CHINESE BOOST

Education Chinese vocabulary list

79 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 74 of them with an example sentence.
Every word here links to its entry on the site.

Parts 1 2 3 4

Education Chinese vocabulary list on the web
The same words as a CSV, for Anki or a spreadsheet
A free account, which keeps 简体 or 繁體, pinyin or 注音 and the rest of how you read Chinese on every device

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Elementary (HSK 1-3)

小学 小學

xiǎoxué elementary school / primary school

> 你在哪儿上的小学?
> Nǐ zài nǎr shàng de xiǎoxué?
> Where did you go to primary school?

中学 中學

zhōngxué middle school

> 你是中学学生吗?
> Nǐ shì zhōngxué xuésheng ma?
> Are you a high school student?

大学 大學

dàxué university / college / the Great Learning, one of the Four Books 四書|四书[Si4 shu1] in Confucianism

> 我去上大学。
> Wǒ qù shàng dàxué.
> I go to university.

孩子

háizi child

> 他们是孩子。
> Tāmen shì háizi.
> They're kids.

大学生 大學生

dàxuéshēng university student / college student

> 你是大学生吗?
> Nǐ shì dàxuéshēng ma?
> Are you a college student?

高中

gāozhōng senior high school (abbr. for 高級中學|高级中学 [gao1 ji2 zhong1 xue2])
gāozhòng to pass brilliantly (used in congratulatory fashion)

> 你要去哪个高中读书?
> Nǐ yào qù nǎge gāozhōng dúshū?
> Which high school are you going to study in?

考试 考試

kǎoshì exam / to take an exam

> 考试很简单。
> Kǎoshì hěn jiǎndān.
> The exam is easy.

教

jiāo to teach
jiào teaching / to instruct / to educate / religion / to cause (sb to do sth) / to tell (sb to do sth)

> 老师教我的。
> Lǎoshī jiāo wǒ de.
> The teacher taught me that.

初中

chūzhōng junior high school (abbr. for 初級中學|初级中学 [chu1 ji2 zhong1 xue2])

> 你的初中离家远不远?
> Nǐ de chūzhōng líjiā yuǎn bù yuǎn?
> Is your junior high school far from home?

成绩 成績

chéngjì grades / achievement / performance records

> 你成绩比我好。
> Nǐ chéngjì bǐ wǒ hǎo.
> Your grades are better than mine.

留学 留學

liúxué to study abroad

> 我出国留学。
> Wǒ chūguó liúxué.
> I study abroad.

留学生 留學生

liúxuéshēng student studying abroad / returned student / foreign student / international student

> 我是义大利留学生。
> Wǒ shì Yìdàlì liúxuéshēng.
> I'm an exchange student from Italy.

Intermediate (HSK 4-6)

教育

jiàoyù education / to educate / to teach

> 教育从家庭开始。
> Jiàoyù cóng jiātíng kāishǐ.
> Education starts at home.

毕业 畢業

bìyè graduation / to graduate / to finish school

> 他今年毕业吗?
> Tā jīnnián bìyè ma?
> Is he graduating this year?

家长 家長

jiāzhǎng head of a household / family head / patriarch / parent or guardian of a child

> 这些孩子有家长吗?
> Zhèxiē háizi yǒu jiāzhǎng ma?
> Do these children have any parents?

父母

fùmǔ father and mother / parents

> 你父母多大了?
> Nǐ fùmǔ duō dàle?
> How old are your parents?

硕士 碩士

shuòshì master's degree / person who has a master's degree / learned person

> 你为什么想读硕士?
> Nǐ wèishénme xiǎng dú shuòshì?
> Why do you want to do a master's degree?

博士

bóshì doctor (as an academic degree) / person specialized in a skill or trade / court academician

> 我姐姐正在读博士。
> Wǒ jiějie zhèngzài dú bóshì.
> My older sister is studying for her doctorate.

报名 報名

bàomíng to sign up / to enter one's name / to apply / to register / to enroll / to enlist

> 我怎样报名参加呢?
> Wǒ zěnyàng bàomíng cānjiā ne?
> How do I sign up?

专业 專業

zhuānyè specialty / specialized field / main field of study (at university) / major / professional

> 那样很不专业。
> Nàyàng hěn bù zhuānyè.
> That was unprofessional.

压力 壓力

yālì pressure

> 压力很巨大。
> Yālì hěn jùdà.
> The pressure was tremendous.

