



Independent Schools  
Examinations Board

**COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION at 11+ and 13+  
MANDARIN CHINESE**

**VOCABULARY AND CHINESE CHARACTERS**

**FOR USE WITH COMMON ENTRANCE SYLLABUS**

## CORE CHARACTERS FOR LEVEL 1

Activities:	做饭 起床 上学 电视 跑步 足球
Adjectives:	大小好 好吃 好喝 好玩 新
Adverb:	不
The body:	手
Chinese places:	中国 北京 长城
Clothes:	毛衣 帽子
Colours:	红 绿 蓝 黄 黑 白
Food and drink:	水 汉堡包 牛肉 牛奶 鸡肉 汽水 刀 早饭
Home:	家 客厅 沙发
Family:	爸(爸) 妈(妈) 哥(哥) 姐(姐) 弟(弟) 妹(妹)
Numbers:	一 二 三 四 五 六 七 八 九 十 (numbers 11-99) 元
Time and date:	两 点 了 钟 星期 天 月 假期
School and classroom:	汉语 中文 课本 包 笔 尺 书
Question words:	吗 几
Verbs:	吃 喝 买 在 有 没有 喜欢 看 要去

## CORE CHARACTERS FOR LEVEL 2

There is no fixed list of core characters at Level 2. It is hoped that candidates will learn as wide a range of characters as possible.

# WORD LIST

<b>Key</b>	
R	Candidates must be able to read and understand the word in Chinese characters at this level.
*	Candidates will not have to read the word in Chinese characters at this level. They must, however, know the pinyin and understand the word aurally. They may also need to be able to say the word.
(blank)	When the Level 1 box is blank, the word is needed only at Level 2.

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
<b>Activities</b>				
做饭	zuò fàn	to cook	R	R
吃饭	chī fàn	to eat/have a meal	R	R
看电视	kàn diànshì	to watch television	R	R
跑步	pǎobù	to jog; jogging	R	R
踢(足球)	tī (zúqiú)	to play (football)	R	R
足球	zúqiú	football	R	R
看电影	kàn diànyǐng	see a film	*	R
运动	yùndòng	to exercise; sport	*	R
用电脑	yòng diànnǎo	to use the computer	*	*
上网	shàng wǎng	surf the net	*	*
比赛	bǐsài	to compete; competition	*	*
打乒乓球	dǎ pīngpāngqiú	to play ping pong	*	*
打网球	dǎ wǎngqiú	to play tennis	*	*
游泳	yóuyǒng	to swim	*	*
打篮球	dǎ lánqiú	to play basketball		*
骑马	qí mǎ	to ride a horse		*

<b>Adjectives</b>				
大	dà	big	R	R
好喝	hǎohē	delicious/good to drink	R	R
好吃	hǎochī	delicious/good to eat	R	R
好玩	hǎowán	fun	R	R
好	hǎo	good	R	R

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
新	xīn	new	R	R
小	xiǎo	small	R	R
有意思	yǒu yìsi	interesting	*	R
老	lǎo	old	*	R
美丽 / 漂亮	měili/piàoliang	beautiful	*	*
无聊	wúliáo	boring	*	*
便宜	piányi	cheap	*	*
聪明	cōngmíng	clever		*
贵	guì	expensive		*
胖	pàng	fat		*
高兴	gāoxìng	happy		*
悲伤	bēishāng	sad		*
矮	ǎi	short		*
高	gāo	tall		*
瘦	shòu	thin		*
累	lèi	tired		*

Adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions				
在	zài	to be in/located in	R	R
不	bù/bú	no; not	R	R
很	hěn	very	*	R
非常	fēicháng	very		R
跟	gēn	with		R
也	yě	also		R
和	hé	and		R
比较	bǐjiào	quite		*
但是	dànshì	but		*

The body				
手	shǒu	hand	R	R
胳膊	gēbo	arm	*	*
耳朵	ěrdou	ear	*	*
眼睛	yǎnjīng	eyes	*	*
脚	jiǎo	foot	*	*
腿	tuǐ	leg	*	*

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
嘴巴	zuǐba	mouth	*	*
鼻子	bízi	nose	*	*

China and the world				
中国	Zhōngguó	China	R	R
北京	Běijīng	Beijing	R	R
长城	Cháng Chéng	The Great Wall	R	R
汉语	Hànyǔ	Chinese	R	R
中文	Zhōngwén	Chinese	R	R
美国	Měiguó	America	*	R
英国	Yīngguó	Britain	*	R
法国	Fǎguó	France	*	R
上海	Shànghǎi	Shanghai	*	R
英语	Yīngyǔ	English	*	R
香港	Xiāng Gǎng	Hong Kong	*	*
伦敦	Lúndūn	London	*	*
故宫	Gùgōng	The Forbidden City	*	*
天安门	Tiānānmén	Tiananmen Square	*	*
黄河	Huáng Hé	Yellow River	*	*
美国人	Měiguórén	American person		R
中国人	Zhōngguórén	Chinese person		R
英国人	Yīngguórén	English person		R
法国人	Fǎguórén	French person		R

