CHINESE BOOST

Natural disasters Chinese vocabulary list

120 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 98 of them with an example sentence.
Every word here links to its entry on the site.

Parts 1 2 3 4 5

Natural disasters 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)

发生 發生
fāshēng to happen / to occur / to take place / to break out

> 在哪里发生?
> Zài nǎlǐ fāshēng?
> Where did it happen?

Intermediate (HSK 4-6)

危险 危險
wēixiǎn dangerous / danger

> 他们有危险。
> Tāmen yǒu wēixiǎn.
> They're in danger.

着火 著火
zháohuǒ to catch fire

> 房子着火了。
> Fángzi zháohuǒle.
> The house was in flames.

高温 高溫
gāowēn high temperature

> 我妈讨厌夏天的高温。
> Wǒ mā tǎoyàn xiàtiān de gāowēn.
> My mother hates summer heat.

受伤 受傷
shòushāng to sustain injuries / wounded (in an accident etc) / harmed

> 他没有受伤。
> Tā méiyǒu shòushāng.
> He wasn't hurt.

地震
dìzhèn earthquake

> 我感觉到地震了。
> Wǒ gǎnjué dào dìzhèn le.
> I felt the earth shake.

救
jiù to save / to assist / to rescue

> 你救不了我。
> Nǐ jiù bu liǎo wǒ.
> You can't save me.

抢救 搶救
qiǎngjiù to rescue

> 医生正在抢救病人。
> Yīshēng zhèngzài qiǎngjiù bìngrén.
> The doctors are trying to save the patient.

暴雨
bàoyǔ torrential rain / rainstorm

> 今天又下暴雨了。
> Jīntiān yòu xià bàoyǔ le.
> It poured down again today.

预防 預防
yùfáng to prevent / to take precautions against / to protect / to guard against / precautionary / prophylactic

> 怎么预防食物中毒?
> Zěnme yùfáng shíwùzhòngdú?
> How can you prevent food poisoning?

紧急 緊急
jǐnjí emergency / urgent

> 紧急出口在哪里?
> Jǐnjí chūkǒu zài nǎlǐ?
> Where's the emergency exit?

救护车 救護車
jiùhùchē ambulance

> 快让开，救护车来了!
> Kuài ràngkāi, jiùhùchē láile!
> Get out of the way, the ambulance is coming!

损失 損失
sǔnshī loss / damage / to lose / to suffer damage

> 损失是无法估计的。
> Sǔnshī shì wúfǎ gūjì de.
> The losses are incalculable.

破坏 破壞
pòhuài destruction / damage / to wreck / to break / to destroy

> 我认为考试破坏教育。
> Wǒ rènwéi kǎoshì pòhuài jiàoyù.
> I think exams ruin education.

威胁 威脅
wēixié to threaten / to menace

> 你这是在威胁我吗?
> Nǐ zhè shì zài wēixié wǒ ma?
> Are you threatening me?

洪水
hóngshuǐ deluge / flood

> 洪水淹没了整个村子。
> Hóngshuǐ yānmòle zhěnggè cūnzi.
> The flood submerged the entire village.

火灾 火災
huǒzāi serious fire (in a city or a forest etc)

> 前天发生了火灾。
> Qiántiān fāshēngle huǒzāi.
> A fire broke out the day before yesterday.

灾害 災害
zāihài calamity / disaster

> 这是环境灾害。
> Zhè shì huánjìng zāihài.
> It's an environmental disaster.

自然灾害 自然災害
zìránzāihài natural disaster

> 地震是一种可怕的自然灾害。
> Dìzhèn shì yìzhǒng kěpà de zìránzāihài.
> Earthquakes are a terrible kind of natural disaster.

台风
táifēng typhoon / stage presence, poise

> 又开始刮台风了。
> Yòu kāishǐ guā táifēng le.
> A typhoon has also started to rise.

旱灾 旱災
hànzāi drought

> 旱灾过后，很多人离开了老家。
> Hànzāi guòhòu, hěn duō rén líkāile lǎojiā.
> After the drought, many people left their hometown.

灾难 災難
zāinàn disaster / catastrophe

> 地震带来了灾难。
> Dìzhèn dàiláile zāinàn.
> The earthquake brought about disaster.

救援
jiùyuán to save / to support / to help / to assist

> 请你们马上来救援我们!
> Qǐng nǐmen mǎshàng lái jiùyuán wǒmen!
> Please come and help us right away!

