

Reader Level  
Level One

Unique Characters  
300

安末

Ān Mò

---

Emma

Jane Austen



Mandarin  
Companion

Chinese Graded Readers

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# What Graded Readers can do for you

Welcome to Mandarin Companion!

We've worked hard to create enjoyable stories that can help you build confidence and competence and get better at Chinese—at the right level for you.

Our graded readers have controlled and simplified language that allows you to bring together the language you've learned so far and absorb how words work naturally together. Research suggests that learners need to “encounter” a word 10-30 times before truly learning it. Graded readers provide the repetition that you need to develop fluency NOW at your level.

In the next section, you can take an assessment and discover if this is the right level for you. We also explain how it won't just improve your Chinese skills but will have a wide range of benefits, from better test scores to increased confidence.

We hope you enjoy our books, and best of luck with your studies.  
Jared and John

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Do you have versions with pinyin over the characters?**

No. Although this method is common for native Chinese learners, research and experience show it distracts a second language learner and slows down their ability to learn the characters. If you require pinyin to read most of the characters at this level, you should read something easier.

## Is there an English translation of the story?

No. Research and experience show that an English translation will slow down the development of your Chinese language learning skills.

## Is this the right level for me?

Let's find out. Open to a story page with characters and start reading. Keep track of the number of characters you *don't* know but don't count any key words you don't know. If there are more than 6 unknown characters on that page, you may want to consider reading our books at a lower level. If the unknown characters are fewer than 6, then this book is likely at your level! If you find that you know all the characters, you may be ready for a higher level. However, even if you know all the characters but are reading slowly, you should consider building reading speed before moving up a level.

## How do you decide which characters to include at each level?

Each level includes a core set of characters based on our extensive analysis of the most common characters and words taught to and used by those learning Chinese as a second language. All books at each level are based on the same core set and they can be read in any order.

## What to expect in a Level 1 book?

It's important that you read at the level that is right for you. Check out the next page to learn more about Extensive Reading and how we use that in graded readers to support the learning of Chinese by just enjoying a good story.

Books in our Level 1 like this one:

- Include a core set of 300 Chinese words and characters learners are most likely to know.
- Are about 10,000 characters in length
- Use level appropriate grammar
- Include pinyin and a translation of words and characters you are not

expected to know at this level

- Include a glossary at the back of book
- Include proper nouns that are underlined

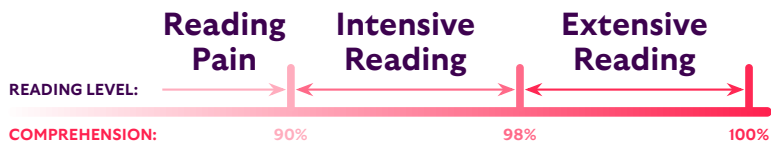
## What is Extensive Reading?

It will improve test scores, your reading speed and comprehension, speaking, listening and writing skills. You'll pick up grammar naturally, you'll begin understanding in Chinese, your confidence will improve, and you'll enjoy learning the language.

Graded Readers are based on science that is backed by mountains of research and proven by learners all over the world. They are founded on the theories of Extensive Reading and Comprehensible Input.

Extensive Reading is reading at a level where you can understand almost all of what you are reading (ideally 98%) at a comfortable speed, as opposed to stumbling through dense paragraphs word by word.

When you read extensively, you'll understand most of the words and find yourself fully engaged with the story.



Reading at 98% comprehension is the sweet spot to max out your learning gains. You do still learn at the Intensive Reading level (90–98%), but the closer you are to the Extensive level, the faster your progress.

No one should be reading below a 90% comprehension level.

It's called Reading Pain for a reason. You spend so much time in a dictionary and after 30 painful minutes on ONE paragraph, you're not even sure what you've just read!

