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# TutorMandarin Survival Phrases

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The “must know” phrases for visiting China



TutorMandarin - Professional Mobile Mandarin Tutoring

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Intro to Survival Phrases .....	3
Basics .....	4
Grammar.....	4
Phrases.....	4

# Intro to Survival Phrases

Mandarin Chinese is the official language of Mainland China and Taiwan. It is also one of the official languages of Singapore! In English, it is often just called "Mandarin" or "Chinese." In China, Mandarin is called Putonghua (普通话), meaning "common speech", while in Taiwan it is referred to as Guoyu (國語), "the national language."

Mandarin has been the main language of education in China (excluding Hong Kong and Macau) since the 1950s. Standard Mandarin is close to, but not quite identical with, the Mandarin dialect of the Beijing area. In Singapore, it is officially referred to as HuaYu (華語).

This ebook will teach you the survival phrases you need to survive in China and Taiwan on a daily basis.

Ok, that's it! Enjoy!

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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.*



# Basics

## Grammar

To be or not to be? Questions are typically asked with two options and a negation in the middle. They are answered by repeating the verb. Here are common examples:

To be or not to be

是 不是

shì bú shì

To have or not have

有 没有

yǒu méi yǒu

Right or wrong?

对 不对

duì, bú duì

## Phrases

Hello

你好

Nǐ hǎo

How are you?

你好吗?

Nǐ hǎo ma?

Fine, thank you.

很好, 谢谢

Hěn hǎo, xièxie

May I please ask, what is your name?

请问你叫什么名?

Qǐngwèn nǐjiào shěnmé míng?

What is your name?

你叫什么名字?

Nǐ jiào shěnmé míngzi?

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ .

我叫 \_\_\_\_\_ 。

Wǒ jiào \_\_\_\_\_ .

Nice to meet you.

很高兴认识你。

Hěn gāoxìng rènshì nǐ.

Please.

请。

Qǐng.

Thank you.

谢谢。

Xièxiè.

You're welcome.

不客气。

Bú kèqi.

Excuse me. (To get attention)

请问

qǐng wèn

Excuse me. (begging pardon)

打扰一下。

Dǎrǎo yíxià .

Excuse me. (begging pardon)

麻烦您了。

Máfan nín le.

Excuse me. (coming through)

对不起

Duìbùqǐ

Excuse me. (coming through)

请让一下

Qǐng ràng yíxià

I'm sorry.

对不起。

Duìbùqǐ.

It's okay. (polite response to "I'm sorry")

没关系。

méiguānxi.

Goodbye

再见。

Zàijiàn

Goodbye (informal)

拜拜。

Bāi-bāi (Bye bye)

I can't speak Chinese.

我不会讲中文。

Wǒ bú huì jiǎng zhōngwén.

Do you speak English?

你会说英语吗?

Nǐ huì shuō Yīngyǔ ma?

Is there someone here who speaks English?

这里有人会说英语吗?

Zhèlǐ yǒu rén huì shuō Yīngyǔ ma?

Help! (in emergencies)

救命！

Jiùmìng!

Good morning.

早安。

zǎo ān.

Good evening.

晚上好。

Wǎnshàng hǎo.

Good night.

晚安。

Wǎn'ān.

I don't understand (something heard).

我听不懂。

Wǒ tīng bù dǒng.

I don't understand (something read).

我看不懂。

Wǒ kàn bù dǒng.

Where is the toilet?





厕所在哪里？

Cèsuǒ zài nǎlǐ?

Where is the bathroom (polite)?

洗手间在哪里？

Xǐshǒujiān zài nǎlǐ?

Basics Complete! Great job!

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