

### 第三課 Dì-sān kè

#### Lesson 3

三人同行，必有我師

Sān rén tóng xíng, bì yǒu wǒ shī.

*Three people together walk, must exist my teacher.*

For every three people walking together, there is one who has things to teach me.

*Confucius, The Analects (Classical Chinese)*

### 3.0 Review

#### a) Fántǐzì

- 馬： 你好，我是馬小東。
- 王： 哦，馬小東，我是王老師。
- 李： 王老師，您好，我是李明。
- 王： 李明，你好。
- 李： 還有他呢，他姓毛，叫毛明。
- 王： 毛明，你好。三個人了。你呢？
- 張： 我是張生明。
- 王： 張生明，你好。那好，歡迎你們來北京。
- 馬, 李...: 謝謝。
- 王： 你們很累吧。
- 馬, 李...: 不累，還好。
- 王： 餓嗎？吃飯了嗎？
- 馬, 李...: 不餓，在飛機上吃了。
- 王： 那，你們的行李呢？

- 馬, 李...: 在這兒, 一二三四五。都在這兒。
- 王: 那好, 我們走吧, 上車吧。
- 馬, 李...: 好, 好。
- 王: 今天有一點兒熱, 你們熱嗎?
- 馬, 李...: 不熱, 還好。
- 王: 行李, 雨傘, 書包呢?
- 馬, 李...: 都在這兒。
- 王: 好, 那我們走吧。

**b) Radicals and phonetics**

Try to recall characters from Units 1 and 2 that have the following character-istics:

1. Two containing the phonetic element 乍 (zhà):
2. Two containing the element 隹 (zhuī):
3. Two containing zǒuzhīpáng, the movement radical (whose independent form is 辵):
4. Three containing kǒuzipáng (口), the mouth radical:
5. Two containing mùzipáng (木), the tree radical:
6. One with zuǒ'ěrduō ('left ear') as radical, and one with yòu'ěrduō:
7. One with jiǎosīpáng ('twisted silk beside'), and two with silk on the bottom:
8. One with sāndiǎnshuǐ (the water radical) and one with the ice radical:

**c) Add a character before or after (as indicated) to form a word or phrase:**

- |   |         |   |         |
|---|---------|---|---------|
| 1 | 可 _____ | 5 | _____ 经 |
| 2 | 学 _____ | 6 | _____ 报 |
| 3 | 书 _____ | 7 | _____ 典 |
| 4 | 中 _____ | 8 | _____ 以 |

## 3.1 First set

名字	叫	地方	美	吧
3+3 3+3	3+2	3+3 4+0	3+5	3+4
míng zì	jiào	dì fāng	měi	ba
name-character name	be named; be called; call	place region	beautiful [USA]	BA <i>consensus</i>

國	英	過	氣	想	去	兩
3+8	4+5	3+9	4+6	4+9	2+3	2+6
国	英	过	气			两
3+5	3+5	3+3	4+0	xiǎng	qù	1+6
guó	yīng	guò	qì	think;	go	liǎng
country	hero [England; UK]	pass ever	air; spirit	feel like		2 [+M]

## Notes

- a) 名 contains the elements 夕 ‘evening’ (originally a drawing of the setting moon?) and the ‘mouth radical’ (口); for mnemonic purposes, think ‘moon, low in the sky at evening, so you need to *call out your name* to identify yourself’.
- b) 字 zì ‘character’ contains 子 zǐ (‘child’) as phonetic; think ‘a pupil under a roof, studying characters’. (Míngzì means ‘the characters which form the name’.) Distinguish 字 from 子 zǐ and 了 le.
- c) 叫 mouth plus ‘4’, so: ‘*calling out* ‘4’ on the golf course’.
- d) 地 is a third character to show 也 as right-side element; cf. 她 and 他. The presence of 也 in these characters seems to have resulted from orthographic confusion, and does not represent its use as a phonetic element. 地 exhibits the radical form of 土 tǔ ‘earth, called tǔzipáng.
- e) 美 is a compound made up of 羊 ‘sheep; goat’ (with its stem truncated) and 大 ‘big’, and the usual ordering of its strokes (with 大 beneath truncated 羊) reflects that fact. 美 obeys the ‘rule of 5’ if the top two strokes are made to count as a horizontal.
- f) Like many of the other final particles (吗, 呢, 啊), 吧 is phonosemantic, with 巴 bā as phonetic, and 口 as radical.

