

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 21 [Traditional]

Hosts: Adam Menon / Kirin Yang

Adam: Hello and welcome to Lesson 21 of ChineseLearnOnline.com podcast series teaching Mandarin Chinese. I'm your host, Adam.

Kirin: 大家好. 我是 Kirin.

Adam: Today we're going to start with a dialogue that continues where our dialogue from last time left off. So we'll begin by listening to the old dialogue and continue on with today's situation. We'll listen to this dialogue twice – first at normal speed.

Yann: 你是哪裡人?

Cindy: 我是日本人.

Yann: 你在這裡多久了?

Cindy: 我在這裡兩個星期了.

Yann: 你的工作是什麼?

Cindy: 我是老師. 那你呢?

Yann: 我是學生.

Adam: Ok, so let's listen to it one more time. This time try and repeat each line after Kirin.

Kirin: 你是哪裡人?

我是日本人.

你在這裡多久了?

我在這裡兩個星期了.

你的工作是什麼?

我是老師. 那你呢?

我是學生.

Adam: Alright, so let's break down this dialogue line by line. The first few lines we should remember from our last lesson.

Kirin: 你是哪裡人?

Adam: What's your nationality?

Kirin: 我是日本人.

Adam: I am Japanese.

Kirin: 你在這裡多久了?

Adam: How long have you been here?

Kirin: 我在這裡兩個星期了.

Adam: I have been here two weeks.

Kirin: 你的工作是什麼?

Adam: So here's the first new line of today's lesson. We know that 你的 means "your." That's followed by 工作. That's a first tone and a fourth tone. And together that means "job." The literal translation is 工— meaning work and 作 which is the verb "to do." So the "work you do" translates to "job" in Chinese. The last two characters we should know. What does "什麼?" mean? It means "what?" so we know this is a question asking "What's your job?"

Kirin: 你的工作是什麼?

Adam: So literally that's "Your job is what." The person then replies:

Kirin: 我是老師.

Adam: So that gives us "I am" followed by 老師. That's a third tone 老 and a first tone 師. We've seen 老 before in 老闆. Do you remember what "老闆" is? It means... "boss." 老 literally means "old." Now in English, calling someone "old" might be considered rude, but in Chinese it's actually a sign of respect. As they have a lot of respect for the elderly in Chinese culture. 師 means "master" so, together, a teacher is an "old master" – 老師.

Kirin: 我是老師.

Adam: "I am a teacher." She then adds a:

Kirin: 那你呢?

Adam: We've seen "你呢?" before. What does that mean? It means – "and you?" The 那 here is the same 那 from 那個 and 那裡 meaning "that one" or "there" respectively. So here it is added to give flow to the conversation. Just saying 你呢 "and you" might seem a

little abrupt – but if we say “**那你呢?**” that’s more polite, kind of like “And how about you?”

Kirin: **那你呢?**

Adam: The person then responds.

Kirin: **我是學生.**

Adam: I am a **學生**. **學** is a second tone and means “study” while **生** you may remember from **生日**. What does “**生日**” mean? It means “birthday” so **生** means “born.” So what do you call a person who is “born to study”? It’s, of course, a “student.”

Kirin: **我是學生.**

Adam: “I am a student.”

Adam: So now you know the names of some positions – boss, teacher, student. In the premium notes for lesson 21, we’ve done something a little bit different. Instead of review questions this time, we’ve included the literal definitions of some other jobs to see if you can guess what they are. Some are easier to figure out than others – so premium subscriber can try that out on our website. Let’s listen to this entire dialogue again a couple of times. First, repeat after Kirin.

Kirin: **你是哪裡人?**

我是日本人.

你在這裡多久了?

我在這裡兩個星期了.

你的工作是什麼?

我是老師. 那你呢?

我是學生.

Adam: Ok, and let’s listen to the dialogue again at normal speed.

Yann: **你是哪裡人?**

Cindy: **我是日本人.**

Yann: **你在這裡多久了?**

Cindy: **我在這裡兩個星期了.**

Yann: **你的工作是什麼?**

Cindy: **我是老師. 那你呢?**

Yann: **我是學生.**

Adam: Great – we’re now going to take the next few minutes to do a quick review of some of the expressions we have taught you over the last little while. Let’s see how many of them you can remember.

How do you say: Excuse me?

Kirin: 對不起.

Adam: “You’re welcome” – or “There’s no need to be polite.”

Kirin: 不客氣.

Adam: Can I ask a question...

Kirin: 請問.

Adam: How much is this?

Kirin: 這個多少錢?

Adam: “May I” or “Can I?”

Kirin: 可以嗎?

Adam: Alright, so hopefully you were able to get those. Let’s now try listening to some in Chinese and you tell me what it means in English.

Kirin: 好不好?

Adam: Is that ok?

Kirin: 很高興認識你.

Adam: Nice to meet you.

Kirin: 好久不見.

Adam: Long time no see.

Kirin: 明天見.

Adam: See you tomorrow.

Kirin: 不好意思.

Adam: Sorry to trouble you, or this is embarrassing.

So, how did you do? Those all came from Lessons 1 to 16 of our podcast series. We will be doing reviews like this from time to time. As always, you can download and review older lessons from our website – ChineseLearnOnline.com. And while you're there, you can find review questions and exercises from older lessons in the Premium section available to premium subscribers. You can also check out our Course Outline that shows what vocabulary has been introduced in each lesson – so you can see if it all makes sense to you. Once you're comfortable with everything up there, you can then join us for lesson 22. We'll see you then.

Kirin: 謝謝大家.