



Chinese Phrases

It is quite useful to learn some Chinese phrases if you have the chance to visit China.

Chinese is a difficult language for most foreigners, but with some effort, you still can master some of their daily sentences. It is also a good way of understanding more of its culture.

You are never too old to learn. ...so don't hesitate, Let's start!

The official language of the PRC is Putonghua or " Common Speech ", usually referred to the west as "Mandarin Chinese".

Tones:
Chinese is a tonal language, a language with many homonyms (words of different meaning but with similar pronunciation). Mandarin has four tones:

- First tone (-): the voice is pitched quite high, High and level
 - Second tone (/): the voice rises rather like asking a question, rises to the top
 - Third tone (V): the voice dips and then rises
 - Fourth tone (\): the voice starts at the top, then falls away
- If you use the wrong tones, your listeners may not be able to understand you.

Pinyin (spell & sound):

In 1958 the Chinese officially adopted a system known as pinyin as a method of writing their language using Roman alphabet. Pinyin is a Romanisation and not an Anglicization; it makes use of Roman letters to represent sounds in Standard Mandarin. The way these letters represent sounds in Standard Mandarin will be different from other languages that make use of the Roman alphabet represent sound. Pinyin is quite useful in China, especially in major cities, on shop fronts, street names and advertising etc. When Chinese people write their own names in English, they use Pinyin.



Numbers:		
1	y ^ˊ O ^ˊ	e
2	ˊr r	r
3	s ^ˊ in Év	san
4	s ^ˊ ÉÄ	sz
5	w ^ˊ lā	oo
6	l ^ˊ Àù	leo
7	q ^ˊ Æß	chee
8	b ^ˊ °É	bah
9	ji ^ˊ ¼A	jeo
10	sh ^ˊ E ^ˊ	shr



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English	Pinyin/ Characters	Phonetic English
Hello	nǐ hǎo ㄋㄧˇ ㄏㄠˇ	knee how
Where are you from?	nǐ cǎi nǎ lǐ lái? ㄋㄧˇ ㄘㄞˇ ㄋㄚˇ ㄌㄧˇ ㄌㄞˇ ㄌㄞˇ?	knee tsaun nar lee lei
What is your name?	nǐ gēn qǐ mǐ? ㄋㄧˇ ㄍㄣ ㄑㄧˇ ㄇㄧˇ	neen gway shing
Good Bye	zǎi jiàn ㄗㄞˇ ㄐㄧㄢˋ	zi geej-en
Yes	shì ㄕㄧˋ	shr
No	bù shì ㄅㄨˋ ㄕㄧˋ	boo shr
Right or Correct	duì ㄉㄨㄟˋ	dway
Wrong	bù duì ㄅㄨˋ ㄉㄨㄟˋ	boo dway
No, thanks	bù yòng le, xièxie ㄅㄨˋ ㄩㄥˋ ㄌㄜ, ㄒㄧㄝˋ ㄒㄧㄝˋ	boo yong la, sheh sheh
Thank you	xièxie ㄒㄧㄝˋ ㄒㄧㄝˋ	sheh sheh
You are welcome	bù yòng xièxie ㄅㄨˋ ㄩㄥˋ ㄒㄧㄝˋ ㄒㄧㄝˋ	boo yong sheh
Excuse me	dùibuqǐ ㄉㄨˋ ㄇㄛˋ ㄑㄧˇ	dway boo chee
I do not understand	wǒ bù dǎng ㄨㄛˇ ㄅㄨˋ ㄉㄤˇ	wore ting boo dong
I would like	wǒ yào ㄨㄛˇ ㄩㄠˋ	wore yeow
How much?	dùoshǎo qián? ㄉㄨˋ ㄕㄞˇ ㄕㄞˇ ㄑㄧㄢˊ?	dor sheow chen
Too expensive	fǎngǎi le ㄉㄞˇ ㄍㄞˇ ㄌㄜ	tie gway la



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