



ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

How to use prepositions in Mandarin: 在 (zài), 从 (cóng), 对 (duì), 对于 (duìyú), 往 (wǎng), 朝 (cháo), and 向 (xiàng)

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在 (zài)

- 1 在 (zài):
Describe the picture using 在...上, 在...中, or 在...下.
The words that you need to use are in the table below.



Mandarin	Pinyin	Translation
电视	diànshì	television
墙	qiáng	wall
桌子	zhuōzi	table
花儿	huār	flower
花盆	huāpén	flowerpot
椅子	yǐzi	chair

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从 (cóng):

- 2** 从 (cóng): Describe the following using 从...起, 从...到. For example, you may say when Sam's school day starts or from when to when Sam has which class.

Sam's school timetable	
9:00-10:00	中文课 Zhōngwén kè Chinese class
10:00-11:00	数学课 shùxué kè math class
11:00-12:00	音乐课 yīnyuè kè music class
13:00-14:00	英语课 Yīngyǔ kè English class
14:00-15:00	体育课 tǐyù kè PE class

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对 (duì), 对于 (duìyú), 往 (wǎng), 朝 (cháo), and 向 (xiàng)

3 对 (duì), 对于 (duìyú): Translate the following into Mandarin using 对, 对于.

- This teacher is very good to the students.
- I don't know anything about this thing.
- My boss treats us badly.
- He is sad about not being able to help her.

4 Fill in the blanks using 在... 看来 (zài kànlái), 在... 眼里 (zài yǎn lǐ), 朝 (cháo), 向 (xiàng), and 往 (wǎng).

- 他 () 着我走了过来。
Tā () zhe wǒ zǒu le guòlái.
He walked toward me.
- 这辆车开 () 北京。
Zhè liàng chē kāi () Běijīng.
The car is bound for Beijing.
- 这个人跑 () 了那个房子。
Zhè ge rén pǎo () le nà ge fángzi.
The person ran toward that house.
- () 他 () 没有坏人。
() tā () méiyǒu huàirén.
There are no bad people in his eyes.
- () 我 (), 他需要我们的帮助。
() wǒ (), tā xūyào wǒmen de bāngzhù.
It seems to me that he needs our help.

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1 电视在墙上。
Diànshì zài qiáng shàng.
The TV is on the wall.

花儿在桌子上。
Huār zài zhuōzi shàng.
Flowers are on the table.

椅子在桌子下。
Yǐzi zài zhuōzi xià.
The chairs are under the table.

花儿在花盆中。
Huār zài huāpén zhōng.
Flowers are in pots.

2 Sam上午从九点起开始上课。
Sam shàngwǔ cóng jiǔdiǎn qǐ kāishǐ shàngkè.
Sam's class starts at nine in the morning.

Sam从九点到十点上中文课。
Sam cóng jiǔdiǎn dào shídiǎn shàng Zhōngwén kè.
Sam has Chinese class from nine to ten.

Sam从十点到十一点上数学课。
Sam cóng shídiǎn dào shíyīdiǎn shàng shùxué kè.
Sam has math class from ten to eleven.

Sam从十一点到十二点上音乐课。
Sam cóng shíyīdiǎn dào shí'èrdiǎn shàng Yīnyuè kè.
Sam has music lessons from eleven to twelve.

Sam下午从一点起开始上课。
Sam xiàwǔ cóng yīdiǎn qǐ kāishǐ shàngkè.
Sam has lessons from one o'clock in the afternoon.

Sam从一点到两点上英语课。
Sam cóng yīdiǎn dào liǎngdiǎn shàng Yīngyǔ kè.
Sam has English lessons from one to two.

Sam从两点到三点上体育课。
Sam cóng liǎngdiǎn dào sāndiǎn shàng tǐyù kè.
Sam has a physical education class from two to three o'clock.

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3 这位老师对学生很好。
Zhè wèi lǎoshī duì xuéshēng hěn hǎo.
This teacher is very good to the students.

我对/对于这件事一点都不知道。
Wǒ duì/duìyú zhè jiàn shì yīdiǎn dōu bù zhīdào.
I don't know anything about this thing.

我的老板对我们很不好。
Wǒ de lǎobǎn duì wǒmen hěn bù hǎo.
My boss treats us badly.

他对/对于不能帮助她感到难过。
Tā duì/duìyú bùnéng bāngzhù tā gǎndào nánguò.
He is sad about not being able to help her.

- 4**
- a. 他朝着我走了过来。
Tā cháo zhe wǒ zǒu le guòlái.
He walked toward me.
 - b. 这辆车开往北京。
Zhè liàng chē kāiwǎng Běijīng.
The car is bound for Beijing.
 - c. 这个人跑向了那个房子。
Zhè ge rén pǎoxiàng le nà ge fángzi.
The person ran toward that house.
 - d. 在他眼里，没有坏人。
Zài tā yǎn lǐ, méiyǒu huàirén.
There are no bad people in his eyes.
 - e. 在我看来，他需要我们的帮助。
Zài wǒ kàn lái, tā xūyào wǒmen de bāngzhù.
It seems to me that he needs our help.

