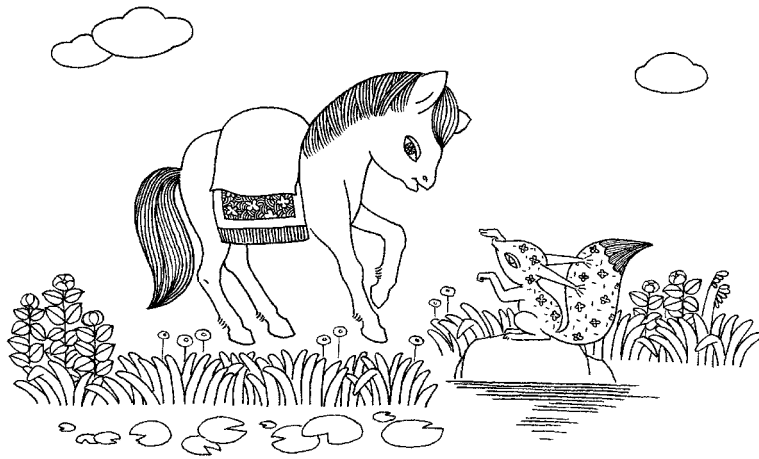


马立平课程

中 文

三年 级

第一单元



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一、A Journey of Teaching Yourself Pinyin — Part One

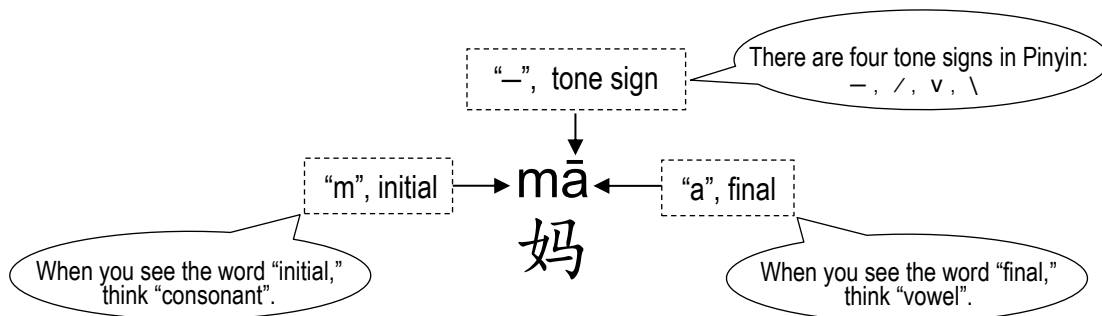
Dear students, in the next four weeks we are going to learn to spell Chinese sounds with letters using Pinyin (拼音). Since we have already learned many Chinese characters, we can teach ourselves. Using some characters we already know, we will be able to figure most of it out!

While many English words have multiple syllables, all Chinese characters only have one syllable. We'll learn how to describe a syllable in Pinyin. We spell words in English and we spell syllables in Pinyin.

Mini-lesson 1: The three parts of a Chinese syllable

Most Chinese syllables are made of three parts:

1) initial (≈ consonant); 2) final (≈ vowel); and 3) tone (the part we don't have in English.)



Some Chinese syllables, such as 阿 (ā) etc., have only two parts – final and tone.

Mini-lesson 2: The tones of Chinese syllables and the simple final a

We have tones in Chinese, unlike in English. In Chinese, there are four normal tones and one special tone. If you carefully study the following five groups of Chinese characters, you will be able to figure out what these tones sound like. You will also see how to pronounce “a” in Pinyin.

mā	bā	lā	tā	→	First tone “—” :	What does it sound like?
妈	巴	拉	他		Final “a” :	What does it sound like?
má	pá	ná	dá	→	Second tone “ˇ” :	What does it sound like?
麻	爬	拿	答		Third tone “ˇ” :	What does it sound like?
mǎ	bǎ	nǎ	dǎ	→	Fourth tone “`” :	What does it sound like?
骂	怕	那	大		Soft tone (no sign) :	What does it sound like?
ma	ba	la	a	→		
吗	吧	啦	啊			

In English the same vowel may sound different in different words. In Chinese, a simple final always sounds the same with only two exceptions. Through previous study you may have learned that “a” sounds like the “a” in “father.” Please carefully study the following groups of Chinese characters. You’ll see:

- 1) how to pronounce the letters *o*, *e*, *i*, and *u* in Pinyin as simple finals; and
- 2) how to pronounce letters *j*, *q*, and *x* as initials.

Mini-lesson 3: Simple finals *o*, *e*, *i*, *u*; initials *j*, *q*, and *x*

bō 拔	mō 摸	bó 伯	pò 破	→	Final “o” : What does it sound like?				
gē 哥	hé 和	kě 可	rè 热	→	Final “e” : What does it sound like?				
jī 鸡	xī 西	jí 急	qí 奇	nǐ 你	jǐ 几	lì 力	qì 气	→	Final “i.”, and the sounds of <i>j</i> , <i>q</i> , and <i>x</i> : What do they sound like?
tū 突	tú 图	dú 读	tǔ 土	tù 兔	mù 木	→	Final “u” : What does it sound like?		

Mini-lesson 4: Simple finals *ü*

Do you know how to say “fish” in Chinese? Do you know how to say “rain” in Chinese? The sounds of “鱼” and “雨” are the second and third tones of the final “ü.”

ū ú ǔ ù
nǚ lǜ
女 绿

The six simple finals in Pinyin in their four tones

ā á ǎ à	ō ó ǒ ò
ē é ě è	ī í ǐ ì
ū ú ǔ ù	ǖ ǘ ǚ ǜ

* On the keyboard, people usually type “v” when they need to type “ü.”

Mini-lesson 5: Initials *z, c, zh, ch, and sh*

We have seen that in Pinyin the initial letters *j, q, and x* sound very different from the same letters in English. So do five other initials: *z, c, zh, ch, sh*.

z is the initial of characters such as 子, 自, 在, 做。What does it sound like?

c is the initial of characters such as 次, 草, 从, 藏。What does it sound like?

There are three Pinyin initials which are made of two letters. They are *zh, ch* and *sh*:

zh is the initial of characters such as 知, 中, 找, 这。What does it sound like? Can you tell the difference between “zh” and “j”?

ch is the initial of characters such as 吃, 虫, 出, 吹。What does it sound like? Can you tell the difference between “ch” and “q”?

sh is the initial of characters such as 十, 水, 上, 说。What does it sound like? Can you tell the difference between “sh” and “x”?

We don't have to learn or memorize the names of all the Pinyin initials, only those of the eight that sound different from English. Pronounce the following in the first tone:

j (鸡); *q* (七); *x* (西); *z* (as 子 in first tone); *c* (as 次 in first tone);

zh (知); *ch* (吃); *sh* (as 十 in first tone)。

Mini-lesson 6: Two exceptions of pinyin simple finals

Now let's take a look at the two exceptions where the pronunciation of a simple final can change depending on the initial before it. First, please study the following groups of characters, and figure out what the final “i” sounds like when it goes after the initials *z, c, s, r, zh, ch* and *sh*:

zǐ zì zì cì cǐ cí sì sǐ sī rì
子 自 字 次 此 词 四 死 思 日

zhī zhī zhí chī chī chí shí shì shī
只 知 直 吃 翅 池 十 是 诗

As you may have noticed, when “i” comes after *z, c, s, r, zh, ch, and sh*, it doesn't have a sound at all. It is only there to carry the tone sign.

For the second exception, study the following characters, and figure out what the final “u” sounds like when it goes after the initials *j, q, and x*:

jǔ jù qù qù xǔ
举 句 去 趣 许

In fact, the letter “u” that comes after *j, q, and x* is not the real final “u”, but “ü” without the two dots. There are no syllables that sound like real final “u” after *j, q, and x*. So, we can skip the two dots on an “ü” that goes after *j, q, and x* without causing confusion.

