TutorMandarin
PinyinCourse

6 Lessons to teach you Pinyin from scratch
TutorMandarin - Professional Mobile Mandarin Tutoring

www.tutormandarin.net
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Introduction to Pinyin

Pinyin is the Romanization of Chinese characters based on their pronunciation. In Mandarin Chinese, the phrase “Pin Yin” literally translates into “spell sound.” That is to say, spelling out Chinese phrases with letters from the English alphabet.

Here’s an example:

**Characters:** 学习中文

**Pinyin:** xué xí zhōng wén

Historically, Pinyin started as a means of explaining Chinese to Western learners. It wasn’t until the Qing Dynasty that Chinese people really started considering adopting a form of spelling in their writing system.

The Chinese government did not officially recognize this language form until the 1950s, when it became a project headed by Zhou Youguang and a team of linguists. It was then introduced in elementary school in order to improve literacy rates as well as help standardize the pronunciation of Chinese characters.

In the digital age, Pinyin has become exceedingly useful, as it is the most popular and common way to type out Chinese characters on a typical keyboard. Touch-screen devices allow you to draw out the character, which is often unreliable (depending on how bad your handwriting is) and more time consuming.

Here at TutorMandarin (www.tutormandarin.net) all ‘newbies’ start with pinyin first to give them a strong foundation in pronunciation, speaking, reading, writing... well, just about everything!

The following 6 lessons are taken directly from our curriculum. This means 2 things:

1.) These are solid learning resources that can get you from “0-1” in terms of pinyin if studied thoroughly and correctly! Wahoo!

2.) These lessons are designed to be taught by a live, professional TutorMandarin tutor. Without a 1-on-1 tutor to assess your progress, correct your tones, and teach the language in a personal way — results will never be as good.
Ok, that’s it! Enjoy! Time to go learn pinyin!

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Did you know?

TutorMandarin courses are designed around HSK standards. Passing a TutorMandarin course teaches you the same vocabulary, phrases, and grammar for the HSK.
Pinyin 1 - “The essential five tones”

导入 Warm Up

A: 你好，我叫______。你叫什么名字？
Nǐ hǎo, wǒ jiào _____. Nǐ jiào shénme míngzì?

B: 我叫______。
Wǒ jiào _____.

Introduction of the 5 tones of Chinese

Chinese is a tonal language. There are five tones in Chinese.

1 First tone - high tone
Imagine the doctor wants you to open your mouth for inspection.

妈 mā mother

2 Second tone - rising tone
Imagine you just heard some very surprising news and you say, “WHAT”?! 

麻 má numbing

3 Third tone - falling and rising tone
Imagine you are hesitating to make decision and you say, “well…”

马 mǎ horse

4 Fourth tone - falling tone

Imagine you harshly reject a rude request by saying “NO”!

骂 mà to scold
5 Fifth tone - neutral

Speak normal without any tones

吗 ma

question particle for yes or no questions

新的语音认识 Introduction of new phonetic

1. b 爸爸 bāba N. father
Bā bǎ bǎ bā
bō bō bō bò
bāo bāo bāo bāo

2. p

pā pā pā pā
pāo pāo pāo pāo
pō pō pō pō

3. m

mā má mā mà
māo māo māo māo
mō mō mō mō

妈妈 māma N. mother

跑 pāo V. to run
4. 法国 fâguó N. France

5. 他 tā N. he
6. n

哪里 nǎǐ N. where

nā ná nǎ nà

7. l

老师 lǎoshī N. teacher

lā lá lā là
lè lè lè lè
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8. g</th>
<th>哥哥 gēge  N. older brother</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>gāo gǎo gào</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>gē gē gē gè</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. k</td>
<td>上课 shàngkè  V. to have class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kā kā kā kā</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
kē kē kē kē
kāo kāo kāo kāo

10.  h  喝水 hē shuǐ  VO.  to drink water

hā hā hā hā
hē hē hē hē
hāo hāo hāo hāo

课堂练习 Pronunciation Drill

1.  Pronunciation:

1) mā — mō
2) tā — tē
3) mò — mù
4) dà — tè
5) lǎo — hǎo

2. Guess what combination the tutor is reading
1) dú — dé
2) mā — mō
3) nà — là
4) pō — bō
5) mǔ — nǚ

3. Let the tutor guess what combination you are reading
1) mǎ — nǎ
2) hā — hē
3) mǎo — bǎo
4) gào — kào
5) gé — kě
6) là — lè

对话一 Conversation 1

A: 你好。我叫包德好。你叫什么名字?
Nǐ hǎo. Wǒ jiào Bāodéhǎo. Nǐ jiào shénme míngzì?
Hello. My name is Bāo déhǎo. What’s your name?

