



For Mandarin Learning

Student Handout

Chinese Pinyin Lesson 1

汉语拼音及声调的简介

The Introduction of Chinese Pinyin and Tones

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Lesson 1. The Introduction of Chinese pinyin

1 The Introduction of Chinese Pinyin and Tones

In Chinese, a syllable is composed of an Initial Consonant, a Vowel and a Tone. At the beginning of a syllable is called Initial, the rest of parts are called Finals. Mandarin Chinese has four basic tones and neutral tone.

拼音和声调介绍

汉语的音节绝大部分是由声母、韵母和声调三部分组成的。音节开头的辅音叫声母，其余部分叫韵母。汉语普通话有四个基本声调和轻声。

2 Initial

At the beginning of a syllable is called Initial. There are 23 initials in Chinese Pinyin.

声母

音节开头的辅音叫声母，在汉语拼音中一共有 23 个声母，如下：

b	p	m	f	d	t	l	n	
g	k	h	j	q	x	zh	ch	sh
z	c	s	r	y	w			

3 Final

Besides initials, we have total 24 finals left, they are simple final, compound final, special final and nasal final. As shown below:

韵母

声母之外，剩下的就是韵母，韵母一共有 24 个，韵母分为单韵母、复韵母、特殊韵母和鼻韵母。如下：

Simple Final	a	o	e	i	u	ü		
Compound Final	ai	ei	ui	ao	ou	iu	ie	üe
Special Final	er							
Nasal Final	an	en	in	un	ün	ang	eng	ing
	ong							

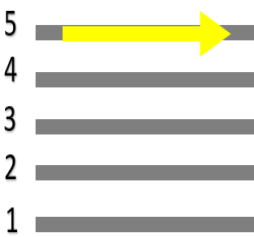
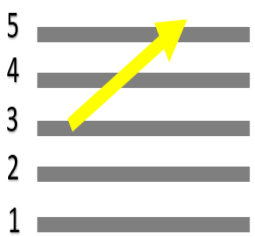


Lesson 1. The Introduction of Chinese pinyin

4 Tones

Four basic tones - Tones schematic drawing as below :

声调

四个基本声调 - 声调示意图

			
First tone	Second tone	Third tone	Fourth tone

4.a Neutral Tones

Neutral tone is a special tone, it's actually the fourth tone variation, with no fixed tuning.

Pronunciation of the neutral tone is very light and a bit shorter than the other tones. Here are some examples:

轻声

轻声是一种特殊的声调，它其实是第四声变化而来，没有固定的调值。轻声的发音非常的轻而且短促。比如：

		
bàba means mother 爸爸	māma means mother 媽媽	dìdi means young brother 弟弟