**If you want to know more, check out our website**

[www.mandarincompanion.com](http://www.mandarincompanion.com)





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## Story Notes

This adaptation of *Emma* is approximately 200 years removed from the original, a change from England's Regency period to China's Digital Age, two widely different cultures. Although there are great differences in time and culture, there are direct parallels between these two periods we drew on in bringing you this classic story. When Jane Austen sat down in January 1814 to write about "a heroine whom no-one but myself will much like," she could have never imagined that one day her story would be adapted into a Chinese setting hundreds of years in the future.

However, bringing Emma into the hustle and bustle of 21st century Shanghai was no small task. In the original, Emma was born into a wealthy family, sees no need for a man in her life, and spends much of her time dabbling in the lives of her friends and neighbors. In this adaptation, Emma has a wealthy father yet has an ambitious drive to make something of her life. She is married to her career as a fashion designer, which leaves her with no time for a man. Instead, she pursues her hobby of matching friends and co-workers.

Setting this story in the modern day brought in a number of new possibilities. Hand-written letters sent via courier are replaced by text messaging. Community newspapers and bulletins as a way of spreading local news are replaced with social media, complete with likes, comments, and selfies. It is fun to note that the cover image pays homage to the movie *Chueless*, perhaps the most commercially successful adaptation of *Emma* yet.

Despite the time difference between the original and adapted version, the core essence of Emma's personality remains intact: a spoiled, headstrong, and self-satisfied heroine who greatly overestimates her own skills and is blind to the dangers of meddling in other people's lives.

# Character Adaptations

The following is a list of the characters from this Chinese story followed by their corresponding English names from Jane Austen's original story. The names below are not translations; they are new Chinese names used for the Chinese versions of the original characters. Think of them as all-new characters in a Chinese story.

安末 (Ān Mò) – Emma Woodhouse

Elton (Elton) – Philip Elton

Jane (Jane) – Jane Fairfax

石文正 (Shí Wénzhèng) – George Knightley

芳芳 (Fāngfāng) – Harriet Smith

小周 (Xiǎo Zhōu) – Robert Martin

陈然 (Chén Rán) – Frank Churchill

## Cast of Characters



安末  
(Ān Mò)



Elton  
(Elton)



Jane  
(Jane)



石文正  
(Shí Wénzhèng)



芳芳  
(Fāngfāng)



小周  
(Xiǎo Zhōu)



陈然  
(Chén Rán)

RUSSIA

• Urumqi

## Locations

### 上海 (Shànghǎi)

China's largest city, Shanghai embodies the past, present, and future of China. It is the cosmopolitan center of commerce and fashion for China, where western culture blends with eastern traditions.

### 广州 (Guǎngzhōu)

Guangzhou is the largest city in southern China and a hub of Cantonese culture. It is the center of the most populous built-up urban area in the world consisting of nine cities and two special administrative regions.

• Lhasa

MYANMAR





## One

## 工作和爱好

一个周五的晚上，同事<sup>1</sup>们都走了，只有安末、Elton、Jane和他们的老板<sup>2</sup>还在公司<sup>3</sup>。

安末是两年前回上海<sup>4</sup>的，回国<sup>4</sup>以前她一直在法国学设计<sup>5</sup>。现在她在一家很有名的设计<sup>5</sup>公司<sup>3</sup>工作。这家公司<sup>3</sup>是设计<sup>5</sup>衣服<sup>6</sup>的。安末很喜欢自己的工作，也很认真<sup>7</sup>，

1 同事 (tóngshì) *n.* co-worker, colleague

2 老板 (lǎobǎn) *n.* boss

3 公司 (gōngsī) *n.* company, corporation; office

4 回 (huí) *v.* to return; to reply

5 设计 (shèjì) *v., n.* to design; a design

6 衣服 (yīfu) *n.* clothing

7 认真 (rènzhēn) *adj.* serious; seriously

常常工作到很晚才回家。  
4

Elton是安末的同事，上海人，长得还不  
1 8  
错，也很会穿衣服。他喜欢跟不同的女生  
9 6  
去酒吧，也常常跟安末说话，问她一些工  
10  
作的事，请她吃晚饭什么的。  
11

“安末，你觉得这件红衣服和这个白  
6  
的包看起来怎么样？”Elton走过来问。  
12

“我觉得这个红不太好看，试试别的红  
13 13  
吧。”安末只是很快看了一下衣服和包，就  
14 6 12  
说出了自己的想法。她对所有的问题都很  
15  
有想法。  
15

8 长得 (zhǎngde) *v.* to look (pretty, the same etc)

9 穿 (chuān) *v.* to wear, to put on; to pierce

10 酒吧 (jiǔbā) *n.* bar, pub

11 请 (qǐng) *v.* please; to invite, to request, to treat (to a meal, etc.)

