reference

先

xiān

shyehn

first; before doing something else

Use it: E027 / A-32

V040 | adv. | Reference

再

zài

dzeye

then; again, for a subsequent action

Use it: E027 / A-32

V041 | v./prep. | Active 3

给

gěi

gay

give; to; for

Use it: E031 / A-33

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Connectors and relationship words

V042 | prep. | Reference

从

cóng

tsohng

from

Use it: E032 / A-33

V043 | v./prep. | Reference

到

dào

dow

arrive; to; until

Use it: E032 / A-33

V044 | prep./adj. | Reference

对

duì

dway

toward; to; correct; right

Use it: E033 / A-33

V045 | prep. | Reference

比

bǐ

bee

than, in comparisons

Use it: E034 / A-33

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Sentence building: verbs, adverbs and particles

V046 | v. | Active 1

是

shì

shrr

be; am; is; are

Use it: E001 / A-27

V047 | v. | Active 2

有

yǒu

yo

have; there is/are

Use it: E035 / A-34

V048 | v./prep./adv. | Reference

在

zài

dzeye

be at; at; action in progress

Use it: E036 / A-34

V049 | v. | Active 1

叫

jiào

jyow

be called; call

Use it: E012 / A-29

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Sentence building: verbs, adverbs and particles

V050 | modal/v. | Active 3

想

xiǎng

shyahng

want to; would like to; think

Use it: E037 / A-34

V051 | modal/v. | Active 3

要

yào

yow

want; need; be going to; about to/will in selected contexts

Use it: E038 / A-34

V052 | modal | Reference

会

huì

hway

can, a learned skill such as speaking Chinese; will

Use it: E039 / A-34

V053 | modal | Reference

能

néng

nung

can; be able to, ability or circumstances

Use it: E040 / A-35

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Sentence building: verbs, adverbs and particles

V054 | modal | Active 9

可以

kěyǐ

kuh-ee

may; can, permission or possibility

Use it: E041 / A-35

V055 | modal | Reference

应该

yīnggāi

ying-guy

should

Use it: E042 / A-35

V056 | v. | Active 3

喜欢

xǐhuan

shee-hwahn

like

Use it: E029 / A-32

V057 | v. | Reference

知道

zhīdào

jrr-dow

know a fact

Use it: E043 / A-35

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Sentence building: verbs, adverbs and particles

V058 | v. | Reference

觉得

juéde

jweh-duh*

think; feel

Use it: E044 / A-35

V059 | adv. | Active 1

不

bù

boo

not

Use it: E043 / A-35

V060 | adv. | Reference

没

méi

may

not; did not; absence with 有

Use it: E045 / A-36

V061 | adv. | Reference

很

hěn

hun

very; common degree word before adjectives

Use it: E044 / A-35

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Sentence building: verbs, adverbs and particles

V062 | adv. | Reference

太

tài

teye

too; extremely

Use it: E046 / A-36

V063 | adv. | Reference

比较

bǐjiào

bee-jyow

relatively; comparatively

Use it: E047 / A-36

V064 | adv. | Reference

最

zuì

dzway

most; -est

Use it: E048 / A-36

V065 | adv. | Reference

就

jiù

jyoh

then; right away, selected beginner uses

Use it: E049 / A-36

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Sentence building: verbs, adverbs and particles

V066 | adv. | Reference

已经

yǐjīng

ee-jing

already

Use it: E050 / A-37

V067 | adv. | Reference

常常

chángcháng

chahng-chahng

often

Use it: E051 / A-37

V068 | part. | Active 2

的

de

duh

modifier/possessive marker

Use it: E052 / A-37

V069 | part. | Active 1

吗

ma

mah

yes/no question marker

Use it: E053 / A-37

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Sentence building: verbs, adverbs and particles

V070 | part. | Active 1

呢

ne

nuh

follow-up/topic question marker

Use it: E054 / A-37

V071 | part. | Active 4

吧

ba

bah

suggestion or softened request marker

Use it: E055 / A-38

V072 | part. | Reference

了

le

luh

completed action or changed situation marker

Use it: E050 / A-37

V073 | part. | Reference

过

guo

gwaw

experience marker after a verb

Use it: E056 / A-38

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Sentence building: verbs, adverbs and particles

V074 | part. | Reference

得

de

duh

complement marker after a verb

Use it: E057 / A-38

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Use the words

Each example is linked from its vocabulary entry. Shared examples connect several useful words. Quantity phrases and counting sequences are labeled as such.

E001

我是老师，你呢?

Wǒ shì lǎoshī, nǐ ne?

waw shrr laow-shrr, knee nuh?

I am a teacher. What about you?

E002

您姓什么?

Nín xìng shénme?

neen shing shun-muh?

What is your surname?

E003

他和她都是学生。

Tā hé tā dōu shì xuésheng.

tah huh tah doh shrr shweh-shung.*

He and she are both students.

E004

它很小。

Tā hěn xiǎo.

tah hun shyow.

It is small.

Use the words (continued)

E005

我们一起喝茶吧。

Wǒmen yīqǐ hē chá ba.

waw-mun ee-chee huh chah bah.

Let's have tea together.

E006

你们住在哪里?

Nǐmen zhù zài nǎlǐ?

knee-mun joo dzeye nah-lee?

Where do you live?

E007

他们明天来。

Tāmen míngtiān lái.

tah-mun ming-tyehn leye.

They are coming tomorrow.

E008

我自己做饭。

Wǒ zìjǐ zuò fàn.

waw dzuh-jee dzwaw fahn.

I cook for myself.

E009

这是我的，那是你的。

Zhè shì wǒ de, nà shì nǐ de.

juh shrr waw duh, nah shrr knee duh.

This is mine; that is yours.

Use the words (continued)

E010

这里有茶，那里有水。

Zhèlǐ yǒu chá, nàlǐ yǒu shuǐ.

juh-lee yo chah, nah-lee yo shway.

There is tea here and water there.

E011

谁是老师?

Shéi shì lǎoshī?

shay shrr laow-shrr?

Who is the teacher?

E012

你叫什么名字?

Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?

knee jyow shun-muh ming-dzuh?

What is your name?

E013

你是哪国人?

Nǐ shì nǎ guó rén?

knee shrr nah gwaw run?

What country are you from?

E014

厕所在哪里?

Cèsuǒ zài nǎlǐ?

tsuh-swaw dzeye nah-lee?

Where is the restroom?

Use the words (continued)

E015

你家有几口人?

Nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén?

knee jyah yo jee koh run?

How many people are in your family?

E016

这个多少钱?

Zhège duōshao qián?

juh-guh dwaw-shaow chyehn?

How much is this?

E017

怎么去车站?

Zěnme qù chēzhàn?

dzuhn-muh chyoo chuh-jahn?*

How do I get to the station?

E018

你为什么学中文?

Nǐ wèishénme xué zhōngwén?

knee way-shun-muh shweh johng-wun?*

Why are you learning Chinese?

E019

你什么时候有空?

Nǐ shénme shíhou yǒu kòng?

knee shun-muh shrr-ho yo kohng?

When are you free?

Use the words (continued)

E020

今天天气怎么样?

Jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng?

jeen-tyehn tyehn-chee dzuhn-muh-yahng?

What is the weather like today?

E021

爸爸和妈妈都在家。

Bàba hé māma dōu zài jiā.

bah-bah huh mah-mah doh dzeye jyah.

Dad and Mom are both at home.

E022

我跟朋友去公园。

Wǒ gēn péngyou qù gōngyuán.

waw gun pung-yo chyoo gohng-ywen*.*

I am going to the park with a friend.

E023

喝茶或者喝水都可以。

Hē chá huòzhě hē shuǐ dōu kěyǐ.

huh chah hwaw-juh huh shway doh kuh-ee.

Either tea or water is fine.

E024

你喝茶还是咖啡?

Nǐ hē chá háishi kāfēi?

knee huh chah high-shrr kah-fay?

Would you like tea or coffee?

Use the words (continued)

E025

我喜欢，但是太贵了。

Wǒ xǐhuan, dànshì tài guì le.

waw shee-hwahn, dahn-shrr teye gway luh.

I like it, but it is too expensive.

E026

因为下雨，所以我们在家。

Yīnwèi xià yǔ, suǒyǐ wǒmen zài jiā.

een-way shyah yoo, swaw-ee waw-mun dzeye jyah.*

Because it is raining, we are staying home.

E027

先吃饭，然后再去。

Xiān chī fàn, ránhòu zài qù.

shyehn chrr fahn, rahn-ho dzeye chyoo.*

Eat first, then go.

E028

如果你有空，我们一起去。

Rúguǒ nǐ yǒu kòng, wǒmen yīqǐ qù.

roo-gwaw knee yo kohng, waw-mun ee-chee chyoo.*

If you are free, let's go together.

E029

我也喜欢喝茶。

Wǒ yě xǐhuan hē chá.

waw yeh shee-hwahn huh chah.

I also like drinking tea.

Use the words (continued)

E030

你还忙吗?

Nǐ hái máng ma?

knee high mahng mah?

Are you still busy?

E031

请给我一杯水。

Qǐng gěi wǒ yī bēi shuǐ.

ching gay waw ee bay shway.

Please give me a glass of water.

E032

从学校到我家很近。

Cóng xuéxiào dào wǒ jiā hěn jìn.

tsohng shweh-shyow dow waw jyah hun jeen.*

It is near from the school to my home.

E033

我对牛奶过敏。

Wǒ duì niúnǎi guòmǐn.

waw dway nyoh-neye gwaw-min.

I am allergic to milk.

E034

他比我高。

Tā bǐ wǒ gāo.

tah bee waw gow.

He is taller than I am.

Use the words (continued)

E035

我家有茶。

Wǒ jiā yǒu chá.

waw jyah yo chah.

We have tea at home.

E036

我在学习。

Wǒ zài xuéxí.

waw dzeye shweh-shee.*

I am studying.

E037

我想吃饺子。

Wǒ xiǎng chī jiǎozi.

waw shyahng chrr jyow-dzuh.

I would like to eat dumplings.

E038

我要一份米饭。

Wǒ yào yī fèn mǐfàn.

waw yow ee fun mee-fahn.

I would like one serving of rice.

E039

我会说中文。

Wǒ huì shuō zhōngwén.

waw hway shwaw johng-wun.

I can speak Chinese.

Use the words (continued)

E040

你能帮忙吗?

Nǐ néng bāng máng ma?

knee nung bahng mahng mah?

Can you help?

E041

我可以坐这里吗?

Wǒ kěyǐ zuò zhèlǐ ma?

waw kuh-ee dzwaw juh-lee mah?

May I sit here?

E042

你应该休息。

Nǐ yīnggāi xiūxi.

knee ying-guy shyoh-shee.

You should rest.

E043

我不知道。

Wǒ bù zhīdào.

waw boo jrr-dow.

I don't know.

E044

我觉得很好。

Wǒ juéde hěn hǎo.

waw jweh-duh hun how.*

I think it is very good.

Use the words (continued)

E045

我没有时间。

Wǒ méiyǒu shíjiān.

waw may-yo shrr-jyehn.

I don't have time.

E046

太热了！

Tài rè le!

teye ruh luh!

It is too hot!

E047

这个比较便宜。

Zhège bǐjiào piányi.

juh-guh bee-jyow pyehn-ee.

This one is comparatively inexpensive.

E048

这个最好吃。

Zhège zuì hǎochī.

juh-guh dzway how-chrr.

This one tastes best.

E049

我现在就去。

Wǒ xiànzài jiù qù.

waw shyehn-dzeye jyoh chyoo.*

I will go right now.

Use the words (continued)

E050

我已经吃饭了。

Wǒ yǐjīng chī fàn le.

waw ee-jing chrr fahn luh.

I have already eaten.

E051

我常常来这里。

Wǒ chángcháng lái zhèlǐ.

waw chahng-chahng leye juh-lee.

I often come here.

E052

这是我的书。

Zhè shì wǒ de shū.

juh shrr waw duh shoo.

This is my book.

E053

你是老师吗?

Nǐ shì lǎoshī ma?

knee shrr laow-shrr mah?

Are you a teacher?

E054

我很好，你呢?

Wǒ hěn hǎo, nǐ ne?

waw hun how, knee nuh?

I am well. How about you?

Use the words (continued)

E055

我们走吧。

Wǒmen zǒu ba.

waw-mun dzoh bah.

Let's go.

E056

我去过中国。

Wǒ qùguo Zhōngguó.

waw chyoo-gwaw johng-gwaw.*

I have been to China.

E057

请说得慢一点儿。

Qǐng shuō de màn yīdiǎnr.

ching shwaw duh mahn ee-dyehnr.

Please speak a little more slowly.

Usage notes

V004 他

Spoken tā is shared with 她 and 它. Written forms distinguish the referent.

V005 她

Same spoken form as 他; written here for a female referent.

V006 它

Same spoken form as 他; normally for things or animals.

V015 谁

Use shéi in this edition; shuí is another established reading. Confirm the selected dictionary entry before release.

V025 国

A country component used in 哪国人; do not substitute it for every use of 国家.

V026 和

Beginner pattern: join nouns. Do not use 和 to join every pair of English-style clauses.

V028 或者

Statement of alternatives; compare the choice-question use of 还是.

Usage notes

V029 还是

Choice question: tea or coffee? Use 或者 for an ordinary statement of alternatives.

V040 再

A subsequent or requested repetition. Compare 又 for something that has occurred again.

V044 对

Toward/to in 我对…过敏; correct/right in 对 or 不对.

V046 是

Use with identity/classification. A descriptive predicate often uses 很 rather than 是.

V048 在

Location (在家), introducing a place (在学校学习), or ongoing action (在学习).

V051 要

Want/need and, in selected contexts, be going to/about to.

V052 会

Learned ability in 会说中文; other contexts can indicate future likelihood.

Usage notes

V059 不

General negation. Printed bù changes to bú before a fourth tone in connected speech.

V060 没

Negates having and past occurrence: 没有. Not a universal substitute for 不.

V061 很

Often links a subject to a descriptive predicate without strong emphasis on very.

V068 的

Neutral de connects a modifier or possessor to a noun; compare 得.

V072 了

Completed action or a changed situation in selected patterns; not an English past-tense suffix.

V073 过

Experiential particle: printed neutral guo here. Contrast full-tone guò in other uses.

V074 得

Neutral de introduces a manner/degree complement after a verb; not dé or děi here.

Connect thoughts

Use he mainly between nouns in these beginner patterns. Ye comes before the predicate. Huozhe offers alternatives in a statement; haishi asks a choice question.

我和你

wǒ hé nǐ

waw huh knee

You and I [noun phrase]

我也去。

Wǒ yě qù.

waw yeh chyoo.*

I am going too.

茶或者水都可以。

Chá huòzhě shuǐ dōu kěyǐ.

chah hwaw-juh shway doh kuh-ee.

Tea or water is fine.

你喝茶还是水？

Nǐ hē chá háishi shuǐ?

knee huh chah high-shrr shway?

Would you like tea or water?

因为下雨，所以我不去。

Yīnwèi xià yǔ, suǒyǐ wǒ bù qù.

een-way shyah yoo, swaw-ee waw boo chyoo*.*

Because it is raining, I am not going.

Connect thoughts (continued)

如果有空，我就去。
Rúguǒ yǒu kòng, wǒ jiù qù.
roo-gwaw yo kohng, waw jyoh chyoo.*
If I have time, I will go.

先吃饭，然后去。
Xiān chī fàn, ránhòu qù.
shyehn chrr fahn, rahn-ho chyoo.*
Eat first, then go.

Particles in use

A particle does a job in a sentence. Learn the complete pattern, not an English replacement word. Le is not simply past tense.

我的书
wǒ de shū
waw duh shoo
My book [possession]

你去吗?
Nǐ qù ma?
knee chyoo mah?*
Are you going? [yes/no question]

你呢?
Nǐ ne?
knee nuh?
What about you? [follow-up]

走吧。
Zǒu ba.
dzoh bah.
Let's go. [suggestion]

我吃饭了。
Wǒ chī fàn le.
waw chrr fahn luh.
I have eaten. [completed action in this context]

Particles in use (continued)

我累了。
Wǒ lèi le.
waw lay luh.
I am tired now. [changed situation]

我去过中国。
Wǒ qùguo Zhōngguó.
waw chyoo-gwaw johng-gwaw.*
I have been to China. [experience]

他说得很慢。
Tā shuō de hěn màn.
tah shwaw duh hun mahn.
He speaks slowly. [manner]

Build one exchange

Choose two entries from this volume and one theme word from Volumes D-H. Make a short question, answer it, and change one detail.

1. Point to something and ask what it is.
2. Ask for one or two of something.
3. Say whether you can come tomorrow.
4. Ask a partner to repeat or slow down.

Possible models:

这是什么?
Zhè shì shénme?
juh shrr shun-muh?
What is this?

请再说一遍。
Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.
ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.
Please say it again.

Pinyin index

吧 ba
suggestion or softened request marker [V071 · A-25]

比 bǐ
than, in comparisons [V045 · A-18]

比较 bǐjiào
relatively [V063 · A-23]

不 bù
not [V059 · A-22]

常常 chángcháng
often [V067 · A-24]

从 cóng
from [V042 · A-18]

但是 dànshì
but [V030 · A-15]

到 dào
arrive [V043 · A-18]

的 de
modifier/possessive marker [V068 · A-24]

得 de
complement marker after a verb [V074 · A-26]

都 dōu
all [V036 · A-16]

对 duì
toward [V044 · A-18]

多少 duōshao
how many [V020 · A-11]

给 gěi
give [V041 · A-17]

Pinyin index

跟 gēn
with [V027 · A-14]

国 guó
country [V025 · A-13]

过 guo
experience marker after a verb [V073 · A-25]

还 hái
still [V037 · A-16]

还是 háishi
or, offering a choice in a question [V029 · A-14]

和 hé
and, between nouns [V026 · A-14]

很 hěn
very [V061 · A-22]

会 huì
can, a learned skill such as speaking Chinese [V052 · A-20]

或者 huòzhě
or, in statements [V028 · A-14]

几 jǐ
how many, expecting a small number [V019 · A-11]

叫 jiào
be called [V049 · A-19]

就 jiù
then [V065 · A-23]

觉得 juéde
think [V058 · A-22]

可以 kěyǐ
may [V054 · A-21]

Pinyin index

了 le
completed action or changed situation marker [V072 · A-25]
吗 ma
yes/no question marker [V069 · A-24]
没 méi
not [V060 · A-22]
那 nà
that [V012 · A-09]
哪 nǎ
which [V017 · A-11]
那里 nàlǐ
there [V014 · A-10]
哪里 nǎlǐ
where [V018 · A-11]
呢 ne
follow-up/topic question marker [V070 · A-25]
能 néng
can [V053 · A-20]
你 nǐ
you [V002 · A-07]
你们 nǐmen
you, plural [V008 · A-08]
您 nín
you, polite [V003 · A-07]
然后 ránhòu
then [V033 · A-15]
如果 rúguǒ
if [V034 · A-16]

Pinyin index

谁 shéi
who [V015 · A-10]

什么 shénme
what [V016 · A-10]

什么时候 shénme shíhou
when [V023 · A-12]

是 shì
be [V046 · A-19]

所以 suǒyǐ
so [V032 · A-15]

他 tā
he [V004 · A-07]

她 tā
she [V005 · A-08]

它 tā
it [V006 · A-08]

太 tài
too [V062 · A-23]

他们 tāmen
they [V009 · A-09]

为什么 wèishénme
why [V022 · A-12]

我 wǒ
I [V001 · A-07]

我们 wǒmen
we [V007 · A-08]

先 xiān
first [V039 · A-17]

Pinyin index

想 xiǎng
want to [V050 · A-20]

喜欢 xǐhuan
like [V056 · A-21]

要 yào
want [V051 · A-20]

也 yě
also [V035 · A-16]

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already [V066 · A-24]

应该 yīnggāi
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因为 yīnwèi
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一起 yīqǐ
together [V038 · A-17]

有 yǒu
have [V047 · A-19]

再 zài
then [V040 · A-17]

在 zài
be at [V048 · A-19]

怎么 zěnme
how [V021 · A-12]

怎么样 zěnmeyàng
how [V024 · A-12]

这 zhè
this [V011 · A-09]

Pinyin index

这里 zhèlǐ
here [V013 · A-10]

知道 zhīdào
know a fact [V057 · A-21]

自己 zìjǐ
oneself [V010 · A-09]

最 zuì
most [V064 · A-23]

English index

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from [V042 · A-18]

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how many [V020 · A-11]

怎么样 zěnmeyàng
how [V024 · A-12]

我 wǒ
I [V001 · A-07]

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it [V006 · A-08]

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modifier/possessive marker [V068 · A-24]

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relatively [V063 · A-23]

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she [V005 · A-08]

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should [V055 · A-21]

所以 suǒyǐ
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they [V009 · A-09]

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this [V011 · A-09]

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一起 yīqǐ
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want to [V050 · A-20]

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when [V023 · A-12]

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where [V018 · A-11]

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why [V022 · A-12]

跟 gēn
with [V027 · A-14]

English index

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yes/no question marker [V069 · A-24]
你 nǐ
you [V002 · A-07]
你们 nǐmen
you, plural [V008 · A-08]
您 nín
you, polite [V003 · A-07]

Keep the conversation going

My practice plan
This week I will use three words in a real conversation.
Words / IDs: _____
One question I want to ask: _____
Someone I can practice with: _____
Date I tried it: _____ What I heard: _____

Personal words
My name: _____
My city: _____
My work, family, or interests: _____

Ask a teacher to help you check the Chinese and pronunciation of personal additions. They are yours to learn; they do not change the shared 421-entry register.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

Use it with people

Choose a few words.
Hear them. Say them.
Ask a real question.
Listen to the answer.

Then use the words again in a new situation.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Volume A of 8

Practice tools: translate.google.com
and toneperfect.app/practice

Companion vocabulary site planned:
secondlanguageproject.org/csl/vocabulary/
Site availability must be checked before print release.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

CSL

Mandarin Vocabulary

VOLUME B OF 8

Numbers & measure words

Chinese characters
Pinyin · CSL sound clues · English

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

Nine-month conversation program

Review edition · September 2026

Make these words your own

This is a conversation companion for adult CSL members. You do not need to memorize everything before speaking. Start with a useful question, listen to another person, and build from there.

Eight slim volumes keep the language layers readable: A Sentence builders; B Numbers & measure words; C Everyday foundations; D Meeting people & family; E Food, time & plans; F Places & shopping; G Daily life & travel; H Socializing & hosting.

The full set contains 421 vocabulary entries and 30 conversation models. Repeated examples and charts are practice, not extra headwords. Numbers and times are built from reusable parts.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Manuscript/design edition 1.0 - 29 September 2026
Pronunciation source checks and human audio review pending.

Use lesson numbers: the Wednesday sequence runs September-May; the Thursday sequence runs October-June. The same nine themes serve both groups.

In this volume

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.	B-04
Pinyin and the CSL sound clues	B-05
Read the labels	B-06
Numbers and quantity building blocks	B-07
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Numbers: build, do not memorize a hundred rows	B-27
Larger numbers, two, and order	B-29
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Words I used this week	B-41
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Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

A few minutes at a time is enough to begin. Choose three to five entries and one model. Listen first, say the words aloud, then hide one support layer and try again. Use one word in a question to a partner. Revisit it on another day.

LISTEN: scan the listening QR. Google Translate opens the Chinese text; check that Chinese is the source and tap the source-language speaker. It may need an internet connection and a tap to start. Its automatic Pinyin is not the booklet's editorial source.

SAY: follow the booklet Pinyin and the recording. Keep neutral syllables light. Speak a short thought, not a string of English sound clues.

PRACTICE: open toneperfect.app/practice. Enter or paste the Chinese and choose Start Practice. Recording needs your microphone permission. Review the feedback, try once more, and ask a teacher about unclear results. AI scores are guidance, not a grade. Access limits may change.

USE: ask someone a real question and listen to their answer. If you get stuck, use a clarification model. The digital reader links work without a camera; a printed QR has a short address and text fallback beside it.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

PRACTICE ONE PHRASE
TonePerfect pronunciation practice
Fallback: toneperfect.app/practice
Type the Chinese example above.

Pinyin and the CSL sound clues

Read the four layers from top to bottom: Chinese, Pinyin, CSL sound clue, English. Chinese is the text to recognize and say. Pinyin carries the tones. Sound clues are an approximate bridge for English speakers; use the audio and Pinyin to refine them.

The marks show first tone (high and level), second (rising), third (low, with a rise when pronounced alone), and fourth (falling). A syllable without a mark is neutral: light and brief. A third tone often changes before another third tone. Yi and bu also change in connected speech. Printed citation tones and natural spoken changes can coexist.

In CSL clues, hyphens join syllables inside a word; spaces separate words. The star (*) marks rounded lips with an ee-like tongue position. Do not read it aloud. The shrr/chrr/jrr family is not an English “ee.” Pinyin r and the j/q/x and zh/ch/sh contrasts need listening practice. A final r in dianr or huir is joined erhua, not a separate er syllable.

Clues have no tone arrows. Read the Pinyin tone, listen once, and then imitate the whole word rather than sounding out English letters.

Read the labels

n. = noun; proper n. = name; time n. = time noun. pron. = pronoun; det. = determiner. v. = verb; modal = can/want/should-type helper. adj. = adjective or descriptive predicate; adv. = adverb. conj. = connector; prep. = preposition/coverb. num. = number; mw. = classifier; verbal mw. = action counter; unit = time, weight, or money unit. part. = grammatical particle; prefix = bound beginning such as ordinal di.

Some labels describe a learning function rather than a strict word class: demonstrative, place word, response, title, expression, and formula. A slash means that more than one selected use is taught. A complete conversational sentence is a model, not one part of speech.

Active entries have a lesson number beside “Active.” Reference entries remain available for supported reading and listening. An entry may be active in more than one lesson. Entry IDs identify the same word across the entire set, even when the IDs are not printed in numerical order.

