

2

Nǐ shì nǎ guó rén

你是哪国人

Which country do you come from

In this lesson, you will learn how to introduce your friends as well as how to ask others about their nationalities. You will also learn another way to greet people and to ask someone's name in a polite manner. Finally, with Wang Xiaoyun and Ma Dawei, you will stroll through a street selling snacks and refreshments and taste the food that the Chinese like.

一、热身 WARM-UP

1 思考 Think

Think about the following questions:

- (1) Do you know how to say the name of your country in Chinese?
- (2) Can you say the names of other countries in Chinese?
- (3) In your country, how do people greet each other? How do they say goodbye?

2 活动 Activity

Among the items below, can you guess which ones Chinese people often eat? Do you know how to say the names of these foods in Chinese?



二、课文 TEXT

(一)



2-02-01



(Ding Libo and Ma Dawei come across Teacher Chen. Teacher Chen and Ma Dawei do not know each other.)

Dīng Lìbō: Lǎoshī, zǎoshang hǎo! ①

丁力波: 老师, 早上好!

问好

Greetings

Chén lǎoshī: Nǐmen hǎo!

陈老师: 你们好!

Dīng Lìbō: Zhè shì Mǎ Dàwéi, ② tā shì wǒ péngyou,

丁力波: 这是马大为, 他是我朋友,

gāng dào Běijīng. ③

刚到北京。

介绍他人

Introducing others

Mǎ Dàwéi: Nín hǎo! ④ Lǎoshī, nín guìxìng?

马大为: 您好! 老师, 您贵姓?

问姓氏

Asking someone's surname

Chén lǎoshī: Wǒ xìng Chén. ⑤ Nǐ shì nǎ guó rén? ⑥
陈老师: 我 姓 陈。 你是哪国人?

问国籍

Asking about one's
nationality

Mǎ Dàwéi: Wǒ shì Měiguórén. ⑦ Wǒ yě xuéxí Hànyǔ. Chén lǎoshī, ⑧
马大为: 我是美国人。 我也学习汉语。 陈老师,
rènshi nín hěn gāoxìng.
认识您很高兴。

Chén lǎoshī: Rènshi nǐ wǒ yě hěn gāoxìng.
陈老师: 认识你我也很高兴。

Mǎ Dàwéi: Lǎoshī, zàijiàn!
马大为: 老师, 再见!

告别

Saying goodbye

Chén lǎoshī: Zàijiàn!
陈老师: 再见!

生词 New Words



2-02-02



1. lǎoshī	老师	N	teacher 老师好
2. zǎoshang	早上	N	morning 早上好
zǎo	早	A	early 很早 你早
3. nǐmen	你们	Pr	you (plural) 你们好
men	们	Suf	plural suffix 我们 他们
4. zhè	这	Pr	this
5. shì	是	V	to be; is/am/are... 这是宋华
6. péngyou	朋友	N	friend 我朋友 你朋友
7. gāng	刚	Adv	just 刚认识
8. dào	到	V	to reach; to arrive 刚到
9. nín	您	Pr	you (singular, polite form) 您好
10. guìxìng	贵姓	N	one's (honorable) surname 您贵姓

11. nǎ	哪	QPr	which
12. guó	国	N	country
13. rén	人	N	person 哪国人
14. xuéxí	学习	V	to study; to learn 学习什么
xué	学	V	to study (usually with an object)
15. Hànyǔ	汉语	N	Chinese (usually referring to Mandarin) 学习汉语 刚学汉语
16. zàijiàn	再见	V	goodbye
17. Chén	陈	PN	Chen, a surname
18. Běijīng	北京	PN	Beijing
19. Měiguó	美国	PN	the United States

注释 Notes

① Zǎoshang hǎo!

Good morning!

This is a greeting used at 8 or 9 a.m. or even earlier. You may say “zǎo 早” (good morning). You may respond in the same way, or you could say “nǐ zǎo 你早” (good morning to you) or “nǐ hǎo 你好” (hello).

② Zhè shì Mǎ Dàwéi.

This is Ma Dawei.

When introducing a person, “Zhè shì 这是……” (This is...) is often used. The pronunciation of “是” is weak.

③ Tā shì wǒ péngyou, gāng dào Běijīng.

He is my friend and just arrived in Beijing.

Examples similar to “wǒ péngyou 我朋友” (my friend) are “wǒ bàba 我爸爸” (my dad) and “nǐ māma 你妈妈” (your mom).

In “gāng dào Běijīng 刚到北京” (just arrived in Beijing), the subject “tā 他” is omitted. In spoken Chinese, when the subject has already appeared or the topic is understood, it is often omitted.

