

# Simple Chinese

## Unit One: Greeting

English	Chinese Pronunciation
Can I practice Chinese with you?	<u>Wo3 he2 ni3 lian4 xi2 zhong1 wen2 hao3 ma?</u>
Could you please call (name of person) for me?	<u>Qing3 nin2 ti4 wo3 gei3 (name of person) da3 ge4 dian4 hua4, hao3 ma?</u>
Do you know how to speak Cantonese also?	<u>Ni3 ye3 hui4 shuo1 Guang3 Dong1 hua4 ma?</u>
Glad to meet you!	<u>Jian4 dao4 ni3 hen3 gao1 xing4!</u>
Goodbye!	<u>Zai4 jian4!</u>
Good day!	<u>Wu3 an1!</u>
Good evening!	<u>Wan3 shang4 hao3!</u>
Good luck!	<u>Zhu4 ni3 hao3 yun4!</u>
Good morning!	<u>Zao3 chen2 hao3!</u>
Good night!	<u>Wan3 an1.</u>
Greeting someone in a slang manner.	<u>Hei4, ger1 menr!</u> (to a peer male with whom you must be very familiar, or it is considered to be very rude.)
Hi, is (name of person) Home (here)?	<u>Wei4, (name of person) zai4 jia1 ma?</u>
Hope to see you again next time.	<u>Xi1 wang4 xia4 ci4 zai4 jian4 dao4 ni3.</u>
How are you, Mr. Wang	<u>Ni3 hao3, wang2 xian1 sheng!</u>
How are you?	<u>Ni3 hao3!</u>
How do you say ... in Chinese?	... (an English word or phrase) <u>de zhong1 wen2 zen3 me shuo1?</u>
How's your dad and mom?	<u>Ni3 de ba4 ba ma1 ma hao3 ma?</u>
How old are you?	<u>Ni3 de nian2 ling2 you3 duo1 da4?</u>
I am John.	<u>Wo3 shi4 Yue1 Han4.</u>
I don't speak English.	<u>Wo3 bu2 hui4 jiang3 ying1 yu3.</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

I think you are cute.	<u>Wo3 jue2 de ni3 hen3 ke3 ai4.</u>
Let me introduce you to each other.	<u>Wo3 gei3 ni3 men jie4 shao4 yi2 xia4.</u>
May I speak with (name of person)?	<u>Wo3 ke3 yi3 he2 (name of person) shuo1 hua4 ma?</u>
Mr./Mrs/Ms./Prof. (to a teacher)	<u>Lao3 shi1</u>
My first name is John and my last name is Smith	<u>Wo3 jiao4 Yue1 Han1, xing shi mi si.</u>
Say hi to Prof. Li!	<u>Dai4 wen4 Li3 jiao4 shou4 hao3.</u>
See you again.	<u>Zai4 jian4!</u>
See you next time.	<u>Zai4 hui4!</u>
See you tomorrow!	<u>Ming2 tian1 jian4.</u>
So-so.	<u>Ma3 ma3 hu1 hu1.</u>
Speak slowly so that I can learn it.	<u>Shuo1 de man4 dianr3, wo3 hao3 xue2.</u>
Stay in, please.	<u>Qing3 liu2 bu4.</u>
Sorry!	<u>Dui4 Bu4 Qi3!</u>
That is Mr Chen.	<u>Na4 wei4 shi4 Chen2 xian1 sheng.</u>
This is Ms Zhang.	<u>Zhe4 wei4 shi4 Zhang4 xiao3 jie3.</u>
Welcome to my home.	<u>Huan1 ying3 dao4 wo3 jia1 zuo4 ke4.</u>
What is your name?	<u>Ni3 gui4 xing4?</u>
Wish you a happy journey!	<u>Zhu4 ni3 lu3 tu2 yu2 kuai4!</u>
Wish you a plain sailing home!	<u>Zhu4 ni3 yi2 lu4 shun4 feng1!</u>
Wish you a safe journey back home!	<u>Zhu4 ni3 yi2 lu4 ping2 an1!</u>
You look pretty young.	<u>Ni3 kan4 shang qu4 mei2 na4 me da4.</u>
You look smart in that dress.	<u>Ni3 chuan1 zhe4 shen1 yi1 fu hen3 shuai4.</u>
You look very young.	<u>Ni3 de yang4 zi hen3 nian2 qing1.</u>
Your hair style looks beautiful.	<u>Ni3 de fa4 xing2 hen3 piao4 liang4.</u>

