

# HSK 3 Vocabulary List

(HSKNEST- <https://vaskarchakma.github.io/hsknest/>)  
(<https://vaskarchakma.github.io/>)

I've organized these words based on category (e.g. numbers, time, people, and places) because Chinese words are easiest to learn when you associate them with related words.

Enjoy the list!

(HSK1 and HSK2 and HSK3 Vocabularies are available here)

## 17 Chinese Words for Numbers

By now, you should be feeling very comfortable with numerals in Chinese, both cardinal and ordinal.

Pay attention to the more colloquial way of expressing numbers in Chinese. For example, to say “six hundred eighty”, native speakers would often just say 六百八 (liù bǎi bā), which almost sounds like “six hundred eight”. The zero(s) after the digit “eight” (or any number from one to nine) can be omitted.

Below are the 17 Chinese words for number that you must master for the HSK 3 test.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
零	líng	zero
一	yī	one
二	èr	two
三	sān	three
四	sì	four
五	wǔ	five
六	liù	six
七	qī	seven
八	bā	eight
九	jiǔ	nine
十	shí	ten
两	liǎng	two

百	bǎi	hundred
千	qiān	thousand
第一	dì-yī	First
万	wàn	ten thousand
半	bàn	half

Two new numeral words are added to the HSK 3 vocabulary list: 万 (wàn), which means “ten thousand”, and 半 (bàn) which means “half”.

Pay attention to the way 半 (bàn) is used in Chinese. When expressing “half of something”, begin with 半 (bàn), follow it up with the proper measure word, and finish by stating the “thing”:

- 半个西瓜  
bàn gè xīguā  
half a watermelon

When expressing “a half”, read out the “a” – 一 (yī) as well.

- 我只要一半。  
wǒ zhǐ yào yībàn.  
I only need a half.

### 13 Chinese Pronouns

Three more pronouns are added to the HSK 3 vocabulary List, including the commonly used reflexive pronoun 自己 (zìjǐ), meaning “oneself”, 其他 (qítā) – “other” and 别人 (biéren) – “other people”.

自己 (zìjǐ) can be used together with personal pronouns to strengthen the emphasis of oneself:

- 我自己去。  
Wǒ zìjǐ qù.  
I go by myself.
- 他自己学中文。  
Tā zìjǐ xué Zhōngwén.  
He studies Chinese on his own.

自己 (zìjǐ) can also be used independently as the subject or object of a sentence. This is especially common when native speakers of Chinese want to give commands, suggestions, or as a reminder to oneself.

- 做自己!  
Zuò zìjǐ!  
Be yourself!
- 照顾好自己。  
Zhàogù hǎo zìjǐ.  
Take good care of yourself.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我	wǒ	I or me
你	nǐ	you (singular)
您	nín	you (singular/honorific)
他	tā	he or him
她	tā	she or her
它	tā	it
我们	wǒmen	we or me
大家	dàjiā	everybody
这/这儿	zhè/zhèr	this/here
那/那儿	nà/nàr	that/there
自己	zìjǐ	oneself
其他	qítā	other
别人	biéren	other people

Note that when 这 (this) and 那 (that) are used with a measure word right behind them, they are often pronounced **zhèi** and **nèi** in spoken Chinese, instead of zhè and nà:

- 这辆车我太喜欢了。  
**Zhè liàng** chē wǒ tài xǐhuan le.  
I like this car so much.
- 那个人是我的朋友。  
**Nèi ge** rén shì wǒ de péngyou.  
That guy is my friend.

You can also use 那个 (**nà ge/nèi ge**) as a filler word in a sentence to help you sound more natural when you speak Chinese.

## 8 Chinese Question Words

The questions words required for HSK 3 remain the same as those required for HSK 2. So...no surprise here.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
哪/哪儿	nǎ/nǎr	which/where
谁	shéi	who

什么	shénme	what
多少	duōshao	how many or how much
几	jǐ	how many or how much
怎么	zěnmē	how
怎么样	zěnmeyàng	how about
为什么	wèi shénme	why

You do, however, need to learn how to them in more sophisticated sentence patterns at this point. For example, making words and phrases like “everywhere”, “nowhere”, “everyone” “no one” etc by combining questions words with the adverb 都 (dōu):

- 我哪儿都没去。  
Wǒ nǎr dōu méi qù.  
I didn't go anywhere.
- 这儿我谁都不认识。  
Zhèr wǒ shéi dōu bú rènshi.  
I don't know anyone here.
- 我什么都想吃。  
Wǒ shénme dōu xiǎng chī.  
I want to eat everything.

