

400 Unique Sounds in Mandarin Chinese (Simplified Chinese Version)

啊八擦插搭发嘎哈喀拉妈拿趴仨杀他哏渣播佛摸噢坡策车啾婀歌呵科了么呢热色奢特责遮哀
 掰猜拆呆该嗨开来霾奶拍颧筛胎灾摘杯得飞给黑剋勒煤内胚谁贼凹包操超刀高蒿尻捞猫孬抛
 饶搔烧掏糟招抽凑兜否钩猴抠楼哞欧剖揉收艘偷周安班餐挽单翻肝斫刊蓝瞞南潘然三山贪簪
 沾奔岑嗔恩芬跟痕肯闷嫩喷人森身怎真肮帮仓昌当方刚夯康啷忙嚷兵让桑商汤脏张崩噌撑灯
 风耕亨坑冷梦能烹扔僧生疼增争逼低鸡哩咪妮批七踢西一吃疵日师私知资嗲家俩掐虾鸭憋爹
 接咧咩捏瞥切贴些噎标雕交撩鸟喵漂敲佻消腰丢纠溜谬妞秋修优边颠肩连棉拈篇千天先烟宾
 金拎民您拼侵心音江良娘枪香央冰盯京零名凝乒清听星英捕出粗督夫孤呼哭撸母奴扑如书酥
 秃屋猪租瓜花夸刷挖抓戳搓多锅活阔啰挪弱说缩拖窝桌昨踹乖坏快摔歪拽吹催堆归灰亏锐睡
 虽推威追最穿蹿端官欢宽卵暖软拴酸湍弯专钻春村蹲棍婚昆抡润顺孙吞温准尊窗光荒筐双汪
 装充匆东工轰空龙农容松通翁忠宗居屈旅女需迂噉略虐缺靴约捐全宣冤君群熏晕囡穷兄庸儿

How to use this resource

1. Find a native speaker of Chinese, preferably one who speaks standard Mandarin, and of the same gender.
2. Ask the speaker to pronounce each of these characters one by one.
3. Shadow the speaker with your own attempts at pronunciation, trying to sound as similar to them as possible.
4. Circle any pronunciations you have difficulty imitating and practice these daily until you sound closer to your native speaker friend.
5. For better results, record your session and play it back later to 'hear' the difference between your utterances and that of your friend.
6. When in doubt, listen to the mp3 recording.

Note that, for the purposes of this activity, the following characters with more than one reading (多音字) should be read as:

| | | |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 嘎: gā | 剋: kēi | 撩: liāo |
| 喀: kā | 勒: lēi | 溜: liū |
| 佛: fó | 谁: shéi | 钻: zuān |
| 嘚: dē | 奔: bēn | 拎: līn (Taiwan: līng) |
| 了: le | 闷: mēn | 拽: zhuài |
| 么: me | 哩: lī | 蹲: dūn |
| 呢: ne | 妮: nī (Taiwan: ní) | 抡: lūn |
| 色: sè | 俩: liǎ | 空: kōng |
| 得: děi | 咧: liē | 晕: yūn |
| 给: gěi | 切: qiē | |

I have chosen these 400 characters because they make up virtually all sounds in Mandarin – excluding, of course, variations in tone. This resource is best used as a quick diagnostic tool for learners of Chinese who wish to figure out which sounds they need to work on. Enjoy!

Carl Gene Fordham

傅君恺

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