12 包 (bāo) *n.* bag

13 试 (shì) *v.* to try

14 很快 (hěn kuài) *phrase* very fast; quickly, very soon

15 想法 (xiǎngfǎ) *n.* idea, thinking





“我觉得你的想法不错，我会试试的。对了，我一会儿要去一个很有意思的 party，你想跟我去吗？”

“对不起，我今天太忙了。下次吧。”说话的时候，安末没有看Elton。

Elton看安末这么忙，就先走了。

Elton刚走，老板又走了过来。

“安末，最近那些新衣服的设计怎么样了？明天我就要给别的公司看我们的PPT了。你知道，这对公司来说很重要。”

“没问题，我觉得他们一定会喜欢我们的设计！”

“好。我今天晚上还有事，要先走了。”老板说完，安末笑了一下。她知道老板今天晚上要去做什么。

几个月以前，安末听一个同事说，老板已经三十多岁了。但是，他总是忙着工作，所以一直没有女朋友。安末很快

16 最近 (zuìjìn) *adv.* recently, these days;  
latest

17 重要 (zhòngyào) *adj.* important

18 笑 (xiào) *v.* to laugh, to smile

19 岁 (suì) *mw.* [measure word for years old]

就想到了自己的姑姑<sub>20</sub>。姑姑<sub>20</sub>三十多岁<sub>19</sub>，  
很漂亮<sub>21</sub>。不过，她一直没有男朋友。安末  
一直想帮姑姑找<sub>22 20 23</sub>一个男朋友。

没错，这是她回上海<sub>4</sub>以后最大的爱好<sub>24</sub>  
——帮别人找<sub>22 23</sub>男朋友、女朋友。

她请老板和姑姑<sub>11 2 20</sub>一起吃晚饭。没想到<sub>25</sub>，  
老板<sub>2</sub>很喜欢安末的姑姑<sub>20</sub>。他们很快就在一<sub>14</sub>  
起了，现在是男女朋友。每次想到老板<sub>2</sub>  
和姑姑<sub>20</sub>很快会结婚<sub>14 26</sub>，安末就很高兴<sub>27</sub>。

老板<sub>2</sub>走了以后，Jane又走过来问：“今  
天的工作都做好了吗？如果还没做好，请<sub>11</sub>

20 姑姑 (gūgu) *n.* father's sister

21 漂亮 (piàoliang) *adj.* pretty

22 帮 (bāng) *v.* to help; for (someone)

23 找 (zhǎo) *v.* to look for; to call on  
someone; to give change

24 爱好 (àihào) *n.* hobby

25 没想到 (méi xiǎngdào) *phrase* didn't  
expect

26 结婚 (jiéhūn) *vo.* to get married

27 高兴 (gāoxìng) *adj.* happy

快点做。七点半以前要给我。”

“好的，我会很快做好。”安末喝了一口咖啡，又忙了起来。

安末跟同事们的关系都不错，老板也很喜欢她。如果没有Jane，安末会觉得好很多。Jane是跟安末一起进公司的，她是从一个很小的地方来到上海的。上完大学以后，Jane就一直在这家公司工作。Jane工作很认真。去年，老板给了她一个更好的工作，这让安末很不高兴。

Jane走了以后，安末的爸爸打电话给安末：“女儿，今天晚上我有工作，会很晚回

28 咖啡 (kāfēi) *n.* coffee

29 关系 (guānxi) *n.* relation, relationship; to concern

家。你自己吃饭吧。”