救灾 救災
jiùzāi to relieve disaster / to help disaster victims

> 洪水来了，大家都去救灾。
> Hóngshuǐ láile, dàjiā dōu qù jiùzāi.
> The flood has come, and everyone is going to help with disaster relief.

受灾 受災
shòuzāi disaster-stricken / to be hit by a natural calamity

> 今年南方很多地区都受灾了。
> Jīnnián nánfāng hěn duō dìqū dōu shòuzāile.
> Many parts of the south were hit by disaster this year.

灾区 災區
zāiqū disaster area / stricken region

> 记者昨天赶到了灾区。
> Jìzhě zuótiān gǎndàole zāiqū.
> The reporter rushed to the disaster area yesterday.

伤亡 傷亡
shāngwáng casualties / injuries and deaths

> 事故发生后，伤亡情况怎么样了?
> Shìgù fāshēng hòu, shāngwáng qíngkuàng zěnmeyàng le?
> After the accident, what is the casualty situation?

干旱 乾旱
gānhàn drought / arid / dry

> 去年干旱，收成很差。
> Qùnián gānhàn, shōuchéng hěn chà.
> Last year there was a drought, and the harvest was poor.

淹没 淹沒
yānmò to submerge / to drown / to flood / to drown out (also fig.)

> 洪水淹没了整个村子。
> Hóngshuǐ yānmòle zhěnggè cūnzi.
> The flood submerged the entire village.

转移 轉移
zhuǎnyí to shift / to relocate / to transfer / to shift (attention) / to change (the subject etc) / to metastasize

> 这些鸟不转移。
> Zhèxiē niǎo bù zhuǎnyí.
> These birds don't migrate.

消防员 消防員
xiāofángyuán firefighter / fireman

> 消防员很快扑灭了大火。
> Xiāofángyuán hěn kuài pūmièle dàhuǒ.
> The firefighters quickly put out the blaze.

灭火 滅火
mièhuǒ to extinguish a fire / firefighting

> 附近没有水，很难灭火。
> Fùjìn méiyǒu shuǐ, hěn nán mièhuǒ.
> There's no water nearby, so it's hard to put out the fire.

救援队 救援隊
jiùyuánduì rescue team

> 救援队赶到了受灾地区。
> Jiùyuánduì gǎndàole shòuzāidìqū.
> The rescue team has arrived in the disaster area.

捐款
juānkuǎn to donate money / to contribute funds / donation / contribution (of money)

> 这笔捐款已经送到学校了。
> Zhè bǐ juānkuǎn yǐjīng sòng dào xuéxiào le.
> The donation has already been delivered to the school.

重建
chóngjiàn to rebuild / to reconstruct / to reestablish

> 没有重建的钱。
> Méiyǒu chóngjiàn de qián.
> There was no money for rebuilding.

爆发 爆發
bàofā to break out / to erupt / to explode / to burst out

> 战争随时可能爆发。
> Zhànzhēng suíshí kěnéng bàofā.
> War may break out at any moment.

死亡
sǐwáng death / to die

> 他害怕死亡。
> Tā hàipà sǐwáng.
> He is afraid of death.

伤员 傷員
shāngyuán wounded person

> 救护车把伤员送到了医院。
> Jiùhùchē bǎ shāngyuán sòng dàole yīyuàn.
> The ambulance took the wounded to the hospital.

监测 監測
jiāncè to monitor

> 手表能监测睡眠吗?
> Shǒubiǎo néng jiāncè shuìmián ma?
> Can the watch monitor your sleep?

灾 災
zāi disaster / calamity

> 这场灾来得太突然了。
> Zhè chǎng zāi láide tài tūrán le.
> This disaster came too suddenly.

救助
jiùzhù to help sb in trouble / aid / assistance

> 他得到了及时的救助。
> Tā dédàole jíshí de jiùzhù.
> He received timely assistance.

淹
yān to drown / to flood / to submerge / to irritate the skin (of liquids) / to delay / profound / deep / broad

> 大雨把农田都淹了。
> Dàyǔ bǎ nóngtián dōu yānle.
> The heavy rain flooded all the farmland.

灾情 災情
zāiqíng disastrous situation / calamity

断电 斷電
duàndiàn to experience a power outage / to have a power failure

> 台风来了，我们这里断电了。
> Táifēng láile, wǒmen zhèlǐ duàndiàn le.
> The typhoon hit, and the power went out here.