性格

xìnggé nature / disposition / temperament / character

> 我女儿性格很活泼。
> Wǒ nǚ'ér xìnggé hěn huópo.
> My daughter has a very lively personality.

鼓励 鼓勵

gǔlì to encourage

> 没有人鼓励他。
> Méiyǒu rén gǔlì tā.
> Nobody encouraged him.

尊重

zūnzhòng to esteem / to respect / to honor / to value / eminent / serious / proper

> 他们互相尊重。
> Tāmen hùxiāng zūnzhòng.
> They have mutual respect.

理想

lǐxiǎng an ideal / a dream / ideal / perfect

> 他的理想非常高尚。
> Tā de lǐxiǎng fēicháng gāoshàng.
> His ideals are very lofty.

高考

gāokǎo college entrance exam (especially as abbr. for 普通高等學校招生全國統一考試|普通高等学校招生全国统一考试[Pu3 tong1 Gao1 deng3 Xue2 xiao4 Zhao1 sheng1 Quan2 guo2 Tong3 yi1 Kao3 shi4]) / entrance exam for senior government service posts (abbr. for 公務人員高等考試|公务人员高等考试)

> 他去年高考考得很好。
> Tā qùnián gāokǎo kǎo de hěn hǎo.
> He did very well on the college entrance exam last year.

本科

běnkē undergraduate course / undergraduate (attributive)

> 我姐姐在大学读本科。
> Wǒ jiějie zài dàxué dú běnkē.
> My older sister is doing her undergraduate degree at university.

研究生

yánjiūshēng graduate student / postgraduate student / research student

> 他读完研究生就回国了。
> Tā dú wán yánjiūshēng jiù huíguó le.
> He returned to his home country after finishing his postgraduate studies.

学费 學費

xuéfèi tuition fee / tuition

> 今年的学费比去年贵。
> Jīnnián de xuéfèi bǐ qùnián guì.
> This year's tuition fee is higher than last year's.

奖学金 獎學金

jiǎngxuéjīn scholarship

> 他申请了奖学金。
> Tā shēnqǐngle jiǎngxuéjīn.
> He applied for the scholarship.

教学 教學

jiāoxué to teach
jiàoxué teaching / instruction

> 他没有什么教学经验。
> Tā méiyǒu shénme jiāoxué jīngyàn.
> He has little experience in teaching.

幼儿园 幼兒園
yòu'éryuán kindergarten / nursery school

> 我们上幼儿园。
> Wǒmen shàng yòu'éryuán.
> We go to kindergarten.

学历 學歷
xuélì educational background / academic qualifications

> 请问您的学历是什么？
> Qǐngwèn nín de xuélì shì shénme?
> May I ask what your educational background is?

培养 培養
péiyǎng to cultivate / to breed / to foster / to nurture / to educate / to groom (for a position) / education / fostering / culture (biology)

> 培养人才，百年树人啊。
> Péiyǎng réncái, bǎiniánshùrén a.
> Nurturing talent takes a very long time.

培训 培訓
péixùn to cultivate / to train / to groom / training

> 学校每年培训很多老师。
> Xuéxiào měinián péixùn hěn duō lǎoshī.
> The school trains many teachers every year.

职业教育 職業教育
zhíyèjiàoyù vocational training

教育部
jiàoyùbù Ministry of Education

> 这是教育部发的新通知。
> Zhè shì jiàoyùbù fā de xīn tōngzhī.
> This is a new notice issued by the Ministry of Education.

普及
pǔjí to spread extensively / to generalize / widespread / popular / universal / ubiquitous / pervasive

> 英语已经普及全国。
> Yīngyǔ yǐjīng pǔjí quánguó.
> English has spread all over the country.

就业 就業
jiùyè to get a job / employment

> 学生们都很关心就业问题。
> Xuéshengmen dōu hěn guānxīn jiùyè wèntí.
> The students all care a lot about the employment problem.

人才
réncái talent / talented person / looks / attractive looks

> 培养人才，百年树人啊。
> Péiyǎng réncái, bǎiniánshùrén a.
> Nurturing talent takes a very long time.

学术 學術
xuéshù learning / science / academic

> 他一生都在研究学术。
> Tā yìshēng dōu zài yánjiū xuéshù.
> He spent his whole life devoted to scholarship.