Table 1 Pinyin syllables in mini-lesson 1-6

There are 283 Pinyin syllables in the following table. Can you pronounce all of them? Please discuss with your classmates: what happened to the blank boxes? Why are some syllables underlined?

	ā	á	ǎ	à	ō	ó	ǒ	ò	ē	é	ě	è	ī	í	ǐ	ì	ū	ú	ǔ	ù	24
b	bā	bá	bǎ	bà	bō	bó	bǒ	bò									bū	bú	bǔ	bù	12
p	pā	pá		pà	pō	pó	pǒ	pò					pī	pí	pǐ	pì	pū	pú	pǔ	pù	14
m	mā	má	mǎ	mà	mō	mó	mǒ	mò					mī	mí	mǐ	mì	mū	mú	mǔ	mù	15
f	fā	fá	fǎ	fà		fó											fū	fú	fǔ	fù	9
d	dā	dá	dǎ	dà						dé			dī	dí	dǐ	dì	dū	dú	dǔ	dù	13
t	tā		tǎ	tà								tè	tī	tí	tǐ	tì	tū	tú	tǔ	tù	12
n	nā	ná	nǎ	nà						né		nè	nī	ní	nǐ	nì		nú	nǔ	nù	15
l	lā	lá	lǎ	là					lē			lè	lī	lí	lǐ	lì	lū	lú	lǔ	lù	17
g	gā	gá	gǎ	gà					gē	gé	gě	gè					gū	gú	gǔ	gù	12
k	kā		kǎ						kē	ké	kě	kè					kū		kǔ	kù	9
h	hā	há	hǎ	hà					hē	hé		hè					hū	hú	hǔ	hù	11
j													jī	jí	jǐ	jì					8
q													qī	qí	qǐ	qì					8
x													xī	xí	xǐ	xì					8
z	zā	zá	zǎ							zé		zè	zī	zí	zǐ	zì	zū	zú	zǔ		11
c	cā		cǎ									cè	cī	cí	cǐ	cì	cū	cú		cù	10
s	sā		sǎ	sà								sè	sī		sǐ	sì	sū	sú		sù	10
r											rè					rì			rú	rǔ	6
zh	zhā	zhá	zhǎ	zhà					zhē	zhé	zhě	zhè	zhī	zhí	zhǐ	zhì	zhū	zhú	zhǔ	zhù	16
ch	chā	chá	chǎ	chà					chē		chě	chè	chī	chí	chǐ	chì	chū	chú	chǔ	chù	15
sh	shā	shá	shǎ	shà					shē	shé	shě	shè	shī	shí	shǐ	shì	shū	shú	shǔ	shù	16
y*													yī	yí	yǐ	yì					8
w*													yī	yí	yǐ	yì	wū	wú	wǔ	wù	4

* When spelling a character, the simple finals i, u, and ü can't stand alone, but have to follow another leading letter. i=yi, u=wu, and ü=yü.

Spell
and
Read

a



wǒ nǐ tā shì wá wa
我 你 他， 是 娃 娃，
dú zì mǔ lè hā hā
读 字 母， 乐 哈 哈。

a o e, i u ü,

wǒ nǐ tā bù dǎ mà
我 你 他， 不 打 骂。

o



pó po bó bo
婆 婆 伯 伯，
lā chē mó mò
拉 车 磨 磨。

bó bo lā chē
伯 伯 拉 车，

pó po mó mò
婆 婆 磨 磨。

e



zhū gē ge dú ér gē
猪 哥 哥， 读 儿 歌，

d t n l g k h,

é mā ma lè hē hē
鹅 妈 妈， 乐 呵 呵，

yí bù yì gē
一 步 一 歌 é é é。

i



mǔ jī hé xiǎo jī
母 鸡 和 小 鸡，

chī mǐ shǔ dì yī
吃 米 数 第 一，

gē gē gē jī jī jī
咯 咯 咯， 叽 叽 叽，

yí cì chī le wǔ bǎ mǐ
一 次 吃 了 五 把 米。

s & sh

shí sì hé sì shí
十 四 和 四 十

sì shì sì
四 是 四，

shí shì shí
十 是 十，

shí sì shì shí sì
十 四 是 十 四，

sì shì shì sì shí
四 十 是 四 十。

xiǎng shuō duì sì
要 想 说 对 四，

shé chǐ
舌 头 碰 牙 齿。

xiǎng shuō duì shí
要 想 说 对 十，

shé zhí
舌 头 别 伸 直。

shé néng dú de zhǔn
谁 能 读 得 准，

qǐng lái shì yí shì
请 来 试 一 试。

u



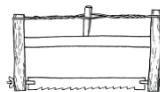
tù zǐ dǎ gǔ dū dū dū
兔 子 打 鼓 嘟 嘟 嘟，

dǎ pò dà gǔ wū wū kū
打 破 大 鼓 呜 呜 哭，

bù kū bù kū
不 哭， 不 哭，

mā ma ná bù bǔ pò gǔ
妈 妈 拿 布 补 破 鼓。

ü



lā dà jù chē dà jù
拉 大 锯， 扯 大 锯。

wǒ hé bà ba dì lǐ qù
我 和 爸 爸 地 里 去。

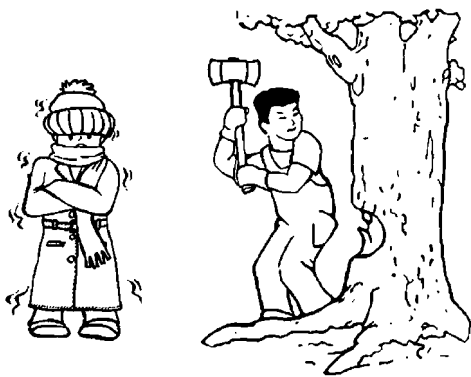
jú zǐ yā lí gè gè dà
橘 子 鸭 梨 个 个 大，

yù mǐ mài zi kē kē lǜ
玉 米 麦 子 棵 棵 绿。

* Please see page 48 for the new characters introduced in the above rhymes.

fú 斧子和皮大衣

一个冬天的早晨，风哥哥红鼻子和风弟弟蓝鼻子在外面散步。天很冷，人们都还在家里睡大觉呢。突然，他们看见路上来了两个人。一个人坐在马车上，身上穿着一件新的皮大衣。另一个人走在路上，身上没穿多少衣服，手里拿着一把旧斧子。红鼻子哥哥低声问蓝鼻子弟弟：“你说，斧子和皮大衣，哪一个暖和？”



弟弟回答：“那还用问吗？当然是皮大衣暖和。”哥哥说：“让我们来试一试，看看到底哪个暖和。”

红鼻子和蓝鼻子一起用力吹呀吹。不久，路边的水就变成了冰。坐在车上的人用皮大衣把自己包起来，可是，他还是觉得越来越冷。最后，他在车上再也坐不住，只好下车，躲进路旁的小屋里去了。

那个拿斧子的人呢，大风刚开始吹起来的时候，他觉得身上有点冷。他走到路边，挺了挺身子，举起斧子，用力砍起树来。他砍啊砍啊，越砍越热，身上出汗了。最后，他把外衣也脱了。

蓝鼻子吹累了，只好停下来休息。红鼻子拍了拍弟弟，得意地说：“老弟啊，你还年轻，知道的事儿还不多。看见了吧，斧子比皮大衣要暖和得多！”

新字新词：斧子(fú) 暖和(nuǎn huo) 砍(kǎn) 年轻(nián qīng)

