

Mandarin Chinese Beginners

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没问题

Can you read the following?

- 她的英文不好
- 中国茶很好 ← 茶 cha2 means 'tea'
- 他是哪国人?
- 她是日本人
- 你是美国人吗?
- 中国很大
- 他是日本人还是中国人?

The 2nd most important verb in Chinese: to have



有 yǒu - to have

没有 méi yǒu - not have

有 is the only very in Chinese which form its negative with 没 instead of 不

Examples:

我有一个妹妹和三个弟弟。我没有哥哥也没有姐姐

I have a younger sister and 3 younger brothers. I don't have an older brother, also don't have an older sister

你有孩子吗？没有

Do you have children? No, I don't.

你有孩子吗？有。我有一个儿子和一个女儿
have a son and a daughter

Do you have children? Yes. I

- Although normally you add 'de' to show possession
- (wǒ = I but wǒ de = my or mine
- mǎlì = Mary but mǎlì de = Mary's)

when we're talking about family, friends or things close to you, the 'de' is usually dropped as the meaning is clear without it.

wǒ māma wǒ bàba

The most important measure word – often used for people



gè – ‘unit of’

So you are literally saying:

I have one unit of son and one unit of daughter

我有一个儿子和一个女儿

儿子 ér zi

女儿 nǚ'ér

孩子 hái zi

Could you describe your family?

- Do you have children?
- Do you have siblings?
- Could you ask someone else about their family?

The frankly terrifying Chinese family tree. What do you call family members? This video should come with a health warning. Remember – you will only need to learn a small handful of these!!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCFRoLS1jY&t=82s>

Next we went back to the topic of time and revised some of the basic vocab to talk about day and date:

Produce, something produced

shēng

生

Year

nián

年

Month



yuè

月

Date, sun

rì

日

In spoken Chinese hào is usually used to refer to the date number.

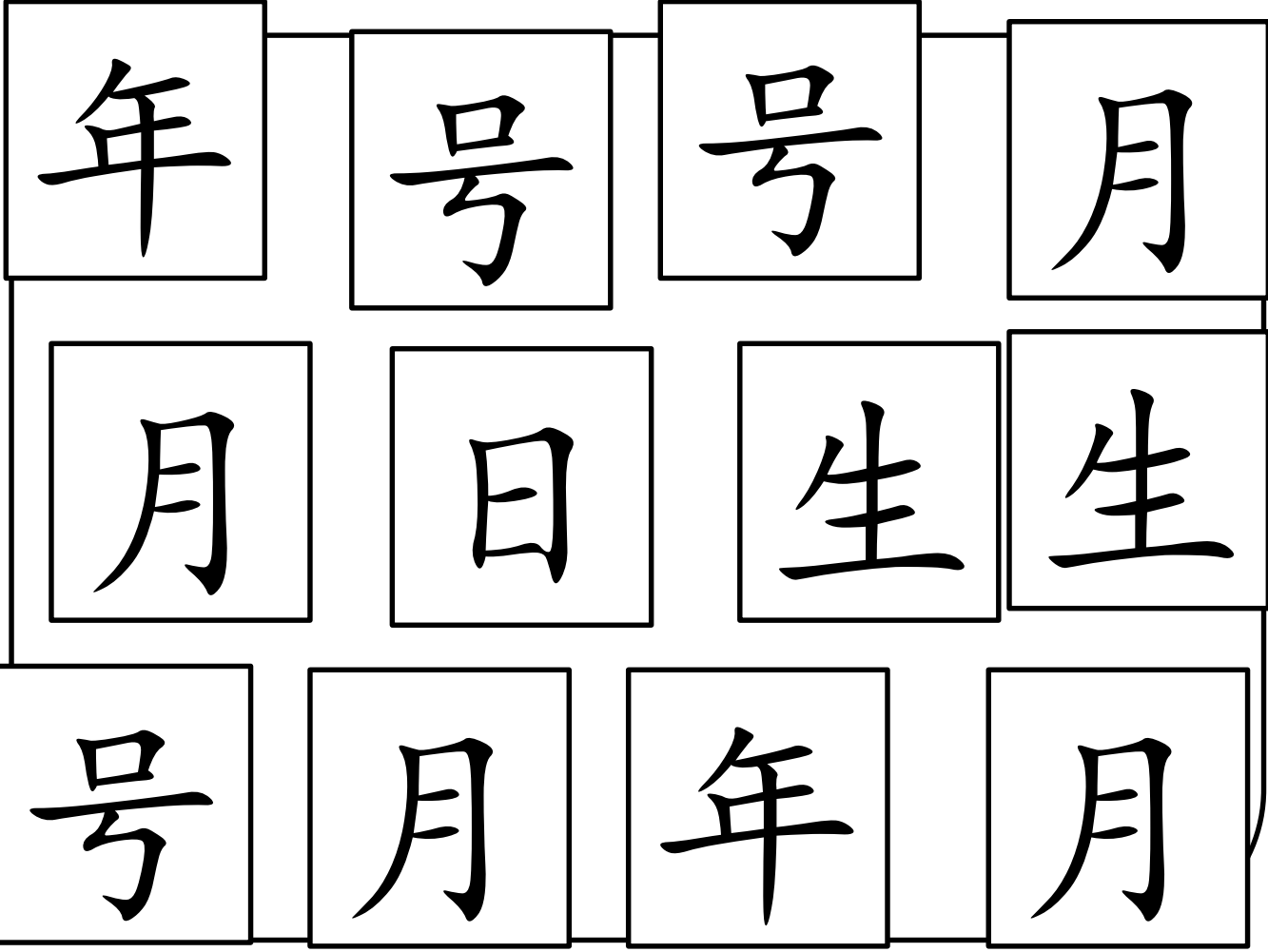
So if it's the 17th (of the month) you'd say "17 hào"

Eg: the 3rd of December: 12月3号. In written Chinese, 日 is favoured. 12月3日.

Number

hào

号



Year

Month

Date

二〇一五年

九月

九日

	丨 冂 日 旦 早 早 昇 是
shì be	是
	丶 丨 白 白 白 白 的 的
de of: 's	的
	丿 月 月 月 月 朋 朋 朋
péng friend	朋
	一 丿 方 友
yǒu friend	友
	丨 冂 凵 四 四
sì four	四
	一 丿 五 五
wǔ five	五
	丶 一 六 六
liù six	六
	一 七
qī seven	七
	丿 八
bā eight	八
	丿 九
jiǔ nine	九
	一 十
shí ten	十

Homework

Use this sheet to help you practise writing numbers. Pay particular attention to the stroke order.

Then ...

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Write the missing dates in Chinese. Finish the dialogues.

This means
SundayThis means
Monday

二〇〇一年 一月

星期日	星期一	星期二	星期三	星期四	星期五	星期六
	一		三	四		
七		今天	十			
	十五					二十
二十一					二十六	
	二十九		三十一			

Here's a calendar for the month of January in 2001

Complete the missing numbers (the days of the week).

(今天 means 'today')