公立学校 公立學校
gōnglìxuéxiào public school

> 这附近有公立学校吗？
> Zhè fùjìn yǒu gōnglìxuéxiào ma?
> Is there a public school near here?

升学 升學
shēngxué to enter the next grade school

> 明年我女儿要升学了。
> Míngnián wǒ nǚ'ér yào shēngxué le.
> My daughter will move up to the next school next year.

义务教育 義務教育
yìwùjiàoyù compulsory education

> 我国的义务教育一共有九年。
> Wǒguó de yìwùjiàoyù yígòng yǒu jiǔ nián.
> Compulsory education in our country lasts nine years.

素质教育 素質教育
sùzhìjiàoyù all-round education (as opposed to exam-oriented education 應試教育|应试教育[ying4 shi4 jiao4 yu4])

> 素质教育不只是学习成绩。
> Sùzhìjiàoyù bù zhǐshì xuéxí chéngjì.
> All-round education is about more than just grades.

早教
zǎojiào early education (abbr. for 早期教育[zao3 qi1 jiao4 yu4])

> 她在一家早教机构当老师。
> Tā zài yìjiā zǎojiào jīgòu dāng lǎoshī.
> She works as a teacher at an early childhood education center.

溺爱 溺愛
nì'ài to spoil / to pamper / to dote on

辅导班 輔導班
fǔdǎobān tutorial class / remedial class / preparatory course

> 我女儿周末要去上数学辅导班。
> Wǒ nǚ'ér zhōumò yào qù shàng shùxué fǔdǎobān.
> My daughter goes to a maths tutorial class on weekends.

学位 學位
xuéwèi academic degree / place in school

> 他没有学位。
> Tā méiyǒu xuéwèi.
> He doesn't have a degree.

招生
zhāoshēng to enroll new students / to get students

> 这所学校今年不招生了。
> Zhè suǒ xuéxiào jīnnián bù zhāoshēngle.
> This school isn't enrolling new students this year.

素质 素質
sùzhì inner quality / basic essence

> 这份工作对人的素质要求很高。
> Zhè fèn gōngzuò duì rén de sùzhì yāoqiú hěn gāo.
> This job demands a high level of personal quality.

基础教育 基礎教育
jīchǔjiàoyù elementary education
> 好老师对基础教育非常重要。
> Hǎo lǎoshī duì jīchǔjiàoyù fēicháng zhòngyào.
> Good teachers are very important to basic education.

辍学 輟學
chuòxué to drop out of school / to leave off studying / to interrupt one's studies

助学金 助學金
zhùxuéjīn student grant / education grant / scholarship

Advanced (HSK 7-9)

私立学校 私立學校
sīlìxuéxiào private school
> 你打算送孩子去私立学校吗?
> Nǐ dǎsuàn sòng háizi qù sīlìxuéxiào ma?
> Are you planning to send your child to a private school?

应试教育 應試教育
yìngshìjiàoyù exam-oriented education / teaching to the test
> 应试教育让孩子压力很大。
> Yìngshìjiàoyù ràng háizi yālì hěn dà.
> Exam-oriented education puts a lot of pressure on children.

启蒙
qǐméng to instruct the young / to instruct the young / to initiate / to awake sb from ignorance / to free sb from prejudice or superstition / primer / enlightened / the Enlightenment / Western learning from the late Qing dynasty
> 他启蒙了我对画画的兴趣。
> Tā qǐménglе wǒ duì huàhuà de xìngqù.
> He first got me interested in drawing.

熏陶 薰陶
xūntáo to seep in / to influence / to nurture / influence / training
> 她从小受到音乐的熏陶。
> Tā cóngxiǎo shòudào yīnyuè de xūntáo.
> She has been influenced by music since she was little.

叛逆
pànnì to rebel / to revolt / a rebel
> 百姓被逼得只好叛逆。
> Bǎixìng bèi bī de zhǐhǎo pànnì.
> The common people were pushed so far that they had no choice but to revolt.

家教
jiājiào family education / upbringing / to bring sb up / private tutor
> 我请了一位英语家教。
> Wǒ qǐnglе yí wèi Yīngyǔ jiājiào.
> I hired an English tutor.

高等教育
gāoděngjiàoyù higher education
> 国家应该重视高等教育。
> Guójiā yīnggāi zhòngshì gāoděngjiàoyù.
> The country should value higher education.

