



LIVING LANGUAGE

CHINESE TO GO

Hundreds of Essential Words and Phrases for Every Situation

COMMON GREETINGS

Hello./Good morning.	Nǐ hǎo. (infml.)/ Nín hǎo. (fml.)/Zǎo'ān.
Good evening.	Nǐ hǎo. (infml.)/Nín hǎo. (fml.)/Wǎnshàng hǎo.
Good-bye.	Zàijiàn.
Mrs., Ma'am	tàitai/fūrén (fml.)
Miss	xiǎojiě
Mr., Sir	xiānsheng
How are you?	Nǐ hǎo ma? (infml.)/ Nín hǎo ma? (fml.)
Fine, thanks. And you?	Hǎo, xièxie. Nǐ ne? (infml.)/ Hǎo, xièxie. Nín ne? (fml.)
What is your name?	Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi? (infml.)/Nín jiào shénme míngzi? (fml.)
My name is ...	Wǒ jiào ...
Nice to meet you.	Hěn gāoxìng rènshi nǐ/nín. (infml./fml.)
See you later.	Děng huì jiàn.

POLITE EXPRESSIONS

Please.	Qǐng.
Thank you.	Xièxie.
Thank you very much.	Fēicháng gǎnxiè.
You're welcome.	Búyòng kèqi./Búkèqi.

Yes.	Shì.
No.	Bù./Búshì.
Okay.	Hǎo.
I'm sorry.	Duìbuqǐ./Hěn bàoliǎn.
Excuse me./Pardon me.	Duìbuqǐ.
Excuse me ... (asking for directions, etc.)	Lǎojià ...
It doesn't matter.	Bú yàojiàn.
Do you speak English?	Nín huì shuō Yīngyǔ/ Yīngwén ma? (fml.)
I speak Chinese.	Wǒ shuō Zhōngwén.
Very little.	Yì diǎndiǎn.
I don't understand.	Wǒ bù míngbai.
I don't speak Chinese very well.	Wǒ shuō Zhōngwén shuo de hěn bù hǎo.
Please repeat it./ Please say it one more time.	Qǐng zài shuō yí cì.
I don't know.	Wǒ bù zhīdào.
No problem.	Méiyǒu wèntí./Mét wèntí.

NEEDS AND QUESTION WORDS

I would like ...	Wǒ xiǎng ...
I need/want ...	Wǒ yào ...
What would you like?	Nín yào shénme? (fml.)
Bring me ...	Gěi wǒ ...
I'm looking for ...	Wǒ zài zhǎo ...

I'm hungry.	Wǒ dùzi è./Wǒ yǒu diǎn è le.
I'm thirsty.	Wǒ hěn kě./Wǒ kǒu kě.
It's important.	Zhè hěn zhòngyào.
It's urgent.	Zhè hěn jǐnjí.
How?	Zěnmē (yàng)?/Zěnyàng?
How much?	Duōshǎo?
How many?	Duōshǎo?/Jǐ ge ...?
What is it (this)?	Zhè shì shénme?
What kind of ...?	Shénme yàng de ...?
Who?	Shéi?
Where?	Nǎr?/Nǎlǐ?
When?	Shénme shíhou?
What does this mean?	Zhè ge shì shénme yìsi?
How do you say ... in Chinese?	... Zhōngwén zěnmē shuō?

AT THE AIRPORT

Where is zài nǎr/nǎlǐ?
... customs?	Hǎiguān ...
... passport control?	Hùzhào guǎnlǐchù ...
... information?	Xúnwēnchù ...
... the (public) bus/train?	Gōngjiāochē ... /Huòchē ...
... baggage claim?	Chū xíngli de dìfāng ...

Is there public bus service to the city?	Yǒu qù chéngli de gōngjiāochē ma?
Where are zài nǎr/nǎlǐ?
... the international departures?	Guóji jī chūrùjīng ...
... the international arrivals?	Guóji dàoà ...
... the taxis?	Chūzūchē ...
What is your nationality?	Nǐ/Nín shì nǎguórén? (infml./fml.)
I am ...	Wǒ shì ...
... American.	... Měiguórén.
... Canadian.	... Jiānádàrén.
... British.	... Yīngguórén.
... Irish.	... Àièrlánrén.
... Scottish.	... Sūgélánrén.
... Australian.	... Àozhōurén.

AT THE HOTEL

I would like a room...	Wǒ yào yí ge fángjiān.
For one person.	Yí ge rén.
For two people.	Liǎng ge rén.
For one night.	Yí tiān.
For two nights.	Liǎng tiān.
For a week.	Yí ge xīngqī./Yí ge líbài.
Do you have a another room?	Nín hái yǒu bié de fángjiān ma? (fml.)
With a private bathroom?	Dài sīrén xīzǎojiān ma?

With a shower?	Dài línùyǎ ma?
With air conditioning?	Dài kōngtiáo ma?
How much does it cost?	Duōshǎo qián?
The bill, please.	Qǐng jiézhàng.

