



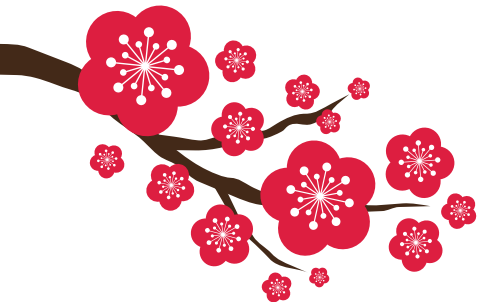
International  
House  
London



LEARN MANDARIN  
WITH IH LONDON

## WHY STUDY MANDARIN WITH IH LONDON?

1. IH London was established in 1959 and is one of the top-ranking language schools in the UK.
2. IH London is a founding member of IH World Organisation – a network of over 150 high quality language schools located across 52 countries.
3. We are regularly inspected by educational bodies such as the British Council and Equals, ensuring we deliver high quality courses to students.
4. IH London is located near Covent Garden and is a purpose-built language school boasting 9 floors of modern classrooms, as well as study areas and a library with a Mandarin language section.
5. We are proud to have a highly qualified team of professional Mandarin language teachers, who have extensive experience in teaching their language.
6. IH London offers both online and face-to-face Mandarin classes from beginners to advanced levels, with regular start dates throughout the year.
7. Our class sizes are kept small with an average size of 8 students.
8. All students have access to our online Moodle platform where Mandarin language teachers upload notes for each class, and where extra resources can be found.
9. Students receive regular Mandarin Top Tips emails with cultural and self-study recommendations to enhance their studies.
10. Themed events and workshops take place throughout the year, both online and face-to-face, introducing students to different elements of Mandarin language and culture.



## OUR COURSES

We have Mandarin courses starting regularly throughout the year, with most courses being 6, 8 or 10 weeks long. You can check individual course dates on our course web pages at [ihlondon.com/foreign-languages/](http://ihlondon.com/foreign-languages/)

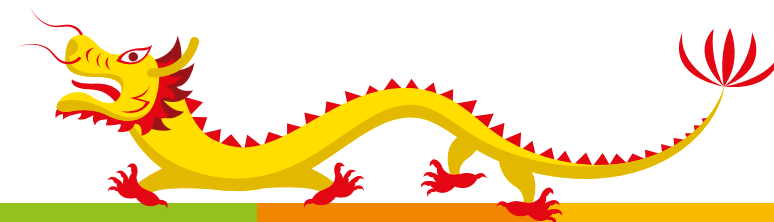
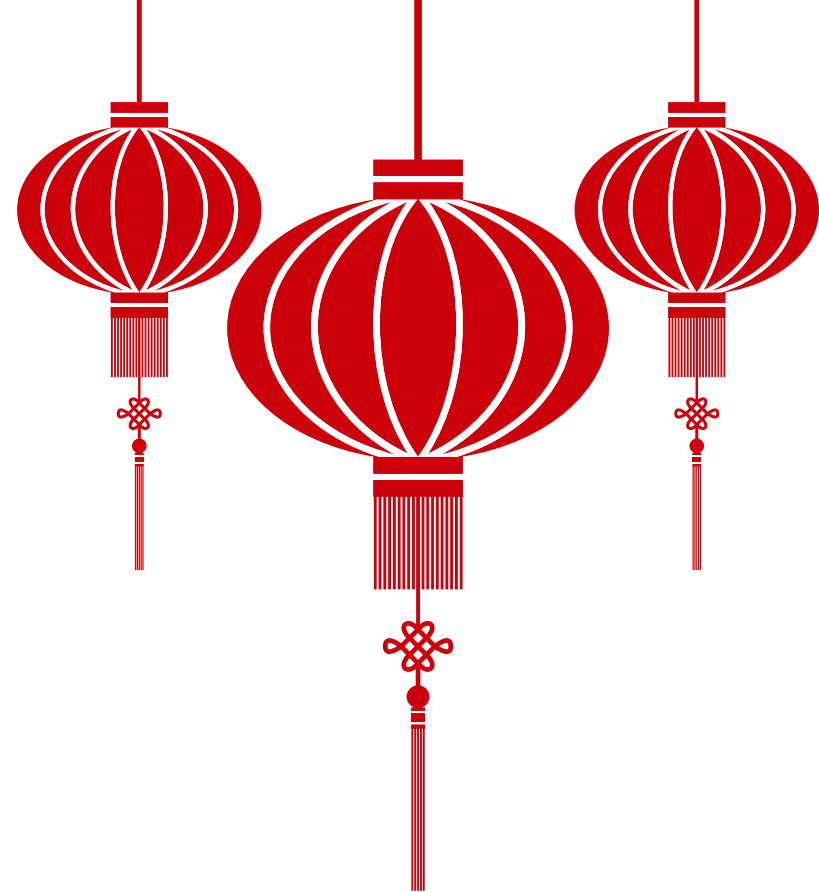


