

Chinese Mandarin Course Outline

Unit 1. Building the basics

Chapter 1. Greetings, Gratitude, and Goodbyes

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Express Gratitude
- Greet People
- Say Goodbye
- Learn About the Flexibility of Word Order
- Learn Personal Pronouns
- Use 太....(了)

Chapter 2. Do You Speak English?

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask and Tell What Language Someone Speaks
- Ask and Tell Where Someone is From
- Get Someone's Attention
- Be Able to Create Yes/No Questions
- Learn to Form Wh-Question Words
- Negate Sentences with 不

Chapter 3. Names and Introductions

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask Someone's Name
- Get to Know Some Popular Chinese Names
- Say Some English Names in Mandarin
- Say You're Not Someone or Something
- Say Your Name
- Form the Plural with 们

- Understand the Format of Chinese Names

Chapter 4. Getting Around

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask for Directions
- Identify Important Places Around Town
- Talk About Directions
- Understand Directions as They Are Given to You
- Identify the Basic Concept of 了
- Recognize Subjectless Sentences
- Understand the Function of 在 in Directions

Chapter 5. Shopping and Payment

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Convey Basic Shopping Needs
- Deal with Chinese Currency
- Use Small Numbers in a Transaction
- Recognize Number Structure
- Understand and Use Measure Words

Chapter 6. Drinks and Dining

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Know Some Popular Drinks and Foods in China
- Talk About Eating Utensils
- Understand Restaurant Culture in China
- Confidently Use 在 in a Sentence
- Use Learned Characters to Form New Meanings

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Chapter 7.

Numbers and Currency

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask the Price of an Item
- Bid Farewell in More Ways
- Deal with Higher Numbers
- Say the Names of Major Credit Cards
- Talk About Different Methods of Payment
- Be Able to Use the Number Structure

Chapter 8.

Getting Help

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask for and Offer Help
- Express How You Feel
- Gain Knowledge of Emergency Services in China
- Practice Using Subjectless Sentences
- Use in Various Structures

Chapter 9.

What Does That Mean?

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask About a Word in Mandarin
- Ask Someone to Repeat Themselves
- Grant Best Wishes
- Recognize Topicalization in Mandarin

Chapter 10.

Languages and Communication

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask About Your Accent
- Ask Someone to Repeat Something
- Ask What Others Think of Your Mandarin
- Give Someone Encouragement

- Request That Someone Speak Mandarin to You
- Connect Verbs and Adverbs with 得
- Learn How to Use to Express Encouragement
- Use Adverbial Phrases
- Use in Exclamations

Unit 2.

Expanding the essentials

Chapter 1.

People and Animals

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Address Family Members Using Kinship Words
- Describe People and Animals
- Know Animal Names and Traits
- Form A-not-A Questions with 不
- Learn More Measure Words
- Learn the Question Words “Where,” “When,” and “Who”

Chapter 2.

At Home

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Express Gratitude
- Greet People
- Say Goodbye
- Intensify Adjectives Using 好
- Learn Different Structures of Color Terms
- Learn Location and Pointing Words

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Chapter 3. Small Talk

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Accept and Decline an Invitation
- Share Likes and Dislikes
- Talk About Hobbies
- Talk About Popular Professions
- Talk About Social Gatherings
- Learn How to Structure the Words for Weekdays
- Make a Suggestion Using 吧
- Understand the Difference Between 没 and 不

Chapter 4. Dating

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Inquire About Somebody's Habits
- Offer to Buy Somebody a Drink or Meal
- Strike Up a Conversation
- Form the Present Perfect Tense Using 过
- Understand the Position of Adverbs and Adverbials
- Use Prepositional Phrases

Chapter 5. Eating and Cooking

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Express That You Do Not Like Something
- Learn Common Local and Cultural Foods
- Refer to Food Preparation Processes
- Say You Like Certain Foods
- Talk About the Ingredients of a Dish

- Form Sentences with Serial Verb Phrases
- Learn the Structure
- Learn the Structure
- Use to Form Present Progressive Tense

Chapter 6. Weather and Landscape

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Describe the Land
- Describe the Weather
- Use Proper Measurement for Temperature
- Learn Words Functioning as Modal Verbs in Mandarin
- Practice the Tone Sandhi of 不

Chapter 7. Shopping

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Inquire About Store Hours
- Talk About Different Types of Stores
- Understand Sizing in China
- Practice the Third-Tone Sandhi
- Practice the Tone Sandhi of 一

Chapter 8. Banking and Post Office

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Invite Someone to Join You for an Activity
- Use Basic Banking and Financial Terms
- Use the Post Office
- Form Sentences with Serial Verb Phrases with 有/没有
- Use Serial Verb Phrases for Means and Manner

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- Use Serial Verb Phrases to Express Purpose

Chapter 9. Leisure Activities

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Make Plans for an Activity
- Remind Someone to Bring Something
- Suggest Going Somewhere
- Form Negative Imperatives
- Make Suggestions Using 吧
- Use “Or” in Statements and Questions

Chapter 10. Sightseeing

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask About a Famous Person and Local History
- Ask to See Less Common Places
- Ask to See Well-Known Places
- State an Idea
- Learn about Relative Clauses
- Practice Alternative Questions

Unit 3. Broadening boundaries

Chapter 1. Culture, Literature and Art

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask About Famous Local Artists
- Say If You Are Familiar with Someone or Something
- Talk About Famous Local Authors and Books

- Talk About Local Music
- Practice Forming A-not-A Questions
- Review in Forming Present Perfect Tense

Chapter 2. History

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask About Wars or Other Important Events
- Discuss the Country’s Origin
- Talk About Local Historical People
- Learn the Measure Word 场
- Learn the Respectful Measure Word Used for People
- Practice Using the Generic Measure Word 个
- Use the Structure for Emphasis