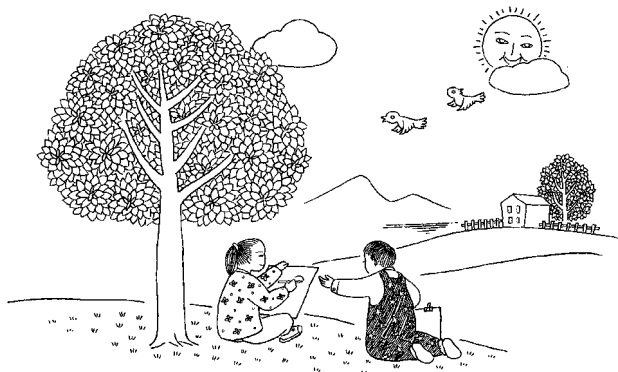
借笔

放学了，弟弟和姐姐^{jiě jiě}一起画画。弟弟画着画着，突然对姐姐说：“姐姐，请把你的笔借给我用一用好吗？”

姐姐问：“你为什么要借我的笔呢？你不是一直很喜欢你自己的笔吗？”

“我喜欢我的笔，是因为它很漂亮。可是，可是……”弟弟停了停才说：“可是，漂亮又有有什么用呢？它一点也不听我的话！我叫它画什么，它总是画不好，还常常画错。姐姐的画画得这么好，你的笔一定是一支听话的笔，你叫它画什么它就画什么，叫它画多好就画多好，不是吗？”

新字新词：借 总是

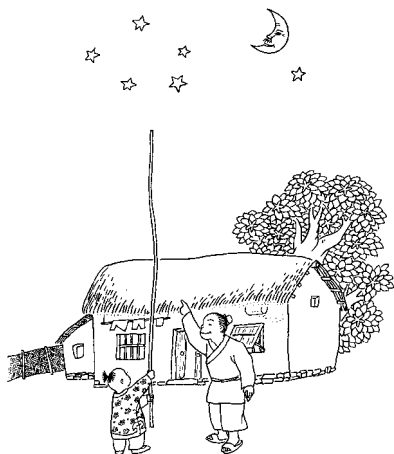


爬到屋顶上去

天黑了，一个孩子举着长长的竹竿，在院子里跳来跳去，爸爸走来看见了，奇怪地问：“咦，儿子，你在那里干什么？”

儿子说：“爸爸，您看，满天都是亮闪闪的星星，我想打几颗下来挂在家里，可怎么也打不着。”

爸爸听了，摇了摇头说：“傻孩子，你站在地上，怎么能打得着星星呢？不信，你爬到屋顶上去，站得高一点，不就打得着了么？”



谜语

一个小孩，
又细又白。
人家小孩越长越高，
这个小孩越长越矮。

二、A Journey of Teaching Yourself Pinyin — Part Two

In Pinyin there are thirty-ish “compound finals” with more than one letter. In this lesson we are going to learn nine basic compound finals with two letters each.

When the sounds i, u, and ü are at the beginning of a word, they are spelled y, w, and yu.

Mini-lesson 7: compound finals *ao*, *ai*, and *ia*

māo gāo máo táo hǎo shǎo dào gào → **ao**: āo áo ǎo ào
猫 高 毛 逃 好 少 到 告

pāi zhāi bái lái ǎi zhǎi ài cài → **ai**: āi ái ǎi ài
拍 摘 白 来 矮 窄 爱 菜

jiā jiā yā yá jiǎ xià → **ia**: iā ía ĭa ìa
家 加 鸭 牙 假 下

Mini-lesson 8: compound finals *ei*, *ie* and *üe*

fēi hēi méi méi měi měi lèi lèi → **ei**: ēi éi ěi èi
飞 黑 没 眉 美 每 泪 累

jiē xiē qié xié jiě xiě jiè xiè → **ie**: iē íe ĭe ìe
接 些 茄 鞋 姐 写 借 谢
(eggplant) (shoe)

xué xuě jué què yuè yuè → **üe**: üē üé üě üè
学 雪 觉 却 月 越

Mini-lesson 9: compound finals *ua*, *uo*, and *ou*

guā huā wā wá guà huà → **ua**: uā uá uǎ uà
瓜 花 蛙 娃 挂 画

duō zhuō shuō luò tuó huǒ guò cuò → **uo**: uō uó uǒ uò
多 捉 说 骆 驼 火 过 错

shōu gōu tóu hóu shǒu zǒu hòu dòu → **ou**: ōu óu ǒu òu
收 沟 头 猴 手 走 后 豆

Table 2: Mini-lesson 7 Pinyin syllables

There are 138 Pinyin syllables in the following table. Can you pronounce all of them? Did you find a row with no syllables at all? What happened to that row, and to the other blank boxes?

	āo	áo	ǎo	ào	āi	ái	ǎi	ài	iā	íá	iǎ	ià	12
b	bāo	báo	bǎo	bào	bāi	bái	bǎi	bài					8
p	pāo	páo	pǎo	pào	pāi	pái	pǎi	pài					8
m	māo	máo	mǎo	mào		mái	mǎi	mài					8
f													0
d	dāo		dǎo	dào	dāi		dǎi	dài			diǎ		7
t	tāo	táo	tǎo	tào	tāi	tái	tǎi	tài					8
n	nāo	náo	nǎo	nào			nǎi	nài					6
l	lāo	láo	lǎo	lào		lái		lài			liǎ		7
g	gāo		gǎo	gào	gāi		gǎi	gài					6
k	kāo		kǎo	kào	kāi		kǎi	kài					6
h	hāo	háo	hǎo	hào	hāi	hái	hǎi	hài					8
j									jiā	jiá	jiǎ	jià	4
q									qiā		qiǎ	qià	3
x									xiā	xiá		xià	3
z	zāo	záo	zǎo	zào	zāi		zǎi	zài					7
c	cāo	cáo	cǎo		cāi	cái	cǎi	cài					7
s	sāo		sǎo	sào	sāi			sài					5
r		ráo	rǎo	rào									3
zh	zhāo	zháo	zhǎo	zhào	zhāi	zhái	zhǎi	zhài					8
ch	chāo	cháo	chǎo	chào	chāi	chái		chài					7
sh	shāo	sháo	shǎo	shào	shāi		shǎi	shài					7

Table 3: Mini-lesson 8 Pinyin syllables

There are 80 Pinyin syllables in the following table. Can you pronounce all of them? Find how many “blank” rows there are in the table. Discuss with your classmates: why did the textbook author choose to display these blank rows in the table?

	ēi	éi	ěi	èi	iē	ié	iě	iè	üē	üé	üě	üè	12
b	bēi		běi	bèi	biē	bié	biě	biè					7
p	pēi	péi		pèi	piē		piě						5
m		méi	měi	mèi	miē			miè					5
f	fēi	féi	fěi	fèi									4
d			děi		diē	dié							3
t					tiē		tiě	tiè					3
n			něi	nèi	niē			niè				nüè	5
l	lēi	léi	lěi	lèi	liē	lié	liě	liè				lüè	9
g			gěi										1
k													0
h	hēi												1
j					jiē	jié	jiě	jiè	juē	jué		juè	7
q					qiē	qié	qiě	qiè	quē	qué		què	7
x					xiē	xié	xiě	xiè	xuē	xué	xuě	xuè	8
z		zéi											1
c													0
s													0
r													0
zh				zhèi									1
ch													0
sh		shéi											1

Table 4: Mini-lesson 9 Pinyin syllables

There are 113 Pinyin syllables in the following table. Can you pronounce all of them?
How many initials are there in the table that can't go with the finals "ua", "uo", and "ou"?