- g) The inner part of 國, 或, is phonetic: huò. The simplified 国 (a Japanese innovation) has been formed with an entirely different inner constituent, 玉 yù (jade), which has neither a semantic nor a phonetic connection to the word guó.
- h) 英 contains 央 yāng as phonetic; the radical is cǎozitóu ‘grass character on top’, a combining form of the graph 艸. 美 měi ‘beautiful’ and 英 yīng ‘hero’ are selected for the country names of Měiguó and Yīngguó both for sound and for meaning. Students have observed the similarity of 英 to the shape of Britain (cǎozitóu representing Scotland, etc.)
- i) 過, with phonetic element shared by eg 鍋 guō (a word that comes into English through Cantonese as a ‘wok’, or ‘frying pan’), substitutes the non-phonetic (and semantically irrelevant but suitable simple) 寸 cùn ‘inch’ for the complicated 禹.
- j) 氣 has 气 as radical; also found with eg the gaseous elements, such as 氫 qīng ‘hydrogen’, 氦 nǎi ‘neon’ etc. The internal element in 氣 is 米 mǐ ‘(husked) rice’, so the compound graph suggests ‘steam rising from cooking rice’. The simplified form simply omits the internal element. Contrast 气, with two upper strokes, and 吃, with only one; ‘the other’s been eaten.’
- k) 想 contains the elements 相 as phonetic (seen also in 箱子 xiāngzi ‘trunk; box’) and 心 ‘heart’ as radical. 相, in turn, contains the basic components 木 ‘tree; wood’ and 目 ‘eye’, both pronounced mù. Think ‘sitting under a branch, eyeing the horizon, and *contemplating* the curvature of the earth’, hence ‘think; feel like’.
- l) 去 looks like a yacht ‘skimming across the water, *going* from island to island’.
- m) 兩/两 derives from a drawing of a balance (or pair of scales). The innards of the fántǐzì and jiǎntǐzì differ; the first has 入, which is also assigned as radical, but the second has 人, which is not the assigned radical; instead, the first stroke of the simplified character, the horizontal, is the assigned radical.

### 3.1.1 Phrases

名字	叫什么	地方	美国	美国人	走吧
míngzi	jiào shénme	dìfang	Měiguó	Měiguó rén	zǒu ba
英国	很想去	两个	天气	去过	有名
Yīngguó	hěn xiǎng qù	liǎng ge	tiānqì	qùguo	yǒumíng
好吧	没吃过	英国人	姓方的	看过	不对
hǎo ba	méi chīguo	Yīngguó rén	xìng Fāng de	kànguo	bú duì
哪国人	那个地方	中英字典	天气好了	英文	姓名
nǎiguó rén	nèi ge dìfang	Zhōng-Yīng zìdiǎn	tiānqì hǎo le	Yīngwén	xìngmíng

## 3.1.2 Short descriptions

1. 小白，女的，名字叫美文，中国人，去过美国；没去过英国，不过很想去。
2. 老高，男的，名字叫英明，美国人，去过中国，中文很好。
3. 周老师，男的，名字叫以天，中国人，昨天很紧张，现在好了。
4. 李四方，男的，中国来的，以前是小学的老师，现在是大学的。
5. 姓陈的，名字叫现中，英国的中国人，英文中文都很好；去过美国，很想上美国的大学。
6. 美国的天气，现在有的地方冷，有的地方热；中国呢，一样，有的地方冷，有的地方热。英国呢？

## Exercise 1

Answer the questions given below, according to the information given in the chart:

<u>第</u>	<u>姓</u>	<u>名字</u>	<u>男/女</u>	<u>哪国人？</u>	<u>今天怎么样？</u>	<u>吃过饭了没有？</u>
1	王	美月	女	中国人	很累	还没吃过饭呢
2	高	太白	男	中国人	很忙	已经吃过饭了
3	陈	贵儿	男	美国人	现在好了	还没吃过饭呢
4	周	班贵	女	美国人	很紧张	吃过了
5	张	林生	男	中国人	很饿	还没吃饭呢
6	毛	在中	女	英国人	不冷不热	吃过了
7	林	明月	女	美国人	还好，不累	吃了

## Questions

1. 姓高的名字叫什么？他是哪国人？他今天怎么样？他吃过饭了吗？
  2. 第一个人姓什么，名字叫什么？是女的吗？是什么地方来的？她今天怎么样？她吃过饭了吗？
  3. 陈贵儿是男的吧！是哪儿的人？他以前怎么样？现在呢？他吃过饭了没有？
  4. 姓毛的名字叫什么？在中是不是他的名字？他是美国人吧。你去过那个地方吗？他今天怎么样？他很饿吧!?
  5. 第七个姓林，对吗？那，她的名字是什么？她是哪国人？她吃过饭了吗？她怎么样？
  6. 那，第五个也姓林吗？是女的吗？是不是美国人？他饿不饿？他吃过了吗？
  7. 是不是有三个女的四个男的？有没有姓王的？有姓马的吗？
- 



“Sān rén tóng xíng, jiù gāi zhǎo ge dìfāng hē yì bēi...”  
 (“Three people walk together, then should find a place to have a glass...”)