Clothes				
帽子	màozi	hat	R	R
毛衣	máoyī	jumper	R	R
夹克	jiákè	jacket	*	*
衬衫	chènshān	shirt	*	*
鞋子	xiézi	shoes	*	*
裙子	qúnzi	skirt	*	*
T 恤衫	tīxùshān	T shirt	*	*
袜子	wàzi	socks	*	*
裤子	kùzi	trousers	*	*
衣服	yīfu	clothing		R

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
<b>Colours</b>				
黑	hēi	black	R	R
蓝	lán	blue	R	R
绿	lǜ	green	R	R
红	hóng	red	R	R
白	bái	white	R	R
黄	huáng	yellow	R	R

<b>Directions</b>				
上面	shàngmian	above/on		R
后面	hòumian	behind		R
下面	xiàmian	below/under		R
前面	qiánmian	in front (of)		R
左边	zuǒbian	left		*
右边	yòubian	right		*

<b>Food and drink</b>				
牛肉	niúròu	beef	R	R
鸡肉	jīròu	chicken meat	R	R
汽水	qìshuǐ	fizzy drink	R	R
牛奶	niúnnǎi	milk	R	R
水	shuǐ	water	R	R
汉堡包	hànǎobāo	hamburger	R	R
早饭	zǎofàn	breakfast	R	R
刀	dāo	knife	R	R
面包	miànbāo	bread	*	R
鸡蛋	jīdàn	chicken egg	*	R
咖啡	kāfēi	coffee	*	R
可乐	kělè	Coke	*	R
面条	miàntiáo	noodles	*	R
(米)饭	(mǐ)fàn	rice	*	R
茶	chá	tea	*	R
午饭	wǔfàn	lunch	*	R
晚饭	wǎnfàn	dinner	*	R
薯条	shǔtiáo	chips	*	*

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
巧克力	qiǎokèlì	chocolate	*	*
苹果汁	píngguǒzhī	apple juice	*	*
橙汁	chéngzhī	orange juice	*	*
筷子	kuàizi	chopsticks	*	*
叉	chāzi	fork	*	*
勺子	sháozi	spoon	*	*
饺子	jiǎozi	dumplings		*
荔枝	lìzhī	lychee		*
菜单	càidān	menu		*
餐馆	cānguǎn	restaurant		*
咸	xián	salty		*
辣	là	spicy		*
甜	tián	sweet		*
春卷	chūnjuǎn	spring rolls		*
服务员	fúwùyuán	waiter		*
蛋糕	dàngāo	cake		*

### Greetings and introductions

你好	nǐ hǎo	hello	*	R
再见	zàijiàn	goodbye	*	R
谢谢	xièxie	thank you	*	R
你好吗?	Nǐ hǎo ma?	How are you?	*	R
我很好	Wǒ hěn hǎo.	I am well.	*	R
你叫什么?	Nǐ jiào shénme?	What are you called?	*	R
我叫...	Wǒ jiào....	I am called...	*	R
你几岁?	Nǐ jǐ suì?	How old are you?	*	R
你住在哪里?	Nǐ zhù zài nǎlǐ?	Where do you live?	*	R
你是谁?	Nǐ shì shéi?	Who are you?	*	R
我...岁	Wǒ ....suì.	I am .... years old.	*	R

### Holidays and special occasions

假期	jiàqī	holiday	R	R
海	hǎi	the sea	*	R
饭店	fàndiàn	hotel/restaurant	*	R
海滩	hǎitān	beach	*	*

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
生日	shēngrì	birthday		R
卡片	kǎpiàn	card		*
聚会	jùhuì	party		*
礼物	lǐwù	present		*

Home and family				
妈妈	māma	mum	R	R
爸爸	bàba	dad	R	R
哥哥	gēge	elder brother	R	R
姐姐	jiějie	elder sister	R	R
弟弟	dìdi	younger brother	R	R
妹妹	mèimei	younger sister	R	R
家	jiā	home	R	R
客厅	kètīng	living room	R	R
沙发	shāfā	sofa	R	R
浴室	yùshì	bathroom/shower room	*	*
卧室	wòshì	bedroom	*	*
厨房	chúfáng	kitchen	*	*
床	chuáng	bed	*	*
桌子	zhuōzi	table/desk	*	*
椅子	yǐzi	chair	*	*
手机	shǒujī	mobile phone	*	*
朋友	péngyou	friend		R
狗	gǒu	dog		R
动物	dòngwù	animals		*
玩具	wánjù	toy		*
东西	dōngxi	thing		*

Numbers, time, date				
一	yī	1	R	R
二	èr	2	R	R
三	sān	3	R	R
四	sì	4	R	R
五	wǔ	5	R	R
六	liù	6	R	R
七	qī	7	R	R

