



Mandarin
Companion

Chinese Graded Reader

Level 2: 450 Characters

地心游记

Dìxīn Yóujì

Journey to the Center of the Earth [SAMPLE]

by Jules Verne

Mind Spark Press LLC

SHANGHAI

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Shanghai, China

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Mandarin Companion Graded Readers

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 2

Level 2 is intended for Chinese learners at a low intermediate level, equivalent to roughly two to three years of formal study. Most learners who have been able to fluidly and confidently read Mandarin Companion Level 1 books should be able to read this book. This series is designed to combine simplicity of characters with an easy-to-understand storyline that helps learners grow their vocabulary and language comprehension abilities. The more they read, the better they will become at reading and grasping the Chinese language.

Level 2 builds on Level 1's core set of 300 characters, adding 150 new fundamental characters, for a total of 450. Level 2 books contain approximately 650 unique words; a number low enough to make reading Chinese less intimidating, while also introducing 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

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

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

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

Original Author: Jules Verne

Editor-in-Chief: John Pasden

Adapted by: Liu Xingxing

Content Editor: Chen Shishuang

Project Manager: Song Shen

Illustrator: Hu Shen

Producer: Jared Turner

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Thank you to our enthusiastic testers Jenna Salisbury, Rachel Clarey, Jenny Cheng, and Vanessa Dewey.

Thank you to Heather Turner for being the inspiration behind the entire series and never wavering in her belief. Thank you to Song Shen for supporting us, handling all the small thankless tasks, and spurring us forward if we dared to fall behind.

Moreover, we will be forever grateful for Yuehua Liu and Chengzhi Chu for pioneering the first graded readers in Chinese and to whom we owe a debt of gratitude for their years of tireless work to bring these type of materials to the Chinese learning community.

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Story Adaptation Notes

This novel is not only based on Jules Verne's classic, *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, but also pays tribute to several of Édouard Riou's classic illustrations from the 1864 version, which are now in the public domain. The illustrations in this book are, of course, our own versions, and this Mandarin Companion graded reader has been adapted into a fully localized Chinese version of the original story. The characters have been given authentic Chinese names as opposed to transliterations of English names, which sound foreign in Chinese. The locations have been adapted to well-known places in China.

The translation of the title is worth pointing out, because it's the standard translation used in Chinese, and it's a good one, but why it's good might not be obvious to an intermediate learner. The title 地心游记 (Dìxīn Yóuji) mirrors the title of one of China's Four Great Classical Novels, 西游记 (Xī Yóu Jì), or *Journey to the West* in English. So while 'youji' is not a word you'll use in your everyday conversations, when it comes to Chinese book titles, it must be learned.

The original story focuses on the German professor Lidenbrock and his nephew Axel. That story begins in Hamburg, includes a rather long build-up with lots of characters, and eventually traverses to Iceland for the descent, where Icelandic guide Hans joins the expedition. In this adaptation, the locations have been adapted to Xi'an as our heroes' starting point, with the mountainous region of Le Shan (near Chengdu, Sichuan) as the point of descent.

Perhaps the biggest change to the story was replacing the nephew Axel with a niece named Xiaojing. We saw no reason that the lead role couldn't be female, and it makes for easier identification of the characters in illustrations where the characters are smaller.

As one of the oldest stories that we have adapted at Mandarin Companion, we have been extremely impressed by how well Verne's classic sci-fi tale holds up even for modern-day readers.

Character Adaptations

The following is a list of the characters from *Journey to the Center of the Earth* in Chinese followed by their corresponding English names from Verne'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.

罗叔叔 (Luó Shūshu) - Professor Liedenbrock

罗小静 (Luó Xiǎojìng) - Axel Liedenbrock

老许 (Lǎo Xǔ) - Hans Bjelke

黄道元 (Huáng Dàoyuán) - Arne Saknussemm

Cast of Characters



罗叔叔
(Luó Shūshu)



罗小静
(Luó Xiǎojìng)



老许
(Lǎo Xǔ)



黄道元
(Huáng Dàoyuán)

Locations

西安 (Xī'ān)

Xi'an is the capital of Shaanxi Province, located in the China's arid northwest. It also the oldest of the Four Great Ancient Capitals. Xi'an is well known for its historical role as the starting point of the Silk Road, and also houses first Emperor Qin Shishuang's army of Terracotta Warriors, one of China's most well-known cultural relics.

成都 (Chéngdū)

Chengdu is the provincial capital of Sichuan, and is one of the largest cities in modern China. It is a popular outpost for backpackers and Tibet-bound trekkers, it has always been close to the "wilder" areas of western China.