## 3.2 Second set

北京 南 西 安 海

2+3, 1+4	2+6	2+7	6+0	3+3	3+7
běi	jīng	nán	xī	ān	hǎi
north	capital	south	west	peace	sea

外 到 近 省 川 州

3+2	2+6	3+4	5+4	1+2	1+5
wài	dào	jìn	shěng	chuān	zhōu
outside	arrive; to	be close	province	(river)	admin. div'n

從 離 遠 邊 錯 部

3+8	8+10	3+10	3+15	8+8	3+8
-----	------	------	------	-----	-----

从 离 远 边 错

2+2	2+8	3+4	3+2	5+8	2+8
cóng	lí	yuǎn	biān	cuò	bù
from	dist. from	be far	side	mistake; wrong	part

## Notes

a) 北 běi could be said to resemble ‘two people sitting back to back for warmth against the cold *north* wind’, hence ‘north’. 北 can be contrasted with 比 (bǐ ‘compare; than’, as in 比较 bǐjiào), in which the two parts are in line (and therefore easier to *compare*).

b) 京, meaning ‘capital’. Think: ‘the gateway to the *capital* with a slit window and buttresses’. Chinese cities are oriented towards the south; the emperor sat with his back to the north. 南 nán ‘south’, then, might be said to be a drawing of ‘an elaborate *southern* gate to a city, with observation tower, wide opening, and customs check beneath’.

- c) 西安, literally ‘western peace’. Contrast 西 and 四 (and later 酒 jiǔ ‘liquor’, whose right side has an extra stroke). 安 shows 女 under a roof, for some ‘an image of *peace*’.
- d) 海 consists of 氵 (the water radical) plus 每 měi ‘each; every’, originally probably phonetic, and now also found in eg 悔 huǐ. Shanghai does not mean on the sea (which would be hǎishàng) but ‘rising to the sea’.
- e) 外 composed of 夕 xī ‘evening’ (seen also in 名) and 卜. Think of ‘the wall of the house, with the moon setting *outside*’.
- f) The right-hand element of 到 dào ‘arrive; to’ is the ‘knife-radical’ (dāozipáng), a combining form of 刀 dāo ‘knife’ that appears in characters for words having to do with cutting, as well as sharply demarcated events, such as ‘arriving’.
- g) 省 contains 少 shǎo and 目 mù ‘eye’ as radical. 州 zhōu was originally a representation of islands or high ground in a river valley, but came to refer to towns or administrative centers that grew up in such places. So it is a common second element for cities, eg 廣州 Guǎngzhōu, 蘇州 Sūzhōu, 杭州 Hángzhōu, 徐州 Xúzhōu. It is also used to translate ‘state’ in US state names: 加州 Jiāzhōu ‘California’, 德州 Dézhōu ‘Texas’, 康州 Kāngzhōu ‘Connecticut’. The original graph has been differentiated into 州 and 洲 (also zhōu), with the latter used as the second element in the names of continents, eg: 亞洲 Yàzhōu ‘Asia’ and 歐洲 Ōuzhōu ‘Europe’. 川, without the ‘islands’, shows just the river, and is an old word for ‘streams’, now associated only with the province of 四川, named for the four rivers which flow south into the Yangtze River.
- h) 從’s core meaning of ‘follow; obey’ is suggested by the two 人 in the upper right – which also form the basis of the simplified character (从).
- i) 離 is a particularly complicated character (with a total of 18 strokes). The simplified form (离) drops the traditional radical (隹) and assigns the first two strokes (on the top) as radical. That element can be viewed as ‘a diagram of a route, with the first two strokes and x marking the starting point, the lower box and its contents, the destination, and a line connecting the two, indicating *distance*’.
- j) 邊 with the ‘movement radical’ and a complex of three components: 自, 穴 and 方; the simplified graph seems to be based on the last of those three.
- k) 錯 cuò consists of the metal (or ‘gold’) radical 金 (cf. 錢) and an element, 昔, pronounced xī on its own, but also found in 曆 cuò and 措 cuò, where its phonetic value is clearer. 錯 has an ancient meaning of ‘grindstone’, which accounts for the metal radical and suggests an evolution from ‘burrs’ to ‘errors’.
- l) 遠 has 袁 yuán (a surname) as phonetic; the simplified form substitutes a simpler phonetic 元 yuán (the unit of Chinese currency). 近 combines the same ‘movement’ radical with the phonetic element 斤 jīn ‘catty’ (see below).



