Chinese Character Content

Speaking-first materials for English-speaking beginners, HSK 1-3 learners, and business Chinese starters.

How to Use

1. Read the words aloud. 2. Practice the sentence patterns. 3. Complete the speaking task without looking. Writing and stroke order are intentionally excluded in this version.

Zero Beginner

L01 - Greetings and Names

Goal: Greet people and introduce your name.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
你好	n ǐ h ǎ o	hello
我	w ǒ	I; me
你	n ǐ	you
叫	ji à o	to be called
什么	sh é n me	what
名字	m í ng z ì	name
是	sh ì	to be
老师	l ǎ o sh ī	teacher
学生	xu é sh ē ng	student
谢谢	xi è xi è	thank you

Chinese	Pinyin	English
你好，我叫 David。	n ǐ h ǎ o, w ǒ ji à o David.	Hello, my name is David.
你叫什么名字？	n ǐ ji à o sh é n me m í ng z ì ?	What is your name?
我是学生。	w ǒ sh ì xu é sh ē ng.	I am a student.

Speaking task: Introduce yourself with: 你好，我叫 ___。我是 ___。

L02 - Numbers and Phone Numbers

Goal: Say numbers and read a phone number aloud.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
一	y ī	one
二	è r	two
三	s ā n	three
四	s ì	four
五	w ǔ	five
六	li ù	six
七	q ī	seven
八	b ā	eight
九	ji ǔ	nine
十	sh í	ten
电话	di à n hu à	phone
号码	h à o m ǎ	number

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我的电话号码是 13800138000。	w ǒ de di à n hu à h à o m ǎ sh ì 13800138000.	My phone number is 13800138000.
请再说一遍。	q ǐ ng z à i shu ō y ī bi à n.	Please say it one more time.

Speaking task: Read your phone number slowly in Chinese.

L03 - Countries and Languages

Goal: Say where you are from and what languages you speak.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
中国	zh ō ng gu ó	China
美国	m ě i gu ó	United States
英国	y ī ng gu ó	United Kingdom
西班牙	x ī b ā n y á	Spain
人	r é n	person
中文	zh ō ng w é n	Chinese language
英文	y ī ng w é n	English language
说	shu ō	to speak
会	hu ì	can; know how to

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我是美国人。	w ǒ sh ì m ě i gu ó r é n.	I am American.
我会说一点中文。	w ǒ hu ì shu ō y ì di ǎ n zh ō ng w é n.	I can speak a little Chinese.
你会说英文吗？	n ǐ hu ì shu ō y ī ng w é n ma?	Can you speak English?

Speaking task: Say your country and one language you speak.

HSK1 Core

L04 - Family and People

Goal: Talk about family members.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
家	jiā	home; family
爸爸	bà bà	father
妈妈	mā mā	mother
儿子	érzi	son
女儿	nǚ ér	daughter
朋友	péngyǒu	friend
同学	tóngxué	classmate
医生	yī shēng	doctor
工作	gōngzuò	work; job
忙	máng	busy

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我家有三个人。	wǒ jiā yǒu sān gè rén.	There are three people in my family.
我妈妈是医生。	wǒ mā mā shì yī shēng.	My mother is a doctor.
你今天忙吗？	nǐ jīntiān máng ma?	Are you busy today?

Speaking task: Describe two people in your family.

L05 - Time and Daily Schedule

Goal: Say basic time and daily actions.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
今天	jīntiān	today
明天	míngtiān	tomorrow
昨天	zuótiān	yesterday
现在	xiànzài	now
上午	shàngwǔ	morning
下午	xià wǔ	afternoon
晚上	wǎnshang	evening
点	diǎn	o'clock
去	qù	to go
回	huí	to return
睡觉	shuì jiào	to sleep

Chinese	Pinyin	English
现在几点？	xiànzài jǐ diǎn?	What time is it now?
我明天上午去学校。	wǒ míngtiān shàngwǔ qù xuéxiào.	I will go to school tomorrow morning.
我晚上十一点睡觉。	wǒ wǎnshang shíyī diǎn shuì jiào.	I sleep at 11 p.m.

Speaking task: Say three things you do today.

HSK2 Expansion

L06 - Eating and Ordering

Goal: Order simple food and drinks.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
吃	ch ī	to eat
喝	h ē	to drink
水	shu ǐ	water
茶	ch á	tea
咖啡	k ā f ē i	coffee
米饭	m ǐ f à n	rice
面条	mi à n ti á o	noodles
菜单	c à i d ā n	menu
服务员	f ú w ù yu á n	server
买单	m ǎ i d ā n	to pay the bill
好吃	h ǎ o ch ī	tasty

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我要一杯茶。	w ǒ y à o y ī b ē i ch á .	I would like a cup of tea.
这个菜很好吃。	zh è ge c à i h ě n h ǎ o ch ī .	This dish is tasty.
服务员，买单。	f ú w ù yu á n, m ǎ i d ā n.	Server, the bill please.

Speaking task: Order one drink and one food item.

