



Mandarin  
Companion

Chinese Graded Reader

Level 1: 300 Characters

安末

Ān Mò

**Emma**  
**[SAMPLE]**

by Jane Austen

Mind Spark Press LLC

SHANGHAI

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# **Mandarin Companion Graded Readers**

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Now you can read books in Chinese that are fun and help accelerate language learning. Every book in the Mandarin Companion series is carefully written to use characters, words, and grammar that a learner is likely to know.

The Mandarin Companion Leveling System has been meticulously developed through an in-depth analysis of textbooks, education programs and natural Chinese language. Every story is written in a simple style that is fun and easy to understand so you improve with each book.

## **Mandarin Companion Level 1**

Level 1 is intended for Chinese learners at an upper-elementary level. Most learners will be able to approach this book after one to two years of formal study, depending on the learner and program. This series is designed to combine simplicity of characters with an easy-to-understand storyline which helps learners to expand their vocabularies and language comprehension abilities. The more they read, the better they will become at reading and grasping the Chinese language.

Level 1 is based on a core set of 300 fundamental characters, ensuring each book's vocabulary will be simple everyday words that the reader is most likely to know. Level 1 books contain approximately 400 unique words, introducing a limited number of new key words relevant to the story.

Key words are added gradually over the course of the story accompanied by a numbered footnote for each instance. Pinyin and an English definition are provided at the bottom of the page for the first instance of each key word, and a complete glossary is provided at the back of the book. All proper nouns have been underlined to help the reader distinguish between names and other words.

## **What level is right for me?**

If you are able to comfortably read this book without looking up lots of words, then this book is likely at your level. It is ideal to have at most only one unknown word or character for every 40-50 words or characters that are read.

Once you are able to read fluidly and quickly without interruption you are ready for the next level. Even if you are able to understand all of the words in the book, we recommend that readers build fluidity and reading speed before moving to higher levels.

## **How will this help my Chinese?**

Reading extensively in a language you are learning is one of the most effective ways to build fluency. However, the key is to read at a high level of comprehension. Reading at the appropriate level in Chinese will increase your speed of character recognition, help you to acquire vocabulary faster, teach you to naturally learn grammar, and train your brain to think in Chinese. It also makes learning Chinese more fun and enjoyable. You will experience the sense of accomplishment and confidence that only comes from reading entire books in Chinese.

## Extensive Reading

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After years of studying Chinese, many people ask, “why can’t I become fluent in Chinese?” Fluency can only happen when the language enters our “comfort zone.” This comfort comes after significant exposure to and experience with the language. The more times you meet a word, phrase, or grammar point the more readily it will enter your comfort zone.

In the world of language research, experts agree that learners can acquire new vocabulary through reading only if the overall text can be understood. Decades of research indicate that if we know approximately 98% of the words in a book, we can comfortably “pick up” the 2% that is unfamiliar. Reading at this 98% comprehension level is referred to as “extensive reading.”

Research in extensive reading has shown that it accelerates vocabulary learning and helps the learner to naturally understand grammar. Perhaps most importantly, it trains the brain to automatically recognize familiar language, thereby freeing up mental energy to focus on meaning and ideas. As they build reading speed and fluency, learners will move from reading “word by word” to processing “chunks of language.” A defining feature is that it’s less painful than the “intensive reading” commonly used in textbooks. In fact, extensive reading can be downright fun.

## Graded Readers

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Graded readers are the best books for learners to “extensively” read. Research has taught us that learners need to “encounter” a word 10-30 times before truly learning it, and often many more times for particularly complicated or abstract words. Graded readers are appropriate for learners because the language is controlled and simplified, as opposed to the language in native texts, which is inevitably difficult and often demotivating. Reading extensively with graded readers allows learners to bring together all of the language they have studied and absorb how the words naturally work together.

To become fluent, learners must not only understand the meaning of a word, but also understand its nuances, how to use it in conversation, how to pair it with other words, where it fits into natural word order, and how it is used in grammar structures. No textbook could ever be written to teach all of this explicitly. When used properly, a textbook introduces the language and provides the basic meanings, while graded readers consolidate, strengthen, and deepen understanding.