## Unit Two: Shopping

English	Chinese Pronunciation
a Chinese dollar	<u>yuan2</u>
a hat	<u>yi4 ding3 mao4 zi</u>
a hundred thousand	<u>shi2 wan4</u>
a kilogram	<u>yi4 gong1 jin1</u>
a meter	<u>yi4 gong1 chi3</u>
a scarf	<u>yi4 tiao2 fang1 jin1</u>
Can I have it for a little bit less?	<u>Pian2 yi yi4 xie1 hao3 ma?</u>
coisonne enamel	<u>jing3 tai4 lan2</u>
department store	<u>bai3 huo4 shang1 dian4</u>
eight	<u>ba1</u>
eleven	<u>shi2 yi1</u>
exchange rate	<u>dui4 huan4 luo4</u>
Excuse me.	<u>Lao2 jia4.</u>
extra large (size)	<u>te4 da4 hao4</u>
five	<u>wu3</u>
five hundred grams	<u>wu3 bai3 ke4</u>
four	<u>si4</u>
go downtown	<u>shang4 jie1</u>
handcraft	<u>shou3 gong1 yi4 pin3</u>
How much?	<u>Duo1 shao3 qian2?</u>
I want to buy a bracelet.	<u>Wo3 mai3 yi4 zhi1 shou3 zhuo2.</u>
I want to buy a silk tie.	<u>Wo3 xiang3 mai3 yi4 tiao2 zhen1 si1 ling3 dai4.</u>
I want to buy this.	<u>Wo3 xiang3 mai3 zhei4 ge.</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

I want to have that.	<u>Wo3 xiang3 yao4 nei4 ge.</u>
It fits well on you.	<u>Chuan1 qi3 lai2 hen3 he2 sh4i.</u>
It is a good deal.	<u>Hen3 pian2 yi.</u>
It is too big.	<u>Tai4 da4 le.</u>
large (size)	<u>da4 hao4</u>
Let's go and do some shopping.	<u>Dao4 shang1 dian4 guang4 yi guang4.</u>
Let's go downtown.	<u>Shang4 jie1 zhuan4 yi zhuan4.</u>
May I have a look at this?	<u>Ba3 zhe4 ge na2 gei3 wo3 kan4 kan.</u>
May I try it on?	<u>Rang4 wo3 shi4 yi2 shi4 hao3 ma?</u>
midium (size)	<u>zhong1 hao4</u>
nine	<u>jiu3</u>
No, not this one, but that one.	<u>Bu4, bu2 shi4 zhei4 ge, shi4 nai4 ge.</u>
one	<u>yi1</u>
one hundred	<u>yi4 bai3</u>
one hundred and twenty-three	<u>yi4 bai3 er4 shi2 san1</u>
one million	<u>yi4 bai3 wan2</u>
one thousand	<u>yi4 qian1</u>
one yuan and twenty-tree cents	<u>yi4 yuan2 er4 jiao3 san2 fen1</u>
Please give me....	<u>Qing3 ba3 ...(add object here) na2 gei3 wo3.</u>
Reminbi (Chinese currency)	<u>ren2 min2 bi4</u>
reversible embroidery	<u>shuang1 mian4 ci4 xiu4</u>
seven	<u>qi1</u>
silk	<u>zhen1 si1</u>
six	<u>liu4</u>
sixty-nine yuan and forty-eight cents	<u>liu4 shi2 jiu3 yuan2 si4 jiao3 ba1 fen1</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

