CHINESE BOOST

Landscape and landforms Chinese vocabulary list

132 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 111 of them with an example sentence.
Every word here links to its entry on the site.

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Landscape and landforms 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)

水
shuǐ water / (after a name) ... River / to swim (used mostly in 會水|会水[hui4 shui3] and 水性[shui3 xing4]) / Shui ethnic group / additional cost / extra income / lacking in substance / shoddy / classifier for washings of a garment / surname Shui

> 他要了水喝。
> Tā yàole shuǐ hē.
> He asked for a drink of water.

山
shān mountain / hill / small bundle of straw for silkworms to spin cocoons on / surname Shan

> 山是绿色的。
> Shān shì lǜsè de.
> The mountain is green.

河
hé river / the Yellow River / the Milky Way / (on restaurant menus) rice noodles 河粉[he2 fen3]

> 他游过了河。
> Tā yóuguole hé.
> He swam across the river.

海
hǎi ocean / sea / great number of people or things / surname Hai / numerous

> 亚美尼亚里没有海。
> Yàměiníyà lǐ méiyǒu hǎi.
> There is no sea in Armenia.

草地
cǎodì lawn / meadow / sod / turf

> 从草地里出来。
> Cóng cǎodì lǐ chūlái.
> Stay off the grass.

Intermediate (HSK 4-6)

风景 風景
fēngjǐng scenery / landscape

> 他们欣赏了美丽的风景。
> Tāmen xīnshǎngle měilì de fēngjǐng.
> They admired the lovely scenery.

森林
sēnlín forest

> 森林里下雨了。
> Sēnlín lǐ xiàyǔle.
> It had rained in the forest.

海洋
hǎiyáng ocean

> 海洋里有很多奇怪的动物。
> Hǎiyáng lǐ yǒu hěn duō qíguài de dòngwù.
> There are many strange animals in the ocean.

地球
dìqiú the earth

> 地球出现了。
> Dìqiú chūxiànle.
> Earth appeared.

景色
jǐngsè scenery / landscape / view

> 从这儿看景色很美。
> Cóng zhèr kàn jǐngsè hěn měi.
> It is a nice view from here.

自然
zìrán natural / naturally / nature

> 自然充满了神秘。
> Zìrán chōngmǎnle shénmì.
> Nature is full of mysteries.

土
tǔ earth / local / Tu ethnic group / dust / clay / unsophisticated / crude opium / indigenous / one of the eight categories of ancient musical instruments /八音[ba1 yin1] / surname Tu
dù root

> 风一吹，路上全是土。
> Fēng yì chuī, lùshang quán shì tǔ.
> When the wind blows, the road is covered in dust.

美景
měijǐng beautiful scenery

> 这座山的美景很有名。
> Zhè zuò shān de měijǐng hěn yǒumíng.
> The beautiful scenery of this mountain is very famous.

湖
hú lake

> 湖上有一些船。
> Hú shàng yǒu yìxiē chuán.
> There were some boats on the lake.

沙漠
shāmò desert

> 我想是在沙漠里。
> Wǒ xiǎng shì zài shāmò lǐ.
> In the desert, I think.

陆地 陸地
lùdì dry land (as opposed to the sea)

> 地球上的陆地比海洋小得多。
> Dìqiú shàng de lùdì bǐ hǎiyáng xiǎo de duō.
> Land on Earth is much smaller than the oceans.

河流
héliú river

> 那条河流很长。
> Nà tiáo héliú hěn cháng.
> That river is long.

山区 山區
shānqū mountain area

> 去山区的路不太好走。
> Qù shānqū de lù bútàihǎo zǒu.
> The road to the mountain area is not easy to travel.

石头 石頭
shítou stone

> 我建石头房子。
> Wǒ jiàn shítou fángzi.
> I build houses out of stone.

沙子
shāzi sand / grit

> 我吃了沙子。
> Wǒ chīle shāzi.
> I ate sand.