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
八	bā	8	R	R
九	jiǔ	9	R	R
十	shí	10	R	R
十一...九十九	shí yī ... jiǔshíjiǔ	11...99	R	R
一百	yī bǎi	100	*	R
两	liǎng	2 (before a measure word)	R	R
点	diǎn	o'clock	R	R
几点了?	jǐ diǎn le	What time is it?	R	R
几点钟?	jǐ diǎn zhōng	What time is it?	*	*
星期	xīngqī	week	R	R
星期一	xīngqī yī	Monday	R	R
星期二	xīngqī èr	Tuesday	R	R
星期三	xīngqī sān	Wednesday	R	R
星期四	xīngqī sì	Thursday	R	R
星期五	xīngqī wǔ	Friday	R	R
星期六	xīngqī liù	Saturday	R	R
星期天	xīngqī tiān	Sunday	R	R
星期日	xīngqī rì	Sunday	*	R
天	tiān	day/sky	R	R
月	yuè	month/moon	R	R
一月	yī yuè	January	R	R
二月	èr yuè	February	R	R
三月	sān yuè	March	R	R
四月	sì yuè	April	R	R
五月	wǔ yuè	May	R	R
六月	liù yuè	June	R	R
七月	qī yuè	July	R	R
八月	bā yuè	August	R	R
九月	jiǔ yuè	September	R	R
十月	shí yuè	October	R	R
十一月	shíyī yuè	November	R	R
十二月	shí'èr yuè	December	R	R
元	Yuán	Yuan/Chinese currency	R	R
个	gè	(measure word for things and people)		R

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
件	jiàn	(measure word for clothing)		R
只	zhī	(measure word for some animals)		R

Places in town				
公园	gōngyuán	park		R
商店	shāngdiàn	shop		R
超市	chāoshì	supermarket		R
邮局	yóujú	post office		*

Pronouns				
我	wǒ	I; me	*	R
你	nǐ	you	*	R
他	tā	he; him	*	R
她	tā	she; her	*	R
我们	wǒmen	we; us	*	R
这里	zhè lǐ	here	*	R
那里	nà lǐ	there	*	R
里	lǐ	inside	*	R
那	nà	that	*	R
这	zhè	this	*	R
你们	nǐmen	you (plural)	*	R
他们 / 她们	tāmen/tāmen	they (male/female); them	*	R

Question words				
吗	ma	question particle	R	R
几	jǐ?	how many?	R	R
什么	shénme?	what?	*	R
哪里/儿	nǎlǐ/ nǎr?	where?	*	R
谁	shéi?	who?	*	R
多少	duōshǎo qián?	how much?		R
哪个	nǎ gè?	which?		R
怎么	zěnmē?	how?		R

School and classroom				
包	bāo	bag	R	R

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	
书	shū	book	R	R
上学	shàngxué	go to school	R	R
课	kè	lesson	R	R
笔	bǐ	pen	R	R
尺	chǐ	ruler	R	R
课本	kèběn	textbook	R	R
学生	xuéshēng	student	*	R
老师	lǎoshī	teacher	*	R
放学	fàngxué	finish classes (for the day)	*	*
作业	zuòyè	homework	*	*
数学	shùxué	maths	*	*
体育	tǐyù	PE	*	*
科学	kēxué	science	*	*
考试	kǎoshì	test/to test	*	*
学校	xuéxiào	school		R
书桌	shūzhuō	desk		*
图片	túpiàn	picture		*
白板	báibǎn	whiteboard		*

### Transport

汽车	qìchē	car		R
火车	huǒchē	train		R
飞机	fēijī	plane		R
开车	kāi chē	to drive		R
坐火车	zuò huǒchē	to go by train		R
坐飞机	zuò fēijī	to go by plane		R
船	chuán	boat		*
坐船	zuò chuán	to go by boat		*
骑车	qí chē	to ride a bicycle		*
走路	zǒu lù	to walk		*

### Verbs

去	qù	to go	R	R
有	yǒu	have/has; there is/there are	R	R
没有	méiyǒu	do not/does not have; there is not/are not	R	R

Chinese	Pinyin	English	Level 1	Level 2
喜欢	xǐhuan	to like	R	R
不喜欢	bù xǐhuan	do not/does not like	R	R
要	yào	to want	R	R
不要	bú yào	do not/does not want	R	R
买	mǎi	to buy	R	R
做	zuò	to do/make	R	R
喝	hē	to drink	R	R
吃	chī	to eat	R	R
起床	qǐchuáng	to get up	R	R
看	kàn	to watch	R	R
穿	chuān	to wear	*	R
是	shì	to be	*	R
叫	jiào	to be called	*	R
睡觉	shuìjiào	to sleep	*	R
住	zhù	to live	*	R
用	yòng	to use	*	*
会	huì	to be able to/can		R
不会	bú huì	to not be able to/can't		R
说	shuō	to speak		R
给	gěi	to give		*
唱歌	chàng gē	to sing		*
跳舞	tiào wǔ	to dance		*
想要	xiǎng yào	would like		*

Weather				
风	fēng	wind		R
冷	lěng	cold		R
热	rè	hot		R
里边	lǐbian	inside		R
雨	yǔ	rain		R
雪	xuě	snow		R
外边	wàibian	outside		*
太阳	tàiyáng	sun		*
天气	tiānqì	weather		*