small	<u>xiao3 hao4</u>
super market	<u>zi4 xuan3 shi4 chang3</u>
Sure.	<u>Bu2 xie4.</u>
ten	<u>shi2</u>
ten thousand	<u>yi2 wan4</u>
Thank you.	<u>Xie4 xie.</u>
Thank you very much.	<u>Duo1 xie4.</u>
Thank you, I am just looking.	<u>Xie4 xie, wo3 zhi3 shi4 kan4 kan.</u>
The color is too bright.	<u>Yan2 se4 tai4 yan4 le.</u>
The pattern is very beautiful.	<u>Hua1 se4 mei3 guan1.</u>
thirty	<u>san1 shi2</u>
three	<u>san1</u>
Too expensive	<u>Tai4 gui4 le.</u>
tri-colored glazed pottery of the Tang dynasty	<u>tang2 san1 cai3</u>
twelve	<u>shi2 er4</u>
twenty	<u>er4 shi2</u>
two	<u>er4</u>
US dollar	<u>mei3 yuan2</u>
wax printing	<u>la4 ran3</u>
What can I do for you?	<u>ni3 mai3 shen2 me?</u>
What size?	<u>Duo2 da4 hao4?</u>
What time do you close? (open)	<u>Shen2 me shi2 jian1 guan1 men2?</u> ( <u>kai1 men2</u> )
You are welcome.	<u>Bu2 ke4 qi.</u>

## Unit Three: Dinning

English	Chinese Pronunciation
apple	<u>ping2 guo3</u>
bacon	<u>xian2 rou4</u>
baked cake (muffin like, more flavored)	<u>shao1 bing3</u>
ball room	<u>wu3 ting1</u>
banana	<u>xiang1 jiao1</u>
band	<u>yue4 dui4</u>
bar	<u>jiu3 ba1</u>
beancurd soup	<u>dou4 fu nao3</u>
beef	<u>niu2 rou4</u>
beverage	<u>yin3 liao4</u>
black tea	<u>hong2 cha2</u>
boiled dumpling	<u>jiao3 zi</u>
Bon appetit!	<u>Nin2 chi1 hao3.</u>
Bottom up!	<u>Gan1 bei1!</u>
bowl	<u>wan3</u>
bread	<u>mian4 bao1</u>
breakfast	<u>zao3 dian3</u>
buffe	<u>zi4 zhu4 can1</u>
candies	<u>tang2 guo3</u>
check	<u>zhang4 dan1</u>
cheese	<u>nai3 lao4</u>
chicken	<u>ji1</u>
chopsticks	<u>kuai4 zi</u>
Could you make it hotter?	<u>Zai4 la4 dian3 hao3 ma?</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

crab	<u>xie4</u>
crispy chicken	<u>xiang1 su1 ji1</u>
dance floor	<u>wu3 chi2</u>
deep-fried dough (donut like)	<u>you2 tiao2</u>
Delicious!	<u>Hao3 chi1 ji2 le.</u>
dessert	<u>tian2 dian3</u>
dim sum	<u>Guang3 Dong1 cha2 dian3</u>
dry white wine	<u>gan1 bai2 pu2 tao2 jiu3</u>
duck	<u>ya1</u>
Easy on salt, please.	<u>Qing3 shao3 jia1 yan2.</u>
fast food	<u>kuai4 can1</u>
Feel at home.	<u>Bie2 ke4 qi4.</u>
fish	<u>yu2</u>
food stand	<u>yin3 shi2 tan1</u>
fruit	<u>shui3 guo3</u>
fruit juice	<u>guo3 zhi1</u>
garlic pork	<u>yu2 xiang1 rou4 si1</u>
grape	<u>pu2 tao2</u>
Have some more.	<u>Zai4 chi1 dian3 ba.</u>
Help yourself.	<u>Qing3 zi4 bian4.</u>
hors d'oeuvres	<u>leng3 pin1</u>
hot and sour soup	<u>suan1 la4 tang1</u>
hot dishes	<u>re4 chao3</u>
hot oil	<u>la4 jiao1 you2</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