④ Nín hǎo!

Hello!

The respectful form of “nǐ 你” is “nín 您”. This polite expression is commonly used to address the elderly or a person of older generation. It may also be used among those of the same generation out of courtesy. People in Beijing are quite fond of using this form of address.

⑤ Nín guìxìng?

Wǒ xìng Chén.

May I have your (honorable) surname?

My surname is Chen.

This is a polite way to ask someone's surname. Note that in response, you cannot use “*Wǒ guìxìng 我贵姓……”, but should say “Wǒ xìng 我姓……” (you may add “Wǒ jiào 我叫……”). The word “guì 贵” can only be used along with “nǐ 你” (you, *singular*) or “nín 您” (you, *singular, polite*), but cannot be used with “wǒ 我” (I) or “tā 他/她” (he/she).

⑥ Nǐ shì nǎ guó rén?

Which country do you come from?

⑦ Wǒ shì Měiguórén.

I am American.

The word “rén 人” after the name of a country indicates one's nationality, e.g.,

Měiguó 美国 (America) — Měiguórén 美国人 (American)

The word “rén 人” after a place name indicates one's ancestral place or birthplace, e.g.,

Běijīng 北京 (Beijing) — Běijīngrén 北京人 (someone from Beijing)

⑧ Chén lǎoshī

Teacher Chen

In China, in addition to common relationships between people, one's position – such as a CEO, manager, section chief, engineer, director, teacher, and so on – is often used as a title. The surname is always placed before the title. The most common form of address for a teacher is “surname + lǎoshī 老师 (teacher)”, such as “Chén lǎoshī 陈老师” (Teacher Chen) and “Wáng lǎoshī 王老师” (Teacher Wang). In China, it is very impolite for a student to address a teacher by his or her name without adding the word “老师”.

(二)



2-02-03



(Wang Xiaoyun takes Ma Dawei to a street selling snacks and refreshments.)

Mǎ Dàwéi: Xiǎoyún, zhè shì shénme?

马大为: 小云, 这是什么?

指认物品

Identifying items

Wáng Xiǎoyún: Zhè shì diǎnxin.

王小云: 这是点心。

Mǎ Dàwéi: Diǎnxin hǎochī ma?

马大为: 点心好吃吗?

Wáng Xiǎoyún: Hǎochī. Wǒ bàba shì Shànghǎirén, tā xǐhuan chī diǎnxin

王小云: 好吃。我爸爸是上海人, 他喜欢吃点心

hé mǐfàn. ①

和米饭。

Mǎ Dàwéi: Běijīngrén xǐhuan chī shénme?

马大为: 北京人喜欢吃 什么?

问喜好

Asking about one's
likes

Wáng Xiǎoyún: Wǒ māma shì Běijīngrén, tā xǐhuan chī miàntiáo hé jiǎozi.

王小云: 我妈妈是北京人, 她喜欢吃面条和饺子。

Mǎ Dàwéi: Zhè shì jiǎozi ma?
马大为: 这是饺子吗?

Wáng Xiǎoyún: Zhè bú shì jiǎozi, shì bāozi. Bāozi dà, jiǎozi xiǎo. ②
王小云: 这不是饺子, 是包子。包子大, 饺子小。

Nǐ kàn, nà shì jiǎozi.
你看, 那是饺子。

Mǎ Dàwéi: Bāozi hǎochī ma?
马大为: 包子好吃吗?

Wáng Xiǎoyún: Bāozi hé jiǎozi dōu hěn hǎochī.
王小云: 包子和饺子都很好吃。

Mǎ Dàwéi: Hǎo, wǒ yào jiǎozi, yě yào bāozi. ③
马大为: 好, 我要饺子, 也要包子。

生词 New Words



2-02-04



1. diǎnxin	点心	N	snacks; dim sum
2. hǎochī	好吃	A	delicious; tasty 很好吃 不好吃
chī	吃	V	to eat 吃点心
3. bàba	爸爸	N	dad; father 我爸爸 你爸爸 爸爸很忙
4. xǐhuan	喜欢	V	to like 喜欢点心 喜欢吃点心 喜欢学汉语
5. hé	和	Conj	and 我和你
6. mǐfàn	米饭	N	(cooked) rice 米饭和点心 喜欢吃米饭
fàn	饭	N	(cooked) rice; meal 吃饭
7. māma	妈妈	N	mom; mother 我妈妈 妈妈喜欢
8. tā	她	Pr	she; her 她朋友 她妈妈
9. miàntiáo	面条	N	noodles 吃面条 不喜欢吃面条 面条很好吃
10. jiǎozi	饺子	N	jiaozi; dumpling 不吃饺子 喜欢吃饺子 饺子很好吃

