Shǎn

Lesson ∧ Notes

These notes follow no particular order, since they follow the things as they come up in the lesson.

Names

您贵姓 (nín guìxìng) is a very polite way of asking about another's 'honorable' surname. You cannot use it to introduce your own surname however.

我姓马, wǒ xīng mǎ, My family name is 马,

我的名字叫大为,

wǒ de míngzì jiào dà wéi, my firstname is 大为,

叫马大为。

jiào mǎ dàwéi. I am called 马大为.

你叫什么名字?

nĭ jiào shénme míngzi?

我的名字叫小云。

wŏ de míngzi jiào xiǎo yún

我叫王小云。

wŏ jiào wàng xiǎo yún.

您贵姓 can also be used as a return question:

In China a Chinese name is easier for people to work with.

Hugo has a Chinese

林湖歌 lín húgē 您贵姓? nín guìxìng?

我姓王。您贵姓? wǒ xìng wáng. nín guìxìng?

我姓丁。您的名字叫什么? wǒ xìng dīng. nín de míngzi jiào shénme?

May I ask?

To ask for attention from someone, you can use the phrase 请问?

请问,

qĭngwèn, ...

may I ask, ...

Knowing someone

认识你很高兴。 rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng. very happy to know you.

认识

rènshi

know (as in recognize)

知道

zhīdào

know (as in facts)

我认识他。他是扬老师。

我不知道他是谁。 wǒ bù zhīdào tā shì shéi.

我不认识他。 wǒ bù rènshi tā

他是谁、你知道吗? tā shì shéi, nǐ zhīdào ma?

他是我的哥哥。 tā shì wǒ de gēge.

This, that, him, her...

When using an demonstrative pronouns with a noun, a measure word is needed.

Using measure words and nouns with words such as 那 and 这 changes their pronunciation.

这个人

zhèi gè rén

this person

那个人

nèi gè rén

that person

那 and 这 are pronounced as nà and zhè when they are used without a measure word and noun.

Words

语	yŭ	language, official language
汉语	hànyǔ	Chinese (language)
院	yuàn	institute
语院	yŭyuàn	language institute
学习	xuéxí	study
拿	ná	get
东西	dōngxī	stuff, thing
工作	gōngzuò	job
作	zuò	do
笔	bĭ	pen
杯子	bēizi	mug, cup
书手机	shū	book
手机	shŏujī	mobile phone

Phrases

马大为学习什么?

mă dà wéi xuéxí shénme?

what does 马大为 study?

他学习汉语。

tā xuéxí hànyǔ.

he studies Chinese

这个东西汉语叫什么名字?

zhèi gè dōngxī jiào

shénme míngzi?

What's this (item) called in Chinese?

陆雨平作什么工作?

lù yǔpíng zuò shénme

gōngzuò?

What's 陆雨平's job?

他是记者。

tā shì jìzhě.

he's a reporter