How to Start Learning Chinese (If you feel lost, READ THIS!)

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* [Uncategorized](https://proficientchinese.com/category/uncategorized/)

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1.Find a Good step by step book or resource

There are a lot of resources on the Internet that you can find. A good start can be this book “HSK STANDARD COURSE” or The New Practical Chinese Reader. I highly recommend you start using HSK STANDARD COURSE because it contains more expressions that are useful in daily conversations(explain what the books contains) . You can also go to Coursera.com or Edx.com (tell them what courses they can take or link them)

## Find a Good Step-by-Step Book or Resource

There are a lot of resources on the Internet that you can find. A good start can be the book called "HSK Standard Course". HSK stands for 汉语水平考试，where 汉语 means Chinese, 水平 means level, and 考试 means exam. Basically HSK is an international exam so you can have proof that you actually know Chinese. It's similar to the TOEFL or CAE in English.   
HSK Standard Course 1 is a good start.

1. Review vocabulary every day Anki

The second step is key. When you learn new vocabulary, it is much better to use a spaced repetition software like Anki. Spaced repetition is a technique for fast and long-lasting memorization. For example, if you (explain what spaced repetition is).

1. Until you can understand basic words, try to find a speaking partner, Hello Talk is great

Once you have learned the basics of the language, you will have to apply everything you’ve learned and the best way to do that it is to find a speaking partner, what I mean by that is to find someone who you can practice writing, reading, speaking and listening. It is going to be hard at first because you just started to apply everything you have learned but at the end you’ll see that you’re building a stronger based vocabulary.

1. If you lack of will to study by yourself, you can do all of the above and have Chinese classes.
2. Something really hard it is to be self-taught. You know yourself and if you know that being self-taught it is not something you can accomplish, set up a schedule or sign up for chinese classes online, if possible presencial (they’re more fun)

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## Review Vocabulary Every Day

The second step is key. Whatever you learn, it is normal that you forget. Think about when you studied for an exam, do you still remember? Well, it is because when we studied for an exam, most of us studied to pass it and then we didn't have the need to review it.

My recommendation here it's to start using a spaced repetition software, the best one it is Anki. Spaced repetition is a technique for fast and long-lasting memorization, that's what we need when studying Chinese! For example...

## Find a Speaking Partner

Everything you've learned so far needs to be applied. How do you apply it? Using it! Try and find someone you can write and speak Chinese. There is an app called HelloTalk, you can download it to your cellphone and exchange your language, you can help Chinese people with your English or Spanish, and they will help you out with your Chinese.

## Regular Chinese Classes

It's a really hard task to study by yourself. You know yourself, and if you feel that you won't do it. Don't hesitate on looking for regular Chinese classes and you can do everything from the above as an additional resource for your studies.