

Mandarin Chinese  
Elementary  
Helen Day  
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没问题

[noproblemchinese.com](http://noproblemchinese.com)

- This lesson, after revising the language of transport and place (我开车上班, 她坐地铁去商店) I introduced the concept of 面子 or 'face'. Culturally speaking, 'saving face' is an important aspect of Chinese society. But this also introduces the character 面 (mian4).

We've met it before in a couple of food words:

面条 (mian4tiao2 – noodles) 面包 mian4bao1 – bread

In these contexts it means wheat or wheat flour.

But another key meaning is 'face' as in 'surface'. It can be used with a number of direction characters to make it clear that a direction is meant.

So 上 or 下 could mean different things, depending on context. Eg 上班, 下雨. But 上面 means 'up, up there, above', 下面 means 'down, down there, underneath'.

前面 means 'in front of'

后面 means 'behind'

对面 means opposite

前           qian2

后           hou4

对           dui4

- 上
- 下
- 前
- 后
- 对
- 右
- 左

Character: Chinese Simplified  
Pronunciation: Hanyu Pinyin  
(Mandarin = Standard Chinese)



面

miàn

- Next we did the first 3 parts of a reading test.  
We'll do the last part 下次可
- 作业
- Workbook page 152 ex 3, page156 ex 11,12,13