CHINESE BOOST

HSK 1 Chinese vocabulary list, part 1

50 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 47 of them with an example sentence.
Every word here links to its entry on the site.

HSK 1 Chinese vocabulary list, part 1 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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Words

了
le marks a completed action / marks a change of state / sentence-final particle of affirmation or urging
liǎo used after 得 or 不 to express (im)possibility, as in 忘不了 "cannot forget" / to finish / to understand fully / completely (not)

> 他去了。
> Tā qùle.
> He's gone. / He went.

是
shì to be (followed by substantives only) / (existential, as in 满是) there is; full of / (adverb for emphatic assertion) / correct / right / true / (respectful acknowledgement of a command) very well / yes / (in 是吗, 是吧 tags) is that so; right? / this / these / to approve / to deem right

> 他是好人。
> Tā shì hǎo rén.
> He's a good person.

在
zài to be (located) at / to exist / to be alive / (used before a verb to indicate an action in progress)

> 上海在中国。
> Shànghǎi zài Zhōngguó.
> Shanghai is in China.

和
hé and / together with / with / to; toward / to make peace / harmonious / Japan / Japanese / gentle; mild / calm / sum / to draw / to tie / with (something) still on / including the whole of
hè to compose a poem in reply (to sb's poem) using the same rhyme sequence / to join in the singing / to chime in with others
hú to complete a set in mahjong or playing cards
huó to combine a powdery substance (flour, plaster etc) with water
huò to mix (ingredients) together / to blend / classifier for rinses of clothes / classifier for boilings of medicinal herbs

> 他会说英语和法语。
> Tā huì shuō Yīngyǔ hé Fǎyǔ.
> He speaks English and French.

有
yǒu to have / there is / having / with / -ful / -ed / -al (as in 有意 [you3 yi4] intentional) / to be as much as; to reach (in estimates) / to occur; to arise / some / certain (indefinite) / (prefix with no meaning)
yòu and / plus (linking a round number to a smaller remainder)

> 他们有工作。
> Tāmen yǒu gōngzuò.
> They have jobs.

他
tā (since the early 20th century, usu. male) he / him / his / other / another / some other (as in 他日[ta1 ri4] and 他人[ta1 ren2])

> 他去了。
> Tā qùle.
> He's gone. / He went.

不
bù no / not so / not / un-
fǒu no / or not
fū calyx / flower base
pī great / large

> 不，我没去。
> Bù, wǒ méi qù.
> No, I didn't go.

我
wǒ I / me / my

> 我到了。
> Wǒ dàole.
> I'm here.

的
de marks possession and modification / (used after an attribute when it modifies a noun) / of; ~'s / used at the end of a declarative sentence for emphasis / used after a noun, verb or adjective to form a nominal expression / one that is ...; one who ...
dì target / bull's-eye
dí really
dī taxi

> 这是你的。
> Zhè shì nǐ de.
> This is yours.

人
rén person / people

> 他是好人。
> Tā shì hǎo rén.
> He's a good person.

也
yě also / too / as well / (not ...) either / (used after a verbal or nominal expression X to indicate that X is an extreme or unexpected case) even (X) / particle having functions similar to 啊[a5]

> 我也说法语。
> Wǒ yě shuō Fǎyǔ.
> I speak French, too.

这 這
zhè this / these / this / the (followed by a noun) / this / these (followed by a classifier) (in this sense, commonly pr. [zhei4], esp. in Beijing)
zhèi this

> 这是你的。
> Zhè shì nǐ de.
> This is yours.

上
shàng on / above / on; in; at (marking a time, scope, place or respect) / (directional complement) up / (verb complement) on, shut or into contact, as in 穿上, 闭上, 爱上 / up / upper / above / previous / up / to climb / to get onto / to go up / to attend (class or university) / to go to (work); to start a scheduled activity / to go to (a place) / to go out to / first (of multiple parts) / to install; to fit on / to serve (food); to bring to the table / to publish; to appear in print / to fall into; to be taken in / to apply; to smear on / to reach (a number or degree) / to add; to replenish
shǎng shǎng tone / the third tone of Mandarin (the low dipping tone)

年
nián year / surname Nian

> 一年有12个月。
> Yì nián yǒu shí'èr gè yuè.
> A year has 12 months.

你
nǐ you (informal, as opposed to courteous 您[nin2])

> 你说了。
> Nǐ shuōle.
> You've said it. / You said.

说 說
shuō to speak / to talk / to say / to explain / to comment / (in 对...来说) as far as ... is concerned; for; to / to scold / to tell off / theory / doctrine / to act as go-between / to arrange a match
shuì to persuade
yuè pleased / happy (variant of 悦)

> 你说了。
> Nǐ shuōle.
> You've said it. / You said.