减负 減負
jiǎnfù to alleviate a burden on sb
> 学校想给学生减负。
> Xuéxiào xiǎng gěi xuéshеng jiǎnfù.
> The school wants to lighten the students' burden.

师资 師資
shīzī qualified teacher
> 农村学校缺少好的师资。
> Nóngcūn xuéxiào quēshǎo hǎo de shīzī.
> Rural schools lack good teachers.

高校
gāoxiào universities and colleges
> 他毕业后留在高校工作。
> Tā bìyè hòu liú zài gāoxiào gōngzuò.
> After graduating, he stayed to work at a university.

办学 辦學
bànxué to run a school
> 他退休后，决定回老家办学。
> Tā tuìxiū hòu, juédìng huílǎojiā bànxué.
> After retiring, he decided to go back to his hometown and run a school.

学士 學士
xuéshì bachelor's degree / person holding a university degree
> 他是我们村第一位学士。
> Tā shì wǒmen cūn dìyī wèi xuéshì.
> He was the first university graduate in our village.

师范 師範
shīfàn teacher-training / pedagogical / normal (school, e.g. Beijing Normal University) / model for learning / exemplar
> 他受过专业的师范训练。
> Tā shòuguò zhuānyè de shīfàn xùnliàn.
> He has had professional teacher training.

应试 應試
yìngshì to take an exam / to be exam-oriented
> 家长都不希望孩子只会应试。
> Jiāzhǎng dōu bù xīwàng háizi zhǐ huì yìngshì.
> Parents don't want their children to only know how to study for exams.

文凭 文憑
wénpíng diploma
> 他大学毕业后拿到了文凭。
> Tā dàxué bìyè hòu nádàole wénpíng.
> He got his diploma after graduating from university.

学制 學制
xuézhì educational system / length of schooling
> 中国小学的学制是几年?
> Zhōngguó xiǎoxué de xuézhì shì jǐnián?
> How many years does primary school last in China?

文盲
wénmáng illiterate
> 我外婆年轻时是文盲。
> Wǒ wàipó niánqīng shí shì wénmáng.
> My grandmother was illiterate when she was young.

保送

bǎosòng to recommend (for admission to school)

> 学校今年保送五个学生。
> Xuéxiào jīnnián bǎosòng wǔ gè xuésheng.
> The school is recommending five students for exam-free admission this year.

教改

jiàogǎi education reform (abbr. for 教育改革[jiao4 yu4 gai3 ge2])

> 你怎么看这次教改?
> Nǐ zěnme kàn zhècì jiàogǎi?
> What do you think of this education reform?

Outside HSK

学区房 學區房

xuéqūfáng a residential property located within the designated catchment area of a desirable school, often sought after by parents to secure school admission for their children

扩招 擴招

kuòzhāo to expand enrollment / to ramp up hiring

> 大学扩招后，学生多了很多。
> Dàxué kuòzhāo hòu, xuésheng duō le hěn duō.
> After the university expanded enrollment, there were many more students.

双减 雙減

shuāngjiǎn Double Reduction Policy, announced in 2021, aiming to ease pressure on K-12 students by reducing homework and banning for-profit after-school academic classes

> 双减后补习班少了吗?
> Shuāngjiǎn hòu bǔxíbān shǎole ma?
> Are there fewer cram classes since the Double Reduction policy?

内卷 內卷

nèijuǎn to involute / involution / (neologism, attested by 2017) (of a society) to become more and more of a rat race / to become increasingly competitive (due to limited resources)

> 现在的社会越来越内卷了。
> Xiànzài de shèhuì yuèláiyuè nèijuǎn le.
> Society is becoming more and more of a rat race these days.

留守儿童 留守兒童

liúshǒu'értóng "left-behind children", rural children whose parents have to make a living as migrant workers in distant urban areas, but cannot afford to keep the family with them

> 这个村子里有很多留守儿童。
> Zhège cūnzi lǐ yǒu hěn duō liúshǒu'értóng.
> There are many left-behind children in this village.

双一流 雙一流

shuāngyīliú Double First-Class University Plan, Chinese government project to develop both a group of Chinese universities and a group of subject disciplines to be world-class by 2050, implemented from 2017

> 双一流大学分数线很高。
> Shuāngyìliú dàxué fēnshùxiàn hěn gāo.
> The cutoff scores at Double First-Class universities are very high.