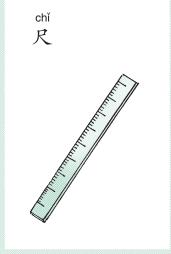




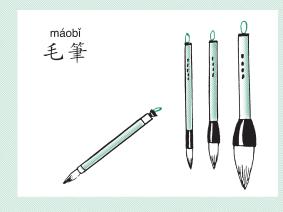
1 Things I use















2 What is this?







bù zhīdào 我不知道。





Lánlán 蘭蘭,這是什麼, zhīdào 你知道嗎?

我知道。 nà máobǐ 那是毛筆。







Learn the sentences

Identifying objects

To ask What is this? say Zhè shì shéme? 這是什麼? To answer the question, replace the question word shéme 什麼 with the object.

這是什麼? 這是剪刀。 這是鄭刀。 這是橡皮。 那是什麼? 那是什麼?

Asking who owns an object

To ask Whose is this? say Zhè shì shéi de? 這是誰的? To answer the question, replace the question word shéi 誰 with the owner.

這是誰的?
那是誰的?
那是誰的?
這是我的。
那是離的部分。
這是老師的書。
這是老師的書。
這是大偉的。
那是誰的筆?
那是我的。
那是我的。

Asking if things belong to someone

To say This is your book. say Zhè shì nǐ de shū. 這是你的書。To ask Is this your book? say Zhè shì nǐ de shū ma? 這是你的書嗎?

The first statement was changed into a question by adding the question word ma !!! at the end. This is one way to turn a statement into a question where the answer can be yes or no.

Chinese answer yes to a question by repeating the verb and answer no by saying the negative form of the verb used in the question. The negative form of shì 是 is búshì 不是. For yes, shìde 是 的 is sometimes used instead of shì 是, as it sounds better.

這是你的書包嗎? 是,這是我的。 不是,這不是我的。 那是你的毛筆嗎? 是的,那是我的。 不是,那不是我的。

Asking if someone knows something

To ask Do you know? say Nǐ zhīdào ma? 你知道嗎? To answer yes, repeat the verb in the question, i.e. zhīdào 知道. To answer no, add the negative word bù 不 in front of the verb, i.e. bù zhīdào 不知道.

你知道嗎?	我知道。 我知道。 我不知道。
他知道嗎?	他知道。他不知道。



Supplementary words

Nouns for students

椅子 教室 yĭzi jiàoshì classroom chair

門 鉛筆 door qiānbǐ mén pencil

窗户 鉛筆盒 qiānbǐhé chuānghù window pencil case

黑板 原子筆 yuánzǐbǐ hēibǎn blackboard ball-point pen

黑板擦 hēibǎncā 膠水 jiāoshuĭ blackboard eraser glue

彩色筆 cǎisèbǐ 粉筆 color pencil fěnbí chalk

桌子 紙 zhuōzi desk zhĭ paper



Write the characters





that





[word ending]



[possessive particle]



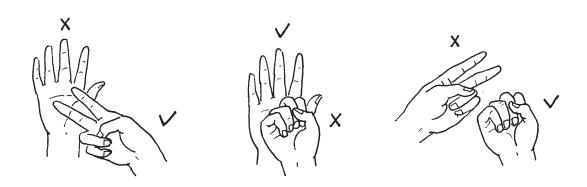


Something to know

The finger-guessing game

Chinese children often use 'finger-guessing' to decide what game to play or who will be the first player in a game. This finger-guessing game is called cāiquán [猜拳]—guess the fist. The players thrust out a hand in one of three ways: scissors, stone or cloth. Jiǎndāo [剪刀] (scissors) is formed by extending and separating the index and middle fingers. Shítóu [石頭] (stone) is formed by making a fist and bù [布] (cloth) is formed by an open hand. The winner is:

scissors	cut	cloth	=	scissors win
cloth	wraps	stone	=	cloth wins
stone	breaks	scissors	=	stone wins

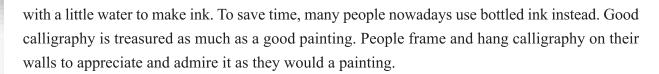


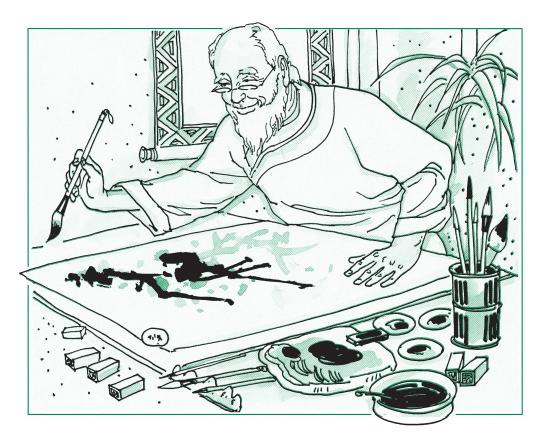
When playing the finger-guessing game, the players usually chant jiǎndāo 剪刀、shítóu 石頭、bù 布 and thrust out their hands, or alternatively say $- \cdot = \cdot = \cdot$.

Calligraphy

Shūfǎ [書法] (calligraphy) is a Chinese art. Most Chinese artists are skilled in both calligraphy and painting as they are related art forms. The Chinese believe that an artist should be a master of the brush and should be able to write well.

The four traditional tools for calligraphy are the máobǐ [毛筆] (brush), the mò [墨] (ink-stick), the zhǐ [紙] (paper), and the yàntái [硯台] (ink-stone). The ink-stick is ground on the ink-stone





Early Chinese inventions

Paper, gunpowder and the compass are the three most commonly known Chinese inventions. Chinese first used silk floss then linen pulp to make paper. In 105 AD, Cài Lún [蔡倫] further improved the technique by pounding bark, linen scraps and old fish nets into a pulp which was spread to form paper. This 'Cai Lun' paper was then popularly used. Gunpowder was invented by Chinese between 220 and 280 AD. By the 10th century, the use of gunpowder was common. However, gunpowder was first used to power rockets and firecrackers rather than for military, engineering or mining purposes. It was more than 2,000 years ago when the earth's magnetism was observed by the Chinese and a magnetized needle device was developed in the 11th century.

China has the longest history of producing silk and its exporting of silk formed 'silk roads' to the West and to northeast Asia. Bì Shēng [畢昇] invented moveable type for printing in the 11th century, around 400 years before Gutenberg's printing of the Latin Bible in the West. It was also recorded that Chinese used a silver-tin amalgam to fill holes in teeth over one thousand years ago.