安末的爸爸是一个生意人，自己开公  
司。安末的妈妈在她很小的时候就死了。  
对安末来说，爸爸是最重要的人。爸爸工  
作很忙，很少跟安末一起吃晚饭，听她说  
话。但是，爸爸常常给安末买很多好东西，  
吃的、用的、穿的，什么都是最好的。安  
末知道，爸爸最爱她了。

安末回国以后一直跟爸爸住在一起，  
也没有男朋友。她觉得自己的生活很好，  
不找男朋友也没关系。再说，她很喜欢现

30 生意 (shēngyì) *n.* business

33 生活 (shēnghuó) *n.* life

31 开公司 (kāi gōngsī) *vo.* to start a company

32 很少 (hěn shǎo) *phrase* very few; rarely

在的工作，常常要工作到很晚。她不想花很多时间跟男生朋友出去玩。

## Two

## 新的女同事

一天晚上，安末很晚才回到家。爸爸  
还没回来，她从包里拿出手机，给石文正  
打了一个电话。

“我刚到家，家里没人，想找你说说  
话。”

“怎么了？你听起来有点不开心。”石  
文正小心地问。

石文正是安末最好的朋友，他们已经

34 拿 (ná) *v.* to grab

35 手机 (shǒujī) *n.* cell phone, mobile  
phone

36 开心 (kāixīn) *adj.* happy

37 小心 (xiǎoxīn) *v.* to be careful



认识很多年了。他爸爸和安末爸爸是工  
 作认识的，在一起做生意快二十年了，是  
 老朋友。

石文正比安末大8岁。安末很喜欢石文  
正，他们的关系也很好，但是，他们不是



男女朋友。他们常常见面，<sup>39</sup> 没时间见面<sup>39</sup>的时候就打电话。

“是Jane……她跟我说话的时候就<sup>40</sup>像我老板，这让我很不<sup>27</sup>高兴。”安末喝了一口水，“我不明白老板<sup>2</sup>为什么那么喜欢她……”

“安末，老板<sup>2</sup>喜欢谁不<sup>17</sup>重要，<sup>17</sup>重要的是做好你自己的工作。再说，Jane是你的<sup>1</sup>同事，你们每天都要一起工作。如果你们的关系<sup>29</sup>不好，对你们的工作也不好。”石文正<sup>41</sup>慢慢地说。

“好了，不要一直说我的事，我们说

39 见面 (jiànmiàn) *v.o.* to meet

41 慢慢地 (mǎnmàn de) *adv.* slowly

40 像 (xiàng) *v.* to resemble; like

点别的吧。对了，我老板真的很喜欢我姑姑，他们在一起很开心。我看，他们应该很快就要结婚了！”安末又高兴了起来。

“他们要不要结婚，是他们的事，让他们自己想吧。”石文正也知道这是安末最大的爱好。不过，他觉得这样做不好。

“她是我的家人，这件事我当然要帮她了。”安末觉得自己做得没错。“对了，明天我要带芳芳去买衣服。你知道吗，她还在穿大学时候的衣服，看起来就像一个学生。可是要想让男生喜欢，不会穿衣服怎么行？她还有很多东西要学。好了，不

早了，我要去睡了。” 安末<sub>43</sub>放下了电话。

芳芳是安末的新同事<sub>1</sub>。她也是从小地方来的，今年刚刚上完大学。这是她第一次来上海，这也是她的第一个工作。

“安末，谢谢你带<sub>42</sub>我来买衣服<sub>6</sub>。”第二天，芳芳一边试衣服<sub>13 6</sub>，一边说。“公司的同事<sub>3</sub>是不是都在笑我<sub>18</sub>……我没有漂亮的衣服<sub>21</sub>，没钱<sub>6</sub>买很贵的包<sub>12</sub>，英文说得也不好。跟别的同事<sub>1</sub>比，我什么都没有……”

“芳芳，我明白，对你来说，这一定很难。但你不用想那么多，会好的。如果你相信<sub>44</sub>我，就让我来帮你<sub>22</sub>吧。我会告诉<sub>45</sub>你怎么穿<sub>9</sub>”

