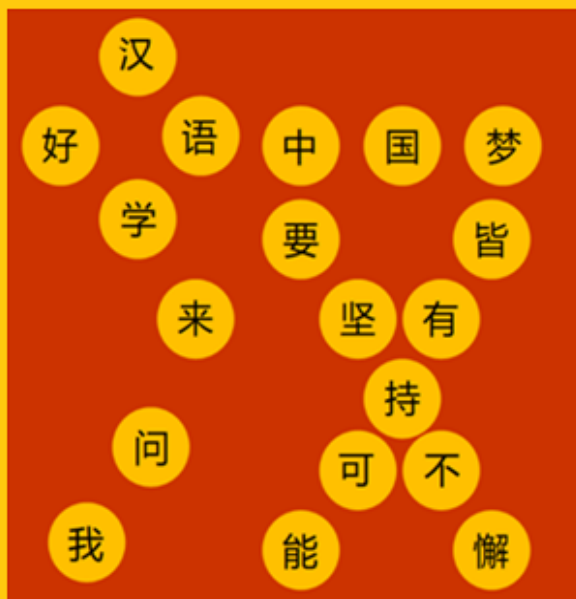


CHINESE LANGUAGE COURSE



STUDY OF CHINA AND CHINESE LANGUAGE

TYPING, WRITING and "HELLO, HOW ARE YOU"

1) TYPING:

For typing on a computer or phone I recommend the pinyin input. First, you need to enable the Chinese keyboard (simplified, pinyin, mainland China). When this is done, in the lower right corner, where the typing language is written, instead of English (ENG) or any other, choose Chinese and you can start writing in Chinese.

You do this by firstly typing pinyin. After that several characters that correspond to the written pinyin will appear. Finally, you have to select the desired character.

2) HANDWRITING:

When writing characters by hand, the sequence of writing letters is extremely important. Here are eight basic rules:

Eight basic rules for handwriting letters:

- 1) From top to bottom, from left to right. We write horizontal strokes from left to right. If two horizontal strokes (二) appear, we write the upper one first, then the lower one,
- 2) When the horizontal and vertical strokes (件, 十) intersect, we first write the horizontal stroke and then the vertical, which intersects the horizontal,
- 3) We first write the external strokes, then the internal ones (间, 回, 日). In doing so, we also need to follow the first principle,
- 4) We write the lower part last (回, 日, 远),
- 5) We write diagonals from right to left before those that run from left to right (人, 父, 六, 千),
- 6) For vertically symmetrical letters, we first write the central part, then the left and finally the right part (小, 永, 承),

7) We write short strokes at the top of the character first (六, 文, 请, 间, 弟),

8) Short strokes inside the character are written last (玉, 书, 求).

Many websites on the internet show the correct sequence of writing characters.

3) "HELLO, HOW ARE YOU"

Let's learn some basic words and sentences in Chinese language:

- Hello: *Nǐ hǎo!* 你好!

(In China, the main greeting is "Did you eat?" *Chīfàn le ma?* 吃饭了吗?)

Literal translation: you (*nǐ* 你) good (*hǎo* 好).

- How are you? *Nǐ hǎo ma?* 你好吗? ¹

Literal translation: you (*nǐ* 你) good (*hǎo* 好) are (*ma* 吗)

*** Interrogative words "is" and "are" comes always at the end of the sentence!**

- I'm fine! *Wǒ hěn hǎo!* 我很好! ²

Literal translation: I (*wǒ* 我) very (*hěn* 很) good (*hǎo* 好)

- Thanks! *Xièxie!* 谢谢!

- Goodbye! *Zàijiàn!* 再见!

Literal translation: again (*zài* 再) to see (*jiàn* 见)

¹When two third tones appear in succession, we change the first third tone to the second. The second one stays as it is.

²When three third tones appear in succession, we combine the first two into one third tone. The third one remains as it is.