

## LESSON 5

# Visiting Friends

## 第五课

Dì wǔ kè

## 看朋友

Kàn péngyou

5



### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this lesson, you will learn to use Chinese to:

- Welcome a visitor;
- Introduce one person to another;
- Compliment someone on his/her house;
- Ask for beverages as a guest at someone else's place;
- Offer beverages to a visitor;
- Briefly describe a visit to a friend's place.

### RELATE AND GET READY

In your own culture/community—

1. Is it common to pay a visit to a friend's house without advance notice?
2. Do people bring anything when visiting a friend's home?
3. What are some of the common beverages and foods offered to visitors?

## Dialogue: Visiting a Friend's Home



(The doorbell rings.)



谁呀？



是我，王朋，还有李友。



请进，请进，快进来！来，我介绍  
一下<sup>①</sup>，这是我姐姐，高小音。



小音，你好。认识你很高兴。




认识你们我也很高兴。



你们家很大<sup>②</sup>，也很漂亮。

 是吗？<sup>①</sup>请坐，请坐。

 小音，你在<sup>③</sup>哪儿<sup>②</sup>工作？

 我在学校工作。你们想喝点儿<sup>①</sup>什么？喝茶还是喝咖啡？

 我喝茶吧<sup>④</sup>。


 我要一瓶可乐，可以吗？

 对不起，我们家没有可乐。


 那给我一杯水吧。


(The doorbell rings.)

 Shéi ya?

 Shì wǒ, Wáng Péng, hái yǒu Lǐ Yǒu.

 Qǐng jìn, qǐng jìn, kuài jìn lai! Lái, wǒ jièshào yí xià<sup>①</sup>, zhè shì wǒ jiějie, Gāo Xiǎoyīn.


 Xiǎoyīn, nǐ hǎo. Rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng.


 Rènshi nǐmen wǒ yě hěn gāoxìng.

 Nǐmen jiā hěn dà<sup>②</sup>, yě hěn piàoliang.

 Shì ma? <sup>①</sup> Qǐng zuò, qǐng zuò.


 Xiǎoyīn, nǐ zài<sup>③</sup> nǎr<sup>②</sup> gōngzuò?

 Wǒ zài xuéxiào gōngzuò. Nǐmen xiǎng hē diǎnr<sup>①</sup> shénme? Hē chá, háishi hē kāfēi?

 Wǒ hē chá ba.<sup>④</sup>

 Wǒ yào yì píng kělè, kěyǐ ma?

 Duìbuqǐ, wǒmen jiā méi yǒu kělè.

 Nà gěi wǒ yì bēi shuǐ ba.

### LANGUAGE NOTES

① Although it takes a question mark, 是吗 (Shì ma?) is not a question here but a mild expression of surprise on hearing something unexpected. Here it indicates one's modesty on receiving a compliment. It could be translated as "Is that so?" "You don't say!" or "Really?"

② 哪儿 (nǎr) is a question word meaning "where." Do not confuse it with 那儿 (nàr, there). 这儿 (zhèr) means "here" in Chinese.



## VOCABULARY

- |     |      |           |         |   |
|-----|------|-----------|---------|---|
| 1.  | 呀    | ya        | p       | (interjectory particle used to soften a question) |
| 2.  | 进    | jìn       | v       | to enter  |
| 3.  | 快    | kuài      | adv/adj | fast, quick; quickly                              |
| 4.  | 进来   | jìn lai   | vc      | to come in  |
| 5.  | 来    | lái       | v       | to come   |
| 6.  | 介绍   | jièshào   | v       | to introduce                                      |
| 7.  | 一下   | yí xià    | n+m     | once; a bit [See Grammar 1.]                      |
| 8.  | 高兴   | gāoxìng   | adj     | happy, pleased                                    |
| 9.  | 漂亮   | piàoliang | adj     | pretty  |
| 10. | 坐    | zuò       | v       | to sit  |
| 11. | 在    | zài       | prep    | at; in; on [See Grammar 3.]                       |
| 12. | 哪儿   | nǎr       | qpr     | where   |
| 13. | 学校   | xuéxiào   | n       | school  |
| 14. | 喝    | hē        | v       | to drink  |
| 15. | 点(儿) | diǎn(r)   | m       | a little, a bit; some [See Grammar 1.]            |
| 16. | 茶    | chá       | n       | tea   |
| 17. | 咖啡   | kāfēi     | n       | coffee  |
| 18. | 吧    | ba        | p       | (a sentence-final particle) [See Grammar 4.]      |
| 19. | 要    | yào       | v       | to want   |
| 20. | 瓶    | píng      | m/n     | (measure word for bottles); bottle                |



## VOCABULARY

- |     |     |         |    |                                  |
|-----|-----|---------|----|----------------------------------|
| 21. | 可乐  | kělè    | n  | [Coke or Pepsi] cola             |
| 22. | 可以  | kěyǐ    | mv | can; may                         |
| 23. | 对不起 | duìbuqǐ | v  | sorry                            |
| 24. | 给   | gěi     | v  | to give                          |
| 25. | 杯   | bēi     | m  | (measure word for cup and glass) |
| 26. | 水   | shuǐ    | n  | water                            |



Name the beverages in the picture in Chinese.