## 3.2.1 Phrases

北京	南京	西安	上海	西北
Běijīng	Nánjīng	Xī'ān	Shànghǎi	Xīběi
外国	到明天	从昨天	很近	北边
wàiguó	dào míngtiān	cóng zuótiān	hěn jìn	běi biān
四川	南方	四川省	广州	广东省
Sīchuān	nánfāng	Sīchuān shěng	Guǎngzhōu	Guǎngzhōu shěng
外国人	从什么地方	离这儿	不远	南部
wàiguó rén	cóng shénme dìfāng	lí zhèr	bù yuǎn	nán bù
不错	离北京	东北	东京	海边儿
bú cuò	lí Běijīng	dōngběi	Dōngjīng	hǎi biānr

## Exercise 2

Answer the questions based on the information given in the chart:

<u>第-</u>	<u>姓</u>	<u>哪国人</u>	<u>什么地方</u>	<u>那个地方的天气</u>	<u>去过的地方</u>
第八	毛	中国人	北京	有一点冷	英国
第二	林	中国人	上海	还好，不冷不热	-----
第一	张	英国人	西北	不错	中国
第九	陈	美国人	南边	很热	英国
第三	白	美国人	东北	有一点冷	中国
第七	周	英国人	中部	很好，很热	美国
第九	马	中国人	西安	昨天冷，今天好	美国
第四	李	美国人	北边	不太好	中国
第五	王	中国人	南京	昨天冷，今天好	-----
第十	方	中国人	四川	有一点热	东京
第六	安	中国人	广州	很热	海外

*Questions*

1. 第一个人姓什么？是哪国人？什么地方来的？那儿的天气怎么样？他去过英国吗？
  2. 第二个人是谁？是什么地方来的？那儿的天气是不是很热？他去过外国吗？
  3. 第三个姓什么？他是哪儿的人？那个地方的天气好不好？他去过英国吗？
  4. 第四个是中国人吗？他是哪国人？那儿的天气怎么样？他去过中国吗？
  5. 第五个姓什么？他是什么地方人？那个地方的天气怎么样？他去过外国吗？
  6. 第六个是不是姓安的？姓安的是哪国人？那儿的天气有点儿热吧！姓安的去过外国吗？
  7. 第七个姓什么？他是什么地方来的？那儿的天气很热吗？他去过美国吗？
  8. 第八个姓毛吧？是中国人吧？什么地方呢？那儿的天气呢？他去过美国没有？
  9. 第九个姓什么？是什么地方人？那儿的天气怎么样？他去过英国吗？英国天气怎么样？
  10. 第十个姓方吗？他是中国什么地方来的？你去过那个地方吗？那个地方天气怎么样？
-

## 3.2.2 Set 1 in fantizi

美國	去過	美人	天氣	不想去
Měiguó	qùguo	měirén	tiānqì	bù xiǎng qù
英國	什麼地方	天氣很熱	兩個人	叫什麼
Yīngguó	shénme dìfang	tiānqì hěn rè	liǎng ge rén	jiào shénme
吃過了	哪國人	天氣怎麼樣		起來了
chīguo le	nǎi guó rén	tiānqì zěnmeyàng		qǐlái le

## 3.3 Third set

別 忘 非 常 家 本

2+5	4+3	1+7	3+8	3+7	4+1
bié	wàng	fēi	cháng	jiā	běn
don't; other	forget	not	often	home; family	(root; stem)

說 得 電 話 碼 裏

7+7	3+8	8+5	7+6	5+10	6+7
-----	-----	-----	-----	------	-----

说 电 话 码 里

2+7		1+4	2+6	5+3	7+0
shuō	de; děi	diàn	huà	mǎ	lǐ
speak; talk	DE; must	electric	words; lg	(number)	inside; in

## Notes

- a) 别 has the 'knife radical' on the right (cf. 到 dào 'arrive'). The core meaning is 'separate', with the knife suggesting a line of separation; hence 'other' and 'don't'.  
 b) 忘 organizes the same components as 忙, ie the heart radical and the phonetic 亡 wáng, but arranges them vertically rather than horizontally. If 亡 on the right

side of the graph is ‘a container *busily* hoovering up things that need doing’, then placed above the heart, and empty, it represents ‘those things you *forgot* to do’.

c) 非, an older negative; the graph may represent two sides in opposition. 常 contains the cloth radical 巾 (said to be a drawing of a kerchief and also found in 帽子 màozi ‘hat’) and the phonetic element 尚 shàng, seen in 裳 shāng, 廠 chǎng, 當 dāng.

d) 家 contains 豕 shǐ, an archaic word for ‘pig’ (derived from a drawing) placed beneath the ‘roof radical’.

e) 木, now ‘wood’ but originally ‘tree’; 本 marks the stem or trunk, hence the M-word for ‘books’ (一本書), and by extension, ‘root; origin’ (本來).

f) 說 is sometimes printed as 説, with the upper right-hand strokes written as 八. 說 shuō, the verb, obviously needs to be distinguished from 話 huà, the noun. The latter contains 舌 shé ‘tongue’ (protruding from the mouth 口), so ‘words; language’. In many cases, you can be guided by the order of the words, verb+noun: 說話. But note that the reverse order can also appear in certain syntactic constructions, eg: 中國話說得很好。

g) 得 pronounced dé, is a verb meaning ‘obtain’; untoned, it is the particle (+de) that connects verbs with a SV phrases; pronounced děi, it is a modal verb meaning ‘have to; must’.

