

Chinese

The list of topics is indicative only (as typically encountered at those levels) to help prospective students select the most appropriate course. When topics and grammar points appear under several levels, they will be either a revision and/or more in-depth study of the topic/grammar area. Most grammar structures and vocabulary items are of course encountered again and often reinforced in subsequent levels.

| Accelerator | Progression | Development | Typical topics | Grammar |
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| Stage 1 (continued next page) | Beginners | Step 1 | Introductions & greetings Personal details The alphabetic system of pinyin Numbers 1 - 10 History of Chinese characters and basic types Countries and nationalities, where one lives – “住在” Family members Jobs Vocations | Question words: 呢? 什么? Basic strokes, radicals and writing order Difference between 哪国& 哪里 & 哪 General questions with 吗? Interrogative words comparison: 吗? & 呢? 吗? & 什么? Transitional word – 但是 Negative adverb – 不 and its usage for expressing negative meanings Adverbs – 也 (also) & 都 (all) |
| | | Step 2 | Age – “多大”? Asking for information Phone numbers, emails and addresses Numbers 11-99 Dates Hobbies Inviting people - “请…” Days of the week | Structural particle – “的” Adjectives and adverbs in Chinese expressions Interrogative word – “谁” (who) The superlative adverb – “最” The superlative attribute – “最…的” Different tones of “不” and “一” The interrogative word – “多少” Question phrase – 怎么样? The past, present and future tense of time words |