## Proper Noun

- |     |     |             |                   |
|-----|-----|-------------|-------------------|
| 27. | 高小音 | Gāo Xiǎoyīn | (a personal name) |
|-----|-----|-------------|-------------------|

24杯

悦氏 82元  
矿泉水 69元/箱  
240ml x 24杯

24瓶

悦氏矿泉水  
600ml x 24瓶  
195元  
149元/箱

12瓶

悦氏矿泉水  
1.5L x 12瓶  
179元  
139元/箱

悦氏 50元  
矿泉水 35元/箱  
5L

你要一杯水还是一瓶水？

Nǐ yào yì bēi shuǐ hái shì yì píng shuǐ?

## Grammar

### 1. 一下 (yí xià) and (一)点儿 (yì diǎnr) Moderating the Tone of Voice

Following a verb, both 一下 (yí xià, lit. “once”) and (一)点儿 (yì diǎnr “a bit”) can soften the tone in a question or an imperative sentence, therefore making it more polite. When used in this way, 一下 (yí xià) modifies the verb, while (一)点儿 (yì diǎnr) modifies the object.

#### ① 你看一下，这是谁的照片？

Nǐ kàn yí xià, zhè shì shéi de zhàopiàn?

(Take a look. Whose photo is this?)

#### ② 你想吃点儿什么？

Nǐ xiǎng chī diǎnr shénme?

(What would you like to eat?)

#### ③ 你进来一下。

Nǐ jìn lai yí xià.

(Come in for a minute.)

#### ④ 你喝一点儿茶吧。

Nǐ hē yìdiǎnr chá ba.

(Have a little tea.)

### 2. Adjectives as Predicates

In Chinese, when an adjective functions as a predicate, it is not preceded by the verb 是 (shì, to be). It is usually modified by 很 (hěn, very), as seen in (1), (2), (3), and (4), or some other adverbial modifier. However, 很 (hěn) is not as strong as “very” in English. When forming a question with an adjective as the predicate, 很 is not used, as seen in (5) and (6).

① 我今天很高兴。

Wǒ jīntiān hěn gāoxìng.

(I'm happy today.)

② 他妹妹很漂亮。

Tā mèimei hěn piàoliang.

(His younger sister is pretty.)

③ 那个电影很好。

Nà ge diànyǐng hěn hǎo.

(That movie is good.)

④ 你们大学很大。

Nǐmen dàxué hěn dà.

(Your university is very large.)

⑤ A: 你弟弟高吗？

Nǐ dìdi gāo ma?

(Is your younger brother tall?)

B: 他很高。

Tā hěn gāo.

(He is tall.)

⑥ A: 你家大吗？

Nǐ jiā dà ma?

(Is your house big?)

B: 我家不大，很小。

Wǒ jiā bú dà, hěn xiǎo.

(My house is not big, it's small.)

Chinese adjectives without 很 (hěn) or any sort of modifier before them can often imply comparison or contrast, as seen in (7) and (8) below.

7 A: 姐姐漂亮还是妹妹漂亮？

Jiějie piàoliang háishi mèimei piàoliang?

(Who's prettier, the older sister or the younger sister?)

B: 妹妹漂亮。

Mèimei piàoliang.

(The younger sister is prettier.)

8 妹妹的中文好，我的中文不好。

Mèimei de Zhōngwén hǎo, wǒ de Zhōngwén bù hǎo.

(My younger sister's Chinese is good. My Chinese is not good.)

### 3. The Preposition 在 (zài, at; in; on)

Combined with a noun, the preposition 在 (zài) indicates location. When the phrase is placed before a verb, it indicates the location of the action.

1 A: 我的书在哪儿？ B: 在那儿。

Wǒ de shū zài nǎr?

(Where is my book?)

Zài nàr.

(It's over there.)

2 A: 你在哪儿工作？ B: 我在这儿工作。

Nǐ zài nǎr gōngzuò?

(Where do you work?)

Wǒ zài zhèr gōngzuò.

(I work here.)

3 我在这个大学学中文。

Wǒ zài zhè ge dàxué xué Zhōngwén.