B: 你好。我叫李大可.
Nǐ hǎo. Wǒ jiào Lǐ dàkě
Hello. My name is Lǐ dàkě.

A: 我是台湾人，你是哪国人?
Wǒ shì Táiwān rén, nǐ shì nǎ guó rén?
I’m Taiwanese, which country are you from?

B: 我是法国人，很高兴认识你。
Wǒ shì Fàguó rén, hěn gāoxìng rènshì nǐ.
I’m French, nice to meet you.

绕口令 Tongue Twister

伯伯的马
Bóbo de mǎ
Uncle’s horse.

爸爸的鹅
Bàba de é
Father’s goose

马爬土坡
Mǎ pá tǔpō
The horse is climbing a muddy slope.

Lesson 1 Complete! Great job!

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*TutorMandarin has daily updated “What’s On Articles” on its website with language learning tips, survival phrases, conversations, and China news.*
Pinyin 2 -
“Basic Chinese phonetics 1”

导入 Warm up

复习 Review
1）请念出以下的字

Please read these following words
bā — pà
mā — dà
hā — gē
hē — kē

2）请念出 ba, ma, fa, da, pa 的四声

Please read ba / ma / fa / da / pa with four tones
课堂用语 Classroom Phrases

1. 是不是?
   shì bùshì ?
   Yes or no ?

2. ______怎麼說?
   ______zēme shuō........ ?
   How to say........?

新的语音认识 Introduction of new phonetic

i  —  yī  N  one

yī yī yī yì
bǐ bǐ bǐ bì
mǐ mí mí mǐ
dī dī dī dī

不  bù  Adv  not

wū  wú  wǔ  wù
bù  bú  bū  bù
lū  lú  lù  lù
tū  tū  tū  tū

鱼  yú  N  fish

yū  yú  yū  yù
lū  lú  lū  lù
—  nū  nǚ  nù

鸡  jī  N  chicken

jī  jǐ  jī  jì
jū jū jū jù

七 qī N seven

qī qī qǐ qì
qū qú qù qù

洗 xǐ V to wash

xī xǐ xǐ xì
xū xú xū xù

字 zì N character
早餐 zǎocān N breakfast

四 sì N four
這 zhè  Det  this

吃 chī  V  to eat

書 shū  N  book
课堂练习 Pronunciation Drill

1. 发音练习:

   Pronunciation:

   1) zā — zhā
2）sǎ — shà
3）chī — cì
4）qī — jī
5）xǐ — qǐ

2. 请老师选出学生念的字。

Teacher guess what combination you are reading

1）zì — zhì
2）sì — shì
3）chè — cè
4）qǐ — xǐ
5）jǐ — qǐ

中文数字 Zhōngwénshùzì  Chinese numbers
对话1 - Conversation 1

Amy: 这是书吗？
    Zhè shì shū ma？
    Is this a book?
Tom: 不是，这是日历。
    Bùshì, zhè shì rìlì.
    No, this is a calendar.

对话2 - Conversation 2

Amy: 我不吃早餐，我喝咖啡。
    Wǒ bù chī zǎosh ēn, wǒ hē kāfēi.
Wǒ bù chī zǎocān, wǒ hē kāfēi.
I don’t eat breakfast, I drink coffee.

Tom: 我吃早餐，我吃鱼
Wǒ chī zǎocān, wǒ chī yú.
I eat breakfast, I eat fish.

Lesson 2 Complete! Excellent!

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Did you know?