AT THE RESTAURANT

Where can we find a good restaurant?	Nǎlǐ yǒu hǎo de cānguǎn?
We'd like to go to a(n) ... restaurant.	Wǒmēn xiǎng qù yí jiā ... de cānguǎn.
... casual suǒbiàn ...
... elegant gāoyǎ ...
... fast food kuài cān ...
... inexpensive piányi ...
... seafood hǎi xiān ...
... vegetarian sùshí ...
A table for two.	Liǎng wèi.
May I have a menu, please?	Qǐng gěi wǒ yí fēn jǔshūi dānzi.
The wine list, please.	Qǐng gěi wǒ yí fēn jiǔshūi dānzi.
appetizer	xiǎochī
main course	zhǔcài
dessert	tiándiǎn
What would you like?	Nín yào shénme? (fml.)
What would you like to order?	Qǐngwèn nín yào diǎn shénme cài? (fml.)
What would you like to drink?	Nín yào hē shénme? (fml.)

Can you recommend a good wine?	Nín yǒu shénme hǎo jiǔ (xiàng wǒ tūitiān)? (fml.)
I would like a bottle of wine.	Wǒ xiǎng (yào) yí píng jiǔ.
I would like a little more bread.	Wǒ xiǎng (yào) zài lái yídiǎn miànbāo.
I didn't order this.	Wǒ méiyǒu jiào zhè ge.
That's all, thanks.	Jiù zhè yàng, xièxie.
The check, please.	Qǐng jiézhàng.
Is the tip included?	Zhè lǐmiàn bāokuò xiǎofèi ma?
Cheers!	Gǎnbēi!
To your health!	Zhù nín jiànkāng! (fml.)

FOOD VOCABULARY

meat	ròu
chicken	jī
beef	niúròu
pork	zhūròu
fish	yú
shrimp	xiā
lobster	lóngxiā
soup	tāng
noodles	miàntiáo
dumpling	jiǎozi
dim sum	diǎnxīn

bread	miànbāo
egg(s)	jīdàn
cheese	nǎilào/rǔlào
rice	mǐfān/fān (cooked)
vegetable	cài
lettuce	shēngcài/wōjù
cabbage	bāoxīncài/báicài (Chinese cabbage)
bok choy	báicài
tomato	fānqié
carrot	húluóbo
cucumber	huángguā
potato	mǎlíngshǔ
chili pepper	lǎjiāo
fruit	shuǐguǒ
apple	píngguǒ
orange	júzi
banana	xiāngjiāo
pear	lí
grape(s)	pútáo
strawberry	cǎoméi
lychee/litchi	lǐzhī
prune	xīméipú/xīméigān
lemon	níngméng
grapefruit	pútáoyòu
watermelon	xīguā

beverage/drink	yǐnliào
water	shuǐ
milk	niúǎi
juice	guǒzhī
coffee	kāfēi
tea	chá
wine/alcohol	jiǔ
beer	píjiǔ
soft drink/soda	qīshuǐ
garlic	suàntóu
onion	yángcōng
soy sauce	jiàngyóu
salt	yán
pepper	hújiāo
sugar	táng
honey	fēngmì
hot/cold	rè/lěng
sweet/sour	tián/suān

OUT ON THE TOWN

Which are the historic sights?	Yǒu nǎ xiē míngshèng gǔjī?
Where can I find ...	Zài nǎr (wǒ) kěyì zhǎodào ...
... an art gallery?	... huàláng?

5:15	wǔ diǎn yí kè/ wǔ diǎn shí wǔ
7:30	qī diǎn bàn/qī diǎn sānshí
9:45	jiǔ diǎn sān kè/ jiǔ diǎn sìshí wǔ
Now.	Xiànzài.
Later.	Hòulái.
Immediately.	Mǎshàng.
Soon.	Bù jiǔ.

DAYS AND MONTHS

Monday	lìbài yī/xīngqī yī
Tuesday	lìbài èr/xīngqī èr
Wednesday	lìbài sān/xīngqī sān
Thursday	lìbài sì/xīngqī sì
Friday	lìbài wǔ/xīngqī wǔ
Saturday	lìbài liù/xīngqī liù
Sunday	lìbài tiān/xīngqī tiān
What day is today?	Jīntiān shì libài/xīngqī jǐ?
January	yī yuè
February	èr yuè
March	sān yuè
April	sì yuè
May	wǔ yuè

... the museum of natural history?	... zìrán lìshǐ bówùguǎn?
... an art museum?	... měishùguǎn?
... the zoo?	... dòngwùyuán?
Where would you recommend that I go to see interesting architecture?	Nín jiànì yǒu qù nǎr kàn yǒu qù de jiànzhù fēnggé? (fml.)
I would like ...	Wǒ xiǎng ...
... to see a play.	... kàn xìjù.
... to see a movie.	... kàn diànyǐng.
... to go to a concert.	... qù yīnyuèhuì.
... to go to the opera.	... qù kàn gējù.
... to go sightseeing.	... qù guānguāng.