	uā	uá	uǎ	uà	uō	uó	uǒ	uò	ōu	óu	ǒu	òu	12
b													0
p									pōu	póu	pǒu		3
m									mōu	móu	mǒu		3
f													0
d					duō	duó	duǒ	duò	dōu		dǒu	dòu	7
t					tuō	tuó	tuǒ	tuò	tōu	tóu		tòu	7
n						nuó		nuò				nòu	3
l					luō	luó	luǒ	luò	lōu	lóu	lǒu	lòu	8
g	guā		guǎ	guà	guō	guó	guǒ	guò	gōu		gǒu	gòu	10
k	kuā		kuǎ	kuà				kuò	kōu		kǒu	kòu	7
h	huā	huá		huà	huō	huó	huǒ	huò		hóu	hǒu	hòu	10
j													0
q													0
x													0
z					zuō	zuó	zuǒ	zuò	zōu		zǒu	zòu	7
c					cuō	cuó	cuǒ	cuò				còu	5
s					suō		suǒ	suò	sōu		sǒu	sòu	6
r								ruò		róu		ròu	3
zh	zhuā		zhuǎ		zhuō	zhuó			zhōu	zhóu	zhǒu	zhòu	8
ch					chuō			chuò	chōu	chóu	chǒu	chòu	6
sh	shuā		shuǎ	shuà	shuō			shuò	shōu	shóu	shǒu	shòu	8

* When spelling a character, the simple finals i, u, and ü can't come as the first letter, but have to transform into other letters: i into y, u into w, and ü into yu. For example 牙, 叶, 蛙, 我, 月。

Spell and Read

nǚ nai qù mǎi cài,
 奶奶去买菜，
 mèi mei yì qǐ lái lái,
 妹妹一起来，
 mǎi le bō cài hé bái cài,
 买了菠菜和白菜，
 hái mǎi zǐ cài hé hǎi dài,
 还买紫菜和海带，
 mèi mei hé nǚ nai,
 妹妹和奶奶，
 yì qǐ bǎ cài tái。
 一起把菜抬。

ai



péng luò xià yì zhī guā,
 棚上落下一只瓜，
 dǎ zháo dì wá wa
 打着地上小娃娃。
 wá wa jiào mā ma
 娃娃叫妈妈，
 mā ma bào wá wa
 妈妈抱娃娃。
 wá wa hé mā ma
 娃娃和妈妈，
 yì qǐ shí guā guā
 一起拾瓜瓜。

ia
uo
ua




hóu zi qù zhāi táo,
 猴子去摘桃，
 bēi zhe dà shū bāo,
 背着大书包，
 yí lù zǒu yí lù pǎo,
 一路走，一路跑，
 zhāi táo zi chī ge bǎo.
 摘桃子，吃个饱。

ao



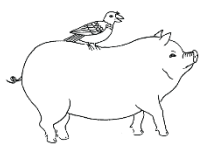
yì zhī gǒu wǔ zhī hóu,
 一只狗，五只猴，
 wǔ zhī hóu zi yì zhī gǒu
 五只猴子一只狗。
 hóu dǎ gǒu gǒu mà hóu,
 猴打狗，狗骂猴，
 chǎo nào dǎ pò tóu.
 吵吵闹闹打破头。

ou




wū yā zài hēi zhū bèi shàng shuō hēi zhū hēi,
 乌鸦在黑猪背上说黑猪黑，
 hēi zhū shuō wū yā bǐ hēi zhū hái yào hēi,
 黑猪说乌鸦比黑猪还要黑，
 wū yā shuō tā shēn hēi zuǐ bù hēi,
 乌鸦说它身黑嘴不黑，
 hēi zhū tīng le xiào de hēi hēi hēi.
 黑猪听了笑得嘿嘿嘿。

ei



chuān xīn yī, chuān xīn xié,
 穿新衣，穿新鞋，
 dà hóng duì zǐ mén shàng xiě,
 大红对子门上写，
 bō lí shàng miàn tiē huā,
 玻璃上面贴窗花，
 xǐ qì yáng yáng guò chūn jié.
 喜气洋洋过春节。

ie



* Please see page 48 for the new characters introduced in the above rhymes.

kuā
夸孩子

树林里有一棵大树，大树上住着三家鸟儿。一家是黄鹂，一家是喜鹊，还有一家乌鸦。一大早，年轻的小鸟都飞出去了，只有年老的鸟妈妈留在家



里，她们都年纪大了，飞不动了。中午的时候，小喜鹊飞回来了，她站在树枝上梳理着自己的羽毛。小黄鹂也回来了，她拍拍翅膀，站在树枝上唱歌。喜鹊妈妈说：“嘿，你们瞧，我的女儿多漂亮！整个树林里，谁也比不上！”黄鹂妈妈听了，心里有点不高兴了。她眨了眨眼睛，说道：“我的女儿也不差！她唱起歌来，谁都爱听！”只有乌鸦妈妈静静地在旁边，一句话也不说。

过了一会儿，喜鹊妈妈觉得有点饿了，说：“女儿啊，妈妈饿了，快去给我捉条虫子来吃吧！”“你没看见我正在梳理羽毛吗？我哪里有空去抓虫！”小喜鹊不高兴地说。

黄鹂妈妈也饿了，说：“女儿啊，妈妈饿了，去给我捉条虫子来吃吧！”“你没听见我正在唱歌吗？我可没空去抓虫！”小黄鹂也不高兴地说。

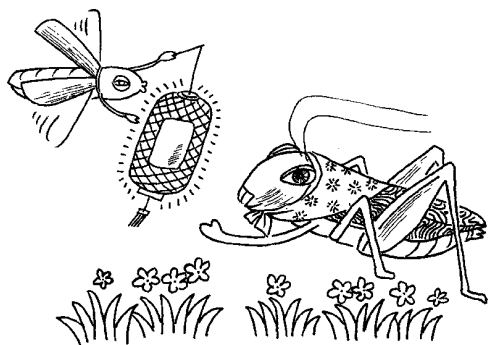
正在这时候，小乌鸦飞回来了。她叼着一条大大的毛毛虫，送到老乌鸦嘴里，说：“妈妈，您先慢慢吃着，吃饱了，我再去找水给您喝。”老乌鸦吃着虫子，心想：“我的女儿有多好，我自己心里最明白了。”

新字新词：夸 (to praise) 梳理 (to comb) 空 (spare time)

yíng 萤火虫找朋友

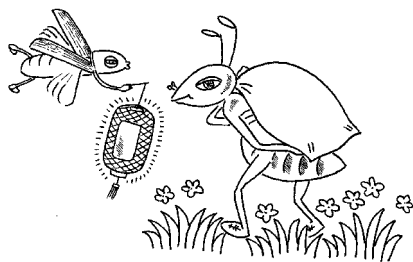
夏天的晚上，萤火虫提着蓝色的小灯笼，到处飞来飞去。它在干什么呀？它在找朋友。是啊，大家都有朋友，有好多朋友。可是萤火虫连一个朋友都没有。跟好多朋友在一起玩，多快活呀！萤火虫也想要朋友。它就提着灯笼，到处找。

萤火虫听到草里有响声。它用小灯笼一照，看见一只小蝈蝈。小蝈蝈急急忙忙，一直往前跳。萤火虫就叫：“小蝈蝈！小蝈蝈！你愿意做我的朋友吗？”小蝈蝈说：“我愿意。”萤火虫高兴地说：“那你就跟我一起玩吧！”小蝈蝈说：“好的，一会儿我就跟你玩。现在，我要去找小弟弟。小弟弟真淘气，天黑了还不回家，妈妈让我去找他。你来得正好，帮我照照路吧！”萤火虫说：“我可不能给你照路，我要去找朋友！”说完就提着灯笼飞走了。



新字新词：yíng 萤火虫 (firefly) lóng 灯笼 (lantern)

萤火虫飞呀飞，又听到草里有响声。它用小灯笼一照，看见一只小蚂蚁。小蚂蚁背着一个大口袋，一直往前跑。萤火虫就叫：“小蚂蚁！小蚂蚁！你愿意做我的朋友吗？”小蚂蚁说：“我愿意。”萤火虫高兴地说：“那你就跟我一起玩吧！”小蚂蚁说：“好的，一会儿我就跟你玩。现在，我要把东西送回家去。我迷路了，你来得正好，帮我照照路吧！”萤火虫说：“我可不能给你照路，我要去找朋友！”说完就提着灯笼飞走了。



夏天的晚上，萤火虫提着蓝色的小灯笼，到处飞来飞去。它在干什么呀？它在找朋友。还没有找到吗？还没有。

聪明的小朋友，你们都知道怎样才能找到朋友，你们快告诉萤火虫吧！要不，它老是提着灯笼飞来飞去，多累呀！

谜语

一个胖小孩，
坐着起不来，
不怕北风吹，
只怕太阳晒。

三、A Journey of Teaching Yourself Pinyin — Part Three

Mini-lesson 10: compound finals *iao*, *ui(uei)*, and *iu(iou)*

Last time we learned the nine basic compound finals with two letters each – *ao*, *ai*, *ia*, *ei*, *ie*, *üe*, *ou*, *ua*, *uo*, *ou*. Some of them can form new compound finals by adding another simple final in front. For example, *i* + *ao* = *iao*, *u* + *ai* = *uai*, *u* + *ei* = *uei*, and *i* + *ou* = *iou*.