(I study Chinese at this university.)

4 我不喜欢在家看电影。

Wǒ bù xǐhuan zài jiā kàn diànyǐng.

(I don't like to watch movies at home.)



## 4. The Particle 吧 (ba)

吧 (ba) is a sentence-final “suggestion” particle, often used at the end of an imperative sentence to soften the tone.

### 1 你喝咖啡吧。

Nǐ hē kāfēi ba.

(Why don't you have some coffee?)

### 2 请进来吧。

Qǐng jìn lai ba.

(Come in, please.)

### 3 我们跳舞吧。

Wǒmen tiào wǔ ba.

(Let's dance.)

## Language Practice

### A. 一下 (yí xià)

1. You wish to look at your brother's girlfriend's picture, so you say to your brother...

哥哥，我 \_\_\_\_\_ 你女朋友的照片，好吗？  
Gēge, wǒ \_\_\_\_\_ nǐ nǚpéngyou de zhàopiàn, hǎo ma?

2. You'd like your friend, Little Bai, to introduce you to Ms. Li, so you say...

小白，我想认识李小姐。  
请你 \_\_\_\_\_。  
Xiǎo Bái, wǒ xiǎng rènshi Lǐ xiǎojiě.  
Qǐng nǐ \_\_\_\_\_.

3. You are at the doctor's office for your appointment; the nurse tells you the doctor is busy, and asks you to sit down for a bit. So she says...

对不起，医生现在  
有事儿，请你 \_\_\_\_\_。 Duìbuqǐ, yīshēng xiànzài  
yǒu shìr, qǐng nǐ \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Your roommate has bought a CD, and suggests that you listen to it, so she says...

这个音乐不错。 Zhège yīnyuè búcuò.  
你 \_\_\_\_\_。 Nǐ \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Your teacher wants to talk to you about something after class and asks you to come with him, so he says...

我有事儿找你。 Wǒ yǒu shìr zhǎo nǐ.  
你 \_\_\_\_\_。 Nǐ \_\_\_\_\_.

### B. Adjectives as Predicates

高文中的家 ◇ 漂亮 Gāo Wénzhōng de jiā ◇ piàoliang

EXAMPLE: If people ask your opinion of Gao Wenzhong's house,

高文中的家漂亮吗？ Gāo Wénzhōng de jiā piàoliang ma?  
and you think Gao Wenzhong's house is beautifully decorated, you can say...

高文中的家很漂亮。 Gāo Wénzhōng de jiā hěn piàoliang.  
But, if you don't think Gao's house is beautifully decorated, you can say...

高文中的家不漂亮。 Gāo Wénzhōng de jiā bú piàoliang.

Work with a partner. Find out from each other what you think about your doctor, school, teacher, classmates, and textbook.

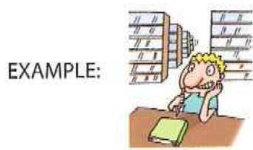
- |             |                         |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1. 你的医生 ◇ 忙 | 1. Nǐ de yīshēng ◇ máng |
| 2. 你的学校 ◇ 大 | 2. Nǐ de xuéxiào ◇ dà   |

3. 你的同学 ◇ 高兴
4. 你的老师 ◇ 好
5. 你的书 ◇ 有意思

3. Nǐ de tóngxué ◇ gāoxìng
4. Nǐ de lǎoshī ◇ hǎo
5. Nǐ de shū ◇ yǒu yìsi

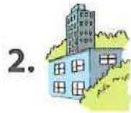
c. 在 (zài)

1. Look at the pictures given, and tell where Wang Peng and Li You are, and what they are doing there.



王朋和李友在图书馆看书。  
(túshūguǎn, library)

Wáng Péng hé Lǐ Yǒu zài túshūguǎn kàn shū.



2. Everyone has a different routine and favorite places. Now let's find out where these people do their activities.

EXAMPLE:

小高在哪儿工作？

Xiǎo Gāo zài nǎr gōngzuò?



小高在学校工作。

Xiǎo Gāo zài xuéxiào gōngzuò.

1. 李医生在哪儿听音乐？

Lǐ yīshēng zài nǎr tīng yīnyuè?



2. 王朋在哪儿打球？

Wáng Péng zài nǎr dǎ qiú?



3. 李友在哪儿看电影？

Lǐ Yǒu zài nǎr kàn diànyǐng?



4. 小白在哪儿睡觉？

Xiǎo Bái zài nǎr shuì jiào?



D. 点儿 (diǎnr)

Imagine the main characters of the text all come to your house as your guests: you now try to offer them something to drink, to eat, or to do. Use the pictures as clues and work with a partner.