43 放 (fàng) v. to put, to place; to release

45 告诉 (gàosu) v. to tell, to inform

44 相信 (xiāngxìn) v. to believe (that)

衣服更漂亮。”安末开心地说，“对了，你  
 刚才试的那件衣服很好看，我觉得你应该  
 买。”

“谢谢你，安末，我觉得你就像我姐姐一  
 样！”芳芳很开心有安末这样的好朋友。每  
 次安末带芳芳出来玩、买东西的时候，芳  
 芳都会这么说。

在公司，芳芳常常帮同事们叫外卖，所  
 以她跟送外卖的小周常常见面。小周今年  
 23岁，也是外地人。他爸爸是开饭店的，  
 他常常帮忙送外卖。每次他来送外卖的时

46 叫外卖 (jiào wàimài) *v.* to order  
take-out

47 送 (sòng) *v.* to deliver; to send; to give  
(as a present); to see off

48 开饭店 (kāi fàndiàn) *v.* to open a  
restaurant



候都会跟芳芳说一会儿话。现在他们已经  
是朋友了。

这一天中午，小周又来送外卖了：“芳  
芳，这个周末你有时间吗？我想请你一起  
吃饭。”

“周末<sub>49</sub>我没什么事，但是你们店里周末<sub>49</sub>  
不忙吗？”芳芳<sub>18</sub>笑着问。

“我们工作日都很忙，周末<sub>49</sub>还好。”小  
周<sub>50</sub>不好意思地<sub>50</sub>笑了一下<sub>18</sub>，“那我晚点发短<sub>51</sub>  
信<sub>52</sub>给你，告诉<sub>45</sub>你时间和地点。”

“好，周末<sub>49</sub>见！”

50 不好意思 (bùhǎoyìsi) *adj.* to feel  
embarrassed or awkward

51 发 (fā) *v.* to send out

52 短信 (duǎnxìn) *n.* text message

Three

# 芳芳的男朋友

**Four**

# 这样做对吗？



Five

Elton 喜欢的人



## 新的男同事

Seven

Party

## Eight

## 芳芳喜欢的人

Nine

# 不开心的一天

Ten

# 帮一个朋友



## Key Words 关键词 (Guānjiàncí)

1. 同事 tóngshì *n.* co-worker, colleague
2. 老板 lǎobǎn *n.* boss
3. 公司 gōngsī *n.* company, corporation; office
4. 回 huí *v.* to return; to reply
5. 设计 shèjì *v., n.* to design; a design
6. 衣服 yīfu *n.* clothing
7. 认真 rènzhēn *adj.* serious; seriously
8. 长得 zhǎngde *v.* to look (pretty, the same etc)
9. 穿 chuān *v.* to wear, to put on; to pierce
10. 酒吧 jiǔbā *n.* bar, pub
11. 请 qǐng *v.* please; to invite, to request, to treat (to a meal, etc.)
12. 包 bāo *n.* bag
13. 试 shì *v.* to try
14. 很快 hěn kuài *phrase* very fast; quickly, very soon
15. 想法 xiǎngfǎ *n.* idea, thinking
16. 最近 zuìjìn *adv.* recently, these days; latest
17. 重要 zhòngyào *adj.* important
18. 笑 xiào *v.* to laugh, to smile
19. 岁 suì *mw.* [measure word for years old]
20. 姑姑 gūgu *n.* father's sister
21. 漂亮 piàoliang *adj.* pretty
22. 帮 bāng *v.* to help; for (someone)
23. 找 zhǎo *v.* to look for; to call on someone; to give change
24. 爱好 àihào *n.* hobby
25. 没想到 méi xiǎngdào *phrase* didn't expect
26. 结婚 jiéhūn *vo.* to get married

