

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 90 [Simplified]

Adam: ChineseLearnOnline.com Lesson 90: Teaching Phrases Part II

Hello, I'm Adam, and this is our progressive course teaching Mandarin Chinese.

Kirin: 欢迎来到第九十课.

Adam: Today's lesson builds upon what was taught in lesson 30 of our series. Back then we translated some phrases that were being used in each lesson into Chinese. We're now ready to do that again with some more phrases that you tend to hear in each lesson.

Let's begin with the name of our course – ChineseLearnOnline. How would you say that in Chinese?

Kirin: 上网学中文.

Adam: Do you remember how to say “internet” in Chinese? We learned that in lesson 65.

Kirin: 网路.

Adam: Now that means “the internet.” To say “get online” we would say

Kirin: 上网.

Adam: We've defined 上 in the past to mean “before.” It can also mean “up”, or in this context, “on” so that gives us a literal definition of “On internet”

Kirin: 上网.

Adam: Or “get online.” So back to the title of our course – Chinese Learn Online.

Kirin: 上网学中文

Adam: which literally means “get Online study Chinese.” So now that you know what that means, instead of my introducing each lesson in English from now on, we're going to do it in Chinese. So today's lesson could be introduced as.

Kirin: 上网学中文第九十课.

Adam: So after the intros we usually have the dialogue two times – at regular speed and then a slowed-down version, with pauses allowing you to repeat after the speaker. We then translate the dialogue for you line by line. Let’s look at the word for “line” or “sentence.”

Kirin: 句子. 第四声和第五声.

Adam: So if we wanted to say “the first line is” we would say:

Kirin: 第一句是...

Adam: Simple enough. So expect to hear that used in future lessons. Now usually each lesson introduces a few new vocabulary words which are made up of different Chinese characters. Do you remember how to say “character” in Chinese? We learned that in lesson 61

Kirin: 字.

Adam: Now sometimes we want to refer to “words” which are made up of multiple characters. So how do you say “word” in Chinese?

Kirin: 单词. 第一声和第二声.

Adam: Now many times, words are made up characters we’ve seen before. Let’s look at how we would say this in Chinese. First the word for “before.”

Kirin: 以前. 第三声和第二声.

Adam: This is the opposite of “after” or “later”, which we’ve seen before as

Kirin: 以后.

Adam: Now this is a good time to talk about tenses in Chinese. Unlike English, you don’t have to worry about different tenses of verbs. Instead, you can change tenses by adding additional particles or time words to the sentence. The most popular particle for past tense is 了 which indicates a change in situation. We’ll now look at another past tense particle.

Kirin: 过. 第四声.

Adam: This is used to form a present perfect tense. The best way to show its usage is through the use of a simple example. If you wanted to say “I see” you would say

Kirin: 我看.

Adam: If you wanted to say “I saw”, you would say

Kirin: 我看了.

Adam: If you wanted to say “I have seen” you would say

Kirin: 我看过了.

Adam: So back to what I wanted to say which was “We’ve studied this character before.”

Kirin: 这个字我们以前学过了.

Adam: Similarly if I wanted to say “We’ve studied these characters before” we’d say

Kirin: 这些字我们以前都学过了.

Adam: Notice the use of the plural measure word there as well as the addition of 都 giving us “These characters we before all studied.”

Kirin: 这些字我们以前都学过了.

Adam: Great, so let’s move on to another question I sometimes ask in lessons. “Do you remember what this means?” So first, the verb “to remember.”

Kirin: 记得. 第四声和第五声.

Adam: So to ask my question I’d ask

Kirin: 你记得是什么意思吗?

Adam: “Do you remember what this means?” At the end of many lessons I talk about getting more practice since that’s the only way to learn a language. Let’s look at the word for practice.

Kirin: 练习. 第四声和第二声.

Adam: So to say “more practice” you’d say

Kirin: 更多的练习.

Adam: You may remember 更 from lesson 83 means “more of something”; so

Kirin: 更多.

Adam: Means “even more.” So based on what you know, see if you can translate the following piece of advice.

Kirin: 如果你想要更多的练习，你可以上网到...

Adam: ...Chinesearnonline.com.

So that meant “If you would like more practice, you can go to Chinesearnonline.com.” The character 到 translated as meaning “to”. In this lesson’s podcast review we will summarize the different words and concepts used in today’s lesson, while introducing some new examples. It’s important to understand them since we will be utilizing them in future lessons.

Before we go, rather than using the regular goodbye phrase we normally use, we’ll use the phrase of encouragement we learned in lesson 64

Kirin: 你们继续加油!