EXAMPLE:



高文中，你想喝点儿什么？  
Gāo Wénzhōng, nǐ xiǎng hē diǎnr shénme?

1.



2.



3.



E. Do you all know each other in your class?

Mobilize the entire class and form a big circle. Taking turns, introduce the person on your right to the person on your left.

1: 我介绍一下，  
这是\_\_\_\_\_。

1: Wǒ jièshào yí xià,  
zhè shì \_\_\_\_\_.

2: 认识你很高兴。  
我介绍一下，这是\_\_\_\_\_。

2: Rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng.  
Wǒ jièshào yí xià, zhè shì \_\_\_\_\_.

3: 认识你很高兴。  
我介绍一下，这是\_\_\_\_\_。

3: Rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng.  
Wǒ jièshào yí xià, zhè shì \_\_\_\_\_.

## F. Group Activity

In groups of three, one acts as a host and asks the two guests what they would like to drink:

**A:** 你/你们想喝点儿什么？

**A:** Nǐ/Nǐmen xiǎng hē diǎnr shénme?

**B:** 我喝\_\_\_\_\_吧。

**B:** Wǒ hē \_\_\_\_\_ba.

**C:** 我喝\_\_\_\_\_吧。

**C:** Wǒ hē \_\_\_\_\_ba.

Apologize to one of your guests that you don't have the beverage and offer an alternative:

**A:** 对不起，没有\_\_\_\_\_，  
\_\_\_\_\_，可以吗？

**A:** Duìbuqǐ, méiyǒu \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, kěyǐ ma?

The guest accepts or asks for something else:

**B or C:** 那给我一杯/一瓶  
\_\_\_\_\_吧。

**B or C:** Nà gěi wǒ yì bēi/yì píng  
\_\_\_\_\_ba.

## G. Survey the class

First pair up and ask your partner these questions. Then report your findings to the class.

你喜欢喝什么？

Nǐ xǐhuan hē shénme?

你喜欢喝可乐还是咖啡？

Nǐ xǐhuan hē kělè hái shì kāfēi?

你喜欢喝茶吗？

Nǐ xǐhuan hē chá ma?

你喜欢喝水还是喝茶？

Nǐ xǐhuan hē shuǐ hái shì hē chá?

The most popular beverage in the class is \_\_\_\_\_.

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In groups of three, one acts as a host and asks the two guests what they would like to drink:

A: 你/你们想喝点儿什么？

A: Nǐ/Nǐmen xiǎng hē diǎnr shénme?

B: 我喝\_\_\_\_\_吧。

B: Wǒ hē \_\_\_\_\_ ba.

C: 我喝\_\_\_\_\_吧。

C: Wǒ hē \_\_\_\_\_ ba.

Apologize to one of your guests that you don't have the beverage and offer an alternative:

A: 对不起，没有\_\_\_\_\_，  
\_\_\_\_\_，可以吗？

A: Duìbuqǐ, méiyǒu \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, kěyǐ ma?

The guest accepts or asks for something else:

B or C: 那给我一杯/一瓶  
\_\_\_\_\_吧。

B or C: Nà gěi wǒ yì bēi/yì píng  
\_\_\_\_\_ ba.

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你喜欢喝茶吗？

Nǐ xǐhuan hē chá ma?

你喜欢喝水还是喝茶？

Nǐ xǐhuan hē shuǐ hái shì hē chá?

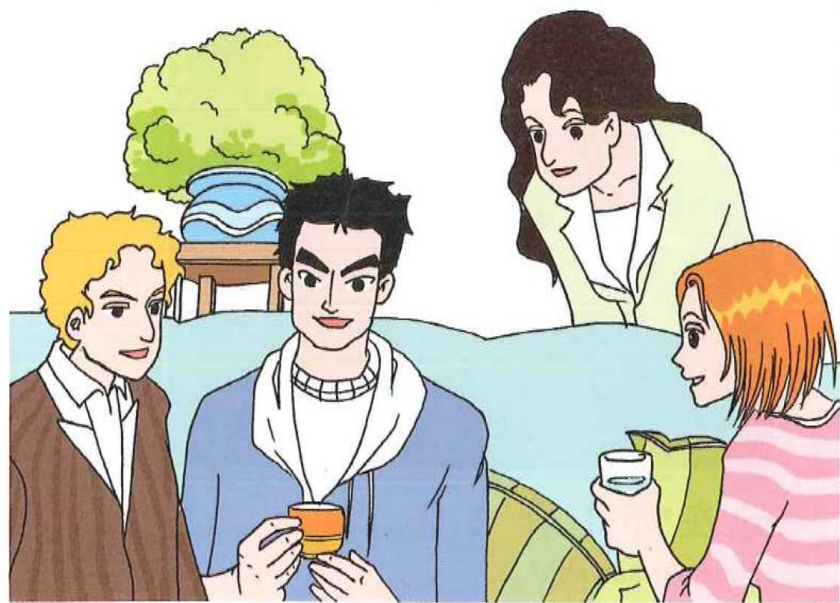
The most popular beverage in the class is \_\_\_\_\_.