Chapter 3. At the Hospital

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Describe Feelings of Pain or Illness
- Name a Kind of Medicine
- Respond to Medical Questions
- Form Passive Phrases Using 被
- Learn the Measure Word for Small, Round Objects
- Use to Emphasize a Torn Wound, i.e., Broken Skin

Chapter 4. Express Thoughts and Feelings

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Describe and Explain Your Emotions
- Express Feelings
- Offer Sympathy

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- Combine With Other Verbs to Form Phrasal Verbs
- Practice Verb Doubling
- Use to Confirm Completion or Realization

Chapter 5. Higher Learning

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask What School Somebody Attended
- Discuss the Merits of a School
- Express Pride
- Inquire About a Field of Study
- Differentiate Between the Use of 听说过 and 听说过
- Form Comparatives With 更 and 比
- Form Superlatives with 最
- Learn to Form the Months of the Year
- Use to Form Noun Phrases

Chapter 6. Name Origins

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask About the Origin of a Name
- Comment on Someone's Name
- Describe the Nature of a Guest's Visit
- Identify Your Relationships with Someone
- Use Various Expressions to Introduce Someone
- Learn the Measure Word 部
- Learn the Two-Part Structure of "To Visit"
- Understand the Implications of When Combined with Other Verbs
- Use the Structure

Chapter 7. Dietary Restrictions

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask if Someone Wants to Taste a Food
- Give Compliments on Food
- Talk About Hunger and Food Cravings
- Talk About One's Dietary Habits
- Talk About the Ingredients of a Dish
- Learn the Exaggeration Expression死了
- Practice Using the Present Progressive Marker 在
- Reinforce the Use of in Relative Clauses

Chapter 8. Physical Descriptions

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Add Humor to a Situation
- Describe Someone's Appearance
- Express Uncertainty
- Form Comparatives Using 一点儿
- Learn the Question Particle 吧
- Practice Forming Sentences with 的
- Understand How the Separable Verbs Are Formed and Used
- Use the Post-Verbal Particle 着

Chapter 9. Getting Ready for the Party

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Compliment Someone on Their Clothing or Appearance
- Express That One Event Is Dependent on Another
- Say You Have to Verify Something
- Talk About Personal Care and Grooming

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- Form Structures With 了, 完, and Separable Verbs
- Form the Present Perfect Progressive
- Learn How to Express Sequence of Actions
- Use to Indicate Completion of an Action

Chapter 10.

Sports and Fitness

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Comment on an Activity and Its Effects
- Discuss Sport and Exercise Habits
- Invite Someone to Join a Group
- Express Time Duration with a Separable Verb
- Learn Different Verbs for “Playing” Ball Games
- Reinforce the Usage of 每

Unit 4.

Continuing with confidence

Chapter 1.

Going Through Customs

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Interact with Airport Employees
- Present and Request Identification
- Understand and Respond to Security Questions and Commands
- Expand the Usage of 要
- Learn How to Express Dates
- Reinforce the Structure Sentence

Chapter 2.

At the Hotel

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Check into and out of a Hotel
- Discuss Hotel Features and Services
- Express Future Desires
- Offer Help
- Express Ownership With 自己的
- Learn How to Use 换
- Practice How to Tell Time
- Practice the Structure

Chapter 3.

Renting a Home

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Accentuate the Positive Aspects of a Living Space
- Discuss Features of Homes or Apartments
- Inquire About Possible Homes
- Outline Steps to Take Before Moving In
- Learn the Structure
- Review the Structure
- Use to Express Feelings and Opinions

Chapter 4.

Utilities and Appliances

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Ask for a Technician or Repairman
- Describe a Problem with a Utility or Appliance
- Discuss Setting Up Utilities
- Establish a Time Frame for Services
- Give Contact and Billing Information
- Learn the Structure
- Learn to Form a Chinese Address
- Use to Express Wishes or Give Advice

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Chapter 5. Choosing a School

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Discuss Schooling Options
- Discuss the Consequences of a Decision
- Mention Hearsay
- Talk About Features of Schools
- Express “Need Not” with 不用
- Form Sentences with 即使.....也.....
- Learn to Use Resultative Complements
- Understand How to Form Conditional Sentences
- Use 来 and 去 to Describe the Direction of the Verb

Chapter 6. Emergency Situations

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Describe an Emergency Situation
- Express Fear and Urgency
- Request and Offer Emergency Aid
- Request or Provide an Address or Location
- Learn How to Use the Adverbial Marker 地
- Practice Resultative Complements
- Practice Various Uses of 了

Chapter 7. Household Chores

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Apologize and Ask for Forgiveness
- Ask Someone to Do a Chore
- Describe Feelings of Anger
- Express Annoyance
- Give an Excuse

- Learn the Expressions得要命 and 该.....了
- Review the Structure
- Use the Structure

Chapter 8. At the Beauty Salon

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Discuss Beauty Salon Services
- Make and Ask About Appointments
- Request and Discuss Hair Styles
- Learn the Expression 不好意思
- Learn to Express Causativity
- Practice Resultative Complements

Chapter 9. Making Plans

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Discuss Certain Obligations
- Discuss When Events Occur
- Remind Someone of an Event
- Talk About a Person’s Availability
- Practice Reduplicated Verbs
- Use to Express Necessity
- Use to Express Contrast

Chapter 10. At the Movies

Grammar & Conversational Goals

- Describe Aspects of Movie Making
- Discuss a Movie or Acting
- Give a Contrary Opinion
- Learn the Expression 一点儿也/都不.....
- Practice Negating Verb-Resultative Complement Compounds
- Review Using to Form Comparatives