## OUR MANDARIN LANGUAGE LEVELS EXPLAINED

Course	Category	Course duration	Number of class hours taken before the course	HSK estimates
Level 1	Beginner	12 hours	0 hours	↓
Level 2	Elementary	12 hours	12 hours	
Level 3	Elementary	12 hours	24 hours	
Level 4	Elementary	12 hours	36 hours	HSK Level 1
Level 5	Elementary	12 hours	48 hours	↓
Level 6	Elementary	12 hours	60 hours	
Level 7	Elementary	12 hours	72 hours	
Level 8	Elementary	12 hours	84 hours	HSK Level 2
Level 9	Pre-Intermediate	12 hours	96 hours	↓
Level 10	Pre-Intermediate	12 hours	108 hours	
Level 11	Pre-Intermediate	12 hours	120 hours	
Level 12	Pre-Intermediate	12 hours	132 hours	↓
Level 13	Pre-Intermediate	12 hours	144 hours	
Level 14	Pre-Intermediate	12 hours	156 hours	
Level 15	Intermediate	12 hours	168 hours	↓
Level 16	Intermediate	12 hours	180 hours	
Level 17	Intermediate	12 hours	192 hours	
Level 18	Intermediate	12 hours	204 hours	↓
Level 19	Intermediate	12 hours	216 hours	
Level 20	Intermediate	12 hours	228 hours	
Level 21	Upper-Intermediate	12 hours	240 hours	↓
Level 22	Upper-Intermediate	12 hours	252 hours	

### OTHER COURSES

Pre-Holiday	Beginner	12 hours	0 hours	
Introduction to	Beginner	15 hours	0 hours	
Mandarin Conversation	Upper-Intermediate	12/15 hours	Min 252 hours	HSK Level 5
Mandarin Club	Upper-Intermediate	12 hours	Min 252 hours	HSK Level 5



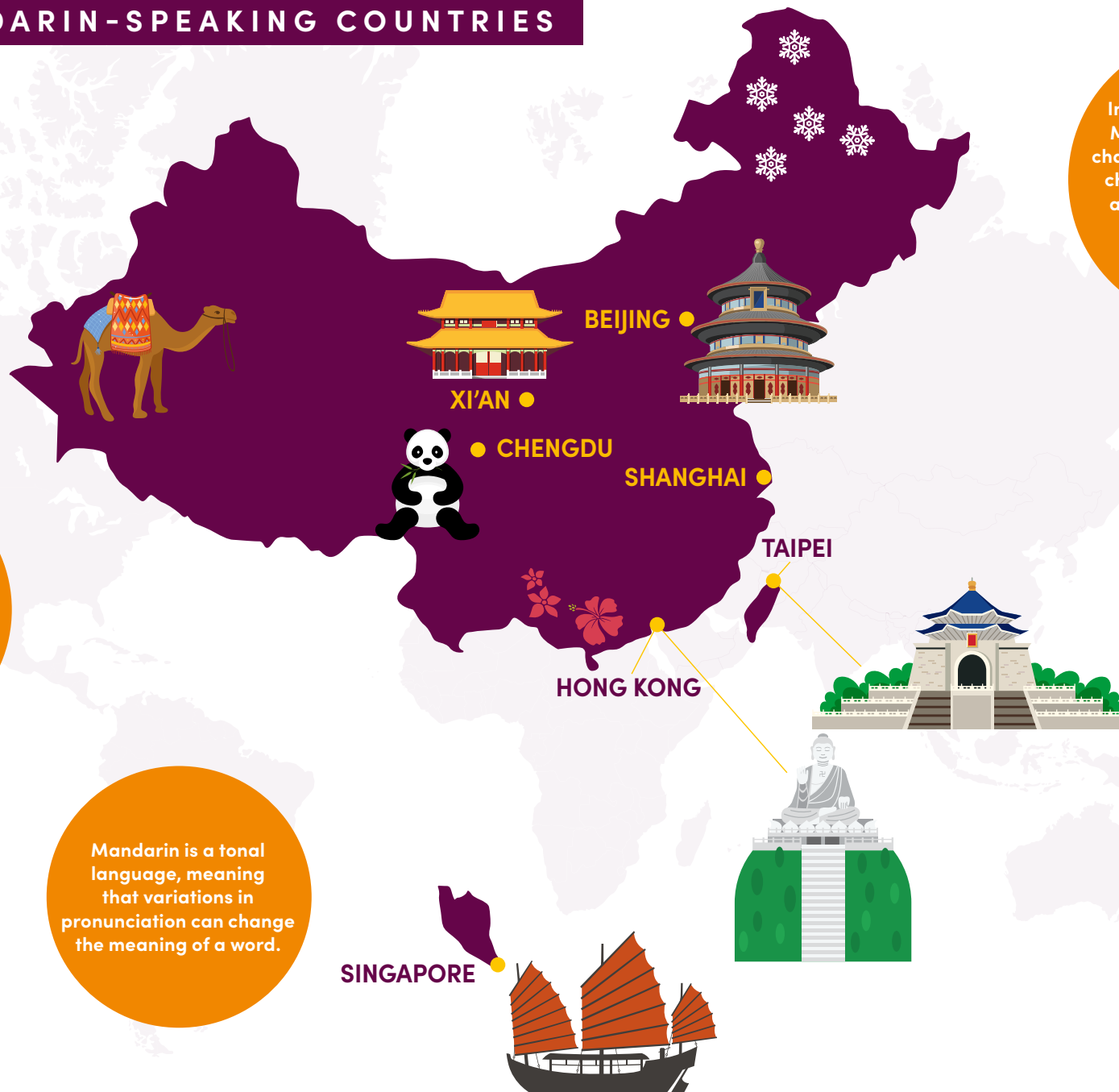
## MAP OF MANDARIN-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