你想喝什么？

Nǐ xiǎng hē shénme?

## Narrative: At a Friend's House



昨天晚上，王朋和李友去高文中家玩儿。在高文中家，他们认识了<sup>⑤</sup>高文中的姐姐。她叫高小音，在学校的图书馆工作。她请王朋喝<sup>①</sup>茶，王朋喝了两杯。李友不喝茶，只喝了一杯水。他们一起聊天儿、看电视。王朋和李友晚上十二点<sup>⑥</sup>才回家。

## LANGUAGE NOTE

① Unlike its English counterpart, 喝 (hē) always functions as a transitive verb. In other words, unless it's clear from the context, the beverage has to be specified. Therefore, 他常常喝 (Tā chángcháng hē) is not a complete sentence unless when the beverage is understood, e.g.:

A: 他常常喝咖啡吗？

(Tā chángcháng hē kāfēi ma?)

Does he often drink coffee?

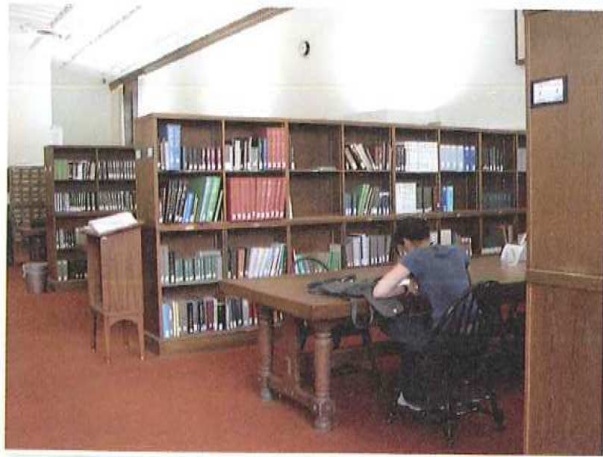
B: 他常常喝。

(Tā chángcháng hē.)

He often does.



Zuótiān wǎnshang, Wáng Péng hé Lǐ Yǒu qù Gāo Wénzhōng jiā wánr. Zài Gāo Wénzhōng jiā, tāmen rènshi le<sup>⑤</sup> Gāo Wénzhōng de jiějie. Tā jiào Gāo Xiǎoyīn, zài xuéxiào de túshūguǎn gōngzuò. Tā qǐng Wáng Péng hē<sup>①</sup> chá, Wáng Péng hē le liǎng bēi. Lǐ Yǒu bù hē chá, zhǐ hē le yì bēi shuǐ. Tāmen yìqǐ liáo tiānr, kàn diànshì. Wáng Péng hé Lǐ Yǒu wǎnshang shí'èr diǎn cái<sup>⑤</sup> huí jiā.



她在哪儿看书？

Tā zài nǎr kàn shū?



## VOCABULARY

- |    |       |              |     |                                       |
|----|-------|--------------|-----|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | 玩(儿)  | wán(r)       | v   | to have fun; to play                  |
| 2. | 了     | le           | p   | (a dynamic particle) [See Grammar 5.] |
| 3. | 图书馆   | túshūguǎn    | n   | library                               |
| 4. | 一起    | yìqǐ         | adv | together                              |
| 5. | 聊天(儿) | liáo tiān(r) | vo  | to chat                               |
|    | 聊     | liáo         | v   | to chat                               |
|    | 天     | tiān         | n   | sky                                   |
| 6. | 才     | cái          | adv | not until, only then [See Grammar 6.] |
| 7. | 回家    | huí jiā      | vo  | to go home                            |
|    | 回     | huí          | v   | to return                             |

## Grammar

## 5. The Particle 了 (le) (I)

The dynamic particle 了 (le) signifies: 1) the occurrence or completion of an action or event, or 2) the emergence of a situation. The action, event, or situation usually pertains to the past, but sometimes it can refer to the future. Therefore 了 (le) is not a past tense marker, and the use of 了 (le) should not be taken as an equivalent to the past tense in English. In this lesson, 了 (le) indicates the occurrence or completion of an action or event. It is usually used after a verb. But sometimes it appears after a verb and the object of the verb in interrogative and declarative sentences.

## ① 今天妈妈喝了三杯水。

Jīntiān Māma hē le sān bēi shuǐ.