受灾地区 受災地區
shòuzāidìqū disaster area

> 救援队赶到了受灾地区。
> Jiùyuánduì gǎndàole shòuzāidìqū.
> The rescue team has arrived in the disaster area.

灾后 災後
zāihòu after a catastrophe / post-traumatic

Advanced (HSK 7-9)

灾民 災民
zāimín victim (of a disaster)

遇难 遇難
yùnàn to perish / to be killed

> 新闻说，三名登山者遇难了。
> Xīnwén shuō, sān míng dēngshānzhě yùnànle.
> The news says three mountain climbers have perished.

幸存 倖存
xìngcún to survive (a disaster)

> 他的公司没有从危机中幸存。
> Tā de gōngsī méiyǒu cóng wēijī zhōng xìngcún.
> His company didn't survive the crisis.

失踪 失蹤
shīzōng to be missing / to disappear / unaccounted for

> 坦克失踪了。
> Tǎnkè shīzōngle.
> The tank vanished.

倒塌
dǎotā to collapse (of building) / to topple over

> 这堵旧墙会不会倒塌?
> Zhè dǔ jiù qiáng huì búhuì dǎotā?
> Might this old wall collapse?

废墟 廢墟
fèixū ruins

> 这些废墟年代久远。
> Zhèxiē fèixū niándài jiǔyuǎn.
> These ruins are ancient.

余震 餘震
yúzhèn earthquake aftershock

> 余震让大家不敢回家睡觉。
> Yúzhèn ràng dàjiā bùgǎn huíjiā shuìjiào.
> The aftershocks made everyone afraid to go home to sleep.

震级 震級
zhènjí degree of earthquake (on magnitude scale)

> 震级不高，所以没有人受伤。
> Zhènjí bù gāo, suǒyǐ méiyǒu rén shòushāng.
> The magnitude was low, so nobody was hurt.

震中
zhènzhōng earthquake epicenter

> 救援队已经赶到了震中。
> Jiùyuánduì yǐjīng gǎndàole zhènzhōng.
> The rescue team has already reached the epicentre.

海啸 海嘯

hǎixiào tsunami

> 海啸袭击日本。
> Hǎixiào xíjī Rìběn.
> Tsunami hit Japan.

火山

huǒshān volcano

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

喷发 噴發

pēnfā to erupt / an eruption

> 那次喷发持续了好几天。
> Nà cì pēnfā chíxùle hǎo jǐtiān.
> That eruption lasted for several days.

泥石流

níshíliú landslide / torrent of mud and stones / mudslide

滑坡

huápō rockslide / landslip / landslide / mudslide / fig. slump / downturn / to decline

> 山路因为滑坡被堵住了。
> Shānlù yīnwèi huápō bèi dǔzhùle.
> The mountain road was blocked by a landslide.

雪崩

xuěbēng avalanche

龙卷风 龍捲風

lóngjuǎnfēng tornado / hurricane / twister / cyclone

> 远处出现了一股龙卷风！
> Yuǎnchù chūxiànle yìgǔ lóngjuǎnfēng!
> A tornado has appeared in the distance!

飓风 颶風

jùfēng hurricane

暴风雪 暴風雪

bàofēngxuě snowstorm / blizzard

沙尘暴 沙塵暴

shāchénbào sand and dust storm

洪涝 洪澇

hónglào flood / inundation / flooding

泛滥 氾濫

fànlàn to overflow / to inundate / to flood / to proliferate unchecked

> 大雨之后，河水泛滥了。
> Dàyǔ zhīhòu, héshuǐ fànlànle.
> After the heavy rain, the river overflowed its banks.

决堤 決隄

juédī to breach its dike / to collapse

堤坝 堤壩

dībà dam / dike

> 堤坝抵挡住了洪水。
> Dībà dǐdǎng zhùle hóngshuǐ.
> The dam held back the flood.

山火

shānhuǒ wildfire / forest fire

> 天太干，山里容易起山火。
> Tiān tài gān, shān lǐ róngyì qǐ shānhuǒ.
> When the weather is this dry, wildfires easily start in the mountains.