Mandarin is the most widely spoken native language in the world with around a billion speakers.

It is one of the fastest growing languages in the world and is becoming an increasingly popular foreign language to learn.

Mandarin is a tonal language, meaning that variations in pronunciation can change the meaning of a word.

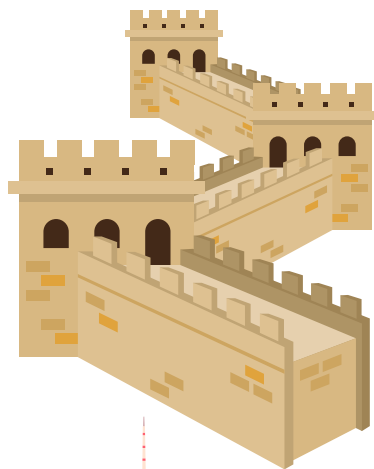
Instead of an alphabet, Mandarin uses a set of characters. Around 50,000 characters exist in total, although around 2,500 are used in everyday communication.



## TOP 5 PLACES TO VISIT

### THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

One of the most iconic sites in the world, no first-time trip to China would be complete without a visit to its awe-inspiring Great Wall. Stretching over 13,000 miles, this colossal structure is mind boggling and offers incredible views from the top as well as a fascinating insight into China's ancient history.



### SHANGHAI & SUZHOU

Get two amazing locations for the price of one with these contrasting neighbouring destinations. Experience the ultra-modern hustle and bustle of Shanghai, with its skyscrapers and neon, then switch it up for laid-back Suzhou old town, with its historic canals, pretty bridges and inviting tea-houses.



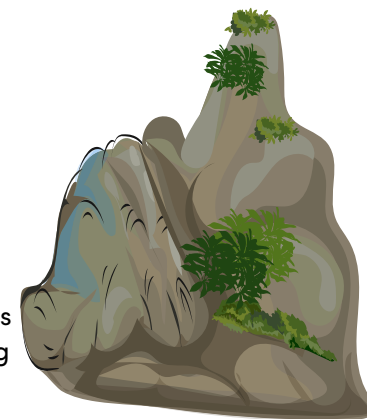
### GUILIN

Nature lovers are in for a real treat in the Guilin area. Famed for its incredible countryside and amazing karst landscapes, it's perfect for those who want to escape city life. From the Longsheng rice terraces to the striking Yangshuo mountains, there is plenty here for those who enjoy exploring the great outdoors.



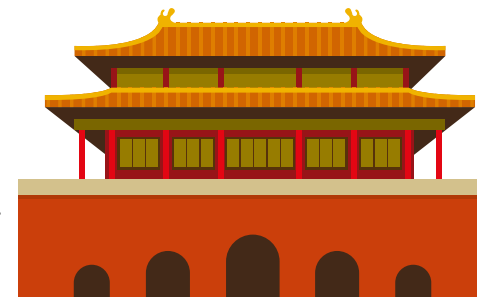
### ZHANGJIAJIE

Another incredible natural location is Zhangjiajie National Forest Park. With scenery that inspired the creators of Avatar, the forest's awesome rock formations are totally unique and truly other-worldly. Those seeking adventure and somewhere more remote will have the time of their lives here!



### XI'AN

We couldn't not mention the home of the Terracotta Warriors! But that's not all this ancient destination has to offer. From its old city walls and imposing gates and towers, to the mouth-watering Muslim Chinese street food at the night market - for those who want the perfect mix of culture, history and cuisine, Xi'an is the place to be.



**Honourable Mentions:** Beijing, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taipei.



## CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

### KUNG FU AT SHAOLIN TEMPLE

See the masters at work with an awesome Kung Fu demonstration at Shaolin Temple. From slicing through brick to performing gravity defying balancing acts, the monks train for years to reach such skill levels and visiting offers a truly unforgettable experience.