### 34 Chinese Words for Time

At HSK level 3, you need to master 13 new words related to time in Chinese.

Pay attention to 星期 (xīngqī) and 周 (zhōu) – two common ways of saying “week” in Chinese. Though 周 (zhōu) is not the “officially favored” word that’s taught to foreigners when they first start Chinese learning, it’s the preferred word by cultivated city people in China – it’s slightly more formal.

The words 星期 (xīngqī) and 周 (zhōu) are interchangeable most of the time. But bear in mind while you can use the optional measure word 个 (gè) before 星期 (xīngqī), it would be wrong to do so with 周 (zhōu):

- ✓ 一星期 yì xīngqī
- ✓ 一个星期 yí gè xīngqī
- ✓ 一周 yì zhōu
- × 一个周 yí gè zhōu

Also, for “weekend”, you can only say 周末 (zhōumò), NEVER 星期末 (xīngqī mò).

You can learn more differences between 星期 (xīngqī) and 周 (zhōu), and the third way of saying “week” in Chinese

Chinese	Pinyin	English
现在	xiànzài	now
今天	jīntiān	today
明天	míngtiān	tomorrow
昨天	zuótiān	yesterday
早上	zǎoshàng	early morning
上午	shàngwǔ	morning
中午	zhōngwǔ	noon
下午	xiàwǔ	afternoon
晚上	wǎnshàng	evening
点	diǎn	o'clock
小时	xiǎoshí	hour
分钟	fēnzhōng	minute
年	nián	year
月	yuè	month
日	rì	day
号	hào	<u>date</u> or number
星期	xīngqī	week
时候	shíhou	a certain point in time
时间	shíjiān	a period of time
去年	qùnián	last year
刚才	gāngcái	just now
周末	zhōumò	weekend
一会儿	yíhuìr	a short while

以前	yǐqián	before or ago
以后	yǐhòu	after or later
最近	zuìjìn	recent time
过去	guòqù	past
季节	jìjié	season
春	chūn	spring
夏	xià	summer
秋	qiū	autumn
冬	dōng	winter
节日	jiérì	festival

## **162 Chinese Words for People & Things**

HSK 3 expects you to know 162 nouns related to people and things to pass.

Some of the words might not seem very useful if you live abroad, but they turn out to be very important in Chinese society or culture, e.g. 阿姨 (āyí) – “maid”, 筷子 (kuàizi) - “chopsticks”, 熊猫 (xióngmāo) – “panda”, etc. These words could pop up anywhere on an HSK 3 test, so you still have to learn them even if you never use them in your language.

Here is the full list.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
人	rén	person or people
男人	nánrén	man
女人	nǚrén	woman
名字	míngzì	name
妈妈	māma	mom
爸爸	bàba	dad
丈夫	zhàngfu	husband
妻子	qīzi	wife

孩子	háizi	child
儿子	érzi	son
女儿	nǚ'ér	daughter
哥哥	gēge	elder brother
姐姐	jiějie	elder sister
弟弟	dìdi	younger brother
妹妹	mèimei	younger sister
朋友	péngyǒu	friend
先生	xiānsheng	Mr or sir
小姐	xiǎojiě	Miss
老师	lǎoshī	teacher
学生	xuésheng	student
同学	tóngxué	schoolmate
医生	yīshēng	doctor
服务员	fúwùyuán	waiter or waitress
身体	shēntǐ	body
眼睛	yǎnjīng	eye
生日	shēngrì	birthday
东西	dōngxi	thing
钱	qián	money
水	shuǐ	water
茶	chá	tea
咖啡	kāfēi	coffee
牛奶	niúnnǎi	milk
菜	cài	dish
米饭	mǐfàn	(cooked) rice

鸡蛋	jīdàn	egg
鱼	yú	fish
羊肉	yáng ròu	lamb or mutton
衣服	yīfu	clothes
书	shū	book
报纸	bàozhǐ	newspaper
票	piào	ticket
桌子	zhuōzi	table or desk
椅子	yǐzi	chair
水果	shuǐguǒ	fruit
苹果	píngguǒ	apple
西瓜	xīguā	watermelon
药	yào	medicine
杯子	bēizi	cup or glass
手表	shǒubiǎo	watch
手机	shǒujī	mobile phone
电视	diànshì	TV
电脑	diànnǎo	computer
电影	diànyǐng	movie
飞机	fēijī	plane
出租车	chūzūchē	taxi
公共汽车	gōnggòng qìchē	bus
自行车	zìxíngchē	bike
船	chuán	boat
门	mén	door
颜色	yánsè	color



