

Initials and Finals of Pinyin

声母 Initials

n	l	g	k
h	j	q	x

韵母 Finals

ai ei ui ao ou iu

n and l

n is a nasal, the vocal cords should vibrate while pronouncing n.

l airstream should be sent out from two sides of the tongue, and the vocal cords should vibrate.

g and k

g is an unaspirated sound.


k is an aspirated sound, pronounced with a strong release of breath.

When pronouncing g and k , firstly the back part of the tongue touches the soft palate, then a narrow passage is opened to let the airstream go out.



h

Tongue and the soft palate have a narrow passage between them.



j q x

j is an unaspirated sound.

q is an aspirated sound, pronounced with a strong release of breath.

j q x

When pronouncing j and q , firstly the back part of the tongue touches the soft palate,then a narrow passage is opened to let the airstream go out.

X: Tongue and the soft palate have a narrow passage between them.

ai ei ao ou

The sound of the first vowel which is the main vowel is louder and longer than the second one. The second one sounds light and short.

The mouth opens wider while pronouncing ai than ei. Similarly, the mouth also opens wider while pronouncing ao than ou.

Read the syllables

nī gē kào lǎo jiù
gāo lì hǎo jí huì
kǒu xiū

Read the words

ài měi

Tái běi

gāo xìng

zāi péi

ào zhōu

hǎo shǒu

jī qì

qī jiān

qǔ xiāo

zāo shòu

hòu dào

xiū lù

The Neutral tone

Syllables which are pronounced shortly and lightly. There is no tone mark for this kind of syllables.



māma
妈妈



yéye
爷爷



nǎinai
奶奶



bàba
爸爸

Read the syllables with Neutral tone

zhuōzi

fángzi

yǐzi

guìzi

tāmen

rénmen

wǒmen

dìdi

yīfu

érzi

xǐhuan

rènshi

xiānsheng

péngyou

wǎnshang

piàoliang

Tone marking

1. When there is only one vowel in a syllable, the tone mark is placed on the vowel. (a o e i u ü)

má

fū

nǐ

kàn

2. When the final of a syllable is composed of 2 or more vowels, the tone mark must be placed on the one that is pronounced with the mouth more wide open.

huà

bèi

Notice the place of tone marks

xuéxiào

bāng máng

lánqiú

nǚ'ér

yóu yǒng

shǒubiǎo

zhōngyú

gōngsī

shíjiān

shēntǐ

kǎoshì

guójiā

bàozhǐ

hǎochī

xièxie

kèqì

Text1

A: 谢谢! (xiè xiè) Thank you!

B: 不谢! (bù xiè) you are welcome!

A: 谢谢你! (xiè xiè nǐ)

B: 不客气! (bù kè qì)



A: 再见! (zài jiàn) Bye!

B: 再见! (zài jiàn) Bye!



Text3

A:你好, 我是李月 nǐ hǎo, wǒ shì Lǐyuè。

Hi, I am Lǐyuè.

B:你好, 我是王明 nǐ hǎo, wǒ shì Wángmíng

Hi, I am Wángmíng.

A:我是法国人。 wǒ shì fǎ guó rén .

I am French.

B:我不是法国人, 我是巴基斯坦人。 wǒ bù shì fǎ guó rén, wǒ shì bā jī sī tǎn rén .

I am not French , I am Pakistani.

Notes: The “是” (shì) sentence

	Subject	+	Verb	+	Object
	我 (wǒ)		是 (shì)		Fatima
Negative form:	我 (wǒ)		<u>不</u> 是 (bù shì)		fatima

不 bù is a negative adverb, means “no, not”

我是中国人wǒ shì zhōngguó rén.

I am Chinese

我不是中国人wǒ bùshì zhōngguó rén .

I am not Chinese

我是学生wǒ shì xuéshēng I am a student.

我不是学生wǒ bùshì xuéshēng I am not student.

Change the sentence to negative form

我是巴基斯坦人 wǒ shì bā jī sī tǎn rén
i am Pakistani

我是老师 wǒ shì lǎo shī
I am teacher.