However, the compound finals *uei* and *iou* are written in unusual ways.

uei is written as *ui* when it goes after an initial, or as *wei* when it is by itself.

iou is written as *iu* when it goes after an initial, or as *you* when it is by itself.

By skipping the middle *e* and *o* when it is possible, we make the spellings a little shorter.

jiāo piāo qiáo tiáo niǎo jiǎo jiào diào
 浇 飘 桥 条 鸟 脚 叫 掉 → **iao**: iāo iáo iǎo iào
(bridge)

shuāi guāi wāi shuǎi huài kuài guài wài
 摔 乖 歪 甩 坏 快 怪 外 → **uai**: uāi uái uǎi uài
(fall) (be good) (crooked) (bad)

cūi huī shuǐ huí shuǐ tuǐ huì shuì
 催 灰 谁 回 水 腿 会 睡 → **ui (uei)**: uī uí uǐ uì

diū qiū niú qiú jiǔ yǒu jiù yòu
 丢 秋 牛 球 九 有 就 又 → **iu (iou)**: iū iú iǔ iù

Mini-lesson 11: the special final *er*

In Pinyin there is a special final: *er*. It always appears alone, never with any initial. The three characters with final *er* that we have learned are:

ér ěr èr
 儿, 耳, 二 → **er**: ēr ér ěr èr

Mini-lesson 12: Rules for where to place a tone sign

1. The tone sign can only be put above the simple finals *a*, *o*, *e*, *i*, *u*, and *ü*.
2. The tone sign should be placed on the final that comes first in the order: *a*, *o*, *e*, *i*, *u*, *ü*.
3. In the compound finals *ui* and *iu*, the skipped middle letters *e* and *o* are supposed to carry the tone sign. Since they are skipped, the tone sign goes to the next letter, the *i* in *ui* and the *u* in *iu*.

Pronounce the following finals and pay attention to where the tone signs are placed:

fā bó gě qì tū lú nǎo dài shōu péi jiǎ qiè xiāo chuī jiǔ èr

Table 5: Pinyin syllables in mini-lesson 10

There are 140 Pinyin syllables in the following table. Can you pronounce all of them ?

Discuss with your classmates:

- 1) Why do we write the “iou” sound as “iu”, and the “uei” sound as “ui”?
- 2) When should we write “iao” as “yao”, “uai” as “wai”, “iu” as “you”, and “ui” as “wei”?

	iāo	iáo	iǎo	iào	uāi	uái	uǎi	uài	iū (iōu)	íu (iōú)	iǔ (iōǔ)	iù (iōù)	uī (ueī)	uí (ueí)	uǐ (ueǐ)	uì (ueì)	16
b	biāo		biǎo	biào													3
p	piāo	piáo	piǎo	piào													4
m	miāo	miáo	miǎo	miào								miù					5
f																	0
d	dīao		dǐao	diao				diū					duī			duì	6
t	tiāo	tiáo	tiǎo	tiao									tuī	tuí	tuǐ	tuì	8
n			niǎo	niao				niū	niú	niǔ	niù						6
l	liāo	liáo	liǎo	liao				liū	liú	liǔ	liù						8
g					guāi		guǎi	guài					guī		guǐ	guì	6
k							kuǎi	kuài					kuī	kuí	kuǐ	kuì	6
h						huái		huài					huī	huí	huǐ	huì	6
j	jiāo	jiáo	jiǎo	jiao				jiū		jiǔ	jiù						7
q	qiāo	qiáo	qiǎo	qiao				qiū	qiú	qiǔ							7
x	xiāo	xiáo	xiǎo	xiao				xiū		xiǔ	xiù						7
z													zuī		zuǐ	zuì	3
c													cūī	cuí	cǔǐ	cùi	4
s													sūī	suí	sǔǐ	sùi	4
r														ruí	ruǐ	ruì	3
zh					zhuāi		zhuǎi	zhuài					zhuī			zhuì	5
ch					chuāi		chuǎi	chuài					chuī	chuí			5
sh					shuāi		shuǎi	shuài						shuí	shuǐ	shuì	6
y	yāo	yáo	yǎo	yào					yoū	yoú	yoǔ	yoù					8
w					wāi		wǎi	wài					weī	weí	weǐ	weì	7

Spell and Read

qiáo qiǎo guò qiáozhǎo sāo sāo
巧巧过桥找嫂嫂，

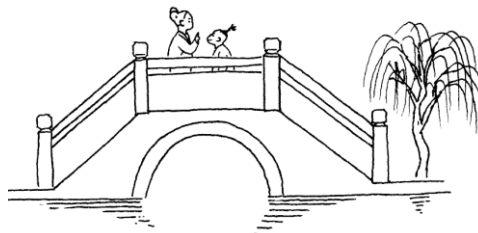
xiǎo xiǎo guò qiáozhǎo lǎo lǎo
小小过桥找姥姥。

qiáo qiǎo zài qiáoshàngpèng jiàn le xiǎo xiǎo
巧巧在桥上碰见了小小，

xiǎo xiǎo jiào qiáo qiǎo yì qǐ qù zhǎo lǎo lǎo
小小叫巧巧一起去找姥姥，

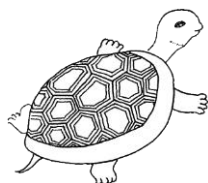
qiáo qiǎo jiào xiǎo xiǎo yì qǐ qù zhǎo sāo sāo
巧巧叫小小一起去找嫂嫂。

xiǎo xiǎo hé qiáo qiǎo tóng qù zhǎo lǎo lǎo hé sāo sāo
小小和巧巧同去找姥姥和嫂嫂。



iao

ui (uei)



xiǎo tiáo pí zuò xí tí
小调皮，做习题，

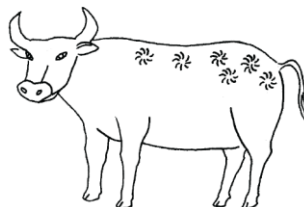
xí tí huà xiǎo niǎo
习题难，画小鸟。

xiǎo niǎo fēi huà wū guī
小鸟飞，画乌龟。

wū guī pá huà xiǎo niú
乌龟爬，画小牛。

xiǎo niú jiào xià yí tiào!
小牛叫，吓一跳！

iu (iou)



A preview of next lesson

Please read the following English words and note how the letters **an** sound in them:

fan, man, van, and, land, sand, fan, man, van.

In Chinese, there is a final that is spelled "an", but sounds very different from the English "an."

