

A1 Chinese vocabulary

492 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 389 of them with an example sentence. Every word here links to its entry on the site.

A B C D E F G H J K L M N P Q R S T W X Y Z

A1 Chinese vocabulary 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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A

爱 愛

ài to love / to be fond of / to like / affection / to be inclined (to do sth) / to tend to (happen)

人要爱他人。
Rén yào ài tā rén.
People must love one another.

爱好 愛好

àihào to like / to be fond of / to take pleasure in / to be keen on / interest / hobby

B

八

bā eight

他比你大八岁。
Tā bǐ nǐ dà bā suì.
He is older than you by eight years.

爸

bà father / dad / pa / papa

爸爸

bàba father / dad

你爸爸在哪？
Nǐ bàba zài nǎ?
Where is your dad?

吧

ba (modal particle indicating suggestion or surmise) / ...right? / ...OK? / ...I presume.

bā bar (loanword) (serving drinks, or providing Internet access etc) / to puff (on a pipe etc) / bang

biā smack!

不对吧？
Bú duì ba?
That's not right, is it?

白

bái white / in vain / free of charge / (of facts, the truth, a situation) clear / evident (e.g. 真相大白[zhen1 xiang4 da4 bai2]) / plain / without additions (e.g. 白飯|白饭[bai2 fan4]) / to explain / to state (e.g. 辯白|辯白[bian4 bai2]) / to give a disdainful look (e.g. 白了他一眼[bai2 le5 ta1 yi1 yan3]) / vernacular (e.g. 白話|白话[bai2 hua4]) / spoken lines in opera (e.g. 念白[nian4 bai2]) / reactionary / anti-communist (e.g. 白區|白区[bai2 qu1]) / surname Bai / Bai ethnic group

他没有白死。
Tā méiyǒu bái sǐ.
He didn't die in vain.

白天

báitiān daytime / during the day / day

百

bǎi hundred / numerous / all kinds of / surname Bai

她有几百本书。
Tā yǒu jǐ bǎi běn shū.
She has hundreds of books.

班

bān team / class / grade / squad / work shift / classifier for groups of people and scheduled transport vehicles / surname Ban

你班里有多少人？
Nǐ bān lǐ yǒu duōshǎo rén?
How many are there in your class?

半

bàn half / semi- / incomplete / and a half

现在十点半。
Xiànzài shí diǎn bàn.
It's now half past ten.

半年

bànnián half a year

半天

bàntiān half of the day / a long time / quite a while / midair

他们看了那部电影半天了。
Tāmen kànle nà bù diànyǐng bàntiān le.
They've been watching that film for ages.

帮 幫

bāng to help / to assist / to support / for sb (i.e. as a help) / hired (as worker) / side (of pail, boat etc) / outer layer / upper (of a shoe) / group / gang / clique / party / secret society

我帮你吧。
Wǒ bāng nǐ ba.
Let me help you.

帮忙 幫忙

bāngmáng to help / to lend a hand / to do a favor / to do a good turn

我写信请你帮忙。
Wǒ xiěxìn qǐng nǐ bāngmáng.
I'm writing to ask you a favor.

包

bāo to cover / to wrap / to hold / to include / to take charge of / to contract (to or for) / package / wrapper / container / bag / to hold or embrace / bundle / packet / surname Bao

你的包开着。
Nǐ de bāo kāizhe.
Your bag's open.

包子

bāozi baozi / bao (steamed stuffed bun)

杯

bēi cup / trophy cup / classifier for certain containers of liquids: glass, cup / trophy cup / classifier for certain containers of liquids: glass, cup

他喝了三杯水。
Tā hēle sān bēi shuǐ.
He drank three glasses of water.

杯子

bēizi cup / glass

他们碰了碰杯子。
Tāmen pèngle pèng bēizi.
They clinked their glasses together.

北

běi north / to be defeated

北边 北邊

běibiān north / north side / northern part / to the north of

北京

běijīng Beijing municipality, capital of the People's Republic of China (short name 京[Jīng])

她要去北京。
Tā yào qù Běijīng.
She's going to go to Beijing.

本

běn root / stem / origin / source / original / inherent / originally / initially / one's own / this / this / the current (year etc) / capital / principal / classifier for books, periodicals, files etc

你有两本书。
Nǐ yǒu liǎng běn shū.
You have two books.

本子

běnzǐ book / notebook / Japanese-style self-published comic (esp. an erotic one), aka "dōjinshi" / edition

比

bǐ to compare / (followed by a noun and adjective) more {adj.} than {noun} / to gesture / ratio

bǐ euphemistic variant of 屌[bǐ]

你不比我重。
Nǐ bù bǐ wǒ zhòng.
You don't weigh more than me.

别

bié to leave / to part (from) / to differentiate / to distinguish / to turn away / to turn aside / to avert (one's face, gaze etc) / other / another / different / don't ...! / to fasten with a pin or clip / to stick in / to insert (in order to hinder movement) / category (as in 性别|性别[xíng4 bié2], 派别|派别[pai4 bié2]) / surname Bie

biè to make sb change their ways, opinions etc

别再打我了!
Bié zài dǎ wǒ le!
Stop hitting me!

别的 別的

biéde else / other

我想吃别的。
Wǒ xiǎng chī biéde.
I want to eat something else.

别人 別人

biéren other people / others / other person

他喜欢找别人的错。
Tā xǐhuan zhǎo biéren de cuò.
He likes finding faults in others.

病

bìng illness / disease / to fall ill / defect

他昨天病了。
Tā zuótiān bìng le.
He was ill yesterday.

病人

bìngrén sick person / patient / invalid

医生检查了病人。
Yīshēng jiǎnchá le bìngrén.
The doctor examined the patients.

不

bù no / not so / not / un-

不对吧?
Bú duì ba?
That's not right, is it?

不大

bùdà not very (clear, far away etc) / not too / not often / infrequently

不对 不對

bùduì incorrect / wrong / amiss / abnormal / queer

不客气 不客氣

bùkèqi you're welcome / don't mention it / impolite / rude / blunt

不用

bùyòng need not

你不用帮我。

Nǐ **bùyòng** **bāng** wǒ.

You don't have to help me.

C

菜

cài vegetable / greens (CL:棵[kē]) / dish (of food) (CL:樣|样[yáng4],道[dao4],盤|盘[pán2]) / weak / poor / (one's) type

是日本菜吗?

Shì **Rìběn cài** ma?

Is it Japanese food?

茶

chá tea / tea plant

能来点茶吗?

Néng lái diǎn **chá** ma?

Could you get me some tea?

差

chà different / wrong / mistaken / to fall short / to lack / not up to standard / inferior

chā difference / discrepancy / difference (amount remaining after a subtraction) / a little / somewhat / slightly

chāi to send (on an errand) / person sent on such an errand / job / official post

他们差六岁。

Tāmen **chà** liù suì.

The difference in their ages is six years.

常

cháng always / ever / often / frequently / common / general / constant / surname Chang

我们不常做。

Wǒmen **bù cháng** zuò.

We don't do it very often.

常常

chángcháng frequently / often

他常常上电视。

Tā **chángcháng** shàng diànshì.

He often appears on TV.

唱

chàng to sing / to call loudly / to chant

我想唱个歌。

Wǒ xiǎng **chàng** gè gē.

I want to sing a song.

唱歌

chànggē to sing a song

车 車

chē car / vehicle / machine / to shape with a lathe / Kangxi radical 159 / surname Che

jū war chariot (archaic) / rook (in Chinese chess) / rook (in chess)

我没有车。

Wǒ méiyǒu **chē**.

I don't have a car.

车票 車票

chēpiào ticket (for a bus or train)

车站 車站

chēzhàn rail station / bus stop

我昨天在车站遇见了一个帅哥。

Wǒ zuótiān zài **chēzhàn** yùjiànle yí gè shuàigē.

I met a handsome guy at the bus stop yesterday.

吃

chī to eat / to consume / to eat at (a cafeteria etc) / to absorb / to eradicate / to destroy / to suffer (shock, injury, defeat etc)

我吃了。

Wǒ **chī**le.

I've eaten. / I ate.

吃饭 吃飯

chīfàn to have a meal / to eat / to make a living

吃饭了吗?

Chīfànle ma?

Have you eaten?

出

chū to go out / to come out / to arise / to occur / to produce / to yield / to go beyond / to exceed / (used after a verb to indicate an outward direction or a positive result) / classifier for dramas, plays, operas etc

我的车出了点事。

Wǒ de **chē** **chū**le diǎn shì.

Something has happened to my car.

出来 出來

chūlái to come out / to appear / to arise

chulai (after a verb, indicates coming out, completion of an action, or ability to discern or detect)

她从车里出来了。

Tā cóng **chē** lǐ **chū**láile.

She got out of the car.

出去

chūqù to go out

你想出去吗?

Nǐ xiǎng **chūqù** ma?

Do you want to go out?

穿

chuān to bore through / to pierce / to perforate / to go through (e.g. a tunnel) / to cross (e.g. a street) / to thread / to string together / to wear / to put on (clothes, shoes etc.) / verb complement indicating thoroughness or completion

你穿点东西。

Nǐ **chuān** diǎn dōngxi.

Get dressed.

床

chuáng bed / couch (furniture that one can lie down on) (CL:張|张[zhang1]) / bed / bottom (of rivers, oceans, gardens etc) / frame / chassis / classifier for blankets, quilts etc

我明天就能下床了。

Wǒ míngtiān jiù néng xià **chuáng** le.