I am full.	<u>Wo3 chi1 bao3 le.</u>
I am hungry; let's go out to eat.	<u>Wo3 e4 le; zan2 men chu1 gu4 chi1 fan4 ba.</u>
I can't eat any more.	<u>chi1 bu2 xia4 le.</u>
I do not want too much grease in the dish.	<u>Cai4 bu2 yao4 tai4 you2 ni4.</u>
I don't want MSG.	<u>Wo3 cai4 li3 bu2 yao4 wei4 jing1.</u>
I like hot food.	<u>Wo3 ai4 chi1 la4.</u>
I like Szechuan.	<u>Wo3 xi3 huan1 chuan1 cai4.</u>
I want less sugar.	<u>Qing3 shao3 fang4 yi4 dianr3 tang2.</u>
I would like to order # ....	<u>Wo3 xiang3 yao4 (numeral) hao4.</u>
ice cream	<u>bing1 qi2 lin2</u>
It is on me.	<u>Wo3 qing3 ke4.</u>
It's a good meal.	<u>Fan4 cai4 hen3 xiang1.</u>
jasmin tea	<u>mo4 li4 hua1 cha2</u>
Let's ask for separate checks.	<u>Fen1 tou2 fu4 zhang4 ba.</u>
liquor	<u>jiu3</u>
local traditional snacks	<u>feng1 wei4 xiao3 chi1</u>
low calories	<u>di1 re4 liang4</u>
lunch	<u>wu3 can1</u>
ma po tou fu	<u>Ma2 Po2 dou4 fu</u>
Maotai	<u>mao2 tai2</u>
meat dishes	<u>hun1 cai4</u>
menu	<u>cai4 dan1</u>
milk	<u>niu2 nai3</u>



## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

mutton	<u>yang2 rou4</u>
on diet	<u>jian3 fei2</u>
orange	<u>ju2 zi3</u>
orange juice	<u>ju2 zhi1</u>
Pass me that dish, please.	<u>Qing3 ba3 nei4 ge4 cai4 di4 gei3 wo3.</u>
peach	<u>tao2</u>
pear	<u>li2</u>
Peking duck	<u>Bei3 Jing1 kao3 ya1</u>
pineapple	<u>bo1 luo2</u>
popsickle	<u>xue3 gao1</u>
pork	<u>zhu1 rou4</u>
reserve a table	<u>yu4 ding4 zhuo1 wei4.</u>
restaurant	<u>fan4 guanr3</u>
saucers	<u>die2 zi</u>
sausage	<u>xiang1 chang2</u>
seafood	<u>hai3 xian1</u>
Shall we go out and eat?	<u>Zan2 men chu1 qu4 chi1 hao3 ma?</u>
shrimp	<u>xia1</u>
silver fish of the West Lake, Hangzhou	<u>Xi1 Hu2 yin1 yu2</u>
slush	<u>bao4 bing1</u>
snack bar	<u>xiao3 chi1 dian4</u>
snacks	<u>ling2 shi2</u>
soybean milk	<u>dou4 jiang1</u>
spicy hot	<u>la4</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