27. 高兴 gāoxìng *adj.* happy
28. 咖啡 kāfēi *n.* coffee
29. 关系 guānxi *n.* relation, relationship; to concern
30. 生意 shēngyì *n.* business
31. 开公司 kāi gōngsī *vo.* to start a company
32. 很少 hěn shǎo *phrase* very few; rarely
33. 生活 shēnghuó *n.* life
34. 拿 ná *v.* to grab
35. 手机 shǒujī *n.* cell phone, mobile phone
36. 开心 kāixīn *adj.* happy
37. 小心 xiǎoxīn *v.* to be careful
38. 认识 rènshi *v.* to know (a person)
39. 见面 jiànmiàn *vo.* to meet
40. 像 xiàng *v.* to resemble; like
41. 慢慢地 mànman de *adv.* slowly
42. 带 dài *v.* to carry
43. 放 fàng *v.* to put, to place; to release
44. 相信 xiāngxìn *v.* to believe (that)
45. 告诉 gàosu *v.* to tell, to inform
46. 叫外卖 jiào wàimài *vo.* to order take-out
47. 送 sòng *v.* to deliver; to send; to give (as a present); to see off
48. 开饭店 kāi fàndiàn *vo.* to open a restaurant
49. 周末 zhōumò *n.* weekend
50. 不好意思 bùhǎoyisi *adj.* to feel embarrassed or awkward
51. 发 fā *v.* to send out
52. 短信 duǎnxìn *n.* text message
53. 好像 hǎoxiàng *v.* to seem like; to seem to be
54. 小声 xiǎoshēng *n.* (in a) low voice
55. 发现 fāxiàn *v.* to find; to discover
56. 跳舞 tiàowǔ *vo.* to dance (a dance)
57. 跳 tiào *v.* to jump, to hop; to dance
58. 看出 kànchū *vc.* to make out, to be able to see
59. 生日 shēngrì *n.* birthday
60. 奇怪 qíguài *adj.* strange, odd; to be baffled
61. 马上 mǎshàng *adv.* right away; on horseback
62. 难过 nánguò *adj.* to feel upset



63. 自拍 *zìpāi* *v.* to take a selfie  
 64. 网上 *wǎngshàng* *n.* online  
 65. 星期 *xīngqī* *n.* week  
 66. 出钱 *chūqián* *vo.* to put up money  
 67. 亲 *qīn* *v.* to kiss  
 68. 发生 *fāshēng* *v.* to happen  
 69. 怕 *pà* *v.* to be afraid of; to fear  
 70. 以为 *yǐwéi* *v.* to (mistakenly) think (that)  
 71. 生气 *shēngqì* *v.* to get angry  
 72. 想起 *xiǎngqǐ* *vc.* to recall/to think of/to call to mind  
 73. 累 *lèi* *adj.* tired  
 74. 坐 *zuò* *v.* to sit, to ride  
 75. 身边 *shēnbiān* *n.* at one's side/on hand  
 76. 好意 *hǎoyì* *n.* good intention, kindness  
 77. 出差 *chūchāi* *vo.* to go on a business trip  
 78. 办法 *bànfǎ* *n.* way (of doing sth), method  
 79. 过得 *guòde* *v.* to get by; to spend time  
 80. 房间 *fángjiān* *n.* room  
 81. 睡觉 *shuìjiào* *vo.* to sleep, to go to bed

## Part of Speech Key

<i>adj.</i> Adjective	<i>prep.</i> Preposition
<i>adv.</i> Adverb	<i>pr.</i> Pronoun
<i>aux.</i> Auxiliary Verb	<i>pn.</i> Proper noun
<i>conj.</i> Conjunction	<i>tn.</i> Time Noun
<i>cov.</i> Coverb	<i>v.</i> Verb
<i>mw.</i> Measure word	<i>vc.</i> Verb plus complement
<i>n.</i> Noun	<i>vo.</i> Verb plus object
<i>on.</i> Onomatopoeia	
<i>part.</i> Particle	



# Grammar Points

For learners new to reading Chinese, an understanding of grammar points can be extremely helpful for learners and teachers. The following is a list of the most challenging grammar points used in this graded reader.

