**第一课 问候 Lesson 1 Greetings**

**I. Introduction**

Standard Chinese (普通话pǔ tōng huà / 国语guó yǔ / 汉语hàn yǔ) is a standardized form of spoken Chinese based on the **Beijing dialect** of Mandarin. It is the official language of **China** and **Taiwan**, as well as one of four official languages of **Singapore**. It is one of the six official languages of the **United Nations**.

Spoken Chinese is separated into five main dialectical groups - Mandarin, Yue (i.e., Cantonese), Min, Wu and Hakka, covering more than 200 individual dialects. Mandarin is considered a native language by about two-thirds of China’s inhabitants, making it the most dominant spoken Chinese dialect, while Cantonese lays claim to approximately 55 million speakers in China alone.

**II. Tone Language**



**III. Pinyin Chart**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | * Video [3:16]: [聲母韻母歌](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6jX4oZrlwo)
* Video [5:41]: [The Chinese Phonetic Song 汉语拼音歌](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4WeL7PvQCU)
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**IV. How to write Chinese characters?**

Two basic rules: 1) Top before bottom and 2) Left before right

**V. Vocabulary Table**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **中文 (Chinese)** | **拼音(Pinyin)** | **英文 (English)** |
| 大家 | dà jiā | Big + Family => Everyone |
| 好 | hǎo | Good |
| 我 | wǒ  | I |
| 叫 | jiào | Be called |
| 我的 | wǒ de | My (*pronoun*) |
| 名字 | mín gzì | Name |
| 是 | shì | Be (is, am, are) verb |
| 很 | hěn | Very much |
| 高興 | gāo xìng | Hyper+Happy => Pleased, Happy |
| 見到 | jiàn dào | Meet (emphasis on“met”) |
| 您  | nín  | You (with respect) |
| 你 | nǐ | You (for male or everyone) |
| 妳 | nǐ | You (for female) |
| 什么 | shén me | What? |

**\*\*Homework: Write at least twice Chinese characters and Pinyin above.**

**VI. 对话 Dialogue**

大家好！

Dà jiā hǎo!

Hello everyone!

我叫刘欣萍。(我的名字是刘欣萍。)

Wǒ jiào liú xīn píng. (Wǒ de mín gzì shì liú xīn píng.)

My name is Liu Shin-Ping. (My name is Shin-Ping Liu)

很高興見到（你， 妳）您。

Hěn gāo xìng jiàn dào (nǐ, nǐ) nín.

Nice to meet you.

**VII. Videos**

1. Video [3:09]: [10 Fun Facts about China for Children Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEueKKpWKAI)
2. Video [14:33]: [Chinese - The Sinitic Languages](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QY0AMmLuiqk)
3. Video [8:58]: [Basics of Chinese Grammar Explained in 10 Minutes](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UZqN6QExrk&t=12s)
4. Video [6:10]: [Learn to read Chinese ... with ease! | ShaoLan](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=troxvPRmZm8)
5. Video [3:21]: [為什麼我決定學習中文? ! (WHY I DECIDED TO LEARN CHINESE?) [中文視頻博客] 外國女孩說中文~!](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvSdmXq_YHc)