11. bāozi	包子	N	<i>baozi</i> ; steamed stuffed bun 吃包子 不喜欢吃包子 包子很好吃
12. dà	大	A	big 大人 大包子 很大
13. xiǎo	小	A	small 小点心 小饺子 很小
14. kàn	看	V	to look at; to see 你看 看什么
15. nà	那	Pr	that 那是面条 那是我爸爸
16. dōu	都	Adv	all; both 都很好 都很好吃
17. yào	要	V	to want; would like 要包子 不要饺子 我也要
18. Shànghǎi	上海	PN	Shanghai
19. Wáng Xiǎoyún	王小云	PN	Wang Xiaoyun, name of a Chinese student

注释 Notes

① Tā xǐhuan chī diǎnxin hé mǐfàn.

He likes to eat snacks and rice.

The third person “tā” in Chinese has two characters: one is the male “他” (he; him) and the other is the female “她” (she; her).

② Bāozi dà, jiǎozi xiǎo.

Steamed stuffed buns are bigger and dumplings are smaller.

In a sentence with an adjectival predicate, when “hěn 很” is not present before the adjective, it often implies a comparison. In this sentence, the sizes of “bāozi 包子” and “jiǎozi 饺子” are compared.

③ Hǎo, wǒ yào jiǎozi, yě yào bāozi.

OK, I would like *jiaozi* (dumplings) and (would) also (like) *baozi* (steamed stuffed buns).

Here, “hǎo 好” has the meaning of OK. It is often used to express agreement, acceptance as well as the completion of the discussion on a topic.

The word “yào 要” indicates one’s desire. When shopping or ordering in a restaurant, you may say “Wǒ yào 我要……” (I want...; I would like...). A shop assistant or restaurant server often asks customers “Nín yào shénme? 您要什么?” (What would you like?)

三、语言点 LANGUAGE POINTS

1 核心句 Key Sentences



2-02-05



- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Zhè shì Mǎ Dàwéi, tā shì wǒ péngyou. | 6. Zhè shì jiǎozi ma? |
| 2. Nín guìxìng? | 7. Zhè bú shì jiǎozi, shì bāozi. |
| 3. Nǐ shì nǎ guó rén? | 8. Nà shì jiǎozi. |
| 4. Wǒ māma shì Běijīngrén. | 9. Bāozi hé jiǎozi dōu |
| 5. Zhè shì shénme? | hěn hǎochī. |



2 语法 Grammar

1. “是” 字句 (1) A sentence with “shì 是” (to be) (1)

In a sentence with “是”, the verb “是” is used to link two related parts, which can be nouns, pronouns or noun phrases. The negative is formed by adding “bù 不” (not; changed to the 2nd tone bú) before “是”. If not particularly emphasized, “是” is usually lightly pronounced.

Subject	Predicate			
	Adverb	是	Noun / Noun Phrase	Particle
Zhè 这		shì 是	Mǎ Dàwéi. 马 大为。	
Nà 那	bú 不	shì 是	jiǎozi. 饺子。	
Tā 他	bú 不	shì 是	Chén lǎoshī. 陈 老师。	
Nǐ 你	yě 也	shì 是	Shànghǎirén 上海人	ma? 吗?

Note:

The negative adverb “不” must be placed before “是”.

Exercise I Based on the example given, turn each statement into a negative sentence and then into a question.

Example Zhè shì jiǎozi. Zhè bú shì jiǎozi. Zhè shì jiǎozi ma?
这是饺子。 → 这不是饺子。 → 这是饺子吗?

Zhè shì miàntiáo.
(1) 这是面条。 → _____。 → _____?

Nà shì bāozi.
(2) 那是包子。 → _____。 → _____?

Tā shì Běijīng rén.
(3) 他是北京人。 → _____。 → _____?

Wǒ shì Shànghǎi rén.
(4) 我是上海人。 → _____。 → _____?

Exercise II Pattern drill: Complete the dialogues with the words/phrases on the right.

Nà shì shéi?
(1) A: 那是谁 (who)?

Nà shì
B: 那是_____。

wǒ péngyou
我朋友
wǒmen lǎoshī
我们老师
Mǎ Dàwéi
马大为

Tā shì nǎ guó rén?
(2) A: 他是哪国人?