Numbers and quantity building blocks

V075 | num. | Reference

零

líng

ling

zero

Use it: E058 / B-19

V076 | num. | Reference

一

yī

ee

one

Use it: E058 / B-19

V077 | num. | Reference

二

èr

er

two, counting and number names

Use it: E058 / B-19

V078 | num. | Active 6

两

liǎng

lyahng

two, commonly before measure words

Use it: E059 / B-19

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Numbers and quantity building blocks

V079 | num. | Reference

三

sān

sahn

three

Use it: E058 / B-19

V080 | num. | Reference

四

sì

suh

four

Use it: E058 / B-19

V081 | num. | Reference

五

wǔ

woo

five

Use it: E058 / B-19

V082 | num. | Reference

六

liù

lyoh

six

Use it: E058 / B-19

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Numbers and quantity building blocks

V083 | num. | Reference

七

qī

chee

seven

Use it: E058 / B-19

V084 | num. | Reference

八

bā

bah

eight

Use it: E058 / B-19

V085 | num. | Reference

九

jiǔ

jyoh

nine

Use it: E058 / B-19

V086 | num. | Reference

十

shí

shrr

ten

Use it: E060 / B-19

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Numbers and quantity building blocks

V087 | num. | Reference

百

bǎi

bye

hundred

Use it: E060 / B-19

V088 | num. | Reference

千

qiān

chyehn

thousand

Use it: E060 / B-19

V089 | num. | Reference

万

wàn

wahn

ten thousand

Use it: E060 / B-19

V090 | num. | Reference

半

bàn

bahn

half

Use it: E061 / B-19

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Numbers and quantity building blocks

V091 | prefix | Reference

第

dì

dee

ordinal prefix: first, second, etc.

Use it: E062 / B-20

V092 | det. | Reference

每

měi

may

every; each

Use it: E063 / B-20

V093 | quantity expression | Reference

一些

yīxiē

ee-shyeh

some; a few

Use it: E064 / B-20

V094 | quantity expression | Reference

一点儿

yīdiǎnr

ee-dyehnr

a little; a bit

Use it: E065 / B-20

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Numbers and quantity building blocks

V095 | adj. | Reference

多

duō

dwaw

many; much

Use it: E066 / B-20

V096 | adj. | Reference

少

shǎo

shaow

few; little

Use it: E066 / B-20

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Measure words and units

V097 | mw. | Active 2

个

gè

guh

general classifier for people and many things

Use it: E059 / B-19

V098 | mw. | Reference

位

wèi

way

polite classifier for people

Use it: E067 / B-21

V099 | mw. | Active 2

口

kǒu

koh

classifier for family members in household counts

Use it: E015 / B-21

V100 | mw. | Active 3

杯

bēi

bay

cup/glass of

Use it: E031 / B-21

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Measure words and units

V101 | mw. | Reference

瓶

píng

ping

bottle of

Use it: E068 / B-21

V102 | mw. | Active 3

碗

wǎn

wahn

bowl of

Use it: E069 / B-21

V103 | mw. | Active 3

份

fèn

fun

portion; serving; copy

Use it: E038 / B-22

V104 | mw./unit | Active 6

块

kuài

kweye

piece; colloquial unit of money

Use it: E070 / B-22

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Measure words and units

V105 | mw. | Active 6

张

zhāng

jahng

classifier for flat objects, tickets, tables

Use it: E071 / B-22

V106 | mw. | Active 6

本

běn

bun

classifier for bound books

Use it: E072 / B-22

V107 | mw. | Active 6

件

jiàn

jyehn

classifier for clothing and matters

Use it: E073 / B-22

V108 | mw. | Active 6

双

shuāng

shwahng

pair, for shoes, chopsticks, etc.

Use it: E074 / B-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Measure words and units

V109 | mw. | Reference

条

tiáo

tyow

classifier for long objects, trousers, routes

Use it: E075 / B-23

V110 | mw. | Reference

辆

liàng

lyahng

classifier for vehicles

Use it: E076 / B-23

V111 | mw. | Reference

间

jiān

jyehn

classifier for rooms

Use it: E077 / B-23

V112 | verbal mw. | Reference

次

cì

tsuh

time; occurrence of an action

Use it: E062 / B-20

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Measure words and units

V113 | mw. | Reference

种

zhǒng

johng

kind; type

Use it: E078 / B-23

V114 | unit | Active 6

元

yuán

*ywen**

yuan, currency unit

Use it: E079 / B-24

V115 | unit | Reference

角

jiǎo

jyow

one tenth of a yuan

Use it: E079 / B-24

V116 | unit | Active 4

分

fēn

fun

one hundredth of a yuan; minute in clock time

Use it: E079 / B-24

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Measure words and units

V117 | unit | Reference

公斤

gōngjīn

gohng-jeen

kilogram

Use it: E080 / B-24

V118 | unit | Reference

斤

jīn

jeen

jin; 500 grams in mainland China

Use it: E080 / B-24

V119 | verbal mw. | Reference

遍

biàn

byehn

one complete repetition of an action

Use it: E081 / B-24

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Use the words

Each example is linked from its vocabulary entry. Shared examples connect several useful words. Quantity phrases and counting sequences are labeled as such.

E058

零、一、二、三、四、五、六、七、八、九。

Líng, yī, èr, sān, sì, wǔ, liù, qī, bā, jiǔ.

ling, ee, er, sahn, suh, woo, lyoh, chee, bah, jyoh.

Zero, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine. [Counting sequence]

E059

两个人。

Liǎng gè rén.

lyahng guh run.

Two people. [Quantity phrase]

E060

十、百、千、万。

Shí, bǎi, qiān, wàn.

shrr, bye, chyehn, wahn.

Ten, hundred, thousand, ten thousand. [Number units]

E061

半个小时。

Bàn gè xiǎoshí.

bahn guh shyow-shrr.

Half an hour. [Duration phrase]

Use the words (continued)

E062

这是我第一次来。

Zhè shì wǒ dì-yī cì lái.

juh shrr waw dee-ee tsuh leye.

This is my first visit.

E063

我每天学习。

Wǒ měi tiān xuéxí.

waw may tyehn shweh-shee.*

I study every day.

E064

我买了一些水果。

Wǒ mǎi le yīxiē shuǐguǒ.

waw meye luh ee-shyeh shway-gwaw.

I bought some fruit.

E065

请说慢一点儿。

Qǐng shuō màn yīdiǎnr.

ching shwaw mahn ee-dyehnr.

Please speak a little more slowly.

E066

人多，椅子少。

Rén duō, yǐzi shǎo.

run dwaw, ee-dzuh shaow.

There are many people and few chairs.

Use the words (continued)

E067

两位先生。

Liǎng wèi xiānsheng.

lyahng way shyehn-shung.

Two gentlemen. [Quantity phrase]

E015

你家有几口人?

Nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén?

knee jyah yo jee koh run?

How many people are in your family?

E031

请给我一杯水。

Qǐng gěi wǒ yī bēi shuǐ.

ching gay waw ee bay shway.

Please give me a glass of water.

E068

一瓶水。

Yī píng shuǐ.

ee ping shway.

A bottle of water. [Quantity phrase]

E069

一碗面条。

Yī wǎn miàntiáo.

ee wahn myehn-tyow.

A bowl of noodles. [Quantity phrase]

Use the words (continued)

E038

我要一份米饭。

Wǒ yào yī fèn mǐfàn.

waw yow ee fun mee-fahn.

I would like one serving of rice.

E070

一块豆腐。

Yī kuài dòufu.

ee kweye doh-foo.

A piece of tofu. [Quantity phrase]

E071

两张票。

Liǎng zhāng piào.

lyahng jahng pyow.

Two tickets. [Quantity phrase]

E072

两本书。

Liǎng běn shū.

lyahng bun shoo.

Two books. [Quantity phrase]

E073

一件衣服。

Yī jiàn yīfu.

ee jyehn ee-foo.

An item of clothing. [Quantity phrase]

Use the words (continued)

E074

一双鞋。

Yī shuāng xié.

ee shwahng shyeh.

A pair of shoes. [Quantity phrase]

E075

一条鱼。

Yī tiáo yú.

ee tyow yoo.*

One fish. [Quantity phrase]

E076

一辆车。

Yī liàng chē.

ee lyahng chuh.

A vehicle. [Quantity phrase]

E077

一间房间。

Yī jiān fángjiān.

ee jyehn fahng-jyehn.

One room. [Quantity phrase]

E078

两种茶。

Liǎng zhǒng chá.

lyahng johng chah.

Two kinds of tea. [Quantity phrase]

Use the words (continued)

E079

五元三角二分。

Wǔ yuán sān jiǎo èr fēn.

woo ywen sahn jyow er fun.*

Five yuan, three jiao, and two fen. [Price: 5.32 yuan]

E080

一公斤是两斤。

Yī gōngjīn shì liǎng jīn.

ee gohng-jeen shrr lyahng jeen.

One kilogram is two jin. [Mainland units]

E081

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

Usage notes

V076 一

Print citation-tone yī; connected speech often changes to yí or yì depending on the following tone.

V077 二

Use in counting and number names; compare 两 before many classifiers.

V078 两

Commonly before measure words: 两个人. Use 二 in 二十.

V091 第

Ordinal prefix; first, second, etc. It is not a standalone counting number.

V094 一点儿

Erhua joins 儿 to the preceding syllable: yīdiǎnr. Do not read it as a separate ér here.

V097 个

Citation form gè; often light in connected speech, such as zhège.

V099 口

Counts household members in 几口人; 个 is the more general people classifier.

V104 块

Piece, and colloquial yuan. Do not translate every occurrence as money.

Usage notes

V112 次

Counts occurrences; 遍 emphasizes one complete pass or repetition.

V115 角

jiǎo for one tenth of a yuan; colloquial 毛 is a recognition note, not a new headword.

V116 分

Currency fēn and clock-time minutes. 分钟 normally expresses a duration in minutes.

V118 斤

Mainland jin = 500 grams. Unit sizes can differ by region.

V119 遍

One full repetition, as in 再说一遍; compare 次.

Numbers: build, do not memorize a hundred rows

Use ten plus a digit for 11-19. Use a digit before ten for the tens. Read telephone digits separately; yao is a listening variant for one. These generated combinations do not add vocabulary entries.

零、一、二、三、四、五

líng, yī, èr, sān, sì, wǔ

ling, ee, er, sahn, suh, woo

0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

六、七、八、九、十

liù, qī, bā, jiǔ, shí

lyoh, chee, bah, jyoh, shrr

6, 7, 8, 9, 10

十一、十二、十三

shíyī, shíèr, shísān

shrr-ee, shrr-er, shrr-sahn

11, 12, 13

十四、十五、十六

shísì, shíwǔ, shíliù

shrr-suh, shrr-woo, shrr-lyoh

14, 15, 16

十七、十八、十九

shíqī, shíbā, shíjiǔ

shrr-chee, shrr-bah, shrr-jyoh

17, 18, 19

Numbers: build, do not memorize a hundred rows (continued)

二十、三十、四十
èrshí, sānshí, sìshí
er-shrr, sahn-shrr, suh-shrr
20, 30, 40

五十、六十、七十
wǔshí, liùshí, qīshí
woo-shrr, lyoh-shrr, chee-shrr
50, 60, 70

八十、九十
bāshí, jiǔshí
bah-shrr, jyoh-shrr
80, 90

Larger numbers, two, and order

Zero holds a missing place inside a number. Liang is common before classifiers; er remains in ershi. Di introduces an ordinal.

二十一、三十五

èrshíyī, sānshíwǔ

er-shrr-ee, sahn-shrr-woo

21, 35

一百零五、一千零八

yībǎi líng wǔ, yīqiān líng bā

ee-bye ling woo, ee-chyehn ling bah

105, 1,008

一万

yīwàn

ee-wahn

10,000

二十个人、两个人

èrshí gè rén, liǎng gè rén

er-shrr guh run, lyahng guh run

Twenty people; two people

第一、第二、第三

dì-yī, dì-èr, dì-sān

dee-ee, dee-er, dee-sahn

First, second, third

Larger numbers, two, and order (continued)

幺

yāo

yow

One in some spoken digit sequences [recognition note]

Count things and actions

Use number + classifier + noun. Familiar units such as minutes or kilograms do not all behave like general noun classifiers. Ci counts occurrences; bian counts complete repetitions.

一个人、两位老师

yī gè rén, liǎng wèi lǎoshī

ee guh run, lyahng way laow-shrr

One person; two teachers, politely

三杯茶、两本书

sān bēi chá, liǎng běn shū

sahn bay chah, lyahng bun shoo

Three cups of tea; two books

一间房间、一辆车

yī jiān fángjiān, yī liàng chē

ee jyehn fahng-jyehn, ee lyahng chuh

One room; one vehicle

我去过两次。

Wǒ qùguo liǎng cì.

waw chyoo-gwaw lyahng tsuh.*

I have been there twice.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it once more.

Build one exchange

Choose two entries from this volume and one theme word from Volumes D-H. Make a short question, answer it, and change one detail.

1. Point to something and ask what it is.
2. Ask for one or two of something.
3. Say whether you can come tomorrow.
4. Ask a partner to repeat or slow down.

Possible models:

这是什么?
Zhè shì shénme?
juh shrr shun-muh?
What is this?

请再说一遍。
Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.
ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.
Please say it again.

Pinyin index

八 bā
eight [V084 · B-09]

百 bǎi
hundred [V087 · B-10]

半 bàn
half [V090 · B-10]

杯 bēi
cup/glass of [V100 · B-13]

本 běn
classifier for bound books [V106 · B-15]

遍 biàn
one complete repetition of an action [V119 · B-18]

次 cì
time [V112 · B-16]

第 dì
ordinal prefix: first, second, etc. [V091 · B-11]

多 duō
many [V095 · B-12]

二 èr
two, counting and number names [V077 · B-07]

份 fèn
portion [V103 · B-14]

分 fēn
one hundredth of a yuan [V116 · B-17]

个 gè
general classifier for people and many things [V097 · B-13]

公斤 gōngjīn
kilogram [V117 · B-18]

Pinyin index

件 jiàn
classifier for clothing and matters [V107 · B-15]

间 jiān
classifier for rooms [V111 · B-16]

角 jiǎo
one tenth of a yuan [V115 · B-17]

斤 jīn
jin [V118 · B-18]

九 jiǔ
nine [V085 · B-09]

口 kǒu
classifier for family members in household counts [V099 · B-13]

块 kuài
piece [V104 · B-14]

两 liǎng
two, commonly before measure words [V078 · B-07]

辆 liàng
classifier for vehicles [V110 · B-16]

零 líng
zero [V075 · B-07]

六 liù
six [V082 · B-08]

每 měi
every [V092 · B-11]

瓶 píng
bottle of [V101 · B-14]

七 qī
seven [V083 · B-09]

Pinyin index

千 qiān
thousand [V088 · B-10]

三 sān
three [V079 · B-08]

少 shǎo
few [V096 · B-12]

十 shí
ten [V086 · B-09]

双 shuāng
pair, for shoes, chopsticks, etc. [V108 · B-15]

四 sì
four [V080 · B-08]

条 tiáo
classifier for long objects, trousers, routes [V109 · B-16]

万 wàn
ten thousand [V089 · B-10]

碗 wǎn
bowl of [V102 · B-14]

位 wèi
polite classifier for people [V098 · B-13]

五 wǔ
five [V081 · B-08]

一 yī
one [V076 · B-07]

一点儿 yīdiǎnr
a little [V094 · B-11]

一些 yīxiē
some [V093 · B-11]

Pinyin index

元 yuán
yuan, currency unit [V114 · B-17]

张 zhāng
classifier for flat objects, tickets, tables [V105 · B-15]

种 zhǒng
kind [V113 · B-17]

English index

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jin [V118 · B-18]

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次 cì
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English index

二 èr

two, counting and number names [V077 · B-07]

元 yuán

yuan, currency unit [V114 · B-17]

零 líng

zero [V075 · B-07]

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Keep the conversation going

My practice plan
This week I will use three words in a real conversation.
Words / IDs: _____
One question I want to ask: _____
Someone I can practice with: _____
Date I tried it: _____ What I heard: _____

Personal words
My name: _____
My city: _____
My work, family, or interests: _____

Ask a teacher to help you check the Chinese and pronunciation of personal additions. They are yours to learn; they do not change the shared 421-entry register.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

Use it with people

Choose a few words.
Hear them. Say them.
Ask a real question.
Listen to the answer.

Then use the words again in a new situation.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Volume B of 8

Practice tools: translate.google.com
and toneperfect.app/practice

Companion vocabulary site planned:
secondlanguageproject.org/csl/vocabulary/
Site availability must be checked before print release.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

CSL

Mandarin Vocabulary

VOLUME C OF 8

Everyday foundations

Chinese characters
Pinyin · CSL sound clues · English

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

Nine-month conversation program

Review edition · September 2026

Make these words your own

This is a conversation companion for adult CSL members. You do not need to memorize everything before speaking. Start with a useful question, listen to another person, and build from there.

Eight slim volumes keep the language layers readable: A Sentence builders; B Numbers & measure words; C Everyday foundations; D Meeting people & family; E Food, time & plans; F Places & shopping; G Daily life & travel; H Socializing & hosting.

The full set contains 421 vocabulary entries and 30 conversation models. Repeated examples and charts are practice, not extra headwords. Numbers and times are built from reusable parts.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Manuscript/design edition 1.0 - 29 September 2026
Pronunciation source checks and human audio review pending.

Use lesson numbers: the Wednesday sequence runs September-May; the Thursday sequence runs October-June. The same nine themes serve both groups.

In this volume

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People, pointing and responses	C-07
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Use it with people	C-48

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

A few minutes at a time is enough to begin. Choose three to five entries and one model. Listen first, say the words aloud, then hide one support layer and try again. Use one word in a question to a partner. Revisit it on another day.

LISTEN: scan the listening QR. Google Translate opens the Chinese text; check that Chinese is the source and tap the source-language speaker. It may need an internet connection and a tap to start. Its automatic Pinyin is not the booklet's editorial source.

SAY: follow the booklet Pinyin and the recording. Keep neutral syllables light. Speak a short thought, not a string of English sound clues.

PRACTICE: open toneperfect.app/practice. Enter or paste the Chinese and choose Start Practice. Recording needs your microphone permission. Review the feedback, try once more, and ask a teacher about unclear results. AI scores are guidance, not a grade. Access limits may change.

USE: ask someone a real question and listen to their answer. If you get stuck, use a clarification model. The digital reader links work without a camera; a printed QR has a short address and text fallback beside it.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

PRACTICE ONE PHRASE
TonePerfect pronunciation practice
Fallback: toneperfect.app/practice
Type the Chinese example above.

Pinyin and the CSL sound clues

Read the four layers from top to bottom: Chinese, Pinyin, CSL sound clue, English. Chinese is the text to recognize and say. Pinyin carries the tones. Sound clues are an approximate bridge for English speakers; use the audio and Pinyin to refine them.

The marks show first tone (high and level), second (rising), third (low, with a rise when pronounced alone), and fourth (falling). A syllable without a mark is neutral: light and brief. A third tone often changes before another third tone. Yi and bu also change in connected speech. Printed citation tones and natural spoken changes can coexist.

In CSL clues, hyphens join syllables inside a word; spaces separate words. The star (*) marks rounded lips with an ee-like tongue position. Do not read it aloud. The shrr/chrr/jrr family is not an English “ee.” Pinyin r and the j/q/x and zh/ch/sh contrasts need listening practice. A final r in dianr or huir is joined erhua, not a separate er syllable.

Clues have no tone arrows. Read the Pinyin tone, listen once, and then imitate the whole word rather than sounding out English letters.

Read the labels

n. = noun; proper n. = name; time n. = time noun. pron. = pronoun; det. = determiner. v. = verb; modal = can/want/should-type helper. adj. = adjective or descriptive predicate; adv. = adverb. conj. = connector; prep. = preposition/coverb. num. = number; mw. = classifier; verbal mw. = action counter; unit = time, weight, or money unit. part. = grammatical particle; prefix = bound beginning such as ordinal di.

Some labels describe a learning function rather than a strict word class: demonstrative, place word, response, title, expression, and formula. A slash means that more than one selected use is taught. A complete conversational sentence is a model, not one part of speech.

Active entries have a lesson number beside “Active.” Reference entries remain available for supported reading and listening. An entry may be active in more than one lesson. Entry IDs identify the same word across the entire set, even when the IDs are not printed in numerical order.

People, pointing and responses

V372 | pron. | Reference

大家

dàjiā

dah-jyah

everyone; everybody

Use it: E082 / C-21

V373 | pron. | Reference

别人

biéren

byeh-run

other people; someone else

Use it: E083 / C-21

V374 | demonstrative | Reference

这些

zhèxiē

juh-shyeh

these

Use it: E084 / C-21

V375 | demonstrative | Reference

那些

nàxiē

nah-shyeh

those

Use it: E084 / C-21

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

People, pointing and responses

V376 | demonstrative expression | Reference

这样

zhèyàng

juh-yahng

like this; this way

Use it: E085 / C-21

V377 | adj. | Reference

错

cuò

tswaw

wrong; mistaken

Use it: E086 / C-22

V378 | v./response | Reference

行

xíng

shing

be acceptable; okay

Use it: E085 / C-21

V379 | n. | Reference

意思

yìsi

ee-suh

meaning

Use it: E087 / C-22

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Everyday actions

V380 | v. | Reference

开

kāi

keye

open; turn on

Use it: E088 / C-22

V381 | v. | Reference

关

guān

gwahn

close; turn off

Use it: E088 / C-22

V382 | v. | Reference

拿

ná

nah

take; hold

Use it: E089 / C-22

V383 | v. | Reference

放

fàng

fahng

put; place

Use it: E089 / C-22

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Everyday actions

V384 | v. | Reference

带

dài

dye

bring; take along

Use it: E090 / C-22

V385 | v. | Reference

送

sòng

sohng

give as a gift; deliver; see someone off

Use it: E091 / C-23

V386 | v. with result complement | Reference

找到

zhǎodào

jaow-dow

find successfully

Use it: E092 / C-23

V387 | v. with result complement | Reference

看见

kànjiàn

kahn-jyehn

see; catch sight of

Use it: E093 / C-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Everyday actions

V388 | v. | Reference

告诉

gàosu

gow-soo

tell

Use it: E094 / C-23

V389 | v. | Reference

记得

jìde

jee-duh

remember

Use it: E095 / C-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Additional sentence modifiers

V390 | adv. | Reference

只

zhǐ

jrr

only

Use it: E096 / C-24

V391 | adv. | Reference

又

yòu

yo

again, for a repeated occurrence

Use it: E097 / C-24

V392 | adv. | Reference

更

gèng

gung

more; even more

Use it: E098 / C-24

V393 | adv. | Reference

真

zhēn

jun

really

Use it: E099 / C-24

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Additional sentence modifiers

V394 | modal/adverbial use | Reference

可能

kěnéng

kuh-nung

possibly; may; might

Use it: E100 / C-24

V395 | adv. | Reference

一定

yīdìng

ee-ding

definitely; certainly

Use it: E101 / C-25

V396 | time expression | Reference

有时候

yǒu shíhou

yo shrr-ho

sometimes

Use it: E102 / C-25

V397 | adv. | Reference

别

bié

byeh

don't, in requests or prohibitions

Use it: E103 / C-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Basic descriptions and feelings

V398 | adj. | Reference

新

xīn

sheen

new

Use it: E084 / C-21

V399 | adj. | Reference

旧

jiù

jyoh

old, used, or worn

Use it: E084 / C-21

V400 | adj. | Reference

长

cháng

chahng

long

Use it: E104 / C-25

V401 | adj. | Reference

短

duǎn

dwahn

short in length

Use it: E104 / C-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Basic descriptions and feelings

V402 | adj. | Reference

高

gāo

gow

tall; high

Use it: E034 / C-25

V403 | adj. | Reference

矮

ǎi

eye

short in stature; low

Use it: E105 / C-26

V404 | adj. | Reference

难

nán

nahn

difficult

Use it: E106 / C-26

V405 | adj. | Reference

容易

róngyì

rohng-ee

easy

Use it: E106 / C-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Basic descriptions and feelings

V406 | adj. | Reference

累

lèi

lay

tired

Use it: E107 / C-26

V407 | adj. | Reference

渴

kě

kuh

thirsty

Use it: E107 / C-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Additional time and location words

V408 | n./time unit | Reference

天

tiān

tyehn

day; sky

Use it: E063 / C-26

V409 | adj. | Reference

晚

wǎn

wahn

late

Use it: E108 / C-26

V410 | time n. | Reference

后天

hòutiān

ho-tyehn

the day after tomorrow

Use it: E109 / C-27

V411 | time n. | Reference

前天

qiántiān

chyehn-tyehn

the day before yesterday

Use it: E109 / C-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Additional time and location words

V412 | time n. | Reference

今年

jīnnián

jeen-nyehn

this year

Use it: E110 / C-27

V413 | time expression | Reference

一会儿

yīhuìr

ee-hwayr

a short while

Use it: E111 / C-27

V414 | place word | Reference

上面

shàngmian

shahng-myehn

above; on top

Use it: E112 / C-27

V415 | place word | Reference

下面

xiàmian

shyah-myehn

below; underneath

Use it: E112 / C-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Learning and classroom tools

V416 | n. | Reference

字

zì

dzuh

written character

Use it: E113 / C-27

V417 | n. | Reference

汉字

hànzì

hahn-dzuh

Chinese character(s)

Use it: E113 / C-27

V418 | n. | Reference

拼音

pīnyīn

peen-een

Pinyin; phonetic spelling

Use it: E114 / C-28

V419 | n. | Reference

声调

shēngdiào

shung-dyow

tone, in pronunciation

Use it: E115 / C-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Learning and classroom tools

V420 | n. | Reference

笔

bǐ

bee

pen; writing instrument

Use it: E116 / C-28

V421 | n. | Reference

纸

zhǐ

jrr

paper

Use it: E116 / C-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Use the words

Each example is linked from its vocabulary entry. Shared examples connect several useful words. Quantity phrases and counting sequences are labeled as such.

E082

大家好!

Dàjiā hǎo!

dah-jyah how!

Hello, everyone!

E083

请帮助别人。

Qǐng bāngzhù biéren.

ching bahng-joo byeh-run.

Please help others.

E084

这些是新的，那些是旧的。

Zhèxiē shì xīn de, nàxiē shì jiù de.

juh-shyeh shrr sheen duh, nah-shyeh shrr jyoh duh.

These are new; those are old.

E085

这样行吗?

Zhèyàng xíng ma?

juh-yahng shing mah?

