

第一课 打招呼 and 告别

Lesson 1 Say Hello and Goodbye

Text

(1)

Nǐ hǎo!

A: 你好! Hello!

Nǐ hǎo!

B: 你好! Hello!

(2)

Lǎoshī, nín hǎo!

A: 老师, 您好! Hello, teacher!

Nǐmen hǎo!

B: 你们好! Hello, everyone!

(3)

Zài jiàn!

A: 再见! Goodbye!

Zài jiàn!

B: 再见! Goodbye!

Words

词语 Word/Phrase	拼音 Pinyin	词性 Part of Speech	词义 Meaning
你	nǐ	pron.	(singular) you
好	hǎo	adj.	good, fine
老师	lǎoshī	n.	teacher
您	nín	pron.	(polite) you
你们	nǐmen	pron.	(plural) you
再见	zài jiàn	v.	goodbye, to see you around

Grammar

Nǐ hǎo!

1. 你好! Hello!

你好 is a very common phrase to greet people in Chinese. Note that it is normally used when people meet for the first time. If you say it to someone you know, such as your family members, relatives, co-workers, etc, it will sound a little bit weird.

Lǎoshī, nín hǎo!

2. 老师, 您好! Hello, teacher!

您 is a polite way of saying “你(you)”. You can use it to address people whom you respect, such as your boss, teachers or elderly people.

Nǐmen hǎo!

3. 你们好! Hello, everyone!

“们” is the affix for plural in Chinese. It can be only used with nouns or pronouns to express people or animals.

For example:

wǒ 我 I; me	+	men 们	=	wǒmen 我们 we; us
tā 他 he; him				tāmen 他们 they; them
péngyou 朋友 friend				péngyoumen 朋友们 friends
shū 书 book				shūmen 书们 ×

Expansion

语音 Pronunciation

- In modern Chinese, we use Pinyin to represent Chinese pronunciation. Pinyin syllable usually includes three parts: the initial (声母), the final (韵母), and the tone (声调). There are 21 initials, 36 finals and 4 tones in Chinese.

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

汉字 character	声母 Initial	韵母 Final	声调 Tone
你	n	i	ˇ
好	h	ao	ˇ
老	l	ao	ˇ

师	sh	i	-
您	n	in	ˊ
们	m	en	
再	z	ai	ˋ
见	j	ian	ˋ

Pinyin chart

	i	ao	in	en	ai	ian
n	ni	nao	nin	nen	nai	nian
h	-	hao	-	hen	hai	-
l	li	lao	lin	-	lai	lian
sh	shi	shao	-	shen	shai	-
m	mi	mao	min	men	mai	mian
z	zi	zao	-	zen	zai	-
j	ji	-	jīn	-	-	jian

- means it does not exist in Chinese.

Note:

In the syllable “**shi**” and “**zi**”, the “**i**” sound is different from other syllables, so you should remember them specifically.

2. Third-tone sandhi

When two third-tone syllables are read in sequence, the first syllable turns into the second tone. But note that the original tone is kept in written form.

	ˋ	+	ˋ	→	ˊ	+	ˋ
你好	nǐ		hǎo		ní		hǎo
可以	kě		yǐ		ké		yǐ
老虎	lǎo		hǔ		láo		hǔ

Practice:



shǒubiǎo

手表



yǔsǎn

雨伞



mǎyǐ

蚂蚁

词汇
Words

zài jiàn bái bái

1. 再见 VS 拜拜

Zài jiàn!

A: 再见! Goodbye!

Bái bái!

B: 拜拜! Bye-bye!

In our daily life, **拜拜** is commonly used instead of **再见**. It is a transliteration of bye-bye. But it's not proper to use it on formal occasions.

文化
Culture

1. 别总说“你好”。

Please don't always say “nǐ hǎo”.

In fact, Chinese people don't always use “你好” to greet each other in everyday life. We use different phrases on different occasions. If you want to learn more, please click the link below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3AwEi_x1_Ml