乐山 (Lè Shān)

This famous mountain district in south central Sichuan Province is home to the Le Shan Giant Buddha, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Although modern Le Shan does not house any active volcanoes, it does have a history of volcanic activity.

台湾 (Táiwān)

The famous island of Taiwan off the southeastern coast of mainland China is a haven of breath-taking natural beauty, and also happens to have some active volcanoes on its north coast.



— Chapter 1 —

奇怪的文字

1918年5月24日，星期天。叔叔一进家门就大声对我说：“快！快跟我来，小静！”

我跟着叔叔进了书房，他的书房里有很多书。不过，因为叔叔在大学里是教地质学¹的²，他书房里最多的是地质学²的书。

“看！这是我刚找到的一本地质学²的书！”
他兴奋³地说。

我刚要把书拿⁴过来看，一张纸⁵从书里掉⁶了出来。叔叔看起来更兴奋³了，他马上打开这张纸⁵，纸⁵上写着一些很老的文字⁷。叔叔⁸懂⁸好几种文字⁷，但是他看不懂⁸这张纸⁵上的文字⁷。

1 教(jiāo) *n.* to teach

2 地质学(dìzhìxué) *n.* geology

3 兴奋(xīngfèn) *adj.* excited

4 拿(ná) *n.* to pick up, to take

5 纸(zhǐ) *n.* paper

6 掉(diào) *n.* to lose, to drop

7 文字(wénzì) *n.* written characters

8 懂(dǒng) *n.* to understand

“这里面一定有个秘密！”叔叔大声对我说，“我一定要把这个秘密找出来！”

已经到了吃午饭的时间，不管我怎么叫他，他都不吃。我饿坏了，就一个人先吃了。还没吃完，就听到叔叔大声叫我：“快来帮我把这些字写下来！”

我飞快地在纸上写着，刚写完，纸就被叔叔拿走了。叔叔又拿起那本书，跟那张纸放在一起看，一边看，一边问我一些问题。很快，叔叔就在那些文字里发现了一个人名，而且这个人名跟写这本书的人是同一个人。

“这张纸上的每个字的意思我都知道，可是把它们放在一起以后我完全看不懂！这是为什么？”叔叔听起来很不高兴，说完就走了出去。

9 秘密 (mìmi) *n.* secret

10 不管 (bùguǎn) *conj.* no matter

11 发现 (fāxiàn) *n.* to discover

12 完全 (wánquán) *adv.* completely

13 高兴 (gāoxìng) *adj.* happy



爸爸死了以后，我就一直跟叔叔一起生活。他有时候会生气¹⁴，但是因为我是女孩，叔叔从来不生我的气，所以我从没见过他这么不高兴。不过我又想，他出去走走，休息¹⁵一会儿也好。

叔叔走了以后，我又把那张纸拿⁵起来

14 生气 (shēngqì) *v.* to get angry

15 休息 (xiūxi) *v.* to rest

看。叔叔是很有名的地质学家，也是大学里的老师，所以他懂的东西很多。他常常把他知道的东西教给我。我能看懂一些很老的文字，也是叔叔教的。

刚才叔叔一直在看纸的正面，没有认真看另一面。我把纸拿起来，正面和另一面一起看，纸的两面在我眼前不停地动来动去。我突然发现，如果从另一面开始看，然后回到正面看一个字，再看另一面的一个字，不停地这样做，这些字的意思就能看得懂了。用现在的话说就是：

六月以前，在乐山西火山的一个火山口上会看到乐山的影子。从这个火山口下去，就可以到地心。我已经去过了。——黄道元

16 认真 (rènzhēn) *adj.* serious, diligent

17 不停地 (bùtíngde) *adv.* unceasingly

18 突然 (tūrán) *adv.* suddenly

19 开始 (kāishǐ) *n.* to start

20 火山 (huǒshān) *n.* volcano

21 影子 (yǐngzi) *n.* shadow

“天啊！怎么可能？怎么会有人敢去这样的地方？！”我大叫出来。

我不敢相信这是真的，不过，如果黄道元的故事是真的，那这就是个重大的地质学的发现！叔叔知道了的话，一定会去！而且一定会把我也带去！可是，对一个十八岁的女孩来说，这太可怕了。

“不，一定不能让他知道！”我正想着，叔叔回来了。我走到了旁边，眼睛不敢看他。叔叔又把那张纸拿来看。到了晚上还是不吃饭，也不去睡觉。

第二天早上，叔叔还在书房里看那些文字。他一晚上没睡，眼睛很红，头发很乱。看到叔叔这个样子，我有点担心他。我想了

22 敢 (gǎn) *n., aux.* to dare (to)