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| Stage 1 (continued) | Characters encountered in Beginners | <p>你好 大家好 很好 我叫 对 不对 请看 问/吻 妈/麻/马/骂 吗 上课 下课 再见 谢谢 晚上好 老师好 对不起 没关系 不客气 请听/请看/请问/请读/请进。请回答问题。 请看黑板/书/第一页。再说一遍。我不明白。我有一个问题。我可以去洗手间吗 叫 问 什么 名字 我 呢 高兴 请问 姓 小姐 认识 很 请 你好 对不起 我的名字是 姓王 他叫什么 你们 知道 很 高兴 认识 呢 请问 他 大家 有 问题 吗 中文 没关系 马克 安娜 不 英国 中国 日本 国 伦敦 北京 在 住 人 吗 哪里 早上好 明星 澳大利亚 墨尔本 美国 好莱坞 但是 他们/你们/我们 悉尼 新西兰 加拿大 哥哥 姐姐 爷爷 奶奶 外婆 警察 那 电子邮箱 邮件 + 收件箱 短信 发送 退出 省市区街</p> | | |
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| | Elementary (continued next page) | Step 1 | Dates & schedules Numbers 100-999 Telling the time Invitations Shopping Prices, units of Chinese currency Clothes Colours Locations & directions, distance Transport Accommodation, house, rooms | Adverbs Adjectives “二” & “两” The particle for completed actions – “了” Is there... nearby? – 有没有? & 近不近? Difference between: 这/这儿 & 那/那儿 & 哪/哪儿 Giving options: “还是” Making suggestions: “吧” Planning to do something: “打算” Or – “或者” & “还是” Don't – 没 & 不 & 别 |
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| <p>Stage 1 (continued)</p> | <p>Elementary (continued)</p> | <p>Step 2</p> | <p>Trips Tourist places Places, cities Sports & competitions Opinions - “觉得”</p> | <p>Modal verbs: 会 / 想 / 要 / 喜欢 Expressing hope: “希望” The particle for completed actions - “过” Difference between “了” & “过” Negative forms in the past – “没” Expressing time in different tense Frequency of actions: “每…都”</p> |
| <p>Stage 1 (continued)</p> | <p>Characters encountered in Elementary</p> | <p>你好 您 我 很 不 客气 谢谢 再见 吗 他 她 姓 叫 名字 贵 对 小 王 京 李 小 英 李 月 明 方 国 伦 也 什 么 呢 是 这 那 们 先 生 太 太 小 姐 老 师 医 生 人 中 国 英 国 地 方 北 京 伦 敦 上 海 都 就 谁 哪 今 天 明 天 后 天 今 年 月 星 期 生 日 号 弟 弟 妹 妹 岁 快 乐 大 几 多 的 吧 年 纪 对 不 起 知 道 学 生 大 学 伦 敦 做 写 看 喝 上 网 专 业 英 文 中 文 文 学 电 视 汉 子 书 茶 牛 奶 和 咖 啡 晚 上 早 上 天 天 还 是 会 想 要 应 该 喜 欢 认 识 说 打 踢 汉 语 外 语 日 语 法 语 足 球 网 球 一 点 儿 可 是 为 什 么 一 起 因 为 有 吃 了 点 白 酒 红 酒 啤 酒 烤 鸭 牛 肉 红 烧 肉 炒 饭 白 菜 青 菜 法 国 有 名 好 吃 没 只 个 瓶 杯 碗 盘 这 儿 还 累 忙 渴 饿 爸 爸 妈 妈 家 男 / 女 朋 友 哥 哥 作 家 工 作 商 人 律 师 可 爱 狗 猫 条 口 有 点 儿 两 下 雨 下 雪 比 热 冷 暖 和 漂 亮 个 子 青 青 篮 球 高 胖 瘦 少 春 夏 秋 冬 天 气 常 常 一 样 怎 么 样 去 来 还 书 骑 车 坐 走 路 回 家 开 车 打 的 上 班 自 行 车 火 车 快 公 共 汽 车 图 书 馆 东 方 商 店 地 铁 学 院 商 学 院 哪 儿 怎 么 请 问 在 东 南 西 北 边 面 方 前 后 左 右 头 里 外 对 面 中 间 银 行 公 园 火 车 站 大 使 馆 书 店 张 国 王 十 字 亚 非 学 院 大 英 图 书 馆 买 卖 送 找 能 行 便 宜 可 乐 矿 泉 水 明 信 片 光 盘 音 乐 钱 小 说 张 本 元 角 分 块 毛 多 少 一 共 百 那 开 始 上 课 开 门 关 门 交 换 差 点 早 饭 学 校 餐 厅 时 候 上 午 下 午 现 在 刻 半 水 果 店 苹 果 日 本 小 时 附 近 斤 新 这 么 差 不 多 左 右 可 以 要 拐 疼 感 冒 发 烧 打 针 休 息 红 绿 灯 分 钟 十 字 路 口 药 店 药 方 饭 后 开 水 舒 服 片 次 然 后 一 直 第 从 向 到 看 病 收 上 涨 下 跌 得 太 极 拳 公 斤 人 民 人 民 币 欧 元 美 元 英 镑 旅 行 支 票 现 金 以 前 昨 天 已 经 很 少 那 么 既 … 也 … 零 千 让 等 花 爱 需 要 看 来 出 租 车 比 赛 上 半 场 一 半 时 间 坏 远 久 一 定 刚 通 常 有 时 候 总 是 以 后 真 的 多 长 不 过 所 以 没 关 系</p> | | |
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| <p>Stage 2 (continued next page)</p> | <p>Lower Intermediate (continued next page)</p> | <p>Step 1</p> | <p>Daily routine Feelings Preferences Making invitations and giving reasons Expressing feelings Opinions Weather & seasons Visiting Rooms in the house, locations Chinese new year, dishes & customs Transport Distance and direction</p> | <p>The auxiliary word “ de 得^{dé}” to indicate an adverbial phrase</p> <p>“了”as a particle and an auxiliary word.</p> <p>Expressing succession using 一...就...^{yī jiù}</p> <p>Difference between “Z” and “Zh” Radical “心”</p> <p>Expressing similarity using A 和 B+差不多 / 一样。^{chàbùduō yíyàng}</p> <p>Making comparisons using A+比/没有B + Adjective^{bǐ méiyǒu}</p> <p>Expressing future action with 要/会^{yào huì}</p> <p>除了 except, besides; ...的时候 when, at the time^{chúle deshíhòu}</p> <p>Expressing actions in Progress using “正在”^{zhèngzài}</p> <p>Expressing “both...and” with 又...又^{yòu yòu}</p> <p>Expressing sequences with 先...然后/再^{xiān ránhòu zài}</p> <p>Using 以后/.....的时候^{yǐhòu deshíhòu}</p> <p>Every + measure word + noun + 都 + very + adjective^{dōu}</p> |
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| <p>Stage 2 (continued)</p> | <p>Lower Intermediate (continued)</p> | <p>Step 2</p> | <p>Transport Distance and direction Hotel accommodation, booking Museums, history and culture relics</p> | <p>lí duōyuǎn 离 / 多远</p> <p>cóng dào 从 到</p> <p>yǐhòu de shíhòu 以后 /的时候</p> <p>Expressing possession exercise or location with “有” Subject + verb + none phrase Noun + on (in) + 有 + numeral + measure word + noun Subject + 真 + adjective Noun + 上 + have</p> <p>Expression adequacy with “够 / 不够” subject + verb + question word</p> <p>Questions about size with “有多大 / 宽” Subject + verb + question word</p> <p>Expressing passive voice using “被”</p> <p>Expressing a continuing action or state with “着”</p> <p>shì de 是的 Constructions</p> <p>Subject+是+time/place/manner+predicate+的</p> <p>Passive voice using “被” Subject+ adverbial “被” + verb + complement</p> <p>Expressing a continuing action or state with “着”</p> <p>Subject + verb + Auxiliary “着”+ complement</p> |
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| Stage 2 (continued) | Intermediate (continued next page) | Step 1 | <p>Ordering at a restaurant Cooking & recipes Shopping Travel Landscapes Illness Asking for and giving reasons Giving advice Describing requirements</p> | <p>Noun phrase with 的 (de) The construction, 就要.....了 The imperative Characters with the radicals 米 & , 走 & 寸 & 阝 (left), 目 & 子 Limits of the V-V construction Expressing approximation with (about) 左右 丁老师三十岁左右 Duplication of verbs The more ...the more ...越 ...越 Notional Passive Topic + adverbial + Verb + complement 钱没用光 Expressing result of an action with 到 Verb + 到 + object 来到北京 Expressing percentages using 百分之... Subject Verb + Adjective Phrase + percentage 除了...以外 + Subject + 还... Verb + Object</p> |
| | | Step 2 (continued next page) | <p>People's appearance People's personality Healthy lifestyle Hobbies</p> | <p>Affirmative - negative questions Subject + Predicate (adjective/verb + object) Will you go or not? 你们去不去? Serial verb constructions Subject + Predicate (verb phrase 1 + verb phrase 2) Expressing immediate actions with (就) 要...了 Conjunctions 而且 Clause 1 + conjunction + clause 2 Expressing times of action with 次 过 vs. 了 The auxiliary word 地 Subject + Adverbial phrase + verb 多 and 少</p> |