TutorMandarin uses certified Tutors from China, Taiwan, and all over the world. Every tutor has a degree in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language and over 500 hours of real classroom experience.
Pinyin 3 -
“Basic Chinese phonetics 2”

导入 Warm up

复习 Review
请读zhi/ chi / shi/ ri 的4个声调
Please read zhi/ chi / shi/ ri with the four tones

课堂用语 Classroom Phrases

1. 老师好
Lǎoshī hǎo
Hello teacher

2. 早上好/晚上好
Zǎoshānghǎo/ Wǎnshānghǎo
Good morning/Goodnight

3. 再说一次
Zài shuō yí ci
Repeat it once
4. 开始上课
Kāishǐ shàngkè
Start the class

新的语音认识 Introduction of new phonetic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ai</th>
<th>买</th>
<th>mǎi</th>
<th>V to buy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>āi ái āi āi</td>
<td>买买买</td>
<td>mǎimǎimǎi</td>
<td>to buy buy buy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bāi bái bái bái</td>
<td>买买买</td>
<td>mǎimǎimǎi</td>
<td>to buy buy buy</td>
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<tr>
<td>pāi pái pái pái</td>
<td>买买买</td>
<td>mǎimǎimǎi</td>
<td>to buy buy buy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dāi dāi dāi dāi</td>
<td>买买买</td>
<td>mǎimǎimǎi</td>
<td>to buy buy buy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

咖啡 kāfēi  N coffee
ei
bēi — běi bēi
pēi pēi — pèi
lēi lēi lēi lēi
       — něi něi

包子  bāozi N   bun

ao

ǎo áo ǎo ào
lǎo lǎo lǎo lǎo
nǎo nǎo nǎo nǎo
gāo — gāo gào
kāo — kǎo kēo
肉 ròu  N  meat

ou

ōu òu òu óu

gōu — gōu gōu

kōu — kōu kōu
dōu — dōu dōu
tōu — tōu tōu

飯 fàn  N  rice/meal

an

ān án — àn

bān bin bān bān

zān  zān zān zān
cān can cǎn cān
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ang</th>
<th>帮 bāng</th>
<th>V</th>
<th>to help</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>āng áng āng</td>
<td>bāng bāng bāng</td>
<td>tāng tāng tāng tāng</td>
<td>fāng fāng fāng fāng</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>en</th>
<th>门 mén</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>door</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ēn — ēn ēn</td>
<td>bēn bēn bēn bēn</td>
<td>mén mén mén mén</td>
<td>shēn shēng shēn shēn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>冷 lěng</th>
<th>Adj</th>
<th>cold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
èr èr èr èr

课堂练习 Pronunciation Drill

1. Pronunciation:
   1）āng — ān
   2）shēn — shēng
   3）gǎng — gán
   4）shǎo — shǒu
5) làng — lêng

1. Guess what combination the tutor is reading
1) āi — ēi
2) áo — óu
3) òu — èi
4) ěr — ě
5) ō — ōu

2. Have the tutor guess what combination you are reading
1) bān — bāng
2) áo — óu
3) òu — èi
4) éi — é
5) ō — ōu
Andy: 你好！早安。
   Nǐ hǎo! Zǎo ān.
   Hello! Good Morning.

Amy: 早安，你买什么?
   Zǎo ān, nǐ mǎi shénme?
   Morning, what did you buy?

Andy: 我买包子和咖啡.
   Wǒ mǎi bāozi hé kāfèi.
   I bought a bun and coffee.

Amy: 你吃猪肉包子吗?
   Nǐ chī zhūròu bāozi ma?
   Do you eat pork buns?

Andy: 我吃猪肉包子
Wǒ chī zhūròu bāozi
I eat pork buns.

Amy: 好的.
Hǎo de.
Great.

Andy: 这个包子很好吃!
Zhè ge bāozi hěn hǎochí!
This bun is delicious!

对话2 - Conversation 2

Amy: 你帮我买咖啡, 好不好?
Nǐ bāng wǒ mǎi kāfēi, hǎo bùhǎo?
Help me buy a coffee, would you?
Andy: 好，你喝什么？
Hǎo, nǐ hē shénme？
Ok, what do you drink?

