

Teaching Nomad

# Mandarin Basic Phrase Guide



# 27 Important Mandarin Phrases to Learn



## Basic Conversational Words/Phrases

◆ **Hello** nǐ hǎo (nee how) 你好

◆ **How are you?** nǐ hǎo ma (nee how ma) 你好吗?

◆ **Good** hǎo (how) 好

◆ **Not okay/not good** bù hǎo (boo how) 不好

◆ **I don't understand** wǒ tīng bù dǒng (wah tieng boo dong) 我听不懂。

◆ **Thank you!** xiè xie (shieh shieh) 谢谢

◆ **You're welcome** bié kèqì (boo ke chee) 别客气

◆ **I'm sorry/excuse me** duìbùqǐ (doo-ay boo chee) 对不起  
(coming through)

◆ **Excuse me** qǐng wèn (ching when) 请问  
(getting attention)

◆ **Do you speak English?** nǐ huì shuō yīngyǔ ma?

(nee hoy shuah  
yung-oooh ma)  
你会说英语吗?

◆ **How much money?** duōshǎo qián? (dua shao chien) 多少钱?

◆ **I don't want it!** wǒ búyào! (whoa boo-yao) 我不要

◆ **Goodbye** zàijiàn (dzai jee-en) 再见



## Directional Words/Phrases



Where is the bathroom? **xǐ shǒu jiān zài nǎ lǐ?**

(she sho za na li)  
洗手间在哪里?

Where is the nearest subway station? **lí zhè zuì jìn de dì tiě zhàn zài nǎ?**

(li juh zuh jin suh-chin dee di-tuh chan zay nah) 离这最近的地铁站在哪?

Where is the nearest bus station? **zuì jìn de gōng jiāo chē zhàn zài nǎ lǐ?**

(suh-chin de gung-chao chuh jan za na-lee) 最近的公交车站在哪里?

Where is the nearest bank? **zuì jìn de yín háng zài nǎ?**

(suh-chin de ying-haung zay nah) 最近的银行在哪?

## Classroom Words/Phrases

Look at the teacher **kàn lǎo shī (khan low shir)** 看老师

Listen to the teacher **tīng lǎo shī (ting low shir)** 听老师

Please turn in your homework **qǐng shàng jiāo nǐ de zuò yè**

(ching shawng jaow nee de zoy-yuh)  
请上交你的作业

## Dining Words/Phrases



◆ **How many people?** duōshǎo rén? (do shaow rin) 多少人?

◆ **Waiter** fú wù yuán (foo yoo-en) 服务员

◆ **I would like...** wǒ yào... (wuh yao) 我要

◆ **Water** shuǐ (shwu-ee) 水

◆ **Do you have chopsticks?** yǒu kuài zi ma

(yo kwah-zee mah)  
有筷子吗

◆ **Do you have spoons?** yǒu shǎo zi ma

(yo shaow zee mah)  
有勺子吗

◆ **The bill, please.** jié zhàng, xiè xie  
**Thank you.**

(ge-uh chawng, shieh shieh)  
结账，谢谢。



# Numbers

0 〇 (零) líng

1 一 (壹) yī

2 二 (贰) èr (两 liǎng is used when specifying quantities)

3 三 (叁) sān

4 四 (肆) sì

5 五 (伍) wǔ

6 六 (陆) liù

7 七 (柒) qī

8 八 (捌) bā

9 九 (玖) jiǔ

10 十 (拾) shí