Is this okay?

Use the words (continued)

E086

我说错了。

Wǒ shuō cuò le.

waw shwaw tswaw luh.

I said it incorrectly.

E087

这个字是什么意思?

Zhège zì shì shénme yìsi?

juh-guh dzuh shrr shun-muh ee-suh?

What does this character mean?

E088

请开门，不要关门。

Qǐng kāi mén, bù yào guān mén.

ching keye mun, boo yow gwahn mun.

Please open the door; don't close it.

E089

请拿这本书，放在这里。

Qǐng ná zhè běn shū, fàng zài zhèlǐ.

ching nah juh bun shoo, fahng dzeye juh-lee.

Please take this book and put it here.

E090

请带护照。

Qǐng dài hùzhào.

ching dye hoo-jaow.

Please bring your passport.

Use the words (continued)

E091

我送你一件礼物。

Wǒ sòng nǐ yī jiàn lǐwù.

waw sohng knee ee jyehn lee-woo.

I am giving you a gift.

E092

我找到钥匙了。

Wǒ zhǎodào yàoshi le.

waw jaow-dow yow-shrr luh.

I found the key.

E093

我看见老师了。

Wǒ kànjiàn lǎoshī le.

waw kahn-jyehn laow-shrr luh.

I saw the teacher.

E094

请告诉我地址。

Qǐng gàosu wǒ dìzhǐ.

ching gow-soo waw dee-jrr.

Please tell me the address.

E095

我记得你的名字。

Wǒ jìde nǐ de míngzi.

waw jee-duh knee duh ming-dzuh.

I remember your name.

Use the words (continued)

E096

我只要一杯茶。

Wǒ zhǐ yào yī bēi chá.

waw jrr yow ee bay chah.

I only want one cup of tea.

E097

他又来了。

Tā yòu lái le.

tah yo leye luh.

He has come again.

E098

这个更便宜。

Zhège gèng piányi.

juh-guh gung pyehn-ee.

This one is cheaper.

E099

真漂亮!

Zhēn piàoliang!

jun pyow-lyahng!

How beautiful!

E100

我明天可能来。

Wǒ míngtiān kěnéng lái.

waw ming-tyehn kuh-nung leye.

I may come tomorrow.

Use the words (continued)

E101

我一定来。

Wǒ yīdìng lái.

waw ee-ding leye.

I will definitely come.

E102

我有时候开车。

Wǒ yǒu shíhou kāi chē.

waw yo shrr-ho keye chuh.

I sometimes drive.

E103

别走！

Bié zǒu!

byeh dzoh!

Don't go!

E104

这条路长，那条路短。

Zhè tiáo lù cháng, nà tiáo lù duǎn.

juh tyow loo chahng, nah tyow loo dwahn.

This road is long; that one is short.

E034

他比我高。

Tā bǐ wǒ gāo.

tah bee waw gow.

He is taller than I am.

Use the words (continued)

E105

我比他矮。

Wǒ bǐ tā ǎi.

waw bee tah eye.

I am shorter than he is.

E106

这个字难，那个字容易。

Zhège zì nán, nàge zì róngyì.

juh-guh dzuh nahn, nah-guh dzuh rohng-ee.

This character is difficult; that one is easy.

E107

我又累又渴。

Wǒ yòu lèi yòu kě.

waw yo lay yo kuh.

I am both tired and thirsty.

E063

我每天学习。

Wǒ měi tiān xuéxí.

waw may tyehn shweh-shee.*

I study every day.

E108

现在太晚了。

Xiànzài tài wǎn le.

shyehn-dzeye teye wahn luh.

It is too late now.

Use the words (continued)

E109

他前天来了，后天还来。

Tā qiántiān lái le, hòutiān hái lái.

tah chyehn-tyehn leye luh, ho-tyehn high leye.

He came the day before yesterday and will come again the day after tomorrow.

E110

我今年退休，他明年退休。

Wǒ jīnnián tuìxiū, tā míngnián tuìxiū.

waw jeen-nyehn tway-shyoh, tah ming-nyehn tway-shyoh.

I retire this year; he retires next year.

E111

请等一会儿。

Qǐng děng yīhuìr.

ching dung ee-hwayr.

Please wait a little while.

E112

书在上面，纸在下面。

Shū zài shàngmian, zhǐ zài xiàmian.

shoo dzeye shahng-myehn, jrr dzeye shyah-myehn.

The book is on top; the paper is underneath.

E113

请读这个汉字。

Qǐng dú zhège hànzì.

ching doo juh-guh hahn-dzuh.

Please read this Chinese character.

Use the words (continued)

E114

请写拼音。

Qǐng xiě pīnyīn.

ching shyeh peen-een.

Please write the Pinyin.

E115

请听声调。

Qǐng tīng shēngdiào.

ching ting shung-dyow.

Please listen to the tones.

E116

一支笔，一张纸。

Yī zhī bǐ, yī zhāng zhǐ.

ee jrr bee, ee jahng jrr.

A pen and a sheet of paper. [Quantity phrases]

Nouns with their classifiers

Say the quantity as a complete phrase. Some supporting classifiers are recognition notes outside the counted word list; see Volume C. These are selected natural combinations, not rules for every sense of a noun.

V416

一个字

yī gè zì

ee guh dzuh

One character. [Quantity phrase]

V417

一个汉字

yī gè hànzì

ee guh hahn-dzuh

One Chinese character. [Quantity phrase]

V420

一支笔

yī zhī bǐ

ee jrr bee

One pen. [Quantity phrase]

V421

一张纸

yī zhāng zhǐ

ee jahng jrr

One sheet of paper. [Quantity phrase]

Usage notes

V378 行

xíng = acceptable/okay. The character is háng in 银行; label by meaning.

V380 开

Open or switch on; 开车 is the separate registered expression for driving.

V386 找到

找 = look for; 到 supplies the successful result, find.

V387 看见

看 = look/watch; 见 supplies the perception result, see.

V391 又

Also appears in 又…又… (both…and…). Compare 再 in requests for another repetition.

V400 长

cháng = long. Other readings belong to other words and uses.

V420 笔

A pen commonly takes 支. 支 is explained in this example, not added to the 421-entry count.

Find the result

A result element can show what an action achieved. Do not translate every occurrence of dao as arrive or every occurrence of jian as meet.

我在找。
Wǒ zài zhǎo.
waw dzeye jaow.
I am looking for it.

我找到了。
Wǒ zhǎodào le.
waw jaow-dow luh.
I found it.

请看。
Qǐng kàn.
ching kahn.
Please look.

我看见了。
Wǒ kànjiàn le.
waw kahn-jyehn luh.
I saw it.

我听不懂。
Wǒ tīngbudǒng.
waw ting-boo-dohng.
I don't understand what I hear.

Compare and describe

Many descriptions work as predicates with hen. Use bi to compare. Chang/duan describes length; gao/ai describes height.

这个很新。
Zhège hěn xīn.
juh-guh hun sheen.
This is new.

这个比那个贵。
Zhège bǐ nàge guì.
juh-guh bee nah-guh gway.
This is more expensive than that.

这条路很长。
Zhè tiáo lù hěn cháng.
juh tyow loo hun chahng.
This road is long.

他比我高。
Tā bǐ wǒ gāo.
tah bee waw gow.
He is taller than I am.

他又来了。
Tā yòu lái le.
tah yo leye luh.
He has come again.

Compare and describe (continued)

请再来。
Qǐng zài lái.
ching dzeye leye.
Please come again.

Classroom words beyond the counted list

The following support words occur in examples. They are explained here for recognition; they are not additional headwords or extra active-use targets. Classifier examples use the everyday sense shown, not every possible dictionary use.

支、所、座

zhī, suǒ, zuò

jrr, swaw, dzwaw

Classifiers: pens; schools; substantial structures/places

部、架、把

bù, jià, bǎ

boo, jyah, bah

Classifiers: phones/films; aircraft; keys/handled things

门、椅子、词

mén, yǐzi, cí

mun, ee-dzuh, tsuh

Door; chair; word

洗手、参加

xǐ shǒu, cānjiā

shee show, tsahn-jyah

Wash hands; take part

头、情况

tóu, qíngkuàng

toh, ching-kwahng

Head; situation

Classroom words beyond the counted list (continued)

一下、见到

yīxià, jiàndào

ee-shyah, jyehn-dow

Briefly/once; meet or see successfully

Build one exchange

Choose two entries from this volume and one theme word from Volumes D-H. Make a short question, answer it, and change one detail.

1. Point to something and ask what it is.
2. Ask for one or two of something.
3. Say whether you can come tomorrow.
4. Ask a partner to repeat or slow down.

Possible models:

这是什么?
Zhè shì shénme?
juh shrr shun-muh?
What is this?

请再说一遍。
Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.
ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.
Please say it again.

Pinyin index

矮 ǎi
short in stature [V403 · C-15]

笔 bǐ
pen [V420 · C-20]

别 bié
don't, in requests or prohibitions [V397 · C-13]

别人 biéren
other people [V373 · C-07]

长 cháng
long [V400 · C-14]

错 cuò
wrong [V377 · C-08]

带 dài
bring [V384 · C-10]

大家 dàjiā
everyone [V372 · C-07]

短 duǎn
short in length [V401 · C-14]

放 fàng
put [V383 · C-09]

高 gāo
tall [V402 · C-15]

告诉 gàosu
tell [V388 · C-11]

更 gèng
more [V392 · C-12]

关 guān
close [V381 · C-09]

Pinyin index

汉字 hànzì
Chinese character(s) [V417 · C-19]

后天 hòutiān
the day after tomorrow [V410 · C-17]

记得 jìde
remember [V389 · C-11]

今年 jīnnián
this year [V412 · C-18]

旧 jiù
old, used, or worn [V399 · C-14]

开 kāi
open [V380 · C-09]

看见 kànjiàn
see [V387 · C-10]

渴 kě
thirsty [V407 · C-16]

可能 kěnéng
possibly [V394 · C-13]

累 lèi
tired [V406 · C-16]

拿 ná
take [V382 · C-09]

难 nán
difficult [V404 · C-15]

那些 nàxiē
those [V375 · C-07]

拼音 pīnyīn
Pinyin [V418 · C-19]

Pinyin index

前天 qiántiān
the day before yesterday [V411 · C-17]

容易 róngyì
easy [V405 · C-15]

上面 shàngmian
above [V414 · C-18]

声调 shēngdiào
tone, in pronunciation [V419 · C-19]

送 sòng
give as a gift [V385 · C-10]

天 tiān
day [V408 · C-17]

晚 wǎn
late [V409 · C-17]

下面 xiàmian
below [V415 · C-18]

新 xīn
new [V398 · C-14]

行 xíng
be acceptable [V378 · C-08]

一定 yīdìng
definitely [V395 · C-13]

一会儿 yīhuìr
a short while [V413 · C-18]

意思 yìsi
meaning [V379 · C-08]

又 yòu
again, for a repeated occurrence [V391 · C-12]

Pinyin index

有时候 yǒu shíhou
sometimes [V396 · C-13]
找到 zhǎodào
find successfully [V386 · C-10]
真 zhēn
really [V393 · C-12]
这些 zhèxiē
these [V374 · C-07]
这样 zhèyàng
like this [V376 · C-08]
只 zhǐ
only [V390 · C-12]
纸 zhǐ
paper [V421 · C-20]
字 zì
written character [V416 · C-19]

English index

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a short while [V413 · C-18]

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above [V414 · C-18]

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written character [V416 · C-19]

错 cuò
wrong [V377 · C-08]

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Keep the conversation going

My practice plan
This week I will use three words in a real conversation.
Words / IDs: _____
One question I want to ask: _____
Someone I can practice with: _____
Date I tried it: _____ What I heard: _____

Personal words
My name: _____
My city: _____
My work, family, or interests: _____

Ask a teacher to help you check the Chinese and pronunciation of personal additions. They are yours to learn; they do not change the shared 421-entry register.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

Use it with people

Choose a few words.
Hear them. Say them.
Ask a real question.
Listen to the answer.

Then use the words again in a new situation.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Volume C of 8

Practice tools: translate.google.com
and toneperfect.app/practice

Companion vocabulary site planned:
secondlanguageproject.org/csl/vocabulary/
Site availability must be checked before print release.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

CSL

Mandarin Vocabulary

VOLUME D OF 8

Meeting people & family

Chinese characters
Pinyin · CSL sound clues · English

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

Nine-month conversation program

Review edition · September 2026

Make these words your own

This is a conversation companion for adult CSL members. You do not need to memorize everything before speaking. Start with a useful question, listen to another person, and build from there.

Eight slim volumes keep the language layers readable: A Sentence builders; B Numbers & measure words; C Everyday foundations; D Meeting people & family; E Food, time & plans; F Places & shopping; G Daily life & travel; H Socializing & hosting.

The full set contains 421 vocabulary entries and 30 conversation models. Repeated examples and charts are practice, not extra headwords. Numbers and times are built from reusable parts.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Manuscript/design edition 1.0 - 29 September 2026
Pronunciation source checks and human audio review pending.

Use lesson numbers: the Wednesday sequence runs September-May; the Thursday sequence runs October-June. The same nine themes serve both groups.

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Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

A few minutes at a time is enough to begin. Choose three to five entries and one model. Listen first, say the words aloud, then hide one support layer and try again. Use one word in a question to a partner. Revisit it on another day.

LISTEN: scan the listening QR. Google Translate opens the Chinese text; check that Chinese is the source and tap the source-language speaker. It may need an internet connection and a tap to start. Its automatic Pinyin is not the booklet's editorial source.

SAY: follow the booklet Pinyin and the recording. Keep neutral syllables light. Speak a short thought, not a string of English sound clues.

PRACTICE: open toneperfect.app/practice. Enter or paste the Chinese and choose Start Practice. Recording needs your microphone permission. Review the feedback, try once more, and ask a teacher about unclear results. AI scores are guidance, not a grade. Access limits may change.

USE: ask someone a real question and listen to their answer. If you get stuck, use a clarification model. The digital reader links work without a camera; a printed QR has a short address and text fallback beside it.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

PRACTICE ONE PHRASE
TonePerfect pronunciation practice
Fallback: toneperfect.app/practice
Type the Chinese example above.

Pinyin and the CSL sound clues

Read the four layers from top to bottom: Chinese, Pinyin, CSL sound clue, English. Chinese is the text to recognize and say. Pinyin carries the tones. Sound clues are an approximate bridge for English speakers; use the audio and Pinyin to refine them.

The marks show first tone (high and level), second (rising), third (low, with a rise when pronounced alone), and fourth (falling). A syllable without a mark is neutral: light and brief. A third tone often changes before another third tone. Yi and bu also change in connected speech. Printed citation tones and natural spoken changes can coexist.

In CSL clues, hyphens join syllables inside a word; spaces separate words. The star (*) marks rounded lips with an ee-like tongue position. Do not read it aloud. The shrr/chrr/jrr family is not an English “ee.” Pinyin r and the j/q/x and zh/ch/sh contrasts need listening practice. A final r in dianr or huir is joined erhua, not a separate er syllable.

Clues have no tone arrows. Read the Pinyin tone, listen once, and then imitate the whole word rather than sounding out English letters.

Read the labels

n. = noun; proper n. = name; time n. = time noun. pron. = pronoun; det. = determiner. v. = verb; modal = can/want/should-type helper. adj. = adjective or descriptive predicate; adv. = adverb. conj. = connector; prep. = preposition/coverb. num. = number; mw. = classifier; verbal mw. = action counter; unit = time, weight, or money unit. part. = grammatical particle; prefix = bound beginning such as ordinal di.

Some labels describe a learning function rather than a strict word class: demonstrative, place word, response, title, expression, and formula. A slash means that more than one selected use is taught. A complete conversational sentence is a model, not one part of speech.

Active entries have a lesson number beside “Active.” Reference entries remain available for supported reading and listening. An entry may be active in more than one lesson. Entry IDs identify the same word across the entire set, even when the IDs are not printed in numerical order.

Meeting People & Getting Comfortable

V120 | adj./response/result complement | Active 1

好

hǎo

how

good; well; okay as a response; ready/finished in selected result expressions

Use it: E044 / D-21

V121 | adj. | Reference

早

zǎo

dzow

early

Use it: E117 / D-21

V122 | v./polite marker | Active 1

请

qǐng

ching

please; invite

Use it: E031 / D-21

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Meeting People & Getting Comfortable

V123 | v./formula | Active 1

谢谢

xièxie

shyeh-shyeh

thank; thanks

Use it: E118 / D-21

V124 | formula | Active 1

再见

zàijiàn

dzeye-jyehn

goodbye

Use it: E119 / D-22

V125 | formula | Active 1

对不起

duìbuqǐ

dway-boo-chee

sorry

Use it: E120 / D-22

V126 | n. | Active 1

名字

míngzi

ming-dzuh

name

Use it: E012 / D-22

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Meeting People & Getting Comfortable

V127 | v./n. | Active 1

姓

xìng

shing

be surnamed; surname

Use it: E002 / D-22

V128 | n. | Active 1

人

rén

run

person; people

Use it: E059 / D-22

V129 | n./title | Reference

先生

xiānsheng

shyehn-shung

Mr.; gentleman

Use it: E067 / D-23

V130 | n./title | Reference

女士

nǚshì

nyoo-shrr*

Ms.; lady

Use it: E121 / D-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Meeting People & Getting Comfortable

V131 | n./title | Reference

老师

lǎoshī

laow-shrr

teacher; Teacher as a title

Use it: E053 / D-23

V132 | v. | Active 1

认识

rènshi

run-shrr

know a person; become acquainted

Use it: E122 / D-23

V133 | v. | Active 1

住

zhù

joo

live; stay

Use it: E006 / D-23

V134 | v. | Active 5

来

lái

leye

come

Use it: E007 / D-24

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Meeting People & Getting Comfortable

V135 | v. | Active 1

说

shuō

shwaw

speak; say

Use it: E039 / D-24

V136 | v. | Active 1

听

tīng

ting

listen; hear

Use it: E115 / D-24

V137 | v. | Reference

学

xué

*shweh**

learn; study

Use it: E018 / D-24

V138 | n. | Active 1

中文

zhōngwén

johng-wun

Chinese language

Use it: E039 / D-24



LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Meeting People & Getting Comfortable

V139 | n. | Reference

英语

yīngyǔ

*ying-yoo**

English language

Use it: E123 / D-24

V140 | proper n. | Reference

中国

Zhōngguó

johng-gwaw

China

Use it: E056 / D-25

V141 | proper n. | Reference

美国

Měiguó

may-gwaw

United States

Use it: E124 / D-25

V142 | n. | Reference

地方

dìfang

dee-fahng

place

Use it: E125 / D-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Meeting People & Getting Comfortable

V143 | adj. | Reference

高兴

gāoxìng

gow-shing

happy; pleased

Use it: E122 / D-23

V144 | adj. | Reference

客气

kèqi

kuh-chee

polite; stand on ceremony

Use it: E118 / D-21

V145 | n. | Reference

关系

guānxi

gwahn-shee

relationship; bearing on something

Use it: E120 / D-22

V146 | v. | Reference

问

wèn

wun

ask

Use it: E126 / D-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Family, Friends & People

V147 | n. | Active 2

家

jiā

jyah

home; family

Use it: E035 / D-25

V148 | n. | Active 2

家人

jiārén

jyah-run

family members

Use it: E127 / D-26

V149 | n. | Active 2

爸爸

bàba

bah-bah

dad; father

Use it: E021 / D-26

V150 | n. | Active 2

妈妈

māma

mah-mah

mom; mother

Use it: E021 / D-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Family, Friends & People

V151 | n. | Reference

父母

fùmǔ

foo-moo

parents

Use it: E128 / D-26

V152 | n. | Reference

丈夫

zhàngfu

jahng-foo

husband

Use it: E129 / D-26

V153 | n. | Reference

妻子

qīzi

chee-dzuh

wife

Use it: E129 / D-26

V154 | n. | Active 2

孩子

háizi

high-dzuh

child; children

Use it: E130 / D-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Family, Friends & People

V155 | n. | Reference

儿子

érzi

er-dzuh

son

Use it: E130 / D-26

V156 | n. | Reference

女儿

nǚ’ér

nyoo-er*

daughter

Use it: E130 / D-26

V157 | n. | Reference

哥哥

gēge

guh-guh

older brother

Use it: E131 / D-27

V158 | n. | Reference

姐姐

jiějie

jyeh-jyeh

older sister

Use it: E131 / D-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Family, Friends & People

V159 | n. | Reference

弟弟

dìdi

dee-dee

younger brother

Use it: E132 / D-27

V160 | n. | Reference

妹妹

mèimei

may-may

younger sister

Use it: E132 / D-27

V161 | n. | Reference

爷爷

yéye

yeh-yeh

paternal grandfather

Use it: E133 / D-27

V162 | n. | Reference

奶奶

nǎinai

neye-neye

paternal grandmother

Use it: E133 / D-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Family, Friends & People

V163 | n. | Reference

外公

wàigōng

weye-gohng

maternal grandfather

Use it: E134 / D-27

V164 | n. | Reference

外婆

wàipó

weye-paw

maternal grandmother

Use it: E134 / D-27

V165 | n. | Active 2

朋友

péngyou

pung-yo

friend

Use it: E022 / D-27

V166 | n. | Active 2

同事

tóngshì

tong-shrr

coworker

Use it: E135 / D-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Family, Friends & People

V167 | n. | Reference

邻居

línjū

*leen-jyoo**

neighbor

Use it: E135 / D-28

V168 | v. | Active 2

介绍

jièshào

jyeh-shaow

introduce

Use it: E136 / D-28

V169 | unit | Active 2

岁

suì

sway

years of age

Use it: E137 / D-28

V170 | adj. | Active 2

大

dà

dah

big; older, in age comparisons

Use it: E137 / D-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Family, Friends & People

V171 | adj. | Active 2

小

xiǎo

shyow

small; young

Use it: E004 / D-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Use the words

Each example is linked from its vocabulary entry. Shared examples connect several useful words. Quantity phrases and counting sequences are labeled as such.

E044

我觉得很好。

Wǒ juéde hěn hǎo.

waw jweh-duh hun how.*

I think it is very good.

E117

你来得真早！

Nǐ lái de zhēn zǎo!

knee leye duh jun dzow!

You came very early!

E031

请给我一杯水。

Qǐng gěi wǒ yī bēi shuǐ.

ching gay waw ee bay shway.

Please give me a glass of water.

E118

谢谢！不客气。

Xièxie! Bù kèqi.

shyeh-shyeh! boo kuh-chee.

Thank you! You're welcome.

Use the words (continued)

E119

老师，再见!

Lǎoshī, zàijiàn!

laow-shrr, dzeye-jyehn!

Goodbye, teacher!

E120

对不起！没关系。

Duìbuqǐ! Méi guānxi.

dway-boo-chee! may gwahn-shee.

Sorry! It's all right.

E012

你叫什么名字?

Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?

knee jyow shun-muh ming-dzuh?

What is your name?

E002

您姓什么?

Nín xìng shénme?

neen shing shun-muh?

What is your surname?

E059

两个人。

Liǎng gè rén.

lyahng guh run.

Two people. [Quantity phrase]

Use the words (continued)

E067

两位先生。

Liǎng wèi xiānsheng.

lyahng way shyehn-shung.

Two gentlemen. [Quantity phrase]

E121

这位女士是老师。

Zhè wèi nǚshì shì lǎoshī.

juh way nyoo-shrr shrr laow-shrr.*

This lady is a teacher.

E053

你是老师吗?

Nǐ shì lǎoshī ma?

knee shrr laow-shrr mah?

Are you a teacher?

E122

很高兴认识你。

Hěn gāoxìng rènshi nǐ.

hun gow-shing run-shrr knee.

Nice to meet you.

E006

你们住在哪里?

Nǐmen zhù zài nǎlǐ?

knee-mun joo dzeye nah-lee?

Where do you live?

Use the words (continued)

E007

他们明天来。

Tāmen míngtiān lái.

tah-mun ming-tyehn leye.

They are coming tomorrow.

E039

我会说中文。

Wǒ huì shuō zhōngwén.

waw hway shwaw johng-wun.

I can speak Chinese.

E115

请听声调。

Qǐng tīng shēngdiào.

ching ting shung-dyow.

Please listen to the tones.

E018

你为什么学中文?

Nǐ wèishénme xué zhōngwén?

knee way-shun-muh shweh johng-wun?*

Why are you learning Chinese?

E123

你会说英语吗?

Nǐ huì shuō yīngyǔ ma?

knee hway shwaw ying-yoo mah?*

Can you speak English?

Use the words (continued)

E056

我去过中国。

Wǒ qùguo Zhōngguó.

waw chyoo-gwaw johng-gwaw.*

I have been to China.

E124

我住在美国。

Wǒ zhù zài Měiguó.

waw joo dzeye may-gwaw.

I live in the United States.

E125

这是个好地方。

Zhè shì gè hǎo dìfang.

juh shrr guh how dee-fahng.

This is a good place.

E126

我想问一个问题。

Wǒ xiǎng wèn yī gè wèntí.

waw shyahng wun ee guh wun-tee.

I would like to ask a question.

E035

我家有茶。

Wǒ jiā yǒu chá.

waw jyah yo chah.

We have tea at home.

Use the words (continued)

E127

我的家人都在这里。

Wǒ de jiārén dōu zài zhèlǐ.

waw duh jyah-run doh dzeye juh-lee.

My family members are all here.

E021

爸爸和妈妈都在家。

Bàba hé māma dōu zài jiā.

bah-bah huh mah-mah doh dzeye jyah.

Dad and Mom are both at home.

E128

这是我的父母。

Zhè shì wǒ de fùmǔ.

juh shrr waw duh foo-moo.

These are my parents.

E129

他是我丈夫，她是我妻子。

Tā shì wǒ zhàngfu, tā shì wǒ qīzi.

tah shrr waw jahng-foo, tah shrr waw chee-dzuh.

He is my husband; she is my wife. [Two separate introduction models]

E130

我有两个孩子，一个儿子，一个女儿。

Wǒ yǒu liǎng gè háizi, yī gè érzi, yī gè nǚ'ér.

waw yo lyahng guh high-dzuh, ee guh er-dzuh, ee guh nyoo-er.*

I have two children: a son and a daughter.