Amy: 我喝热咖啡。
Wǒ hē rè kāfēi.
I’ll drink hot coffee.

Andy: 好的。
Hǎo de.
Ok.

Lesson 3 Complete! You’re doing wonderful.

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**Did you know?**

*All our lessons are 1-on-1 with the primary focus on your personal progress in speaking fluent Chinese.*
Pinyin 4 - “Simple phrases”

Warm up

Review

Please read the following words

1. lái — léi
2. shǎo — sǒu
3. ěr — èr
4. cháng — chèn
5. shén — shéng

Classroom Phrases
1. 有问题吗?
Yǒu wèntí ma?
Do you have questions?

2. 请回答问题。
Qǐng huídá wèntí.
Please answer my question.

3. 请跟我说。
Qǐng gēn wǒ shuō.
Please repeat after me.

4. 懂不懂?
Dǒng bù dǒng?
Do you understand?

新的语音认识  Introduction of New Phonics
家 jiā N home

yā yá yà yà
jiā jiá jiǎ jià
xiā xiá xiǎ xià

谢谢 xièxié Thank you

yē yē yě yè
bié bié biě biè
jiě fié jiě jiè
xiē xié xiě xiè

要 yào V want to

yāo yáo yào yào
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<th>声母</th>
<th>韵母</th>
<th>词</th>
<th>词意</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>piao</td>
<td>piao</td>
<td>漂亮</td>
<td>piàoliàng</td>
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<tr>
<td>mio</td>
<td>mio</td>
<td>嗯</td>
<td>yōu yōu</td>
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<tr>
<td>xiao</td>
<td>xiao</td>
<td>休息</td>
<td>xiūxi</td>
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<tr>
<td>翘</td>
<td>翘</td>
<td>明天见</td>
<td>míngtiān jiàn</td>
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iān

yāng yāng yāng yàng
xiāng — xiāng xiāng
qiāng qiāng qiāng qiàng
jiāng — jiāng jing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>in</th>
<th>今天 jīntiān</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>today</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>yīn yīn yīn yīn</td>
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<tr>
<td>mǐn mǐn mǐn mǐn</td>
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<td>lǐn lǐn lǐn lǐn</td>
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<td>jīn jīn jīn jīn</td>
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<table>
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<th>ing</th>
<th>明天 míngtiān</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>tomorrow</th>
</tr>
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<td>bīng bīng bīng bīng</td>
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<tr>
<td>mǐng mǐng mǐng mǐng</td>
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<tr>
<td>jīng jīng jīng jīng</td>
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课堂练习
1. Pronunciation:
   3. ya — ye
   4. liān — liǎng
   5. xiū — xiāo
   6. yín — yǐng
   7. xiǎng — xǐng

2. Guess what combination the tutor is reading
   1. liū — liāo
   2. jiāo — jiū
   3. yá — yé
   4. xīn — xǐng
   5. xiǎng — xiǎn

3. Have the tutor guess what combination you are reading
   1. liū — liāo
   2. jiāo — jiū
   3. yá — yé
对话1 - Conversation 1

Andy: 你好，你今天想吃什么?
   Nǐ hǎo, jīntiān xiǎng chī shénme?
Andy: Hi, what would you like to eat today?

Amy: 要鸭肉。
   Wǒ yào yāròu.
Amy: I want duck meat.

Andy: 你要青菜吗?
   Nǐ yào qīngcài ma?
   Do you want vegetables?
Amy: 好，我要青菜。
    Hǎo, wǒ yào qīngcài.
    Yes, I want vegetables.

Andy: 请等一下。
    Qǐng děng yīxià.
    Please wait for a moment

Amy: 谢谢。
    Xièxiè.
    Thanks.

对话 2 - Conversation 2

Andy: 你明天去哪里?
    Nǐ míngtiān qù nǎlǐ?
    Where are you going tomorrow?
Amy: 我明天去小琉球

Wǒ míngtiān qù Xiǎoliúqiú.
I will go to Xiǎoliúqiú tomorrow.

小琉球很漂亮。

Xiǎoliúqiú hěn piàoliàng
Xiǎoliúqiú is beautiful.