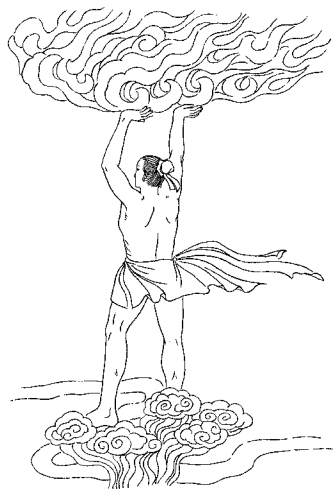
sān shān lán nán shǎn mǎn kàn màn
三，山，蓝，难，闪，满，看，慢

How does the Chinese "an" sound? Describe the difference from the English "an" to your friends.

* Please see page 48 for the new characters introduced in the above rhymes.

pán gǔ
盘古开天地

听说在很久很久以前，天和地都连在一起，圆圆的，像一个大鸡蛋。这“鸡蛋”里有一人，名字叫盘古。盘古在“鸡蛋”里面，觉得很不舒服。他想，让我快点长大，来把这蛋打开吧。盘古长得很快，他的力气也很大。盘古长啊长啊，等到大鸡蛋里装不下他的时候，他就用力一顶。“轰”的一声，大鸡蛋分成了两半。他头上的那一半就是天，脚下的那一半就是地。这一下，盘古长得更快了。他就这样，顶着天，踩着地，一天一天地长，一直长了一万八千年。



盘古越长越高，天和地也离得越来越远。一天，盘古看着头上的天和脚下的地，心想，“这天和地的中间空空的，让我来加上点东西吧。”他把自己的左眼变成太阳，右眼变成月亮，身子变成高山，血变成河，他嘴里的气，变成了风……从此以后，我们这个世界呀，就成了现在的样子了。

新字新词：pán gǔ 盘古 dàn 鸡蛋(egg) bàn 半(half) xiě 血(blood)

画蛇添足

有几个好朋友坐在树下谈天，别人送给他们一壶酒。一壶酒几个人分，谁也不够喝。有个人就想了个办法：“我们大家在地上画蛇，谁最先画好，这壶酒就给谁喝，好不好？”大家都说好。



他们每人拿了一根树枝，就动手在地上画起蛇来。不一会儿，张三先把蛇画好了。他伸手把那壶酒拿起来，刚要喝，一眼看见别的人还在画，就得意洋洋地说：“你们看，我还能给这条蛇添上脚呢！”他一手拿着酒壶，一手抓起树枝又画起脚来。

这时，李四也画好了。他看看张三画的蛇，把酒壶从张三手里拿过来，说：“蛇是没有脚的，你画的不是蛇。第一个画好蛇的是我！”说着，就举起酒壶，喝起酒来。画蛇添足的张三，最后没有喝到酒。

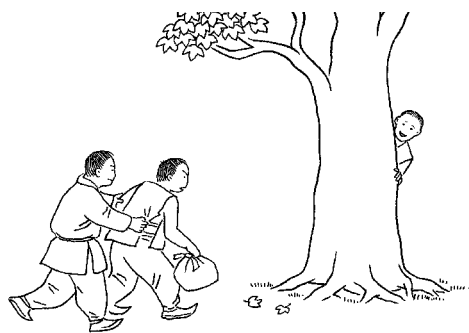
把事情做过了头，不是真的聪明！

新字新词：添(tiān) (to add) 足(zú) (feet) 一壶酒 够(gòu) (enough)

还好没有抓住鼻子

夜晚，两个小偷正在偷东西的时候，有一个被抓住了，另一个却逃跑了。

逃跑的小偷远远地躲在一棵大树后面，喊道：“朋友，你那里怎么样？他抓住你什么地方？”



被抓住的小偷大声回答说：“我很好啊！还好他没有抓住我的鼻子！你放心吧！他抓住的是我的衣服！要是他抓住我的鼻子，那才真的糟糕呢！”

抓小偷的人一听，心想：“坏了，我抓错地方了！”就赶快放掉小偷的衣服，伸手去抓他的鼻子。鼻子哪里抓得住，那小偷一转身，飞快地逃跑了。

新字新词：偷 (to steal) 放心 糟糕 (terrible)

谜语

有个好朋友，
天天跟我走。
有时走在前，
有时走在后。
我和他说话，
就是不开口。

四、A Journey of Teaching Yourself Pinyin — Part Four

There is a special group of finals called nasal finals. These are sounds that come through your nose. The basic ones are **an, ang, ong, en, eng, in, ing, un, ün**. By adding a simple final in front of some of them, can make more nasal finals such as **ian, iang, uang, iong, üan**.

Mini-lesson 13: nine basic nasal finals

sān	shān	lán	nán	shǎn	mǎn	kàn	màn	
三	山	蓝	难	闪	满	看	慢	
zāng	bāng	máng	cáng	dǎng	zhǎng	shàng	ràng	→ an vs. ang
脏	帮	忙	藏	挡	长	上	让	

zhōng	dōng	hóng	tóng	dǒng	zhǒng	dòng	zhòng	→ ong
中	冬	红	同	懂	肿	动	重	
			(understand)	(swollen)				

fēn	mén	rén	hěn		dēng	péng	děng	pèng	→ en vs. eng
分	门	人	很		灯	朋	等	碰	
(separate)									

jīn	lín	jǐn	jìn		bīng	háng	qǐng	bìng	→ in vs. ing
今	林	紧	进		冰	行	请	病	
		(tighte)							

chūn	lún	zhǔn	lùn		jūn	qún	xún	yùn	→ un vs. ün
春	轮	准	论		军	群	寻	运	
	(wheel)				(military)		(look for)	(ship)	(Where are the two dots of ü?)

Mini-lesson 14: *i+an, i+ang, u+an, u+ang, +iong, ü+an*

tiān	lián	diǎn	xiàn		xiāng	qiáng	xiǎng	xiàng	→ ian vs. iang
天	连	点	线		香	墙	想	向	
					(fragrant)				

zuān	chuán	nuǎn	suàn		guāng	huáng	chuāng	kuàng	→ uan vs. uang
钻	船	暖	算		光	黄	闯	矿	
								(mine)	

xiōng	xióng	yǒng	yòng		quán	yuán	juǎn	yuàn	→ iong vs. üan
兄	熊	勇	用		全	原	卷	愿	
(older brother)	(bear)	(brave)					(roll)		(Where are the two dots of ü?)

Table 6: Pinyin syllables with nasal finals *an*, *ang*, *ian*, and *iang*, can you pronounce them?

	ān	án	ǎn	àn	āng	áng	ǎng	àng	iān	ían	iǎn	iàn	iāng	íang	iǎng	iàng	16
b	bān		bǎn	bàn	bāng		bǎng	bàng	biān		biǎn	biàn					9
p	pān	pán		pàn	pāng	páng	pǎng	pàng	piān	pián	piǎn	piàn					11
m	mān	mán	mǎn	màn	māng	máng	mǎng			mián	miǎn	miàn					10
f	fān	fán	fǎn	fàn	fāng	fáng	fǎng	fàng									8
d	dān		dǎn	dàn	dāng		dǎng	dàng	diān		diǎn	diàn					9
t	tān	tán	tǎn	tàn	tāng	táng	tǎng	tàng	tiān	tián	tiǎn	tiàn					12
n	nān	nán	nǎn	nàn	nāng	náng	nǎng		niān	nián	niǎn	niàn		niáng		niàng	13
l		lán	lǎn	làn	lāng	láng	lǎng	làng		lián	liǎn	liàn		liáng	liǎng	liàng	13
g	gān		gǎn	gàn	gāng		gǎng	gàng									6
k	kān		kǎn	kàn	kāng	káng		kàng									6
h	hān	hán	hǎn	hàn	hāng	háng		hàng									7
j									jiān		jiǎn	jiàn	jiāng		jiǎng	iàng	6
q									qiān	qián	qiǎn	qiàn	qiāng	qiáng	qiǎng	qiàng	8
x									xiān	xián	xiǎn	xiàn	xiāng	xiáng	xiǎng	xiàng	8
z	zān	zán	zǎn	zàn	zāng		zǎng	zàng									7
c	cān	cán	cǎn	càn	cāng	cáng											6
s	sān		sǎn	sàn	sāng		sǎng	sàng									6
r		rán	rǎn		rāng	ráng	rǎng	ràng									6
zh	zhān	zhán	zhǎn	zhàn	zhāng		zhǎng	zhàng									7
ch	chān	chán	chǎn	chàn	chāng	cháng	chǎng	chàng									8
sh	shān		shǎn	shàn	shāng		shǎng	shàng									6