Use the words (continued)

E131

哥哥和姐姐都在工作。

Gēge hé jiějie dōu zài gōngzuò.

guh-guh huh jyeh-jyeh doh dzeye gohng-dzwaw.

My older brother and older sister are both working.

E132

弟弟和妹妹都在家。

Dìdi hé mèimei dōu zài jiā.

dee-dee huh may-may doh dzeye jyah.

My younger brother and younger sister are both at home.

E133

爷爷和奶奶住在这里。

Yéye hé nǎinai zhù zài zhèlǐ.

yeh-yeh huh neye-neye joo dzeye juh-lee.

My paternal grandparents live here.

E134

外公和外婆明天来。

Wàigōng hé wàipó míngtiān lái.

weye-gohng huh weye-paw ming-tyehn leye.

My maternal grandparents are coming tomorrow.

E022

我跟朋友去公园。

Wǒ gēn péngyou qù gōngyuán.

waw gun pung-yo chyoo gohng-ywen*.*

I am going to the park with a friend.

Use the words (continued)

E135

他是我的同事，也是我的邻居。

Tā shì wǒ de tóngshì, yě shì wǒ de línjū.

tah shrr waw duh tong-shrr, yeh shrr waw duh leen-jyoo.*

He is my coworker and also my neighbor.

E136

我介绍一下，这是我的朋友。

Wǒ jièshào yīxià, zhè shì wǒ de péngyou.

waw jyeh-shaow ee-shyah, juh shrr waw duh pung-yo.

Let me introduce my friend.

E137

我二十岁，他比我大。

Wǒ èrshí suì, tā bǐ wǒ dà.

waw er-shrr sway, tah bee waw dah.

I am twenty; he is older than I am.

E004

它很小。

Tā hěn xiǎo.

tah hun shyow.

It is small.

Nouns with their classifiers

Say the quantity as a complete phrase. Some supporting classifiers are recognition notes outside the counted word list; see Volume C. These are selected natural combinations, not rules for every sense of a noun.

V126

一个名字

yī gè míngzi

ee guh ming-dzuh

One name. [Quantity phrase]

V128

一个人

yī gè rén

ee guh run

One person. [Quantity phrase]

V129

一位先生

yī wèi xiānsheng

ee way shyehn-shung

One gentleman. [Quantity phrase]

V130

一位女士

yī wèi nǚshì

ee way nyoo-shrr*

One lady. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V131

一位老师

yī wèi lǎoshī

ee way laow-shrr

One teacher. [Quantity phrase]

V142

一个地方

yī gè dìfang

ee guh dee-fahng

One place. [Quantity phrase]

V147

一个家

yī gè jiā

ee guh jyah

One family. [Quantity phrase]

V154

一个孩子

yī gè háizi

ee guh high-dzuh

One child. [Quantity phrase]

V155

一个儿子

yī gè érzi

ee guh er-dzuh

One son. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V156

一个女儿

yī gè nǚ’ér

ee guh nyoo-er*

One daughter. [Quantity phrase]

V157

一个哥哥

yī gè gēge

ee guh guh-guh

One older brother. [Quantity phrase]

V158

一个姐姐

yī gè jiějie

ee guh jyeh-jyeh

One older sister. [Quantity phrase]

V159

一个弟弟

yī gè dìdi

ee guh dee-dee

One younger brother. [Quantity phrase]

V160

一个妹妹

yī gè mèimei

ee guh may-may

One younger sister. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V165

一个朋友

yī gè péngyou

ee guh pung-yo

One friend. [Quantity phrase]

V166

一个同事

yī gè tóngshì

ee guh tong-shrr

One coworker. [Quantity phrase]

V167

一个邻居

yī gè línjū

*ee guh leen-jyoo**

One neighbor. [Quantity phrase]

Usage notes

V120 好

hǎo here: good/okay; result expressions can mean ready or finished. Not hào in other words.

V147 家

Home/family; also a classifier for businesses in 这家餐厅 and 这家商店.

V152 丈夫

Use the husband sense zhàngfu; the fully toned reading has other literary uses.

V163 外公

Maternal grandfather. 姥爷 is a regional alternative outside this register.

V164 外婆

Maternal grandmother. 姥姥 is a regional alternative outside this register.

Introduce people

Use one model at a time and replace the details with your own. Mr. and Ms. follow the surname. Chinese kinship words often identify older/younger and maternal/paternal relationships.

我姓李。
Wǒ xìng Lǐ.
waw shing lee.
My surname is Li. [Fictional model]

李先生、李女士
Lǐ xiānsheng, Lǐ nǚshì
lee shyehn-shung, lee nyoo-shrr*
Mr. Li; Ms. Li

这是我的朋友。
Zhè shì wǒ de péngyou.
juh shrr waw duh pung-yo.
This is my friend.

我家有三口人。
Wǒ jiā yǒu sān kǒu rén.
waw jyah yo sahn koh run.
There are three people in my family.

Conversation models

Brackets in Pinyin and sound clues mark details to replace, not words to read aloud. The original model remains intact; the filled example supplies the audio/practice text. P01-P30 count as 30 models regardless of their examples.

P01

你好。

Nǐ hǎo.

knee how.

Hello.

P02

早上好。

Zǎoshang hǎo.

dzow-shahng how.

Good morning.

P03

你叫什么名字?

Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?

knee jyow shun-muh ming-dzuh?

What is your name?

P04

我叫……。

Wǒ jiào [name].

waw jyow [name].

My name is ...

Conversation models (continued)

P04 example

我叫李明。

Wǒ jiào Lǐ Míng.

waw jyow lee ming.

My name is Li Ming. [Fictional practice name]

P05

你是哪国人?

Nǐ shì nǎ guó rén?

knee shrr nah gwaw run?

What country are you from?

P06

我住在……。

Wǒ zhù zài [place].

waw joo dzeye [place].

I live in ...

P06 example

我住在这里。

Wǒ zhù zài zhèlǐ.

waw joo dzeye juh-lee.

I live here.

P07

很高兴认识你。

Hěn gāoxìng rènshi nǐ.

hun gow-shing run-shrr knee.

Nice to meet you.

Conversation models (continued)

P08

不客气。

Bù kèqi.

boo kuh-chee.

You're welcome.

P09

没关系。

Méi guānxi.

may gwahn-shee.

It's all right; no problem.

P10

这是我的……。

Zhè shì wǒ de [person or thing].

juh shrr waw duh [person or thing].

This is my ...

P10 example

这是我的朋友。

Zhè shì wǒ de péngyou.

juh shrr waw duh pung-yo.

This is my friend.

P11

你家有几口人?

Nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén?

knee jyah yo jee koh run?

How many people are in your family?

Conversation models (continued)

P23

我听不懂。

Wǒ tīngbudǒng.

waw ting-boo-dohng.

I don't understand what I hear.

P24

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

P25

请说慢一点儿。

Qǐng shuō màn yīdiǎnr.

ching shwaw mahn ee-dyehnr.

Please speak a little more slowly.

P26

请帮帮我。

Qǐng bāngbang wǒ.

ching bahng-bahng waw.

Please help me.

Lesson 1: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

我 wǒ
I; me [V001 · A-07]

你 nǐ
you [V002 · A-07]

您 nín
you, polite [V003 · A-07]

是 shì
be; am; is; are [V046 · A-19]

叫 jiào
be called; call [V049 · A-19]

什么 shénme
what [V016 · A-10]

名字 míngzi
name [V126 · D-08]

姓 xìng
be surnamed; surname [V127 · D-09]

好 hǎo
good; well; okay as a response; ready/finished in selected result expressions [V120 · D-07]

请 qǐng
please; invite [V122 · D-07]

谢谢 xièxie
thank; thanks [V123 · D-08]

再见 zàijiàn
goodbye [V124 · D-08]

Lesson 1: active-use targets (continued)

对不起 duìbuqǐ
sorry [V125 · D-08]

认识 rènshi
know a person; become acquainted [V132 · D-10]

住 zhù
live; stay [V133 · D-10]

哪里 nǎlǐ
where [V018 · A-11]

不 bù
not [V059 · A-22]

吗 ma
yes/no question marker [V069 · A-24]

呢 ne
follow-up/topic question marker [V070 · A-25]

中文 zhōngwén
Chinese language [V138 · D-11]

说 shuō
speak; say [V135 · D-11]

听 tīng
listen; hear [V136 · D-11]

人 rén
person; people [V128 · D-09]

Meet a new member

Greet a partner, give your name, ask theirs, and say where you live. Change partners and do it again.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

你好！我叫李明。我住在这里。
Nǐ hǎo! Wǒ jiào Lǐ Míng. Wǒ zhù zài zhèlǐ.
knee how! waw jyow lee ming. waw joo dzeye juh-lee.
Hello! My name is Li Ming. I live here.

Lesson 2: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

他 tā
he; him [V004 · A-07]

她 tā
she; her [V005 · A-08]

我们 wǒmen
we; us [V007 · A-08]

他们 tāmen
they; them [V009 · A-09]

这 zhè
this [V011 · A-09]

那 nà
that [V012 · A-09]

的 de
modifier/possessive marker [V068 · A-24]

有 yǒu
have; there is/are [V047 · A-19]

几 jǐ
how many, expecting a small number [V019 · A-11]

个 gè
general classifier for people and many things [V097 · B-13]

口 kǒu
classifier for family members in household counts [V099 · B-13]

家 jiā
home; family [V147 · D-14]

Lesson 2: active-use targets (continued)

家人 jiārén
family members [V148 · D-14]

爸爸 bàba
dad; father [V149 · D-14]

妈妈 māma
mom; mother [V150 · D-14]

孩子 háizi
child; children [V154 · D-15]

朋友 péngyou
friend [V165 · D-18]

同事 tóngshì
coworker [V166 · D-18]

介绍 jièshào
introduce [V168 · D-19]

谁 shéi
who [V015 · A-10]

岁 suì
years of age [V169 · D-19]

大 dà
big; older, in age comparisons [V170 · D-19]

小 xiǎo
small; young [V171 · D-20]

Introduce someone

Introduce a friend or family member. Say your relationship and ask about your partner’s family.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

这是我的朋友。你家有几口人?

Zhè shì wǒ de péngyou. Nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén?

juh shrr waw duh pung-yo. knee jyah yo jee koh run?

This is my friend. How many people are in your family?

Pinyin index

爸爸 bàba
dad [V149 · D-14]

大 dà
big [V170 · D-19]

弟弟 dìdi
younger brother [V159 · D-17]

地方 dìfang
place [V142 · D-12]

对不起 duìbuqǐ
sorry [V125 · D-08]

儿子 érzi
son [V155 · D-16]

父母 fùmǔ
parents [V151 · D-15]

高兴 gāoxìng
happy [V143 · D-13]

哥哥 gēge
older brother [V157 · D-16]

关系 guānxi
relationship [V145 · D-13]

孩子 háizi
child [V154 · D-15]

好 hǎo
good [V120 · D-07]

家 jiā
home [V147 · D-14]

家人 jiārén
family members [V148 · D-14]

Pinyin index

姐姐 jiějie
older sister [V158 · D-16]

介绍 jièshào
introduce [V168 · D-19]

客气 kèqi
polite [V144 · D-13]

来 lái
come [V134 · D-10]

老师 lǎoshī
teacher [V131 · D-10]

邻居 línjū
neighbor [V167 · D-19]

妈妈 māma
mom [V150 · D-14]

美国 Měiguó
United States [V141 · D-12]

妹妹 mèimei
younger sister [V160 · D-17]

名字 míngzi
name [V126 · D-08]

奶奶 nǎinai
paternal grandmother [V162 · D-17]

女士 nǚshì
Ms. [V130 · D-09]

女儿 nǚ’ér
daughter [V156 · D-16]

朋友 péngyou
friend [V165 · D-18]

Pinyin index

请 qǐng
please [V122 · D-07]

妻子 qīzi
wife [V153 · D-15]

人 rén
person [V128 · D-09]

认识 rènshi
know a person [V132 · D-10]

说 shuō
speak [V135 · D-11]

岁 suì
years of age [V169 · D-19]

听 tīng
listen [V136 · D-11]

同事 tóngshì
coworker [V166 · D-18]

外公 wàigōng
maternal grandfather [V163 · D-18]

外婆 wàipó
maternal grandmother [V164 · D-18]

问 wèn
ask [V146 · D-13]

先生 xiānsheng
Mr. [V129 · D-09]

小 xiǎo
small [V171 · D-20]

谢谢 xièxie
thank [V123 · D-08]

Pinyin index

姓 xìng
be surnamed [V127 · D-09]

学 xué
learn [V137 · D-11]

爷爷 yéye
paternal grandfather [V161 · D-17]

英语 yīngyǔ
English language [V139 · D-12]

再见 zàijiàn
goodbye [V124 · D-08]

早 zǎo
early [V121 · D-07]

丈夫 zhàngfu
husband [V152 · D-15]

中国 Zhōngguó
China [V140 · D-12]

中文 zhōngwén
Chinese language [V138 · D-11]

住 zhù
live [V133 · D-10]

English index

问 wèn
ask [V146 · D-13]
姓 xìng
be surnamed [V127 · D-09]
大 dà
big [V170 · D-19]
孩子 háizi
child [V154 · D-15]
中国 Zhōngguó
China [V140 · D-12]
中文 zhōngwén
Chinese language [V138 · D-11]
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come [V134 · D-10]
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dad [V149 · D-14]
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daughter [V156 · D-16]
早 zǎo
early [V121 · D-07]
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English language [V139 · D-12]
家人 jiārén
family members [V148 · D-14]
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friend [V165 · D-18]

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good [V120 · D-07]
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goodbye [V124 · D-08]
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家 jiā
home [V147 · D-14]
丈夫 zhàngfu
husband [V152 · D-15]
介绍 jièshào
introduce [V168 · D-19]
认识 rènshi
know a person [V132 · D-10]
学 xué
learn [V137 · D-11]
听 tīng
listen [V136 · D-11]
住 zhù
live [V133 · D-10]
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maternal grandfather [V163 · D-18]
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mom [V150 · D-14]
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older sister [V158 · D-16]

父母 fùmǔ
parents [V151 · D-15]

爷爷 yéye
paternal grandfather [V161 · D-17]

奶奶 nǎinai
paternal grandmother [V162 · D-17]

人 rén
person [V128 · D-09]

地方 dìfang
place [V142 · D-12]

请 qǐng
please [V122 · D-07]

客气 kèqi
polite [V144 · D-13]

关系 guānxi
relationship [V145 · D-13]

小 xiǎo
small [V171 · D-20]

English index

儿子 érzi
son [V155 · D-16]

对不起 duìbuqǐ
sorry [V125 · D-08]

说 shuō
speak [V135 · D-11]

老师 lǎoshī
teacher [V131 · D-10]

谢谢 xièxie
thank [V123 · D-08]

美国 Měiguó
United States [V141 · D-12]

妻子 qīzi
wife [V153 · D-15]

岁 suì
years of age [V169 · D-19]

弟弟 dìdi
younger brother [V159 · D-17]

妹妹 mèimei
younger sister [V160 · D-17]

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Keep the conversation going

My practice plan
This week I will use three words in a real conversation.
Words / IDs: _____
One question I want to ask: _____
Someone I can practice with: _____
Date I tried it: _____ What I heard: _____

Personal words
My name: _____
My city: _____
My work, family, or interests: _____

Ask a teacher to help you check the Chinese and pronunciation of personal additions. They are yours to learn; they do not change the shared 421-entry register.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

Use it with people

Choose a few words.
Hear them. Say them.
Ask a real question.
Listen to the answer.

Then use the words again in a new situation.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Volume D of 8

Practice tools: translate.google.com
and toneperfect.app/practice

Companion vocabulary site planned:
secondlanguageproject.org/csl/vocabulary/
Site availability must be checked before print release.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

CSL

Mandarin Vocabulary

VOLUME E OF 8

Food, time & plans

Chinese characters
Pinyin · CSL sound clues · English

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

Nine-month conversation program

Review edition · September 2026

Make these words your own

This is a conversation companion for adult CSL members. You do not need to memorize everything before speaking. Start with a useful question, listen to another person, and build from there.

Eight slim volumes keep the language layers readable: A Sentence builders; B Numbers & measure words; C Everyday foundations; D Meeting people & family; E Food, time & plans; F Places & shopping; G Daily life & travel; H Socializing & hosting.

The full set contains 421 vocabulary entries and 30 conversation models. Repeated examples and charts are practice, not extra headwords. Numbers and times are built from reusable parts.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Manuscript/design edition 1.0 - 29 September 2026
Pronunciation source checks and human audio review pending.

Use lesson numbers: the Wednesday sequence runs September-May; the Thursday sequence runs October-June. The same nine themes serve both groups.

In this volume

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Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

A few minutes at a time is enough to begin. Choose three to five entries and one model. Listen first, say the words aloud, then hide one support layer and try again. Use one word in a question to a partner. Revisit it on another day.

LISTEN: scan the listening QR. Google Translate opens the Chinese text; check that Chinese is the source and tap the source-language speaker. It may need an internet connection and a tap to start. Its automatic Pinyin is not the booklet's editorial source.

SAY: follow the booklet Pinyin and the recording. Keep neutral syllables light. Speak a short thought, not a string of English sound clues.

PRACTICE: open toneperfect.app/practice. Enter or paste the Chinese and choose Start Practice. Recording needs your microphone permission. Review the feedback, try once more, and ask a teacher about unclear results. AI scores are guidance, not a grade. Access limits may change.

USE: ask someone a real question and listen to their answer. If you get stuck, use a clarification model. The digital reader links work without a camera; a printed QR has a short address and text fallback beside it.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

PRACTICE ONE PHRASE
TonePerfect pronunciation practice
Fallback: toneperfect.app/practice
Type the Chinese example above.

Pinyin and the CSL sound clues

Read the four layers from top to bottom: Chinese, Pinyin, CSL sound clue, English. Chinese is the text to recognize and say. Pinyin carries the tones. Sound clues are an approximate bridge for English speakers; use the audio and Pinyin to refine them.

The marks show first tone (high and level), second (rising), third (low, with a rise when pronounced alone), and fourth (falling). A syllable without a mark is neutral: light and brief. A third tone often changes before another third tone. Yi and bu also change in connected speech. Printed citation tones and natural spoken changes can coexist.

In CSL clues, hyphens join syllables inside a word; spaces separate words. The star (*) marks rounded lips with an ee-like tongue position. Do not read it aloud. The shrr/chrr/jrr family is not an English “ee.” Pinyin r and the j/q/x and zh/ch/sh contrasts need listening practice. A final r in dianr or huir is joined erhua, not a separate er syllable.

Clues have no tone arrows. Read the Pinyin tone, listen once, and then imitate the whole word rather than sounding out English letters.

Read the labels

n. = noun; proper n. = name; time n. = time noun. pron. = pronoun; det. = determiner. v. = verb; modal = can/want/should-type helper. adj. = adjective or descriptive predicate; adv. = adverb. conj. = connector; prep. = preposition/coverb. num. = number; mw. = classifier; verbal mw. = action counter; unit = time, weight, or money unit. part. = grammatical particle; prefix = bound beginning such as ordinal di.

Some labels describe a learning function rather than a strict word class: demonstrative, place word, response, title, expression, and formula. A slash means that more than one selected use is taught. A complete conversational sentence is a model, not one part of speech.

Active entries have a lesson number beside “Active.” Reference entries remain available for supported reading and listening. An entry may be active in more than one lesson. Entry IDs identify the same word across the entire set, even when the IDs are not printed in numerical order.

Food, Tea & Eating Together

V172 | v. | Active 3

吃

chī

chrr

eat

Use it: E037 / E-22

V173 | v. | Active 3

喝

hē

huh

drink

Use it: E138 / E-22

V174 | v./unit/n. | Active 3,4

点

diǎn

dyehn

order food; o'clock; decimal point

Use it: E139 / E-22

V175 | n. | Active 3

饭

fàn

fahn

meal; cooked rice

Use it: E140 / E-22

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Food, Tea & Eating Together

V176 | n. | Active 3

米饭

mǐfàn

mee-fahn

cooked rice

Use it: E038 / E-23

V177 | n. | Active 3

面条

miàntiáo

myehn-tyow

noodles

Use it: E069 / E-23

V178 | n. | Active 3

饺子

jiǎozi

jyow-dzuh

dumplings

Use it: E037 / E-22

V179 | n. | Active 3

菜

cài

tseye

dish; vegetables

Use it: E141 / E-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Food, Tea & Eating Together

V180 | n. | Reference

肉

ròu

roh

meat

Use it: E141 / E-23

V181 | n. | Reference

鸡肉

jīròu

jee-roh

chicken meat

Use it: E142 / E-23

V182 | n. | Reference

牛肉

niúròu

nyoh-roh

beef

Use it: E142 / E-23

V183 | n. | Reference

猪肉

zhūròu

joo-roh

pork

Use it: E142 / E-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Food, Tea & Eating Together

V184 | n. | Reference

鱼

yú

*yoo**

fish

Use it: E075 / E-23

V185 | n. | Reference

鸡蛋

jīdàn

jee-dahn

egg

Use it: E143 / E-24

V186 | n. | Reference

豆腐

dòufu

doh-foo

tofu

Use it: E070 / E-24

V187 | n. | Reference

蔬菜

shūcài

shoo-tseye

vegetables

Use it: E141 / E-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Food, Tea & Eating Together

V188 | n. | Reference

水果

shuǐguǒ

shway-gwaw

fruit

Use it: E064 / E-24

V189 | n. | Active 3

水

shuǐ

shway

water

Use it: E031 / E-24

V190 | n. | Active 3

茶

chá

chah

tea

Use it: E078 / E-24

V191 | n. | Active 3

咖啡

kāfēi

kah-fay

coffee

Use it: E024 / E-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Food, Tea & Eating Together

V192 | n. | Active 3

牛奶

niúnǎi

nyoh-neye

milk

Use it: E033 / E-25

V193 | n. | Reference

餐厅

cāntīng

tsahn-ting

restaurant; dining room

Use it: E144 / E-25

V194 | n. | Reference

菜单

càidān

tseye-dahn

menu

Use it: E139 / E-22

V195 | n. | Reference

筷子

kuàizi

kweye-dzuh

chopsticks

Use it: E145 / E-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Food, Tea & Eating Together

V196 | adj. | Active 3

辣

là

lah

spicy

Use it: E146 / E-25

V197 | adj. | Reference

甜

tián

tyehn

sweet

Use it: E146 / E-25

V198 | adj. | Reference

热

rè

ruh

hot

Use it: E046 / E-26

V199 | adj. | Reference

冷

lěng

lung

cold

Use it: E147 / E-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Food, Tea & Eating Together

V200 | adj. | Active 3

好吃

hǎochī

how-chrr

tasty, for food

Use it: E048 / E-26

V201 | adj. | Reference

饿

è

uh

hungry

Use it: E148 / E-26

V202 | adj. | Reference

饱

bǎo

baow

full after eating

Use it: E148 / E-26

V203 | v. | Active 3

过敏

guòmǐn

gwaw-min

be allergic; have an allergy

Use it: E033 / E-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Time, Dates & Making Plans

V204 | time n. | Active 4

今天

jīntiān

jeen-tyehn

today

Use it: E149 / E-26

V205 | time n. | Active 4

明天

míngtiān

ming-tyehn

tomorrow

Use it: E149 / E-26

V206 | time n. | Active 4

昨天

zuótiān

dzwaw-tyehn

yesterday

Use it: E149 / E-26

V207 | time n. | Active 4

现在

xiànzài

shyehn-dzeye

now

Use it: E049 / E-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Time, Dates & Making Plans

V208 | time n. | Reference

早上

zǎoshang

dzow-shahng

morning

Use it: E150 / E-27

V209 | time n. | Active 4

上午

shàngwǔ

shahng-woo

morning; before noon

Use it: E150 / E-27

V210 | time n. | Reference

中午

zhōngwǔ

johng-woo

noon

Use it: E150 / E-27

V211 | time n. | Active 4

下午

xiàwǔ

shyah-woo

afternoon

Use it: E151 / E-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Time, Dates & Making Plans

V212 | time n. | Active 4

晚上

wǎnshang

wahn-shahng

evening; night

Use it: E151 / E-27

V213 | time n./unit | Reference

年

nián

nyehn

year

Use it: E152 / E-27

V214 | time n./unit | Active 4

月

yuè

*yweh**

month

Use it: E152 / E-27

V215 | n./unit | Active 4

号

hào

how

day of month; number identifier

Use it: E152 / E-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Time, Dates & Making Plans

V216 | time n./unit | Reference

日

rì

rrr

day; date, more formal date notation

Use it: E152 / E-27

V217 | time n. | Active 4

星期

xīngqī

shing-chee

week; weekday building block

Use it: E153 / E-27

V218 | time n. | Reference

周末

zhōumò

joe-maw

weekend

Use it: E153 / E-27

V219 | n./unit | Active 4

小时

xiǎoshí

shyow-shrr

hour, duration

Use it: E061 / E-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Time, Dates & Making Plans

V220 | n./unit | Active 4

分钟

fēnzhōng

fun-johng

minute, duration

Use it: E154 / E-28

V221 | n. | Active 4

时间

shíjiān

shrr-jyehn

time

Use it: E045 / E-28

V222 | time/localizer | Reference

以前

yǐqián

ee-chyehn

before; previously

Use it: E155 / E-28

V223 | time/localizer | Reference

以后

yǐhòu

ee-ho

after; later

Use it: E155 / E-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Time, Dates & Making Plans

V224 | v. expression | Active 4

有空

yǒu kòng

yo kohng

have free time

Use it: E019 / E-28

V225 | adj. | Active 4

忙

máng

mahng

busy

Use it: E030 / E-29

V226 | v. | Active 4

见面

jiàn miàn

jyehn myehn

meet; see one another

Use it: E156 / E-29

V227 | v. | Active 4

等

děng

dung

wait

Use it: E111 / E-29

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Time, Dates & Making Plans

V228 | v. | Active 4

开始

kāishǐ

keye-shrr

begin; start

Use it: E157 / E-29

V229 | v. | Reference

结束

jiéshù

jyeh-shoo

finish; end

Use it: E157 / E-29

V230 | time n. | Reference

明年

míngnián

ming-nyehn

next year

Use it: E110 / E-29

V231 | n. | Reference

生日

shēngrì

shung-rrr

birthday

Use it: E158 / E-30

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Use the words

Each example is linked from its vocabulary entry. Shared examples connect several useful words. Quantity phrases and counting sequences are labeled as such.