(Mom had three glasses of water today.)

(occurrence or completion of an action, in the past)

## ② 星期一小高请我喝了一瓶可乐。

Xīngqīyī Xiǎo Gāo qǐng wǒ hē le yì píng kělè.

(On Monday Little Gao bought me a bottle of cola.)

(occurrence or completion of an event, in the past)

## ③ A: 昨天晚上你去打球了吗？

Zuótiān wǎnshang nǐ qù dǎ qiú le ma?

(Yesterday evening did you go play ball?)

(occurrence or completion of an event, in the past, an interrogative sentence)

## B: 昨天晚上我去打球了。

Zuótiān wǎnshang wǒ qù dǎo qiú le.

(Yesterday evening I went to play ball.)

(occurrence or completion of an event, in the past)

## ④ 明天我吃了晚饭去看电影。

Míngtiān wǒ chī le wǎnfàn qù kàn diànyǐng.

(Tomorrow I'll go see a movie after I have eaten dinner.)

(occurrence or completion of an action in the first part of the sentence, in the future)

There is often a specific time phrase in a sentence with the dynamic particle 了 (le) — such as 今天 (jīntiān, today) in (1), 星期一 (xīngqīyī, Monday) in (2), or 昨天晚上 (zuótiān wǎnshang, last night) in (3).

When 了 (le) is used between the verb and the object, the object is usually preceded by a modifier. The following—numeral + measure word—is the most common type of modifier for the object:

三杯 (sān bēi, three cups / three glasses) in (1)

一瓶 (yì píng, one bottle) in (2)

If there are other phrases or sentences following the object of the first clause, then the object does not need a modifier. See example (4) above. This V 了 O+V(O) structure can be used to depict a sequence of two actions, and it doesn't matter whether the two actions take place in the past or in the future.

If the object following 了 (le) is a proper noun, as “Harry Potter” in (5) below, it does not need a modifier, either.

5 我昨天看了《哈利·波特》，那个电影很好。

Wǒ zuótiān kàn le «Hālì Bōtè». Nà ge diànyǐng hěn hǎo.

(I saw *Harry Potter* yesterday. That movie was good.)

To say that an action did not take place in the past, use 没(有) (méi {yǒu}) instead of 不...了 (bù...le) or 没有...了 (méiyǒu...le).

FOR EXAMPLE:

6 昨天我没有听音乐。

Zuótiān wǒ méiyǒu tīng yīnyuè.

(I didn't listen to music yesterday.)

(6a) \*昨天我不听音乐了。

\*Zuótiān wǒ bù tīng yīnyuè le.

(6b) \*昨天我没有听音乐了。

\*Zuótiān wǒ méiyǒu tīng yīnyuè le.

Interrogative forms:

7 A: 你吃饭了吗? or 你吃饭了没有?

Nǐ chī fàn le ma? or Nǐ chī fàn le méiyǒu?

(Did you eat?)

B: 我没吃。

Wǒ méi chī.

(No, I didn't.)

8 A: 你喝了几杯水?

Nǐ hē le jǐ bēi shuǐ?

(How many glasses of water did you drink?)

B: 我喝了一杯水。

Wǒ hē le yì bēi shuǐ.

(I drank one glass of water.)



A sign on a bubble tea shop, a reminder to passersby to drop in and get their daily cup of bubble tea.

## 6. The Adverb 才 (cái, not until)

The adverb 才 (cái, not until) indicates that the occurrence of an action or situation is later than the speaker may have expected. That lateness is perceived by the speaker, and is not necessarily objective, as seen in (2) and (3). 才 (cái) never takes the particle 了 (le), whether or not it pertains to an action or situation in the past.

1 我请他六点吃晚饭，他六点半才来。

Wǒ qǐng tā liù diǎn chī wǎnfàn, tā liù diǎn bàn cái lái.

(I invited him out to dinner at six o'clock. He didn't come till six-thirty.)

2 小高常常晚上十二点才回家。

Xiǎo Gāo chángcháng wǎnshang shí'èr diǎn cái huí jiā.

(Little Gao often doesn't go home until midnight.)

3 她晚上很晚才睡觉。

Tā wǎnshang hěn wǎn cái shuì jiào.

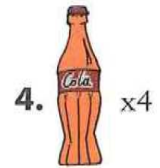
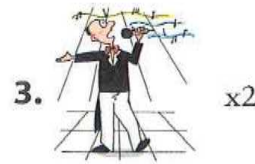
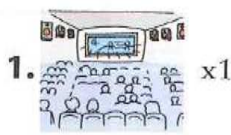
(She goes to bed very late in the evening.)

