

From SOUND → PINYIN → CHARACTER → MEANING

You already know how to say 1–10. Now use careful listening to build your first Chinese introductions.

3 things to notice ① tones matter ② characters represent the sounds ③ many useful words have 2 syllables

Tip: First connect what you SEE with what you HEAR and what it MEANS. You do not need to memorize everything yet.

A. Character → Meaning

Write the letter of the correct meaning in the last column.

CHARACTER	PINYIN	MEANING	Notes
你好	nǐ hǎo	hello / hi	
請問	qǐng wèn	please ask / may I ask	
貴姓	guì xìng	surname / family name (polite)	
我	wǒ	I / me	
呢	ne	and you? / what about you?	
小姐	xiǎojiě	Miss / Ms.	
叫	jiào	to be called / to be named	
什麼	shénme	what?	
名字	míngzi	name	
先生	xiānsheng	Mr. / gentleman	

B. PINYIN → Character

Use the word bank. Write the matching character(s).

nǐ hǎo _____

wǒ _____

jiào _____

shénme _____

míngzi _____

ne _____

xiǎojiě _____

xiānsheng _____

Word bank:

你好 我 呢 小姐 先生

叫 什麼 名字

Your goal: recognize the characters, read the pinyin, and understand what each short phrase is doing.

C. Character Recognition Circle the character/word that matches the English meaning.

hello	(A) 你好 (B) 我 (C) 名字
I / me	(A) 叫 (B) 我 (C) 呢
what?	(A) 先生 (B) 什麼 (C) 貴姓
name	(A) 名字 (B) 小姐 (C) 請問
Mr.	(A) 小姐 (B) 先生 (C) 王
Ms.	(A) 李 (B) 小姐 (C) 先生

D. Build the Connection For each item, choose the best pinyin. Then check the meaning.

- 請問 Meaning: may I ask A. qǐng wèn B. guì xìng C. wǒ
- 貴姓 Meaning: surname (polite) A. míngzi B. guì xìng C. nǐ hǎo
- 你呢 Meaning: how about you? A. nǐ ne B. wǒ C. shénme
- 李小姐 Meaning: Ms. Li A. Lǐ xiǎojiě B. Wáng péng C. Lǐ Yǒu
- 王先生 Meaning: Mr. Wang A. Wáng xiānsheng B. Lǐ xiǎojiě C. Wǒ jiào

E. Put the Conversation in Order Number the lines 1–6. Then read the finished exchange aloud with a partner.

- ___ A. 我叫李友。
- ___ B. 你好！請問，你貴姓？
- ___ C. 你呢？
- ___ D. 你好！
- ___ E. 我姓王。
- ___ F. 你叫什麼？

F. Speaking Practice Use the prompts. Focus on the pattern rather than memorizing every word.

1. 你好！請問，你貴姓？
Hi! May I ask, what's your surname?
2. 你姓什麼？—我姓 ____。
- What's your surname? — My surname is ____.
3. 你叫什麼？—我叫 ____。
- What's your name? — I'm called ____.
4. 你呢？
How about you?

Names to recognize: 李 李友 王 王朋

Lǐ Lǐ Yǒu Wáng Wáng Péng • 李小姐 = Ms. Li | 王先生 = Mr. Wang