蝗灾 蝗災

huángzāi plague of locusts

瘟疫

wēnyì plague / pestilence

> 成千上万的人死于瘟疫。
> Chéngqiān-shàngwàn de rén sǐ yú wēnyì.
> Thousands upon thousands have died from the epidemic.

预警 預警

yùjǐng warning / early warning

> 台风预警已经发布了。
> Táifēng yùjǐng yǐjīng fābùle.
> The typhoon early warning has been issued.

警报 警報

jǐngbào alarm / alert signal / alarm / alert / warning

> 海啸的警报解除了。
> Hǎixiào de jǐngbào jiěchúle.
> The tsunami alert was cancelled.

防灾 防災

fángzāi disaster prevention / to protect against natural disasters

> 防灾比救灾更重要，你同意吗？
> Fángzāi bǐ jiùzāi gèng zhòngyào, nǐ tóngyì ma?
> Disaster prevention is more important than disaster relief. Do you agree?

减灾 減災

jiǎnzāi to take measures to mitigate the impact of disasters (including prevention, preparation, and support for stricken communities)

> 减灾需要每个人一起努力。
> Jiǎnzāi xūyào měige rén yìqǐ nǔlì.
> Disaster reduction takes everyone working together.

防汛

fángxùn flood control / anti-flood (precautions)

> 市政府正在组织人员防汛。
> Shìzhèngfǔ zhèngzài zǔzhī rényuán fángxùn.
> The city government is organizing people to carry out flood control.

抗震

kàngzhèn anti-seismic measures / seismic defenses / earthquake resistant

抗洪

kànghóng to fight a flood

抗旱

kànghàn drought-resistant / to weather a drought

应急 應急
yìngjí to respond to an emergency / to meet a contingency / emergency

> 我先借你一点钱应急。
> Wǒ xiān jiè nǐ yìdiǎn qián yìngjí.
> Let me lend you a little money to tide you over.

疏散
shūsàn to scatter / to disperse / to evacuate / scattered / sparse
shūsǎn idle / leisurely / laid-back

> 着火了，大家快疏散!
> Zháohuǒle, dàjiā kuài shūsàn!
> There's a fire, everyone evacuate quickly!

撤离 撤離
chèlí to withdraw from / to evacuate

> 士兵们撤离了他们的阵地。
> Shìbīngmen chèlíle tāmen de zhèndì.
> The soldiers retreated from their positions.

避难 避難
bìnàn to take refuge / to seek asylum

> 地震后，很多人到学校避难。
> Dìzhèn hòu, hěn duō rén dào xuéxiào bìnàn.
> After the earthquake, many people took refuge at the school.

避难所 避難所
bìnànsuǒ a refuge / a haven / a sanctuary

> 附近的避难所在哪儿?
> Fùjìn de bìnànsuǒ zài nǎr?
> Where is the nearest shelter?

安置
ānzhì to find a place for / to help settle down / to arrange for / to get into bed / placement

> 政府安置了很多受灾的家庭。
> Zhèngfǔ ānzhìle hěn duō shòuzāi de jiātíng.
> The government resettled many families affected by the disaster.

救生
jiùshēng to save a life / life-saving

> 救生的工作要特别小心。
> Jiùshēng de gōngzuò yào tèbié xiǎoxīn.
> Life-saving work requires special care.

物资 物資
wùzī goods / supplies

> 仓库里的物资快用完了。
> Cāngkù lǐ de wùzī kuài yòng wánle.
> The supplies in the warehouse are almost used up.

赈灾 賑災
zhènzāi disaster relief

摧毁 摧毀
cuīhuǐ to destroy / to wreck

> 国王摧毁了他的敌人。
> Guówáng cuīhuǐle tā de dírén.
> The king crushed his enemies.

袭击 襲擊
xíjī attack (esp. surprise attack) / raid / to attack

> 他们袭击敌人。
> Tāmen xíjī dírén.
> They attacked the enemy.

震感
zhèngǎn tremors (from an earthquake)

> 附近的城市也有震感。
> Fùjìn de chéngshì yě yǒu zhèngǎn.
> The nearby cities felt the tremors too.

地震带 地震帶
dìzhèndài seismic zone / earthquake belt

> 日本就位于地震带上。
> Rìběn jiù wèiyú dìzhèndài shàng.
> Japan lies right on a seismic belt.

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.

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.

冰雹
bīngbáo hail / hailstone

> 冰雹把车窗砸碎了。
> Bīngbáo bǎ chēchuāng zásuìle.
> The hail smashed the car windows.