I'll be on my feet tomorrow.

次

cì next in sequence / second / the second (day, time etc) / secondary / vice- / sub- / infra- / inferior quality / substandard / order / sequence / hypo- (chemistry) / classifier for enumerated events: time

你看这看了多少次?

Nǐ kàn zhè kànle duōshǎo cì?

How many times have you seen this?

从 從

cóng from / through / via / to follow / to obey / to engage in (an activity) / ever / (Taiwan pr. [zong4]) retainer / attendant / (Taiwan pr. [zong4]) assistant / auxiliary / subordinate / (Taiwan pr. [zong4]) related by common paternal grandfather or earlier ancestor

他从杭州来。

Tā cóng Hángzhōu lái.

He comes from Hangzhou.

错 錯

cuò mistake / wrong / bad / interlocking / complex / to grind / to polish / to alternate / to stagger / to miss / to let slip / to evade / to inlay with gold or silver / surname Cuo

我想错了。

Wǒ xiǎng cuòle.

I was mistaken. → What I thought was wrong.

D

打

dǎ a semantically light, transitive verb that is combined with various grammatical objects to form compound verbs and verb-object phrases with a diverse range of meanings (e.g. 打伞|打伞[da3 san3] "to hold an umbrella", 打电话|打电话[da3 dian4 hua4] "to make a phone call", 打针|打针[da3 zhen1] "to get an injection", 打手套[da3 shou3 tao4] "to knit gloves", 打气|打气[da3 qi4] "to inflate") / to hit / to strike / to fight / from / since (as in 打那以後|打那以后[da3 na4 yi3 hou4] "since then")

dá dozen

他们打了我。

Tāmen dǎle wǒ.

They beat me.

打车 打車

dǎchē to take a taxi (in town) / to hitch a lift

打电话 打電話

dǎdiànhuà to make a telephone call

我一到上海就打电话给你。

Wǒ yí dào Shànghǎi jiù dǎdiànhuà gěi nǐ.

I'll phone you as soon as I arrive in Shanghai.

打开 打開

dǎkāi to open / to show (a ticket) / to turn on / to switch on

你用什么打开的?

Nǐ yòng shénme dǎkāi de?

What did you open it with?

打球

dǎqiú to play ball / to play with a ball

大

dà big / large / great / greatly / freely / fully / older (than another person) / eldest (as in 大姐[da4 jie3]) / father / uncle (father's brother)

他们非常大。

Tāmen fēicháng dà.

They are very big.

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.

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?

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

我到过印度。

Wǒ dào guo Yìndù.

I have been to India.

得到

dé dào to get / to obtain / to receive

我们做得到吗?

Wǒmen zuó dé dào ma?

Can we make it?

地

de -ly / structural particle: used before a verb or adjective, linking it to preceding modifying adverbial adjunct

dì earth / ground / field / place / land

我们在高兴地玩。

Wǒmen zài gāoxìng de wán.

We're having fun.

的

de marks possession and modification

dì target

dí really

dī taxi

这是你的。

Zhè shì nǐ de.

This is yours.

等

děng to wait for / to await / by the time / when / till / and so on / etc. / et al. / (used to end an enumeration) / (plural suffix attached to a personal pronoun or noun) / class / rank / grade / equal to / same as

在门后等着。

Zài mén hòu děng zhe.

Wait behind the door.

弟

dì younger brother / junior male / I (modest word in letter)

我弟是医生。

Wǒ dì shì yīshēng.

My brother is a doctor.

第

dì (prefix indicating ordinal number, as in 第六[di4 liu4] "sixth") / grades in which successful candidates in the imperial examinations were placed / residence of a high official / but / however / only / just

他是第一个来的。

Tā shì dì yī gè lái de.

He was the first to come.

弟弟

dìdì younger brother

地点 地點

dìdiǎn place / site / location / venue

地方

dìfāng region / regional (away from the central administration) / local

dìfāng place / location / area / space / territory / aspect / part

我在找地方坐。

Wǒ zài zhǎo dìfāng zuò.

I'm looking for a place to sit.

地上

dìshang on the ground / on the floor

他坐在地上。

Tā zuò zài dìshang.

He was sitting on the floor.

地图 地圖

dìtú map

你有地图吗？

Nǐ yǒu dìtú ma?

Do you have a map?

点 點

diǎn point / dot / spot / speck / dot stroke in Chinese characters / decimal point / point in time or space / o'clock / to touch briefly / to tap / to mark with a dot / to check off (on a list) / to nod (one's head) in agreement / to beckon by moving (one's hand) up and down / to order (food etc) / to select / to mention / to bring up (a topic or person) / to hint at / to imply / to administer (eye medicine etc) in drops / to light (a fire, a lamp etc) / to ignite / a small amount / a bit / (after a verb or adjective) a bit more / classifier for small amounts

他说九点了。

Tā shuō jiǔ diǎn le.

He said that it was nine o'clock.

电 電

diàn lightning / electricity / electric (bound form) / to get (or give) an electric shock / phone call or telegram etc / to send via telephone or telegram etc

我们没有电。

Wǒmen méiyǒu diàn.

We have no electricity.

电话 電話

diànhuà telephone / phone call / phone number

有你的电话。

Yǒu nǐ de diànhuà.

You are wanted on the phone.

电脑 電腦

diànnǎo computer

电脑好用吗？

Diànnǎo hǎo yòng ma?

Is the PC good?

电视 電視

diànshì television / TV

他在看电视。

Tā zài kàn diànshì.

He is watching TV.

电视机 電視機

diànshìjī television set

电影 電影

diànyǐng movie / film

我去看电影。

Wǒ qù kàn diànyǐng.

I'm going to the cinema.

电影院 電影院

diànyǐngyuàn cinema / movie theater

东 東

dōng east / host (i.e. sitting on east side of guest) / landlord / surname Dong

东尼，说话。

Dōng ní, shuō huà.

Ton, speak.

东边 東邊

dōngbian east / east side / eastern part / to the east of

东西 東西

dōngxi thing / stuff / person

dōngxī east and west

你穿点东西。

Nǐ chuān diǎn dōngxi.

Get dressed.

动 動

dòng to move / to set in movement / to displace / to touch / to make use of / to stir (emotions) / to alter

什么都没动。

Shénme dōu méi dòng.

Nothing moved.

动作 動作

dòngzuò movement / motion / action / to act / to move

这么难的动作，小孩子学不会。

Zhè me nán de dòngzuò, xiǎoháizi xué bú huì.

Children can't learn movements this difficult.

都

dōu all

dū capital city

什么都没动。

Shénme dōu méi dòng.

Nothing moved.

读 讀

dú to read out / to read aloud / to read / to attend (school) / to study (a subject in school) / to pronounce

dòu comma / phrase marked by pause

他读很多书。

Tā dú hěnn duō shū.

He reads a great deal.

读书 讀書

dúshū to read a book / to study / to attend school

他们在读书。

Tāmen zài dúshū.

They are reading books.

对 對

duì right / correct / towards / at / for / concerning / regarding / to treat (sb a certain way) / to face / 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)

不对吧？

Bú duì ba?

That's not right, is it?

对不起 對不起

duìbuqǐ I'm sorry / excuse me / I beg your pardon / to let (sb) down / to disappoint

对不起，我来晚了。

Duìbùqǐ, wǒ lái wǎn le.

Sorry I'm late.

多

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

你想多了！

Nǐ xiǎng duō le!

You thought too much! → You over-thought things, or presumed too much.

多少

duōshǎo number / amount / somewhat

duōshao how much? / how many? / (phone number, student ID etc) what number?

你有多少钱？

Nǐ yǒu duōshǎo qián?

How much money do you have?

E

饿 餓

è hungry / to starve (sb)

你饿吗？

Nǐ è ma?

Are you hungry?

儿子 兒子

érzi son

他是我儿子。

Tā shì wǒ érzi.

He's my son.

二

èr two / 2 / stupid

一，二，三！

Yī, èr, sān!

One, two, three!

F

饭 飯

fàn cooked rice / meal / fan / devotee

我吃好饭了。

Wǒ chī hǎo fàn le.

I've finished eating.

饭店 飯店

fàndiàn restaurant / hotel

房间 房間

fángjiān room

你有房间吗？

Nǐ yǒu fángjiān ma?

Do you have a room?

房子

fángzi house / building (single- or two-story) / apartment / room

看那个房子。

Kàn nàge fángzi.

Look at that house.

放

fàng to put / to place / to release / to free / to let go / to let out / to set off (fireworks)

放在桌子上。

Fàng zài zhuōzi shàng.

Put it on the table.

放假

fàngjià to have a holiday or vacation

学校今年早点放假。

Xuéxiào jīnnián zǎodiǎn fàngjià.

School finishes earlier this year.

放学 放學

fàngxué to dismiss students at the end of the school day

他一放学就回宿舍了。

Tā yí fàngxué jiù huí sùshè le.

He went back to the dorm as soon as he finished class.

飞 飛

fēi to fly

他飞到南方。

Tā fēi dào nánfāng.

He took off to the south.

非常

fēicháng very / really / unusual / extraordinary

今天非常热。

Jīntiān fēicháng rè.

It's awfully hot today.

飞机 飛機

fēijī airplane

那是飞机。

Nà shì fēijī.

That's a plane.