h) The form of the graph 裏 lǐ, with phonetic 里 lǐ inserted into the radical 衣 yī ‘clothing’ (cf. 褒 and 衰), recalls another sense of the word, ‘lining of clothes’, that is clearly related to the meaning ‘inside’. The graph is also written 裡, with the same components organized horizontally – the clothing radical on the left of the phonetic. The simplified graph isolates the phonetic element, with the result that the two words, lǐ ‘inside’ and ‘mile’ get written with the same graph, 里.



Kūnmíng: locksmith (电子配匙 diànzǐ pèi[yào]shì ‘electric match-key’) [JKW 2002]

## 3.3.1 Phrases

別人	忘了	別忘了	非常	日本
biérén	wàng le	bié wàng le	fēicháng	Rìběn
家里	都忘了	別客气	說得很好	哪里
jiā lǐ	dōu wàng le	bié kèqì	shuō+de hěn hǎo	nǎlǐ
本來	以前	現在	二三得六	電話
běnlái	yǐqián	xiànzài	èr sān dé liù	diànhuà
號碼	非常好	三本書	沒有電話	我的家
hàomǎ	fēicháng hǎo	sān běn shū	méiyǒu diànhuà	wǒ de jiā
別說了	馬家	說得不好	不想去	不太有名
bié shuō le	Mǎ jiā	shuō+de bù hǎo	bù xiǎng qù	bú tài yǒumíng

## 3.3.2 Set 2 in fántǐzì

上海	外國	海邊	四川	不遠	很近
Shànghǎi	wàiguó	hǎi biān	Sìchuān	bù yuǎn	hěn jìn
北京	英國	四川省	南邊	離這兒	東北
Běijīng	Yīngguó	Sìchuān shěng	nán biān	lí zhèr	dōngběi
不錯	還好	從昨天	到今天	北部	中部
bú cuò	hái hǎo	cóng zuótiān	dào jīntiān	běi bù	zhōng bù
從什麼地方		廣州	東北邊	離西安很近	
cóng shénme dìfāng		Guǎngzhōu	dōngběi biān	lí Xī'ān hěn jìn	

*Exercise 3. Questions on the following pairs of comment and response:*

- 王：你的伞，别忘了。      李：不是我的，我没有伞。
- 白：我的手机呢？      周：在我这儿。别忘了。
- 毛：你家离这儿很远吗？      林：不太远，两里。
- 张：你中文说得很好。      高：哪里，说得不好。
- 马：你的电话号码呢？      方：家里：5-6021; 手机：13501 102130
- 安：你是中国人吧?!      林：不是，我是日本人，日本东京人。
- 高：广州天气怎么样？      周：七月八月非常热，一月二月不错，不冷也不热。
- 张：你的书包，别忘了。      毛：不是我的，我的在家里。
- 李：这儿有没有电话？      王：这儿没有；学生中心有一个，你可以从这边去，不太远。
- 张：你的字典，别忘了。      马：哦，太好了，上课没有字典不行。

*Questions*

1. 小李有没有伞？
2. 伞现在在哪里？
3. 小白的手机在哪儿？
4. 林家离这儿远不远？
5. 姓高的中文说得怎么样？
6. 姓方的有手机吗？号码呢？
7. 姓林的是中国人吗？东京在日本什么地方？
8. 广州天气怎么样？