### VISIT PANDAS IN CHENGDU

One of the symbols of China and one of the world's cutest animals, watching pandas play is just so much fun. The Chengdu area has three panda conservation centres which offer visitors the chance to catch a glimpse of these rare and beautiful bears.



### DISCOVER THE REMOTE REGION OF KASHGAR

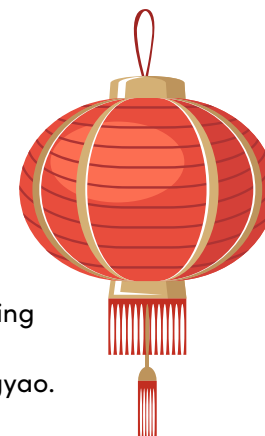
For those who enjoy going off the beaten track, why not join a tour to Kashgar and the Xinjiang region in the far west of China. The area is completely different to other parts of the country and culturally has more in common with central Asian nations. Kashgar's importance as a city on the ancient Silk Route can still be felt today, especially with the bustling Sunday bazaar, mosques and nearby desert landscapes.



## FESTIVALS

### CHINESE NEW YEAR (JAN/FEB)

Famous around the world, Chinese New Year is an event of huge importance, and can be an amazing time to travel to Mandarin (or Cantonese) speaking countries. Beijing is a firm favourite and is home to incredible events. Or for something more traditional head to the ancient city of Pingyao.



### HARBIN INTERNATIONAL SNOW & ICE FESTIVAL (JAN/FEB)

Home to the largest snow and ice sculpture festival in the world, Harbin takes things to another level. With huge, intricate structures and a host of wintry activities taking place, the festival is perfect for snow lovers. Be sure to wrap up warm though, as the city sees average low temperatures of  $-24^{\circ}\text{C}$ !



### HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL (JUNE)

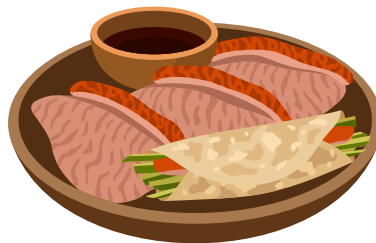
Dragon boat racing is a traditional Chinese sport and sees fierce competitions take place. The biggest celebration happens in Hong Kong, usually in June, and welcomes large crowds who attend not only to see the races themselves, but to enjoy the festivities, parades and cultural events too.



## MUST-TRY FOOD

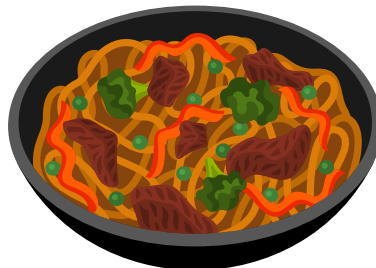
### PEKING DUCK

Today the dish is famous worldwide, but there's nothing quite like sampling Peking Duck at its home in Beijing. Crispy slices of roast duck are traditionally served with pancakes, spring onions, cucumber and sauces such as hoisin, and are a real treat.



### DANDAN MIAN

Hailing from the Sichuan region, this spicy noodle dish is great for those who love fiery foods. Made with pork mince, vegetables, chilli oil and Sichuan pepper amongst other ingredients, the heat may leave your mouth tingling afterwards!



### HUOGUO

Perfect for sharing with family or friends, the traditional hot pot is a much loved dish. Made with a base broth bursting with flavour, raw meats, seafood, vegetables and noodles are added to the pot and cooked in the simmering liquid. There are many regional variations, so why not try as many as you can?

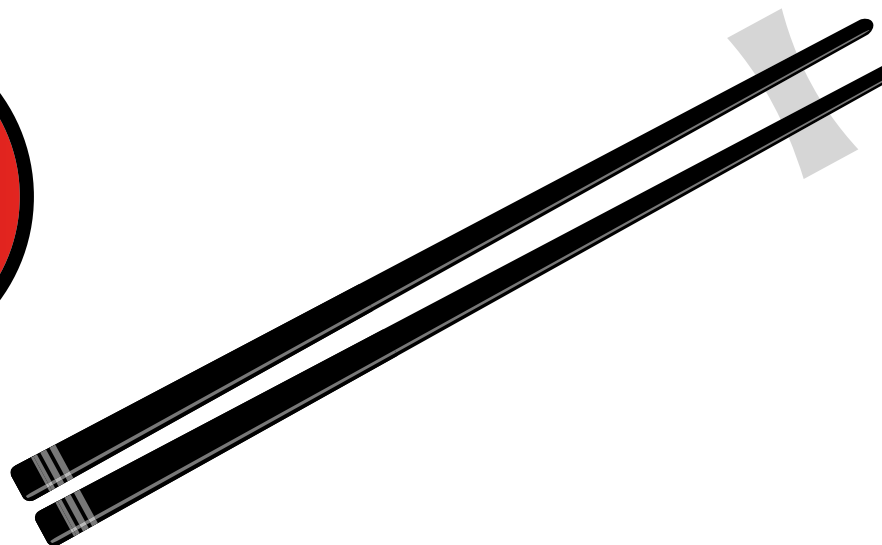
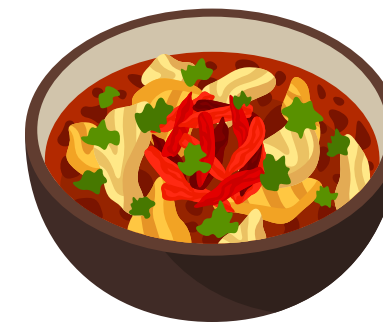