Table 7: Pinyin syllables with nasal finals *uan*, *uang*, and *üan*, can you pronounce them?

	uān	uán	uǎn	uàn	uāng	uáng	uǎng	uàng	üān	üán	üǎn	üàn	12
d	duān		duǎn	duàn									3
t	tuān	tuán	tuǎn	tuàn									4
n			nuǎn										1
l		luán	luǎn	luàn									3
g	guān		guǎn	guàn	guāng		guǎng	guàng					6
k	kuān		kuǎn		kuāng	kuáng	kuǎng	kuàng					6
h	huān	huán	huǎn	huàn	huāng	huáng	huǎng	huàng					8
j									juān		juǎn	juàn	3
q									quān	quán	quǎn	quàn	4
x									xuān	xuán	xuǎn	xuàn	4
z	zuān		zuǎn	zuàn									3
c	cuān	cuán		cuàn									3
s	suān			suàn									2
r			ruǎn										1
zh	zhuān		zhuǎn	zhuàn	zhuāng		zhuǎng	zhuàng					6
ch	chuān	chuán	chuǎn	chuàn	chuāng	chuáng	chuǎng	chuàng					8
sh	shuān			shuàn	shuāng		shuǎng						4

Table 8: Pinyin syllables with nasal finals *en, eng, in, and ing*, can you pronounce them?

	ēn	én	ě n	èn	ēng	éng	ěng	èng	īn	ín	ǐn	ìn	īng	íng	ǐng	ìng	16
b	bēn		běn	bèn	bēng	béng	běng	bèng	bīn			bìn	bīng		bǐng	bìng	12
p	pēn	pén		pèn	pēng	péng	pěng	pèng	pīn	pín	pǐn	pìn	pīng	píng			13
m	mēn	mén		mèn	mēng	méng	měng	mèng		mín	mǐn			míng	mǐng	mìng	12
f	fēn	fén	fěn	fèn	fēng	féng		fèng									7
d					dēng		děng	dèng					dīng		dǐng	dìng	6
t						téng							tīng	tíng	tǐng	tìng	5
n				nèn		néng				nín				níng	nǐng	nìng	6
l					lēng	léng	lěng	lèng	līn	lín	lǐn	lìn		líng	lǐng	lìng	11
g	gēn	gén	gěn	gèn	gēng		gěng	gèng									7
k			kěn	kèn	kēng												3
h		hén	hěn	hèn	hēng	héng		hèng									6
j									jīn		jǐn	jìn	jīng		jǐng	jìng	6
q									qīn	qín	qǐn	qìn	qīng	qíng	qǐng	qìng	8
x									xīn			xìn	xīng	xíng	xǐng	xìng	6
z			zěn	zèn	zēng			zèng									4
c	cēn	cén			cēng	céng		cèng									5
s	sēn				sēng												2
r		rén	rěn	rèn	rēng	réng		rèng									6
zh	zhēn		zhěn	zhèn	zhēng		zhěng	zhèng									6
ch	chēn	chén	chěn	chèn	chēng	chéng	chěng	chèng									8
sh	shēn	shén	shěn	shèn	shēng	shéng	shěng	shèng									8
y									yīn	yín	yǐn	yìn	yīng	yíng	yǐng	yìng	8
w					wēng												1

Table 9: Pinyin syllables with nasal finals *ong, iong, un, and ün*, can you pronounce them?

	ōng	óng	ǒng	òng	iōng	ióng	iǒng	iòng	ūn	ún	ǔn	ùn	ūn	ún	ǔn	ùn	16
d	dōng		dǒng	dòng					dūn		dǔn	dùn					6
t	tōng	tóng	tǒng	tòng					tūn	tún	tǔn	tùn					8
n		nóng		nòng													2
l		lóng	lǒng	lòng					lūn	lún		lùn					6
g	gōng		gǒng	gòng							gǔn	gùn					5
k	kōng		kǒng	kòng					kūn		kǔn	kùn					6
h	hōng	hóng	hǒng	hòng					hūn	hún		hùn					7
j					jiōng		jiǒng						jūn			jùn	4
q					qiōng	qióng							qūn	qún			4
x					xiōng	xióng							xūn	xún		xùn	5
z	zōng		zǒng	zòng					zūn		zǔn						5
c	cōng	cóng							cūn	cún	cǔn	cùn					6
s	sōng		sǒng	sòng					sūn		sǔn						5
r		róng	rǒng									rùn					3
zh	zhōng		zhǒng	zhòng					zhūn		zhǔn						5
ch	chōng	chóng	chǒng	chòng					chūn	chún	chǔn						7
sh											shǔn	shùn					2

* The number of syllables in tables 6, 7, 8, and 9 are: 188, 81, 172, and 102.

Alltogether we have practiced 1297 Pinyin syllables in 9 tables.

Spell and Read

ing

xiǎo xīng xīng liàng jīng jīng
小星星，亮晶晶，
yì shǎn yì shǎn xiàng yǎn jīng
一闪一闪像眼睛。
shǔ ya shǔ shǔ xīng xīng
数呀数，数星星，
tiān shàng de xīng xīng shǔ bù qīng
天上的星星数不清。



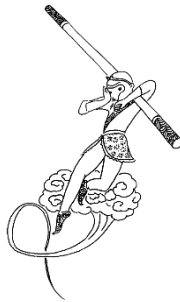
iang

xī shān yǒu zhī láng dōng shān yǒu zhī yáng
西山有只狼，东山有只羊，
xī shān de láng yào chī dōng shān de yáng
西山的狼要吃东山的羊，
dōng shān de yáng qù zhuàng xī shān de láng
东山的羊去撞西山的狼，
xià dé xī shān de láng bù gǎn chī dōng shān de yáng
吓得西山的狼不敢吃东山的羊。



uang

sūn wù kōng dào chù chuāng
孙悟空，到处闯，
chuāng lóng gōng zhǎo lóng wáng
闯龙宫，找龙王。
dìng hǎi shén zhēn bá qǐ lái
定海神针拔起来，
hǎi dǐ lóng gōng zhí yáo huàng
海底龙宫直摇晃。



ong

yí wèi lǎo gōng gōng
一位老公公，
liǎn er hóng yòu hóng
脸儿红又红。
qíng tiān zǎo zǎo qǐ
晴天早早起，
àn shí lái shàng gōng
按时来上工。



en vs. eng

yì gēn hóng shéng sān gēn lǜ shéng
一根红绳，三根绿绳，
hóng shéng rào lǜ shéng lǜ shéng rào hóng shéng
红绳绕绿绳，绿绳绕红绳。
nǐ ná zhe lǜ shéng wǒ ná zhe hóng shéng
你拿着绿绳，我拿着红绳，
fēn ya fēn fēn ya fēn
分呀分，分呀分，
fēn chū le hóng shéng hé lǜ shéng
分出了红绳和绿绳。



iong

xiǎo xióng xiǎo xióng
小熊，小熊，
tiào jìn hé lǐ xué yóu yǒng
跳进河里学游泳。
yòu huá shuǐ yòu zhuā yú
又划水，又抓鱼，
lè huài le
乐坏了
bà ba xióng hé mā ma xióng
爸爸熊和妈妈熊。



* Please see page 48 for the new characters introduced in the above rhymes.