9. 姓毛的，书包在哪里？  
 10 学生中心离那儿远不远？  
 11 学生中心有没有电话？  
 12 上课，没有字典行吗？ 那，上班呢？

## 3.4 Fourth set

喝 渴

3+9  
hē  
drink3+9  
kě  
thirsty

多 少

3+3  
duōshao  
many3+1  
few

斤 百

4+0  
jīn  
a catty5+1  
bǎi  
100

杯 酒

4+4  
bēi  
cup3+7  
jiǔ  
liquor

再

1+5  
zài  
again

瓜

5+0  
guā  
gourd

幾 塊

3+9

3+10

錢

8+8

見

6+0

茶

4+6

几 块

2+0  
jǐ  
how many3+4  
kuài  
piece; \$

钱

5+5  
qián  
money

见

4+0  
jiàn  
see; meet

茶

3+6  
chá  
tea

## Notes

- a) 喝 hē and 渴 kě share the phonetic element 葛 gě. ‘Drink’ is suggested by 口 ‘mouth’, ‘thirst’ by 氵 ‘water’.
- b) 多少 is composed of the opposites ‘many’ and ‘few’; the former is made up of 夕 xī ‘evening’; the latter is based on 小 xiǎo ‘small’ (from which it needs to be distinguished). For 多, reduplication suggests *many*.
- c) 斤, was originally a drawing of an axe (now 斧 fǔ); early weights were apparently shaped like small axes, hence modern ‘catty’. For 百 ‘100’, cf. 白 ‘white; surname’.
- d) 杯 apparently composed of 木 and 不 (the latter possibly originally phonetic). ‘Cups are not made out of wood.’
- e) 酒 is composed of 氵 and 酉 yǒu (as phonetic). ‘Liquor in a bottle with a bung; the horizontal dash in the bottom is sediment.’
- f) 再 ‘again’: ‘a plunger for setting off explosives, blowing up bridges, which have to be built *again*’. Contrast 在 ‘at’. 見 ‘see’ is actually the same root as the 現 現在, the latter originally meaning ‘cause to be seen; be manifest’, hence ‘now’.
- g) 瓜, originally a drawing of a gourd on the vine (?), appears as radical in a few graphs for words associated with gourds (瓠).
- h) 幾: the radical is the top left cluster of three strokes. 幾 contains 戈 gē ‘spear’ on the right, also seen in 國. The simplified graph uses 几 jī ‘a stool; bench’, instead of the much more complicated 幾.
- i) 塊 composed of 土, the earth radical, with 鬼 guǐ as phonetic. 錢 is composed of 钅 ‘gold’, plus the element seen in characters such as 淺. The piled up ‘spears’ (gē) on the right can be regarded as ‘weapons guarding the *money*’.
- j) 茶, with the grass radical (on top) and a unique component on the bottom, which can be regarded as ‘a shed, where tea from bushes or trees (木) is drying’.

## 3.4.1 Phrases

喝什么	很渴	多少	不多	喝酒
hē shénme	hěn kě	duōshao	bù duō	hē jiǔ
不太渴	一百	喝茶	喝咖啡	一斤
bù tài kě	yībǎi	hē chá	hē kāfēi	yì jīn
多少钱	不少	不喝酒	两杯	杯子
duōshao qián	bù shǎo	bù hē jiǔ	liǎng bēi	bēizi
西瓜	木瓜	三块钱	再见	南瓜
xīguā	mùguā	sān kuài qián	zài jiàn	nánguā



几块钱	三块钱	钱不多	明天见	几个老师
jǐ kuài qián	sān kuài qián	qián bù duō	míngtiān jiàn	jǐ ge lǎoshī
多不多	一块西瓜	一杯三毛	非常多	三百块
duō bu duō	yí kuài xīguā	yì bēi sān máo	fēicháng duō	sān bǎi kuài
三百不多	西瓜好吃	一斤八毛	两百	中国白酒
sānbǎi bù duō	xīguā hǎochī	yì jīn bā máo	liǎng bǎi	Zhōngguó báijiǔ

## 3.4.2 Set 3 in fántǐzì

書包別忘了	非常熱	你的手機別忘了	非常累
shūbāo bié wàng le	fēicháng rè	nǐ de shǒujī bié wàng le	fēicháng lèi
電話號碼	說得不錯	筆還在家裏	日本
diànhuà hàomǎ	shuō+de bú cuò	bǐ hái zài jiā lǐ	Rìběn
非常緊張	中國西南邊	東西在家裏	天氣不錯
fēicháng jǐnzhāng	Zhōngguó xīnán biān	dōngxi zài jiā lǐ	tiānqì bú cuò
兩個東西	車子非常貴	從昨天到明天	非常餓
liǎng ge dōngxi	chēzi fēicháng guì	cóng zuótiān dào míngtiān	fēicháng è
已經吃飯了不過還是很餓		說外國話很難	
yǐjīng chīfàn le búguò hái shì hěn è		shuō wàiguó huà hěn nán	
他有個日本人的名字		已經起來了，但是還沒吃飯	
Tā yǒu ge Rìběn rén de míngzi.		Yǐjīng qǐlái le, dànshi hái méi chīfàn.	

## Exercise 4

<u>东西</u>		<u>几块钱 / 多少钱</u>
西瓜	一个	四块二一斤
冬瓜	一块	三块五分钱一斤
南瓜	一个	四块八毛五一个
茶	一杯	五块四毛一杯
咖啡	一杯	一杯二十五块钱
白酒	一瓶 (píng)	一百十五块钱
汉(Hàn)英字典	一本	二十八块钱
英汉字典	一本	三十二块钱
杯子	一个	十八块
手机	一个	一百二十五块钱
伞	一把 (bǎ)	二十二块
笔	一只 (zhī)	两块五毛钱
中文报	一份 (fèn)	一块二
英文报	一份	六块八毛钱