L07 - Travel and Directions

Goal: Ask where a place is and how to get there.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
机场	j ī ch ǎ ng	airport
酒店	ji ǔ di à n	hotel
出租车	ch ū z ū ch ē	taxi
地铁	d ì ti ě	subway
车站	ch ē zh à n	station
地址	d ì zh ǐ	address
左边	zu ǒ bi ā n	left side
右边	y ò u bi ā n	right side
前面	qi á n mi à n	front
后面	h ò u mi à n	back
怎么走	z ě n me z ǒ u	how to get there

Chinese	Pinyin	English
酒店在哪里？	ji ǔ di à n z à i n ǎ l ǐ ?	Where is the hotel?

Chinese	Pinyin	English
请问，地铁站怎么走？	q ǐ ng w è n, d ì ti ě zh à n z ě n me z ǒ u?	Excuse me, how do I get to the subway station?
机场在前面。	j ī ch ǎ ng z à i qi á n mi à n.	The airport is ahead.

Speaking task: Ask for directions to a hotel or subway station.

HSK3 Expansion

L08 - Opinions and Reasons

Goal: Give a simple opinion and reason.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
觉得	jué de	to think; to feel
因为	yīnwèi	because
所以	suǒyǐ	so
但是	dànshì	but
可能	kěnéng	maybe; possible
重要	zhòngyào	important
问题	wèntí	problem; question
办法	bànfǎ	method; solution
容易	róngyì	easy
难	nán	difficult

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我觉得中文很有意思。	wǒ jué de zhōngwén hěn yǒu yì si.	I think Chinese is interesting.
因为今天很忙，所以我不能去。	yīnwèi jīntiān hěn máng, suǒyǐ wǒ bù néng qù.	Because I am busy today, I cannot go.
这个问题不难。	zhè ge wèntí bù nán.	This problem is not difficult.

Speaking task: Say one opinion and explain why.

L09 - Plans and Changes

Goal: Talk about plans, changes, and completion.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
计划	jì huà	plan
准备	zhǔnbèi	to prepare; plan to
已经	yǐjīng	already
还	hái	still; yet
完成	wánchéng	to complete
改变	gǎibiàn	to change
开始	kāishǐ	to start
结束	jiéshù	to end
以前	yǐqián	before
以后	yǐhòu	after; later

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我准备下个月去中国。	wǒ zhǔnbèi xià gè yuè qù zhōngguó.	I plan to go to China next month.
会议已经开始了。	huì yì yǐjīng kāishǐ le.	The meeting has already started.
我们需要改变计划。	wǒmen xūyào gǎibiàn jì huà.	We need to change the plan.

Speaking task: Describe one plan for next month.

Business Starter

L10 - Introducing Your Company

Goal: Introduce your company, role, and department.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
公司	g ō ng s ī	company
部门	b ù m é n	department
职位	zh í w è i	position
经理	j ī ng l ǐ	manager
客户	k è h ù	client
产品	ch ǎ n p ǐ n	product
市场	sh ì ch ǎ ng	market
销售	xi ā o sh ò u	sales
负责	f ù z é	to be responsible for
合作	h é zu ò	cooperation

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我在一家美国公司工作。	w ǒ z à i y ī ji ā m ě i gu ó g ō ng s ī g ō ng zu ò .	I work at an American company.
我是销售经理。	w ǒ sh ì xi ā o sh ò u j ī ng l ǐ .	I am a sales manager.
我负责中国市场。	w ǒ f ù z é zh ō ng gu ó sh ì ch ǎ ng.	I am responsible for the China market.

Speaking task: Introduce your company and your role in three sentences.

L11 - Meetings and Follow-up

Goal: Handle basic meeting language.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
会议	hu ì y ì	meeting
开会	k ā i hu ì	to have a meeting
时间	sh í ji ā n	time
地点	d ì di ǎ n	place
议程	y ì ch é ng	agenda
确认	qu è r è n	to confirm
安排	ā n p á i	to arrange
资料	z ī li à o	materials
稍后	sh ā o h ò u	later
回复	hu í f ù	to reply

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我们明天上午十点开会。	w ǒ men m í ng ti ā n sh à ng w ǔ sh í di ǎ n k ā i hu ì .	We will have a meeting tomorrow at 10 a.m.
请确认会议时间。	q ǐ ng qu è r è n hu ì y ì sh í ji ā n.	Please confirm the meeting time.
我稍后回复你。	w ǒ sh ā o h ò u hu í f ù n ǐ .	I will reply to you later.

Speaking task: Confirm a meeting time and say you will reply later.

L12 - Prices and Payment

Goal: Ask about price, discount, and payment.

Chinese	Pinyin	English
价格	jià gé	price
多少钱	duō shǎo qián	how much money
折扣	zhé kòu	discount
合同	hé tóng	contract
付款	fù kuǎn	payment
发票	fā piào	invoice
预算	yù suàn	budget
成本	chéng běn	cost
可以	kě yǐ	can; may
合适	hé shì	suitable

Chinese	Pinyin	English
这个价格合适吗？	zhè ge jià gé hé shì ma?	Is this price suitable?
可以有折扣吗？	kě yǐ yǒu zhé kòu ma?	Can there be a discount?
请把发票发给我。	qǐng bǎ fā piào fā gěi wǒ.	Please send me the invoice.

Speaking task: Ask for the price and one possible discount.