

## 拼音 pīn yīn (Pronunciation)

## What is Pinyin?

- Official system used in Standard Chinese
- Help you to pronounce a Chinese character correctly
- Help you to type in Chinese
- Include: 1) Initial Consonant, 2) Final syllable, 3) Tone

shēng mǔ

声母 (Initial Consonant)

b	p	m	f	d	t	n	l
g	k	h	j	q	x		
zh	ch	sh	r	z	c	s	
y	w						

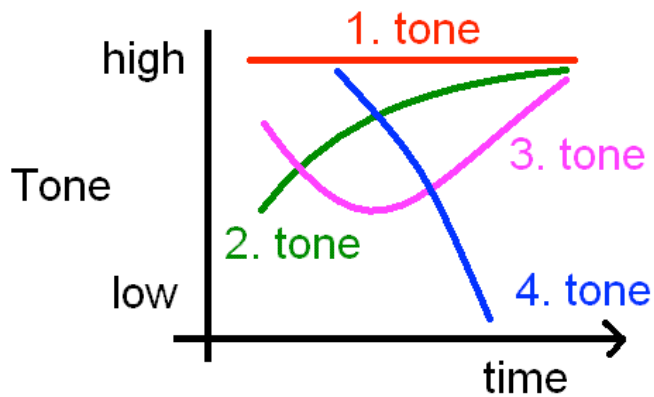
yùn mǔ

韵母 (Final syllable)

a	o	e	i	u	ü	er	
ei	ou	ia	ie	iu	iao	ai	ao
ua	uo	ui	uai	üe			
an	en	in	ian	uan	un	üan	ün
ang	ong	eng	ing	iang	iong	uang	ueng

shēng diào

声调 (Tones) - 4 tones + no tone



1<sup>st</sup>: — 2<sup>nd</sup>: / 3<sup>rd</sup>: ∨ 4<sup>th</sup>: \

### To say the tone

1<sup>st</sup> tone: 'May'

2<sup>nd</sup> tone: 'Well?'

3<sup>rd</sup> tone: 'Really?' (dropping the tone to the lowest point)

4<sup>th</sup> tone: 'What!' (sounds angry)

### Overview of a full Pinyin:

e.g. bà gē mèi

- usually formed by 1 initial, 1 final, 1 tone

### Pinyin Rule:

- 1) Tone is placed above Final, according to sequence 'a', 'o', 'e', 'i / u', 'ü'
- 2) But when 'i' & 'u' are linked together, tone symbol is always marked above the latter one.

### Notes for you

Final 'ü':



- ü, üe, üan, ün: when linked to initials 'j', 'q', 'x', 'y', the 'two dots' of ü will be eliminated (final 'u' will not link to any initials of 'j', 'q', 'x', 'y', so no confusing words will appear)

'i' as final:

- there are special 7 initials, when linked with final 'i', don't produce the sound of 'yee'
- zi, ci, si, zhi, chi, shi, ri

they sound the same as their initials

Final 'er'

- no initial is linked to 'er'
- can still form words on its own

ê

- is actually the 'e' in ie and üe. The sound for 'ê' is the same as English vowel 'e', which generating the sound for ie, üe
- sometimes it's not considered as final syllable
- no initial is linked to 'ê' (it alone can only form 1 Chinese character)