spoon	<u>tiao2 geng1</u>
steak	<u>niu2 pai2</u>
steamed bun (white-colored bread)	<u>man2 tou2</u>
steamed dumpling (with decoration on top)	<u>shao1 mai4</u>
steamed fish	<u>qing1 zheng1 yu2</u>
steamed rice	<u>mi3 fan4</u>
steamed rolls	<u>hua1 juanr3</u>
stewed fish	<u>hong2 shao1 yu2</u>
supper	<u>wan3 fan4</u>
sweet & sour fish	<u>tang2 cu4 yu2</u>
Table for two.	<u>Liang3 ren2 yi4 zhuo1.</u>
tea	<u>cha2</u>
This is a good dish.	<u>Zhei4 ge4 cai4 zhen1 hao3 chi1.</u>
Tianjin Steamed Dumpling	<u>Tian1 Jin1 bao1 zi</u>
tip	<u>xiao3 fei4</u>
toast	<u>zhu4 jiu3</u>
Try this.	<u>Chang2 yi4 chang2 zhei4 ge4.</u>
vegetarian dishes	<u>su4 cai4</u>
Vodka	<u>bai2 jiu3</u>
water melon	<u>xi1 gua1</u>
What are you having?	<u>Ni3 men you3 shen2 me?</u>
What do you recommend?	<u>Ni3 gei3 tui1 jian4 dianr3 shen2 me?</u>
What does it taste like?	<u>Shen2 me wei4 dao4?</u>
What time do you close? (open)	<u>Shen2 me shi2 jian1 guan1 men2?</u> <u>(kai1 men2)</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

What would you like, sir?

Xian1 sheng1, nin2 xiang3 chi1 dian3 shen2 me?

Where is the bathroom?

Ce4 suo3 zai4 na3?

Or Xi3 shou3 jian1 zai4 na3? (A little elevated. Try it among educated populace only.)

white sorteed chicken

bai2 zhan3 ji1

wine

pu2 tao2 jiu3

wonton

hun2 tun1

Yang Chow noodle

yang2 zhou1 mian4

## Unit Four: Weather

English	Chinese Pronunciation
(It's) windy	<u>gua1 feng1</u>
(You're) punctual.	<u>hen3 zhun3 sh2i</u>
afternoon	<u>xia4 wu3</u>
an hour	<u>yi2 ge4 xiao3 shi2</u>
April	<u>si4 yue4</u>
say New Year greetings	<u>bai4 Nian2</u>
August	<u>ba1 yue4</u>
celebrate Chinese New Year	<u>guo4 Nian2</u>
Christmas	<u>Sheng4 Dan4 Jie2</u>
clear	<u>qing2 tian1</u>
cloudy	<u>yin1 tian1</u>
day after tomorrow, the	<u>hou4 tian1</u>
day before yesterday, the	<u>qian2 tian1</u>
December	<u>shi2 er4 yue4</u>
early evening	<u>bang1 wan3</u>
early morning	<u>zao3 chen2</u>
evening	<u>wan3 shang4</u>
fall (autumn)	<u>qiu1 tian1</u>
February	<u>er4 yue4</u>
five forty-five	<u>wu3 dian3 san1 ke4</u>
foggy	<u>you3 wu4</u>
four fifteen	<u>si4 dian3 yi2 ke4</u>
Friday	<u>xing1 qi1 wu3</u>
gift, present	<u>li3 pin3</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

Happy New Year!	<u>Xin1 Nian2 Kuai4 Le4!</u>
have a day-off	<u>xie1 ban1</u>
Hurry up; we're late!	<u>Kuai4 dianr3; wo3 men wan3 le.</u>
I can't wait until summer.	<u>Wo3 bu4 neng2 deng3 dao4 xia4 tian1.</u>
I have to go home now.	<u>Wo3 dei3 hui2 jia1 le.</u>
I've got to go; it's late.	<u>Wo3 dei3 zou3 le; tian1 wan3 le.</u>
It's a bit late.	<u>Tian1 bu4 zao3 le.</u>
It's April the twenty-sixth.	<u>Jin1 tian1 shi4 si4 yue4 er4 shi2 liu4 ri4.</u>
It's in time.	<u>hen3 ji2 shi2.</u>
It's March the eighth.	<u>San1 yue4 ba1 hao4.</u>
It's Monday today.	<u>Jin1 tian1 shi4 xing1 qi1 yi1.</u>
It's on time.	<u>Shi2 jian1 zheng4 hao3.</u>
It's spring.	<u>Xian4 zai4 shi4 chun1 tian1.</u>
It's still early.	<u>Hai2 zao3 zhe ne.</u>
It's ten to two.	<u>Cha4 shi2 fen1 liang3 dian3.</u>
It's too late.	<u>Tai4 wan3 le.</u>
January	<u>yi1 yue4</u>
July	<u>qi1 yue4</u>
June	<u>liu4 yue4</u>
lunch break	<u>wu3 xiu1</u>
March	<u>san1 yue4</u>
May	<u>wu3 yue4</u>
May 1st Labor Day	<u>Wu3 Yi1 Lao2 Dong4 Jie2</u>
Mid-Autumn Festival	<u>Zhong1 Qiu1 Jie2</u>