23 相信 (xiāngxìn) *n.* to believe

24 可怕 (kěpà) *adj.* scary

25 旁边 (pángbiān) *n.* side

26 眼睛 (yǎnjing) *n.* eye(s)

27 睡觉 (shuìjiào) *va.* to sleep

28 乱 (luàn) *adj.* messy

29 担心 (dānxīn) *n.* to worry (about)

想，决定³⁰ 还是告诉他。

“叔叔，我教¹你一个方法。”我走过去，把我的方法告诉了叔叔。

“小静，你太聪明了！”他兴奋³地大叫出来。

“现在几点了？该吃早饭了吧？快，快去吃饭，我们得快点出发。”叔叔站起来说。

“出发？去哪儿？”我忙问。

“去地心啊！6月就要到了，再不出发³¹就晚了！”叔叔奇怪³²地看了我一下，好像³³我不应该问这个问题。

30 决定 (juéding) *n., n.* to decide; a decision

31 出发 (chūfā) *n.* to set off

32 奇怪 (qíguài) *adj.* strange

33 好像 (hǎoxiàng) *adv.* it seems (that)

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

Key Words 关键词 (Guānjiàncí)

1. 教 (jiāo) *n.* to teach
2. 地质学 (dìzhìxué) *n.* geology
3. 兴奋 (xīngfèn) *adj.* excited
4. 拿 (ná) *v.* to pick up, to take
5. 纸 (zhǐ) *n.* paper
6. 掉 (diào) *v.* to lose, to drop
7. 文字 (wénzì) *n.* written characters
8. 懂 (dǒng) *v.* to understand
9. 秘密 (mìmì) *n.* secret
10. 不管 (bùguǎn) *conj.* no matter
11. 发现 (fāxiàn) *v.* to discover
12. 完全 (wánquán) *adv.* completely
13. 高兴 (gāoxìng) *adj.* happy
14. 生气 (shēngqì) *vo.* to get angry
15. 休息 (xiūxi) *v.* to rest
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23. 相信 (xiāngxìn) *v.* to believe
24. 可怕 (kěpà) *adj.* scary
25. 旁边 (pángbiān) *n.* side
26. 眼睛 (yǎnjīng) *n.* eye(s)
27. 睡觉 (shuìjiào) *vo.* to sleep
28. 乱 (luàn) *adj.* messy
29. 担心 (dānxīn) *v.* to worry (about)
30. 决定 (juéding) *v., n.* to decide; a decision

31. 出发 (chūfā) *n.* to set off
32. 奇怪 (qíguài) *adj.* strange
33. 好像 (hǎoxiàng) *adv.* it seems (that)
34. 平 (píng) *adj.* flat
35. 声音 (shēngyīn) *n.* sound, voice
36. 停 (tíng) *v.* to stop
37. 就算 (jiùsuàn) *conj.* even if
38. 要是 (yàoshi) *conj.* if
39. 其实 (qíshí) *adv.* actually
40. 为了 (wèile) *conj.* for the purpose of
41. 改变 (gǎibiàn) *v., n.* to change; a change
42. 黑 (hēi) *adj.* black, dark
43. 工具 (gōngjù) *n.* tool
44. 睡着 (shuìzháo) *v.* to fall asleep
45. 感觉 (gǎnjué) *v., n.* to feel; feeling
46. 扔 (rēng) *v.* to throw
47. 一下子 (yīxiàzi) *adv.* all at once
48. 醒 (xǐng) *v.* to awaken
49. 另外 (língwài) *adv.* in addition
50. 帮忙 (bāngmáng) *va.* to help
51. 等到 (děngdào) *v.* to wait until; when (a certain time comes)
52. 离 (lí) *con.* to be distanced from
53. 除了 (chúle) *con.* except for; besides
54. 同意 (tóngyi) *v.* to agree
55. 安全 (ānquán) *adj., n.* safe; safety
56. 害怕 (hàipà) *v.* to be afraid (of)
57. 太阳 (tàiyáng) *n.* the sun
58. 失望 (shīwàng) *adj.* disappointed
59. 等 (děng) *v.* to wait
60. 深 (shēn) *adj.* deep
61. 所有 (suǒyǒu) *adj.* all
62. 石头 (shítou) *n.* stone, rock