一
yī one / single / a (article) / entire / whole / all / throughout / as soon as / "one" radical in Chinese characters (Kangxi radical 1) / actually / unexpectedly

> 我要你想一想。
> Wǒ yào nǐ xiǎng yì xiǎng.
> I want you to think about it.

到
dào to reach / to arrive / to leave for / to go to / to (a place) / until (a time) / up to (a point) / (verb complement indicating arriving at a place or reaching a point) / considerate / thoughtful / thorough

> 我到了。
> Wǒ dàole.
> I'm here.

都
dōu all / both / (used for emphasis) even / already
dū capital city / metropolis / surname Du

> 我们都想你。
> Wǒmen dōu xiǎng nǐ.
> We're all thinking of you.

对 對
duì towards / at / for / concerning / regarding / to treat (sb a certain way) / to face / right / correct / opposite / facing / matching / to match together / to adjust / to fit / to suit / to check / to compare / to answer / to reply / classifier: couple / pair / to add / to pour in (a fluid)

> 他对我很好。
> Tā duì wǒ hěn hǎo.
> He is good to me.

来 來
lái to come / hither (directional complement for motion toward the speaker, as in 回來|回来[hui2 lai5]) / (used as a substitute for a more specific verb) / in order to / the coming ... / the next ... (as in 來世|来世[lai2 shi4]) / (in 对...来说 and 从...来说) from the standpoint of; as far as ... is concerned / (after a verb such as 说 or 看) judging by; ... speaking / ever since (as in 自古以來|自古以来[zi4 gu3 yi3 lai2]) / for the past (amount of time) / approximately / (used after 得[de2] to indicate possibility, as in 談得來|谈得来[tan2 de5 lai2], or after 不[bu4] to indicate impossibility, as in 吃不來|吃不来[chi1 bu5 lai2])

> 我来了。
> Wǒ láile.
> On my way!

还 還
hái still / also / yet / in addition / else / even more / even / used before 以为 to stress a mistaken belief / fairly / passably (good) / used to strengthen a rhetorical question / used to express an exclamatory tone
huán to give back / to return / to pay back / to go back / to do in return / to retaliate
xuán to revolve / to turn around / swift / immediately / nimble

> 我还没吃饭。
> Wǒ hái méi chīfàn.
> I still haven't eaten.

要
yào need to / should / will / shall / about to / to want / to need / to ask for / if (same as 要是[yao4 shi5]) / (used in 比 comparisons before an adjective) more; -er / important / gist; summary / to ask or tell someone to do something / to call on
yāo to demand / to coerce / to request / to threaten; to blackmail

> 我要喝水。
> Wǒ yào hēshuǐ.
> I'm going to drink water. I want to drink water.

大
dà big / large / great / greatly / freely / fully / important; major / older (than another person) / eldest (as in 大姐[da4 jie3]) / father / uncle (father's brother) / honorific prefix for things of the other party / farther off in time (as in 大前天)
dài used in 大夫 dàifu (doctor) and 大王 dàiwáng (king, in opera/stories)
tài most / excessively / peaceful / secure

> 那是很大的。
> Nà shì hěn dà de.
> That's very big.

她
tā she

> 她不喝茶了。
> Tā bù hēchále.
> She does not drink tea anymore.

中国 中國
zhōngguó China

> 上海在中国。
> Shànghǎi zài Zhōngguó.
> Shanghai is in China.

个 個
gè (classifier used before a noun that has no specific classifier) / height; stature / size (of a person or object) / individual / suffix after 些 (as in 些个)
gě oneself (as in 自个儿)
gàn side wing of an archery target

> 他是个好人。
> Tā shì gè hǎo rén.
> He's a good person.

后
hòu afterwards / after / later / post- / back / behind / rear / empress / queen / monarch / ruler / surname Hou

去
qù to go / to go to (a place) / to send / to be apart from in space or time / to play (a part) / to die (euphemism) / last / just passed / (after a verb of motion indicates movement away from the speaker) / (when used either before or after a verb) to go in order to do sth / to remove / to get rid of / to reduce / (used after certain verbs to indicate detachment or separation)
jǔ to store away / to keep

> 他去了。
> Tā qùle.
> He's gone. / He went.

那
nà that / the / those (colloquial pr. [nei4]) / that (referring to persons, things or situations) / then (in that case) / there (short for 那里 or 那儿)
nuó many / beautiful / how
nā surname Na
nǎ which (old form of 哪)
nè that / those
nèi that / those / colloquial pronunciation of 那[na4]

> 那不是法语。
> Nà bú shì Fǎyǔ.
> That isn't French.