分

fēn to divide / to separate / to distribute / to allocate / to distinguish (good and bad) / branch of (an organization) / sub- (as in 分局[fēn1 ju2]) / fraction / one tenth (of certain units) / unit of length equivalent to 0.33 cm / minute (unit of time) / minute (angular measurement unit) / a point (in sports or games) / 0.01 yuan (unit of money)

fèn part / share / ingredient / component

现在7点30分了。

Xiànzài qī diǎn sānshí fēn le.

Right now it's 7:30.

风 風

fēng wind / news / style / custom / manner

明天会有风。

Míngtiān huì yǒu fēng.

It'll be windy tomorrow.

G

干净 乾淨

gānjìng clean / neat

干

gàn tree trunk / main part of sth / to manage / to work / to do / capable / cadre / to kill (slang) / to fuck (vulgar) / pissed off / annoyed

gān dry / dried food / empty / hollow / taken in to nominal kinship / adoptive / foster / futile / in vain / rude / blunt / to cold-shoulder / to have to do with / to concern oneself with / one of the ten heavenly stems 天干[tian1 gan1] / shield

不干我的事!

Bú gàn wǒ de shì!

Don't bother me.

干什么 幹什麼

gànshénme what are you doing? / what's he up to?

高

gāo high / tall / above average / loud / your (honorific) / surname Gao

她很高。

Tā hěn gāo.

She is tall.

高兴 高興

gāoxìng happy / glad / willing (to do sth) / in a cheerful mood

你高兴了吗?

Nǐ gāoxìng le ma?

Are you happy now?

告诉 告訴

gàosu to tell / to inform / to let know

gàosù to press charges / to file a complaint

他都告诉我了。

Tā dōu gàosu wǒ le.

He told me everything.

哥

gē elder brother

我哥是医生。

Wǒ gē shì yīshēng.

My brother is a doctor.

歌

gē song (CL: 首[shou3], 支[zhī]) / to sing

我想唱首歌。

Wǒ xiǎng chàng gē gē.

I want to sing a song.

哥哥

gēge older brother

你哥哥是谁?

Nǐ gēge shì shéi?

Who is your brother?

个 個

gè (classifier used before a noun that has no specific classifier) / individual

他是个好人。

Tā shì gè hǎo rén.

He's a good person.

给 給

gěi to give / for

下一个给你。

Xià yí gè gěi nǐ.

The next one's for you.

跟

gēn with / compared with / to / towards / and (joining two nouns) / heel / to follow closely / to go with / to marry sb

他会跟我来。

Tā huì gēn wǒ lái.

He'll come with me.

工人

gōngrén worker

你真是个努力的工人。

Nǐ zhēnshì gè nǔlì de gōngrén.

You're really a hard worker.

工作

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

她去工作。

Tā qù gōngzuò.

She goes to work.

关 關

guān mountain pass / to close / to shut / to turn off / to confine / to lock (sb) up / to shut (sb in a room, a bird in a cage etc) / to concern / to involve / surname Guan

不关你的事。

Bù guān nǐ de shì.

It has nothing to do with you.

关上 關上

guānshàng to close (a door) / to turn off (light, electrical equipment etc)

贵 貴

guì expensive / highly valued / precious / noble / of high rank / (honorific) your / short name for Guizhou 貴州|贵州[Gui4 zhou1]

最贵的车多少钱？

Zuì guì de chē duōshǎo qián?

How much is the most expensive car?

国 國

guó country / nation / state / national / surname Guo

我是个国中生。

Wǒ shì gè guó zhōng shēng.

I'm a junior high school student.

国家 國家

guójiā country / nation / state

你是哪国家？

Nǐ shì nǎ guójiā?

Where do you come from?

国外 國外

guówài abroad / external (affairs) / overseas / foreign

他现在住在国外。

Tā xiànzài zhù zài guówài.

He's living abroad at the moment.

过 過

guo (experienced action marker)

guò to cross / to go over / to pass (time) / to celebrate (a holiday) / to live / to get along / excessively / too-

我试过。

Wǒ shìguo.

I've tried that.

H

还 還

hái still / also

huán to give back

他还在这儿。

Tā hái zài zhèr.

He is still here.

还是 還是

hái shì still (as before) / had better / unexpectedly / or

你去还是不去？

Nǐ qù hái shì bú qù?

Are you going or not?

还有 還有

háiyǒu there still remain(s) / there is (or are) still / in addition

还有别的吗？

Háiyǒu biéde ma?

Anything else?

孩子

háizi child

他们是孩子。

Tāmen shì háizi.

They're kids.

汉语 漢語

hànyǔ Chinese language

他学汉语。

Tā xué Hànyǔ.

He is learning Chinese.

汉字 漢字

hànzì Chinese character(s)

好

hǎo good / very

hào to be fond of

他是好人。

Tā shì hǎo rén.

He's a good person.

好吃

hǎochī tasty / delicious

hàochī to be fond of eating / to be gluttonous

这个真好吃。

Zhège zhēn hǎochī.

This is really delicious.

好看

hǎokàn good-looking / nice-looking / (of a movie, book, TV show etc) good / in an embarrassing situation

这是我看过最好看的书。

Zhè shì wǒ kànguo zuì hǎokàn de shū.

This is the best book I've ever read.

好听 好聽

hǎotīng pleasant to hear

号 號

hào to call out / to command / bugle / trumpet / signal / bugle call (e.g. 起床號|起床号[qi3 chuang2 hao4]) / mark / sign / to mark / to label / to assign a number / name / appellation (e.g. 國號|国号[guo2 hao4], 年號|年号[nian2 hao4], 遼寧號|辽宁号[Liao2 ning2 Hao4]) / number designation (e.g. 237號房間|237号房间[er4 san1 qil hao4 fang2 jian1] "Room 237") / day of the month (e.g. 七號|七号[qil hao4] "the 7th") / size / type / category (e.g. 五號電池|五号电池[wu3 hao4 dian4 chi2]) / to feel (the pulse) (used in 號脈|号脉[hao4 mai4]) / classifier for numbered people or items

háo to wail / to howl

她二十五号去。

Tā èr shíwǔ hào qù.

She is going on the 25th.

喝

hē to drink

hè to shout

他要了水喝。

Tā yào le shuǐ hē.

He asked for a drink of water.

和

hé and / together with / with / sum / to make peace / harmonious / to draw / to tie / Japan / Japanese

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

我和他认识。

Wǒ hé tā rènshi.

I am acquainted with him.

很

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

她很高。

Tā hěn gāo.

She is tall.

后

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

他站在门后。

Tā zhàn zài mén hòu.

He was standing behind the door.

后边 後邊

hòubian the back / the rear / the last bit / behind / near the end / at the back / later / afterwards

后天 後天

hòutiān the day after tomorrow / life after birth (the period in which one develops through experiences, contrasted with 先天[xiān1 tiān1]) / acquired (not innate or congenital) / a posteriori

花

huā flower / blossom / fancy pattern / florid / to spend (money, time) / lecherous / lustful / surname Hua

要花很多钱。

Yào huā hěn duō qián.

This is going to be very expensive.

话 話

huà dialect / language / spoken words / speech / talk / words / conversation / what sb said

这不是一句话。

Zhè bú shì yí jù huà.

This is not a sentence.

坏 壞

huài bad / spoiled / broken / to break down / to the utmost

有好就有坏。

Yǒu hǎo jiù yǒu huài.

Where there's good, there's also bad.

回

huí to go back / to return / to turn back / to turn around / to reply / to answer / classifier for literary divisions (acts of a play, sections or chapters of a classic book) / classifier for occurrences or times / to curve / to return / to revolve / Hui ethnic group (Chinese Muslims)

他去去就回。

Tā qù qù jiù huí.

He will be back soon.

回答

huídá to reply / to answer / reply / answer

她没有回答。

Tā méiyǒu huídá.

She didn't answer.

回到

huídào to return to

她回到了日本。

Tā huídào le Rìběn.

She returned to Japan.

回家

huíjiā to return home

他很晚回家。

Tā hěn wǎn huíjiā.

He came home very late.

回来 回來

huílai to return / to come back

他会回来的。

Tā huì huílai de.

He will come back.

回去

huíqu to return / to go back

你几点回去？

Nǐ jǐdiǎn huíqu?

What time are you going back?

会 會

huì to be likely to / to know how to / meeting

kuài accountancy

你会中文。

Nǐ huì Zhōngwén.

You speak Chinese.

火车 火車

huǒchē train

火车还没走呢。

Huǒchē hái méi zǒu ne.

The train hasn't left yet.

J

机场 機場

jīchǎng airport / airfield / service provider for Shadowsocks or similar software for circumventing Internet censorship

到机场有多远?

Dào jīchǎng yǒu duō yuǎn?

How far is it to the airport?

鸡蛋 雞蛋

jīdàn egg / hen's egg

机票 機票

jīpiào plane ticket / airline ticket

太晚了，机票都买不到了。

Tài wǎn le, jīpiào dōu mǎi bú dào le.

It's too late - we won't be able to buy plane tickets now.

几

jǐ how many / how much / several / a few

jǐ small table / almost

你去了几回?

Nǐ qù le jǐ huí?

How many trips did you make?

记 記

jì to record / to note / to memorize / to remember / mark / sign / classifier for blows, kicks, shots

我记不得最后看的什么。

Wǒ jì bù dé zuì hòu kàn de shén me.

I don't remember what I was watching in the end.

记得 記得

jì de to remember

我不记得了。

Wǒ bú jì de le.

I don't remember.

