

Mandarin Lesson 9

Starting to talk about family

Radical revision

1红 2水 3月 4口

5王 6手 7女

8人 9工 10认 11字

12日 13茶 14号

15海 16小 17日

How much of this could you say in Chinese?

- Are you Chinese?
- I'm not British
- I can speak a little Chinese
- I would like to drink coffee
- I wouldn't like to drink Chinese tea
- Sorry, may I ask ...
- 31st March



这是我。这是我老公。这是我爸爸。这是我哥哥。这是我姥姥。这是我儿子。那不是我妈妈。那是我哥哥的老婆。我妈妈拍照片。

Zhè shì wǒ. Zhè shì wǒ lǎogōng. Zhè shì wǒ bàba. Zhè shì wǒ gēgē. Zhè shì wǒ lǎolao. Zhè shì wǒ érzi. Nà bùshì wǒ māmā. Nà shì wǒ gēgē de lǎopó.

Wǒ māmā pāi zhàopiàn.

- I introduced my family, using the term:
- 这是... Zhè shì ... This is ...
- In this situation, to say 'my' you can just say 'I': 我妈妈 (Wǒ māmā) My mother
- We looked at the character: 妈
- On its own it means 'horse': mǎ
- But it can be a phonetic for other characters – eg:
- 吗 (ma) (the question-marker)
- Or 妈 (mā)
- (to mean 'Mum')
- Many family words are doubled: bàba (Dad) māmā (Mum). In this case the first character has the tone and the second is weaker (neutral tone).

作业

- For homework I asked you to draw a super-simplified family tree, in preparation to talk about your family. Prune your family! (Or lie!)
- Just use the same sort of structures that I did.
- If you'd like to freak yourself out, here's the link to the video on the family that I showed you:
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCFRoILS1jY>