Without graded readers, learners would have to study dictionaries, textbooks, sample dialogs, and simple conversations until they have randomly encountered enough Chinese for it to enter their comfort zones. With proper use of graded readers, learners can tackle this issue and develop greater fluency now, at their current levels, instead of waiting until some period in the distant future. With a stronger foundation and greater confidence at their current levels, learners are encouraged and motivated to continue their Chinese studies to even greater heights. Plus, they’ll quickly learn that reading Chinese is fun!

## About Mandarin Companion

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Mandarin Companion was started by Jared Turner and John Pasden who met one fateful day on a bus in Shanghai when the only remaining seat left them sitting next to each other. A year later, Jared had greatly improved his Chinese using extensive reading but was frustrated at the lack of suitable reading materials. He approached John with the prospect of creating their own series. Having worked in Chinese education for nearly a decade, John was intrigued with the idea and thus began the Mandarin Companion series.

John majored in Japanese in college, but started learning Mandarin and later moved to China where his learning accelerated. After developing language proficiency, he was admitted into an all-Chinese masters program in applied linguistics at East China Normal University in Shanghai. Throughout his learning process, John developed an open mind to different learning styles and a tendency to challenge conventional wisdom in the field of teaching Chinese. He has since worked at ChinesePod as academic director and host, and opened his own consultancy, AllSet Learning, in Shanghai to help individuals acquire Chinese language proficiency. He lives in Shanghai with his wife and children.

After graduate school and with no Chinese language skills, Jared decided to move to China with his young family in search of career opportunities. Later while working on an investment project, Jared learned about extensive reading and decided that if it was as effective as it claimed to be, it could help him learn Chinese. In three months, he read 10 Chinese graded readers and his language ability quickly improved from speaking words and phrases to a conversational level. Jared has an MBA from Purdue University and a bachelor in Economics from the University of Utah. He lives in Shanghai with his wife and children.

## Credits

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Original Author: Jane Austen

Editor-in-Chief: John Pasden

Content Editor: Chen Shishuang

Adapted by: Chen Shishuang

Illustrator: Hu Shen

Producer: Jared Turner

## Acknowledgments

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A special thank you to Heather Turner for combining her love of Jane Austen with her life experience in China to bring this classic story to life. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a woman knowledgeable of all things Jane Austen must be in want of a good story.

We are also grateful to Chen Shishuang, Tan Rong, and the entire team at AllSet Learning for working on this project and contributing the perfect mix of talent to produce this series. Recognition also goes to Liu Xingxing for helping adapt the name of the titular character to something uniquely Chinese but still classy and similar to the name “Emma.”

Thank you to our awesome testers, Ben Bafoe, Kendra Lindsay, and Vanessa Dewey.

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## Story Adaptation Notes

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This adaptation of *Emma* is approximately 200 years removed from the original, a change from the Victorian Era to the Digital Age, two widely different cultures. Although there are great differences in time and culture, we were able to find direct parallels between these two different time periods to bring this classic story to you. 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 story, 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 of pursuing a relationship of her own, she tries to set up her friends and co-workers.

Setting the story in modern day brought in a number of new possibilities. Hand-written letters sent via courier, commonly used in Victorian England, 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 *Clueless*, 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

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The following is a list of the characters from *Emma* in Chinese followed by their corresponding English names from Austen's original story. There are, of course, other characters in the story besides these, but many do not have exact correspondences to the original. The names below aren't translations; they're 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

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安末  
(Ān Mò)



Elton \*



Jane \*



石文正  
(Shí Wénzhèng)



芳芳  
(Fāngfāng)



小周  
(Xiǎo Zhōu)

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\* Young Chinese people actually use English names a lot (even with Chinese friends and co-workers), especially in big, international cities like Shanghai and Hong Kong.



陈然  
(Chén Rán)

## Locations

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### 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)

Located in China's Cantonese-speaking far south, Guangzhou is one of modern China's largest cities, right behind Beijing and Shanghai.