岛 島
dǎo island

> 岛上气候怎么样?
> Dǎo shàng qìhòu zěnmeyàng?
> What is the climate on the island like?

地形
dìxíng topography / terrain / landform

> 越野跑要先熟悉地形。
> Yuèyěpǎo yào xiān shúxī dìxíng.
> For cross-country running, you must first get familiar with the terrain.

风光 風光
fēngguāng scene / view / sight / landscape / to be well-regarded / to be well-off / grand (dialect) / impressive (dialect)

> 这里的风光真美!
> Zhèlǐ de fēngguāng zhēn měi!
> The scenery here is really beautiful!

高原
gāoyuán plateau

> 你去过高原旅行吗?
> Nǐ qùguo gāoyuán lǚxíng ma?
> Have you ever travelled to a plateau?

草原
cǎoyuán grassland / prairie

> 树不会长在草原上。
> Shù búhuì zhǎng zài cǎoyuán shàng.
> Trees do not grow on prairies.

海拔
hǎibá height above sea level / elevation

> 这个镇海拔1500米。
> Zhège zhèn hǎibá yìqiānwǔbǎi mǐ.
> The town is situated 1,500 meters above sea level.

山峰
shānfēng peak

> 请问，这座山峰有多高?
> Qǐngwèn, zhè zuò shānfēng yǒu duō gāo?
> Excuse me, how high is this peak?

山坡
shānpō hillside

> 山坡上开满了黄色的小花。
> Shānpō shàng kāimǎnle huángsè de xiǎohuā.
> The hillside is covered with little yellow flowers.

海岸
hǎi'àn coastal / seacoast

> 他的村屋在海岸上。
> Tā de cūn wū zài hǎi'àn shàng.
> His cottage is on the coast.

地质 地質
dìzhì geology

> 我哥哥在大学学地质。
> Wǒ gēge zài dàxué xué dìzhì.
> My older brother studies geology at university.

山顶 山頂
shāndǐng hilltop

> 山顶被雪覆盖了。
> Shāndǐng bèi xuě fùgàile.
> The top of the mountain is covered in snow.

沿海
yánhǎi coastal

> 沿海城市夏天常有台风。
> Yánhǎi chéngshì xiàtiān cháng yǒu táifēng.
> Coastal cities often have typhoons in summer.

土壤
tǔrǎng soil

> 这里的土壤肥沃。
> Zhèlǐ de tǔrǎng féiwò.
> The soil here is fertile.

岸
àn bank / shore / beach / coast / tall and imposing / lofty / proud and upright

> 河的这一岸有很多树。
> Hé de zhè yí àn yǒu hěn duō shù.
> There are many trees on this side of the river.

景观 景觀
jǐngguān landscape

> 从山顶看，景观特别美。
> Cóng shāndǐng kàn, jǐngguān tèbié měi.
> Seen from the mountaintop, the landscape is especially beautiful.

坡
pō slope / sloping / slanted

> 前面有个坡，请慢点开。
> Qiánmiàn yǒu gè pō, qǐng màn diǎn kāi.
> There's a slope ahead, so please drive slowly.

地域
dìyù area / district / region

> 各个地域的饮食习惯不同。
> Gègè dìyù de yǐnshí xíguàn bùtóng.
> Eating habits differ from region to region.

北极 北極
běijí the North Pole / the north magnetic pole

> 你见过在北极生活的白熊吗？
> Nǐ jiànguo zài běijí shēnghuó de báixióng ma?
> Have you ever seen the white bears that live in the Arctic?

两极 兩極
liǎngjí the two poles / the north and south poles / both ends of sth / electric or magnetic poles

> 地球的两极都非常寒冷。
> Dìqiú de liǎngjí dōu fēicháng hánlěng.
> Both of the Earth's poles are extremely cold.

Advanced (HSK 7-9)

海滩 海灘
hǎitān beach

> 去海滩走哪条路？
> Qù hǎitān zǒu nǎ tiáo lù?
> Which way is the beach?

