

Lesson 2

Vocabulary Summary: Simplified:

搭
dā
First tone (to join)

答
dá
Second tone (to answer)

打
dǎ
Third tone (to hit)

大
dà
Big

你好
Nǐ hǎo
Hello

你好吗?
Nǐ hǎo ma?
How are you?

我很好
Wǒ hěn hǎo
I'm good

谢谢
xièxie
Thanks

谢谢你
Xièxie nǐ
Thank you

Vocabulary Summary: Traditional:

搭
dā
First tone (to join)

答
dá
Second tone (to answer)

打
dǎ
Third tone (to hit)

大
dà
Big

你好
Nǐ hǎo
Hello

你好嗎?
Nǐ hǎo ma?
How are you?

我很好
Wǒ hěn hǎo
I'm good

謝謝
xièxie
Thanks

謝謝你
Xièxie nǐ
Thank you

Vocabulary Summary: Simplified:

再见
zàijiàn
Goodbye

好吗?
Hǎo ma?
Ok?

你
nǐ
You

我
wǒ
I

他
tā
He

她
tā
She

好
hǎo
Good, ok

很
hěn
Very

吗
ma
Question particle

谢
xiè
To thank

Vocabulary Summary: Traditional:

再見
Zàijiàn
Goodbye

好嗎?
Hǎo ma?
Ok?

你
nǐ
You

我
wǒ
I

他
tā
He

她
tā
She

好
hǎo
Good, ok

很
hěn
Very

嗎
ma
Question particle

謝
xiè
To thank

Vocabulary Summary: Simplified:

再
zài
Again

见
jiàn
To meet

Vocabulary Summary: Traditional:

再
zài
Again

見
jiàn
To meet

Lesson 2 Notes :

Greetings:

Nǐ hǎo

The literal translation is “you good”. Many adjectives in Chinese also function as verbs. So here, “good” also functions as “to be good”.

Hǎo

Nǐ hǎo ma?

This is asked more seriously than in English, where we casually ask “how are you?” It is usually asked of people you haven’t seen for a long time.

Wǒ hěn hǎo

The hěn has a lighter meaning than “very” in English, so here, hěn hǎo could mean “pretty good.”

Pronoun summary:

Nǐ

Wǒ

Tā

Note: while the pronunciation of tā for he and she is the same, when written there are separate characters for he (他) and she(她).

Tā hǎo ma?

Tā hěn hǎo

Xièxie

Xièxie nǐ

Note: When the same character is repeated as in the above example, the second one frequently adopts a neutral tone

Zàijiàn

The literal meaning is “again meet” or see you again (later)

Culture Note: When greeting someone in China, it is common to bow your head. For formal occasions, they will also shake hands as in the West. When businessmen meet it is obligatory to exchange business cards.