E037

我想吃饺子。

Wǒ xiǎng chī jiǎozi.

waw shyahng chrr jyow-dzuh.

I would like to eat dumplings.

E138

你想喝什么?

Nǐ xiǎng hē shénme?

knee shyahng huh shun-muh?

What would you like to drink?

E139

请给我菜单，我想点菜。

Qǐng gěi wǒ càidān, wǒ xiǎng diǎn cài.

ching gay waw tseye-dahn, waw shyahng dyehn tseye.

Please give me the menu; I would like to order.

E140

我们一起吃饭。

Wǒmen yīqǐ chī fàn.

waw-mun ee-chee chrr fahn.

We eat together.

Use the words (continued)

E038

我要一份米饭。

Wǒ yào yī fèn mǐfàn.

waw yow ee fun mee-fahn.

I would like one serving of rice.

E069

一碗面条。

Yī wǎn miàntiáo.

ee wahn myehn-tyow.

A bowl of noodles. [Quantity phrase]

E141

这个菜有肉，也有蔬菜。

Zhège cài yǒu ròu, yě yǒu shūcài.

juh-guh tseye yo roh, yeh yo shoo-tseye.

This dish has meat and vegetables.

E142

你要鸡肉、牛肉还是猪肉?

Nǐ yào jīròu, niúròu háishi zhūròu?

knee yow jee-roh, nyoh-roh high-shrr joo-roh?

Would you like chicken, beef, or pork?

E075

一条鱼。

Yī tiáo yú.

ee tyow yoo.*

One fish. [Quantity phrase]

Use the words (continued)

E143

两个鸡蛋。

Liǎng gè jīdàn.

lyahng guh jee-dahn.

Two eggs. [Quantity phrase]

E070

一块豆腐。

Yī kuài dòufu.

ee kweye doh-foo.

A piece of tofu. [Quantity phrase]

E064

我买了一些水果。

Wǒ mǎi le yīxiē shuǐguǒ.

waw meye luh ee-shyeh shway-gwaw.

I bought some fruit.

E031

请给我一杯水。

Qǐng gěi wǒ yī bēi shuǐ.

ching gay waw ee bay shway.

Please give me a glass of water.

E078

两种茶。

Liǎng zhǒng chá.

lyahng johng chah.

Two kinds of tea. [Quantity phrase]

Use the words (continued)

E024

你喝茶还是咖啡?

Nǐ hē chá háishi kāfēi?

knee huh chah high-shrr kah-fay?

Would you like tea or coffee?

E033

我对牛奶过敏。

Wǒ duì niúnǎi guòmǐn.

waw dway nyoh-neye gwaw-min.

I am allergic to milk.

E144

这家餐厅很好。

Zhè jiā cāntīng hěn hǎo.

juh jyah tsahn-ting hun how.

This restaurant is very good.

E145

请给我一双筷子。

Qǐng gěi wǒ yī shuāng kuàizi.

ching gay waw ee shwahng kweye-dzuh.

Please give me a pair of chopsticks.

E146

这个辣，那个甜。

Zhège là, nàge tián.

juh-guh lah, nah-guh tyehn.

This one is spicy; that one is sweet.

Use the words (continued)

E046

太热了！

Tài rè le!

teye ruh luh!

It is too hot!

E147

今天很冷。

Jīntiān hěn lěng.

jeen-tyehn hun lung.

It is cold today.

E048

这个最好吃。

Zhège zuì hǎochī.

juh-guh dzway how-chrr.

This one tastes best.

E148

我饿了，他已经吃饱了。

Wǒ è le, tā yǐjīng chī bǎo le.

waw uh luh, tah ee-jing chrr baow luh.

I am hungry; he has already eaten his fill.

E149

昨天很忙，今天有空，明天上班。

Zuótiān hěn máng, jīntiān yǒu kòng, míngtiān shàng bān.

dzwaw-tyehn hun mahng, jeen-tyehn yo kohng, ming-tyehn shahng bahn.

I was busy yesterday, am free today, and work tomorrow.

Use the words (continued)

E049

我现在就去。

Wǒ xiànzài jiù qù.

waw shyehn-dzeye jyoh chyoo.*

I will go right now.

E150

早上喝茶，上午学习，中午吃饭。

Zǎoshang hē chá, shàngwǔ xuéxí, zhōngwǔ chī fàn.

dzow-shahng huh chah, shahng-woo shweh-shee, johng-woo chrr fahn.*

Drink tea in the morning, study before noon, and eat at noon.

E151

下午见面，晚上回家。

Xiàwǔ jiàn miàn, wǎnshang huí jiā.

shyah-woo jyehn myehn, wahn-shahng hway jyah.

Meet in the afternoon and return home in the evening.

E152

二〇二七年五月六日，也可以说五月六号。

Èr líng èr qī nián wǔ yuè liù rì, yě kěyǐ shuō wǔ yuè liù hào.

er ling er chee nyehn woo yweh lyoh rrr, yeh kuh-ee shwaw woo yweh* lyoh how.*

May 6, 2027; for May 6, you can also use hao instead of ri.

E153

今天星期五，周末我有空。

Jīntiān xīngqīwǔ, zhōumò wǒ yǒu kòng.

jeen-tyehn shing-chee-woo, joe-maw waw yo kohng.

Today is Friday; I am free this weekend.

Use the words (continued)

E061

半个小时。

Bàn gè xiǎoshí.

bahn guh shyow-shrr.

Half an hour. [Duration phrase]

E154

请等五分钟。

Qǐng děng wǔ fēnzhōng.

ching dung woo fun-johng.

Please wait five minutes.

E045

我没有时间。

Wǒ méiyǒu shíjiān.

waw may-yo shrr-jyehn.

I don't have time.

E155

吃饭以前洗手，吃饭以后散步。

Chī fàn yǐqián xǐ shǒu, chī fàn yǐhòu sàn bù.

chrr fahn ee-chyehn shee show, chrr fahn ee-ho sahn boo.

Wash your hands before eating; take a walk afterward.

E019

你什么时候有空?

Nǐ shénme shíhou yǒu kòng?

knee shun-muh shrr-ho yo kohng?

When are you free?

Use the words (continued)

E030

你还忙吗?

Nǐ hái máng ma?

knee high mahng mah?

Are you still busy?

E156

我们明天见面吧。

Wǒmen míngtiān jiàn miàn ba.

waw-mun ming-tyehn jyehn myehn bah.

Let's meet tomorrow.

E111

请等一会儿。

Qǐng děng yīhuìr.

ching dung ee-hwayr.

Please wait a little while.

E157

九点开始，十点结束。

Jiǔ diǎn kāishǐ, shí diǎn jiéshù.

jyoh dyehn keye-shrr, shrr dyehn jyeh-shoo.

It starts at nine and finishes at ten.

E110

我今年退休，他明年退休。

Wǒ jīnnián tuìxiū, tā míngnián tuìxiū.

waw jeen-nyehn tway-shyoh, tah ming-nyehn tway-shyoh.

I retire this year; he retires next year.

Use the words (continued)

E158

今天是我的生日。

Jīntiān shì wǒ de shēngrì.

jeen-tyehn shrr waw duh shung-rrr.

Today is my birthday.

Nouns with their classifiers

Say the quantity as a complete phrase. Some supporting classifiers are recognition notes outside the counted word list; see Volume C. These are selected natural combinations, not rules for every sense of a noun.

V175

一份饭

yī fèn fàn

ee fun fahn

One serving of food. [Quantity phrase]

V176

一份米饭

yī fèn mǐfàn

ee fun mee-fahn

One serving of cooked rice. [Quantity phrase]

V179

一份菜

yī fèn cài

ee fun tseye

One dish. [Quantity phrase]

V180

一份肉

yī fèn ròu

ee fun roh

One portion of meat. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V181

一份鸡肉

yī fèn jīròu

ee fun jee-roh

One portion of chicken. [Quantity phrase]

V182

一份牛肉

yī fèn niúròu

ee fun nyoh-roh

One portion of beef. [Quantity phrase]

V183

一份猪肉

yī fèn zhūròu

ee fun joo-roh

One portion of pork. [Quantity phrase]

V184

一条鱼

yī tiáo yú

*ee tyow yoo**

One fish. [Quantity phrase]

V185

一个鸡蛋

yī gè jīdàn

ee guh jee-dahn

One egg. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V186

一份豆腐

yī fèn dòufu

ee fun doh-foo

One portion of tofu. [Quantity phrase]

V187

一份蔬菜

yī fèn shūcài

ee fun shoo-tseye

One portion of vegetables. [Quantity phrase]

V188

一份水果

yī fèn shuǐguǒ

ee fun shway-gwaw

One portion of fruit. [Quantity phrase]

V189

一杯水

yī bēi shuǐ

ee bay shway

One glass of water. [Quantity phrase]

V190

一杯茶

yī bēi chá

ee bay chah

One cup of tea. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V191

一杯咖啡

yī bēi kāfēi

ee bay kah-fay

One cup of coffee. [Quantity phrase]

V192

一杯牛奶

yī bēi niúnǎi

ee bay nyoh-neye

One glass of milk. [Quantity phrase]

V193

一家餐厅

yī jiā cāntīng

ee jyah tsahn-ting

One restaurant. [Quantity phrase]

V194

一张菜单

yī zhāng càidān

ee jahng tseye-dahn

One menu. [Quantity phrase]

V195

一双筷子

yī shuāng kuàizi

ee shwahng kweye-dzuh

One pair of chopsticks. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V218

一个周末

yī gè zhōumò

ee guh joe-maw

One weekend. [Quantity phrase]

V219

一个小时

yī gè xiǎoshí

ee guh shyow-shrr

One hour. [Quantity phrase]

V231

一个生日

yī gè shēngrì

ee guh shung-rrr

One birthday. [Quantity phrase]

Usage notes

V174 点

diǎn covers ordering, o’clock, and a decimal point; teach each through its own example.

V213 年

Read a year digit by digit; is a written zero in dates, not an extra vocabulary entry.

V216 日

Formal written date day; 号 is common in spoken dates.

V219 小时

Duration: 三个小时. Clock time: 三点.

V224 有空

kòng means free time here; not kōng (empty).

Order, offer, and clarify

Point to a menu if a word is unfamiliar. Use your actual dietary details; the allergy model is only a language example.

你想喝什么?

Nǐ xiǎng hē shénme?

knee shyahng huh shun-muh?

What would you like to drink?

我想要一杯茶。

Wǒ xiǎng yào yī bēi chá.

waw shyahng yow ee bay chah.

I would like a cup of tea.

这个菜辣吗?

Zhège cài là ma?

juh-guh tseye lah mah?

Is this dish spicy?

我对牛奶过敏。

Wǒ duì niúnǎi guòmǐn.

waw dway nyoh-neye gwaw-min.

I am allergic to milk.

请给我菜单。

Qǐng gěi wǒ càidān.

ching gay waw tseye-dahn.

Please give me the menu.

Months and weekdays

Month names combine a number with yue. Weekdays combine xingqi with one through six. Sunday has two common alternatives.

一月、二月、三月

yī yuè, èr yuè, sān yuè

ee yweh, er yweh*, sahn yweh**

January, February, March

四月、五月、六月

sì yuè, wǔ yuè, liù yuè

suh yweh, woo yweh*, lyoh yweh**

April, May, June

七月、八月、九月

qī yuè, bā yuè, jiǔ yuè

chee yweh, bah yweh*, jyoh yweh**

July, August, September

十月、十一月、十二月

shí yuè, shíyī yuè, shíèr yuè

shrr yweh, shrr-ee yweh*, shrr-er yweh**

October, November, December

星期一、星期二、星期三

xīngqīyī, xīngqīèr, xīngqīsān

shing-chee-ee, shing-chee-er, shing-chee-sahn

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Months and weekdays (continued)

星期四、星期五、星期六

xīngqīsì, xīngqīwǔ, xīngqīliù

shing-chee-suh, shing-chee-woo, shing-chee-lyoh

Thursday, Friday, Saturday

星期日、星期天

xīngqīrì, xīngqītiān

shing-chee-rrr, shing-chee-tyehn

Sunday, two alternatives

Dates, clock time, and duration

Give a date from largest unit to smallest: year, month, day. Read a year digit by digit. Dian names clock time; xiaoshi names hours of duration.

二〇二七年五月六日

èr líng èr qī nián wǔ yuè liù rì

er ling er chee nyehn woo yweh lyoh rrr*

May 6, 2027

五月六号

wǔ yuè liù hào

woo yweh lyoh how*

May 6, spoken date

三点、三点半

sān diǎn, sān diǎn bàn

sahn dyehn, sahn dyehn bahn

Three o'clock; half past three

三点十分

sān diǎn shí fēn

sahn dyehn shrr fun

Ten past three

三个小时、十分钟

sān gè xiǎoshí, shí fēnzhōng

sahn guh shyow-shrr, shrr fun-johng

Three hours; ten minutes

Dates, clock time, and duration (continued)

下午三点见。
Xiàwǔ sān diǎn jiàn.
shyah-woo sahn dyehn jyehn.
See you at three in the afternoon.

Conversation models

Brackets in Pinyin and sound clues mark details to replace, not words to read aloud. The original model remains intact; the filled example supplies the audio/practice text. P01-P30 count as 30 models regardless of their examples.

P12

我想要……。

Wǒ xiǎng yào [item].

waw shyahng yow [item].

I'd like ...

P12 example

我想要一杯茶。

Wǒ xiǎng yào yī bēi chá.

waw shyahng yow ee bay chah.

I would like a cup of tea.

P13

请给我……。

Qǐng gěi wǒ [item].

ching gay waw [item].

Please give me ...

P13 example

请给我一杯水。

Qǐng gěi wǒ yī bēi shuǐ.

ching gay waw ee bay shway.

Please give me a glass of water.

Conversation models (continued)

P14

我对.....过敏。

Wǒ duì [substance] guòmǐn.

waw dway [substance] gwaw-min.

I'm allergic to ...

P14 example

我对牛奶过敏。

Wǒ duì niúnǎi guòmǐn.

waw dway nyoh-neye gwaw-min.

I am allergic to milk. [Language example]

P15

现在几点?

Xiànzài jǐ diǎn?

shyehn-dzeye jee dyehn?

What time is it?

P16

你什么时候有空?

Nǐ shénme shíhou yǒu kòng?

knee shun-muh shrr-ho yo kohng?

When are you free?

P17

我们.....见吧。

Wǒmen [time or place] jiàn ba.

waw-mun [time or place] jyehn bah.

Let's meet ...

Conversation models (continued)

P17 example

我们明天见吧。

Wǒmen míngtiān jiàn ba.

waw-mun ming-tyehn jyehn bah.

Let us meet tomorrow.

Lesson 3: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

想 xiǎng
want to; would like to; think [V050 · A-20]

要 yào
want; need; be going to; about to/will in selected contexts [V051 · A-20]

喜欢 xǐhuan
like [V056 · A-21]

吃 chī
eat [V172 · E-07]

喝 hē
drink [V173 · E-07]

点 diǎn
order food; o'clock; decimal point [V174 · E-07]

饭 fàn
meal; cooked rice [V175 · E-07]

米饭 mǐfàn
cooked rice [V176 · E-08]

面条 miàntiáo
noodles [V177 · E-08]

饺子 jiǎozi
dumplings [V178 · E-08]

菜 cài
dish; vegetables [V179 · E-08]

水 shuǐ
water [V189 · E-11]

Lesson 3: active-use targets (continued)

茶 chá
tea [V190 · E-11]

咖啡 kāfēi
coffee [V191 · E-11]

牛奶 niúnǎi
milk [V192 · E-12]

杯 bēi
cup/glass of [V100 · B-13]

碗 wǎn
bowl of [V102 · B-14]

份 fèn
portion; serving; copy [V103 · B-14]

给 gěi
give; to; for [V041 · A-17]

还是 háishi
or, offering a choice in a question [V029 · A-14]

辣 là
spicy [V196 · E-13]

好吃 hǎochī
tasty, for food [V200 · E-14]

过敏 guòmǐn
be allergic; have an allergy [V203 · E-14]

Share a meal

Offer two drinks, order a quantity, and ask whether a dish is spicy.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

你喝茶还是水？我要一碗面条。这个菜辣吗？

Nǐ hē chá háishi shuǐ? Wǒ yào yī wǎn miàntiáo. Zhège cài là ma?

knee huh chah high-shrr shway? waw yow ee wahn myehn-tyow. juh-guh tseye lah mah?

Tea or water? I would like a bowl of noodles. Is this dish spicy?

Lesson 4: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

今天 jīntiān
today [V204 · E-15]

明天 míngtiān
tomorrow [V205 · E-15]

昨天 zuótiān
yesterday [V206 · E-15]

现在 xiànzài
now [V207 · E-15]

什么时候 shénme shíhou
when [V023 · A-12]

时间 shíjiān
time [V221 · E-19]

点 diǎn
order food; o'clock; decimal point [V174 · E-07]

分 fēn
one hundredth of a yuan; minute in clock time [V116 · B-17]

分钟 fēnzhōng
minute, duration [V220 · E-19]

小时 xiǎoshí
hour, duration [V219 · E-18]

星期 xīngqī
week; weekday building block [V217 · E-18]

月 yuè
month [V214 · E-17]

Lesson 4: active-use targets (continued)

号 hào
day of month; number identifier [V215 · E-17]

上午 shàngwǔ
morning; before noon [V209 · E-16]

下午 xiàwǔ
afternoon [V211 · E-16]

晚上 wǎnshang
evening; night [V212 · E-17]

有空 yǒu kòng
have free time [V224 · E-20]

忙 máng
busy [V225 · E-20]

见面 jiàn miàn
meet; see one another [V226 · E-20]

等 děng
wait [V227 · E-20]

开始 kāishǐ
begin; start [V228 · E-21]

一起 yīqǐ
together [V038 · A-17]

吧 ba
suggestion or softened request marker [V071 · A-25]

Make a plan

Ask when your partner is free. Agree on a day and time. Repeat the plan to check.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

你明天有空吗？我们下午三点见吧。
Nǐ míngtiān yǒu kòng ma? Wǒmen xiàwǔ sān diǎn jiàn ba.
knee ming-tyehn yo kohng mah? waw-mun shyah-woo sahn dyehn jyehn bah.
Are you free tomorrow? Let us meet at three in the afternoon.

Pinyin index

饱 bǎo
full after eating [V202 · E-14]

菜 cài
dish [V179 · E-08]

菜单 càidān
menu [V194 · E-12]

餐厅 cāntīng
restaurant [V193 · E-12]

茶 chá
tea [V190 · E-11]

吃 chī
eat [V172 · E-07]

等 děng
wait [V227 · E-20]

点 diǎn
order food [V174 · E-07]

豆腐 dòufu
tofu [V186 · E-10]

饿 è
hungry [V201 · E-14]

饭 fàn
meal [V175 · E-07]

分钟 fēnzhōng
minute, duration [V220 · E-19]

过敏 guòmǐn
be allergic [V203 · E-14]

号 hào
day of month [V215 · E-17]

Pinyin index

好吃 hǎochī
tasty, for food [V200 · E-14]

喝 hē
drink [V173 · E-07]

见面 jiàn miàn
meet [V226 · E-20]

饺子 jiǎozi
dumplings [V178 · E-08]

鸡蛋 jīdàn
egg [V185 · E-10]

结束 jiéshù
finish [V229 · E-21]

今天 jīntiān
today [V204 · E-15]

鸡肉 jīròu
chicken meat [V181 · E-09]

咖啡 kāfēi
coffee [V191 · E-11]

开始 kāishǐ
begin [V228 · E-21]

筷子 kuàizi
chopsticks [V195 · E-12]

辣 là
spicy [V196 · E-13]

冷 lěng
cold [V199 · E-13]

忙 máng
busy [V225 · E-20]

Pinyin index

面条 miàntiáo
noodles [V177 · E-08]

米饭 mǐfàn
cooked rice [V176 · E-08]

明年 míngnián
next year [V230 · E-21]

明天 míngtiān
tomorrow [V205 · E-15]

年 nián
year [V213 · E-17]

牛奶 niúnǎi
milk [V192 · E-12]

牛肉 niúròu
beef [V182 · E-09]

热 rè
hot [V198 · E-13]

日 rì
day [V216 · E-18]

肉 ròu
meat [V180 · E-09]

上午 shàngwǔ
morning [V209 · E-16]

生日 shēngrì
birthday [V231 · E-21]

时间 shíjiān
time [V221 · E-19]

蔬菜 shūcài
vegetables [V187 · E-10]

Pinyin index

水 shuǐ
water [V189 · E-11]

水果 shuǐguǒ
fruit [V188 · E-11]

甜 tián
sweet [V197 · E-13]

晚上 wǎnshang
evening [V212 · E-17]

现在 xiànzài
now [V207 · E-15]

小时 xiǎoshí
hour, duration [V219 · E-18]

下午 xiàwǔ
afternoon [V211 · E-16]

星期 xīngqī
week [V217 · E-18]

以后 yǐhòu
after [V223 · E-19]

以前 yǐqián
before [V222 · E-19]

有空 yǒu kòng
have free time [V224 · E-20]

鱼 yú
fish [V184 · E-10]

月 yuè
month [V214 · E-17]

早上 zǎoshang
morning [V208 · E-16]

Pinyin index

中午 zhōngwǔ
noon [V210 · E-16]

周末 zhōumò
weekend [V218 · E-18]

猪肉 zhūròu
pork [V183 · E-09]

昨天 zuótiān
yesterday [V206 · E-15]

English index

以后 yǐhòu
after [V223 · E-19]
下午 xiàwǔ
afternoon [V211 · E-16]
过敏 guòmǐn
be allergic [V203 · E-14]
牛肉 niúròu
beef [V182 · E-09]
以前 yǐqián
before [V222 · E-19]
开始 kāishǐ
begin [V228 · E-21]
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birthday [V231 · E-21]
忙 máng
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鸡肉 jīròu
chicken meat [V181 · E-09]
筷子 kuàizi
chopsticks [V195 · E-12]
咖啡 kāfēi
coffee [V191 · E-11]
冷 lěng
cold [V199 · E-13]
米饭 mǐfàn
cooked rice [V176 · E-08]
号 hào
day of month [V215 · E-17]

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日 rì
day [V216 · E-18]

菜 cài
dish [V179 · E-08]

喝 hē
drink [V173 · E-07]

饺子 jiǎozi
dumplings [V178 · E-08]

吃 chī
eat [V172 · E-07]

鸡蛋 jīdàn
egg [V185 · E-10]

晚上 wǎnshang
evening [V212 · E-17]

结束 jiéshù
finish [V229 · E-21]

鱼 yú
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hot [V198 · E-13]

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meet [V226 · E-20]

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menu [V194 · E-12]

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milk [V192 · E-12]

分钟 fēnzhōng
minute, duration [V220 · E-19]

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morning [V208 · E-16]

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morning [V209 · E-16]

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next year [V230 · E-21]

面条 miàntiáo
noodles [V177 · E-08]

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noon [V210 · E-16]

现在 xiànzài
now [V207 · E-15]

English index

点 diǎn
order food [V174 · E-07]
猪肉 zhūròu
pork [V183 · E-09]
餐厅 cāntīng
restaurant [V193 · E-12]
辣 là
spicy [V196 · E-13]
甜 tián
sweet [V197 · E-13]
好吃 hǎochī
tasty, for food [V200 · E-14]
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时间 shíjiān
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今天 jīntiān
today [V204 · E-15]
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tomorrow [V205 · E-15]
蔬菜 shūcài
vegetables [V187 · E-10]
等 děng
wait [V227 · E-20]
水 shuǐ
water [V189 · E-11]

English index

星期 xīngqī
week [V217 · E-18]
周末 zhōumò
weekend [V218 · E-18]
年 nián
year [V213 · E-17]
昨天 zuótiān
yesterday [V206 · E-15]

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Keep the conversation going

My practice plan
This week I will use three words in a real conversation.
Words / IDs: _____
One question I want to ask: _____
Someone I can practice with: _____
Date I tried it: _____ What I heard: _____

Personal words
My name: _____
My city: _____
My work, family, or interests: _____

Ask a teacher to help you check the Chinese and pronunciation of personal additions. They are yours to learn; they do not change the shared 421-entry register.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

Use it with people

Choose a few words.
Hear them. Say them.
Ask a real question.
Listen to the answer.

Then use the words again in a new situation.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Volume E of 8

Practice tools: translate.google.com
and toneperfect.app/practice

Companion vocabulary site planned:
secondlanguageproject.org/csl/vocabulary/
Site availability must be checked before print release.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

CSL

Mandarin Vocabulary

VOLUME F OF 8

Places & shopping

Chinese characters
Pinyin · CSL sound clues · English

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

Nine-month conversation program

Review edition · September 2026

Make these words your own

This is a conversation companion for adult CSL members. You do not need to memorize everything before speaking. Start with a useful question, listen to another person, and build from there.

Eight slim volumes keep the language layers readable: A Sentence builders; B Numbers & measure words; C Everyday foundations; D Meeting people & family; E Food, time & plans; F Places & shopping; G Daily life & travel; H Socializing & hosting.

The full set contains 421 vocabulary entries and 30 conversation models. Repeated examples and charts are practice, not extra headwords. Numbers and times are built from reusable parts.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Manuscript/design edition 1.0 - 29 September 2026
Pronunciation source checks and human audio review pending.

Use lesson numbers: the Wednesday sequence runs September-May; the Thursday sequence runs October-June. The same nine themes serve both groups.

In this volume

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Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

A few minutes at a time is enough to begin. Choose three to five entries and one model. Listen first, say the words aloud, then hide one support layer and try again. Use one word in a question to a partner. Revisit it on another day.

LISTEN: scan the listening QR. Google Translate opens the Chinese text; check that Chinese is the source and tap the source-language speaker. It may need an internet connection and a tap to start. Its automatic Pinyin is not the booklet's editorial source.

SAY: follow the booklet Pinyin and the recording. Keep neutral syllables light. Speak a short thought, not a string of English sound clues.