记住 記住

jì zhu to remember / to bear in mind / to learn by heart

家

jiā home / family / my (sister, uncle etc) / classifier for families or businesses / refers to the philosophical schools of pre-Han China / noun suffix for a specialist in some activity, such as a musician or revolutionary, corresponding to English -ist, -er, -ary or -ian

我有一个家。

Wǒ yǒu yí gè jiā.

I have a home.

家里 家裡

jiālǐ home

你在家吗?

Nǐ zài jiālǐ ma?

Are you at home?

家人

jiārén family member / servant

间 間

jiān between / among / within a definite time or space / room / section of a room or lateral space between two pairs of pillars / classifier for rooms

jiàn gap / to separate / to thin out (seedlings) / to sow discontent

不知道是那间?

Bù zhī dào shì nà jiān?

Don't you know what that is?

见 見

jiàn to see / to meet / to appear (to be sth) / to interview / opinion / view

xiàn to appear

你见过他吗?

Nǐ jiàn guo tā ma?

Have you seen him before?

见面 見面

jiàn miàn to meet / to see each other

你们经常见面吗?

Nǐ men jīng cháng jiàn miàn ma?

Do you often see each other?

教

jiāo to teach

jiào teaching / religion

老师教我的。

Lǎo shī jiāo wǒ de.

The teacher taught me that.

叫

jiào to shout / to call / to order / to ask / to be called / by (indicates agent in the passive mood)

你去叫他来。

Nǐ qù jiào tā lái.

Tell him to come.

教学楼 教學樓

jiào xué lóu school building / academic building

姐

jiě older sister

姐姐

jiě jie older sister

你的姐姐呢?

Nǐ de jiě jie ne?

Where did your sister just go?

介绍 介紹

jiè shào to introduce (sb to sb) / to give a presentation / to present (sb for a job etc) / introduction

我介绍一下。

Wǒ jiè shào yí xià.

Let me introduce it.

今年

jīn nián this year

今年是哪一年?

Jīn nián shì nǎ yì nián?

What year is it?

今天

jīntiān today / the present time / now

今天放晴了。

Jīntiān fàngqíng le.

The weather cleared up today.

进 進

jìn to go forward / to advance / to go in / to enter / to put in / to submit / to take in / to admit / base of a number system / classifier for sections in a building or residential compound

他要上进了。

Tā yào shàng jìn le.

He is going to make progress.

进来 進來

jìnlái to come in

请进来。

Qǐng jìnlái.

Please come in.

进去 進去

jìnqù to go in

我看见她进去了。

Wǒ kànjiàn tā jìnqù le.

I saw her go inside.

九

jiǔ nine / 9

他说九点了。

Tā shuō jiǔ diǎn le.

He said that it was nine o'clock.

就

jiù (after a suppositional clause) in that case / then / as soon as / immediately after / (pattern: 不[bu4] ... 就[jiu4] ...) if not ... then must be ... / merely / nothing else but / simply / just / precisely / exactly / only / as little as / as much as / as many as / to approach / to move towards / to reach / to attain (as in 蹴而就[yi1 cu4 er2 jiu4]) / to undertake / to engage in / (often followed by 著[zhe5]) taking advantage of / to go with / with regard to / concerning / (pattern: 就[jiu4] ... 也[ye3] ...) even if ... still ...

他去去就回。

Tā qù qù jiù huí.

He will be back soon.

觉得 覺得

juéde to think that ... / to feel that ... / to feel (uncomfortable etc)

你觉得累吗？

Nǐ juéde lèi ma?

Are you tired?

K

开 開

kāi to open (transitive or intransitive) / (of ships, vehicles, troops etc) to start / to turn on / to put in operation / to operate / to run / to boil / to write out (a prescription, check, invoice etc) / away / off / carat (gold)

你的包开着。

Nǐ de bāo kāizhe.

Your bag's open.

开车 開車

kāichē to drive a car (or train etc) / to post sexual content online / to make a sexual joke

我是跟我哥哥一起开车去青岛的。

Wǒ shì gēn wǒ gēge yìqǐ kāichē qù Qīngdǎo de.

I drove to Qingdao with my brother. It was with my brother that I drove to Qingdao.

开会 開會

kāihuì to hold a meeting / to attend a meeting

我的秘书常常帮我安排开会。

Wǒ de mìshū chángcháng bāng wǒ ānpái kāihuì.

My secretary often arranges meetings for me.

开玩笑 開玩笑

kāiwánxiào to play a joke / to make fun of / to joke

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 look after / to treat (a patient or illness) / to give it a try

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

没看过。

Méi kànguo.

I haven't seen it.

看病

kànbìng to visit a doctor / to see a patient

看到

kàndào to see

我没看到人。

Wǒ méi kàndào rén.

I didn't see anybody.

看见 看見

kànjiàn to see / to catch sight of

我们没看见。

Wǒmen méi kànjiàn.

We didn't see it.

考

kǎo to beat / to hit / to inspect / to test / to take an exam / to check / to verify / to test / to examine / to take an exam / to take an entrance exam for / deceased father

我从早考到晚。

Wǒ cóng zǎo kǎo dào wǎn.

I have exams from dawn till dusk.

考试 考試

kǎoshì to take an exam / exam

你什么时候考试？

Nǐ shénme shíhou kǎoshì?

When are you taking your exam?

渴

kě thirsty

课 課

kè subject / course / class / lesson / to levy / tax / form of divination

我今天没课。

Wǒ jīntiān méi kè.

I don't have classes today.

课本 課本

kèběn textbook

课文 課文

kèwén text

口

kǒu mouth / classifier for things with mouths (people, domestic animals, cannons, wells etc) / classifier for bites or mouthfuls

你家有几口人?

Nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén?

How many people are there in your family?

块 塊

kuài lump / chunk / piece / classifier for pieces of cloth, cake, soap etc / classifier for money and currency units

我给你五块钱吧。

Wǒ gěi nǐ wǔ kuài qián ba.

I'll give you five dollars.

快

kuài rapid / quick / speed / rate / soon / to make haste / almost / clever / sharp (of knives or wits) / forthright / plainspoken / gratified / pleased / pleasant

快一点!

Kuài yìdiǎn!

Hurry up!

L

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) / ever since (as in 自古以來|自古以来[zi4 gu3 yi3 lai2]) / for the past (amount of time) / the coming ... / the next ... (as in 來世|来世[lai2 shi4]) / in order to / 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 吃不得|吃不来[chi1 bu5 lai2])

你来吧。

Nǐ lái ba.

Why don't you do it?

来到 來到

láidào to arrive / to come

我昨天来到这里。

Wǒ zuótiān láidào zhèlǐ.

I came here yesterday.

老

lǎo prefix used before the surname of a person or a numeral indicating the order of birth of the children in a family or to indicate affection or familiarity / old (of people) / venerable (person) / experienced / of long standing / always / all the time / of the past / very / outdated / tough

妈妈比爸爸老。

Māma bǐ bàba lǎo.

Mom is older than Dad.

老人

lǎorén old man or woman / the elderly / one's aged parents or grandparents

老人坐了下来。

Lǎorén zuòle xiàlai.

The old man sat down.

老师 老師

lǎoshī teacher

他是老师。

Tā shì lǎoshī.

He is a teacher.

了

le marks a completed action / marks a change of state

liǎo to finish / to understand fully

他去了。

Tā qùle.

He's gone. / He went.

累

lèi tired / weary / to strain / to wear out / to work hard

lěi to accumulate / to involve or implicate / continuous / repeated

你们不累吗?

Nǐmen bú lèi ma?

Are you not tired?

冷

lěng cold / surname Leng

今天有点冷。

Jīntiān yǒudiǎn lěng.

It's a little cold today.

里

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

进你的车里。

Jìn nǐ de chē lǐ.

Get into your car.

里边 裡邊

lǐbian inside

两 兩

liǎng two / both / some / a few / tael, unit of weight equal to 50 grams (modern) or 1/16 of a catty 斤[jin1] (old)

他休息两天。

Tā xiūxi liǎng tiān.

He rests for two days.

〇

líng zero

零

líng zero / nought / zero sign / fractional / fragmentary / odd (of numbers) / (placed between two numbers to indicate a smaller quantity followed by a larger one) / fraction / remainder (after division) / extra / to wither and fall / to wither

六

liù six / 6

他们差六岁。

Tāmen chà liù suì.

The difference in their ages is six years.

楼 樓

lóu house with more than 1 story / storied building / floor / surname Lou

我们在三楼。

Wǒmen zài sān lóu.

We're on the third floor.

楼上 樓上

lóushàng upstairs / previous poster in a forum thread

她把椅子搬到楼上去了。

Tā bǎ yǐzi bān dào lóushàng qùle.

She took the chair upstairs.

楼下 樓下

lóuxià downstairs

你可以帮我把我的书从楼下拿上来吗？

Nǐ kěyǐ bāng wǒ bǎ wǒ de shū cóng lóuxià ná shàng lái ma?

Could you bring my book upstairs for me?

路

lù road (CL:条[tiáo2]) / journey / route / line (bus etc) / sort / kind / surname Lu

请你告诉我路怎么走好吗？

Qǐng nǐ gàosu wǒ lù zěnme zǒu hǎo ma?

Would you please tell me the way?

路口

lùkǒu crossing / intersection (of roads)

路上

lùshang on the road / on the way / en route

告诉他我在路上。

Gào su tā wǒ zài lùshang.

Tell him I'm on my way.

M

妈 媽

mā ma / mom / mother

我给我妈了。

Wǒ géi wǒ mā le.

I gave it to my mommy.

妈妈 媽媽

māma mama / mommy / mother

你妈妈在哪？

Nǐ māma zài nǎ?

