

## Preface

*Easy Chinese Series* is intended for learners not studying in school. In the title of this product, the word “Easy” says it all: this is an easy and practical Chinese course helping learners to get achievement fast. It is produced in order to bring more people into contact with Chinese, and to give them an opportunity to speak Chinese, write characters, learn to communicate with Chinese people and cope with some practical problems in a short period of time without going to class, having no teachers, nor grueling schedules, nor the drudgery of learning grammatical rules and writing characters with complex strokes.

*Easy Chinese Series* contains two parts: *Understanding Chinese* is produced for non-Chinese who are interested in Chinese and Chinese culture, and wish to communicate with Chinese people. *Speak Out* is produced for learners who have little time, but have to use basic Chinese in their daily work or life.

*Easy Chinese Series* can be used not only as study material, but also as an emergency reference while living, studying, working or traveling in China.

*Easy Chinese Series* is a multimedia set including books, MP3s and DVDs. It can also be used via television networks or the Internet. It offers learners a multimedia, multi-faceted option for learning Chinese.

Chief Compiler

## To the Learner

*Understanding Chinese* is one of the two textbooks of the “Easy Chinese Series”. There are some differences between the Chinese and English titles of this textbook. The Chinese title is *Qingsong Rumen*. *Qingsong* means “nice and easy”. *Rumen* means “to enter the gate”. This title was chosen because we hope the readers of this textbook are able to take a nice and easy approach to entering the world of Chinese language study. Its English title is *Understanding Chinese*. This title was chosen because learning a language requires learners to understand more than just the language itself. When learning a language, understanding its people, culture, and society are just as important as understanding the language itself, hence the title *Understanding Chinese*. The English and the Chinese titles are to complement each other, for when learners truly understand the Chinese language, the people, culture and society, learning Chinese will become nice and easy.



There are no complicated grammatical explanations or teaching of strokes of characters and stroke orders in this textbook. The main purpose of this textbook is to offer beginners of the Chinese language a practical means to learn fundamental Chinese, the cultural dos and

don'ts, and differences between Western and Chinese cultures. In teaching fundamental Chinese, this textbook presents useful expressions and idioms for real-life situations, which will allow learners to learn practical Chinese quickly and effectively.

*Understanding Chinese* is divided into two parts and contains thirty-eight units, each featuring:

- ◆ **Subject** outlines the topic of the unit.
- ◆ **Language Focus** provides “key phrases and sentences” that you will need in real-life situations. The headphone signs indicate that there are recordings of the phrases and sentences in the MP3, where the phrases and sentences are read in both a slow speed and a standard speed. The slow-speed reading will allow learners to clearly hear what is being said and to focus on the proper pronunciation of each word. The standard-speed reading mimics the real-life conversation, thus making it a practical real-life learning experience.
- ◆ **Dialogues** provides a context for readers to learn key sentences and phrases, so that they can have a better understanding of how Chinese people express themselves in real-life situations. The Chinese texts, their *pinyin* and English translations are provided for easy and clear cross-referencing. In addition, the headphone and the CD signs indicate that there are corresponding recordings and kinescopes for the dialogues. Moreover, in the MP3, learners can listen to the dialogues in either slow speed or standard speed. Moreover, they can watch the video clips in the DVD that depict the real-life situations presented in the textbook.

- ◆ **Notes** provides in-depth explanations of difficult language points and cultural aspects, helping learners to express themselves correctly and appropriately in Chinese. Additional explanations are displayed next to real-life examples, making it convenient and easy to look up.
- ◆ **Exercises**, providing exercises of various levels based on the sentences and phrases occurring in the text, gives learners the opportunity to practice what they have learned. The key signs indicate that there are answer keys attached at the end of this book.
- ◆ **Cultural Tips** illustrates cultural differences in communication in some situations with concise expressions, and displays information which is the most important but easy to be ignored. This will help you communicate with Chinese successfully with the simplest Chinese and communication strategies.
- ◆ **Language Enrichment** provides you with additional useful phrases and sentences related to the subjects covered. Recordings are also available for this section.

If learners want to have a thorough understanding of what he or she has learned, we suggest that they start from the beginning of each unit and work through the entire one. If time is a problem, you may jump directly to Language Focus and Cultural Tips.

In addition, the appendix in the end of the textbook contains the vocabulary, expressions and phrases covered in the Subject, Language Focus, Dialogues, Exercises and Language Enrichment sections, which are presented in both Chinese and English for learners' convenience.