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| <p>Stage 2 (continued)</p> | <p>Intermediate (continued)</p> | <p>Step 2 (continued)</p> | | <p>Expressing the duration of action Subject + Adverbial + Verb phrase + verb+ 了+ Duration Characters with the radicals 火& 疒 Sentence Patterns: 什么时候有钱就什么时候买 Interrogative pronouns of general denotation Wh- question Difference between 有一点 and 一点儿 The auxiliary words 的/ 得/ 地</p> |
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| <p>N/A</p> | <p>Higher Intermediate (continued next page)</p> | <p>Step 1</p> | <p>Asking for and giving advice Writing an email asking for or giving information Feelings and concerns Writing a brochure Directions and locations Books Understanding simple book reviews Asking for and giving opinions Asking for and giving clarification Starting and ending a conversation politely Writing simple quiz questions and instructions</p> | <p>Resultative complements Expressing preferences using 还是.....吧 Other +subject 还是 +verb phrase +吧 这学期你还是选一门历史课吧。 Measure word 门 Talking about the future using 会 + 将 Other + Subject+会/将 + Verb phrase 美国总统将访问日本。明天北京会下雨。 Giving extra information using 再说/而且 Limiting the range of Statements using 对...来说 Making recommendations using 给...推荐 Emphasising facts and negating assumptions using 不是...而是... 合适 (suitable, Noun +对+person + 很适合 收 /接 to “receive” 发/送 to “send”. Expressing “any” using 什么...都... Making suggestions using 不如... 怎么样/吧 Stating a rationale using 根据</p> |

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| N/A | Higher Intermediate (continued) | Step 2 | <p>Opinions Reasoning, agreeing and disagreeing Accomplishments and achievements Notable events in a life story Air travel Extreme weather Expressing regret Rooms, household items and facilities Hospitality Understanding cultural differences regarding proper topics of conversation Diary entries</p> | <p>Verb 1+了+ Noun, 就+Verb2 (了) Expressing “even” using 甚至 Expressing “be worth” using 值得 Expressing purpose using “为了” Stating causes using 由于 高兴 / 快乐 / 愉快 Expressing influences using 受...影响 Noun phrases with 以 Expressing “unbearable” using 受不了 Stating extreme consequences using (造成) Describing impressions using 好像 Expressing causal relations using 让 Expressing limited choices using 不是.....就是..... Sentence-initial adverbs: 幸好, 可惜, 其实</p> |
| | Advanced (continued next page) | Step 1 (continued next page) | <p>Making comparison Writing a comparative essay Expressing feelings and emotions Expressing expectations Describing school facilities Comparing city and rural life Initiating questions and giving responses in an interview Listing reasons Expressing praise Distinguishing between main ideas and examples</p> | <p>Explicit comparisons Implicit comparisons using 更/比较 Expressing something is contrary to expectation using 并不/并没有 Drawing conclusions using 看来 Emphasizing with 一直, 从小, 并, 的确 Expressing sequences using 首先...其次... (最后...) Making suggestions using (要不) 这样吧 Giving examples using 以...为例</p> |