## Questions

1. 西瓜好吃吗？多少钱一斤？那是不是有一点贵？
2. 英文，冬瓜怎么说？好吃吗？几块钱？一斤多不多？
3. 南瓜呢，美国南瓜很多，可是中国呢，中国也有南瓜吗？南瓜贵不贵？多少钱一个？你说一个南瓜有几斤？
4. 中国人喝茶，那美国人喝什么？你现在渴不渴？想喝一点什么？

5. 一杯茶几块钱？那，咖啡呢，一杯几块？咖啡更贵对吗？在美国咖啡也很贵吗？茶咖啡你都喝吗？
  6. 美国一块钱是中国几块？你去过中国吗？
  7. 你喝过中国白酒吗？好喝吗？白酒多少钱一瓶？
  8. 美国人吃饭喝不喝酒？中国人呢？
  9. 汉英字典多少钱？上课没有字典难不难？那，英汉字典呢？
  10. 一杯茶几块？一个杯子几块？酒杯是不是更贵？茶杯呢？
  11. 中国人说：“再见”，那美国人怎么说？
  12. 中国人说：“你渴吗？想喝一点什么？”美国人怎么说？
  13. 伞多少钱？那，伞在中国多少钱？
  14. 看过今天的报了吗？在这儿，报多少钱？在中国呢？你看过什么中国报吗？
- 



Barber at the Saturday market on the Dǎlǐ to Lǐjiāng road. [JKW 2005]

### 3.5 Creating new characters

Characters, you now know, represent words; and since words are constantly being added to spoken languages, there needs to be some way for new words to be represented in the writing system. In language, new words are typically formed from old by processes such as extension (‘shuttle’ extended from ‘part of a loom’ to ‘reusable spacecraft’), compounding (‘spaceship’), coinage (‘blooper’), borrowing (‘sputnik’), or sound symbolism (‘screech; blip’). In alphabetic languages, these can easily be represented in writing. But in logographic scripts, the process is more contrived. In Chinese, where new characters are needed (to represent new words) they are almost always formed on phonosemantic principles: a graph chosen for its suitable sound is combined with a radical of appropriate meaning. We can illustrate from the graphic representation of two types of words: onomatopoeia (words inspired by sound) and terms for chemical elements in the periodic table.

#### 3.5.1 Representing sounds – onomatopoeia.

A good source for onomatopoeia is *manga* style comics. [Incidentally, the word *manga* is a Japanese rendition of the Chinese mànhuà ‘comic; cartoon (unrestrained-drawing)’.] The list below contains a selection of graphic representations with their pronunciation. They are taken from comics published in Hong Kong in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Though the comics are written in Mandarin, the language – and particularly the onomatopoeic expressions – may have been influenced by Cantonese, so some Chinese speakers may find items on the list strange or non-standard. Northerners, for example, might be more used to the expression pāchā (啪嚓) for ‘splash’ (as well as ‘crash’) than pāle (啪嘞). But the point is that comics represent not only a genre in which the written language converges on the spoken, but one that is less subject to the usual prescriptions and constraints associated with writing and publication. Authors of comics (particularly in a place like Hong Kong in the late 90s) are freer to create their own words and use the resources of the written language to represent them as they see fit. The fact that graphs used to represent sounds in these comics are not all found in dictionaries (nor in printing sets) shows how productive the process of forming phono-semantic characters is.

As befits the genre of anime, onomatopoeia are usually drawn in highly stylized animated graphs whose very size and shape adds to the effect. In the examples below, the radical element is consistently the ‘mouth’ radical, 口, which has the effect of signaling that the graph represents a sound. (In the list, boxes □ appear where a version of the character with 口 is unavailable in the standard character set. Speakers may give different readings for the graphs, particularly their tones.)

<i>graph and pronunciation:</i>	<i>contains the phonetic element:</i>	<i>equivalent English noise, or event:</i>
啪 pā	拍 pāi	bang
啪嘞 pāle	拍, 勒 pāi, lè	exploding noise
嚓 cā	察 chá	screech
唧 jī	即 jī	spurt
澎 pēng	彭 péng	popping noise
叮 dīng	丁 dīng	light metallic noise; ping
噹 dāng	當 dāng	heavy metallic noise; bong
□ lóng	隆 lóng	reverberating noise; boing; boom
□ fú	伏 fú	swishing noise
□ shā	夏 xià	hissing or whizzing noise
□ kǎ	卡 kǎ	enormous crashing noise
嘍 bō	波 bō	rain drumming on the ground

### 3.5.2 Atomic elements

Characters also have to be created for more formal genres of writing. The periodic table of elements, for example, contains names of elements long known to Chinese science, such as mercury, 汞 gǒng (工 gōng over 水 shuǐ ‘water’) and lead, 鉛 yán. But there are also many recently discovered elements for which names have had to be provided. These names are created on the traditional pattern of phonetic and radical. So, for example, the first set below (all gasses) are compound graphs consisting of an appropriate phonetic element combined with the gas radical (气); the second set (all metals) are formed with the metal radical (金); and the third set (all stony or sandy elements) are formed with the stone radical (石).