猫	māo	cat
狗	gǒu	dog
天气	tiānqì	weather
雪	xuě	snow
字	zì	character
汉语	Hànyǔ	Chinese (language)
课	kè	lesson
考试	kǎoshì	exam
问题	wèntí	question
题	tí	question (exam, exercise)
意思	yìsi	meaning
事情	shìqing	matter
爷爷	yéye	grandpa
奶奶	nǎinai	grandma
叔叔	shūshu	uncle
阿姨	āyí	aunt or maid
客人	kèren	guest
邻居	línjū	neighbor
同事	tóngshì	colleague
校长	xiàozhǎng	head of a school
司机	sījī	driver
经理	jīnglǐ	manager
脸	liǎn	face
耳朵	ěrdou	ear
鼻子	bízi	nose
口	kǒu	mouth

头发	tóufa	hair
腿	tuǐ	leg
脚	jiǎo	foot
声音	shēngyīn	sound or voice
面包	miànbāo	bread
蛋糕	dàngāo	cake
糖	táng	candy or sugar
面条	miàntiáo	noodle
菜单	càidān	menu
衬衫	chènshān	shirt
裤子	kùzi	pants
裙子	qúnzi	skirt
帽子	màozǐ	hat or cap
鞋	xié	shoe
包	bāo	bag
行李箱	xínglǐxiāng	suitcase
伞	sǎn	umbrella
眼镜	yǎnjìng	glasses
字典	zìdiǎn	dictionary
地图	dìtú	map
信	xìn	letter
照片	zhàopiàn	photo
护照	hùzhào	passport
照相机	zhàoxiàngjī	camera
黑板	hēibǎn	blackboard
铅笔	qiānbǐ	pencil

香蕉	xiāngjiāo	banana
葡萄	pútáo	grape
果汁	guǒzhī	juice
啤酒	píjiǔ	beer
草	cǎo	grass
碗	wǎn	bowl
筷子	kuàizi	chopsticks
盘子	pánzi	plate
电子邮件	diànzǐ yóujiàn	email
冰箱	bīngxiāng	refrigerator
空调	kōngtiáo	air conditioner
灯	dēng	light
礼物	lǐwù	gift
地铁	dìtiě	metro
电梯	diàntī	elevator
动物	dòngwù	animal
马	mǎ	horse
熊猫	xióngmāo	panda
鸟	niǎo	bird
树	shù	tree
太阳	tàiyáng	sun
月亮	yuèliang	moon
云	yún	cloud
太阳	tàiyáng	sun
月亮	yuèliang	moon
云	yún	cloud

普通话	pǔtōnghuà	(standard) Mandarin
数学	shùxué	math
班	bān	class
年级	niánjí	grade
作业	zuòyè	homework
成绩	chéngjì	score
水平	shuǐpíng	level or standard
兴趣	xìngqù	interest
爱好	àihào	hobby
音乐	yīnyuè	music
体育	tǐyù	sports or physical education
办法	bànfǎ	method
习惯	xíguàn	habit
比赛	bǐsài	match
游戏	yóuxì	game
故事	gùshi	story
关系	guānxì	relation
环境	huánjìng	environment
会议	huìyì	meeting
机会	jīhuì	opportunity or chance
节目	jiémù	program
世界	shìjiè	world
历史	lìshǐ	history
文化	wénhuà	culture
新闻	xīnwén	news
作用	zuòyòng	effect

### 43 Chinese Words for Places & Directions

At the HSK 3 level, you should be able to speak sufficient Chinese for traveling in China by yourself. Make sure you fully understand the following 43 words for places and directions from the HSK 3 vocabulary list before you head out on your adventure.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
中国	Zhōngguó	China
北京	Běijīng	Beijing
国家	guójiā	nation
城市	chéngshì	city
地方	dìfāng	place
家	jiā	home or family
楼	lóu	building or floor
房间	fángjiān	room
厨房	chúfáng	kitchen
洗手间	xǐshǒujiān	washroom
学校	xuéxiào	school
教室	jiàoshì	classroom
图书馆	túshūguǎn	library
公司	gōngsī	company
办公室	bàngōngshì	office
饭馆	fànguǎn	restaurant
宾馆	bīngguǎn	hotel
商店	shāngdiàn	shop
超市	chāoshì	supermarket
公园	gōngyuán	park