# — Chapter 1 —

## 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公司<sup>5</sup><sup>3</sup>工作。这家公司是设计衣服<sup>5</sup><sup>3</sup>的。安末很喜欢自己的工作，也很认真<sup>6</sup>，常常工作到很晚才回家<sup>7</sup><sup>4</sup>。

Elton是安末的同事<sup>1</sup>，上海人，长得<sup>8</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

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

还不错，也很会穿衣服。他喜欢跟不同的女生去酒吧，也常常跟安末说话，问她一些工作的事，请她吃晚饭什么的。

“安末，你觉得这件红衣服和这个白的包看起来怎么样？”Elton走过来问。



“我觉得这个红不太好看，试试别的”

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

10 酒吧 (jiǔbā) *n.* bar, pub

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

12 包 (bāo) *n.* bag

13 试 (shì) *n.* to try

红吧。”安末 只是很快 看了一下衣服 和包，  
就说出了自己的想法。她对所有的问题都  
很有想法。

“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，  
你想跟我一起去吗？”

“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。”

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

15 想法 (xiǎngfǎ) *n.* idea, thinking

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

17 重要 (zhòngyào) *adj.* important

“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。安末很快就想到了自己的姑姑。姑姑三十多岁了，很漂亮。不过，她一直没有男朋友。安末一直想帮姑姑找一个男朋友。

没错，这是她回上海以后最大的爱好——帮别人找男朋友、女朋友。

18 笑 (xiào) *n.* to laugh, to smile

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

20 姑姑 (gūgu) *n.* father's sister

21 漂亮 (piàoliang) *adj.* pretty

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

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

24 爱好 (àihào) *n.* hobby

她请老板和姑姑一起吃晚饭。没想到，  
老板很喜欢安末的姑姑。他们很快就  
在一起了，现在是男女朋友。每次想到老板  
和姑姑很快会结婚，安末就很高兴。

老板走了以后，Jane又走过来问：“今  
天的工作都做好了吗？如果还没做好，请  
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

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

大学以后，Jane 就一直在这家公司工作。  
3

Jane 工作很认真。去年，老板 给了她一个  
7 2  
更好的工作，这让安末 很不高兴。  
27

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  
回家。你自己吃饭吧。”  
4

安末 的爸爸是一个生意人，自己  
30  
开公司。安末 的妈妈在她很小的时候就死  
31  
了。对安末 来说，爸爸是最重要的人。爸  
17  
爸工作很忙，很少跟安末一起吃晚饭，听  
32  
她说话。但是，爸爸常常给安末买很多好  
9  
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。

30 生意 (shēngyì) *n.* business

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

32 很少 (hěn shǎo) *phrase* very few;

rarely

安末回4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  
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。

We hope you enjoyed this sample chapter.  
For the full version and other books in this series, please visit:  
[www.MandarinCompanion.com](http://www.MandarinCompanion.com)

## Key Words 关键词 (Guānjiàncí)

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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) *n.* 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) *n.* to wear, to put on; to pierce
10. 酒吧 (jiǔbā) *n.* bar, pub
11. 请 (qǐng) *n.* please; to invite, to request, to treat (to a meal, etc.)
12. 包 (bāo) *n.* bag
13. 试 (shì) *n.* 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) *mm.* [measure word for years old]
20. 姑姑 (gūgu) *n.* father's sister
21. 漂亮 (piàoliang) *adj.* pretty
22. 帮 (bāng) *n.* to help; for (someone)
23. 找 (zhǎo) *n.* 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) *va.* 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) *n.* to grab
35. 手机 (shǒujī) *n.* cell phone, mobile phone
36. 开心 (kāixīn) *adj.* happy
37. 小心 (xiǎoxīn) *n.* to be careful
38. 认识 (rènshi) *n.* to know (a person)
39. 见面 (jiànmiàn) *vo.* to meet
40. 像 (xiàng) *n.* to resemble; like
41. 慢慢地 (mànmàn de) *adv.* slowly
42. 带 (dài) *n.* to carry
43. 放 (fàng) *n.* to put, to place; to release
44. 相信 (xiāngxìn) *n.* to believe (that)
45. 告诉 (gàosu) *n.* to tell, to inform
46. 叫外卖 (jiào wàimài) *vo.* to order take-out
47. 送 (sòng) *n.* 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 (bùhǎoyìsi) *adj.* to feel embarrassed or awkward
51. 发 (fā) *n.* to send out
52. 短信 (duǎnxìn) *n.* text message
53. 好像 (hǎoxiàng) *n.* to seem like; to seem to be
54. 小声 (xiǎoshēng) *n.* (in a) low voice
55. 发现 (fāxiàn) *n.* to find; to discover
56. 跳舞 (tiàowǔ) *vo.* to dance (a dance)
57. 跳 (tiào) *n.* 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) *n.* 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) *n.* to kiss
68. 发生 (fāshēng) *n.* to happen
69. 怕 (pà) *n.* to be afraid of; to fear
70. 以为 (yǐwéi) *n.* to (mistakenly) think (that)
71. 生气 (shēngqì) *n.* to get angry
72. 想起 (xiǎngqǐ) *vo.* to recall/to think of/to call to mind
73. 累 (lèi) *adj.* tired
74. 坐 (zuò) *n.* 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) *n.* 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

