

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 63 [English]

Hosts: Adam Menon / Kirin Yang

Adam: ChineseLearnOnline.com Lesson 63: Introductions Part II.

Hello everyone, I'm your host, Adam, and this is Level Two of our progressive course teaching Mandarin Chinese.

Kirin: [Hello everyone . I am Kirin . Welcome to Lesson 63 .](#)

Adam: Looking back at Level One, in our third lesson there talked about some basic introductions, so this being the third lesson of Level Two we'll review and expand upon those a little. We'll begin by listening to an introduction and then break it down and analyze it for you.

Raphael: [Please listen to the following self introduction .](#)

Cindy: [Hello, my last name is Lai and my first name is Cindy . I am 26 years old . I am Chinese but I grew up in England . I am a teacher now . I teach at Beijing University . My interests are reading and watching movies .](#)

Adam: Interesting. Let's break it down for you. We should know what the first few lines mean.

Kirin: [Hello, my last name is Lai and my first name is Cindy .](#)

Adam: "Hello, my last name is Lai and my first name is Cindy." Literally this is: "You good, I last name Lai called Cindy."

Kirin: [Hello, my last name is Lai and my first name is Cindy .](#)

Adam: Her next line was:

Kirin: [I am 26 years old .](#)

Adam: Hopefully, you can figure that out as: I'm 26 years old.

Kirin: [I am 26 years old .](#)

Adam: She then says.

Kirin: I am Chinese but I grew up in England .

Adam: Again, not much new here if you're up to date on all our previous lessons. "I'm Chinese but I grew up in England."

Kirin: I am Chinese but I grew up in England .

Adam: She then continues.

Kirin: I am a teacher now .

Raphael: What does "lǎoshī" mean ?

Adam: That means "teacher." So she's literally saying "I right now am teacher" or "I'm a teacher now."

Kirin: I am a teacher now .

Adam: She then adds.

Kirin: I teach at Beijing University .

Adam: So there are some new words to look at here.

Kirin: Beijing University .

Adam: You may remember

Raphael: to study

Adam: from

Raphael: student

Raphael: meaning "student." So

Kirin: to study

Adam: is the verb "to study."

Raphael: University

Adam: literally means "big study" and means "university." Similarly, you could have

Raphael: Middle school

Adam: for “middle school” or

Raphael: primary / elementary school

Adam: for “elementary school.” So back to our example here, she’s in Beijing University, and what does she do there?

Kirin: To teach .

Adam: So there are two characters there.

Raphael: “Jiāo” and “shū” are both first tones . to teach

Adam: is the verb “to teach”, while

Raphael: book

Adam: we’ve actually seen before – it means “book.” When you put them together you get the verb “to teach.”

Kirin: to teach .

Adam: Many verbs in Chinese need a noun to go with them to make any sense. If there isn’t one we add one. So in this case we can’t just say “I teach at Beijing University,” you have to specify what it is you teach, so we usually just add a neutral

Kirin: book

Adam: meaning “teach from books.”

Kirin: to teach .

Adam: We’ve seen some of these type of verbs before. Give us a couple of examples, Kirin.

Kirin: To eat .

Adam: Do you remember what that means? It means “to eat a meal.” So you wouldn’t ask “Do you want to eat?” You’d have to ask “Do you want to eat a meal?”

Kirin: Do you want to eat ?

Adam: Give us another example.

Kirin: [To drive](#) .

Adam: Do you remember what that means? It means “to drive a car.” So in English, you might ask someone “can you drive?” but in Chinese, you’d have to ask:

Kirin: [Can you drive](#) ?

Adam: As in, “Can you drive a car?” So back to our example here. The lady has just told us “I teach at Beijing University.”

Kirin: [I teach at Beijing University](#) .

Adam: She then continues.

Kirin: [My interests are reading and watching movies](#) .

Adam: So there’s another new word for us.

Raphael: [Interest](#) . [Two fourth tones](#) .

Adam: So these two characters put together, give us “interest”, as in, what you find interesting. So she’s saying her interests are:

Kirin: [reading and watching movies](#) .

Raphael: [What does “kàn” mean](#) ?

Adam: That’s the verb “to look at.” So she likes to look at two things. The first, we saw earlier

Kirin: [book](#)

Adam: meaning “book.” So to look at a book means to read it.

Kirin: [to read](#) .

Adam: The other thing she likes to look to do is

Kirin: [watch a movie](#) .

Adam: We saw this in lesson 55. Do you remember what that means? It means “to see a movie.”

Kirin: [Watch a movie](#) .

Adam: So her interests are reading and watching movies.

Kirin: [My interests are reading and watching movies](#) .

Adam: So there you have it. You should be able to give a more detailed introduction now than you could in lesson 3 of level one. Let’s listen to the lady’s introduction again.

Cindy: [Hello, my last name is Lai and my first name is Cindy . I am 26 years old . I am Chinese but I grew up in England . I am a teacher now . I teach at Beijing University . My interests are reading and watching movies .](#)

Adam: Great; now for an added challenge, listen to the podcast review for this lesson available to all subscribers for free which will give you another similar introduction. See if you can figure it out based on what we’ve taught you thus far. Then join us again next time for lesson 64.

Kirin: [We’ll see you next time](#) .