花园	huāyuán	garden
银行	yínháng	bank
医院	yīyuàn	hospital
机场	jīchǎng	airport
火车站	huǒchēzhàn	train station
路	lù	road
街道	jiēdào	street
河	hé	river
上	shàng	on, above or last
下	xià	under, below or next
左边	zuǒbiān	left
右边	yòubiān	right
中间	zhōngjiān	middle
旁边	pángbiān	side
附近	fùjìn	surrounding area
前面	qiánmiàn	front
后面	hòumiàn	back
里	lǐ	inside
外	wài	outside
东	dōng	east
南	nán	south
西	xī	west
北方	běifāng	north or northern China

Note that words like 旁边 (pángbiān), 附近 (fùjìn) are used as nouns in Chinese:

- 在我家的**附近**

zài wǒ jiā de **fùjìn**

in the **surrounding area** of my home

Literally: “my home’s **surrounding area**”

- **附近**有家银行。

**Fùjìn** yǒu jiā yínháng.

There is a bank in the **vicinity**.

Literally: “**Vicinity** has a bank.”

A common mistake is to use them as adjectives or prepositions.

- × 学校离我家**附近**。

Xuéxiào lí wǒ jiā **fùjìn**.

Wrong way to say “The school is near my home.”

Use the adjective “**近 (jìn)**” instead:

- √ 学校离我家**近**。

Xuéxiào lí wǒ jiā **jìn**.

- × 超市**附近**宾馆

chāoshì **fùjìn** bīnguǎn

Wrong way to say “the supermarket near the hotel”

- √ 宾馆**附近**的超市

bīnguǎn **fùjìn** de chāoshì

Literally: “hotel **vicinity**’s supermarket”

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## 21 Chinese Measure Words

Whenever you learn a new noun in Chinese, you have to memorize the corresponding measure word that goes with it. To pass HSK 3, you need to master 21 measure words altogether.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
个	gè	generic measure word
元	yuán	basic monetary unit of China
块	kuài	basic monetary unit of China
角	jiǎo	1/10 of Chinese Yuan
位	wèi	measure word for people

本	běn	for books
岁	suì	year (of age)
些	xiē	some
次	cì	time (frequency of an act)
公斤	gōngjīn	kilo
米	mǐ	meter
件	jiàn	for affairs, clothes, furniture
张	zhāng	for flat objects
条	tiáo	for long objects
辆	liàng	for <u>vehicles</u>
把	bǎ	for things with a handle
种	zhǒng	type
层	céng	floor
双	shuāng	pair
段	duàn	span of time or distance
刻	kè	quarter (time)

Note that Chinese measure words tend to work differently than their English counterparts, even if they share the same meaning.

For example: You can't say 一双裤子 (yì shuāng kùzi) in Chinese like “a pair of pants” in English. Instead, you should say 一条裤子 (yì tiáo kùzi). This is because the measure word 双 (shuāng) can only be used for pair of things that are separated, such as shoes, chopsticks, eyes, etc. It can not be used to quantify things like pants, glasses, scissors which are treated as one inseparable entity in Chinese.

Also note that sometimes people use different measure words to quantify the same item, and the choice would depend on which characteristic they wish to emphasize.

For example, 张 (zhāng), 把 (bǎ), 条(tiáo) – all these measure words can be used to count “chairs” in Chinese.



## 153 Chinese Verbs

Verbs in language are used to help us express ourselves clearly. In the HSK 3 test, you will be tested on the following 153 verbs that contribute to over 1/4 of the official HSK 3 vocabulary list.