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*adj.* Adjective

*adv.* Adverb

*aux.* Auxiliary Verb

*conj.* Conjunction

*cov.* Coverb

*mm.* Measure word

*n.* Noun

*on.* Onomatopoeia

*part.* Particle

*prep.* Preposition

*pn.* Proper noun

*tn.* Time Noun

*v.* Verb

*vc.* Verb plus complement

*vo.* Verb plus object

# Discussion Questions

## 讨论问题 (Tǎolùn Wèntí)

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### Chapter 1 工作和爱好

1. 安末的工作怎么样？她工作开心吗？为什么？
2. 你喜欢 Elton 这样的男生吗？为什么？
3. Jane 是谁？安末跟她的关系好不好？为什么？
4. 安末最大的爱好是什么？你怎么看？
5. 在你的国家，如果男朋友和女朋友是同事，奇怪吗？为什么？

### Chapter 2 新的女同事

1. 安末和石文正是什么关系？你有很好的男（女）生朋友吗？
2. “老板喜欢谁不重要，重要的是做好你自己的工作”，你怎么看？
3. 石文正怎么看安末最大的爱好？你怎么看？
4. 芳芳是什么样的人？安末是怎么帮芳芳的？
5. 你帮过自己的朋友吗？请说一件这样的事。

### Chapter 3 芳芳的男朋友

1. 你觉得 Elton 喜欢芳芳吗？为什么？
2. 为什么安末觉得 Elton 和芳芳很像？你怎么看？
3. 你觉得为什么芳芳不告诉别人她生日的事？如果她告诉安末，你觉得安末会说什么？
4. 小周是做什么的？芳芳觉得小周怎么样？

### Chapter 4 这样做对吗？

1. 为什么安末不想让芳芳和小周在一起？你觉得芳芳应该听安末的话吗？
2. 如果一个人对你很好，也很喜欢你，你就会做他（她）的女（男）朋友吗？为什么？
3. 你觉得安末是在帮芳芳吗？为什么？

4. 如果你发现自己的朋友做了错事，你也会像石文正一样说出你的想法吗？为什么？

## Chapter 5 Elton 喜欢的人

1. 安末为什么要请同事们去跳舞？
2. Elton 喜欢的人是谁？知道这件事的时候，安末怎么想？
3. 你觉得芳芳和 Elton 的事是安末的错吗？为什么？
4. 为什么安末很快又觉得芳芳没跟 Elton 在一起是好事？
5. 有时候坏事不一定是坏事，最后可能是一件好事。你怎么看？你的生活中有这样的事吗？

## Chapter 6 新的男同事

1. 你觉得安末喜欢陈然吗？为什么？
2. 安末为什么要在家里开 party？
3. 你喜欢 party 吗？说说你去过的一个有意思的 party。

## Chapter 7 Party

1. 在 party 上，谁看起来不太开心？为什么？
2. 石文正为什么要请芳芳跳舞？安末看到以后怎么想？
3. 安末拿衣服给 Jane，可是 Jane 最后为什么不高兴？
4. 安末为什么生气？你觉得石文正说得对不对？为什么？