**English****Chinese Pronunciation**

mid-night	<u>wu3 ye4</u>
morning	<u>shang4 wu3</u>
Mother's Day	<u>Mu3 Qin1 Jie2</u>
National Day	<u>Guo2 Qing4 Jie2</u>
New Year	<u>Yuan2 Dan4</u>
night	<u>shen1 ye4</u>
noon	<u>zhong1 wu3</u>
November	<u>shi2 yi1 yue4</u>
October	<u>shi2 yue4</u>
on vacation	<u>fang4 jia4</u>
one o'clock	<u>yi1 dian3 le</u>
Please, wake up!	<u>Qiu2 qiu ni3 le, xing3 lai2 ba.</u>
public holiday	<u>gong1 xi1 ri4</u>
raining	<u>xia4 yu3</u>
Saturday	<u>xing1 qi1 liu4</u>
September	<u>jiu3 yue4</u>
snowing	<u>xia4 xue3</u>
Spring Festival (Chinese New Year)	<u>Chun1 Jie2</u>
summer	<u>xia4 tian1</u>
summer vacation	<u>shu3 jia4</u>
Sunday	<u>xing1 qi1 ri4</u>
Thanksgiving	<u>Gan3 En1 Jie2</u>
three thirty	<u>san1 dian3 ban4</u>
Thursday	<u>xing1 qi1 si4</u>
today	<u>jin1 tian1</u>

## English

## Chinese Pronunciation

tomorrow	<u>ming2 tian1</u>
Tuesday	<u>xing1 qi1 er4</u>
Twelve sharp.	<u>Shi2 er4 dian3 zheng3</u>
two days after tomorrow	<u>da4 hou4 tian1</u>
two days before yesterday	<u>da4 qian2 tian1</u>
two five	<u>Liang3 dian3 wu3 fen1.</u>
two hours and five minutes	<u>liang3 ge4 xiao3 shi2 ling2 wu5 fen1</u>
Valentine's Day	<u>Qing2 Ren2 Jie2</u>
Want to go out tonight?	<u>Jin1 wan3 xiang3 chu1 qu4 ma?</u>
Wednesday	<u>xing1 qi1 san1</u>
weekdays	<u>ping2 ri4</u>
weekend	<u>zhou1 mo4</u>
What month is it?	<u>Xian4 zai4 shi4 ji3 yue4 fen4?</u>
What time is it?	<u>Ji3 dian3 le?</u>
What's day today?	<u>Jin1 tian1 shi4 xing1 qi1 ji3?</u>
What's the date today?	<u>Jin1 tian1 shi4 ji3 hao4?</u>
What's the season?	<u>Xian4 zai4 shi4 shen2 me ji4 jie2?</u>
What's the weather today?	<u>Jin1 tian1 tian1 qi4 zen3 me yang4?</u>
winter	<u>dong1 tian1</u>
winter vacation	<u>han2 jia4</u>
Wish you good fortune!	<u>Gong1 Xi3 Fa1 Cai2</u>
yesterday	<u>zuo2 tian1</u>