

## Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 18 [Traditional]

Hosts: Adam Menon / Kirin Yang

Adam: Hello, everyone. My name is Adam.

Kirin: 你們好. 我是 Kirin.

Adam: And welcome to Lesson 18 of the ChineseLearnOnline.com podcast series teaching Mandarin Chinese. Each lesson builds upon the previous ones, so please visit our website for a list of lessons so far and what has been taught in each one. Today, we will finish off a dialogue that we started in our last lesson. So we'll first listen to the entire dialogue from start to finish and then break it down for you line by line. Please follow along with the dialogue transcript, if you have that available. So let's get started here.

Cindy: 請你自我介紹一下. 你結婚了嗎?

Yann: 對不起. 我聽不懂. “結婚” 是什麼意思?

Cindy: “結婚” 是 “married” 的意思.

Yann: 啊, 我懂了. 我結婚了.

Cindy: 你有小孩嗎?

Yann: 有, 一個兒子還有兩個女兒.

Adam: So there you go. Let's listen to it again at slow down speed. Please repeat after Kirin.

Kirin: 請你自我介紹一下. 你結婚了嗎?

對不起. 我聽不懂. “結婚” 是什麼意思?

“結婚” 是 “married” 的意思.

啊, 我懂了. 我結婚了.

你有小孩嗎?

有, 一個兒子還有兩個女兒.

Adam: Ok, so let's recap the first part of the dialogue that we did in our last lesson. Try and recall the meaning of each line before we give it to you.

Kirin: 請你自我介紹一下.

Adam: Please take a moment to introduce yourself.

Kirin: 你結婚了嗎?

Adam: Are you married?

Kirin: 對不起. 我聽不懂.

Adam: I'm sorry. I don't understand.

Kirin: “結婚” 是什麼意思?

Adam: What does “結婚” mean?

So that was last time's lesson. Let's continue with the next line from today's lesson.

Kirin: “結婚” 是 “married” 的意思.

Adam: So hopefully you can figure that out. Literally it's “結婚 is married's meaning.” You'll recall that 的 is the possessive particle so it's like saying in reverse “Married's meaning is “結婚.” You can also say the above as “結婚” 的意思是 “married”.

Adam: The man then replies:

Kirin: 啊，我懂了.

Adam: So that's saying “Ah, I understand.” Do you remember what 了 means? In our last lesson we told you that it indicates a change in situation. So here, adding the 了 to 我懂 means that the situation has changed and now the speaker understands.

Kirin: 我懂了.

Adam: You may recall in a previous lesson we talked about the phrase “太貴了!” What does that mean? It means “too expensive!” The 了 there acts in a similar form – the speaker there just realized that the item is too expensive which is why we have the 了 there. You can learn these subtle differences by studying more examples. And that's exactly what we give you in vocabulary page of this lesson, which you can find on our website. By studying more examples you should be able to get a better grasp of the meaning and usage of such characters. The next line was:

Kirin: 我結婚了.

Adam: So we know what this means “I am married.” Again, the 了 particle indicates that at some point he wasn’t married, but now he is.

Kirin: 我結婚了.

Adam: The next line of the dialogue was:

Kirin: 你有小孩嗎?

Adam: So we have a new word 小孩. That’s a third tone and a second tone. Do you remember what “小” means? It means “little.” 孩 refers to “children” so that gives us “little children.” Many times in Chinese you’ll see an extra character added to clarify meaning. Why? Because many characters in Chinese share the same sound but have different meanings. Previously we taught the character 還 from 還好 meaning “ok.” Here we have a different 孩 meaning “children.” Now if you’re following the Chinese character versions of our transcripts, then you won’t have a problem since the two characters are written differently, however in speech, many words are made up of two or more characters, just to clarify the meaning, so here adding the 小 in front. It further clarifies that we’re referring to children. So “Do you have any children?”

Kirin: 你有小孩嗎?

Adam: Now, Northern Chinese accents tend to add an extra 兒 sound to the end of that giving us:

Kirin: 小孩兒.

Adam: So keep an eye out for that depending on who you’re talking to. The next line was.

Kirin: 有，一個兒子.

Adam: So “Yes, I have one 兒子.” 兒子 is a second tone and a neutral tone. 子 is a character that is added to the end of many nouns. So 兒子 means “son.” “I have one son.”

Kirin: 有，一個兒子.

Adam: Note, how the I, is omitted, since that’s derived from context. The last line of the dialogue was:

Kirin: 還有兩個女兒.

Adam: We've seen the first character 還 before. In fact, we just talked about it in 我還好. That means "I'm ok." The literal translation is "I'm still good." So here we have 還有. 有 of course is the verb "to have," so 還有 means "still have" or in this case "additionally have." If you hear someone ask "還有嗎?" that was asking "Is there anymore?" So

Kirin: 還有兩個女兒.

Adam: ...means "As well I have two 女兒." That's a third tone 女 and a second tone 兒 meaning "daughter." 女 refers to "female," while the second tone 男 refers to "male." In Northern China you may hear daughter referred to as 女兒 and the son referred to as 男孩兒.

Again, take a look at the vocabulary page on our website for a summary of these relationships and more examples of the structures we are teaching here.

Now let's have Kirin read each line of the dialogue one more time to wrap up today's lesson. Please repeat after her.

Kirin: 請你自我介紹一下. 你結婚了嗎?  
對不起. 我聽不懂. "結婚" 是什麼意思?  
"結婚" 是 "married" 的意思.  
啊, 我懂了. 我結婚了.  
你有小孩嗎?  
有, 一個兒子還有兩個女兒.

Adam: And let's listen to the dialogue again at normal speed.

Cindy: 請你自我介紹一下. 你結婚了嗎?  
Yann: 對不起. 我聽不懂. "結婚" 是什麼意思?  
Cindy: "結婚" 是 "married" 的意思.  
Yann: 啊, 我懂了. 我結婚了.  
Cindy: 你有小孩嗎?  
Yann: 有, 一個兒子還有兩個女兒.

Adam: Great, so thanks for joining us today. Don't forget to make use of all the resources we have available to premium subscribers on our website ChineseLearnOnline.com. Then join us again next time for lesson 19.

Kirin: 再見.