63. 安静 (ānjìng) *adj.* quiet
64. 好奇 (hàoqí) *adj.* curious
65. 注意 (zhùyì) *n.* to pay attention (to)
66. 发光 (fāguāng) *vo.* to glow
67. 光 (guāng) *n.* light
68. 终于 (zhōngyú) *adv.* finally
69. 脏 (zāng) *adj.* dirty
70. 饼 (bǐng) *n.* salty pancake
71. 发生 (fāshēng) *n.* to happen
72. 方向 (fāngxiàng) *n.* direction
73. 路口 (lùkǒu) *n.* crossroads, intersection
74. 记下 (jìxià) *vo.* to write down
75. 照明灯 (zhàomíngdēng) *n.* light, lantern
76. 够 (gòu) *adj.* enough
77. 信心 (xìnxīn) *n.* confidence
78. 力气 (lìqi) *n.* physical strength
79. 急 (jí) *adj.* urgent
80. 条 (tiáo) *mv.* [for long thin things]
81. 点头 (diǎntóu) *vo.* to nod one's head
82. 晕 (yūn) *n.* to faint
83. 希望 (xīwàng) *n., n.* to hope; hope
84. 差点 (chàdiǎn) *adv.* almost
85. 河 (hé) *n.* river
86. 洞 (dòng) *n.* cave, hole
87. 喷 (pēn) *n.* to spew
88. 了不起 (liǎobuqǐ) *adj.* amazing, impressive
89. 只要 (zhǐyào) *conj.* as long as
90. 解决 (jiějué) *n.* to solve
91. 出现 (chūxiàn) *n.* to appear
92. 或者 (huòzhě) *conj., adv.* or
93. 重要 (zhòngyào) *adj.* important
94. 公里 (gōnglǐ) *n.* kilometer

95. 修 (xiū) *n.* to fix
96. 意外 (yìwài) *n., adj.* surprise, surprising
97. 特别 (tèbié) *adj., adv.* special; especially
98. 抓 (zhuā) *n.* to grab
99. 撞 (zhuàng) *n.* to crash into
100. 船 (chuán) *n.* boat
101. 海面 (hǎimiàn) *n.* the surface of the sea
102. 静静地 (jìngjìngde) *adv.* silently
103. 植物 (zhíwù) *n.* plant
104. 动物 (dòngwù) *n.* animal
105. 骨头 (gǔtou) *n.* bone(s)
106. 鱼 (yú) *n.* fish
107. 怪物 (guàiwu) *n.* monster
108. 岛 (dǎo) *n.* island
109. 刀 (dāo) *n.* knife
110. 喷发 (pēnfā) *n.* to spout, to erupt

Part of Speech Key

adj. Adjective

adv. Adverb

aux. Auxiliary Verb

conj. Conjunction

con. Coverb

mn. Measure word

n. Noun

on. Onomatopoeia

part. Particle

prep. Preposition

pr. Pronoun

pn. Proper noun

tn. Time Noun

v. Verb

vc. Verb plus complement

vo. Verb plus object

Discussion Questions

讨论问题 (Tǎolùn Wèntí)

Chapter 1 奇怪的文字

1. 叔叔为什么到了吃饭的时间不去吃饭？你会因为做你喜欢做的事忘了吃饭吗？
2. 小静是怎么发现去地心的秘密的？她发现这个秘密的时候开心吗？为什么？
3. 小静为什么还是把秘密告诉叔叔了？如果你是小静，你会把秘密告诉他吗？
4. 如果你发现你的家人或朋友有重要的事情因为特别的原因不告诉你，你会生气吗？为什么？
5. 如果你是小静，你会跟叔叔一起去地心吗？为什么？

Chapter 2 去地心以前

1. 为什么叔叔不让小静把这个秘密告诉别人？
2. 如果你要去地心，你会带哪些东西？为什么？
3. 出发前晚上，小静睡得好吗？为什么？
4. 他们是怎么发现去地心的火山口的？

Chapter 3 进火山口

1. 下地心以前，罗叔叔为什么要把东西分开？如果是你，你会怎么分？
2. 他们还没下去，怎么知道下面很深？你觉得扔下去的那些东西可能是什么？
3. 往下的时候，小静觉得旁边一直很安静，这种安静让她感觉很害怕，你有过这种感觉吗？
4. 小静在地心睡觉的第一晚，你觉得她在想什么？

Chapter 4 这条路对吗？

1. 小静发现水快没了的时候很担心，可是叔叔不那么担心，这是为什么？
2. 第三天中午，他们走到了什么地方？为什么大家都听叔叔的话？
3. 6月4号这天，小静为什么跟叔叔吵架？你跟你的家人吵过架吗？吵完架以后你会怎么做？
4. 他们吵完架以后，老许有没有对小静说什么？如果你是他，你会对小静说什么？