Chinese verbs can often contain several meanings of the English verbs, especially when they are combined with other words. In the below list, I simply focus on their most common meanings you need to know for taking HSK 3.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
做	zuò	to do
是	shì	to be
姓	xìng	to be surnamed
在	zài	to be in
有	yǒu	to have
住	zhù	to live or to stay
来	lái	to come
去	qù	to go
回	huí	to return
进	jìn	to enter
出	chū	to get out
到	dào	to arrive
想	xiǎng	to think
要	yào	to want
需要	xūyào	to need
吃	chī	to eat
喝	hē	to drink
说话	shuōhuà	to speak

讲	jiǎng	to say or to speak
告诉	gàosù	to tell
问	wèn	to ask
回答	huídá	to answer
看	kàn	to look or to watch
看见	kànjiàn	to see
听	tīng	to listen
笑	xiào	to smile or to laugh
哭	kū	to cry
见面	jiànmiàn	to meet
遇到	yùdào	to encounter
给	gěi	to give
送	sòng	to give as a gift or to deliver
带	dài	to bring
拿	ná	to hold or to take
放	fàng	to put
叫	jiào	to call
买	mǎi	to buy
卖	mài	to sell
穿	chuān	to wear
开	kāi	to drive or to open
关	guān	to close or to shut
坐	zuò	to sit
站	zhàn	to stand
读	dú	to read

写	xiě	to write
画	huà	to draw or to paint
等	děng	to wait
花	huā	to spend or to cost
打电话	dǎ diànhuà	to make a phone call
介绍	jièshào	to introduce
认识	rènshi	to know
知道	zhīdao	to know
了解	liǎojiě	to know well
觉得	juéde	to feel or to think
认为	rènwéi	to think or to consider
以为	yǐwéi	to think (wrongly)
懂	dǒng	to understand
明白	míngbai	to understand
找	zhǎo	to find
发现	fāxiàn	to discover
记得	jìde	to remember
忘记	wàngjì	to forget
让	ràng	to let
使	shǐ	to make
用	yòng	to use
希望	xīwàng	to hope
帮助	bāngzhù	to help
帮忙	bāngmáng	to help
玩	wán	to play

学习	xuéxí	to learn
教	jiāo	to teach
复习	fùxí	to review
上网	shàngwǎng	to get online
工作	gōngzuò	to work
上班	shàng bān	to go to work
睡觉	shuìjiào	to sleep
起床	qǐ chuáng	to get up
刷牙	shuāyá	to brush teeth
洗澡	xǐzǎo	to bathe
喜欢	xǐhuan	to like
爱	ài	to love
唱歌	chàng gē	to sing
跳舞	tiào wǔ	to dance
旅游	lǚyóu	to travel
运动	yùndòng	to do sports
走	zǒu	to walk
跑步	pǎo bù	to run
游泳	yóu yǒng	to swim
骑	qí	to ride
踢足球	tī zúqiú	to play soccer
打篮球	dǎ lánqiú	to play basketball
爬山	pá shān	to climb mountain
锻炼	duànliàn	to work out
休息	xiūxi	to rest

生病	shēng bìng	to get sick
发烧	fāshāo	to have a fever
感冒	gǎnmào	to have a cold
疼	téng	to ache
洗	xǐ	to wash
开始	kāishǐ	to begin
完	wán	to finish
结束	jiéshù	to end
完成	wánchéng	to complete or accomplish
打算	dǎsuàn	to plan
决定	juédìng	to decide
选择	xuǎnzé	to choose
准备	zhǔnbèi	to prepare
同意	tóngyì	to agree
解决	jiějué	to solve
担心	dānxīn	to worry
生气	shēngqì	to get angry
欢迎	huānyíng	to welcome
搬	bān	to move
还	huán	to return (sth)
接	jiē	to catch or to pick up
比较	bǐjiào	to compare
变化	biànhuà	to change
换	huàn	to exchange
借	jiè	to borrow or to lend

表示	biǎoshì	to express
要求	yāoqiú	to require
祝	zhù	to wish
注意	zhùyì	to pay attention to
表演	biǎoyǎn	to perform
参加	cānjiā	to attend
迟到	chídào	to be late
出现	chūxiàn	to appear
离开	líkāi	to leave
经过	jīngguò	to pass
练习	liànxí	to practice
提高	tígāo	to improve
检查	jiǎnchá	to check
打扫	dǎsǎo	to clean
相信	xiāngxìn	to believe
放心	fàngxīn	to rest assured
着急	zháojí	to worry
关心	guānxīn	to concern
照顾	zhàogù	to look after
分	fēn	to divide or separate
长	zhǎng	to grow
敢	gǎn	to dare
害怕	hàipà	to fear
小心	xiǎoxīn	to be careful
影响	yǐngxiǎng	to affect

结婚	jiéhūn	to marry
举行	jǔxíng	to hold (event)
会	huì	can (to know how to)
能	néng	can (to be able to)
可以	kěyǐ	can (to be permitted to)
必须	bìxū	must
应该	yīnggāi	should
愿意	yuànyì	to be willing to
下雨	xià yǔ	to rain
刮风	guā fēng	to blow (wind)

In English, some words may work as both a verb and a noun. For example, “I **plan** to leave” vs “I have a **plan**”. This phenomenon is even more common in Chinese.