## Language Practice

### H. 了 (le)


Little Gao has so much energy! He can do so much in one day: dancing, singing, studying, eating, and working. Look at the following pictures, and recap what he did yesterday.

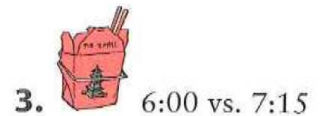
EXAMPLE:  x4 小高昨天喝了四杯咖啡。 Xiǎo Gāo zuótiān hē le sì bēi kāfēi.



### I. 才 (cái)

Imagine you are a very disciplined and time-conscious person. You do everything according to a set schedule. Your roommate, on the other hand, is a slow mover. Now you are comparing your daily routine with your roommate's, and you have found s/he does everything later than you do.

EXAMPLE:  我七点喝咖啡，她八点才喝 (咖啡)。 Wǒ qī diǎn hē kāfēi, tā bā diǎn cái hē (kāfēi).  
7:00 vs. 8:00



### J. Find out what your partner did last night.

你昨天晚上去朋友家玩儿了吗？

Nǐ zuótiān wǎnshang qù péngyou jiā wánr le ma?

If the answer is negative, then ask

你昨天晚上去哪儿了？  
你喝什么了？

Nǐ zuótiān wǎnshang qù nǎr le?

Nǐ hē shénme le?

## 你喝了几杯/几瓶？

Nǐ hē le jǐ bēi/jǐ píng?

After gathering the information, report to the class what your partner did last night:

Mark 昨天晚上去朋友家  
玩了/没有去朋友家玩儿...

Mark zuótiān wǎnshang qù péngyou jiā  
wánr le/méiyǒu qù péngyou jiā wánr...

## K. It was Little Wang's birthday yesterday.

Recap what Little Wang did on his birthday according to the three pictures provided. Don't forget to mention the time in each picture!



## HOW ABOUT YOU?

What's your favorite beverage?

- |          |               |    |                      |
|----------|---------------|----|----------------------|
| 1. 可口可乐  | Kěkǒukělè     | pn | Coca-Cola            |
| 2. 百事可乐  | Bǎishìkělè    | pn | Pepsi-Cola           |
| 3. 雪碧    | Xuěbì         | pn | Sprite               |
| 4. 汽水(儿) | qìshuǐ(r)     | n  | soft drink; soda pop |
| 5. 矿泉水   | kuàngquánshuǐ | n  | mineral water        |
| 6. 果汁    | guǒzhī        | n  | fruit juice          |

If your favorite beverage is not listed above, please ask your teacher and make a note here:

我喜欢喝 \_\_\_\_\_。

Wǒ xǐhuan hē \_\_\_\_\_.

## Culture Highlights

1 认识你很高兴 (rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng) or 很高兴认识你 (hěn gāoxìng rènshi nǐ) is a translation of “I’m very happy to meet you”. It may, therefore, sound rather Western to some native Chinese speakers. However, as the traditional Chinese equivalent polite forms have long since become obsolete, this expression is becoming more common.

2 Generally speaking, privacy is a somewhat less sacrosanct concept in Chinese culture than it is in the West. One would not necessarily be considered an intruder if one drops by a friend’s place with no warning. Nor are topics such as age, marital status, and salary necessarily considered off limits in a polite conversation. For those who believe in the traditional Chinese notion of friendship or personal loyalty, sharing such personal information is an important gesture of trust. But there was a more practical reason in modern times until recently: when people had very limited living spaces, everyone was literally very close to everyone else, and privacy became too expensive a luxury. All this, however, is changing. The much improved housing conditions have offered more private spaces to most people, especially the urbanites. In a legal sense, the Chinese citizens are becoming more aware of each other’s “privacy rights” (yǐnsī quán).

3 Tea, 茶 (chá), can probably be called the national drink of China. It depends on whom



A modern upscale tea house, 茶馆儿 (cháguǎnr), awaits its customers.



他们喝茶聊天儿。  
Tāmen hē chá liáo tiānr.



你想喝什么茶?  
Nǐ xiǎng hē shénme chá?

you ask, but in general, Chinese tea may be classified into the following categories according to the different methods by which it is processed: green tea, black tea, Wulong tea, compressed tea, and scented tea.

Chrysanthemum tea, 菊花茶 (júhuā chá), is a species of scented tea, whereas Longjing tea, 龙井茶 (lóngjǐng chá), belongs to the green tea family. Although tea is the most popular beverage in China, the number of coffee drinkers has been on the rise in recent years, as evidenced by the varieties of coffee on supermarket shelves and the surge of coffee shops, such as Starbucks, 星巴克 (Xīngbākè), in many Chinese cities.