	<i>graph</i>	<i>phonetic</i>	<i>radical</i>
Helium	氦 hài	亥 hài	气 gas
Neon	氖 nǎi	乃 nǎi	气 gas
Argon	氩 yà	亞 yà	气 gas
Thorium	釷 tǔ	土 tǔ	金 metal
Palladium	鎳 pú	黹 pú	金 metal
Uranium	鈾 yóu	由 yóu	金 metal
Silicon	硅 guī	圭 guī	石 stone
Phosphorus	磷 lín	鄰 lín	石 stone
Sulphur	硫 liú	cf. 流 liú	石 stone

Notice that, unlike the graphs for onomatopoeia which are often the result of informal coinage, making use of imperfect phonetic elements, the graphs for new atomic elements (like other technical additions to the language) are formal coinages that display complete regularity. A reader unfamiliar with the name of a particular element can read off the pronunciation in terms of a common word with which s/he is sure to be familiar. Regardless of whether it proceeds formally or informally, the phono-semantic principle of character construction reduces the complexity of the writing system by reducing the amount of information needed to read or write it.

Note that while the compound construction of characters may be useful for native speakers encountering highly specialized words in written texts, or for language learners trying to find useful connections between characters that will allow them to retain them, the way a character is or has been constructed is unlikely to bear directly on the process of reading. Regardless of how they came to have their current form, characters are processed as words or parts of phrases, and even if the eye occasionally comes to rest on a character and sees the aptness of its form, such actions are – with the possible exception of reading certain kinds of poetry – a lapse from reading rather than part of the process.

### 3.6 Miscellany

#### 3.6.1 Set 4 in *fántǐzì*

喝酒	很渴	多少錢	一斤四塊
hē jiǔ	hěn kě	duōshao qián	yì jīn sì kuài
一百塊	南瓜很好吃	再見，明天見	白酒
yībǎi kuài	nánguā hěn hǎochī	zàijiàn, míngtiān jiàn	báijiǔ
幾塊錢	不多也不少	多少學生	茶杯
jǐ kuài qián	bù duō yě bù shǎo	duōshao xuéshēng	chábēi
喝一點酒	去過酒吧嗎	喝太多不行	再說
hē yídiǎnr jiǔ	qùguo jiǔbā ma	hē tài duō bù xíng	zài shuō
酒杯	杯子裏有什麼	一杯兩塊五	幾個老師
jiǔbēi	bēizi lǐ yǒu shénme	yì bēi liǎng kuài wǔ	jǐ ge lǎoshī

## 3.6.2 Distinguish the following characters by citing words or phrases:

斤 - 今 - 近	在 - 再	美 - 没	钱 - 前
典 - 电 - 店	手 - 说	难 - 男	对 - 贵
不 - 还	我 - 饿	日 - 热	是 - 师
七 - 起	小 - 少	陈 - 车	伞 - 三
到 - 别	百 - 白	川 - 州	毛 - 笔
忙 - 忘	渴 - 可	一 - 以	本 - 杯

## 3.6.3 In the following compounds or phrases, provide the missing characters, which have similar or identical sounds:

- |            |        |            |         |
|------------|--------|------------|---------|
| 1. 车 __    | 名 __   | 9. 姓 __    | 一 __ 钱  |
| 2. 一块 __   | 以 __   | 10. __ 哪儿? | __ 见!   |
| 3. __ 有    | __ 国   | 11. __ 以   | 很 __    |
| 4. __ 这儿不远 | 在家 __  | 12. __ 机   | __ 话    |
| 5. __ 经    | 可 __   | 13. 上 __   | 很 __    |
| 6. __ 女    | 不太 __  | 14. __ 个   | 还没 __ 来 |
| 7. 号 __    | 好 __ ? | 15. __ 儿?  | __ 儿!   |
| 8. 一 __ 儿  | __ 话号码 | 16. __ 张   | __ 天    |

## 3.7 On the street #3



Intersection in Shànghǎi. [JKW 2005]

## a) Roads (illustrated above)

南京西路	Nánjīng Xī Lù	昌化路	Chānghuà Lù
北京西路	Běijīng Xī Lù	常德路	Chángdé Lù

## Notes

路	lù ‘road’, with 足 ‘foot’ as radical and 各 gè as an orphaned phonetic – one whose original motivation has been obscured by language change.
街	(not illustrated) jiē ‘street’, consisting of 行 ‘crossroads’ as radical and 圭 guī, another obscured phonetic.

## b) Airlines

航空公司	hángkōng gōngsī ‘airline company’
中国航空公司	中国东方航空公司
中国北方航空公司	中国南方航空公司
中国西北航空公司	中国东方航空公司