Where's your mom?

马路 馬路

mǎlù street / road

马上 馬上

mǎshàng at once / right away / immediately / on horseback (i.e. by military force)

我看到了一个老人摔倒了，马上就过去帮忙。

Wǒ kàndào le yí gè lǎorén shuāi dǎo le, mǎshàng jiù guòqù bāngmáng.

I saw an old person fall down, and immediately went over to help.

吗 嗎

ma (question particle for "yes-no" questions)

má what?

你饿吗？

Nǐ è ma?

Are you hungry?

买 買

mǎi to buy / to purchase

他不能买车。

Tā bùnéng mǎi chē.

He is unable to buy a car.

慢

màn slow

请说慢一些。

Qǐng shuō màn yìxiē.

Please speak slowly.

忙

máng busy / hurriedly / to hurry / to rush

你今天忙吗？

Nǐ jīntiān máng ma?

Are you busy today?

毛

máo hair / feather / down / wool / mildew / mold / coarse or semifinished / young / raw / careless / unthinking / nervous / scared / to devalue or depreciate / classifier for Chinese fractional monetary unit (= 角[jiǎo3], = one-tenth of a yuan or 10 fen 分[fēn1]) / surname Mao

没 沒

méi (negative prefix for verbs) have not / not

mò drowned / to end / to die / to inundate

没看过。

Méi kànguò.

I haven't seen it.

没关系 沒關係

méiguānxi it doesn't matter

多少钱都没关系。

Duōshǎo qián dōu méiguānxi.

It doesn't matter how much it costs. (Probably best if you don't say this one too much.)

没什么 沒什麼

méishénme it doesn't matter / it's nothing / never mind / think nothing of it / it's my pleasure / you're welcome

没有 沒有

méiyǒu haven't / hasn't / doesn't exist / to not have / to not be

我没有车。

Wǒ méiyǒu chē.

I don't have a car.

妹

mèi younger sister

妹妹

mèimei younger sister / young woman

我有一个妹妹。

Wǒ yǒu yí gè mèimei.

I have a younger sister.

门 門

mén gate / door / doorway / gateway / opening (CL:扇[shān]) / valve / switch / other door-like or gate-like structure / way to do sth / knack / method / approach / family / household / lineage / sect / school / faction (religious or academic) / class / category / division / phylum / classifier for courses, fields of study, branches of technology, relatives by marriage, guns etc / -gate (scandal) / surname Men

他站在门后。

Tā zhàn zài mén hòu.

He was standing behind the door.

门口 門口

ménkǒu doorway / gate

他站在了门口。

Tā zhàn zài le ménkǒu.

He was standing at the door.

门票 門票

ménpiào ticket (for theater, cinema etc)

们 們

men plural marker for pronouns, and nouns referring to individuals

学生们走了。

Xuéshengmen zǒule.

The students left.

米饭 米飯

mǐfàn rice

我喜欢米饭和面条。

Wǒ xǐhuan mǐfàn hé miàntiáo.

I like rice and noodles.

面包 麵包

miànbāo bread

我昨天买了面包。

Wǒ zuótiān mǎile miànbāo.

I bought bread yesterday.

明白

míngbai clear / obvious / unequivocal / sensible / reasonable / to understand / to realize

他们会明白。

Tāmen huì míngbai.

They'll understand that.

明年

míngnián next year

明天

míngtiān tomorrow

好，明天见！

Hǎo, míngtiān jiàn!

Okay, see you tomorrow!

名字

míngzi name (of a person or thing)

我没有名字。

Wǒ méiyǒu míngzi.

I have no name.

N

拿

ná to hold / to seize / to catch / to apprehend / to take / (used in the same way as 把[bǎ]: to mark the following noun as a direct object)

去拿点水来。

Qù ná diǎn shuǐ lái.

Go get some water.

哪

nǎ how / which

na (emphatic sentence-final particle, used instead of 啊[a5] after a word ending in "n")

neǐ which? (interrogative, followed by classifier or numeral-classifier)

你在哪读书？

Nǐ zài nǎ dúshū?

Where do you study?

哪裏

nǎlǐ where? / somewhere / anywhere / wherever / nowhere (negative answer to question) / humble expression denying compliment

哪里 哪裡

nǎlǐ where? / somewhere / anywhere / wherever / nowhere (negative answer to question) / humble expression denying compliment

他住在哪里？

Tā zhù zài nǎlǐ?

Where does he live?

哪些

nǎxiē which ones? / who? / what?

哪些人想去？

Nǎxiē rén xiǎng qù?

Who wants to go?

那

nà that / the / those (colloquial pr. [nei4]) / that (referring to persons, things or situations) / then (in that case)

nuó many / beautiful / how

那是飞机。

Nà shì fēijī.

That's a plane.

那边 那邊

nàbian over there / yonder

把你的包放在那边吧。

Bǎ nǐ de bāo fàng zài nàbian ba.

Put your bag over there.

那裏

nàlǐ there / that place

那里 那裡

nàlǐ there / that place

你在那里。

Nǐ zài nàlǐ.

You are there.

那些

nàxiē those

那些是她的。

Nèixiē shì tā de.

Those are hers.

奶

nǎi breast / milk / to breastfeed

奶奶

nǎinai grandma (paternal grandmother) / mistress of the house / boobies / breasts

我奶奶也告诉了我这样。

Wǒ nǎinai yě gàosù **wǒ zhèyàng**.

My grandmother told me so.

南

nán south / surname Nan

告诉我你在湘南做了什么。

Gàosù wǒ nǐ zài xiāng Nán zuò **shénme**.

Tell me what you did in Shounan.

男

nán male / baron, the lowest of the five ranks of nobility 五等爵位[wu3 deng3 jue2 wei4]

男不坏，女不爱。

Nán bú huài, nǚ bú ài.

Nice guys finish last.

难 難

nán difficult (to...) / problem / difficulty / difficult / not good

nàn disaster / distress / to scold

再难也要做!

Zài nán yě yào zuò!

Do it, no matter how hard!

南边 南邊

nánbian south / south side / southern part / to the south of

男朋友

nán péngyou boyfriend

带上你的男朋友吧!

Dàishàng nǐ de nán péngyou ba!

Bring your boyfriend!

男人

nánrén a man / a male / men

我不是男人!

Wǒ bú shì nánrén!

I'm not a man!

男生

nánshēng schoolboy / male student / boy / guy (young adult male)

呢

ne used in questions to link back to prior discourse or context ("what about...?", "and...?") / indicating that a state or situation still holds / used to mark a slight pause or emphasis in speech

ní dense wool fabric (used for coats and jackets)

你呢?

Nǐ ne?

And you?

能

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

他能跑多快?

Tā néng pǎo duō kuài?

How fast can he run?

你

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

你呢?

Nǐ ne?

And you?

你们 你們

nǐmen you (plural)

你们不累吗?

Nǐmen bú lèi ma?

Are you not tired?

年

nián year / surname Nian

今年是哪一年?

Jīnnián shì nǎ yì nián?

What year is it?

您

nín you (courteous, as opposed to informal 你[ni3])

六点您行吗?

Liù diǎn nín xíng ma?

Will six o'clock suit you?

牛奶

niú nǎi cow's milk

请把牛奶从冰箱里拿出来。

Qǐng bǎ niú nǎi cóng bīngxiāng lǐ ná chū lái.

Please take the milk out of the fridge.

女

nǚ female / woman / daughter

男不坏，女不爱。

Nán bú huài, nǚ bú ài.

Nice guys finish last.

女儿 女兒

nǚ'ér daughter

她是我女儿。

Tā shì wǒ nǚ'ér.

She's my daughter.

女朋友

nǚ péngyou girlfriend

女人

nǚrén woman

nǚren wife

你是个女人。
Nǐ shì gè nǚrén.
You're a woman.

女生

nǚshēng schoolgirl / female student / girl

P

旁边 旁邊

pángbiān side / adjacent place

她在她的旁边。
Tā zài tā de pángbiān.
He is at her side.

跑

pǎo to run / to run away / to escape / to run around (on errands etc) / to leak or evaporate / away / off

páo to paw (the ground)

他能跑多快？
Tā néng pǎo duō kuài?
How fast can he run?

朋友

péngyou friend

他没有朋友。
Tā méiyǒu péngyou.
He doesn't have any friends.

票

piào ticket / ballot / banknote / person held for ransom / amateur performance of Chinese opera / classifier for groups, batches, business transactions

有学生票吗？
Yǒu xuésheng piào ma?
Do you have a student ticket?

Q

七

qī seven / 7

我七点回到家。
Wǒ qī diǎn huídào jiā.
I got home at seven.

起

qǐ to rise / to raise / to get up / to set out / to start / to appear / to launch / to initiate (action) / to draft / to establish / to get (from a depot or counter) / verb suffix, to start / starting from (a time, place, price etc) / classifier for occurrences or unpredictable events: case, instance / classifier for groups: batch, group

你女儿起了吗？
Nǐ nǚ'ér qǐ le ma?
Is your daughter up?

起床

qǐchuáng to get out of bed / to get up

起来 起來

qǐlai to stand up / to get up

qilai indicating the beginning and continuation of an action or a state / indicating an upward movement (e.g. after 站 [zhan4]) / indicating completion / (after a perception verb, e.g. 看[kan4]) expressing preliminary judgment

请站起来。
Qǐng zhàn qǐlai.
Qǐng zhàn qílái.