PRACTICE: open toneperfect.app/practice. Enter or paste the Chinese and choose Start Practice. Recording needs your microphone permission. Review the feedback, try once more, and ask a teacher about unclear results. AI scores are guidance, not a grade. Access limits may change.

USE: ask someone a real question and listen to their answer. If you get stuck, use a clarification model. The digital reader links work without a camera; a printed QR has a short address and text fallback beside it.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

PRACTICE ONE PHRASE
TonePerfect pronunciation practice
Fallback: toneperfect.app/practice
Type the Chinese example above.

Pinyin and the CSL sound clues

Read the four layers from top to bottom: Chinese, Pinyin, CSL sound clue, English. Chinese is the text to recognize and say. Pinyin carries the tones. Sound clues are an approximate bridge for English speakers; use the audio and Pinyin to refine them.

The marks show first tone (high and level), second (rising), third (low, with a rise when pronounced alone), and fourth (falling). A syllable without a mark is neutral: light and brief. A third tone often changes before another third tone. Yi and bu also change in connected speech. Printed citation tones and natural spoken changes can coexist.

In CSL clues, hyphens join syllables inside a word; spaces separate words. The star (*) marks rounded lips with an ee-like tongue position. Do not read it aloud. The shrr/chrr/jrr family is not an English “ee.” Pinyin r and the j/q/x and zh/ch/sh contrasts need listening practice. A final r in dianr or huir is joined erhua, not a separate er syllable.

Clues have no tone arrows. Read the Pinyin tone, listen once, and then imitate the whole word rather than sounding out English letters.

Read the labels

n. = noun; proper n. = name; time n. = time noun. pron. = pronoun; det. = determiner. v. = verb; modal = can/want/should-type helper. adj. = adjective or descriptive predicate; adv. = adverb. conj. = connector; prep. = preposition/coverb. num. = number; mw. = classifier; verbal mw. = action counter; unit = time, weight, or money unit. part. = grammatical particle; prefix = bound beginning such as ordinal di.

Some labels describe a learning function rather than a strict word class: demonstrative, place word, response, title, expression, and formula. A slash means that more than one selected use is taught. A complete conversational sentence is a model, not one part of speech.

Active entries have a lesson number beside “Active.” Reference entries remain available for supported reading and listening. An entry may be active in more than one lesson. Entry IDs identify the same word across the entire set, even when the IDs are not printed in numerical order.

Places, Directions & Transportation

V232 | v. | Active 5

去

qù

*chyoo**

go

Use it: E017 / F-22

V233 | v. | Active 5

回

huí

hway

return; go back

Use it: E159 / F-22

V234 | v. | Active 5

走

zǒu

dzoh

walk; go; leave

Use it: E159 / F-22

V235 | v. | Active 5

坐

zuò

dzwaw

sit; take transport

Use it: E041 / F-22

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Places, Directions & Transportation

V236 | v. expression | Active 5

开车

kāi chē

keye chuh

drive a vehicle

Use it: E102 / F-22

V237 | n. | Reference

车

chē

chuh

vehicle; car

Use it: E076 / F-23

V238 | n. | Active 5

公交车

gōngjiāochē

gohng-jyow-chuh

bus

Use it: E160 / F-23

V239 | n. | Active 5

地铁

dìtiě

dee-tyeh

subway

Use it: E160 / F-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Places, Directions & Transportation

V240 | n. | Active 5

出租车

chūzūchē

choo-dzoo-chuh

taxi

Use it: E160 / F-23

V241 | n. | Reference

火车

huǒchē

hwaw-chuh

train

Use it: E161 / F-23

V242 | n. | Active 5

车站

chēzhàn

chuh-jahn

station; stop

Use it: E161 / F-23

V243 | n. | Reference

路

lù

loo

road; way

Use it: E162 / F-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Places, Directions & Transportation

V244 | place word | Active 5

左边

zuǒbian

dzwaw-byehn

left side

Use it: E163 / F-23

V245 | place word | Active 5

右边

yòubian

yo-byehn

right side

Use it: E163 / F-23

V246 | place word | Active 5

前面

qiánmian

chyehn-myehn

in front; ahead

Use it: E164 / F-24

V247 | place word | Active 5

后面

hòumian

ho-myehn

behind; at the back

Use it: E164 / F-24

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Places, Directions & Transportation

V248 | place word | Reference

里面

lǐmian

lee-myehn

inside

Use it: E165 / F-24

V249 | place word | Reference

外面

wàimian

weye-myehn

outside

Use it: E165 / F-24

V250 | place word | Active 5

旁边

pángbiān

pahng-byehn

beside; next to

Use it: E166 / F-24

V251 | place word | Active 5

附近

fùjìn

foo-jeen

nearby; vicinity

Use it: E166 / F-24

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Places, Directions & Transportation

V252 | adj. | Active 5

远

yuǎn

*ywen**

far

Use it: E167 / F-24

V253 | adj. | Active 5

近

jìn

jeen

near

Use it: E167 / F-24

V254 | v. expression | Active 5

直走

zhí zǒu

jrr dzoh

go straight

Use it: E168 / F-24

V255 | v. | Active 5

拐

guǎi

gweye

turn, when giving directions

Use it: E168 / F-24

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Places, Directions & Transportation

V256 | n. | Active 5

路口

lùkǒu

loo-koh

intersection

Use it: E168 / F-24

V257 | n. | Active 5

厕所

cèsuǒ

tsuh-swaw

toilet; restroom

Use it: E014 / F-25

V258 | n. | Reference

银行

yínháng

een-hahng

bank

Use it: E163 / F-23

V259 | n. | Reference

医院

yīyuàn

*ee-ywen**

hospital

Use it: E169 / F-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Places, Directions & Transportation

V260 | n. | Reference

公园

gōngyuán

*gohng-ywen**

park

Use it: E166 / F-24

V261 | n. | Active 5

地址

dìzhǐ

dee-jrr

address

Use it: E094 / F-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Shopping, Numbers & Money

V262 | v. | Active 6

买

mǎi

meye

buy

Use it: E170 / F-25

V263 | v. | Active 6

卖

mài

meye

sell

Use it: E170 / F-25

V264 | n. | Active 6

钱

qián

chyehn

money

Use it: E016 / F-25

V265 | n. | Active 6

价格

jiàgé

jyah-guh

price

Use it: E171 / F-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Shopping, Numbers & Money

V266 | adj. | Active 6

贵

guì

gway

expensive

Use it: E025 / F-26

V267 | adj. | Active 6

便宜

piányi

pyehn-ee

inexpensive

Use it: E047 / F-26

V268 | n. | Active 6

商店

shāngdiàn

shahng-dyehn

shop

Use it: E170 / F-25

V269 | n. | Active 6

超市

chāoshì

chow-shrr

supermarket

Use it: E172 / F-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Shopping, Numbers & Money

V270 | n. | Reference

市场

shìchǎng

shrr-chahng

market

Use it: E172 / F-26

V271 | n. | Active 6

东西

dōngxi

dohng-shee

thing; things

Use it: E172 / F-26

V272 | n. | Active 6

衣服

yīfu

ee-foo

clothes

Use it: E073 / F-26

V273 | n. | Reference

鞋

xié

shyeh

shoe; shoes

Use it: E074 / F-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Shopping, Numbers & Money

V274 | n. | Reference

颜色

yánsè

yen-suh

color

Use it: E173 / F-27

V275 | adj. | Reference

红

hóng

hohng

red

Use it: E173 / F-27

V276 | adj. | Reference

白

bái

bye

white

Use it: E173 / F-27

V277 | adj. | Reference

黑

hēi

hay

black

Use it: E173 / F-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Shopping, Numbers & Money

V278 | v. | Active 6

试

shì

shrr

try

Use it: E174 / F-27

V279 | v. | Active 6

换

huàn

hwahn

change; exchange

Use it: E174 / F-27

V280 | v. | Reference

退

tuì

tway

return a purchase; refund

Use it: E174 / F-27

V281 | v. expression | Active 6

付钱

fù qián

foo chyehn

pay money

Use it: E175 / F-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Shopping, Numbers & Money

V282 | n. | Active 6

现金

xiànjīn

shyehn-jeen

cash

Use it: E175 / F-27

V283 | n. | Active 6

信用卡

xìnyòngkǎ

sheen-yong-kah

credit card

Use it: E175 / F-27

V284 | n. | Reference

手机

shǒujī

show-jee

mobile phone

Use it: E176 / F-27

V285 | n. | Reference

收据

shōujù

*show-jyoo**

receipt

Use it: E177 / F-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Shopping, Numbers & Money

V286 | v. | Reference

用

yòng

yong

use

Use it: E176 / F-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Use the words

Each example is linked from its vocabulary entry. Shared examples connect several useful words. Quantity phrases and counting sequences are labeled as such.

E017

怎么去车站?

Zěnme qù chēzhàn?

dzuhn-muh chyoo chuh-jahn?*

How do I get to the station?

E159

我们走回家吧。

Wǒmen zǒu huí jiā ba.

waw-mun dzoh hway jyah bah.

Let's walk home.

E041

我可以坐这里吗?

Wǒ kěyǐ zuò zhèlǐ ma?

waw kuh-ee dzwaw juh-lee mah?

May I sit here?

E102

我有时候开车。

Wǒ yǒu shíhou kāi chē.

waw yo shrr-ho keye chuh.

I sometimes drive.

Use the words (continued)

E076

一辆车。

Yī liàng chē.

ee lyahng chuh.

A vehicle. [Quantity phrase]

E160

你坐公交车、地铁还是出租车?

Nǐ zuò gōngjiāochē, dìtiě háishi chūzūchē?

knee dzwaw gohng-jyow-chuh, dee-tyeh high-shrr choo-dzoo-chuh?

Will you take a bus, the subway, or a taxi?

E161

我们去车站坐火车。

Wǒmen qù chēzhàn zuò huǒchē.

waw-mun chyoo chuh-jahn dzwaw hwaw-chuh.*

We are going to the station to take a train.

E162

这条路去公园。

Zhè tiáo lù qù gōngyuán.

juh tyow loo chyoo gohng-ywen*.*

This road goes to the park.

E163

银行在左边，医院在右边。

Yínháng zài zuǒbian, yīyuàn zài yòubian.

een-hahng dzeye dzwaw-byehn, ee-ywen dzeye yo-byehn.*

The bank is on the left; the hospital is on the right.

Use the words (continued)

E164

老师在前面，学生在后面。

Lǎoshī zài qiánmian, xuésheng zài hòumian.

laow-shrr dzeye chyehn-myehn, shweh-shung dzeye ho-myehn.*

The teacher is in front; the students are behind.

E165

里面有茶，外面有水。

Lǐmian yǒu chá, wàimian yǒu shuǐ.

lee-myehn yo chah, weye-myehn yo shway.

There is tea inside and water outside.

E166

我家旁边有公园，附近有超市。

Wǒ jiā pángbiān yǒu gōngyuán, fùjìn yǒu chāoshì.

waw jyah pahng-byehn yo gohng-ywen, foo-jeen yo chow-shrr.*

There is a park beside my home and a supermarket nearby.

E167

机场很远，车站很近。

Jīchǎng hěn yuǎn, chēzhàn hěn jìn.

jee-chahng hun ywen, chuh-jahn hun jeen.*

The airport is far away; the station is near.

E168

直走，到路口右拐。

Zhí zǒu, dào lùkǒu yòu guǎi.

jrr dzoh, dow loo-koh yo gweye.

Go straight, then turn right at the intersection.

Use the words (continued)

E014

厕所在哪里?

Cèsuǒ zài nǎlǐ?

tsuh-swaw dzeye nah-lee?

Where is the restroom?

E169

我想去医院。

Wǒ xiǎng qù yīyuàn.

waw shyahng chyoo ee-ywen*.*

I would like to go to the hospital.

E094

请告诉我地址。

Qǐng gàosu wǒ dìzhǐ.

ching gow-soo waw dee-jrr.

Please tell me the address.

E170

这家商店卖茶，我想买一些。

Zhè jiā shāngdiàn mài chá, wǒ xiǎng mǎi yīxiē.

juh jyah shahng-dyehn meye chah, waw shyahng meye ee-shyeh.

This shop sells tea; I would like to buy some.

E016

这个多少钱?

Zhège duōshao qián?

juh-guh dwaw-shaow chyehn?

How much is this?

Use the words (continued)

E171

这个价格可以吗?

Zhège jiàgé kěyǐ ma?

juh-guh jyah-guh kuh-ee mah?

Is this price okay?

E025

我喜欢，但是太贵了。

Wǒ xǐhuan, dànshì tài guì le.

waw shee-hwahn, dahn-shrr teye gway luh.

I like it, but it is too expensive.

E047

这个比较便宜。

Zhège bǐjiào piányi.

juh-guh bee-jyow pyehn-ee.

This one is comparatively inexpensive.

E172

超市和市场都有东西卖。

Chāoshì hé shìchǎng dōu yǒu dōngxi mài.

chow-shrr huh shrr-chahng doh yo dohng-shee meye.

Both the supermarket and the market have things for sale.

E073

一件衣服。

Yī jiàn yīfu.

ee jyehn ee-foo.

An item of clothing. [Quantity phrase]

Use the words (continued)

E074

一双鞋。

Yī shuāng xié.

ee shwahng shyeh.

A pair of shoes. [Quantity phrase]

E173

你喜欢什么颜色，红、白还是黑?

Nǐ xǐhuan shénme yánsè, hóng, bái háishi hēi?

knee shee-hwahn shun-muh yen-suh, hohng, bye high-shrr hay?

Which color do you like: red, white, or black?

E174

可以试吗？可以换吗？可以退吗?

Kěyǐ shì ma? Kěyǐ huàn ma? Kěyǐ tuì ma?

kuh-ee shrr mah? kuh-ee hwahn mah? kuh-ee tway mah?

May I try it? May I exchange it? May I return it?

E175

我用现金付钱，你用信用卡吗?

Wǒ yòng xiànjīn fù qián, nǐ yòng xìnyòngkǎ ma?

waw yong shyehn-jeen foo chyehn, knee yong sheen-yong-kah mah?

I am paying cash. Are you using a credit card?

E176

我用手机学习中文。

Wǒ yòng shǒujī xuéxí zhōngwén.

waw yong show-jee shweh-shee johng-wun.*

I use my phone to learn Chinese.

Use the words (continued)

E177

请给我一张收据。

Qǐng gěi wǒ yī zhāng shōujù.

ching gay waw ee jahng show-jyoo.*

Please give me a receipt.

Nouns with their classifiers

Say the quantity as a complete phrase. Some supporting classifiers are recognition notes outside the counted word list; see Volume C. These are selected natural combinations, not rules for every sense of a noun.

V237

一辆车

yī liàng chē

ee lyahng chuh

One vehicle. [Quantity phrase]

V238

一辆公交车

yī liàng gōngjiāochē

ee lyahng gohng-jyow-chuh

One bus. [Quantity phrase]

V240

一辆出租车

yī liàng chūzūchē

ee lyahng choo-dzoo-chuh

One taxi. [Quantity phrase]

V242

一座车站

yī zuò chēzhàn

ee dzwaw chuh-jahn

One station. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V243

一条路

yī tiáo lù

ee tyow loo

One road. [Quantity phrase]

V258

一家银行

yī jiā yínháng

ee jyah een-hahng

One bank. [Quantity phrase]

V259

一家医院

yī jiā yīyuàn

*ee jyah ee-ywen**

One hospital. [Quantity phrase]

V260

一座公园

yī zuò gōngyuán

*ee dzwaw gohng-ywen**

One park. [Quantity phrase]

V261

一个地址

yī gè dìzhǐ

ee guh dee-jrr

One address. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V265

一个价格

yī gè jiàgé

ee guh jyah-guh

One price. [Quantity phrase]

V268

一家商店

yī jiā shāngdiàn

ee jyah shahng-dyehn

One shop. [Quantity phrase]

V269

一家超市

yī jiā chāoshì

ee jyah chow-shrr

One supermarket. [Quantity phrase]

V272

一件衣服

yī jiàn yīfu

ee jyehn ee-foo

One item of clothing. [Quantity phrase]

V273

一双鞋

yī shuāng xié

ee shwahng shyeh

One pair of shoes. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V274

一种颜色

yī zhǒng yánsè

ee johng yen-suh

One color. [Quantity phrase]

V284

一部手机

yī bù shǒujī

ee boo show-jee

One mobile phone. [Quantity phrase]

V285

一张收据

yī zhāng shōujù

*ee jahng show-jyoo**

One receipt. [Quantity phrase]

Usage notes

V258 银行

háng in yínháng, unlike xíng meaning okay.

V271 东西

dōngxi = things, with neutral second syllable; dōngxī refers to east and west.

Prices and quantities

Kuai is colloquial yuan. Jiao is one tenth of a yuan; fen is one hundredth. Read decimals digit by digit after dian. The mainland jin is 500 grams.

三点五
sān diǎn wǔ
sahn dyehn woo
3.5 [decimal]

五元三角二分
wǔ yuán sān jiǎo èr fēn
woo ywen sahn jyow er fun*
5.32 yuan

十块钱
shí kuài qián
shrr kweye chyehn
Ten yuan, colloquially

一公斤、两斤
yī gōngjīn, liǎng jīn
ee gohng-jeen, lyahng jeen
One kilogram; two mainland jin

这个多少钱?
Zhège duōshao qián?
juh-guh dwaw-shaow chyehn?
How much is this?

Prices and quantities (continued)

可以用信用卡吗?
Kěyǐ yòng xìnyòngkǎ ma?
kuh-ee yong sheen-yong-kah mah?
Can I use a credit card?

Find your way

Listen for a place, direction, and distance. Ask again rather than guessing. Point to the destination or show its written address.

请问，车站在哪里?

Qǐngwèn, chēzhàn zài nǎlǐ?

ching-wun, chuh-jahn dzeye nah-lee?

Excuse me, where is the station?

直走，到路口右拐。

Zhí zǒu, dào lùkǒu yòu guǎi.

jrr dzoh, dow loo-koh yo gweye.

Go straight, then turn right at the intersection.

远吗?

Yuǎn ma?

ywen mah?*

Is it far?

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

Conversation models

Brackets in Pinyin and sound clues mark details to replace, not words to read aloud. The original model remains intact; the filled example supplies the audio/practice text. P01-P30 count as 30 models regardless of their examples.

P18

请问，.....在哪里?

Qǐngwèn, [place] zài nǎlǐ?

ching-wun, [place] dzeye nah-lee?

Excuse me, where is ...?

P18 example

请问，车站在哪里?

Qǐngwèn, chēzhàn zài nǎlǐ?

ching-wun, chuh-jahn dzeye nah-lee?

Excuse me, where is the station?

P19

怎么去.....?

Zěnme qù [place]?

dzuhn-muh chyoo [place]?*

How do I get to ...?

P19 example

怎么去公园?

Zěnme qù gōngyuán?

dzuhn-muh chyoo gohng-ywen*?*

How do I get to the park?

Conversation models (continued)

P20

这个多少钱?

Zhège duōshao qián?

juh-guh dwaw-shaow chyehn?

How much is this?

P21

可以用信用卡吗?

Kěyǐ yòng xìnyòngkǎ ma?

kuh-ee yong sheen-yong-kah mah?

Can I use a credit card?

Lesson 5: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

去 qù
go [V232 · F-07]

来 lái
come [V134 · D-10]

回 huí
return; go back [V233 · F-07]

走 zǒu
walk; go; leave [V234 · F-07]

坐 zuò
sit; take transport [V235 · F-07]

开车 kāi chē
drive a vehicle [V236 · F-08]

公交车 gōngjiāochē
bus [V238 · F-08]

地铁 dìtiě
subway [V239 · F-08]

出租车 chūzūchē
taxi [V240 · F-09]

车站 chēzhàn
station; stop [V242 · F-09]

左边 zuǒbian
left side [V244 · F-10]

右边 yòubian
right side [V245 · F-10]

Lesson 5: active-use targets (continued)

前面 qiánmian
in front; ahead [V246 · F-10]

后面 hòumian
behind; at the back [V247 · F-10]

旁边 pángbiān
beside; next to [V250 · F-11]

附近 fùjìn
nearby; vicinity [V251 · F-11]

远 yuǎn
far [V252 · F-12]

近 jìn
near [V253 · F-12]

直走 zhí zǒu
go straight [V254 · F-12]

拐 guǎi
turn, when giving directions [V255 · F-12]

路口 lùkǒu
intersection [V256 · F-13]

厕所 cèsuǒ
toilet; restroom [V257 · F-13]

地址 dìzhǐ
address [V261 · F-14]

Find the meeting place

Ask for a station or restaurant. Give one direction, then ask your partner to repeat it.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

车站在哪里？直走。请再说一遍。

Chēzhàn zài nǎlǐ? Zhí zǒu. Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

chuh-jahn dzeye nah-lee? jrr dzoh. ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Where is the station? Go straight. Please say it again.

Lesson 6: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

买 mǎi
buy [V262 · F-15]

卖 mài
sell [V263 · F-15]

多少 duōshao
how many; how much [V020 · A-11]

钱 qián
money [V264 · F-15]

价格 jiàgé
price [V265 · F-15]

贵 guì
expensive [V266 · F-16]

便宜 piányi
inexpensive [V267 · F-16]

两 liǎng
two, commonly before measure words [V078 · B-07]

元 yuán
yuan, currency unit [V114 · B-17]

块 kuài
piece; colloquial unit of money [V104 · B-14]

件 jiàn
classifier for clothing and matters [V107 · B-15]

双 shuāng
pair, for shoes, chopsticks, etc. [V108 · B-15]

Lesson 6: active-use targets (continued)

本 běn
classifier for bound books [V106 · B-15]

张 zhāng
classifier for flat objects, tickets, tables [V105 · B-15]

商店 shāngdiàn
shop [V268 · F-16]

超市 chāoshì
supermarket [V269 · F-16]

东西 dōngxi
thing; things [V271 · F-17]

衣服 yīfu
clothes [V272 · F-17]

试 shì
try [V278 · F-19]

换 huàn
change; exchange [V279 · F-19]

付钱 fù qián
pay money [V281 · F-19]

现金 xiànjīn
cash [V282 · F-20]

信用卡 xìnyòngkǎ
credit card [V283 · F-20]

Buy something

Choose an item, ask its price, and ask how you can pay. Use a number and classifier.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

我要两本书。多少钱？可以用信用卡吗？

Wǒ yào liǎng běn shū. Duōshao qián? Kěyǐ yòng xìnyòngkǎ ma?

waw yow lyahng bun shoo. dwaw-shaow chyehn? kuh-ee yong sheen-yong-kah mah?

I would like two books. How much? Can I use a credit card?

Pinyin index

白 bái
white [V276 · F-18]

厕所 cèsuǒ
toilet [V257 · F-13]

超市 chāoshì
supermarket [V269 · F-16]

车 chē
vehicle [V237 · F-08]

车站 chēzhàn
station [V242 · F-09]

出租车 chūzūchē
taxi [V240 · F-09]

地铁 dìtiě
subway [V239 · F-08]

地址 dìzhǐ
address [V261 · F-14]

东西 dōngxi
thing [V271 · F-17]

付钱 fù qián
pay money [V281 · F-19]

附近 fùjìn
nearby [V251 · F-11]

公交车 gōngjiāochē
bus [V238 · F-08]

公园 gōngyuán
park [V260 · F-14]

拐 guǎi
turn, when giving directions [V255 · F-12]

Pinyin index

贵 guì
expensive [V266 · F-16]

黑 hēi
black [V277 · F-18]

红 hóng
red [V275 · F-18]

后面 hòumian
behind [V247 · F-10]

换 huàn
change [V279 · F-19]

回 huí
return [V233 · F-07]

火车 huǒchē
train [V241 · F-09]

价格 jiàgé
price [V265 · F-15]

近 jìn
near [V253 · F-12]

开车 kāi chē
drive a vehicle [V236 · F-08]

里面 lǐmian
inside [V248 · F-11]

路 lù
road [V243 · F-09]

路口 lùkǒu
intersection [V256 · F-13]

买 mǎi
buy [V262 · F-15]

Pinyin index

卖 mài
sell [V263 · F-15]

旁边 pángbiān
beside [V250 · F-11]

便宜 piányi
inexpensive [V267 · F-16]

钱 qián
money [V264 · F-15]

前面 qiánmian
in front [V246 · F-10]

去 qù
go [V232 · F-07]

商店 shāngdiàn
shop [V268 · F-16]

试 shì
try [V278 · F-19]

市场 shìchǎng
market [V270 · F-17]

手机 shǒujī
mobile phone [V284 · F-20]

收据 shōujù
receipt [V285 · F-20]

退 tuì
return a purchase [V280 · F-19]

外面 wàimian
outside [V249 · F-11]

现金 xiànjīn
cash [V282 · F-20]

Pinyin index

鞋 xié
shoe [V273 · F-17]
信用卡 xìnyòngkǎ
credit card [V283 · F-20]
颜色 yánsè
color [V274 · F-18]
衣服 yīfu
clothes [V272 · F-17]
银行 yínháng
bank [V258 · F-13]
医院 yīyuàn
hospital [V259 · F-13]
用 yòng
use [V286 · F-21]
右边 yòubian
right side [V245 · F-10]
远 yuǎn
far [V252 · F-12]
直走 zhí zǒu
go straight [V254 · F-12]
走 zǒu
walk [V234 · F-07]
坐 zuò
sit [V235 · F-07]
左边 zuǒbian
left side [V244 · F-10]

English index

地址 dìzhǐ
address [V261 · F-14]
银行 yínháng
bank [V258 · F-13]
后面 hòumian
behind [V247 · F-10]
旁边 pángbiān
beside [V250 · F-11]
黑 hēi
black [V277 · F-18]
公交车 gōngjiāochē
bus [V238 · F-08]
买 mǎi
buy [V262 · F-15]
现金 xiànjīn
cash [V282 · F-20]
换 huàn
change [V279 · F-19]
衣服 yīfu
clothes [V272 · F-17]
颜色 yánsè
color [V274 · F-18]
信用卡 xìnyòngkǎ
credit card [V283 · F-20]
开车 kāi chē
drive a vehicle [V236 · F-08]
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远 yuǎn
far [V252 · F-12]

去 qù
go [V232 · F-07]

直走 zhí zǒu
go straight [V254 · F-12]

医院 yīyuàn
hospital [V259 · F-13]

前面 qiánmian
in front [V246 · F-10]

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inside [V248 · F-11]

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市场 shìchǎng
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money [V264 · F-15]

近 jìn
near [V253 · F-12]

附近 fùjìn
nearby [V251 · F-11]

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外面 wàimian
outside [V249 · F-11]
公园 gōngyuán
park [V260 · F-14]
付钱 fù qián
pay money [V281 · F-19]
价格 jiàgé
price [V265 · F-15]
收据 shōujù
receipt [V285 · F-20]
红 hóng
red [V275 · F-18]
退 tuì
return a purchase [V280 · F-19]
回 huí
return [V233 · F-07]
右边 yòubian
right side [V245 · F-10]
路 lù
road [V243 · F-09]
卖 mài
sell [V263 · F-15]
鞋 xié
shoe [V273 · F-17]
商店 shāngdiàn
shop [V268 · F-16]
坐 zuò
sit [V235 · F-07]

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车站 chēzhàn
station [V242 · F-09]

地铁 dìtiě
subway [V239 · F-08]

超市 chāoshì
supermarket [V269 · F-16]

出租车 chūzūchē
taxi [V240 · F-09]

东西 dōngxi
thing [V271 · F-17]

厕所 cèsuǒ
toilet [V257 · F-13]

火车 huǒchē
train [V241 · F-09]

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try [V278 · F-19]

拐 guǎi
turn, when giving directions [V255 · F-12]

用 yòng
use [V286 · F-21]

车 chē
vehicle [V237 · F-08]

走 zǒu
walk [V234 · F-07]

白 bái
white [V276 · F-18]

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Keep the conversation going

My practice plan
This week I will use three words in a real conversation.
Words / IDs: _____
One question I want to ask: _____
Someone I can practice with: _____
Date I tried it: _____ What I heard: _____

Personal words
My name: _____
My city: _____
My work, family, or interests: _____

Ask a teacher to help you check the Chinese and pronunciation of personal additions. They are yours to learn; they do not change the shared 421-entry register.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

Use it with people

Choose a few words.
Hear them. Say them.
Ask a real question.
Listen to the answer.