沙滩 沙灘
shātān beach / sandy shore

> 我在沙滩打排球。
> Wǒ zài shātān dǎ páiqiú.
> I'm on the beach playing volleyball.

瀑布
pùbù waterfall

> 瀑布从山顶直泻而下。
> Pùbù cóng shāndǐng zhí xiè ér xià.
> The waterfall pours straight down from the mountaintop.

壮观 壯觀
zhuàngguān spectacular / magnificent sight

> 壮观的景色震撼了游客。
> Zhuàngguān de jǐngsè zhènhànle yóukè.
> The magnificent scenery stunned the tourists.

平原
píngyuán field / plain

> 平原上的夏天很热吗？
> Píngyuán shàng de xiàtiān hěn rè ma?
> Is summer on the plain very hot?

盆地
péndì basin / depression

> 成都在一个大盆地里。
> Chéngdū zài yí gè dà péndì lǐ.
> Chengdu lies in a large basin.

山脉 山脈
shānmài mountain range

> 山脉的走势由北向南。
> Shānmài de zǒushì yóu běixiàng nán.
> The mountain range runs from north to south.

峡谷 峽谷
xiágǔ canyon / gill / ravine

> 峡谷对他来说非常深。
> Xiágǔ duì tā lái shuō fēicháng shēn.
> The gorge looked very deep to him.

山谷
shāngǔ valley / ravine

> 歌声在山谷里荡漾。
> Gēshēng zài shāngǔ lǐ dàngyàng.
> The singing echoes and undulates through the valley.

地势 地勢
dìshì terrain / topography relief

> 中国西部地势高，东部地势低。
> Zhōngguó xībù dìshì gāo, dōngbù dìshì dī.
> In China the land is high in the west and low in the east.

地貌
dìmào landform / geomorphology

丘陵
qiūlíng hills

> 丘陵沐浴在阳光下。
> Qiūlíng mùyù zài yángguāng xià.
> The hills are bathed in sunlight.

悬崖 懸崖
xuányá precipice / overhanging cliff

> 海鸟在突出的悬崖下做窝。
> Hǎiniǎo zài tūchū de xuányá xià zuò wō.
> The seabirds build their nests under the overhanging cliff.

火山
huǒshān volcano

> 火山突然喷发了！
> Huǒshān tūrán pēnfā le!
> The volcano suddenly erupted!

冰川
bīngchuān glacier

海峡 海峽
hǎixiá strait / channel

> 你坐过船穿越海峡吗？
> Nǐ zuòguo chuán chuānyuè hǎixiá ma?
> Have you ever crossed a strait by boat?

海湾 海灣
hǎiwān bay / gulf / Gulf

> 渔船都停在小海湾里。
> Yúchuán dōu tíng zài xiǎo Hǎiwān lǐ.
> The fishing boats are all moored in the little bay.

半岛 半島
bàndǎo peninsula

> 意大利是一个半岛。
> Yìdàlì shì yí gè bàndǎo.
> Italy is a peninsula.

大陆 大陸
dàlù continent / mainland / mainland China (reference to the PRC)

> 他从大陆回来了。
> Tā cóng dàlù huílaile.
> He returned from China.

地壳 地殼
dìqiào the Earth's crust

> 地壳在慢慢地移动。
> Dìqiào zài mànmàn de yídòng.
> The Earth's crust is moving slowly.

岩石
yánshí rock

> 他的头撞到了一块岩石。
> Tā de tóu zhuàng dàole yíkuài yánshí.
> He hit his head against a rock.

湿地 濕地
shīdì wetland

> 你去过那片湿地吗？
> Nǐ qùguo nà piàn shīdì ma?
> Have you ever been to that wetland?

溪
xī creek / rivulet

> 雨后，山上流下来一道细细的溪。
> Yǔ hòu, shānshàng liú xiàlai yídào xìxì de xī.
> After the rain, a thin rivulet flowed down from the mountain.

