



ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

How to form imperative sentences in Mandarin Chinese?

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1 Write four sentences in Mandarin using the words given below:

1. 幼儿园 yòu'éryuán kindergarten	麻烦 máfan sorry to bother you	孩子 háizi children	送去 sòngqù send	把 bǎ particle
2. 我们 wǒmen we	下雨了 xià yǔ le it is raining	出去 chūqù go out	了 le particle	别 bié don't
3. 叫 jiào ask	去 qù go	老师 lǎoshī teacher	学生 xuésheng student	开门 kāimén open the door
4. 他给我 tā gěi wǒ he gives me	让 ràng let	没 méi not	我 wǒ I	打电话 dǎ diànhuà make a call

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2 Turn the following imperatives into their negative forms (both for the present and for the past).

进来!

Jìnlái!

Come in!

回头看!

Huítóu kàn!

Look back!

老师让我帮他学中文。

Lǎoshī ràng wǒ bāng tā xué Zhōngwén.

The teacher asked me to help him learn Chinese.

他叫我去图书馆。

Tā jiào wǒ qù túshūguǎn.

He asked me to go to the library.

我请朋友吃饭。

Wǒ qǐng péngyou chīfàn.

I invite friends to dinner.

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3 Share family chores! Wife 阿梅 (Āméi, “Amei”) is not happy about husband 志强 (Zhiqiang, “Zhiqiang”) and son 小杰 (Xiǎojié, “Xiaojie”) not sharing family chores; she requests the following:

1. Zhiqiang, please wash the dishes. (include 请)
2. Xiaojie, could you please go and walk the dog? (include 一下 and 可以)

Write the two requests above in Mandarin: 1) as imperative sentences; 2) as embedded imperative sentences (include 叫 and 让).



洗碗 (xǐ wǎn)	wash the dishes
遛狗 (liù gǒu)	walk the dog

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1

麻烦把孩子送去幼儿园。
Máfan bǎ háizi sòng qù yòu'éryuán.
Please send the kid to kindergarten.

下雨了，我们别出去了。
Xià yǔ le, wǒmen bié chūqù le.
It's raining, let's not go out.

老师叫学生去开门。
Lǎoshī jiào xuésheng qù kāi mén.
The teacher asked the student to open the door.

我没让他给我打电话。
Wǒ méi ràng tā gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà.
I didn't ask him to call me.

2

别/不要进来!
Bié/bùyào jìnlái!
Don't come in!

别/不要回头看!
Bié/bùyào huítóu kàn!
Don't look back!

老师不/没让我帮他学中文。
Lǎoshī bù/méi ràng wǒ bāng tā xué Zhōngwén.
The teacher does/did not ask me to help him learn Chinese.

他不/没叫我去图书馆。
Tā bù/méi jiào wǒ qù túshūguǎn.
He does/did not ask me to go to the library.

我不/没请朋友吃饭。
Wǒ bù/méi qǐng péngyou chīfàn.
I do/did not invite friends to dinner.

3

志强，请洗碗。
Zhiqiang, qǐng xǐ wǎn.
Zhiqiang, please wash the dishes.

小杰，出去遛一下狗，可以吗？
Xiǎojié, chūqù liù yíxià gǒu, kěyǐ ma?
Xiaojie, can you please go and walk the dog?

阿梅叫志强洗碗。
Āméi jiào Zhiqiáng xǐ wǎn.
Amei asks Zhiqiang to wash the dishes.

阿梅让小杰去遛狗。
Āméi ràng Xiǎojié qù liù gǒu.
Amei asks Xiaojie to walk the dog.

