

Ni Hao 2

3rd Edition

sample pages

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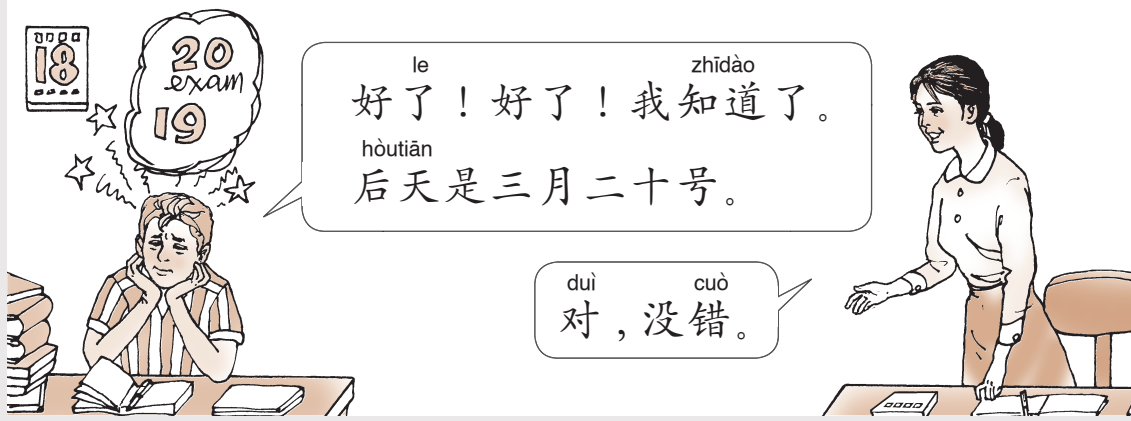
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dì yī kè wǒ de shēng rì
 第一课 我的生日

1 What is the date?

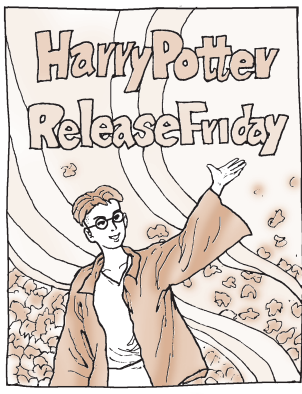


2 What day is it?

xīngqī
今天星期几?



今天星期四。



yí xīngqī
咦! 昨天是星期几?



昨天是星期三。
qiántiān
前天是星期二。
明天是星期五。
huòtiān
后天是……



le zhīdào
好了! 好了! 我知道了。 后天是星期六。

对, 没错。





Learn the sentences

* Asking the date

To ask **What's the date today?** say 今天 是 几月几号? *Jīntiān shì jǐ yuè jǐ hào?* To answer, replace the two question words 几 *jǐ* with the number of the day and month. As 今天 *jīntiān* is the subject of the sentence, it is placed at the beginning. The Chinese like to use the concept of big to small. Dates begin with the month and then the day. In spoken Chinese, the verb 是 *shì* is often omitted, but can be used for emphasis.

今天 是 几月几号?	今天 是 六月二十五号。
今天 是 几月几号?	今天 是 七月十九号。
今天 是 几月几号?	今天 是 八月七号。
今天 几月几号?	今天 十一 月四号。
今天 几月几号?	今天 六月十八号。

To ask about **yesterday's** or **tomorrow's date**, replace 今天 *jīntiān* with 昨天 *zuótiān* or 明天 *míngtiān*. In Chinese, as tense is shown by the time stated, i.e. **yesterday** or **tomorrow**, the verb does not change for future or past tense.

昨天 是 几月几号?	昨天 是 九月四号。
<small>qiántiān</small> 前天 是 几月几号?	前天 是 九月三号。
明天 是 几月几号?	明天 是 九月六号。
<small>hòutiān</small> 后天 是 几月几号?	后天 是 九月七号。

* Asking the day of the week

To ask **What day is it today?** say 今天是星期几? *Jīntiān shì xīngqī jǐ?* To answer, replace 几 *jǐ* with the number of the day. The Chinese use the numbers one to six for Monday to Saturday and 天 *tiān* or 日 *rì* for Sunday. Again, the verb 是 *shì* is often omitted in spoken Chinese. To ask about **yesterday** or **tomorrow**, replace 今天 *jīntiān* with 昨天 *zuótiān* or 明天 *míngtiān*. There is no need to change the verb for the past or future tense.

今天是星期几?	今天是星期五。
昨天是星期几?	昨天是星期四。
前天是星期几? <small>qiántiān</small>	前天是星期三。
明天星期几?	明天星期六。
后天星期几? <small>hòutiān</small>	后天星期天。
	后天星期日。

* Stating the date

To state a date, start with the year 年 *nián*, followed by the month 月 *yuè*, the day 日 *rì* and finally the day of the week 星期 *xīngqī*. 日 *rì* is a formal word used for a date. The Chinese concept of big to small is shown here.

今天是二〇一二年二月二十三日，星期四。
昨天是二〇一二年二月二十二日，星期三。
前天是二〇一二年二月二十一日，星期二。 <small>qiántiān</small>
明天是二〇一二年二月二十四日，星期五。
后天是二〇一二年二月二十五日，星期六。 <small>hòutiān</small>