SHOPPING

Where is the best place to go shopping for ...	Mǎi ... qù nǎr zuì hǎo?
... clothes?	... yīfu ...
... food?	... shíwù ...
... souvenirs?	... jīniànpǐn ...
... furniture?	... jiājù ...
... fabric?	... fāngzhīpǐn ...
... antiques?	... gǔwù ...
... books?	... shū ...
... sporting goods?	... tǐyù yòngpǐn ...

June	liù yuè
July	qī yuè
August	bā yuè
September	jiǔ yuè
October	shí yuè
November	shí yī yuè
December	shí èr yuè
What is the date today?	Jīntiān shì jǐ yuè jǐ hào?
Today is Thursday, September 22.	Jīntiān shì libài/xīngqī sì jiǔ yuè èrshí èr hào.
Yesterday was Wednesday, September 21.	Zuótiān shì libài/xīngqī sān jiǔ yuè èrshí yī hào.
Tomorrow is Friday, September 23.	Míngtiān shì libài/xīngqī wǔ jiǔ yuè èrshí sān hào.

STAYING CONNECTED

Where can I find ...	Zài nǎr (wǒ) kěyì zhǎodào ...
... a telephone?	... diànhuà?
... a fax machine?	... chuánzhēnjī?
... an internet café?	... wǎngba?
How do I call the United States?	Wǒ zěnme dǎ (diànhuà) dào Měiguó?
I need/want ...	Wǒ yào ...
... to send a fax.	... fā ge chuánzhēn.
... to get on the internet/ go online.	... shàngwǎng.

... electronics?	... diànzǐ qìjiàn ...
... computers?	... diànnǎo/diànzǐ jìsuànjī ...

ASKING DIRECTIONS

Excuse me, where is ...	Láojià, ... zài nǎr?
... the bus stop?	... gōngchē zhàn ...
... the subway station?	... dìtiě zhàn ...
... the restroom?	... xīshǒujiān ...
... the taxi stand?	... chūzūchē zhàn ...
... the nearest bank?	... zuì jìn de yínháng ...
... the hotel?	... lǚguǎn ...
To the right./Turn right.	Wǎng yòu zhuǎn.
To the left./Turn left.	Wǎng zuǒ zhuǎn.
Go straight ahead.	Yízhí wǎng qián zǒu.
It's nearby.	Zài fùjìn.
Go back.	Wǎng huí qù.
next to ...	zài ... pángbianr.

NUMBERS

0	líng	4	sì
1	yī	5	wǔ
2	èr	6	liù
3	sān	7	qī

... a computer.	... diànnǎo/diànzǐ jìsuànjī.
... to send a package overnight.	... jì yì jiǎjī yóujiàn.

EMERGENCIES AND SAFETY

Help!	Jiù mìng!
Fire!	Shǐ huǒ le!
Police!	Jǐngchá!
I need a doctor!	Wǒ yào yīshēng!
Call an ambulance!	Jiào jiùhùchē!
What happened?	Fāshēng le shénme shì?
I/My wife/My husband/ My friend/Someone ...	Wǒ/Wǒ tàitai/ Wǒ zhàngfu/ Wǒ péngyou/Yǒu rén ...
... am/is very sick.	... bìng le.
... am/is having a heart attack.	... xīnzàngbǐng tūrán fāzuò.
... am/is choking.	... qiàng zhù le.
... am/is losing consciousness.	... yūn guò qù le./ ... shīqǔ zhījué le.
... am/is about to vomit.	... yào tù le.
... am/is having a seizure.	... húnshēn chōuchù.
... am/is stuck.	... kǎ zhù le.
I can't breathe.	Wǒ chuān bú guò qì.
I tripped and fell.	Wǒ bàn le yì jiāo.
I cut myself.	Wǒ qiē dào zìjǐ le.
I drank too much.	Wǒ hē dé tài duō.

8	bā	23	èrshí sān
9	jiǔ	30	sānshí
10	shí	40	sìshí
11	shí yī	50	wǔshí
12	shí èr	60	liùshí
13	shí sān	70	qīshí
14	shí sì	80	bāshí
15	shí wǔ	90	jiǔshí
16	shí liù	100	yībǎi
17	shí qī	1,000	yìqiān
18	shí bā	1,100	yìqiān yībǎi
19	shí jiǔ	2,000	liǎngqiān
20	èrshí	10,000	yíwàn
21	èrshí yī	100,000	shíwàn
22	èrshí èr	1,000,000	yìbǎiwàn

TIME

What time is it (now)?	Xiànzài jǐdiǎn?
It's noon./It's 12 p.m.	Zhōngwǔ shí èr diǎn.
It's midnight./It's 12 a.m.	Bànyè shí èr diǎn.
It is 9:00 a.m.	Zǎoshang jiǔ diǎn.
It is 1:00 p.m.	Xiàwǔ yī diǎn
It is 3:00.	Sāndiǎn.

I don't know.	Wǒ bù zhīdào.
I've injured my ...	Wǒ shāng dào zìjǐ de ...
... head.	... tóu.
... neck.	... bózi.
... back.	... bèi.
... arm.	... shǒubì.
... leg.	... tuǐ.
... foot.	... jiǎo.
... eye(s).	... yǎngjing.
I've been robbed.	Wǒ bèi rén qiǎng le.