3. VARIATIONS OF -I

As mentioned at the beginning of this booklet, in the *zh* and *z* initial sets, *-i* produces a different sound than its normal *ee* sound.

The Yale romanization system, which fell out of use in the 80s, used an r instead of a i for the zh initial set (jr, chr, shr, r), and a z for the z initial set (dz, tsz, sz). This is helpful in remembering the proper pronunciation of these syllables.

The following drill contains all instances of the variant -i sound.

zhi zi
chi ci
shi si
ri