### CHUAN'R

This is an extremely popular dish throughout the Mandarin (and Cantonese) speaking world and we can see why! Essentially meat grilled on sticks, like small kebabs, they are full of flavour thanks to their deliciously spiced coatings. We particularly love the lamb chuan'r found in night markets in Xi'an!

### SUANTANG SHUIJIAO

If you love both spicy soups and dumplings, then this awesome combination is for you. Suantang Shuijiao is a hot, sour dumpling soup dish, which comes in a steaming, comforting bowl full of flavours and textures.



## MANDARIN DIALOGUES

### 1. AT A RESTAURANT IN BEIJING | 在北京的一家餐馆

**Customer:** Good evening. Could we have a table for two please?

**Waiter:** Welcome! Yes, please come in. Here is a table for you.

**Customer:** Thank you. Could we have a menu please?

**Waiter:** Yes. Right away... Here.

**Customer:** Thank you.

**Customer:** To drink, could we have two beers please. For food... what would you suggest?

**Waiter:** If you are here in Beijing, you should try the duck. Visitors always enjoy it.

**Customer:** Ok, we will go with your suggestion. And also, what is zha jiang mian?

**Waiter:** It's a popular noodle dish here in the city, made with pork and bean sauce. It's very nice.

**Customer:** Ok, we'll take that too.

**Waiter:** Good. We'll be with you right away.

**Customer:** We would like to try a traditional Chinese drink to finish off the evening. What do you recommend?

**Waiter:** Well, baijiu is very popular, but it is very strong!

**Customer:** Oh really? Ok... let's try it!

**Customer:** You were right, it was very strong! I think we should get the bill now.

**Waiter:** Of course. I hope you enjoyed your evening with us!

**Customer:** We had a great time. Thank you very much.

**顾客:** 晚上好, 请问你们有两个人的桌子吗?

**服务员:** 欢迎! 当然, 请进。这是你们的桌子。

**顾客:** 谢谢, 请给我们一份菜单好吗?

**服务员:** 好的, 马上... 这个

**顾客:** 谢谢

**顾客:** 请给我们两杯啤酒好吗。对于食物...你有什么建议?

**服务员:** 如果你在北京, 你应该尝尝鸭子。游客们总是喜欢。

**顾客:** 好的, 同意你的建议。还有, 什么是炸酱面?

**服务员:** 这是城里很受欢迎的面条, 用猪肉和豆酱做的。很不错。

**顾客:** 好的, 我们也要这个。

**服务员:** 很好。我们马上就来。

**顾客:** 我们想尝尝传统的中国饮料来结束晚上的时光。你推荐什么?

**服务员:** 嗯, 白酒很受欢迎, 但它非常烈!

**顾客:** 哦, 真的吗? 好吧...让我们试试吧!

**顾客:** 你是对的, 它非常烈! 我想我们现在应该买单了。

**服务员:** 当然。希望你和我们在一起过得愉快!

**顾客:** 我们玩得很开心。非常感谢你。



## MANDARIN DIALOGUES

### 2. BUYING TICKETS FOR THE TERRACOTTA WARRIORS MUSEUM

#### 购买兵马俑博物馆门票餐馆

**Visitor:** Good morning. There are four of us.

**Museum employee:** Good morning. Four people. Ok... Each ticket is CNY 120. So CNY 480 please.

**Visitor:** CNY 480. Ok... here.

**Museum employee:** Thank you. Here are your tickets. The exhibition starts through the gates in the building on the left. From there you can follow the route through the complex.

