CHINESE BOOST

Traditional Chinese arts Chinese vocabulary: Advanced (HSK 7-9)

50 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 28 of them with an example sentence.
Every word here links to its entry on the site.

Traditional Chinese arts Chinese vocabulary: Advanced (HSK 7-9) on the web
The same words as a CSV, for Anki or a spreadsheet
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Words

太极拳 太極拳
tàijíquán shadowboxing or Taiji, T'aichi or T'aichichuan / traditional form of physical exercise or relaxation / a martial art

> 太极拳是一种中国武术。
> Tàijíquán shì yìzhǒng Zhōngguó wǔshù.
> Tai chi is a Chinese martial art.

水墨
shuǐmò ink (used in painting)

> 我外公喜欢画水墨山水。
> Wǒ wàigōng xǐhuan huà shuǐmò Shānshuǐ.
> My grandfather likes painting ink wash landscapes.

曲艺 曲藝
qǔyì folk musical theater

> 你喜欢看曲艺节目吗?
> Nǐ xǐhuan kàn qǔyì jiémù ma?
> Do you like watching folk performance shows?

墨
mò corrupt / greedy / ink stick / corporal punishment consisting of tattooing characters on the victim's forehead / China ink / surname Mo

> 这支笔没墨了。
> Zhè zhī bǐ méi mò le.
> This pen has run dry.

意境
yìjìng artistic mood or conception / creative concept

砚 硯
yàn ink-stone

笔墨 筆墨
bǐmò pen and ink / words / writing

> 她的魅力难以用笔墨形容。
> Tā de mèilì nányǐ yòng bǐmò xíngróng.
> Her charm is beyond description.

楷书 楷書
kǎishū regular script (Chinese calligraphic style)

行书 行書
xíngshū running script / semicursive script (Chinese calligraphic style)

草书 草書
cǎoshū grass script / cursive script (Chinese calligraphic style)

> 草书的线条很流畅，但是很难认。
> Cǎoshū de xiàntiáo hěn liúchàng, dànshì hěn nán rèn.
> The lines of cursive script are very flowing, but it's hard to read.

篆书 篆書
zhuànshū seal script (Chinese calligraphic style)

隶书 隸書
lìshū clerical script / official script (Chinese calligraphic style)

山水画 山水畫
shānshuǐhuà landscape painting

> 山水画里的云和山都很美。
> Shānshuǐhuà lǐ de yún hé shān dōu hěn měi.
> The clouds and mountains in the landscape painting are both beautiful.

水墨画 水墨畫
shuǐmòhuà ink and wash painting

> 水墨画为什么要留白?
> Shuǐmòhuà wèishénme yào liúbái?
> Why does ink painting leave blank space?

工笔 工筆
gōngbǐ gongbi, traditional Chinese painting method characterized by meticulous brush technique and detailed description

写意 寫意
xiěyì to suggest (rather than depict in detail) / freehand style of Chinese painting, characterized by bold strokes rather than accurate details
xièyì comfortable / enjoyable / relaxed

留白
liúbái to leave a message / to leave some empty space in a work of art / to leave idle moments (in one's life, a theater play etc)

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印章
yìnzhāng seal / signet / chop / stamp

> 请在合同上盖你的印章。
> Qǐng zài hétong shàng gài nǐ de yìnzhāng.
> Please put your seal on the contract.

字画 字畫
zìhuà the strokes of a character / calligraphy and painting

> 你会欣赏字画吗?
> Nǐ huì xīnshǎng zìhuà ma?
> Do you know how to appreciate calligraphy and paintings?

临摹 臨摹
línmó to copy (a model of calligraphy or painting etc)

真迹 真跡
zhēnjì authentic (painting or calligraphy) / genuine work (of famous artist)

题字 題字
tízì to write an inscription (poem, remark, autograph etc) / an inscription

> 画好以后，他在右上角题字。
> Huà hǎo yǐhòu, tā zài yòu shàng jiǎo tízì.
> After finishing the painting, he wrote an inscription in the upper right corner.

卷轴 卷軸
juànzhóu scroll (book or painting)

宣纸 宣紙
xuānzhǐ fine writing paper, originally from Jing county 涇縣|泾县, Xuancheng 宣城, Anhui

年画 年畫
niánhuà New Year (Spring Festival) picture

> 奶奶在门上贴了一张年画。
> Nǎinai zài ménshàng tiēle yì zhāng niánhuà.
> Grandma put a New Year picture up on the door.