These grammar points correspond to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) level A2 or above. The full list with explanations and examples of each grammar point can be found on the Chinese Grammar Wiki, the definitive source of information on Chinese grammar online.

## ENGLISH

## CHINESE

### CHAPTER 1

Expressing “only” with “zhǐ”	只 + Verb
Continuation with “hái”	还在 + Verb / Adj.
Before a specific time with “yǐqian”	Time / Verb + 以前
Using the “shì... de” construction	是……的
Indicating purpose or intent using “shì...de”	是……的
Expressing “all along” with “yìzhí”	Subj. + 一直 + Predicate
Special verbs with “hén”	很 + Verb
Indicating location with “zài” before verbs	Subj. + 在 + Place + Verb
Modifying nouns with adjective + “de”	Adj. + 的 + Noun
Expressing lateness with “cái”	才
Using “gen” to mean “with”	跟……+ Verb

Expressing “together” with “yiqi”	一起 + Verb
Expressing “will” with “hui”	会 + Verb
Verbs that take double objects	Subj. + Verb + Indirect Obj. + Direct Obj.
Expressing “some” with “yixie”	一些 + Noun
Appearance with “kanqilai”	看起来……
Ending a non-exhaustive list with “shenme de”	……什么的
Direction complement	Verb (+ Direction) + 来 / 去
Expressing “not very” with “bu tai”	不太 + Adj.
Reduplication of verbs	Verb + Verb
Verbing briefly with “yixia”	Verb + 一下
Auxiliary verb “yao” and its multiple meanings	要 + Noun / 要 + Verb
Modifying nouns with adjective + “de”	Adj. + 的 + Noun
Referring to “all” using “suoyou”	所有的……都……
Expressing “when” with “de shihou”	……的时候
Softening speech with “ba”	……吧。
Expressing “just” with “gang”	Subj. + 刚 + Verb
Adjectives with “name” and “zheme”	那么 / 这么 + Adj.
Expressing “about to” with “jiuyao”	还有 + Time Period + 就要 + Verb Phrase + 了
Using “dui” with verbs	对 + Noun……
Expressing “will” with “hui”	会 + Verb
Time words and word order	Subj. + Time…… / Time + Subj.……
Result complement “-wan” for finishing	Verb + 完
Expressing “already” with “yijing”	已经……了
Indicating a number in excess	Number + 多
A softer “but”	……, 不过……
Tricky uses of “dao”	Verb + 到

Cause and effect with “yinwei” and “suoyi”	因为……所以……
Expressing “always” with “zongshi”	总是 + Verb
Two words for “but”	Statement, 可是 / 但是 + Transitional Statement
Expressing “even more” with “geng”	更 + Adj.
Expressing earliness with “jiu”	就
Result complement “-hao”	Verb + 好
Questions with “le ma”	Verb + 了 + 吗?
Result complement “-qilai”	Verb + 起来
Verbs with “gei”	Subj. + 给 + Target + Verb + Obj.
Causative verbs	Noun 1 + 让 / 叫 / 请 + Noun 2……
Expressing “in addition” with “zaishuo”	再说……
Expressing “for” with “gei”	Subj. + 给 + 对象 + Verb + Obj.
Special cases of “zai” following verbs	Verb + 在 + Place

## CHAPTER 2

Expressing completion with “le”	Subj. + Verb + 了 + Obj.
Structural particle “de”	的 / 得 / 地
Expressing “if…, then…” with “ruguo…, jiu…”	如果……, 就……
Reduplication of adjectives	Adj. + Adj.
Comparing specifically with “xiang”	Noun 1 + 像 + Noun 2 + (那么……)
Expressing “should” with “yinggai”	应该 / 该 + Verb
Expressing “a little too” with “you dian”	有点 (儿) + Adj.
Descriptive complement	Verb / Adj. + 得……
Expressing “in this way” with “zheyang”	Condition, 这样 + Result / Purpose
Simultaneous tasks with “yibian”	一边 + Verb 1, 一边 + Verb 2
Directional verbs “lai” and “qu”	来 / 去 + Place
Modifying nouns with phrase + “de”	Phrase + 的 + Noun

