**HSK 3 Vocabulary List**

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

**(**[**https://vaskarchakma.github.io/**](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 (yí) as well.

### 我只要**一半**。 wǒ zhǐ yào **yíbàn**. 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](https://improvemandarin.com/friend-in-chinese/)。 **Nèi ge** rén shì wǒ de [péngyou](https://improvemandarin.com/friend-in-chinese/).  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 | zěnme | 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 combing 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 | [date](https://improvemandarin.com/dates-in-chinese/) 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 | niúnǎi | milk |
| 菜 | cài | dish |
| 米饭 | mǐfàn | (cooked) rice |
| 鸡蛋 | jīdàn | egg |
| 鱼 | yú | fish |
| 羊肉 | yángròu | 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 | ěrduo | 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 | màozi | 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”

**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 [vehicles](https://improvemandarin.com/transportation-in-chinese/) |
| 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 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 | juédé | 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](https://improvemandarin.com/use-si-le-to-intensify-adjectives-in-chinese-a-simple-guide/)！  
  Nǐ bié chàng le! **Nántīng** [sǐ le](https://improvemandarin.com/use-si-le-to-intensify-adjectives-in-chinese-a-simple-guide/)!  
  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 | cōngming | 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 | jiǜ | 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 míngtián **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 definitively 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 re 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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