泉
quán mouth of a spring / spring (small stream) / coin (archaic)

洞穴
dòngxué cave / cavern

> 这地方有多少洞穴？
> Zhè dìfang yǒu duōshǎo dòngxué?
> How many caves are there in this area?

险峻 險峻
xiǎnjùn mountainous / rugged / precarious / daunting

陡峭
dǒuqiào precipitous

> 这座山的北坡非常陡峭。
> Zhè zuò shān de běipō fēicháng dǒuqiào.
> The north slope of this mountain is very steep.

辽阔 遼闊
liáokuò vast / extensive

> 飞机下面是辽阔的海面。
> Fēijī xiàmiàn shì liáokuò de hǎimiàn.
> Below the plane is the vast surface of the sea.

秀丽 秀麗
xiùlì pretty / beautiful

> 她写得一手秀丽的字。
> Tā xiě de yìshǒu xiùlì de zì.
> She writes a beautiful hand.

绵延 綿延
miányán to be continuous / to stretch long and unbroken

荒漠
huāngmò desert / desolate wilderness / barren wasteland / vast and desolate

戈壁
gēbì Gobi (desert)

> 你去过西北的戈壁吗？
> Nǐ qùguo Xīběi de Gēbì ma?
> Have you ever been to the Gobi in the northwest?

绿洲 綠洲
lǜzhōu oasis

> 沙漠中有绿洲。
> Shāmò zhōng yǒu lǜzhōu.
> There is an oasis in the desert.

沙丘
shāqiū sand dune / sandy hill

三角洲
sānjiǎozhōu delta (geography)

溶洞
róngdòng solutional cave (typically, a limestone cave)

钟乳石 鐘乳石
zhōngrǔshí stalactite

山涧 山澗
shānjiàn mountain stream

峰峦 峰巒
fēngluán peaks and ridges / ragged outline of mountain peaks

地幔
dìmàn (the earth's) mantle

地核
dìhé Earth's core

> 地核的温度非常高。
> Dìhé de wēndù fēicháng gāo.
> The temperature of the Earth's core is extremely high.

板块 板塊
bǎnkuài slab / tectonic plate / sector (of the stock market or of industry) / bloc

> 你为什么看好这个板块?
> Nǐ wèishénme kànhǎo zhège bǎnkuài?
> Why are you optimistic about this sector?

山川
shānchuān mountains and rivers / landscape

> 他喜欢用画笔画山川。
> Tā xǐhuan yòng huà bǐhuà shānchuān.
> He likes to paint mountains and rivers with a brush.

山水
shānshuǐ water from a mountain / mountains and rivers / scenery / landscape / Sansui, Japanese company

> 这幅画画的是山水。
> Zhè fú huàhuà de shì Shānshuǐ.
> This painting depicts a landscape.

河谷
hégǔ river valley

河床
héchuáng riverbed

> 河床上有很多圆石头。
> Héchuáng shàng yǒu hěn duō yuánshítou.
> There are lots of round stones on the riverbed.

岬角
jiǎjiǎo cape / headland / promontory

礁石
jiāoshí reef

> 礁石上站着一只海鸟。
> Jiāoshí shàng zhànzhe yìzhī hǎiniǎo.
> A seabird is standing on the reef.

海岛 海島
hǎidǎo island

> 菲律宾有很多漂亮的海岛。
> Fēilǜbīn yǒu hěn duō piàoliang de hǎidǎo.
> The Philippines has many beautiful islands.

群岛 群島
qúndǎo group of islands / archipelago

> 你去过那个群岛吗?
> Nǐ qùguo nàge qúndǎo ma?
> Have you ever been to that group of islands?

Advanced (HSK 7-9), part 2

山脚 山腳
shānjiǎo foot of a mountain

> 先在山脚休息一下吧。
> Xiān zài shānjiǎo xiūxi yíxià ba.
> Let's rest a while at the foot of the mountain first.

湖泊
húpō lake

> 森林外有一个美丽的湖泊。
> Sēnlín wài yǒu yí gè měilì de húpō.
> A beautiful lake lay just beyond the forest.