This is a beverage menu of a restaurant. What kind of tea can you order?



## English Text

### Dialogue

- Gao Wenzhong: Who is it?  
 Wang Peng: It's me, Wang Peng. Li You is here, too.  
 Gao Wenzhong: Please come in. Please come in. Let me introduce you to one another. This is my sister, Gao Xiaoyin.  
 Wang Peng and Li You: How do you do, Xiaoyin! Pleased to meet you.  
 Gao Xiaoyin: Pleased to meet you, too.  
 Li You: Your home is very big, and very beautiful, too.  
 Gao Wenzhong: Is that so? Have a seat, please.  
 Wang Peng: Xiaoyin, where do you work?  
 Gao Xiaoyin: I work at a school. What would you like to drink? Would you like to drink tea or coffee?  
 Wang Peng: I'll have tea.  
 Li You: I'd like to have a bottle of cola, is that OK?.  
 Gao Xiaoyin: I'm sorry. We don't have cola.  
 Li You: Then please give me a glass of water.

### Narrative

Last night Wang Peng and Li You went to Gao Wenzhong's house for a visit. At Gao Wenzhong's house they met Gao Wenzhong's older sister. Her name is Gao Xiaoyin. She works at a school library. She offered tea to Wang Peng. Wang Peng had two cups. Li You doesn't drink tea. She only had a glass of water. They chatted and watched TV together. Wang Peng and Li You did not get home until twelve o'clock.

## PROGRESS CHECKLIST

Before proceeding to Lesson 6, be sure that you can complete the following tasks in Chinese:

I am able to—

- Introduce one person to another;
- Greet guests when they visit my house;
- Offer guests beverages to drink;
- As a guest, ask the host/hostess for a beverage;
- Ask about a friend's availability and set up a dinner appointment.

Please review the lesson if any of these tasks seem difficult.

# That's How the Chinese Say It!

## A Review of Functional Expressions from Lessons 1-5

After gauging your progress and before moving on to the next phase, let's take a break and see how some of the functional expressions that you have encountered in the previous lessons really work!

### 1. 算了 (suàn le, forget it; never mind) (Lesson 4)

You can say this to someone when you sense that you've put him or her in an awkward position or when someone has made a mistake but you don't wish to pursue the matter. You can also say this when you are dissatisfied with what someone is doing and want him or her to stop.

① A: 明天我们去打球，怎么样？

Míngtiān wǒmen qù dǎ qiú, zěnmeyàng?

(We'll go play ball tomorrow, all right?)

B: 明天我很忙。

Míngtiān wǒ hěn máng.

(I'm busy tomorrow.)



A: 那算了。

Nà suàn le.

(All right then, never mind.)

② A: 你今年多大？

Nǐ jīnnián duō dà?

(How old are you this year?)



B: 你为什么问我多大？

Nǐ wèishénme wèn wǒ duō dà?

(Why are you asking me how old I am?)

A: 算了，我不问了。

Suàn le, wǒ bú wèn le.

(Never mind. I won't ask any more.)

③ 算了，算了，你回家吧，我来做。

Suàn le, suàn le, nǐ huí jiā ba, wǒ lái zuò.

(Forget about it. You can go home. I'll take over.)

## II. 谁呀 (shéi ya, who is it?)(Lesson 5)

When you hear a knock on the door, this is what you usually say.

① A: (Knocking on the door.)

B: 谁呀?

Shéi ya?

(Who is it?)

A: 是我，李友。

Shì wǒ, Lǐ Yǒu.

(It's me, Li You.)

B: 请进。

Qǐng jìn.

(Please come in.)

② A: (Knocking on the door.)

B: 谁呀?

Shéi ya?

(Who is it?)

A: 我，小王。

Wǒ, Xiǎo Wáng.

(It's me, Little Wang.)

B: 进来。

Jìn lái.

(Come in.)



### III. 是吗 (shì ma, really; is that so?) (Lesson 5)

You say this when you hear something unexpected.

① A: 你的英文老师不是美国人。

Nǐ de Yīngwén lǎoshī bú shì Měiguó rén.

(Your English teacher is not American.)

B: 是吗？他是哪国人？

Shì ma? Tā shì nǎ guó rén?

(Is that so? What country is he from?)

A: 他是英国人。

Tā shì Yīngguó rén.

(He is British.)



② A: 学校的图书馆很漂亮。

Xuéxiào de túshūguǎn hěn piàoliang.

(The school library is very pretty.)

B: 是吗？我明天去看看。

Shì ma? Wǒ míngtiān qù kàn kan.

(Really? I'll go take a look tomorrow.)

### Any other useful expressions you would like to learn?

Please ask your teacher and make a note here:

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