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## 词类缩写表

### Abbreviations for Parts of Speech

Abbreviation	Grammar Terms in English	Grammar Terms in Chinese
<i>adj.</i>	Adjective	形容词
<i>adv.</i>	Adverb	副词
<i>ap.</i>	Adjective Phrase	形容词短语
<i>IE.</i>	Idiomatic Epression	习惯用语
<i>int.</i>	Interjection	叹词
<i>m.</i>	Measure Word	量词
<i>mdpt.</i>	Modal Particle	语气助词
<i>n.</i>	Noun	名词
<i>np.</i>	Noun Phrase	名词短语
<i>num.</i>	Numerals	数词
<i>opv.</i>	Optative Verb	能愿动词
<i>part.</i>	Particle	助词
<i>pn.</i>	Proper Noun	专有名词
<i>pre.</i>	Prefix	词头
<i>prep.</i>	Preposition	介词
<i>pron.</i>	Pronoun	代词
<i>qp.</i>	Question Pronoun	疑问代词
<i>v.</i>	Verb	动词
<i>vp.</i>	Verb Phrase	动词短语



# 21

Lesson 21

## 餐桌礼仪

Cānzhuō Lǐyí

## Table Manners

学习主题  
Subject



A person with good table manners is considered by Chinese as polite. Since most Chinese show their hospitality and friendship by inviting you to dinner, it's important that you are well prepared for the situation.

学习重点 Language Focus



重点词 Key Words and Phrases

- |   |        |            |             |                         |
|---|--------|------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| ① | (一) 点儿 | (yì) diǎnr | <i>m.</i>   | a little; a bit         |
| ② | 好的     | hǎo de     | <i>IE.</i>  | OK; all right           |
| ③ | 好吃     | hǎochī     | <i>adj.</i> | delicious               |
| ④ | 好看     | hǎokàn     | <i>adj.</i> | good-looking; look nice |



重点句 Key Sentences

- ① 多吃(一)点儿。

Duō chī (yì) diǎnr.

Please eat some more.

- ② 吃好/饱了吗?

Chīhǎo/bǎole ma?

How's everything?

- ③ 很好吃。

Hěn hǎochī.

It's delicious.

会话示例 Dialogues



I

[王磊在女朋友张璐家吃饭。]

张璐妈：王磊，多吃点儿<sup>①</sup>啊。

王磊：好的，好的。阿姨  
做的菜很好吃<sup>②</sup>，  
也很好看。

张璐妈：哪里，哪里。

II

[同学聚会。张华端起一杯红酒给一个同学。]

张华：给你。

[又给另外一个同学夹了一些甜点。]

张华：别客气，吃啊。

同学：多谢啊，老同学。

张华：不客气，不客气。

[Wáng Lěi zài nǚpéngyou Zhāng Lù jiā chī fàn.]

Zhāng Lù mā:

Wáng Lěi, duō chī diǎnr a.

Wáng Lěi: Hǎo de, hǎo de. Āyí zuò de cài hěn hǎochī, yě hěn hǎokàn.

Zhāng Lù mā: Nǎli, nǎli.

[Tóngxué jùhuì. Zhāng Huá duānqǐ yì bēi hóngjiǔ gěi yí ge tóngxué.]

Zhāng Huá: Gěi nǐ.

[Yòu gěi lìngwài yí ge tóngxué jiāle yìxiē tiándiǎn.]

Zhāng Huá: Bié kèqì, chī a.

Tóngxué: Duō xiè a, lǎo tóngxué.

Zhāng Huá: Bú kèqì, bú kèqì.

注释 Notes

I

*[Wang Lei is having dinner at the home of Zhang Lu, his girlfriend.]*

Zhang Lu'mother:

Wang Lei, have some more.

Wang Lei: Thanks. These dishes are really delicious, and they look nice too.

Zhang Lu'mother:

Thank you.

II

*[At a party, Zhang Hua passes a glass of wine to one of his classmates.]*

Zhang Hua: Here you are.

*[Zhang gets some dessert for another classmate.]*

Zhang Hua: Please help yourself.

Eat some more.

Classmate: Thanks a lot, buddy.

Zhang Hua: You're welcome.

① Chinese often say “多吃(-)点儿” at dinner tables, which means, “Please have some more.” Other expressions that use a similar pattern, you will hear when you get cold include:

多穿一点儿(衣服)。

Duō chuān yìdiǎnr (yīfu).

Put on more clothes.

And when you catch a cold, you will hear:

多喝一点儿水。

Duō hē yìdiǎnr shuǐ.