流域
liúyù river basin / valley / drainage area

> 这条河的流域面积很大。
> Zhè tiáo hé de liúyù miànjī hěn dà.
> This river has a very large drainage area.

沿岸
yán'àn coastal area / littoral or riparian

> 河流沿岸的村子风景很美。
> Héliú yán'àn de cūnzi fēngjǐng hěn měi.
> The villages along the river have beautiful scenery.

上游
shàngyóu upper reaches (of a river) / upper level / upper echelon / upstream

> 河的上游很美。
> Hé de shàngyóu hěn měi.
> The upper reaches of the river are very beautiful.

岛屿 島嶼
dǎoyǔ island

> 你想去哪个岛屿度假?
> Nǐ xiǎng qù nǎge dǎoyǔ dùjià?
> Which island do you want to go to for a holiday?

下游
xiàyóu lower reaches (of a river) / lower level / lower echelon / downstream

> 这条河的下游有很多农田。
> Zhè tiáo hé de xiàyóu yǒu hěn duō nóngtián.
> There are many farm fields in the lower reaches of this river.

河口
hékǒu estuary / the mouth of a river

> 河水在河口流进大海。
> Héshuǐ zài hékǒu liú jìn dàhǎi.
> The river flows into the sea at its mouth.

支流
zhīliú tributary (river)

> 黄河最长的支流是哪条?
> Huáng Hé zuì cháng de zhīliú shì nǎ tiáo?
> Which is the longest tributary of the Yellow River?

沉积 沉積
chénjī sediment / deposit / sedimentation (geology)

> 河口的沉积越来越厚了。
> Hékǒu de chénjī yuèláiyuè hòule.
> The deposit at the river mouth is getting thicker and thicker.

江山
jiāngshān rivers and mountains / landscape / country / state power

> 战士们用生命保卫着这片江山。
> Zhànshìmen yòng shēngmìng bǎowèizhe zhè piàn jiāngshān.
> The soldiers defended this land with their lives.

水域
shuǐyù waters / body of water

> 渔船不能进入别国的水域。
> Yúchuán bùnéng jìnrù biéguó de shuǐyù.
> Fishing boats may not enter another country's waters.

沼泽 沼澤
zhǎozé marsh / swamp / wetlands / glade

> 别进沼泽，那里很危险！
> Bié jìn zhǎozé, nàli hěn wēixiǎn!
> Don't go into the swamp, it's very dangerous there!

地表
dìbiǎo the surface (of the earth)

> 沙漠的地表几乎没有水。
> Shāmò de dìbiǎo jīhū méiyǒu shuǐ.
> There is almost no water on the surface of the desert.

坝
bà dam / plain / flatland / sandbar / shoal / dike / embankment

> 工人们正在检查那座坝。
> Gōngrénmen zhèngzài jiǎnchá nà zuò bà.
> The workers are inspecting that dam.

雪山
xuěshān snow-capped mountain

> 登山队在雪山上遇险了。
> Dēngshān duì zài xuěshān shàng yùxiǎnle.
> The mountaineering team ran into danger on the snow mountain.

侵蚀 侵蝕
qīnshí to erode / to corrode

赤道
chìdào equator (of the earth or a celestial body) / celestial equator

> 那条船昨天穿过了赤道。
> Nà tiáo chuán zuótiān chuānguòle chìdào.
> That ship crossed the equator yesterday.

陡
dǒu steep / precipitous / abrupt / sudden

> 山路又窄又陡，一路艰险。
> Shānlù yòu zhǎi yòu dǒu, yílù jiānxiǎn.
> The mountain road is narrow and steep, and the whole way is treacherous.

丛林 叢林
cónglín jungle / thicket / forest / Buddhist monastery

> 那是丛林狼吗？
> Nà shì cónglín láng ma?
> Is that a coyote?

温泉 溫泉
wēnquán hot spring

> 日本有很多温泉。
> Rìběn yǒu hěn duō wēnquán.
> There are a lot of hot springs in Japan.