**Visitor:** Ok. Do you have an information booklet?

**Museum employee:** Yes, please take one here. We have versions in Mandarin and English too.

**Visitor:** Thank you. Where can we find the main exhibition of the Terracotta Warriors?

**Museum employee:** The main exhibition is in what's marked as area 4 on the map in the booklet.

**Visitor:** Ok. Thank you very much!

**游客:** 早上好。我们有四个人。

**博物馆员工:** 早上好。四个人。好的, 每张票120元。请给我480元。

**游客:** 480元人民币。好的……给你。

**博物馆员工:** 非常感谢。这是你的票。展览从左边大楼的大门开始。从那里你可以沿着这条路穿过综合大楼。

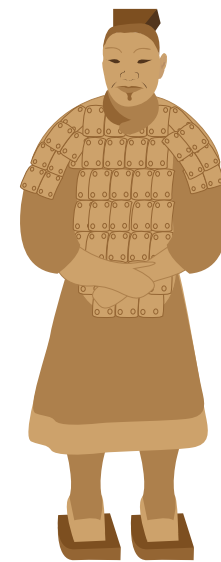
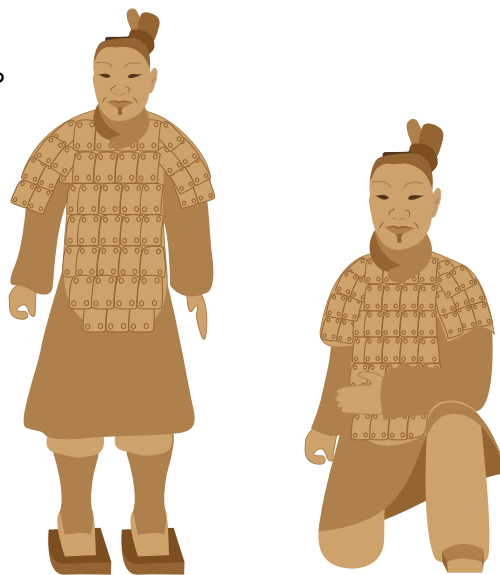
**游客:** 好啊。你有资料册吗?

**博物馆员工:** 是的, 请在这里拿一个。我们也有中文和英文版本。

**游客:** 非常感谢。我们在哪里可以找到兵马俑的主要展览?

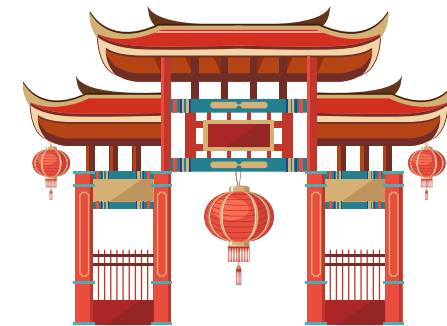
**博物馆员工:** 主要展览在小册子地图上标明的4区。

**游客:** 好啊。非常感谢你!



## MANDARIN DIALOGUES

### 3. AT A BUSINESS CONFERENCE | 在商务会议上



**Chinese delegate:** Hello. Welcome to Shanghai! My name is Mr. Chen.

**Visiting delegate:** Hello, thank you. It's nice to meet you. My name is Ms. Jones.

**Chinese delegate:** Nice to meet you too. When did you arrive here in Shanghai?

**Visiting delegate:** I flew in yesterday from London, so am a little jet-lagged, but very happy to be here.

**Chinese delegate:** Oh, I love London. I was there for a conference in September last year. Is this your first time in Shanghai?

**Visiting delegate:** Yes, it is. I've been to Hong Kong on holiday and Chengdu for work, but have never been to Shanghai before.

**Chinese delegate:** I hope you have time to explore the city after the conference.

**Visiting delegate:** Me too! Where do you suggest I visit?

**Chinese delegate:** The area around the Bund is interesting, and visitors always seem to enjoy the Tianzifang neighbourhood which has lots of shops and cafes. If you like gardens then you should visit Yuyuan which is very pretty. If you have more time then you could also take a trip to Qibao Old Town which is a historic part of the city along a river – it's very nice!

**Visiting delegate:** That's great advice. It all sounds so fascinating. Thank you for the tips!

**Chinese delegate:** You're very welcome. I have to go now to meet a colleague, but I'm sure I'll see you later at the conference dinner.