Then use the words again in a new situation.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Volume F of 8

Practice tools: translate.google.com
and toneperfect.app/practice

Companion vocabulary site planned:
secondlanguageproject.org/csl/vocabulary/
Site availability must be checked before print release.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

CSL

Mandarin Vocabulary

VOLUME G OF 8

Daily life & travel

Chinese characters
Pinyin · CSL sound clues · English

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

Nine-month conversation program

Review edition · September 2026

Make these words your own

This is a conversation companion for adult CSL members. You do not need to memorize everything before speaking. Start with a useful question, listen to another person, and build from there.

Eight slim volumes keep the language layers readable: A Sentence builders; B Numbers & measure words; C Everyday foundations; D Meeting people & family; E Food, time & plans; F Places & shopping; G Daily life & travel; H Socializing & hosting.

The full set contains 421 vocabulary entries and 30 conversation models. Repeated examples and charts are practice, not extra headwords. Numbers and times are built from reusable parts.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Manuscript/design edition 1.0 - 29 September 2026
Pronunciation source checks and human audio review pending.

Use lesson numbers: the Wednesday sequence runs September-May; the Thursday sequence runs October-June. The same nine themes serve both groups.

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Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

A few minutes at a time is enough to begin. Choose three to five entries and one model. Listen first, say the words aloud, then hide one support layer and try again. Use one word in a question to a partner. Revisit it on another day.

LISTEN: scan the listening QR. Google Translate opens the Chinese text; check that Chinese is the source and tap the source-language speaker. It may need an internet connection and a tap to start. Its automatic Pinyin is not the booklet's editorial source.

SAY: follow the booklet Pinyin and the recording. Keep neutral syllables light. Speak a short thought, not a string of English sound clues.

PRACTICE: open toneperfect.app/practice. Enter or paste the Chinese and choose Start Practice. Recording needs your microphone permission. Review the feedback, try once more, and ask a teacher about unclear results. AI scores are guidance, not a grade. Access limits may change.

USE: ask someone a real question and listen to their answer. If you get stuck, use a clarification model. The digital reader links work without a camera; a printed QR has a short address and text fallback beside it.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

PRACTICE ONE PHRASE
TonePerfect pronunciation practice
Fallback: toneperfect.app/practice
Type the Chinese example above.

Pinyin and the CSL sound clues

Read the four layers from top to bottom: Chinese, Pinyin, CSL sound clue, English. Chinese is the text to recognize and say. Pinyin carries the tones. Sound clues are an approximate bridge for English speakers; use the audio and Pinyin to refine them.

The marks show first tone (high and level), second (rising), third (low, with a rise when pronounced alone), and fourth (falling). A syllable without a mark is neutral: light and brief. A third tone often changes before another third tone. Yi and bu also change in connected speech. Printed citation tones and natural spoken changes can coexist.

In CSL clues, hyphens join syllables inside a word; spaces separate words. The star (*) marks rounded lips with an ee-like tongue position. Do not read it aloud. The shrr/chrr/jrr family is not an English “ee.” Pinyin r and the j/q/x and zh/ch/sh contrasts need listening practice. A final r in dianr or huir is joined erhua, not a separate er syllable.

Clues have no tone arrows. Read the Pinyin tone, listen once, and then imitate the whole word rather than sounding out English letters.

Read the labels

n. = noun; proper n. = name; time n. = time noun. pron. = pronoun; det. = determiner. v. = verb; modal = can/want/should-type helper. adj. = adjective or descriptive predicate; adv. = adverb. conj. = connector; prep. = preposition/coverb. num. = number; mw. = classifier; verbal mw. = action counter; unit = time, weight, or money unit. part. = grammatical particle; prefix = bound beginning such as ordinal di.

Some labels describe a learning function rather than a strict word class: demonstrative, place word, response, title, expression, and formula. A slash means that more than one selected use is taught. A complete conversational sentence is a model, not one part of speech.

Active entries have a lesson number beside “Active.” Reference entries remain available for supported reading and listening. An entry may be active in more than one lesson. Entry IDs identify the same word across the entire set, even when the IDs are not printed in numerical order.

Work, School, Volunteering & Daily Responsibilities

V287 | v./n. | Active 7

工作

gōngzuò

gohng-dzwaw

work; job

Use it: E178 / G-23

V288 | n. | Active 7

公司

gōngsī

gohng-suh

company

Use it: E178 / G-23

V289 | n. | Reference

办公室

bàngōngshì

bahn-gohng-shrr

office

Use it: E178 / G-23

V290 | n. | Reference

经理

jīnglǐ

jing-lee

manager

Use it: E178 / G-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Work, School, Volunteering & Daily Responsibilities

V291 | v. | Active 7

退休

tuìxiū

tway-shyoh

retire; be retired

Use it: E179 / G-23

V292 | n. | Active 7

学生

xuésheng

shweh-shung*

student

Use it: E180 / G-23

V293 | n. | Active 7

学校

xuéxiào

shweh-shyow*

school

Use it: E032 / G-23

V294 | n. | Reference

大学

dàxué

*dah-shweh**

university

Use it: E180 / G-23

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Work, School, Volunteering & Daily Responsibilities

V295 | v. expression | Reference

上课

shàng kè

shahng kuh

attend class; teach a class

Use it: E181 / G-24

V296 | v. expression | Reference

下课

xià kè

shyah kuh

finish class

Use it: E181 / G-24

V297 | v. | Active 7

学习

xuéxí

shweh-shee*

study; learn

Use it: E182 / G-24

V298 | v./n. | Active 7

练习

liànxí

lyen-shee

practice; exercise

Use it: E182 / G-24

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Work, School, Volunteering & Daily Responsibilities

V299 | v. | Active 7

读

dú

doo

read

Use it: E113 / G-24

V300 | v. | Active 7

写

xiě

shyeh

write

Use it: E114 / G-24

V301 | n. | Active 7

书

shū

shoo

book

Use it: E052 / G-24

V302 | n. | Active 7

问题

wèntí

wun-tee

question; problem

Use it: E183 / G-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Work, School, Volunteering & Daily Responsibilities

V303 | v. | Active 7

做

zuò

dzwaw

do; make

Use it: E184 / G-25

V304 | v. expression | Active 7

上班

shàng bān

shahng bahn

go to work; be on duty

Use it: E185 / G-25

V305 | v. expression | Active 7

下班

xià bān

shyah bahn

finish work

Use it: E185 / G-25

V306 | n. | Active 7

志愿者

zhìyuànzhě

jrr-ywen-juh*

volunteer, a person

Use it: E186 / G-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Work, School, Volunteering & Daily Responsibilities

V307 | n. | Active 7

社区

shèqū

*shuh-chyoo**

community

Use it: E186 / G-25

V308 | v. | Active 7

帮忙

bāng máng

bahng mahng

help; lend a hand

Use it: E040 / G-25

V309 | n. | Active 7

活动

huódòng

hwaw-dohng

activity; event

Use it: E186 / G-25

V310 | n. | Active 7

家务

jiāwù

jyah-woo

housework

Use it: E184 / G-25

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Work, School, Volunteering & Daily Responsibilities

V311 | v. expression | Active 7

做饭

zuò fàn

dzwaw fahn

cook; prepare food

Use it: E008 / G-26

V312 | v. | Reference

打扫

dǎsǎo

dah-saow

clean; sweep

Use it: E187 / G-26

V313 | v. | Active 7

照顾

zhàogu

jaow-goo

look after

Use it: E187 / G-26

V314 | v. expression | Reference

起床

qǐ chuáng

chee chwahng

get up

Use it: E188 / G-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Work, School, Volunteering & Daily Responsibilities

V315 | v. expression | Reference

睡觉

shuì jiào

shway jyow

sleep; go to bed

Use it: E188 / G-26

V316 | v./n. | Active 7

休息

xiūxi

shyoh-shee

rest; take a break

Use it: E042 / G-26

V317 | time expression | Active 7

每天

měi tiān

may tyehn

every day

Use it: E188 / G-26

V318 | v. | Reference

帮

bāng

bahng

help

Use it: E189 / G-26

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Travel, Hotels & Problem Solving

V319 | v./n. | Active 8

旅行

lǚxíng

lyoo-shing*

travel; take a trip

Use it: E190 / G-27

V320 | n. | Active 8

机场

jīchǎng

jee-chahng

airport

Use it: E191 / G-27

V321 | n. | Active 8

飞机

fēijī

fay-jee

airplane

Use it: E190 / G-27

V322 | n. | Active 8

票

piào

pyow

ticket

Use it: E071 / G-27

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Travel, Hotels & Problem Solving

V323 | n. | Active 8

护照

hùzhào

hoo-jaow

passport

Use it: E090 / G-27

V324 | n. | Active 8

行李

xíngli

shing-lee

luggage

Use it: E192 / G-27

V325 | n. | Active 8

酒店

jiǔdiàn

jyoh-dyehn

hotel

Use it: E193 / G-28

V326 | n. | Active 8

房间

fángjiān

fahng-jyehn

room

Use it: E077 / G-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Travel, Hotels & Problem Solving

V327 | v. | Active 8

预订

yùdìng

yoo-ding*

reserve; book

Use it: E193 / G-28

V328 | v. | Active 8

入住

rùzhù

roo-joo

check in; move in

Use it: E194 / G-28

V329 | v. expression | Active 8

退房

tuì fáng

tway fahng

check out of a room

Use it: E194 / G-28

V330 | n. | Active 8

钥匙

yàoshi

yow-shrr

key

Use it: E092 / G-28

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Travel, Hotels & Problem Solving

V331 | n. | Reference

前台

qiántái

chyehn-teye

reception; front desk

Use it: E195 / G-28

V332 | v. | Active 8

找

zhǎo

jaow

look for

Use it: E196 / G-29

V333 | v. | Reference

丢

diū

dyoh

lose; misplace

Use it: E196 / G-29

V334 | v. | Active 8

懂

dǒng

dohng

understand

Use it: E197 / G-29

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Travel, Hotels & Problem Solving

V335 | v./adj. | Active 8

明白

míngbai

ming-bye

understand; be clear

Use it: E198 / G-29

V336 | adj. | Active 8

慢

màn

mahn

slow

Use it: E057 / G-29

V337 | adj. | Active 8

快

kuài

kweye

fast

Use it: E199 / G-29

V338 | v. | Active 8

重复

chóngfù

chohng-foo

repeat

Use it: E200 / G-30

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Travel, Hotels & Problem Solving

V339 | v. | Active 8

需要

xūyào

shyoo-yow*

need

Use it: E201 / G-30

V340 | v./n. | Active 8

帮助

bāngzhù

bahng-joo

help; assistance

Use it: E201 / G-30

V341 | adj. | Active 8

坏

huài

hweye

broken; bad

Use it: E202 / G-30

V342 | adj. | Active 8

舒服

shūfu

shoo-foo

comfortable; well

Use it: E203 / G-30

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Travel, Hotels & Problem Solving

V343 | v./adj. | Reference

疼

téng

tung

hurt; be painful

Use it: E203 / G-30

V344 | n. | Active 8

医生

yīshēng

ee-shung

doctor

Use it: E204 / G-30

V345 | n. | Reference

药

yào

yow

medicine

Use it: E204 / G-30

V346 | n. | Reference

警察

jǐngchá

jing-chah

police; police officer

Use it: E205 / G-31

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Travel, Hotels & Problem Solving

V347 | adj. | Reference

紧急

jǐnjí

jeen-jee

urgent; emergency, attributive

Use it: E205 / G-31

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Use the words

Each example is linked from its vocabulary entry. Shared examples connect several useful words. Quantity phrases and counting sequences are labeled as such.

E178

经理在公司的办公室工作。

Jīnglǐ zài gōngsī de bàngōngshì gōngzuò.

jing-lee dzeye gohng-suh duh bahn-gohng-shrr gohng-dzwaw.

The manager works in the company's office.

E179

我已经退休了。

Wǒ yǐjīng tuìxiū le.

waw ee-jing tway-shyoh luh.

I am already retired.

E180

我是大学的学生。

Wǒ shì dàxué de xuésheng.

waw shrr dah-shweh duh shweh*-shung.*

I am a university student.

E032

从学校到我家很近。

Cóng xuéxiào dào wǒ jiā hěn jìn.

tsohng shweh-shyow dow waw jyah hun jeen.*

It is near from the school to my home.

Use the words (continued)

E181

九点上课，十点下课。

Jiǔ diǎn shàng kè, shí diǎn xià kè.

jyoh dyehn shahng kuh, shrr dyehn shyah kuh.

Class starts at nine and finishes at ten.

E182

我们学习中文，每天练习。

Wǒmen xuéxí zhōngwén, měi tiān liànxí.

waw-mun shweh-shee johng-wun, may tyehn lyen-shee.*

We study Chinese and practice every day.

E113

请读这个汉字。

Qǐng dú zhège hànzì.

ching doo juh-guh hahn-dzuh.

Please read this Chinese character.

E114

请写拼音。

Qǐng xiě pīnyīn.

ching shyeh peen-een.

Please write the Pinyin.

E052

这是我的书。

Zhè shì wǒ de shū.

juh shrr waw duh shoo.

This is my book.

Use the words (continued)

E183

我有一个问题。

Wǒ yǒu yī gè wèntí.

waw yo ee guh wun-tee.

I have a question.

E184

我在做家务。

Wǒ zài zuò jiāwù.

waw dzeye dzwaw jyah-woo.

I am doing housework.

E185

我九点上班，五点下班。

Wǒ jiǔ diǎn shàng bān, wǔ diǎn xià bān.

waw jyoh dyehn shahng bahn, woo dyehn shyah bahn.

I start work at nine and finish at five.

E186

我们是志愿者，参加社区活动。

Wǒmen shì zhìyuànzhě, cānjiā shèqū huódòng.

waw-mun shrr jrr-ywen-juh, tsahn-jyah shuh-chyoo* hwaw-dohng.*

We are volunteers and take part in community activities.

E040

你能帮忙吗?

Nǐ néng bāng máng ma?

knee nung bahng mahng mah?

Can you help?

Use the words (continued)

E008

我自己做饭。

Wǒ zìjǐ zuò fàn.

waw dzuh-jee dzwaw fahn.

I cook for myself.

E187

我打扫房间，也照顾家人。

Wǒ dǎsǎo fángjiān, yě zhàogu jiārén.

waw dah-saow fahng-jyehn, yeh jaow-goo jyah-run.

I clean the room and also look after my family.

E188

我每天七点起床，十点睡觉。

Wǒ měi tiān qī diǎn qǐ chuáng, shí diǎn shuì jiào.

waw may tyehn chee dyehn chee chwahng, shrr dyehn shway jyow.

I get up at seven and go to bed at ten every day.

E042

你应该休息。

Nǐ yīnggāi xiūxi.

knee ying-guy shyoh-shee.

You should rest.

E189

请帮我拿书。

Qǐng bāng wǒ ná shū.

ching bahng waw nah shoo.

Please help me carry the books.

Use the words (continued)

E190

我坐飞机去旅行。

Wǒ zuò fēijī qù lǚxíng.

waw dzwaw fay-jee chyoo lyoo*-shing.*

I travel by airplane.

E191

请带我去机场。

Qǐng dài wǒ qù jīchǎng.

ching dye waw chyoo jee-chahng.*

Please take me to the airport.

E071

两张票。

Liǎng zhāng piào.

lyahng jahng pyow.

Two tickets. [Quantity phrase]

E090

请带护照。

Qǐng dài hùzhào.

ching dye hoo-jaow.

Please bring your passport.

E192

我的行李在哪里?

Wǒ de xíngli zài nǎlǐ?

waw duh shing-lee dzeye nah-lee?

Where is my luggage?

Use the words (continued)

E193

我预订了酒店的房间。

Wǒ yùdìng le jiǔdiàn de fángjiān.

waw yoo-ding luh jyoh-dyehn duh fahng-jyehn.*

I reserved a hotel room.

E077

一间房间。

Yī jiān fángjiān.

ee jyehn fahng-jyehn.

One room. [Quantity phrase]

E194

今天入住，明天退房。

Jīntiān rùzhù, míngtiān tuì fáng.

jeen-tyehn roo-joo, ming-tyehn tway fahng.

Check in today and check out tomorrow.

E092

我找到钥匙了。

Wǒ zhǎodào yàoshi le.

waw jaow-dow yow-shrr luh.

I found the key.

E195

请去前台问。

Qǐng qù qiántái wèn.

ching chyoo chyehn-teye wun.*

Please ask at the front desk.

Use the words (continued)

E196

我的钥匙丢了，我在找。

Wǒ de yàoshi diū le, wǒ zài zhǎo.

waw duh yow-shrr dyoh luh, waw dzeye jaow.

I lost my key and am looking for it.

E197

我听不懂。

Wǒ tīngbudǒng.

waw ting-boo-dohng.

I don't understand what I hear.

E198

我明白了，谢谢。

Wǒ míngbai le, xièxie.

waw ming-bye luh, shyeh-shyeh.

I understand now, thank you.

E057

请说得慢一点儿。

Qǐng shuō de màn yīdiǎnr.

ching shwaw duh mahn ee-dyehnr.

Please speak a little more slowly.

E199

你说得太快了。

Nǐ shuō de tài kuài le.

knee shwaw duh teye kweye luh.

You are speaking too quickly.

Use the words (continued)

E200

请重复这个词。

Qǐng chóngfù zhège cí.

ching chohng-foo juh-guh tsuh.

Please repeat this word.

E201

我需要帮助。

Wǒ xūyào bāngzhù.

waw shyoo-yow bahng-joo.*

I need help.

E202

我的手机坏了。

Wǒ de shǒujī huài le.

waw duh show-jee hweye luh.

My phone is broken.

E203

我不舒服，头疼。

Wǒ bù shūfu, tóu téng.

waw boo shoo-foo, toh tung.

I don't feel well; my head hurts.

E204

我想问医生，这个药怎么用?

Wǒ xiǎng wèn yīshēng, zhège yào zěnme yòng?

waw shyahng wun ee-shung, juh-guh yow dzuhn-muh yong?

I want to ask the doctor how to use this medicine.

Use the words (continued)

E205

情况紧急，请找警察。

Qíngkuàng jǐnjí, qǐng zhǎo jǐngchá.

ching-kwahng jeen-jee, ching jaow jing-chah.

It is urgent; please find a police officer.

Nouns with their classifiers

Say the quantity as a complete phrase. Some supporting classifiers are recognition notes outside the counted word list; see Volume C. These are selected natural combinations, not rules for every sense of a noun.

V287

一份工作

yī fèn gōngzuò

ee fun gohng-dzwaw

One job. [Quantity phrase]

V288

一家公司

yī jiā gōngsī

ee jyah gohng-suh

One company. [Quantity phrase]

V289

一间办公室

yī jiān bàngōngshì

ee jyehn bahn-gohng-shrr

One office. [Quantity phrase]

V290

一位经理

yī wèi jīnglǐ

ee way jing-lee

One manager. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V292

一个学生

yī gè xuésheng

ee guh shweh-shung*

One student. [Quantity phrase]

V293

一所学校

yī suǒ xuéxiào

ee swaw shweh-shyow*

One school. [Quantity phrase]

V294

一所大学

yī suǒ dàxué

*ee swaw dah-shweh**

One university. [Quantity phrase]

V301

一本书

yī běn shū

ee bun shoo

One book. [Quantity phrase]

V302

一个问题

yī gè wèntí

ee guh wun-tee

One question. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V306

一位志愿者

yī wèi zhìyuànzhě

ee way jrr-ywen-juh*

One volunteer. [Quantity phrase]

V307

一个社区

yī gè shèqū

*ee guh shuh-chyoo**

One community. [Quantity phrase]

V309

一次活动

yī cì huódòng

ee tsuh hwaw-dohng

One activity. [Quantity phrase]

V319

一次旅行

yī cì lǚxíng

ee tsuh lyoo-shing*

One trip. [Quantity phrase]

V320

一座机场

yī zuò jīchǎng

ee dzwaw jee-chahng

One airport. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V321

一架飞机

yī jià fēijī

ee jyah fay-jee

One airplane. [Quantity phrase]

V322

一张票

yī zhāng piào

ee jahng pyow

One ticket. [Quantity phrase]

V323

一本护照

yī běn hùzhào

ee bun hoo-jaow

One passport. [Quantity phrase]

V324

一件行李

yī jiàn xíngli

ee jyehn shing-lee

One piece of luggage. [Quantity phrase]

V325

一家酒店

yī jiā jiǔdiàn

ee jyah jyoh-dyehn

One hotel. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V326

一间房间

yī jiān fángjiān

ee jyehn fahng-jyehn

One room. [Quantity phrase]

V330

一把钥匙

yī bǎ yàoshi

ee bah yow-shrr

One key. [Quantity phrase]

V344

一位医生

yī wèi yīshēng

ee way ee-shung

One doctor. [Quantity phrase]

V345

一种药

yī zhǒng yào

ee johng yow

One kind of medicine. [Quantity phrase]

V346

一位警察

yī wèi jǐngchá

ee way jing-chah

One police officer. [Quantity phrase]

Usage notes

V330 钥匙

yàoshi in the key sense; final syllable neutral.

V338 重复

chóngfù = repeat; not zhòng for 重 here.

What you do

Choose the details that fit your life. Work, retirement, school, community service, and home responsibilities all belong in the conversation.

我在公司工作。
Wǒ zài gōngsī gōngzuò.
waw dzeye gohng-suh gohng-dzwaw.
I work at a company.

我已经退休了。
Wǒ yǐjīng tuìxiū le.
waw ee-jing tway-shyoh luh.
I am already retired.

我是志愿者。
Wǒ shì zhìyuànzhě.
waw shrr jrr-ywen-juh.*
I am a volunteer.

我照顾家人。
Wǒ zhàogu jiārén.
waw jaow-goo jyah-run.
I look after my family.

Repair the conversation

These are useful from the first meeting, even though travel gives us extra practice with them. Slow down, ask again, or ask someone to write a word.

我听不懂。

Wǒ tīngbudǒng.

waw ting-boo-dohng.

I don't understand what I hear.

请说慢一点儿。

Qǐng shuō màn yīdiǎnr.

ching shwaw mahn ee-dyehnr.

Please speak a little more slowly.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

请写这个字。

Qǐng xiě zhège zì.

ching shyeh juh-guh dzuh.

Please write this character.

我需要帮助。

Wǒ xūyào bāngzhù.

waw shyoo-yow bahng-joo.*

I need help.

Conversation models

Brackets in Pinyin and sound clues mark details to replace, not words to read aloud. The original model remains intact; the filled example supplies the audio/practice text. P01-P30 count as 30 models regardless of their examples.

P22

你做什么工作?

Nǐ zuò shénme gōngzuò?

knee dzwaw shun-muh gohng-dzwaw?

What work do you do?

P27

我预订了房间。

Wǒ yùdìng le fángjiān.

waw yoo-ding luh fahng-jyehn.*

I have reserved a room.

P28

.....坏了。

[thing] huài le.

[thing] hweye luh.

... is broken.

P28 example

手机坏了。

Shǒujī huài le.

show-jee hweye luh.

The phone is broken.

Lesson 7: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

工作 gōngzuò
work; job [V287 · G-07]

公司 gōngsī
company [V288 · G-07]

退休 tuìxiū
retire; be retired [V291 · G-08]

学生 xuésheng
student [V292 · G-08]

学校 xuéxiào
school [V293 · G-08]

学习 xuéxí
study; learn [V297 · G-09]

练习 liànxí
practice; exercise [V298 · G-09]

读 dú
read [V299 · G-10]

写 xiě
write [V300 · G-10]

书 shū
book [V301 · G-10]

问题 wèntí
question; problem [V302 · G-10]

做 zuò
do; make [V303 · G-11]

Lesson 7: active-use targets (continued)

上班 shàng bān
go to work; be on duty [V304 · G-11]

下班 xià bān
finish work [V305 · G-11]

志愿者 zhìyuànzhě
volunteer, a person [V306 · G-11]

社区 shèqū
community [V307 · G-12]

帮忙 bāng máng
help; lend a hand [V308 · G-12]

活动 huódòng
activity; event [V309 · G-12]

家务 jiāwù
housework [V310 · G-12]

做饭 zuò fàn
cook; prepare food [V311 · G-13]

照顾 zhàogu
look after [V313 · G-13]

每天 měi tiān
every day [V317 · G-14]

休息 xiūxi
rest; take a break [V316 · G-14]

Talk about your day

Describe work, study, volunteering, or home responsibilities. Add a time and one connecting word.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

我上午学习中文，下午做家务。
Wǒ shàngwǔ xuéxí zhōngwén, xiàwǔ zuò jiāwù.
waw shahng-woo shweh-shee johng-wun, shyah-woo dzwaw jyah-woo.*
I study Chinese in the morning and do housework in the afternoon.