Spell and Read

zuò kè
作客

tù dì dì lù gē ge
兔弟弟，鹿哥哥，
shǒu wò shǒu xiào hē hē
手握手，笑呵呵，
wèi shá gāo xìng wèi shá lè
为啥高兴为啥乐？
xiǎo mǎ jiā lǐ qù zuò kè
小马家里去作客。



yí lì mǐ
一粒米

yì kē gǔ yí lì mǐ
一颗谷，一粒米，
lì lì lái de bù róng yì
粒粒来得不容易。
xiǎo péng yǒu men yào ài xī
小朋友们要爱惜，
bú yào làng fèi yí lì mǐ
不要浪费一粒米。

wù
雾

xiàng yún bú shì yún
像云不是云，
xiàng yān bú shì yān
像烟不是烟，
fēng chuī qīng qīng piāo
风吹轻轻飘，
rì chū màn màn sǎn
日出慢慢散。

shuǐ
水

xiǎo xī lǐ sǎn bù
小溪里散步，
chí táng lǐ shuì jiào
池塘里睡觉，
jiāng hé lǐ bēn pǎo
江河里奔跑，
hǎi yāng lǐ wǔ dǎo
海洋里舞蹈。

dà hǎi zhī yī
大海（之一）

lán lán de dà hǎi qǐ bō làng
蓝蓝的大海起波浪，
lán lán de tiān kōng wēi fēng yáng
蓝蓝的天空微风扬，
dǎ yú de chuán er sǎ xià le wǎng
打鱼的船儿撒下了网，
yú jiā gū niang fàng shēng chàng
渔家姑娘放声唱。



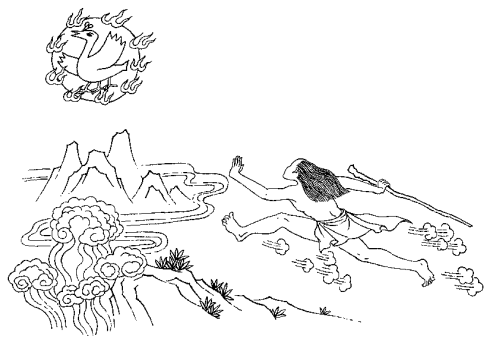
dà hǎi zhī èr
大海（之二）

dà hǎi dà hǎi xiàng yáo lán
大海，大海，像摇篮，
yáo guò qù diǎn diǎn bái fān
摇过去，点点白帆，
yáo huí lái yú xiā mǎn chuán
摇回来，鱼虾满船。

* Please see page 48 for the new characters introduced in the above rhymes.

kuā fù
夸父追日

夸父追赶太阳的故事，是奶奶告诉我的。我的奶奶，又是听她的奶奶说的。那是很久很久以前的事了。那个时候，世界上还没有灯。每天早晨，太阳从东方升起，给世界带来光明。晚上，太阳从西面落下去了，到处就是一片黑暗。有个叫夸父的人心想，如果我能追上太阳，把它抓住了，不再让它落下去，那才好呢。



夸父真的去追赶太阳了，他拄着一根木棒，沿着黄河大步追赶着太阳。追啊，追啊，只觉得越追越热，越追越渴。他低下头，一口气把黄河里的水喝干了。可是，他还是觉得渴极了。他又赶到渭河旁边，把渭河里的水也喝干了。夸父却不知道，因为自己离太阳太近了，就是喝再多的水也是没有用的。

夸父还想到远方的大湖里去喝水，可是，走到半路就渴死了。夸父快死的时候，把手里的木棒一扔，这根木棒就变成了一片桃树林，树上结满了又大又红的桃子。这是夸父留给赶路赶得口渴的人们吃的。

新字新词：夸父 暗(dark) 拄 沿 湖(lake)

小河流呀流

一条小河唱着歌流呀流。它太急了，一头撞在了一座大山上。“哎呀，撞得我好疼啊！”小河抬起头，望着大山，哭着说：“我流过松松的沙土，我流过滑滑的泥地，花儿给我唱歌，青草跟我游戏。我跳过大树的根，我钻过小桥的脚，大家都跟我好。只有你，又高又大的山，撞疼了我，你最坏了！”



大山笑着说：“别哭了，可爱的小河，摔几个跟头怕什么？它能让你长力气！你看山里的泉水，从高高的山上跳下来，一路上要摔多少跟头呀，可是泉水唱着快乐的歌儿，勇敢地向前奔跑，从来也不哭。”

小河一听，笑了，它一边擦眼泪，一边说：“泉水弟弟，我们做朋友吧。你真勇敢，我要向你学习。”

泉水说：“瀑布哥哥比我更勇敢。它从最高的山顶上跳下来，一点儿也不害怕，还大声地笑着，叫着：‘我的胆子大，什么困难也不怕！’你看它把硬硬的石头冲洗得这样光滑。”

小河高兴地叫起来：“勇敢的瀑布，你真好，我们做朋友吧！我们手拉手，一起向前流。”

泉水、瀑布快乐地流进了小河。它们一起流呀流，穿过无数的高山，带着千万朵浪花。它们变成了一条大江，唱着歌儿向大海流去……

新字新词：	撞 (to bump)	疼 (painful)	摔跟头
	泉水 (spring)	勇敢 (brave)	瀑布 (water fall)

A Summary of Pinyin

Now we have taught ourselves Chinese Pinyin. The following is a summary of the main points:

1. Unlike in English, we have tones in Chinese. The four tone signs are put above the six simple finals - **a, o, e, i, u**, and **ü**.
2. The term “simple final” in Pinyin is almost the same as the term “vowel” in English. While in English the same vowel may sound different in different words, in Chinese a simple final always sounds the same with only two exceptions:
 - a. When “i” comes after **z, c, s, r, zh, ch**, and **sh**, it doesn’t have a sound at all. It is only there to carry the tone sign.
 - b. When “ü” comes after **j, q**, and **x**, it is written as “u.”
3. In Pinyin there are two groups of basic compound finals, each with nine members.
4. The members in the first group are:
ai, ia, ao, ou, uo, ua, ei, ie, and **üe**.
From them we can make other compound finals such as **iao** (i+ao), **uai** (u+ai), **iu** (i+ou), and **ui** (u+ei).
5. The members in the second group of basic compound finals are:
an, ang, en, eng, in, ing, ong, un, and **ün**.
From them we can make other compound finals such as **ian** (i+an), **iang** (i+ang), **uan** (u+an), **uang** (u+ang), **ueng** (u+eng), **üan** (ü+an), and **iong** (i+ong).
6. In Pinyin there is a special final: **er**. It always appears alone, never with any initial. The four characters with final **er** that we have learned are: 二(èr), 耳(ěr), 儿(ér), and 而(ér).
7. The term “initial” in Pinyin is almost the same as the term “consonant” in English. Please pay attention to the following Pinyin initials since they sound different from how they do in English:
j, q, x, z, c, zh, ch, and **sh**.
8. The following three initials sound slightly different from how they do in English:
b, d, and **g**.
9. When spelling a character, the simple finals i, u, and ü can’t stand alone, but have to follow another leading letter. For example **i = yi** (一), **u = wu** (五), and **ü = yu** (鱼).
10. When spelling a character, the simple finals i, u, and ü can’t be the first letter, but have to transform into other letters. For example **íá = yá** (牙); **ìè = yè** (叶); **ǐǒu = yǒu** (有), **uā = wā** (蛙), **uǒ = wǒ** (我), **uèi = wèi** (为), **üè = yuè** (月), **üán = yuán** (圆)。

Dear students, to teach oneself something is a very important life skill. Congratulations to you for having taught yourselves Chinese Pinyin! With more practice in the future, you will surely master Pinyin and use it as a beneficial tool in your life.