**Visiting delegate:** Yes, certainly. Have a good day.

**Chinese delegate:** Thank you. See you later!

**中方代表:** 你好。欢迎来到上海! 我叫陈先生。

**来访代表:** 你好, 谢谢。很高兴认识你。我叫琼斯女士。

**中方代表:** 我也很高兴认识你。你什么时候到上海的?

**来访代表:** 我昨天从伦敦飞过来的, 所以有点时差, 但很高兴来到这里。

**中方代表:** 哦, 我爱伦敦。去年9月我在那里参加了一个会议。这是你第一次来上海吗?

**来访代表:** 是的, 是的。我去过香港度假和成都工作, 但以前从未去过上海。

**中方代表:** 我希望会议结束后你有时间去游览这个城市。

**来访代表:** 我也是! 你建议我去哪里?

**中方代表:** 外滩周围的地区很有趣, 游客似乎总是喜欢天子坊附近有很多商店和咖啡馆。如果你喜欢花园, 那么你应该参观豫园, 那里非常漂亮。如果你有更多的时间, 你也可以去七宝老城旅游, 这是城市历史上沿河的一部分-非常好!

**来访代表:** 这是个很好的建议。听起来很有趣。谢谢你的提示!

**中方代表:** 不客气。我现在得去见一位同事, 但我肯定稍后在会议晚宴上见。

**来访代表:** 当然可以。祝您今天过得愉快。

**中方代表:** 非常感谢。回头见!

## MANDARIN DIALOGUES

### 4. MEETING FELLOW TOURISTS AT THE GREAT WALL | 在长城会见其他游客

**Tom:** Excuse me. Would you mind taking a photo of me please?

**Jing:** Of course! With the Wall in the photo I guess?

**Tom:** Yes please. I can't wait to send it to my friends back home!

**Jing:** I bet! Ok.... One, two, three... done.

**Tom:** Thank you so much! What's your name?

**Jing:** My name is Jing. What's yours?

**Tom:** I'm Tom. Nice to meet you.

**Jing:** Where are you from?

**Tom:** I'm from Manchester, in the UK, but I'm teaching English here in China for a year. Where are you from?

**Jing:** I'm from Beijing. This is my family – we are visiting the wall for the day.

**Tom:** Oh how nice. Shall I take a photo of you all together?

**Jing:** That would be lovely – thank you! You just click here.

**Tom:** No problem.... smile! Oh, that's a really nice photo.

**Jing:** Thank you very much Tom. I hope you have a nice day and enjoy your time in China.

**Tom:** Thank you, enjoy your daytrip with the family!

**汤姆:** 打扰一下。你介意给我照张相吗?

**静:** 当然! 我猜照片里要有墙, 是吗?

**汤姆:** 是的, 我迫不及待地想把它寄给我家乡的朋友们!

**静:** 好的! 一, 二, 三...完成

**汤姆:** 非常感谢你! 你叫什么名字?

**静:** 我叫静。你的是什么?

**汤姆:** 我是汤姆。很高兴认识你。

**静:** 你从哪里来的?

**汤姆:** 我来自英国的曼彻斯特, 但我在中国教了一年英语。你从哪里来的?

**静:** 我来自北京。这是我的家人——我们今天要去参观长城。

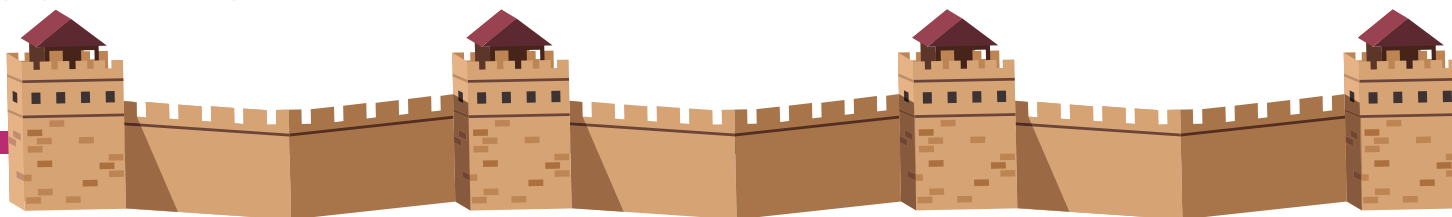
**汤姆:** 哦, 多好啊。我给你们拍张合影好吗?

**静:** 那太好了-谢谢! 你只要点击这里。

**汤姆:** 没问题...。微笑! 哦, 这张照片真漂亮。

**静:** 非常感谢你, 汤姆。我希望你在中国过得愉快, 玩得开心。

**汤姆:** 谢谢你, 祝你和家人一日游愉快!



# MANDARIN GRAMMAR

## WORD ORDER

Mandarin uses a subject-verb or subject-verb-object structure for making simple sentences.

### SUBJECT-VERB EXAMPLES:

Subject	Verb	Translation
你Nǐ	吃。chī.	You eat.
他Tā	笑。xiào.	He laughs.
我Wǒ	去。qù.	I go.

### SUBJECT-VERB-OBJECT EXAMPLES:

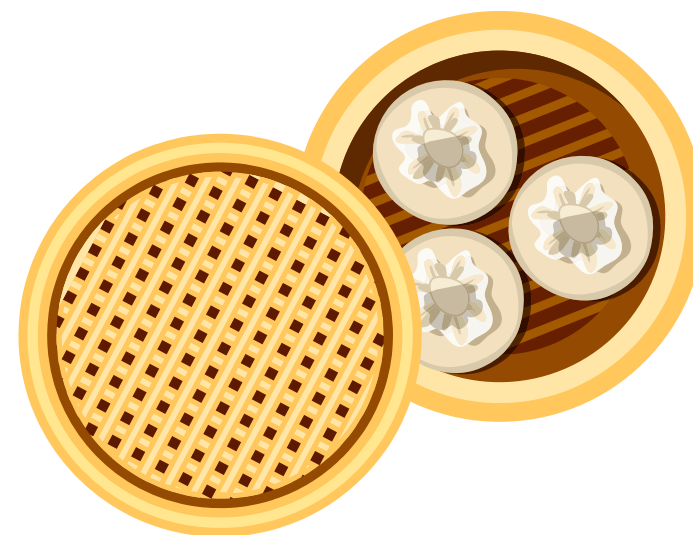
Subject	Verb	Object	Translation
我Wǒ	吃chī.	肉。ròu.	I eat meat.
你Nǐ	喝hē	水。shuǐ.	You drink water.
他Tā	说shuō	中文。Zhōngwén.	He speaks Mandarin.