汽车 汽車

qìchē car / automobile / bus

我没有汽车。
Wǒ méiyǒu qìchē.
I don't have a car.

前

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

请明天前还书。
Qǐng míngtiān qián huán shū.
Please return the book by tomorrow.

钱 錢

qián coin / money / unit of weight, one tenth of a tael 兩|两 [liang3]

他们没有钱。
Tāmen méiyǒu qián.
They don't have money.

钱包 錢包

qiánbāo purse / wallet

我把钱包弄丢了。
Wǒ bǎ qiánbāo nòngdiū le.
I lost my wallet.

前边 前邊

qiánbian front / the front side / in front of

前天

qiántiān the day before yesterday

他前天到北京的。
Tā qiántiān dào Běijīng de.
He arrived in Beijing the day before yesterday.

请 請

qǐng please (do sth) / to ask / to invite / to request / to treat (to a meal etc)

请进来。
Qǐng jìnlái.
Please come in.

请假 請假

qǐngjià to request leave of absence

请进 請進

qǐngjìn "please come in"

请问 請問

qǐngwèn Excuse me, may I ask...?

请问，这里有洗手间吗？
Qǐngwèn, zhèlǐ yǒu xǐshǒujiān ma?
Excuse me, is there a toilet here?

请坐 請坐

qǐngzuò please, have a seat

球

qiú ball / sphere / globe / ball game / match

我们队进了第一个球。

Wǒmen duì jìnle dì yī gè qiú.

Our team scored the first goal.

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) / to remove / to get rid of / to reduce / (when used either before or after a verb) to go in order to do sth / (used after certain verbs to indicate detachment or separation)

他去了。

Tā qùle.

He's gone. / He went.

去年

qùnián last year

我们是去年认识的。

Wǒmen shì qùnián rènshi de.

We met last year.

R

热 熱

rè to warm up / to heat up / hot (of weather) / heat / fervent

今天非常热。

Jīntiān fēicháng rè.

It's awfully hot today.

人

rén person / people

他是好人。

Tā shì hǎo rén.

He's a good person.

认识 認識

rènshi to know / to recognize / to be familiar with / to get acquainted with sb / knowledge / understanding / awareness / cognition

你不认识他。

Nǐ bú rènshi tā.

You don't know him.

认真 認真

rènzhēn conscientious / earnest / serious / to take seriously / to take to heart

我是认真的。

Wǒ shì rènzhēn de.

I'm serious.

日

rì sun / day / day of the month / Japan (abbr. for 日本[Rì4 ben3]) / to fuck / to have sex with

云开见天日。

Yún kāi jiàn tiān rì.

The clouds opened and the sun shone through.

日期

rìqī date

我可能知道你离开的日期吗？

Wǒ kěnéng zhīdào nǐ líkāi de rìqī ma?

May I know the date of your departure?

肉

ròu meat / flesh / pulp (of a fruit) / (of a fruit) squashy / flabby / irresolute / Kangxi radical 130

你们吃肉吗？

Nǐmen chī ròu ma?

Do you eat meat?

S

三

sān three / 3 / surname San

一，二，三！

Yī, èr, sān!

One, two, three!

山

shān mountain / hill (CL:座[zuo4]) / small bundle of straw for silkworms to spin cocoons on / surname Shan

台湾是一个多山的国家。

Táiwān shì yí gè duō shān de guójiā.

Taiwan is a country covered in mountains.

商场 商場

shāngchǎng shopping mall / shopping center / department store / emporium / the business world

商店

shāngdiàn store / shop

你要买什么，那个商店有什么。

Nǐ yào mǎi shénme, nàge shāngdiàn yǒu shénme.

Whatever you want to buy, that shop has it.

上

shàng up / upper / above / previous / up / on / above / first (of multiple parts) / to climb / to get onto / to go up / to attend (class or university)

他要上进了。

Tā yào shàng jìnle.

He is going to make progress.

上班

shàngbān to go to work / to be on duty / to start work / to go to the office

上边 上邊

shàngbian the top / above / overhead / upwards / the top margin / above-mentioned / those higher up

上车 上車

shàngchē to get on or into (a bus, train, car etc)

上次

shàngcì last time

上课 上課

shàngkè to go to class / to attend class / to go to teach a class

她上个星期没有上课。

Tā shànggexīngqī méiyǒu shàngkè.

She didn't go to class last week.

上网 上網

shàngwǎng to go online / to connect to the Internet / to be uploaded to the Internet / to move in close to the net

上午

shàngwǔ morning

你明天上午吃什么？

Nǐ míngtiān shàngwǔ chī shénme?

What will you eat tomorrow morning?

上学 上學

shàngxué to go to school / to attend school

少

shǎo few

shào young

什么也没少。

Shénme yě méi shǎo.

Nothing is missing.

谁 誰

shéi who

下一个是谁？

Xià yí gè shì shéi?

Who is next?

身上

shēnshang on the body / at hand / among

我身上没有钱。

Wǒ shēnshang méiyǒu qián.

I don't have any money on me.

身体 身體

shēntǐ the body / one's health

我身体很好。

Wǒ shēntǐ hěn hǎo.

I'm healthy.

什么 什麼

shénme what? / something / anything

什么也没少。

Shénme yě méi shǎo.

Nothing is missing.

生病

shēngbìng to fall ill

生病时要多喝水。

Shēngbìng shí yào duō hēshuǐ.

You should drink more water when you're ill.

生气 生氣

shēngqì to get angry / to be furious / vitality / liveliness

他要生气了。

Tā yào shēngqì le.

He's going to get angry.

生日

shēngrì birthday

十

shí ten / 10

你十岁了吗？

Nǐ shí suì le ma?

Are you ten years old?

时候 時候

shíhou time / length of time / moment / period

你什么时候来？

Nǐ shénme shíhou lái?

When will you come?

时间 時間

shíjiān time / time / time

你时间多吗？

Nǐ shíjiān duō ma?

Do you have a lot of time?

事

shì matter / thing / item / work / affair

不关你的事。

Bù guān nǐ de shì.

It has nothing to do with you.

是

shì to be (followed by substantives only) / correct / right / true / (respectful acknowledgement of a command) very well / (adverb for emphatic assertion)

这是书。

Zhè shì shū.

This is a book.

试 試

shì to test / to try / experiment / examination / test

我试过。

Wǒ shìguo.

I've tried that.

是不是

shìbùshì is or is not (used to form yes-no questions)

你是不是医生？

Nǐ shìbùshì yīshēng?

Are you a doctor?

手

shǒu hand / to hold / person engaged in certain types of work / person skilled in certain types of work / personal(ly) / convenient / classifier for skill

你的手真冷。

Nǐ de shǒu zhēn lěng.

Your hands are so cold.

手机 手機

shǒujī cell phone / mobile phone

他没有手机。

Tā méiyǒu shǒujī.

He hasn't got a mobile phone.

书 書

shū book / letter / document / to write

这是书。

Zhè shì shū.

This is a book.

书包 書包

shūbāo schoolbag / satchel / bookbag

书店 書店

shūdiàn bookstore

树 樹

shù tree / to cultivate / to set up

我的哥哥们在树下。

Wǒ de gēgemen zài shù xià.

My brothers are under the tree.

水

shuǐ water / ... River / to swim (used mostly in 會水|会水[huì4 shuǐ3] and 水性[shuǐ3 xìng4]) / lacking in substance / shoddy / additional cost / extra income / classifier for washings of a garment / surname Shui / Shui ethnic group

他要了水喝。

Tā yào le shuǐ hē.

He asked for a drink of water.

水果

shuǐguǒ fruit

他每天都买一点水果。

Tā měitiān dōu mǎi yídiǎn shuǐguǒ.

He buys some fruit every day.

睡

shuì to sleep / to lie down

她还在睡吗？

Tā hái zài shuì ma?

Is she still sleeping?

睡觉 睡覺

shuìjiào to go to bed / to sleep

说 說

shuō to speak / to talk / to say / to explain / to comment / to scold / to tell off / theory / doctrine

shuì to persuade

你说了。

Nǐ shuō le.

You've said it. / You said.

说话 說話

shuōhuà to speak / to say / to talk / to gossip / to tell stories / talk / word

东尼，说话。

Dōng ní, shuōhuà.

Ton, speak.

四

sì four / 4

今天我四岁了。

Jīntiān wǒ sì suì le.

Today I turn four years old.

送

sòng to send / to deliver / to transmit / to give (as a present) / to see (sb) off / to accompany / to go along with

我送你回家吧。

Wǒ sòng nǐ huíjiā ba.

Let me take you home.

岁

suì years old / classifier for years (of age) / year / year (of crop harvests)

他们差六岁。

Tāmen chà liù suì.

The difference in their ages is six years.

T

他

tā (since the early 20th century, usu. male) he / him / his / other / another / some other (as in 他日[tā1 rì4] and 他人[tā1 rén2])

他去了。

Tā qù le.

He's gone. / He went.

她

tā she

她很高。

Tā hěn gāo.

She is tall.

他们 他們

tāmen they / them

他们下了车。

Tāmen xià le chē.

They got out of the car.

她们 她們

tāmen they / them (females)

她们在读书。

Tāmen zài dúshū.

They are reading a book.

太

tài too (much) / very / extremely / highest / greatest

你想太多了。

Nǐ xiǎng tài duō le.

You think too much.

天

tiān day / sky / heaven

他休息两天。

Tā xiūxi liǎng tiān.

He rests for two days.

天气 天氣

tiānqì weather

今天天气很好。

Jīntiān tiānqì hěn hǎo.