Expressing “everything” with “shenme dou”	什么 + 都 / 也……
Expressing “every time” with “mei” and “dou”	每……都……
Expressing “again” in the past with “you”	又 + Verb
Aspect particle “zhe”	Verb + 着
Moderating positive adjectives with “hai”	还 + Adj.
Separable verb	Verb-Obj. / Verb + …… + Obj.
Turning adjectives into adverbs	Adj. + 地 + Verb

## CHAPTER 3

Conceding a point with “shi”	Adj. + 是 + Adj., 但是……
Expressing “it seems” with “haoxiang”	好像……
Sequencing with “xian” and “zai”	先……再……
Expressing “really” with “zhen”	真 + Adj.
Sentence-final interjection “a”	……啊
Expressing actions in progress	(正) 在 + Verb
Doing something more with “duo”	多 + Verb
Result complements “dao” and “jian”	Verb + 到 / 见
Expressing “and also” with “hai”	还 + Verb

## CHAPTER 4

Expressing “never” with “conglai”	从来 + 不 / 没(有) + Verb
Expressing experiences with “guo”	Verb + 过
Basic comparisons with “bi”	Noun 1 + 比 + Noun 2 + Adj.
Expressing “much more” in comparisons	Noun 1 + 比 + Noun 2 + Adj. + 多了 / 得多
Intensifying with “duo”	Subj. + 多 + Adj.
Expressing “again” in the future with “zai”	再 + Verb
Approximating with sequential numbers	Number 1 + Number 2

Adding emphasis with “jiushi”	就是
Basic comparisons with “yiyang”	Noun 1 + 跟 + Noun 2 + 一样 + Adj.

## CHAPTER 5

Result complement “-cuo”	Verb + 错
Emphasizing quantity with “dou”	大家 / 很多人 + 都……
Suggestions with “ba”	Command + 吧
Using “ye” and “dou” together	也 + 都 + Verb / 也 + 都 + Adj.
Mistakenly think that	以为……
Expressing “for” with “wei”	为 + Noun……

## CHAPTER 6

Expressing purpose with “weile”	为了 + Purpose + Verb
Expressing duration of inaction	Duration + 没 + Verb Phrase (+ 了)

## CHAPTER 7

Expressing not knowing how to do something using “hao”	不知道……好
Asking why with “zenme”	怎么……?
Expressing “not anymore” with “le”	不 / 没(有) + Verb Phrase + 了

## CHAPTER 8

Expressing “not at all” with “yidianr ye bu”	一点(儿)也不……
Topic-comment sentences	Topic, Comment

## CHAPTER 9

Positive and negative potential complements	Verb + 得 / 不……
Negative commands with “bie”	别 + Verb

## CHAPTER 10

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Expressing “about to happen” with “le”

快 + Verb / Adj. + 了

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Degree complement

Verb / Adj. + 得……

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## Credits

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## About Mandarin Companion

Mandarin Companion was started by Jared Turner and John Pasden, who met one fateful day on a bus in Shanghai when the only remaining seats forced them to sit next to each other.

John majored in Japanese in college in the US and later learned Mandarin before moving to China, where he was admitted into an all-Chinese masters program in applied linguistics at East China Normal University in Shanghai. John lives in Shanghai with his wife and children. John is the editor-in-chief at Mandarin Companion and ensures each story is written at the appropriate level.

Jared decided to move to China with his young family in search of career opportunities, despite having no Chinese language skills. When he learned about Extensive Reading and started using graded readers, his language skills exploded. In 3 months, he had read 10 graded readers and quickly became conversational in Chinese. Jared lives in the US with his wife and children. Jared runs the business operations and focuses on bringing stories to life.

John and Jared work with Chinese learners and teachers all over the world. They host a podcast, You Can Learn Chinese, where they discuss the struggles and joys of learning to speak the language. They are active on social media, where they share memes and stories about learning Chinese.

**You can connect with them through the website**

[www.mandarincompanion.com](http://www.mandarincompanion.com)



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