Examples:

- 我**选择**上大学。

Wǒ **xuǎnzé** shàng dàxué.

I **choose** to go to college.

这是一个聪明的**选择**。

Zhè shì yí gè cōngmíng de **xuǎnzé**.

This is a smart **choice**.

- 学校**要求**我们参加汉语考试。

Xuéxiào **yāoqiú** wǒmen cānjiā Hànyǔ kǎoshì.

The school **requires** us to take the Chinese exam.

我只有一个**要求**。

Wǒ zhǐ yǒu yí gè **yāoqiú**.

I only have one **requirement**.

To do well on the HSK 3 test, you have to dedicate yourself to mastering these common verbs and also pay attention to what part of speech they perform in a Chinese sentence.

### 109 Chinese Adjectives and Adverbs

Adjectives and adverbs in language are used to describe people, things and actions. The below is the full list of the 109 Chinese adjectives and adverbs that you must know for taking the HSK 3 test.

Note that some seemingly simple adjectives in Chinese are truly versatile. One example is 难 (nán) – “difficult”. When combined with verbs, its meaning becomes much more diverse:

- 这咖啡真**难**喝！  
Zhè kāfēi zhēn **nánhē**!  
This coffee is really disgusting! (“difficult to drink”)
- 你别唱了！**难**听死了！  
Nǐ bié chàng le! **Nántīng** sǐ le!  
Stop singing! Sounds dreadful! (“difficult to listen to”)
- 这是一个**难**忘的故事！  
Zhè shì yí gè **nánwàng** de gùshi!  
This is an unforgettable story! (“difficult-to-forget” story)

Chinese	Pinyin	English
好	hǎo	good
坏	huài	bad
差	chà	bad (in quality)
大	dà	big
小	xiǎo	small
多	duō	many
少	shǎo	few
热	rè	hot
冷	lěng	cold
快	kuài	fast
慢	màn	slow
远	yuǎn	far
近	jìn	near
对	duì	right
错	cuò	wrong
长	cháng	long



久	jiǔ	long (in time)
短	duǎn	short
高	gāo	tall or high
矮	ǎi	short (in height)
低	dī	low
胖	pàng	fat
瘦	shòu	thin
新	xīn	new
旧	jiù	old or used
年轻	niánqīng	young
老	lǎo	old (in age)
贵	guì	expensive
便宜	piányi	cheap
黑	hēi	black
白	bái	white
红	hóng	red
黄	huáng	yellow
蓝	lán	blue
绿	lǜ	green
晴	qíng	sunny
阴	yīn	cloudy
好吃	hǎochī	tasty
甜	tián	sweet
新鲜	xīnxiān	fresh
容易	róngyì	easy

简单	jiǎndān	simple
难	nán	difficult
奇怪	qíguài	strange
特别	tèbié	special
重要	zhòngyào	important
有名	yǒumíng	famous
漂亮	piàoliang	pretty
聪明	cōngmíng	smart
可爱	Kě'ài	cute
高兴	gāoxìng	happy
快乐	kuàilè	happy
难过	nánguò	sad
满意	mǎnyì	satisfied
忙	máng	busy
累	lèi	tired
饿	è	hungry
渴	kě	thirsty
饱	bǎo	full
相同	xiāngtóng	same
一样	yíyàng	same
主要	zhǔyào	main
方便	fāngbiàn	convenient
安静	ānjìng	quiet
干净	gānjìng	clean
清楚	qīngchu	clear

健康	jiànkāng	healthy
舒服	shūfu	comfortable
热情	rèqíng	enthusiastic
认真	rènzhēn	serious or careful
努力	nǔlì	studious or hardworking
很	hěn	very
非常	fēicháng	extremely
极	jí	extremely
太	tài	too...
多么	duōme	how...
都	dōu	both or all
不	bù	not
没	méi	not
每	měi	every
最	zuì	most
真	zhēn	really
也	yě	also
还	hái	still
再	zài	again
又	yòu	again
只	zhǐ	only
就	jiù	at once
马上	mǎshàng	immediately
才	cái	just
更	gèng	more