It's a nice day.

听

tīng to listen to / to hear / to heed / to obey / a can (loanword from English "tin") / classifier for canned beverages / to let be / to allow / to administer / to deal with

yīn smile (archaic)

你们在听吗？

Nǐmen zài tīng ma?

Are you listening?

听到 聽到

tīngdào to hear

你听到没有！

Nǐ tīngdào méiyǒu!

Did you hear me?

听见 聽見

tīngjiàn to hear

你听见我说的了吗？

Nǐ tīngjiàn wǒ shuō de le ma?

Did you hear what I said?

听写 聽寫

tīngxiě to write down (in a dictation exercise) / dictation / to transcribe by ear

同学 同學

tóngxué to study at the same school / fellow student / classmate

我们是同学。

Wǒmen shì tóngxué.

We're classmates.

图书馆 圖書館

túshūguǎn library

那本书你还给图书馆了吗？

Nà běn shū nǐ huán gěi túshūguǎn le ma?

Have you returned that book to the library?

W

外

wài outside / in addition / foreign / external

你常常外食吗？

Nǐ chángcháng wài shí ma?

Do you eat out often?

外边 外邊

wàibian outside / outer surface / abroad / place other than one's home

外国 外國

wàiguó foreign country

我想去外国。

Wǒ xiǎng qù wàiguó.

I want to go abroad.

外语 外語

wàiyǔ foreign language

晚

wǎn evening / night / late

他很晚回家。

Tā hěn wǎn huíjiā.

He came home very late.

晚饭 晚飯

wǎnfàn evening meal / dinner / supper

晚上

wǎnshang evening / night / in the evening

晚上吃什么？

Wǎnshang chī shénme?

What do we eat tonight?

网上 網上

wǎngshàng online

我在帮人在网上买东西。

Wǒ zài bāng rén zài wǎngshàng mǎi dōngxi.

I'm helping people to buy things online.

网友 網友

wǎngyǒu online friend / netizen / Internet user

忘

wàng to forget / to overlook / to neglect

别忘了我们。

Bié wàngle wǒmen.

Don't forget us.

忘记 忘記

wàngjì to forget

我忘记问他了。

Wǒ wàngjì wèn tā le.

I forgot to ask him.

问 問

wèn to ask / to inquire

他问你什么？

Tā wèn nǐ shénme?

What did he ask you?

我

wǒ I / me / my

我呢？

Wǒ ne?

What about me?

我们 我們

wǒmen we / us / ourselves / our

他在看我们。

Tā zài kàn wǒmen.

He's looking at us.

五

wǔ five / 5

她下五楼去了。

Tā xià wǔ lóu qù le.

She went down to the fifth floor.

午饭 午飯

wǔfàn lunch

西

xī west / the West / Spanish

飞机向西飞了。

Fēijī xiàng xī fēi le.

The plane flew toward the west.

西边 西邊

xībiān west / west side / western part / to the west of

洗

xǐ to wash / to bathe / to develop (photographs) / to shuffle (cards etc) / to erase (a recording)

洗你们的手。

Xǐ nǐmen de shǒu.

Wash your hands.

喜欢 喜歡

xǐhuan to like / to be fond of

他们喜欢你。

Tāmen xǐhuan nǐ.

They like you.

洗手间 洗手間

xǐshǒujiān toilet / lavatory / washroom

这里有洗手间。

Zhèlǐ yǒu xǐshǒujiān.

There is a toilet here.

下

xià down / downwards / below / lower / later / next (week etc) / second (of two parts) / to decline / to go down / to arrive at (a decision, conclusion etc) / measure word to show the frequency of an action

下一个是谁？

Xià yí gè shì shéi?

Who is next?

下班

xiàbān to finish work / to get off work / next service (train, bus etc)

我才下班。

Wǒ cái xiàbān.

I just got off work.

下边 下邊

xiàbian under / the underside / below

下车 下車

xiàchē to get off or out of (a bus, train, car etc)

下次

xiàcì next time

下课 下課

xiàkè to finish class / to get out of class / (esp. of a sports coach) to be dismissed / to be fired

下午

xiàwǔ afternoon / p.m.

您下午做啥呢？

Nín xiàwǔ zuò shá ne?

So what will you do in the afternoon?

下雨

xiàyǔ to rain

看起来要下雨了。

Kànqǐlai yào xià yǔ le.

Looks like it's going to rain.

先

xiān beforehand / first / earlier / at first / originally / for the time being / for now / my late (in referring to deceased relatives older than oneself)

你们先去哪里？

Nǐmen xiān qù nǎlǐ?

Where are you going first of all?

先生

xiānsheng teacher / gentleman / sir / mister (Mr.) / husband / doctor

你是李先生。

Nǐ shì Lǐ xiānsheng.

You are Mr Li.

现在 現在

xiànzài now / at present / currently

我现在不忙。

Wǒ xiànzài bù máng.

I'm not busy now.

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.

小

xiǎo small / tiny / few / young

这本书很小。

Zhè běn shū hěn xiǎo.

This book is very small.

小姐

xiǎojiě young lady / miss / prostitute

如果小姐要的话，可以打八折。

Rúguǒ xiǎojiě yào dehuà, kěyǐ dǎ bā zhé.

If the lady desires, 20% discount is possible.

小朋友

xiǎopéngyǒu child / kid (used to refer to a child, or by an adult to address a child, or, in Taiwan, to refer to sb's own child)

小时 小時

xiǎoshí hour

她睡了几小时。

Tā shuì le jǐ xiǎoshí.

She slept for a few hours.

小学 小學

xiǎoxué elementary school / primary school

他们在小学时就是朋友了。

Tāmen zài xiǎoxué shí jiùshì péngyou le.

They became friends in elementary school.

小学生 小學生

xiǎoxuéshēng primary school student / schoolchild / beginner

笑

xiào to laugh / to smile / to laugh at

不是说笑的。

Bú shì shuō xiào de.

It is no joke.

写 寫

xiě to write

不，我没写。

Bù, wǒ méi xiě.

No, I didn't write it.

谢谢 謝謝

xièxie to thank / thanks / thank you

谢谢。你可以下去了。

Xièxie. Nǐ kěyǐ xiàqù le.

Thanks. You can go down now.

新

xīn new / newly / meso- (chemistry)

他是新来的。

Tā shì xīn lái de.

He's a newcomer.

新年

xīnnián New Year

星期

xīngqī week / day of the week / Sunday

我一个星期以后会回来。

Wǒ yí gè xīngqī yǐhòu huì huīlai.

I will come back in one week.

星期日

xīngqīrì Sunday

星期天

xīngqītiān Sunday

行

xíng to go / to be all right

háng row / trade

六点您行吗？

Liù diǎn nín xíng ma?

Will six o'clock suit you?

休息

xiūxi rest / to rest

他休息两天。

Tā xiūxi liǎng tiān.

He rests for two days.

学 學

xué to learn / to study / to imitate / science / -ology

他学汉语。

Tā xué Hànyǔ.

He is learning Chinese.

学生 學生

xuésheng student / schoolchild

我是学生。

Wǒ shì xuésheng.

I am a student.

学习 學習

xuéxí to learn / to study

一起学习吧！

Yìqǐ xuéxí ba!

Let's study together!

学校 學校

xuéxiào school

他跑去学校。

Tā pǎo qù xuéxiào.

He is running to school.

学院 學院

xuéyuàn college / educational institute / school / faculty

Y

要

yào to want / to need / to ask for / will / shall / about to / need to / should / if (same as 要是[yao4 shi5]) / important

yāo to demand / to coerce

我要喝水。

Wǒ yào hēshuǐ.

I'm going to drink water. I want to drink water.

爷爷 爺爺

yéye paternal grandfather / grandpa

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]

什么也没少。

Shénme yě méi shǎo.

Nothing is missing.

页 頁

yè page / leaf

xié head

这本书少了两页。

Zhè běn shū shǎole liǎng yè.

Two pages are missing from this book.

一

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

一，二，三！

Yī, èr, sān!

One, two, three!

一半

yībàn half

我吃饭吃了一半就不想吃了。

Wǒ chīfàn chīle yībàn jiù bùxiǎng chīle.

I'd eaten half the meal, and then I just didn't want any more.

一边 一邊

yībiān one side / either side / on the one hand / on the other hand / doing while

她一边读这封信一边哭。

Tā yībiān dú zhè fēng xìn yībiān kū.

She cried as she read the letter.

衣服

yīfu clothes

我买衣服了。

Wǒ mǎi yīfu le.

I have bought some clothes.

一起

yīqǐ the same place / together / in company (with) / altogether / in total / an instance of / a case of (murder, accident, dispute etc)

一起学习吧!

Yìqǐ xuéxí ba!

Let's study together!

医生 醫生

yīshēng doctor / medical practitioner

她是医生。

Tā shì yīshēng.

She is a doctor.

一些

yīxiē some / a few / a little / (following an adjective) slightly ...er

你有一些书。

Nǐ yǒu yīxiē shū.

You have some books.

一样 一樣

yíyàng same / like / equal to / the same as / just like

我和你一样。

Wǒ hé nǐ yíyàng.

You and I are the same.

医院 醫院

yīyuàn hospital

你们在医院。

Nǐmen zài yīyuàn.

You are in the hospital.

用

yòng to use / to make use of / to employ / with / using / to eat / to drink / to need / to have to (usu. used in the negative or in questions) / usefulness / utility / expense / outlay / hence / therefore

我在用推特。

Wǒ zài yòng Tuīte.

