

We looked at a few characters:

One 一 yī

Two 二 èr

Three 三 sān

Four 四 sì

口 Mouth kǒu

马 Horse mǎ

女 Woman nǚ

We also saw how characters can be composed of different bits put together.

For example:

Ma =

question marker

吗

The 'mouth' hints at the meaning, the 'horse' hints at the pronunciation

Note that one character corresponds to one syllable of sound in English.

We looked at the character

好

and the way it's composed of two components put close together.

In this character, the two components (the bit on the left and the bit on the right) take up the same amount of space as a very simple character, such as the number 1 -
in other words

女

which, on its own means 'female'
and

子

which, on its own, represents 'child'

are written so that they are the same size as 好.

Woman: 女 nǚ

Child: 子 zǐ

Good: 好 Hǎo

We learnt to pronounce the characters from 1 – 5

yī

èr

sān

sì

wǔ

We also learnt to recognise the character that means

'work' 工 gōng

and one which means 'king': 王

Wáng (one of the most common surnames in China).

Giving 'King' his precious stone makes the character for Jade:

玉

yù

Put the imperial jade in the centre of four borders and you have the character for country:

国

guó

The Chinese represent the word 'middle' with this character:

中 zhōng

The Chinese call their country: 'middle country' or:

中国

Zhōng guó

For homework, please sign up for a free account at [Quizlet.com](https://quizlet.com). If you use a smartphone you can download the free app and then sign in. Next lesson please make sure you know your username/password.

Also, please go over all the vocab we've covered so far. How much of the introductory dialogue can you remember in Chinese?

Hello

How are you?

I'm fine.

I'm fine too, thanks.

Good bye