对话 3 - Conversation 3

Amy: 你明天去哪里?

Nǐ míngtiān qù nǎlǐ?
Where are you going tomorrow?
Andy: 我明天在家。
Wǒ míngtiān zài jiā.
I will be at home tomorrow.

Lesson 4 Complete! Superb.

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Pinyin 5 - “Simple conversations”

复习 Review:
请念出以下的字
Please read these following words:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>jiǎ</th>
<th>xiě</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xiǎo</td>
<td>zhèshì</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shí</td>
<td>sì</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhān</td>
<td>yīng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shàng</td>
<td>liù</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
课堂用语 Classroom Phrases

1. 第__页
   Dì______yè
   Page ______

2. 写作业
   Xiě zuòyè
   Do your homework

   3. 再见
   Zàijiàn
   Goodbye.

新的语音认识 Introduction of new phonetic

ua             花 huā             N             flower

wā wā wǎ wà
国 guó N country

外婆 wài pó N grandmother

贵 guì Adj expensive
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sound</th>
<th>Pinyin</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Characters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>uei</td>
<td>wēi</td>
<td>to speak</td>
<td>言 wén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wēi</td>
<td>wēi</td>
<td>to speak</td>
<td>言 wén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suī</td>
<td>sul</td>
<td>to speak</td>
<td>言 wén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suǐ</td>
<td>suǐ</td>
<td>to speak</td>
<td>言 wén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huī</td>
<td>huǐ</td>
<td>to speak</td>
<td>言 wén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huǐ</td>
<td>huǐ</td>
<td>to speak</td>
<td>言 wén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tuī</td>
<td>tuǐ</td>
<td>to speak</td>
<td>言 wén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tuǐ</td>
<td>tuǐ</td>
<td>to speak</td>
<td>言 wén</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wān</td>
<td>wān</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wǒ</td>
<td>wǒ</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wǎn</td>
<td>wǎn</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kuān</td>
<td>kuān</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kuǎn</td>
<td>kuǎn</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suān</td>
<td>suān</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suǎn</td>
<td>suǎn</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xuān</td>
<td>xuān</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xuǎn</td>
<td>xuǎn</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wāng</td>
<td>wāng</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wǎng</td>
<td>wǎng</td>
<td>to play</td>
<td>玩 wán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huáng</td>
<td>huáng</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>黃 huáng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suàn</td>
<td>suàn</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>黃 huáng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xuàn</td>
<td>xuàn</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>黃 huáng</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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huāng huāng huāng huāng
shuāng shuāng shuāng shuāng
kuāng kuāng kuāng kuāng

wén wén wén wèn
lún lún lún lún
shūn shūn shūn shūn
hūn hūn hūn hūn

zhōng zhōng zhōng zhōng
课堂练习

1. Pronunciation:
   2. wāi — wēi
   3. wǎ — wǒ
   4. hui — huài
   5. wēn — wēng
   6. shūn — shuāng

2. Guess what combination the tutor is reading
   1. suō — shuā
   2. lún — luán
   3. huā — huō
   4. zuì — zhuā
   5. shuāi — shuí

3. Have the tutor guess what combination you are reading
对话1 - Conversation 1

Amy：你是不是台湾人？
Nǐ shì búshì Táiwān rén?
Are you Taiwanese or not?

Andy：不是，我不是台湾人。
Búshì, wǒ búshì Táiwān rén.
No, I'm not a Taiwanese.

Amy：你是哪国人？
Nǐ shì nǎguó rén?
Which country are you from?

Andy：我是美国人，我外婆是台湾人。
Wǒ shì Měiguó rén, wǒ wàipó shì Táiwān rén.
I’m American, my grandmother is Taiwanese
对话2 - Conversation 2

Amy: 这是哪国手机?
Zhè she nà guó shǒuǐ?
What country is this cell phone from?

Andy: 这是中国手机.
Zhè shì zhōngguó shǒuǐ.
Andy: This is a Chinese cell phone.

Andy: 中国手机不贵.
Zhōngguó shǒuǐ bù guì,
Chinese phones are not expensive.