I am using Twitter.

有

yǒu to have / there is / having / with / -ful / -ed / -al (as in 有意 [you3 yi4] intentional)

他们有工作。

Tāmen yǒu gōngzuò.

They have jobs.

有的

yǒude some (who are...) / some (exist)

有名

yǒuming famous / well-known

有时 有時

yǒushí sometimes / now and then

他有时看电视。

Tā yǒushí kàn diànshì.

He sometimes watches TV.

有时候 有時候

yǒushíhou sometimes

有些

yǒuxiē some / somewhat / rather / a bit

我有些东西要给你。

Wǒ yǒuxiē dōngxi yào gěi nǐ.

I have something to give you.

有用

yǒuyòng useful

右

yòu right / right-hand side / (politics) right of center / (old) west / the right side as the side of precedence

我的右腿受伤了。

Wǒ de yòu tuǐ shòushāngle.

I got my right leg injured.

右边 右邊

yòubian right side / right, to the right

雨

yǔ rain

yù to rain / to fall / to precipitate / to wet

雨后转晴了。

Yǔ hòu zhuǎnqíngle.

It cleared up after the rain.

元

yuán currency unit (esp. Chinese yuan) / first / original / primary / basic / fundamental / constituent / part / meta- / argument / variable / era (of a reign) / (geology) eon / surname Yuan / Yuan dynasty (1279-1368)

我们花一万二千元买了这辆车。

Wǒmen huā yí wàn èr qiān yuán mǎile zhè liàng chē.

We bought this car for 12,000.

远 遠

yuǎn far / distant / remote / (intensifier in a comparison) by far / much (lower etc)

yuàn to distance oneself from (classical)

你要走多远?

Nǐ yào zǒu duō yuǎn?

How far are you going?

月

yuè moon / month / monthly

他下月会很忙。

Tā xià yuè huì hěn máng.

He will be busy next month.

Z

再

zài again / once more / re- / to reappear / to reoccur / further / beyond this point of time / more / then (after sth, and not until then) / no matter how ... (followed by an adjective or verb, and then (usually) 也[ye3] or 都[dou1] for emphasis) / (used to introduce additional information, as in 再则|再则 [zai4 ze2], 再就是[zai4 jiu4 shi4] etc)

再找时间吧。

Zài zhǎo shíjiān ba.

Let's do it another time.

在

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

你在那里。

Nǐ zài nàlǐ.

You are there.

在家

zàijiā to be at home / to be in (as opposed to being away on official business 出差[chu1 chāi]) / to remain a layman (as opposed to becoming a monk or a nun 出家[chu1 jiā])

再见 再見

zàijiàn goodbye

早

zǎo early / morning / Good morning! / long ago / prematurely

他从早吃到晚。

Tā cóng zǎo chí dào wǎn.

He eats non-stop.

早饭 早飯

zǎofàn breakfast

早上

zǎoshang early morning

怎么 怎麼

zěnmē how? / what? / why?

他怎么没来?

Tā zěnmē méi lái?

What prevented him from coming?

站

zhàn station / to stand / to halt / to stop / branch of a company or organization / website

请站起来。

Qǐng zhàn qǐlai.

Qǐng zhàn qǐlai.

找

zhǎo to try to find / to look for / to call on sb / to find / to seek / to return / to give change

你找错人了。

Nǐ zhǎo cuò rén le.

You've got the wrong person.

找到

zhǎodào to find

她找到了什么?

Tā zhǎodào le shénme?

What did she find?

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

这是书。

Zhè shì shū.

This is a book.

这边 這邊

zhèbiān this side / here

这里 這裡

zhèlǐ here

我在这里。

Wǒ zài zhèlǐ.

I am here.

这些 這些

zhèxiē these

跟这些人走。

Gēn zhèxiē rén zǒu.

Go with these men.

着 著

zhe aspect particle indicating action in progress or ongoing state

zháo to touch / to come in contact with / to feel / to be affected by / to catch fire / to burn / to fall asleep / hitting the mark / succeeding in

zhuó to wear (clothes) / to contact / to use / to apply

zhāo a move in chess / trick / tactic / okay / all right / to put in / to add

你的包开着。

Nǐ de bāo kāizhe.

Your bag's open.

真

zhēn really / truly / indeed / real / true / genuine

你的手真冷。

Nǐ de shǒu zhēn lěng.

Your hands are so cold.

真的

zhēnde really / truly / indeed / real / true / genuine / proper

我真的好忙。

Wǒ zhēnde hǎo máng.

I'm really busy.

正

zhèng straight / upright / proper / main / principal / to correct / to rectify / exactly / just (at that time) / right (in that place) / positive

zhēng first month of the lunar year

我正跟她一起走。

Wǒ zhèng gēn tā yìqǐ zǒu.

I'm walking with her.

正在

zhèngzài to be in the process of (doing sth) / to be currently ...-ing

你正在回家。

Nǐ zhèngzài huíjiā.

You are going home.

知道

zhīdào to know / to become aware of

你知道吗？

Nǐ zhīdào ma?

Do you know?

知识 知識

zhīshi knowledge / intellectual

知识是什么？

Zhīshi shì shénme?

What is knowledge?

中

zhōng middle / China

zhòng to hit a target

大号的还是中号的？

Dà hào de hái shì zhōng hào de?

A large or medium-sized one?

中国 中國

zhōngguó China

上海在中国。

Shànghǎi zài Zhōngguó.

Shanghai is in China.

中间 中間

zhōngjiān the middle / the inside / in the middle / within / between / among / during / in the meantime

我们坐在房间的正中间。

Wǒmen zuò zài fángjiān de zhèng zhōngjiān.

We sat in the center of the room.

中文

zhōngwén Chinese language

你会中文。

Nǐ huì Zhōngwén.

You speak Chinese.

中午

zhōngwǔ noon / midday

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?

中学生 中學生

zhōngxuéshēng middle-school student / high school student

重

zhòng heavy / serious / to attach importance to

chóng to repeat / repetition / again / re- / classifier: layer

你不比我重。

Nǐ bù bǐ wǒ zhòng.

You don't weigh more than me.

重要

zhòngyào important / significant / major

对她很重要。

Duì tā hěn zhòngyào.

It's important to her.

住

zhù to live / to reside / to stay / to stop / to cease / (result complement indicating firmness or a stable achieved state)

他住在东京。

Tā zhù zài Dōngjīng.

He lives in Tokyo.

准备 準備

zhǔnbèi preparation / to prepare / to intend / to be about to / reserve (fund)

我们准备去做。

Wǒmen zhǔnbèi qù zuò.

We're preparing to do so.

桌子

zhuōzi table / desk

放在桌子上。

Fàng zài zhuōzi shàng.

Put it on the table.

子

zǐ son / child / seed / egg / small thing / 1st earthly branch: 11 p.m.–1 a.m., midnight, 11th solar month (7th December to 5th January), year of the rat / viscount, fourth of five orders of nobility 五等爵位[wu3 deng3 jue2 wei4] / ancient Chinese compass point: 0° (north) / subsidiary / subordinate / (prefix) sub-

zi noun suffix, as in 椅子[yi3 zi5] "chair"

明子在法国有一些朋友。

Míng zi zài Fǎguó yǒu yìxiē péngyou.

Akiko has some friends in France.

字

zì letter / symbol / character / word / courtesy or style name traditionally given to males aged 20 in dynastic China

这个字怎么写？

Zhège zì zěnmě xiě?

How do you write this character?

走

zǒu to walk / to go / to run / to move (of vehicle) / to visit / to leave / to go away / to die (euph.) / away (in compound verbs, such as 撒走[che4 zou3]) / from / through / to change (shape, form, meaning)

你们能走吗？

Nǐmen néng zǒu ma?

Can you walk?

走路

zǒulù to walk / to go on foot / to leave / to depart / to clear off / to beat it / (of sb who gets fired or resigns) to leave the job / to get out

她会走路了。

Tā huì zǒulù le.

She can walk now.

最

zuì (before an adjective or verb) to the highest degree / (the) most ... / -est / best or most extreme example (e.g. 世界之最 [shì4 jiè4 zhì1 zuì4] "the greatest in the world")

你最喜欢谁?

Nǐ zuì xǐhuan shéi?

Who's your favorite?

最好

zuìhǎo best / had better ... / it would be best to ...

最好早点儿去。

Zuìhǎo zǎodiǎnr qù.

It would be best to leave early.

最后 最後

zuìhòu final / last / ultimate / finally / in the end

最后她没有来。

Zuìhòu tā méiyǒu lái.

After all she did not come.

昨天

zuótiān yesterday

他昨天病了。

Tā zuótiān bìng le.

He was ill yesterday.

左

zuǒ left / the Left (politics) / east / unorthodox / queer / wrong / differing / opposite / surname Zuo

左边 左邊

zuǒbian left / the left side / to the left of

做

zuò to make / to produce / to write / to compose / to do / to engage in / to hold (a party etc) / to assume (an air or manner) / to be (an intermediary, a good student etc) / to become (husband and wife, friends etc) / to serve as / to be used for

不做不知道。

Bú zuò bù zhīdào.

You'll never know unless you try.

坐

zuò to sit / to take a seat / to take (a bus, airplane etc) / to bear fruit / surname Zuo

他坐在地上。

Tā zuò zài dìshàng.

He was sitting on the floor.

坐下

zuòxia to sit down

她叫他坐下。

Tā jiào tā zuòxia.

She asked him to sit down.