海岸线 海岸線
hǎi'ànxiàn coastline / seaboard / shoreline

荒凉 荒涼
huāngliáng desolate

> 火车穿过一片荒凉的草原。
> Huǒchē chuānguò yípiàn huāngliáng de cǎoyuán.
> The train passed through a desolate stretch of grassland.

泥土
nítǔ earth / soil / mud / clay

> 用刷子去除鞋底的泥土。
> Yòng shuāzi qùchú xiédǐ de nítǔ.
> Use a brush to dislodge the dirt from the soles of the shoes.

池塘
chítáng pool / pond

> 池塘上有座桥。
> Chítáng shàng yǒu zuò qiáo.
> There is a bridge over the pond.

断层 斷層
duàncéng fault / gap / rupture (in the transmission of some skill) / cross-sectional

> 地下的断层可能引起地震。
> Dìxià de duàncéng kěnéng yǐnqǐ dìzhèn.
> Faults underground can cause earthquakes.

海滨 海濱
hǎibīn shore / seaside

> 哪个海滨适合游泳？
> Nǎge hǎibīn shìhé yóuyǒng?
> Which seaside spot is good for swimming?

纬度 緯度
wěidù latitude

> 北京的纬度比广州高。
> Běijīng de wěidù bǐ Guǎngzhōu gāo.
> Beijing's latitude is higher than Guangzhou's.

田野
tiányě field / open land

> 火车穿过一片安静的田野。
> Huǒchē chuānguò yípiàn ānjìng de tiányě.
> The train passed through a stretch of quiet open country.

山岭 山嶺
shānlǐng mountain ridge

> 山岭上的雪还没有化。
> Shānlǐng shàng de xuě hái méiyǒu huà.
> The snow on the mountain ridge hasn't melted yet.

波浪
bōlàng wave

> 小船在波浪中上下起伏。
> Xiǎochuán zài bōlàng zhōng shàngxià qǐfú.
> The little boat bobbed up and down on the waves.

河畔
hépàn riverside / river plain

> 河畔有一排高高的柳树。
> Hépàn yǒu yìpái gāo gāo de liǔshù.
> There is a row of tall willow trees along the riverbank.

汪洋
wāngyáng vast body of water / broad-minded / magnanimous

> 小船在汪洋中慢慢漂着。
> Xiǎochuán zài wāngyáng zhōng mànmàn piāozhe.
> The little boat drifted slowly on the vast waters.

崎岖 崎嶇
qíqū rugged / craggy

> 远处是崎岖的山峰。
> Yuǎnchù shì qíqū de shānfēng.
> In the distance are craggy mountain peaks.

波涛 波濤
bōtāo billows / great waves / surging waves

> 大海的波涛拍打着岸边的石头。
> Dàhǎi de bōtāo pāidazhe ànbiān de shítou.
> The billows of the sea beat against the rocks on the shore.

浩瀚
hàohàn vast (of ocean) / boundless

> 船在浩瀚的大海上前进。
> Chuán zài hàohàn de dà hǎishàng qiánjìn.
> The ship sailed on across the vast ocean.

经度 經度
jīngdù longitude

> 这条线代表经度。
> Zhè tiáo xiàn dàibiǎo jīngdù.
> This line represents the longitude.

Outside HSK

喀斯特
kāsītè (loanword) karst

冲积平原 沖積平原
chōngjīpíngyuán alluvial plain

火山口
huǒshānkǒu volcanic crater

> 请不要靠近火山口，那里很危险!
> Qǐng búyào kàojìn huǒshānkǒu, nàli hěn wēixiǎn!
> Please don't go near the volcanic crater, it's very dangerous there!

裂谷
liègǔ rift valley

风蚀 風蝕
fēngshí wind erosion

等高线 等高線
děnggāoxiàn contour line

> 等高线靠得越近，说明坡越陡。
> Děnggāoxiàn kào de yuè jìn, shuōmíng pō yuè dǒu.
> The closer together the contour lines are, the steeper the slope.