

## 第六课 工作和能力

### Lesson 6 Job and Ability

#### Text

(1)

Nǐ zài nǎr gōngzuò?

A: 你 在 哪儿 工作?

Where do you work?

Wǒ zài xuéxiào gōngzuò, wǒ shì lǎoshī. Nǐ ne?

B: 我 在 学校 工作， 我 是 老师。你呢？

I work in a school. I am a teacher. And you?

Wǒ zài yīyuàn gōngzuò, wǒ shì yīshēng.

A: 我 在 医院 工作， 我 是 医生。

I work in a hospital. I am a doctor.

(2)

Ānnà, nǐ de érzi hé nǚ'ér yě zài Zhōngguó ma?

A: 安娜，你的儿子 和 女儿 也 在 中国 吗？

Anna, are your son and daughter also in China?

Tāmen yě zài Zhōngguó.

B: 他们 也 在 中国。

They are also in China.

Tāmen huì shuō Hànyǔ ma?

A: 他们 会 说 汉语 吗？

Can they speak Chinese?

Wǒ érzi huì shuō yìdiǎnr. Wǒ nǚ'ér huì shuō, bù huì dú.

B: 我 儿子 会 说 一点儿。我 女儿 会 说，不 会 读。

My son can speak a little. My daughter can speak but can't read.

## Words

词语 Word/Phrase	拼音 Pinyin	词性 Part of Speech	词义 Meaning
在	zài	v./prep.	to be at/in/on; at/in/on
哪儿	nǎr	pron.	where
工作	gōngzuò	v./n.	to work; job
学校	xuéxiào	n.	school
医院	yīyuàn	n.	hospital
医生	yīshēng	n.	doctor
儿子	érzi	n.	son
会	huì	v.	be able to , can
说	shuō	v.	to speak, to say
汉语	Hànyǔ	n.	Chinese language
女儿	nǚ'ér	n.	daughter
一点儿	yì diǎnr	num.-m.	a little, a bit
读	dú	v.	to read

## Grammar

Nǐ zài nǎr gōngzuò?

1. 你 在 哪儿 工作? Where do you work?

"哪儿" means where. It's a question word which is usually used to ask someone or something's position. Same as other question words, "哪儿" can be used as the subject or the object.

### For Example:

Subject	Verb	Object
nǐ 你 you	qù 去 go	nǎr 哪儿 where
nǎr 哪儿 where	yǒu 有 have	kāfēi 咖啡 coffee

Wǒ zài xuéxiào gōngzuò.

2. 我 在 学校 工作。 I work in a school.

**在** is a preposition which is often used with a noun or a pronoun to form a prepositional phrase. In Chinese, a prepositional phrase is usually placed before a verb.

### For example:

Subject		Noun/Pronoun	Verb+(Object)
nǐ 你 you(singluar)	zài 在	nǎr 哪儿 where	gōngzuò 工作 work
wǒ 我 I	at, in, on	xuéxiào 学校 school	gōngzuò 工作 work
péngyou 朋友 friend		xuéxiào 学校 school	xué Hanyǔ 学 汉语 learn Chinese

Tāmen yě zài Zhōngguó.

3. 他们 也 在 中国。

"在"can be also used as a verb to indicate the location of somebody or something.

### For example:

Subject	Verb	Object
nǐ 你 you (singluar)	zài	nǎr 哪儿 where

mèimei 妹妹 sister	在 to be	Měi guó 美国 the US
tā de gǒu 他的 狗 his dog	at/in/on	jīā 家 home

Tāmen huì shuō Hànyǔ ma?

#### 4. 他们 会 说 汉语 吗? Can they speak Chinese?

"会" is a modal verb which means that someone has the knowledge or skill to do something. It usually refers to the ability or skill that someone has acquired through learning. And the negative form is adding 不 before the modal verb 会.

For example:

Subject	Verb+(Object)
wǒ 我 I	shuō Hànyǔ 说 汉语 speak Chinese
tā 他 he	kāi chē 开 车 drive
wǒ péngyou 我 朋友 my friend	zuò Zhōngguó cài 做 中国 菜 cook Chinese dishes

Negative form:

Subject	Adverb	Verb+(Object)
wǒ 我 I	bú 不	yóuyǒng 游泳 swim
wǒ māma 我妈妈 my mother		shuō Yīngyǔ 说 英语 speak English
tā		zuò Zhōngguó cài

他 he, him			做 中国 菜 cook Chinese dishes
-----------	--	--	-------------------------------

## Expansion

### 语音 Pronunciation

#### 1. The initials and finals we've learned in today's lesson

汉字 Character	声母 Initial	韵母 Final	声调 Tone
院	-	üan	'
儿	-	er	'
汉	h	an	'
语	-	ü	ˇ
女	n	ü	ˇ

Pinyin chart

	an	ü	üan	er
n	nan	nü	-	-
h	han	-	-	-

- means it does not exist in Chinese.

#### 2. Pinyin Syllables without Initials (3)

According to Pinyin rules, when ü or other finals which begin with ü act as syllables by themselves, **y** is added before them and the two dots on the top of ü should be removed.

ü	→	yu
üe	→	yue
ün	→	yun
üan	→	yuan

### 3. i vs ü

	i	ü
Tongue	Tip pushed against lower front teeth	
Lips	flat	round as fish mouth

To pronounce the final **ü**, you can pronounce the final **i** first. Keep your tongue at the same position in your mouth, then change the shape of your lips from flat to round and smaller.

Practice:



yī

一



yú

鱼



qī

七



qǔ

曲



jī

鸡



jú

橘

## 词汇 Words

nǎr      nǎli

1. 哪儿 = 哪里 where

(1)

Nǐ zài nǎr?      Nǐ zài nǎli?

A: 你 在 哪儿? = 你 在 哪里?      Where are you?

Wǒ zài xuéxiào.

B: 我 在 学校。      I'm in school.

(2)

Nǐ shì nǎr rén?      Nǐ shì nǎli rén?

A: 你 是 哪儿 人? = 你 是 哪里 人?      Where do you come from?

Wǒ shì Shànghǎi rén .

B: 我 是 上海 人。      I'm from Shanghai.

In our daily life, “哪里” can be used instead of “哪儿”. In the North of China, people tend to say “哪儿”; while in the South of China, people tend to say “哪里”.

## 文化 Culture

Zhōngguó de “ tiě fàn wǎn ”

### 1. 中国 的“铁饭碗”

China's "iron rice bowl"

“铁饭碗”literally means the “iron rice bowl”. It doesn't refer to an actual bowl, but an occupation with guaranteed job security. In China, the “iron rice bowl” is a metaphor for stable jobs, such as civil servants, teachers, etc. Obviously, If you have a stable job, then you have steady income to live on. That's why Chinese people call the job as 饭碗, the rice bowl. Those stable jobs are 铁饭碗, the iron rice bowl. Normally, people don't want to lose his/her stable job, just like it's unlikely to break an iron rice bowl.