越	yuè	more
别	bié	don't...
先	xiān	first
已经	yǐjīng	already
几乎	jīhū	almost
一定	yídìng	definitely
一起	yìqǐ	together
一共	yígòng	altogether
可能	kěnéng	maybe
其实	qíshí	actually
突然	tūrán	suddenly
正在	zhèngzài	indicating action in progress
一边	yìbiān	at the same time
终于	zhōngyú	finally
总是	zǒngshì	always
经常	jīngcháng	often
一般	yìbān	generally
一直	yìzhí	constantly

Pay attention to the synonyms in the list. For example, 再 (zài) and 又 (yòu): they are both translated as “again” in English. However, 再 (zài) is used to describe actions that have not yet occurred (the “future again”) and 又 (yòu) is used for actions that have already occurred (the “past again”):

- 我明天**再**来。  
Wǒ míngtiān **zài** lái.  
I'll come again tomorrow.
- 他昨天**又**来了。  
Tā zuótiān **yòu** lái le.  
He came again yesterday.

Besides, the two adverbs have some additional distinct usages. You'll definitely be quizzed on how to use these words correctly on the HSK 3 test. So...be prepared!

### 12 Chinese Prepositions

“Good **for** me?” or “Good **to** me”? I have to admit that it took me ages to finally figure out how to use prepositions properly in English – even the most basic ones!

Joke aside, to do well on the HSK 3 test, you really have to know the below 12 Chinese prepositions well. Pay attention to the subtle difference in their usage. For example: 为 (wèi) is used to introduce the object of an action, and 为了 (wèile) is used to introduce the purpose or reason of an action:

- 我**为**你高兴。  
Wǒ **wèi** nǐ gāoxìng.  
I am happy for you.
- **为了**健康，我每天都锻炼。  
**Wèile** jiànkāng, wǒ měi tiān dōu duànliàn.  
For the sake of health, I work out every day.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
从	cóng	from
向	xiàng	towards
离	lí	away from
比	bǐ	than
跟	gēn	with
被	bèi	by
为	wèi	for (sb/sth)
为了	wèile	for (purpose)
关于	guānyú	about, regarding
像	xiàng	as or like
除了	chúle	besides or except
根据	gēnjù	according to

## 10 Chinese Particles

Chinese particles don't have a concrete meaning on their own, but they are used all the time in daily Chinese with other words, phrases to serve grammatical purposes in a sentence. To pass HSK 3, you need to learn two more particles on top of the eight required by HSK 1 and HSK 2.

Pay special attention to the three “de” in Chinese. Though they sound the same, each has very different usages: 的 is used to mark possession, working like ‘s (apostrophe + s) in English. 地 marks adverbs, or converts adjectives into adverbs. And 得 is used as part of a verb complement.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
的	de	possession particle
得	de	structure particle
地	de	structure particle
了	le	aspect particle
着	zhe	aspect particle
过	guò	aspect particle
吗	ma	question particle
呢	ne	question particle
吧	ba	question particle
啊	a	exclamatory particle

## 10 Chinese Conjunctions

Conjunctions in language are those tiny little words that connect other words, phrases, and sentences. They are small but vital for making your sentences more logical. To pass HSK 3, you must master the below 10 basic conjunctions in Chinese.

Take note that some conjunctions are supposed to be used together in one sentence. For instance, whenever you start a sentence with 虽然 (suīrán) - “although”, you have to follow it up with 但是 (dànshì) - “but” (or words alike) to clearly express contradiction or concession. To English speakers, this type of grammar pattern could take a little getting used to.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
和	hé	and
但是	dànshì	but
虽然	suīrán	although
因为	yīnwèi	because
所以	suǒyǐ	so
还是	háishì	or
或者	huòzhě	or
然后	ránhòu	then, afterwards
如果	rúguǒ	if
而且	érqiě	moreover

### 8 Chinese Expressions

Finally, Chinese expressions!

By now you should definitely be very comfortable using the expressions presented in the HSK 3 vocabulary list, as 7 out of 8 of them are already required by HSK 1 and HSK 2. Only one more expression – 当然 (dāngrán) is added. And of course, it means...”of course”.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
喂	wèi	hello (on the phone)
谢谢	xièxie	thanks
不客气	bú kèqi	you're welcome
再见	zàijiàn	goodbye
请	qǐng	please...
对不起	duìbuqǐ	sorry
没关系	méi guānxi	it's all right
当然	dāngrán	of course

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