Lesson 8: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

旅行 lǚxíng
travel; take a trip [V319 · G-15]

机场 jīchǎng
airport [V320 · G-15]

飞机 fēijī
airplane [V321 · G-15]

票 piào
ticket [V322 · G-15]

护照 hùzhào
passport [V323 · G-16]

行李 xíngli
luggage [V324 · G-16]

酒店 jiǔdiàn
hotel [V325 · G-16]

房间 fángjiān
room [V326 · G-16]

预订 yùdìng
reserve; book [V327 · G-17]

入住 rùzhù
check in; move in [V328 · G-17]

退房 tuì fáng
check out of a room [V329 · G-17]

钥匙 yàoshi
key [V330 · G-17]

Lesson 8: active-use targets (continued)

找 zhǎo
look for [V332 · G-18]

懂 dǒng
understand [V334 · G-18]

明白 míngbai
understand; be clear [V335 · G-19]

慢 màn
slow [V336 · G-19]

快 kuài
fast [V337 · G-19]

重复 chóngfù
repeat [V338 · G-19]

需要 xūyào
need [V339 · G-20]

帮助 bāngzhù
help; assistance [V340 · G-20]

坏 huài
broken; bad [V341 · G-20]

舒服 shūfu
comfortable; well [V342 · G-20]

医生 yīshēng
doctor [V344 · G-21]

Solve a travel problem

Check into a hotel, describe one problem, and ask for help or clarification.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

我预订了房间。我的钥匙丢了。请帮帮我。

Wǒ yùdìng le fángjiān. Wǒ de yàoshi diū le. Qǐng bāngbang wǒ.

waw yoo-ding luh fahng-jyehn. waw duh yow-shrr dyoh luh. ching bahng-bahng waw.*

I reserved a room. I lost my key. Please help me.

Pinyin index

帮 bāng
help [V318 · G-14]

帮忙 bāng máng
help [V308 · G-12]

办公室 bàngōngshì
office [V289 · G-07]

帮助 bāngzhù
help [V340 · G-20]

重复 chóngfù
repeat [V338 · G-19]

打扫 dǎsǎo
clean [V312 · G-13]

大学 dàxué
university [V294 · G-08]

丢 diū
lose [V333 · G-18]

懂 dǒng
understand [V334 · G-18]

读 dú
read [V299 · G-10]

房间 fángjiān
room [V326 · G-16]

飞机 fēijī
airplane [V321 · G-15]

公司 gōngsī
company [V288 · G-07]

工作 gōngzuò
work [V287 · G-07]

Pinyin index

坏 huài
broken [V341 · G-20]
活动 huódòng
activity [V309 · G-12]
护照 hùzhào
passport [V323 · G-16]
家务 jiāwù
housework [V310 · G-12]
机场 jīchǎng
airport [V320 · G-15]
警察 jǐngchá
police [V346 · G-21]
经理 jīnglǐ
manager [V290 · G-07]
紧急 jǐnjí
urgent [V347 · G-22]
酒店 jiǔdiàn
hotel [V325 · G-16]
快 kuài
fast [V337 · G-19]
练习 liànxí
practice [V298 · G-09]
旅行 lǚxíng
travel [V319 · G-15]
慢 màn
slow [V336 · G-19]
每天 měi tiān
every day [V317 · G-14]

Pinyin index

明白 míngbai
understand [V335 · G-19]

票 piào
ticket [V322 · G-15]

起床 qǐ chuáng
get up [V314 · G-13]

前台 qiántái
reception [V331 · G-18]

入住 rùzhù
check in [V328 · G-17]

上班 shàng bān
go to work [V304 · G-11]

上课 shàng kè
attend class [V295 · G-09]

社区 shèqū
community [V307 · G-12]

书 shū
book [V301 · G-10]

舒服 shūfu
comfortable [V342 · G-20]

睡觉 shuì jiào
sleep [V315 · G-14]

疼 téng
hurt [V343 · G-21]

退房 tuì fáng
check out of a room [V329 · G-17]

退休 tuìxiū
retire [V291 · G-08]

Pinyin index

问题 wèntí
question [V302 · G-10]

下班 xià bān
finish work [V305 · G-11]

下课 xià kè
finish class [V296 · G-09]

写 xiě
write [V300 · G-10]

行李 xíngli
luggage [V324 · G-16]

休息 xiūxi
rest [V316 · G-14]

学生 xuésheng
student [V292 · G-08]

学习 xuéxí
study [V297 · G-09]

学校 xuéxiào
school [V293 · G-08]

需要 xūyào
need [V339 · G-20]

药 yào
medicine [V345 · G-21]

钥匙 yàoshi
key [V330 · G-17]

医生 yīshēng
doctor [V344 · G-21]

预订 yùdìng
reserve [V327 · G-17]

Pinyin index

找 zhǎo
look for [V332 · G-18]

照顾 zhàogu
look after [V313 · G-13]

志愿者 zhìyuànzhě
volunteer, a person [V306 · G-11]

做 zuò
do [V303 · G-11]

做饭 zuò fàn
cook [V311 · G-13]

English index

活动 huódòng
activity [V309 · G-12]
飞机 fēijī
airplane [V321 · G-15]
机场 jīchǎng
airport [V320 · G-15]
上课 shàng kè
attend class [V295 · G-09]
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入住 rùzhù
check in [V328 · G-17]
退房 tuì fáng
check out of a room [V329 · G-17]
打扫 dǎsǎo
clean [V312 · G-13]
舒服 shūfu
comfortable [V342 · G-20]
社区 shèqū
community [V307 · G-12]
公司 gōngsī
company [V288 · G-07]
做饭 zuò fàn
cook [V311 · G-13]
做 zuò
do [V303 · G-11]

English index

医生 yīshēng
doctor [V344 · G-21]

每天 měi tiān
every day [V317 · G-14]

快 kuài
fast [V337 · G-19]

下课 xià kè
finish class [V296 · G-09]

下班 xià bān
finish work [V305 · G-11]

起床 qǐ chuáng
get up [V314 · G-13]

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go to work [V304 · G-11]

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help [V318 · G-14]

帮助 bāngzhù
help [V340 · G-20]

帮忙 bāng máng
help [V308 · G-12]

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housework [V310 · G-12]

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hurt [V343 · G-21]

钥匙 yàoshi
key [V330 · G-17]

English index

照顾 zhàogu
look after [V313 · G-13]

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look for [V332 · G-18]

丢 diū
lose [V333 · G-18]

行李 xíngli
luggage [V324 · G-16]

经理 jīnglǐ
manager [V290 · G-07]

药 yào
medicine [V345 · G-21]

需要 xūyào
need [V339 · G-20]

办公室 bàngōngshì
office [V289 · G-07]

护照 hùzhào
passport [V323 · G-16]

警察 jǐngchá
police [V346 · G-21]

练习 liànxí
practice [V298 · G-09]

问题 wèntí
question [V302 · G-10]

读 dú
read [V299 · G-10]

前台 qiántái
reception [V331 · G-18]

English index

重复 chóngfù
repeat [V338 · G-19]

预订 yùdìng
reserve [V327 · G-17]

休息 xiūxi
rest [V316 · G-14]

退休 tuìxiū
retire [V291 · G-08]

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study [V297 · G-09]

票 piào
ticket [V322 · G-15]

旅行 lǚxíng
travel [V319 · G-15]

懂 dǒng
understand [V334 · G-18]

明白 míngbai
understand [V335 · G-19]

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university [V294 · G-08]

紧急 jǐnjí
urgent [V347 · G-22]

志愿者 zhìyuànzhě
volunteer, a person [V306 · G-11]

工作 gōngzuò
work [V287 · G-07]

写 xiě
write [V300 · G-10]

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Keep the conversation going

My practice plan
This week I will use three words in a real conversation.
Words / IDs: _____
One question I want to ask: _____
Someone I can practice with: _____
Date I tried it: _____ What I heard: _____

Personal words
My name: _____
My city: _____
My work, family, or interests: _____

Ask a teacher to help you check the Chinese and pronunciation of personal additions. They are yours to learn; they do not change the shared 421-entry register.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

Use it with people

Choose a few words.
Hear them. Say them.
Ask a real question.
Listen to the answer.

Then use the words again in a new situation.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Volume G of 8

Practice tools: translate.google.com
and toneperfect.app/practice

Companion vocabulary site planned:
secondlanguageproject.org/csl/vocabulary/
Site availability must be checked before print release.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

CSL

Mandarin Vocabulary

VOLUME H OF 8

Socializing & hosting

Chinese characters
Pinyin · CSL sound clues · English

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

Nine-month conversation program

Review edition · September 2026

Make these words your own

This is a conversation companion for adult CSL members. You do not need to memorize everything before speaking. Start with a useful question, listen to another person, and build from there.

Eight slim volumes keep the language layers readable: A Sentence builders; B Numbers & measure words; C Everyday foundations; D Meeting people & family; E Food, time & plans; F Places & shopping; G Daily life & travel; H Socializing & hosting.

The full set contains 421 vocabulary entries and 30 conversation models. Repeated examples and charts are practice, not extra headwords. Numbers and times are built from reusable parts.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Manuscript/design edition 1.0 - 29 September 2026
Pronunciation source checks and human audio review pending.

Use lesson numbers: the Wednesday sequence runs September-May; the Thursday sequence runs October-June. The same nine themes serve both groups.

In this volume

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.	H-04
Pinyin and the CSL sound clues	H-05
Read the labels	H-06
Socializing, Hosting & Putting It Together	H-07
Use the words	H-13
Nouns with their classifiers	H-17
Usage notes	H-19
Host and stay connected	H-20
Conversation models	H-21
Lesson 9: active-use targets	H-22
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English index	H-27
Words I used this week	H-29
Keep the conversation going	H-31
Use it with people	H-32

Listen. Say. Practice. Use.

A few minutes at a time is enough to begin. Choose three to five entries and one model. Listen first, say the words aloud, then hide one support layer and try again. Use one word in a question to a partner. Revisit it on another day.

LISTEN: scan the listening QR. Google Translate opens the Chinese text; check that Chinese is the source and tap the source-language speaker. It may need an internet connection and a tap to start. Its automatic Pinyin is not the booklet's editorial source.

SAY: follow the booklet Pinyin and the recording. Keep neutral syllables light. Speak a short thought, not a string of English sound clues.

PRACTICE: open toneperfect.app/practice. Enter or paste the Chinese and choose Start Practice. Recording needs your microphone permission. Review the feedback, try once more, and ask a teacher about unclear results. AI scores are guidance, not a grade. Access limits may change.

USE: ask someone a real question and listen to their answer. If you get stuck, use a clarification model. The digital reader links work without a camera; a printed QR has a short address and text fallback beside it.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yī biàn.

ching dzeye shwaw ee byehn.

Please say it again.

PRACTICE ONE PHRASE
TonePerfect pronunciation practice
Fallback: toneperfect.app/practice
Type the Chinese example above.

Pinyin and the CSL sound clues

Read the four layers from top to bottom: Chinese, Pinyin, CSL sound clue, English. Chinese is the text to recognize and say. Pinyin carries the tones. Sound clues are an approximate bridge for English speakers; use the audio and Pinyin to refine them.

The marks show first tone (high and level), second (rising), third (low, with a rise when pronounced alone), and fourth (falling). A syllable without a mark is neutral: light and brief. A third tone often changes before another third tone. Yi and bu also change in connected speech. Printed citation tones and natural spoken changes can coexist.

In CSL clues, hyphens join syllables inside a word; spaces separate words. The star (*) marks rounded lips with an ee-like tongue position. Do not read it aloud. The shrr/chrr/jrr family is not an English “ee.” Pinyin r and the j/q/x and zh/ch/sh contrasts need listening practice. A final r in dianr or huir is joined erhua, not a separate er syllable.

Clues have no tone arrows. Read the Pinyin tone, listen once, and then imitate the whole word rather than sounding out English letters.

Read the labels

n. = noun; proper n. = name; time n. = time noun. pron. = pronoun; det. = determiner. v. = verb; modal = can/want/should-type helper. adj. = adjective or descriptive predicate; adv. = adverb. conj. = connector; prep. = preposition/coverb. num. = number; mw. = classifier; verbal mw. = action counter; unit = time, weight, or money unit. part. = grammatical particle; prefix = bound beginning such as ordinal di.

Some labels describe a learning function rather than a strict word class: demonstrative, place word, response, title, expression, and formula. A slash means that more than one selected use is taught. A complete conversational sentence is a model, not one part of speech.

Active entries have a lesson number beside “Active.” Reference entries remain available for supported reading and listening. An entry may be active in more than one lesson. Entry IDs identify the same word across the entire set, even when the IDs are not printed in numerical order.

Socializing, Hosting & Putting It Together

V348 | v. | Active 9

欢迎

huānyíng

hwahn-ying

welcome

Use it: E206 / H-13

V349 | n. | Active 9

客人

kèrén

kuh-run

guest; visitor

Use it: E206 / H-13

V350 | v. expression | Active 9

请客

qǐng kè

ching kuh

host; treat someone to a meal

Use it: E207 / H-13

V351 | v. | Active 9

邀请

yāoqǐng

yow-ching

invite

Use it: E208 / H-13

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Socializing, Hosting & Putting It Together

V352 | n./v. | Active 9

聚会

jùhuì

jyoo-hway*

gathering; get together

Use it: E208 / H-13

V353 | v. | Active 9

聊天

liáo tiān

lyow tyehn

chat

Use it: E209 / H-13

V354 | v. | Active 9

玩

wán

wahn

play; have fun

Use it: E209 / H-13

V355 | v. expression | Active 9

散步

sàn bù

sahn boo

take a walk

Use it: E210 / H-14

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Socializing, Hosting & Putting It Together

V356 | v. | Active 9

看

kàn

kahn

look; watch; read; introduce look/read in Lesson 1, revisit in Lesson 9

Use it: E211 / H-14

V357 | n. | Active 9

电影

diànyǐng

dyehn-ying

movie

Use it: E211 / H-14

V358 | n. | Active 9

音乐

yīnyuè

*een-yweh**

music

Use it: E212 / H-14

V359 | v./n. | Active 9

运动

yùndòng

yoon-dohng*

exercise; sports

Use it: E212 / H-14

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Socializing, Hosting & Putting It Together

V360 | n. | Active 9

天气

tiānqì

tyehn-chee

weather

Use it: E020 / H-14

V361 | v. expression | Active 9

下雨

xià yǔ

*shyah yoo**

rain

Use it: E026 / H-14

V362 | adj. expression | Active 9

有意思

yǒu yìsi

yo ee-suh

interesting

Use it: E213 / H-15

V363 | adj. | Active 9

漂亮

piàoliang

pyow-lyahng

pretty; beautiful

Use it: E099 / H-15

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Socializing, Hosting & Putting It Together

V364 | n. | Active 9

礼物

lǐwù

lee-woo

gift

Use it: E091 / H-15

V365 | n. | Active 9

节日

jiérì

jyeh-rrr

festival; holiday

Use it: E214 / H-15

V366 | proper n. | Reference

春节

Chūnjié

chwun-jyeh

Spring Festival; Chinese New Year

Use it: E214 / H-15

V367 | proper n. | Reference

中秋节

Zhōngqiūjié

johng-chyoh-jyeh

Mid-Autumn Festival

Use it: E214 / H-15

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Socializing, Hosting & Putting It Together

V368 | adj. | Active 9

快乐

kuàilè

kweye-luh

happy; joyful

Use it: E215 / H-15

V369 | v./n. | Active 9

希望

xīwàng

shee-wahng

hope; wish

Use it: E216 / H-16

V370 | time expression | Active 9

下次

xià cì

shyah tsuh

next time

Use it: E217 / H-16

V371 | v. phrase | Active 9

保持联系

bǎochí liánxì

baow-chrr lyen-shee

keep in touch

Use it: E217 / H-16

LISTEN TO THIS PAGE

Scan, then tap the Chinese speaker.
Some words use their example.
Fallback: translate.google.com
Type the word or linked example.

Use the words

Each example is linked from its vocabulary entry. Shared examples connect several useful words. Quantity phrases and counting sequences are labeled as such.

E206

欢迎！你是我们家的客人。

Huānyíng! Nǐ shì wǒmen jiā de kèrén.

hwahn-ying! knee shrr waw-mun jyah duh kuh-run.

Welcome! You are a guest in our home.

E207

今天我请客。

Jīntiān wǒ qǐng kè.

jeen-tyehn waw ching kuh.

Today it is my treat.

E208

我想邀请你来聚会。

Wǒ xiǎng yāoqǐng nǐ lái jùhuì.

waw shyahng yow-ching knee leye jyoo-hway.*

I would like to invite you to the gathering.

E209

我们一起聊天、玩吧。

Wǒmen yīqǐ liáo tiān, wán ba.

waw-mun ee-chee lyow tyehn, wahn bah.

Let's chat and have fun together.

Use the words (continued)

E210

我们去散步吧。

Wǒmen qù sàn bù ba.

waw-mun chyoo sahn boo bah.*

Let's go for a walk.

E211

你想看电影吗?

Nǐ xiǎng kàn diànyǐng ma?

knee shyahng kahn dyehn-ying mah?

Would you like to watch a movie?

E212

我喜欢音乐，也喜欢运动。

Wǒ xǐhuan yīnyuè, yě xǐhuan yùndòng.

waw shee-hwahn een-yweh, yeh shee-hwahn yoon*-dohng.*

I like music and exercise.

E020

今天天气怎么样?

Jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng?

jeen-tyehn tyehn-chee dzuhn-muh-yahng?

What is the weather like today?

E026

因为下雨，所以我们在家。

Yīnwèi xià yǔ, suǒyǐ wǒmen zài jiā.

een-way shyah yoo, swaw-ee waw-mun dzeye jyah.*

Because it is raining, we are staying home.

Use the words (continued)

E213

这个电影很有意思。

Zhège diànyǐng hěn yǒu yìsi.

juh-guh dyehn-ying hun yo ee-suh.

This movie is interesting.

E099

真漂亮!

Zhēn piàoliang!

jun pyow-lyahng!

How beautiful!

E091

我送你一件礼物。

Wǒ sòng nǐ yī jiàn lǐwù.

waw sohng knee ee jyehn lee-woo.

I am giving you a gift.

E214

春节和中秋节都是中国的节日。

Chūnjié hé Zhōngqiūjié dōu shì Zhōngguó de jiérì.

chwun-jyeh huh johng-chyoh-jyeh doh shrr johng-gwaw duh jyeh-rrr.

Spring Festival and Mid-Autumn Festival are both Chinese festivals.

E215

生日快乐!

Shēngrì kuàilè!

shung-rrr kweye-luh!

Happy birthday!

Use the words (continued)

E216

我希望明天见到你。

Wǒ xīwàng míngtiān jiàndào nǐ.

waw shee-wahng ming-tyehn jyehn-dow knee.

I hope to see you tomorrow.

E217

下次见！保持联系。

Xià cì jiàn! Bǎochí liánxì.

shyah tsuh jyehn! baow-chrr lyen-shee.

See you next time! Keep in touch.

Nouns with their classifiers

Say the quantity as a complete phrase. Some supporting classifiers are recognition notes outside the counted word list; see Volume C. These are selected natural combinations, not rules for every sense of a noun.

V349

一位客人

yī wèi kèrén

ee way kuh-run

One guest. [Quantity phrase]

V352

一次聚会

yī cì jùhuì

ee tsuh jyoo-hway*

One gathering. [Quantity phrase]

V357

一部电影

yī bù diànyǐng

ee boo dyehn-ying

One film. [Quantity phrase]

V358

一种音乐

yī zhǒng yīnyuè

*ee johng een-yweh**

One kind of music. [Quantity phrase]

Nouns with their classifiers (continued)

V364

一个礼物

yī gè lǐwù

ee guh lee-woo

One gift. [Quantity phrase]

V365

一个节日

yī gè jiérì

ee guh jyeh-rrr

One festival. [Quantity phrase]

Usage notes

V356 看

Introduce look/read early; revisit watch in Lesson 9.

V358 音乐

yuè in music, distinct from lè in 快乐.

Host and stay connected

Invite, check preferences, agree on a plan, and close warmly. Reuse the numbers, time, people, and place words from earlier lessons.

欢迎来我家。
Huānyíng lái wǒ jiā.
hwahn-ying leye waw jyah.
Welcome to my home.

你想喝茶还是水?
Nǐ xiǎng hē chá háishi shuǐ?
knee shyahng huh chah high-shrr shway?
Would you like tea or water?

我们明天下午见吧。
Wǒmen míngtiān xiàwǔ jiàn ba.
waw-mun ming-tyehn shyah-woo jyehn bah.
Let's meet tomorrow afternoon.

下次见！保持联系。
Xià cì jiàn! Bǎochí liánxì.
shyah tsuh jyehn! baow-chrr lyen-shee.
See you next time! Keep in touch.

Conversation models

Brackets in Pinyin and sound clues mark details to replace, not words to read aloud. The original model remains intact; the filled example supplies the audio/practice text. P01-P30 count as 30 models regardless of their examples.

P29

欢迎来我家。

Huānyíng lái wǒ jiā.

hwahn-ying leye waw jyah.

Welcome to my home.

P30

下次见!

Xià cì jiàn!

shyah tsuh jyehn!

See you next time!

Lesson 9: active-use targets

Start with these 23 targets across this page and its companion, including foundation words. Some targets repeat intentionally across lessons.

欢迎 huānyíng
welcome [V348 · H-07]

客人 kèrén
guest; visitor [V349 · H-07]

请客 qǐng kè
host; treat someone to a meal [V350 · H-07]

邀请 yāoqǐng
invite [V351 · H-07]

聚会 jùhuì
gathering; get together [V352 · H-08]

聊天 liáo tiān
chat [V353 · H-08]

玩 wán
play; have fun [V354 · H-08]

散步 sàn bù
take a walk [V355 · H-08]

看 kàn
look; watch; read; introduce look/read in Lesson 1, revisit in Lesson 9 [V356 · H-09]

电影 diànyǐng
movie [V357 · H-09]

音乐 yīnyuè
music [V358 · H-09]

运动 yùndòng
exercise; sports [V359 · H-09]

Lesson 9: active-use targets (continued)

天气 tiānqì
weather [V360 · H-10]

下雨 xià yǔ
rain [V361 · H-10]

有意思 yǒu yìsi
interesting [V362 · H-10]

漂亮 piàoliang
pretty; beautiful [V363 · H-10]

礼物 lǐwù
gift [V364 · H-11]

节日 jiérì
festival; holiday [V365 · H-11]

快乐 kuàilè
happy; joyful [V368 · H-12]

希望 xīwàng
hope; wish [V369 · H-12]

下次 xià cì
next time [V370 · H-12]

保持联系 bǎochí liánxì
keep in touch [V371 · H-12]

可以 kěyǐ
may; can, permission or possibility [V054 · A-21]

Host a visitor

Welcome a visitor, offer a drink, make a plan, and close the conversation.

Work with a partner. Try first with all four layers visible, then hide English or Pinyin. Change one detail. Switch roles.

A possible response is below; many other answers are possible.

欢迎！你想喝什么？我们明天去公园吧。下次见！

Huānyíng! Nǐ xiǎng hē shénme? Wǒmen míngtiān qù gōngyuán ba. Xià cì jiàn!

hwahn-ying! knee shyahng huh shun-muh? waw-mun ming-tyehn chyoo gohng-ywen* bah. shyah tsuh jyehn!*

Welcome! What would you like to drink? Let us go to the park tomorrow. See you next time!

Pinyin index

保持联系 bǎochí liánxì
keep in touch [V371 · H-12]

春节 Chūnjié
Spring Festival [V366 · H-11]

电影 diànyǐng
movie [V357 · H-09]

欢迎 huānyíng
welcome [V348 · H-07]

节日 jiérì
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聚会 jùhuì
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看 kàn
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exercise [V359 · H-09]

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Mid-Autumn Festival [V367 · H-11]

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聊天 liáo tiān
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interesting [V362 · H-10]

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keep in touch [V371 · H-12]

看 kàn
look [V356 · H-09]

中秋节 Zhōngqiūjié
Mid-Autumn Festival [V367 · H-11]

English index

电影 diànyǐng
movie [V357 · H-09]

音乐 yīnyuè
music [V358 · H-09]

下次 xià cì
next time [V370 · H-12]

玩 wán
play [V354 · H-08]

漂亮 piàoliang
pretty [V363 · H-10]

下雨 xià yǔ
rain [V361 · H-10]

春节 Chūnjié
Spring Festival [V366 · H-11]

散步 sàn bù
take a walk [V355 · H-08]

天气 tiānqì
weather [V360 · H-10]

欢迎 huānyíng
welcome [V348 · H-07]

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Words I used this week

Date: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

Word or ID: _____
My sentence: _____
What my partner said: _____

One thing to ask next time: _____

Keep personal additions here; ask a teacher to check them.

Keep the conversation going

My practice plan
This week I will use three words in a real conversation.
Words / IDs: _____
One question I want to ask: _____
Someone I can practice with: _____
Date I tried it: _____ What I heard: _____

Personal words
My name: _____
My city: _____
My work, family, or interests: _____

Ask a teacher to help you check the Chinese and pronunciation of personal additions. They are yours to learn; they do not change the shared 421-entry register.

SECOND LANGUAGE PROJECT

LANGUAGE • CONNECTION • COMMUNITY

Use it with people

Choose a few words.
Hear them. Say them.
Ask a real question.
Listen to the answer.

Then use the words again in a new situation.

CSL - Mandarin Conversation Club
Second Language Project
Volume H of 8

Practice tools: translate.google.com
and toneperfect.app/practice

Companion vocabulary site planned:
secondlanguageproject.org/csl/vocabulary/
Site availability must be checked before print release.