4. “不”、“一”的变调 Change in tones of 不 and 一

（1）“不”在第四声字前或由第四声变来的轻声字前读第二声 bú。例如：bú xiè（不谢）、búshi（不是）。在第一、二、三声前仍读第四声 bù。例如：bù xīn（不新）、bù lái（不来）、bù hǎo（不好）。

不 is pronounced in the 2nd tone (bú) before a syllable in the 4th tone or a syllable in the neutral tone changed from the 4th tone, e.g., bú xiè (You are welcome.), búshi (fault). But 不 is still pronounced in the 4th tone (bù) when it precedes a syllable in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd tone, e.g., bù xīn (not new), bù lái (not come), bù hǎo (not good).

（2）“一”在第四声字前或由第四声变来的轻声字前读第二声 yí。例如：yí kuài（一块）、yí ge（一个）。在第一、二、三声字前读第四声 yì。例如：yì tiān（一天）、yì nián（一年）、yìqǐ（一起）。

一 is pronounced in the 2nd tone (yí) before a syllable in the 4th tone or a syllable in the neutral tone changed from the 4th tone, e.g., yí kuài (a bar), yí ge (a piece). But 一 is pronounced in the 4th tone (yì) when it precedes a syllable in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd tone, e.g., yì tiān (a day), yì nián (a year), yìqǐ (together).

5. 儿化 Retroflexion with -r

er 常常跟其他韵母结合在一起，使该韵母成为儿化韵母。儿化韵母的写法是在原韵母之后加 r。例如：wánr（玩儿）、huār（花儿）。

er is often added to another final to make it retroflexed. The retroflex final is transcribed by adding r to the original final, e.g., wánr (to play), huār (flower).

6. 隔音符号 The dividing mark

a、o、e 开头的音节连接在其他音节后面时，为了使音节界限清楚，不致混淆，要用隔音符号“ ’ ”隔开。例如：nǚ'ér（女儿）。

When a syllable beginning with a, o or e follows another syllable, it is desirable to use the dividing mark “ ’ ” to clarify the boundary between the two syllables, e.g., nǚ'ér (daughter).

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