变脸 變臉
biànliǎn to turn hostile suddenly / face changing, a device of Sichuan Opera, a dramatic change of attitude expressing fright, anger etc

脸谱 臉譜
liǎnpǔ types of facial makeup in operas / Facebook

> 演员正在后台画脸谱。
> Yǎnyuán zhèngzài hòutái huà liǎnpǔ.
> The actor is painting his opera face makeup backstage.

唱腔
chàngqiāng vocal music (in opera) / aria

> 京剧的唱腔我听不太懂。
> Jīngjù de chàngqiāng wǒ tīng bú tài dǒng.
> I can't quite understand the singing style of Peking opera.

行当 行當
hángdang profession / role (acting)

> 她唱的是哪个行当?
> Tā chàng de shì nǎge hángdang?
> Which role type does she play?

花旦
huādàn role of vivacious young female in Chinese opera

武生
wǔshēng male military role in a Chinese opera

票友
piàoyǒu an amateur actor (e.g. in Chinese opera)

二胡
èrhú erhu (Chinese 2-string fiddle) / alto fiddle

古筝 古箏
gǔzhēng guzheng (large zither with 13 to 25 strings, developed from the guqin 古琴[gu3 qin2] during Tang and Song times)

琵琶
pípa pipa, Chinese lute, with 4 strings, a large pear-shaped body and a fretted fingerboard

笛子
dízi bamboo flute

> 你想学笛子还是学钢琴?
> Nǐ xiǎng xué dízi háishi xué gāngqín?
> Do you want to learn the flute or the piano?

琴棋书画 琴棋書畫
qínqíshūhuà the four arts of the Chinese scholar (guqin, Go, calligraphy and painting) / (by extension) the accomplishments of a well-educated person

> 你会琴棋书画中的哪一样?
> Nǐ huì qínqíshūhuà zhōng de nǎ yíyàng?
> Which of the four classical arts can you do?

莲花 蓮花
liánhuā lotus flower (Nelumbo nucifera Gaertn, among others) / water-lily

含蓄
hánxù to contain / to hold / reserved / restrained / full of hidden meaning / implicit / veiled (criticism)

> 她说话很含蓄。
> Tā shuōhuà hěn hánxù.
> She is very reserved in how she speaks.

典雅
diǎnyǎ refined / elegant

古朴 古樸
gǔpǔ simple and unadorned (of art, architecture etc)

> 古朴的小村子里很安静。
> Gǔpiáo de xiǎo cūnzi lǐ hěn ānjìng.
> It is very quiet in the plain, old-fashioned little village.

精湛
jīngzhàn consummate / exquisite

> 这件玉雕的工艺非常精湛。
> Zhè jiàn Yùdiāo de gōngyì fēicháng jīngzhàn.
> The craftsmanship of this jade carving is exquisite.

陶瓷
táocí pottery and porcelain / ceramics

> 这家店卖的陶瓷很漂亮。
> Zhè jiā diàn mài de táocí hěn piàoliang.
> The pottery and porcelain sold in this shop is very beautiful.

刺绣 刺繡
cìxiù to embroider / embroidery

> 她正坐在窗边刺绣。
> Tā zhèngzuò zài chuāng biān cìxiù.
> She is sitting by the window embroidering.

丝绸 絲綢
sīchóu silk (cloth)

> 丝绸摸起来又软又滑。
> Sīchóu mō qǐlai yòu ruǎn yòu huá.
> Silk feels soft and smooth to the touch.

雕刻
diāokè to carve / to engrave / carving

> 能在杯子上雕刻几个字吗?
> Néng zài bēizi shàng diāokè jǐ ge zì ma?
> Can you engrave a few words on this cup?

风筝 風箏
fēngzheng kite (lit. "wind zither", traditionally explained as being named after kites fitted with bamboo whistles that produced musical sounds when flown)

> 他擅长放风筝。
> Tā shàncháng fàng fēngzheng.
> He's good at flying kites.

中国结 中國結
zhōngguójié traditional Chinese decorative knot

工匠
gōngjiàng artisan / smith

> 好的工匠为自己的作品感到骄傲。
> Hǎo de gōngjiàng wèi zìjǐ de zuòpǐn gǎndào jiāo'ào.
> A good craftsman takes pride in his work.

秧歌
yāngge Yangge, a popular rural folk dance

> 你看过北方的秧歌表演吗?
> Nǐ kànguo běifāng de yāngge biǎoyǎn ma?
> Have you ever seen a yangge performance in the north?