## Chapter 8 芳芳喜欢的人

1. 为什么安末的女同事觉得芳芳爱上了陈然？
2. 你觉得芳芳喜欢的人是谁？为什么？
3. Party 以后，石文正和安末的关系怎么样？安末为什么不打电话给他？
4. 如果你的朋友让你不开心，你会怎么做？你让朋友不开心的时候呢？

## Chapter 9 不开心的一天

1. 如果你发现好朋友喜欢的人已经有了男（女）朋友，你会马上告诉这个好朋友吗？为什么？
2. 陈然和 Jane 是什么关系？为什么他以前不告诉大家？
3. 芳芳喜欢的人是谁？知道这件事的时候，安末怎么想？
4. 在你的国家，如果男（女）朋友比女（男）朋友大十多岁，人们会觉得奇怪吗？你呢？
5. 如果你的好朋友喜欢的人和你喜欢的人一样，你会怎么做？

## Chapter 10 帮一个朋友

1. 安末为什么在洗手间里哭？
2. 安末为什么想帮小周？为了帮小周，安末做了什么？
3. “你去出差的这一个月，我想了很多”，你觉得安末都想了什么？
4. 为什么石文正觉得安末跟以前不一样了？
5. 对你来说，“对的人”是什么样的？怎么能知道一个人是不是“对的人”呢？

## Appendix A: Character Comparison Reference

This appendix is designed to help Chinese teachers and learners use the Mandarin Companion graded readers as a companion to the most popular university textbooks and the HSK word lists.

The tables below compare the characters and vocabulary used in other study materials with those found in this Mandarin Companion graded reader. The tables below will display the exact characters and vocabulary used in this book and not covered by these sources. A learner who has studied these textbooks will likely find it easier to read this graded reader by focusing on these characters and words.

### Integrated Chinese Level 1, Part 1-2 (3rd Ed.)

*Words and characters in this story not covered by these textbooks:*

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
结	jié	结婚	jiéhūn
婚	hūn	结婚	jiéhūn
设	shè	设计	shèjì
相	xiāng	相信	xiāngxìn
声	shēng	小声 哭声 水声	xiǎoshēng kūshēng shuǐshēng
板	bǎn	老板	lǎobǎn
奇	qí	奇怪	qíguài
怪	guài	奇怪	qíguài
亲	qīn	亲	qīn
门	mén	门口 开门	ménkǒu kāimén
姑	gū	姑姑	gūgu
总	zǒng	总是	zǒngshì

## New Practical Chinese Reader, Books 1-2 (1st Ed.)

*Words and characters in this story not covered by these textbooks:*

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
末	mò	周末	zhōumò
直	zhí	一直	yīzhí
周	zhōu	周末	zhōumò
近	jìn	最近	zuìjìn
更	gèng	更	gèng
板	bǎn	老板	lǎobǎn
奇	qí	奇怪	qíguài
怪	guài	奇怪	qíguài
网	wǎng	网上	wǎng shàng

## Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) Levels 1-3

*Words and characters in this story not covered by these levels:*

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
计	jì	设计	shèjì
设	shè	设计	shèjì
拍	pāi	自拍	zìpāi
亲	qīn	亲	qīn
姑	gū	姑姑	gūgu
美	měi	美国菜 美女	Měiguó cài měinǚ
活	huó	生活	shēnghuó

## Appendix B: Grammar Point Index

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.

CHAPTER 1	
Expressing “only” with “zhi”	只 + Verb
Continuation with “hai”	还在 + Verb / Adj.
Before a specific time with “yiqian”	Time / Verb + 以前
Using the “shi... de” construction	是……的
Indicating purpose or intent using “shi...de”	是……的
Expressing “all along” with “yizhi”	Subj. + 一直 + Predicate
Special verbs with “hen”	很 + Verb
Indicating location with “zai” before verbs	Subj. + 在 + Place + Verb
Modifying nouns with adjective + “de”	Adj. + 的 + Noun
Expressing lateness with “cai”	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 “za-ishuo”	再说 ……
Expressing “for” with “gei”	Subj. + 给 + 对象 + Verb + Obj.
Special cases of “zai” following verbs	Verb + 在 + Place
<b>CHAPTER 2</b>	
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
<b>CHAPTER 3</b>	
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
<b>CHAPTER 4</b>	
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.
<b>CHAPTER 5</b>	
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 ·····
<b>CHAPTER 6</b>	
Expressing purpose with “weile”	为了 + Purpose + Verb
Expressing duration of inaction	Duration + 没 + Verb Phrase (+ 了)
<b>CHAPTER 7</b>	
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
<b>CHAPTER 8</b>	
Expressing “not at all” with “yidianr ye bu”	一点(儿)也不 ·····
Topic-comment sentences	Topic, Comment
<b>CHAPTER 9</b>	
Positive and negative potential complements	Verb + 得 / 不 ·····
Negative commands with “bie”	别 + Verb
<b>CHAPTER 10</b>	
Expressing “about to happen” with “le”	快 + Verb / Adj. + 了
Degree complement	Verb / Adj. + 得 ·····