Tā shì _____ rén.
B: 他是_____人。

Zhōngguó
中国 (China)
Měiguó
美国

2. 用疑问代词的问句 (1): 什么、哪 An interrogative sentence using a question pronoun (1): “shénme 什么” (what) or “nǎ 哪” (which)

In Chinese, the word order of an interrogative sentence using a question pronoun is the same as the word order of a declarative sentence.

Declarative Sentence	Interrogative Sentence
Zhè shì jiǎozi. 这是饺子。	Zhè shì shénme? 这是什么?

Declarative Sentence	Interrogative Sentence
Běijīngrén xǐhuan chī miàntiáo hé jiǎozi. 北京人 喜欢 吃 面条 和 饺子。→	Běijīngrén xǐhuan chī shénme? 北京人 喜欢 吃 什么?
Tā shì Měiguórén. 他是 美国人。	Tā shì nǎ guó rén? → 他是 哪 国 人?

Exercise I Change the statements into questions.

Example Zhè shì bāozi. Zhè shì shénme?
这是包子。→ 这是什么?

- Nà shì mǐfàn.
(1) 那是米饭。→ _____?
- Qiáodān shì Měiguórén.
(2) 乔丹 (Jordan) 是 美国人。→ _____?
- Wáng Xiǎoyún xǐhuan chī mǐfàn.
(3) 王 小云 喜欢 吃 米饭。→ _____?
- Mǎ Dàwéi xuéxí Hànyǔ.
(4) 马 大为 学习 汉语。→ _____?

Exercise II Complete the dialogues.

(1) A: _____?

Zhè shì miàntiáo.
B: 这是 面条。

A: _____?

Nà shì diǎnxīn.
B: 那是 点心。

A: _____?

Shànghǎirén xǐhuan chī diǎnxīn
B: 上海人 喜欢 吃 点心
hé mǐfàn.
和米饭。

(2) A: _____?

Tā shì Měiguórén.
B: 她是 美国人。

A: _____?

Tā xuéxí Hànyǔ.
B: 她学习 汉语。

3. 连词 “和” The conjunction “hé 和” (and)

The conjunction “和” usually connects pronouns, nouns, or noun phrases, such as “tā hé tā 她和他” (she and he), “bàba hé māma 爸爸和妈妈” (dad and mom), and “wǒ māma hé nǐ māma 我和妈妈” (my mom and your mom). The conjunction “和” cannot connect two sentences and is seldom used to connect two verbs or two adjectives.

Exercise I Complete the sentences by using the words in parentheses.

Example Bāozi hé jiǎozi dōu hěn hǎochī. bāozi, jiǎozi
包子和饺子都很好吃。(包子, 饺子)

(1) _____ dōu hěn máng. Wáng Xiǎoyún, Sòng Huá
都很忙。(王 小云, 宋 华)

(2) _____ dōu hěn hǎochī. miàntiáo, diǎnxin
都很好吃。(面条, 点心)

(3) Wǒ xǐhuan chī _____ bāozi, jiǎozi
我喜欢吃_____。(包子, 饺子)

(4) _____ dōu xuéxí Hànyǔ. Lín Nà, Dīng Lìbō
都学习汉语。(林娜, 丁力波)

(5) _____ zuìjìn zěnmeyàng? nǐ bàba, nǐ māma
最近怎么样?(你爸爸, 你妈妈)

Exercise II Decide whether the sentences below are correct (√) or not (×).

Mǐfàn hé diǎnxin dōu hěn hǎochī.
(1) 米饭和点心都很好吃。 ()

Wǒ shì Měiguórén, hé wǒ xǐhuan chī jiǎozi.
(2) 我是美国人, 和我喜欢吃饺子。 ()

Wǒ hěn hǎo hé bù tài máng.
(3) 我很好和不太忙。 ()

Chén lǎoshī hé Wáng lǎoshī zuìjìn zěnmeyàng?
(4) 陈老师和王老师最近怎么样? ()

Wǒ bàba shì Shànghǎirén, hé wǒ māma shì Běijīngrén.
(5) 我爸爸是上海人, 和我妈妈是北京人。 ()

4. 副词“都”的位置 The position of the adverb “dōu 都” (all; both)

Like “yě 也” (also), the adverb “都” must be placed after the subject but before the predicate verb or adjective. For example, “Bāozi hé jiǎozi dōu hěn hǎochī. 包子和饺子都很好吃。” (Both *baozi* and *jiaozi* are very delicious). You must not say “*Dōu bāozi hé jiǎozi hěn hǎochī. 都包子和饺子很好吃。” as it is grammatically incorrect. When “都” and “也” appear in the same sentence, “也” precedes “都”, for example, “Wǒ bàba hé wǒ māma yě dōu hěn máng. 我爸爸和我妈妈也都很忙。” (My dad and mom are also very busy).