月
yuè month / moon / monthly
ròu flesh / meat

> 一年有12个月。
> Yì nián yǒu shí'èr gè yuè.
> A year has 12 months.

下
xià to fall (of rain, snow etc) / down / downwards / below / lower / later / next (week etc) / second (of two parts) / to decline / to go down / measure word to show the frequency of an action / to play (chess etc) / to arrive at (a decision, conclusion etc) / to issue (an order etc) / to give (a command)

> 下一个给你。
> Xià yí gè gěi nǐ.
> The next one's for you.

只
zhǐ only / merely / just
zhī single; alone / few / classifier for birds and certain animals, one of a pair, some utensils, vessels etc

> 我只想到你。
> Wǒ zhǐ xiǎngdào nǐ.
> I'm only thinking of you.

多
duō many / much / more / a lot of / too many / in excess / multi- / poly- / how (to what extent) / (after a numeral) ... odd

> 你想多了!
> Nǐ xiǎng duō le!
> You thought too much! → You over-thought things, or presumed too much.

我们 我們
wǒmen we / us / ourselves / our

> 他在看我们。
> Tā zài kàn wǒmen.
> He's looking at us.

他们 他們
tāmen they / them

> 他们有工作。
> Tāmen yǒu gōngzuò.
> They have jobs.

能
néng can / to be able to / might possibly / ability / energy

> 我能找到的都在那。
> Wǒ néng zhǎodào de dōu zài nà.
> That's all I could find.

好

hǎo good / (verb complement indicating completion) / very / (before an adjective for exclamatory effect) so / all right! / (before a verb) easy to / (before a verb) good to / quite a lot; quite a long time / healthy; well / to get well; to recover / (of two people) close; on intimate terms / (after a form of address) hello / so as to; so that

hào to be fond of / to have a tendency to; to be prone to

> 他是好人。
> Tā shì hǎo rén.
> He's a good person.

会 會

huì to be likely to / to be sure to / to know how to / can / meeting / gathering / to gather / a moment / a little while / union / group / association / to meet / to see (a visitor) / to pay (a bill) / major city / opportunity / to understand / to grasp / happen to / just at the time of

kuài accountancy / to add up

> 他会说日语。
> Tā huì shuō Rìyǔ.
> He can speak Japanese.

没有 沒有

méiyǒu doesn't exist / to not have / to not be / haven't / hasn't / not as ... as / no (in reply to a question)

> 他来了没有?
> Tā láile méiyǒu?
> Has he come yet?

日

rì day / day of the month / sun / Japan (abbr. for 日本[Ri4 ben3]) / to fuck / to have sex with

> 云开见天日。
> Yúnkāijiàntiān rì.
> The clouds opened and the sun shone through.

里

lǐ inside / interior / internal / lining / li, ancient measure of length, approx. 500 m / neighbourhood / ancient administrative unit of 25 families / borough, administrative unit between the township 鎮|镇[zhen4] and neighborhood 鄰|邻[lin2] levels

可以

kěyǐ can / may / possible / able to / not bad / pretty good

> 你可以去了。
> Nǐ kěyǐ qùle.
> You may go.

给 給

gěi to give / for / for the benefit of / to do sth (for sb) / (sentence intensifier) / (grammatical equivalent of 被) / to allow

jǐ to supply / to provide / well provided / plentiful

> 下一个给你。
> Xià yí gè gěi nǐ.
> The next one's for you.

很

hěn very / quite / (also, often used before an adjective without intensifying its meaning, i.e. as a meaningless syntactic element)

> 我很想要。
> Wǒ hěn xiǎngyào.
> I'm really horny. I really want to.

看

kàn to see / to look at / to read / to watch / to visit / to call on / to watch out for / to consider / to regard as / to feel (that) / to depend on / to judge from what one observes / to treat (someone) in a certain way / to treat (a patient or illness) / to give it a try / to look down on (in 看不起) / to think little of / to look after

kān to look after / to take care of / to watch / to guard

> 他在看我们。
> Tā zài kàn wǒmen.
> He's looking at us.

工作

gōngzuò to work / to operate / job / work / task

> 他们有工作。
> Tāmen yǒu gōngzuò.
> They have jobs.

前

qián before / ago / front / forward / ahead / former / formerly / first / top (followed by a number) / future / BC (e.g. 前293年)

> 那是一个月前了。
> Nà shì yí gè yuè qián le.
> That was a month ago.

新

xīn new / newly / meso- (chemistry)

> 他是新来的。
> Tā shì xīn lái de.
> He's a newcomer.

想

xiǎng to desire / to want (to) / to think (about) / to think of / to devise / to think (that) / to believe (that) / to miss (feel wistful about the absence of)

> 我想你。
> Wǒ xiǎng nǐ.
> I miss you.