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Pinyin 6 - “Final pronunciation summary”

导入 Warm up

複習 Review

1) 請讀 四組拼音Please read these four
   wan/wang/wen/weng

课堂用语 Classroom Phrases

1. 请大声一点
   Qīng dàshēng yìdiǎn
   Please read louder

2. 一声
yi shēng
first tone

3. èr shēng
second tone

4. sān shēng
third tone

5. sì shēng
forth tone

新的语音认识 Introduction of new phonetic

1. yue
   觉得 juédé V To think
Yüe yüe yüe yüe
lūe lūe lūe lūe
jüe jüe jüe jüe
xüe xüe xüe xüe

2. yuan

圆形 yuán xíng N circle

Yuăn yuán yuán yuàn
juăn juăn juăn juàn
quăn quán quán quán
xuăn xuăn xuăn xuăn
3. 云 yún
裙子 qúnzi N a skirt

Yún yún yún yún
jùn jún jùn jùn
qún qún qún qún
xùn xùn xùn yùn

4. 胸 xīōng
游泳 yóuyǒng V to swim

yǒng yǒng yǒng yòng
jiǒng jiǒng Jiǒng Jiǒng
qiǒng qiǒng qiǒng qiǒng
xiǒng xiǒng xiǒng xiǒng
课堂练习 Pronunciation Drill

1. Pronunciation:

1) yōng — yuǎn
2) ōng — yōng
3) yūn — yīn
4) yūn — wān
5) wàng — wèng

2. Guess what combination the tutor is reading.

1) yún — yuán
2) qún — quán
3) xùn — xuàn
4) lùn — rùn
5) zhǔn — chūn

3. Let the tutor guesses what combination you are reading.
1）juān — quān
2) lǒng — lěng
3) nóng — néng
4) zhōng — zhōng
5) qióng — cóng
6) xiōng — sōng

对话 1— Conversation 1

A: 你喜欢做什么？
Nǐ xǐhuān zuò shénme?
What do you like to do?

B: 我喜欢游泳。我觉得游泳很好玩。
Wǒ xǐhuān yóuyǒng.Wǒ juédé yóuyǒng hěn hǎowán.
I like to swim. I think swimming is fun.
Tones marking rules:

To mark tones above pinyin, follow the sequence when alphabets appear in a word.

1. a -> o -> e -> i -> u -> ü

Ex: māo, lèi, ài

2. If “iu” or “iü” appears in the same word, mark the tones at the last alphabet.

EX: Jiǔ, zuì, zhuī

练习 Practice

Please lesson to the tutor’s pronunciation and mark the tones above the correct alphabets.

1. Wo xihuan chi baozi
2. Mama bu xihuan he jiu
3. Wo juede hen hao chi
4. Gege shi Zhongguo ren
5. Ta xue zhongwen

**Pinyin special rules**

1. Syllables starting with “i”, replace “i” with “y”.

yào (要; want to)

Exceptions:
1. For the single vowel "i", and the nasals "in" and "ing", "y" is added before "i", resulting in "yi", "yin", and “ying”;

yīngwén (英文; English)

2. Syllables starting with “u” replace "u" with "w”.

Examples:
wán (玩; play/have fun)
wài (外; outside)
Exceptions:
1. For the single vowel "u", "w" is added before "u", resulting in "wu";
2. When there is an initial. Spell "wen" for “un”.

春 spring chuen=> chūn
3. When there is an initial. Spell "wei" for “ui”,

贵 expensive guei=>guì

4. Syllables starting with “ü”. Replace "ü" with "yu".

Examples:
yù (雨; rain)
yún (雲; cloud)
yuǎn (遠; far)

5. Characters vs. Words

In order for others to understand more easily, most people write the two pinyin syllables with no space in between if there are two characters in a word, as is shown below.

And the first letter of a sentence, surnames , and the first letters of proper nouns should be capitalized.

我叫王大明
Wǒ jiào Wáng Dàmíng.
My name is daming Wang.

他是中国人
Tā shì Zhōngguó rén.
He is Chinese.

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1st tone  2nd tone  3rd tone  4th tone


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