Advanced (HSK 7-9), part 2

风暴 風暴
fēngbào storm / violent commotion / fig. crisis (e.g. revolution, uprising, financial crisis etc)

> 风暴减弱了。
> Fēngbào jiǎnruòle.
> The storm abated.

自救
zìjiù to get oneself out of trouble

> 被困在家里时，怎么自救?
> Bèikùn zài jiālǐ shí, zěnme zìjiù?
> How do you save yourself when you're trapped at home?

逃生
táoshēng to flee for one's life

> 他寻找一切可能的逃生途径。
> Tā xúnzhǎo yíqiè kěnéng de táoshēng tújìng.
> He looked for every possible means of escape.

演习 演習

yǎnxí (military, firefighting etc) (verb and noun) drill / exercise / maneuver

> 学校每年都有防灾演习。
> Xuéxiào měinián dōu yǒu fángzāi yǎnxí.
> The school holds a disaster prevention drill every year.

营救 營救

yíngjiù to rescue

> 船沉了，谁来营救我们?
> Chuán chénle, shéi lái yíngjiù wǒmen?
> The boat has sunk, so who will come to rescue us?

防洪

fánghóng flood control / flood prevention

浩劫

hàojié calamity / catastrophe / apocalypse

> 那场大火是全城的一场浩劫。
> Nà chǎng dàhuǒ shì quánchéng de yìcháng hàojié.
> That fire was a calamity for the whole city.

丧生 喪生

sàngshēng to die / to lose one's life

> 她儿子在车祸中丧生。
> Tā érzi zài chēhuò zhōng sàngshēng.
> Her son was killed in the accident.

涝 澇

lào flooded

> 低处的农田一下雨就涝。
> Dī chù de nóngtián yí xiàyǔ jiù lào.
> The low-lying fields flood as soon as it rains.

遇险 遇險

yùxiǎn to get into difficulties / to meet with danger

> 在山里遇险该怎么办?
> Zài shān lǐ yùxiǎn gāi zěnmebàn?
> What should you do if you get into trouble in the mountains?

溺水

nìshuǐ to drown

> 那个溺水的男人抓紧了绳子。
> Nàge nìshuǐ de nánrén zhuājǐnle shéngzi.
> The drowning man grasped at the rope.

防震

fángzhèn shockproof / to guard against earthquakes

> 住在这里，一定要做好防震。
> Zhù zài zhèlǐ, yídìng yào zuò hǎo fángzhèn.
> Living here, you must be well prepared against earthquakes.

搜救

sōujiù search and rescue

> 搜救队连夜寻找失踪的人。
> Sōujiù duì liányè xúnzhǎo shīzōng de rén.
> The search and rescue team looked for the missing people through the night.

避险 避險

bìxiǎn to flee from danger / to avoid danger / to minimize risk / hedge

> 暴雨时，居民要及时避险。
> Bàoyǔ shí, jūmín yào jíshí bìxiǎn.
> When there is heavy rain, residents need to get out of harm's way promptly.

预警系统 預警系統

yùjǐngxìtǒng early warning system

> 预警系统响了，快跑!
> Yùjǐngxìtǒng xiǎng le, kuài pǎo!
> The early warning system went off, so run!

Outside HSK

堰塞湖

yànsèhú barrier lake / landslide dam / dammed lake

雷击 雷擊

léijī lightning strike / thunderbolt

寒潮

háncháo cold wave

热浪 熱浪

rèlàng heat wave

风暴潮 風暴潮

fēngbàocháo storm surge

> 风暴潮淹没了海边的村子。
> Fēngbàocháo yānmòle hǎibiān de cūnzi.
> The storm surge flooded the village by the sea.

灭火器 滅火器

mièhuǒqì fire extinguisher

火警

huǒjǐng fire alarm

气象局 氣象局

qìxiàngjú weather bureau / meteorological office

> 气象局说明天会有大雨。
> Qìxiàngjú shuō míngtiān huì yǒu dàyǔ.
> The weather bureau says there will be heavy rain tomorrow.

次生灾害 次生災害

cìshēngzāihài secondary disaster (e.g. epidemic following floods)

> 暴雨后常有次生灾害。
> Bàoyǔ hòu cháng yǒu cìshēngzāihài.
> Secondary disasters often follow heavy rain.