## VERBS

In Mandarin we do not conjugate verbs. Mandarin verbs stay the same, regardless of when the action takes place or who performs it.

Here are some useful verbs to start using:

是 (shì)	verb for "to be"
在 (zài)	verb for "to be located"
有 (yǒu)	verb for "there is / there are"
叫 (jiào)	verb for "to be called"
去 (qù)	verb for "to go"



# MANDARIN GRAMMAR

## QUESTIONS

Simple sentences can be transformed into yes/no questions by adding 吗 (ma) to the end.

他是老师吗？	Tā shì lǎoshī ma? Is he a teacher?
你喜欢咖啡吗？	Nǐ xǐhuan kāfēi ma? Do you like coffee?

Another important question particle is 呢 (ne) which can be used to transform a sentence into a “what about...?” question.

我吃饭了。你呢？	Wǒ chīfàn le. Nǐ ne? I've eaten. What about you?
北京下雨了。上海呢？	Běijīng xià yǔ le. Shànghǎi ne? It's raining in Beijing. How about Shanghai?

What, where, who, when, why, how – these words are placed at the end of a sentence in Mandarin. For example, to ask ‘What is it?’ you say ‘It is what?’.

## POSSESSION

Possession in Mandarin can be communicated by simply using the particle 的 (de) after the owner and before the ‘thing owned’.

公司的老板	Gōngsī de lǎobǎn. The company's boss.
他的小狗	Tā de xiǎogǒu. His puppy.

Possession can also be indicated via the verb 有 (yǒu), meaning ‘to have’.

我有钱。	Wǒ yǒu qián. I have money.
他有两个女儿。	Tā yǒu liǎng gè nǚér. He has two daughters.

## NEGATIVES

To create negative statements in Mandarin the word 不 (bù) is used before verbs and adjectives. It is similar to the use of ‘not’ in English.

我不喝酒。	Wǒ bù hējiǔ. I don't drink alcohol.
他们不想工作。	Tāmen bù xiǎng gōngzuò. They don't want to work.

When talking about what we ‘do not have’, we use the word 没 (méi) instead of 不 (bù). It is used before the verb 有 (yǒu) to form a ‘do not have’ phrase 没有 (méiyǒu).

我没有手机。	Wǒ méi yǒu shǒujī. I don't have a cell phone.
他们公司没有电脑。	Tāmen gōngsī méi yǒu diànnǎo. Their company doesn't have computers.



## USEFUL MANDARIN CHARACTERS

一

one

二

two

三

three

四

four

五

five

六

six

七

seven

八

eight

九

nine

十

ten

一百

hundred

中国

China

台湾

Taiwan

香港

Hong Kong

新加坡

Singapore

汉语

Mandarin

茶

tea

咖啡

coffee

牛奶

milk

水

water

汽水

fizzy drink

果汁

fruit juice

酒

alcohol

汤

soup

米饭

rice

面条

noodles

肉

meat

牛肉

beef

猪肉

pork

鸡肉

chicken

鸭肉

duck

鱼

fish

饺子

dumpling

鸡蛋

egg

烤

to roast

青菜

vegetable

早饭

breakfast

午饭

lunch

晚饭

dinner

点心

dim sum

菜单

menu

饭馆

restaurant

咖啡厅

café

筷子

chopsticks

杂志

magazine

报纸

newspaper

书

book

银行

bank

超市

supermarket

汽车站

bus station

城市

city

海边

seaside

农村

countryside

山区

mountain

飞机

plane

火车

train

## USEFUL MANDARIN CHARACTERS

季节 season	春天 spring	夏天 summer	秋天 autumn	冬天 winter	年 year	月 month	日 day	点 o'clock	小时 hour	分钟 minute
上午 morning	下午 afternoon	晚上 evening	今天 today	明天 tomorrow	昨天 yesterday					
下雪 snow	下雨 rain	有风 windy	有云 cloudy	热 hot	冷 cold	是晴天 sunny				
家 family	爸爸 dad	妈妈 mum	哥哥 older brother	弟弟 younger brother	姐姐 older sister	妹妹 younger sister	孩子 child	朋友 friend	男孩 boy	女孩 girl
这儿 here	那儿 there	近 close	远 far	后 behind	前 in front	里 inside	外 outside	左 left	右 right	



International  
House  
London



[ihlondon.com/foreign-languages](http://ihlondon.com/foreign-languages)

[languages@ihlondon.com](mailto:languages@ihlondon.com)

0207 611 2426