Subject	Predicate	
	Adverb	Verb/Adjective
Dīng Lìbō hé Mǎ Dàwéi 丁 力波和 马 大为	dōu hěn 都 很	hǎo. 好。
Wǒ hé Lín Nà 我 和 林 娜	dōu bú tài 都 不 太	máng. 忙。
Nǐ bàba hé nǐ māma 你 爸爸和你 妈妈	dōu 都	shì Běijīng rén ma? 是 北京人 吗?
Wáng Xiǎoyún hé Sòng Huá 王 小云 和 宋 华	yě dōu bù 也 都 不	xǐhuan chī miàntiáo. 喜欢 吃 面条。

Exercise I Change the sentences using “都” following the example.

Example Wǒ hěn máng.
我 很 忙。
Tā hěn máng.
她 很 忙。
⇒ Wǒ hé tā dōu hěn máng.
我 和 她 都 很 忙。

- Lín Nà hěn hǎo.
(1) 林 娜 很 好。 ⇒ _____。
- Dīng Lìbō hěn hǎo.
丁 力波 很 好。
- Wǒ bú tài máng.
(2) 我 不 太 忙。 ⇒ _____。
- Sòng Huá bú tài máng.
宋 华 不 太 忙。
- Tā shì Měiguó rén.
(3) 他 是 美 国 人。 ⇒ _____。
- Mǎ Dàwéi shì Měiguó rén.
马 大为 是 美 国 人。

Wǒ māma shì Shànghǎirén.
(4) 我 妈妈 是 上海人。

Wǒ bàba shì Shànghǎirén. _____。
我 爸爸 是 上海人。

Exercise II Following the example, put the words and phrases in order to form sentences.

Example wǒmen hǎo hěn dōu Wǒmen dōu hěn hǎo.
我们 好 很 都 → 我们 都 很 好。

máng wǒmen dōu bù
(1) 忙 我们 都 不 → _____

dōu bāozi hé jiǎozi hěn hǎochī
(2) 都 包子 和 饺子 很 好吃 → _____

dōu wǒ péngyou hé wǒ gāoxìng hěn
(3) 都 我 朋友 和 我 高兴 很 → _____

wǒ bàba hé wǒ māma dōu Běijīng rén shì
(4) 我 爸爸 和 我 妈妈 都 北京 人 是 → _____

diǎnxīn Dīng Lìbō Mǎ Dàwéi dōu xǐhuan chī hé
(5) 点心 丁 力 波 马 大为 都 喜欢 吃 和 → _____

四、练习与运用 PRACTICE AND APPLICATION

补充词语 Supplementary Words



2-02-06



1. Zhōngguó	中国	PN	China
2. Fǎguó	法国	PN	France
3. Déguó	德国	PN	Germany
4. Jiānádà	加拿大	PN	Canada
5. Yīngguó	英国	PN	United Kingdom; England
6. Àodàliyà	澳大利亚	PN	Australia
7. Éluósī	俄罗斯	PN	Russia
8. Xībānyá	西班牙	PN	Spain
9. Rìběn	日本	PN	Japan
10. Hánguó	韩国	PN	South Korea

11. Tàiguó	泰国	PN	Thailand
12. Yìndù	印度	PN	India
13. Āijí	埃及	PN	Egypt
14. tóngxué	同学	N	classmate; schoolmate; fellow student 同学和老师
15. miànbāo	面包	N	bread 面包很好吃
16. hànǎobāo	汉堡包	N	hamburger 喜欢吃汉堡包
17. bǐsàbǐng	比萨饼	N	pizza 汉堡包和比萨饼

1 语音练习 Pronunciation Drills



2-02-07



Listen and read aloud: Add tone marks to the following words and sentences, and then read them aloud.

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| ① Meiguo | ② haochi | ③ mifan |
| ④ xihuan | ⑤ jiaozi | ⑥ women |
| ⑦ renshi | ⑧ pengyou | ⑨ Qingwen nin guixing? |
| ⑩ Ni shi na guo ren? | | |

2 会话练习 Conversation Practice

Pair activity: Create dialogues based on the scenes and the requirements below.

1. Greetings in the morning

(1)



(2)



2. Ask your classmates about their nationality.

Nǐ shì rén?
A: 你 是 人?

Wǒ shì rén.
B: 我 是 人。