Drink some more water.

② [好吃] means “delicious” or “taste good”. Similar expressions that combine “好” and one of the senses are:

好+喝(hē) → 好喝 taste good

好+听(tīng) → 好听 sound good

好+看(kàn) → 好看 look good

好+闻(wén) → 好闻 smell good

会话示例 Dialogues



III

[李洋请客户吃饭。]

李洋：你们吃好了<sup>③</sup>吗？

客户：好了，谢谢！

IV

[几个朋友在饭店吃完饭。]

A：服务员，买单<sup>④</sup>！

.....

B：打电话之前说好的。这次我请，下次你请！

.....

C：你们俩别争了。我已经结完了。

[Lǐ Yáng qǐng kèhù chī fàn.]

Lǐ Yáng: Nǐmen chīhǎole ma?

Kèhù: Hǎo le, xièxie!

[Jǐ ge péngyou zài fàndiàn chīwán fàn.]

A: Fúwùyuán, mǎidān!

.....

B: Dǎ diànhuà zhī qián shuōhǎo de. zhè cì wǒ qǐng, xià cì nǐ qǐng!

.....

C: Nǐmen liǎ bié zhēng le. wǒ yǐjīng jiéwán le.

注释 Notes

III

[Li Yang takes some clients out to dinner.]

Li Yang: How's everything?

Clients: Great ! Thanks a lot.

IV

[A group of people have just finished their meal in a restaurant.]

A: Waiter, check please.

...

B: I thought we had a deal. It's my treat this time and your turn next time.

...

C: No need to argue. I've paid the bill already.

③ [吃饱] and [吃好] both follow the pattern of a verb plus a supplement. Similar phrases are “吃完chīwán (finish one's meal)” and “买到mǎidào (have bought something)”. “饱” or “好” indicates the result of an action, or the status of that result. Toward the end of the dinner, the host/hostess always asks the guests if they are satisfied with the meal to show his/her hospitality. “吃好了吗?” is more polite and used on more formal occasions, whereas “吃饱了吗?” is often used between friends and acquaintances.

④ You can say “结账” or “买单” at the end of a meal to ask the waiter to bring you the check.



### 练习

### Exercises



一、根据英文提示，将下面的词语连接成一句话。

Make sentences with the given words and phrases.

1. Please eat some more.

_____			
多	一点儿	请	吃
duō	yìdiǎnr	qǐng	chī

2. This dish is very delicious.

_____			
这	菜	很	好吃
zhè	cài	hěn	hǎochī

二、意念表达。

Express the following functions and notions.

1. A friend invites you to dinner. Tell him/her how much you like the dishes.
2. Ask for the check at the end of the dinner.



三、根据语境，完成会话。

Complete the dialogues according to the context.

1. A: 你吃好了吗?

Nǐ chīhǎole ma?

How's everything?

B: \_\_\_\_\_

2. A: 不要客气，多吃点儿。

Búyào kèqì, duō chī diǎnr.

Please help yourself. Have some more.

B: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 四、实践汉语。

Practice your Chinese.

Invite your friends, old and new, Chinese and otherwise, to have a potluck dinner at your place.



### 实用一点通 Cultural Tips

In general, although the food is put in a big dish at the center of the table for all to take from, it's a good manner to take your portion in one move and please don't move your chopsticks to and fro inside the big plate if you don't want to leave a bad impression to others. If you're not skillful at chopsticks and not sure about taking your portion to your own plate in one move, use "public" chopsticks or spoon instead. Moreover, if you invite others to dinner, then you can take food for those sitting next to you to show your hospitality and sincerity.



### 应变百宝囊 Language Enrichment



- |        |                 |   |
|--------|-----------------|---|
| ① 口水鸡  | Kǒushuǐ Jī      | Spicy Sichuan chicken                   |
| ② 古老肉  | Gǔlǎo Ròu       | Sweet and sour pork                     |
| ③ 回锅肉  | Huíguō Ròu      | Twice cooked pork                       |
| ④ 辣子鸡丁 | Làzi Jīdīng     | Diced chicken with chili                |
| ⑤ 麻婆豆腐 | Mápó Dòufu      | Bean curd cooked in hot sauce           |
| ⑥ 拔丝苹果 | Básī Píngguǒ    | Apple in hot toffee                     |
| ⑦ 京酱肉丝 | Jīngjiàng Ròusī | Sweet shredded pork with Chinese onions |
| ⑧ 北京烤鸭 | Běijīng Kǎoyā   | Peking roast duck                       |