

Vocabulary I

我	wǒ	I, me
你	nǐ	you
爸爸	bà ba	Dad, father
妈妈	mā ma	Mum, mother
有	yǒu	have, has
和	hé	and

Notes for you

- Some words need two or more characters to form a word/meaning
- Most of the second character of a word with 'doubling characters' has no tone
- Can use 爸 instead of 爸爸, similar situation as 'dad' and 'daddy', and 妈 instead of 妈妈

Rules for you

- When two characters sticking together are both 3rd tone, the former character would change to 2nd tone.

**Vocabulary II**

好	hǎo	good, well, fine, nice
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Dialogue A

A: Hello

nǐ hǎo

你 好 !

B: Hello

nǐ hǎo

你 好 !



Vocabulary II

很	hěn	very / so
也	yě	also / too
都	dōu	all / both, also (normally use 也)
他们	tā mén	they / them (only men or mixed of gender)
的	de	1) possessive , 2) supporting word
呢	ne	expression word for Statements & Questions
吗	ma	expression word for Questions

Dialogue B

A: How are you? (Are you good?)

nǐ hǎo ma

你 好 吗 ?

‘吗’

- an expression
- used at the end of a statement to form questions
- mostly Yes/No or binary question
- question may start with am, are, has, have, do, does, did, can etc.

B: I'm very good, (how about) you?

wǒ hěn hǎo nǐ ne

我 很 好 , 你 呢 ?

‘呢’

- an expression
- can be used at the end of a statement
- mostly open-ended question or bounce-back question (our case)
- question may start with how, what, why, which, who, etc

A: I'm also very good.

wǒ yě hěn hǎo

我也很好。

B: Are your father and mother both good?

nǐ de bà ba mā ma dōu hǎo ma

你的爸爸妈妈都好吗？

A: They are both very good too.

tā men yě dōu hěn hǎo

他们也都很好。

‘也’

- used after a subject, but before verb/adjective
- means also, too

‘的’

- of someone/something => someone's
=> replaces the 's'
- place after subject to form eg his, her, hers, my, mine, your, yours, theirs, etc

‘都’

- used after a subject, but before verb/adjective
- means all, both, (sometimes) also

‘也’

- used before ‘都’

‘们’

- used when suggesting plural forms for subjects
- placed after the subject

Notes (regarding tones) for you

- As mentioned, when two characters linking together are 3rd tone, the former one would become 2nd tone, to avoid two consecutive 3rd tones.
- ㄣㄣ becomes ㄣ／ㄣ
- ㄣㄣㄣ becomes ㄣ／ㄣ／ㄣ

Additional Vocabulary & Subjects' plural form

们	mén	plural form for objects
他	tā	He, him
她	tā	She, her
牠	tā	It for living object e.g. dog
它	tā	It for non-living object e.g. desk
她们	tā mén	they / them, but only women
牠们	tā mén	they / them, but only living objects.
它们	tā mén	they / them, but only dead objects.
我们	wǒ mén	we, us
你们	nǐ mén	you (plural)

Possessive word ‘的’

我的= my, mine

你的= your, yours (singular)

他的= his, his

她的= her, hers

牠的= its (living)

它的= its (non-living)

我们的= our, ours

你们的= your, yours (plural)

他们的= their, theirs (men or mixed gender only)

她们的= their, theirs (women only)

牠们的= their, theirs (living objects only)

它们的= their, theirs (non-living objects only)

Notes for you

- 的 sometimes can be omitted, when we want to speak quicker, ie ‘你爸爸妈妈’ instead of ‘你的爸爸妈妈’