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| N/A | Advanced (continued) | Step 1 (continued) | <p>Comparing past and present Writing a simple report on a p Talking about physical attributes, skills and abilities Using exclamations Identifying relationships among roles in a story Describing martial arts skills Introducing a film with details</p> | <p>Using 为…提供 Potential complements Using 光…就 or 光…不 Expressing “concerning” using 关于 Expressing contrast of meaning using 而</p> |
| | | Step 2 | <p>Asking and giving medical suggestions Encouraging and reassuring Describing parts of body, injuries and treatments Writing simple instructions about physical movements Expressing attitudes, concerns, problems and worries Seeking advice and understanding suggestions Talking about life expectations and plan Expressing surprise and reassurance Expressing certainty and reservation Understanding polite counter-arguments Understand different points of view and the reasons Writing simple tips and suggestions</p> | <p>Expressing regularity using 往往 or 常常 Using the preposition 按照 Expressing future plan using 等…了 The difference between 刚 and 刚才 Implicit comparison using…一点 Using 就算…也… Expressing contrast of meaning using 却 The difference between 总（是） and 老（是） Forming rhetorical questions using 难道 Noun phrases with 像…这样/那样 Polite counter-argument …是…, 可是/就是… The conjunctive 既…又… Expressions using 估计, 看来, 我猜 Using 不必, 避免, 尽量, 最好 and 不管 to give suggestions</p> |

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| N/A | Higher Advanced 1 (continued next page) | Step 1 | <p>Understanding the feelings and concerns</p> <p>Understanding job advertisements</p> <p>Asking for information</p> <p>Giving encouragement</p> <p>Write an email asking for more information about a position</p> <p>Understanding key information about a job interview</p> <p>Understanding the difficulties of living abroad</p> <p>Understanding an application letter</p> <p>Asking for and giving opinions about a job interview</p> <p>Talking about difficulties living abroad</p> <p>Writing an application letter</p> <p>Identifying key information in detailed explanations;</p> <p>Understanding requests and giving responses</p> <p>Understanding an itinerary</p> <p>Asking for and giving clarification about a trip</p> <p>Writing a simple itinerary</p> | <p>Expressing “not at all”, “not even one”, “not a single ...” with 一.....都 / 也不 / 没.....</p> <p>Emphasizing details of a past action using 是.....的</p> <p>Showing direction of movement with 回 / 进 / 上 / 下+来 / 去</p> <p>Introducing an extreme case using 连.....都 / 也.....</p> <p>Indicating a very high degree of something with 不得了</p> <p>Repeated actions with 再 or 又</p> <p>Expressing “a little bit” using 一下 or 一点儿</p> <p>Indicating the beginning of an action or the start of a new state with 起来</p> <p>Introducing a new subject using 至于</p> <p>Comparative structures using 不如</p> <p>Expressing fractions and percentages with分之.....</p> <p>Moderating positive adjectives with 还</p> |
| | | Step 2 (continued next page) | <p>Identifying people’s roles</p> <p>Understanding an opening speech</p> <p>Understanding rules and regulations; necessities for a trip</p> <p>Chairing an opening ceremony; welcoming people and giving a brief personal introduction</p> <p>Writing a short passage about things to note during a trip</p> <p>Understanding expectations; exchanging opinions</p> | <p>Verb + object as a separable compound</p> <p>通过 as a preposition</p> <p>Introducing the agent or performer of an action using 由</p> <p>Disyllabic words that become monosyllabic in formal style</p> <p>Concessive clauses with 倒</p> <p>Expressing “doing well” with 好好</p> <p>Making deductions with 既然</p> |

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| N/A | Higher Advanced 1 (continued) | Step 2 (continued) | <p>Understanding basic business writing style</p> <p>Showing care and support; asking for and giving opinions</p> <p>Writing an invitation card</p> <p>Understanding praise and encouragement; talking about working experiences</p> <p>Understanding a speech and protocol at a business dinner</p> <p>Expressing appreciation and support;</p> <p>Expressing humble responses to praise;</p> <p>Expressing respect to senior colleagues</p> <p>Writing allocating roles for an event</p> | <p>Stressing an extreme degree with 再……不过了</p> <p>Indicating an extreme degree with ……死了</p> <p>Expressing wishes and hopes with 要是 / 如果……就好了</p> <p>Expressing emphasis using 可</p> <p>Justifying an opinion or decision using 反正</p> |
| | Higher Advanced 2 | | | |
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