

Introduction to Chinese Characters

August 27, 2019

Hanzi (汉字)

- ▶ Radicals (部首, bùshǒu) are building blocks of Chinese characters.
- ▶ Radicals are used as a classification system to categorize 8000 Hanzi in Chinese dictionaries.
- ▶ How many radicals are there? 214 in total.



Radicals

- ▶ 亻 (人, rén, people)

你 (nǐ, you), 他 (tā, he), 们(mén, plural)

- ▶ 讠 (言, yán, language)

说(shuō, speak), 话(huà, speech),
语(yǔ, language)



Radicals

TED: How to read Chinese...with ease

<https://youtu.be/troxvPRmZm8>



Hanzi



nǐ



Hanzi



hǎo



Hanzi in Lesson 1

Hanzi	Radical
你 (nǐ, you)	亻
好 (hǎo, good)	女
吗 (ma, QPt)	口
我 (wǒ, I/me)	戈
很 (hě, very)	彳
也 (yě, also, too)	乙
呢 (ne, MdPt)	口



Chinese dictionary

- ▶ How to look for a word by its radical:

<http://www.clearchinese.com/chinese-writing/dictionary-howto.htm>



Type Chinese Pinyin

<http://www.csulb.edu/~txie/PINYIN/pinyin.htm>

Type Pinyin Online

<http://learningchineseonline.net/>



Lesson 1: Greeting in Chinese

August 27, 2019

Classroom Expressions

▶ nǐ hǎo 'hello'
you good

▶ zǎoshàng hǎo 'good morning'
morning good



Classroom expressions

Q: *đồng* ***ma?*** ‘Do you understand
understand Q-particle

A: *đồng* ‘yes’
bù đồng ‘no’



Classroom expressions

Q: yǒu wèn tí ma? 'Do you have any question?'
have questions Q-particle

A: yǒu 'yes'
méi yǒu 'no'



你

nǐ

‘you’

好

hǎo

‘good’

Dialogue 1

A: 你好!

B: 你好!



吗

ma

Q-particle

你好吗？

‘Are you good?’



我

wǒ

‘I/me’

很

hěǎn

‘very’

A: 你好吗?

B: 我很好。

×我好



呢

ne

‘Q-particle’

你 呢

‘what about you?’

A: 你好吗？

B: 我很好,你呢？

也

yě

‘also’

A: 你好吗?

B: 我很好,你呢?

A: 也很好。

×很好也

Ungrammatical sentences:

1. 你好吗？我好。

2. 你吗？

3. 我很好也。



丁力波

Dīng Lìbō



陆雨平

Lù Yǔpíng



林娜

Lín Nà