# Other Stories

## from Mandarin Companion

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### Level 1 Readers: 300 Characters

#### **The Secret Garden** 《秘密花园》 by Frances Hodgson Burnett

After an epidemic leaves her an orphan, Li Ye is sent off to live with her reclusive uncle in his sprawling estate in Nanjing. She learns of a secret garden where no one has set foot in ten years. With the help of new friends, she brings the garden back to life and learns the healing power of friendship and love.

#### **The Sixty Year Dream** 《六十年的梦》 based on Rip Van Winkle by Washington Irving

Zhou Xuefa (Rip Van Winkle) is well loved by everyone in his town, except his nagging wife. One day after a bad scolding from his wife, he goes for a walk into the mountains and meets a mysterious old man. After drinking some wine offered by the old man, Zhou Xuefa falls into a deep sleep. He awakes to a time very different than what he once knew.

#### **The Monkey's Paw** 《猴爪》 by W. W. Jacobs

Mr. and Mrs. Zhang live with their grown son. One day an old friend comes to visit and tells of a monkey's paw that has magical powers to grant three wishes to the holder. Against his better judgment, he reluctantly gives the monkey paw to the Zhang family, with a warning that the wishes come with a great price for trying to change fate.

## **The Country of the Blind** 《盲人国》 by H. G. Wells

Chen Fangyuan finds himself trapped in a valley with a people for whom a disease has eliminated their vision and no longer have a concept of sight. His insistence that he can see causes the entire community to think he is crazy. Then one day the village doctors propose a disturbing cure for his insanity.

## **Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Curly-Haired Company** 《卷发公司的案子》 based on **The Red Headed League** by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Mr. Xie was recently hired by the Curly Haired Company to copy articles from a book. He was selected from hundreds of applicants because of his very curly hair. When the company unexpectedly closes, Mr. Xie visits Gao Ming (Sherlock Holmes) with his strange story. Gao Ming is certain something is not right, but will he solve the mystery in time?

## **The Prince and the Pauper** 《王子和穷孩子》 by Mark Twain

During a chance encounter, two nearly identical boys, one a poor beggar and the other a prince, exchange places. Both children soon discover that neither life is as carefree as they expected.

### **Level 2 Readers: 450 Characters**

## **Great Expectations: Part 1** 《美好的前途（上）》 by Charles Dickens

In Part 1, Xiaomao is raised by his short-tempered older sister and her husband outside of Shanghai. After meeting the beautiful Bingbing (Estella), Xiaomao dreams of leaving his life of poverty behind. His prospects for the future are bleak, until one day a mysterious benefactor gives Xiaomao the opportunity of a lifetime.

## **Great Expectations: Part 2** 《美好的前途（下）》 by Charles Dickens

In Part 2, Xiaomao (Pip) leaves his life of poverty behind to seek his fortunes in Shanghai and win the heart of the beautiful yet cold-hearted Bingbing (Estella). Xiaomao's world is turned upside down when his mysterious benefactor is revealed and his deepest secrets are brought into the light of day.

## **Journey to the Center of the Earth** 《地心游记》 by Jules Verne

Join Professor Luo and his niece Xiaojing in their daring quest down the mouth of a volcano to reach the center of the earth. Guided by a mysterious passage on an ancient parchment and accompanied by their faithful guide Lao Xu, the three explorers encounter subterranean phenomena, prehistoric animals, and vast underground seas.

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