Chapter 5 找水

1. 6月6号，他们走到了一条很黑的路上。这条路走到头以后，他们做了什么决定？
2. 叔叔发现小静晕了以后做了什么？他这样做让小静感觉怎么样？你觉得罗叔叔是什么样的人？
3. 为什么叔叔说“那就得想办法快点回到地面”这句话的时候声音很小？你觉得那时候他在想什么？
4. 是谁找到了地下河？这条地下河对他们来说为什么这么重要？

Chapter 6 休息一天

1. 为什么小静觉得“许河”就像老许？
2. 休息的时候，叔叔在做什么？他为什么要做这些事情？
3. 你觉得老许是什么样的人？你有这样的朋友吗？

Chapter 7 意外

1. 小静为什么找不到叔叔和老许了？
2. 小静害怕的时候，做了什么？你害怕的时候会做什么让自己感觉好一点？
3. 罗叔叔找到小静的时候，她怎么样？她是怎么受伤的？
4. 读完这一章，你认为小静是个什么样的女孩？你喜欢这样的人吗？

Chapter 8 地下海

1. 地下为什么有光?
2. 小静看到大海的时候是什么感觉? 在海边, 她还发现了什么?
3. 你觉得地下为什么会有这片海? 海里会有什么?

Chapter 9 海上的怪物

1. 你认为在什么时候写日记会很有帮助? 为什么?
2. 海上的天气怎么样? 他们抓到了什么? 如果是你, 你敢吃这些鱼吗?
3. 晚上睡觉的时候, 海上发生了什么? 为什么他们后来都没睡着?

Chapter 10 海上的大雨

1. 岛上有什么? 小静以为岛上喷出来的水是什么?
2. 他们晚上没在岛上睡觉, 你觉得这是为什么?
3. 地下为什么会有大海?
4. 海上的大雨过后发生了什么事情?

Chapter 11 去地心的路

1. 海边有什么? 小静看到这些东西的时候是什么感觉?
2. 他们在海边有什么重大发现? 你相信黄道元去过地心吗? 为什么?
3. 你和朋友一起聊天的时候, 如果大家的看法完全不一样, 你们会怎么做? 为什么?

Chapter 12 离开地心

1. 他们是怎么掉进大洞里面的?
2. 他们是怎么回到地面的?
3. 你的朋友给你很大帮助的时候, 你会怎么感谢他们?
4. 你是一个喜欢发现的人吗? 你觉得这个世界还有哪些秘密等着人们去发现?

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

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

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
许	xǔ	老许	Lǎo Xǔ
声	shēng	大声 声音 小声 水声 雨声	dàshēng shēngyīn xiǎoshēng shuǐshēng yǔshēng
石	shí	石头	shítou
突	tū	突然	tūrán
醒	xǐng	醒 醒来 醒过来	xǐng xǐnglái xǐng guòlai
光	guāng	发光 光 日光	fāguāng guāng rìguāng
掉	diào	掉 掉下去	diào diào xiàqu

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
		掉进	diào jìn
奇	qí	奇怪 好奇	qíguài hàoqí
变	biàn	改变 变成	gǎibiàn biànchéng
奋	fèn	兴奋	xīngfèn
喷	pēn	喷 喷发	pēn pēnfā
抓	zhuā	抓 抓到 抓住	zhuā zhuādào zhuāzhù
洞	dòng	洞 山洞	dòng shāndòng
向	xiàng	方向	fāngxiàng
阳	yáng	太阳	tàiyáng
脏	zāng	脏	zāng
刀	dāo	刀	dāo
修	xiū	修	xiū
密	mì	秘密	mìmì
骨	gǔ	骨头 人骨	gǔtōu réngǔ
岛	dǎo	岛	dǎo
秘	mì	秘密	mìmì
植	zhí	植物	zhíwù
扔	rēng	扔	rēng
撞	zhuàng	撞	zhuàng
饼	bǐng	饼	bǐng
晕	yūn	晕	yūn
注	zhù	注意	zhùyì

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
终	zhōng	终于	zhōngyú
惯	guàn	习惯	xíguàn
改	gǎi	改变	gǎibiàn
伤	shāng	受伤	shòushāng
罗	luó	罗	Luó
破	pò	破	pò
故	gù	故事	gùshi
失	shī	失望	shīwàng
湾	wān	台湾	Táiwān

New Practical Chinese Reader, Books 1-3 (1st Ed.)

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

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
叔	shū	叔叔	shūshu
许	xǔ	老许	Lǎo Xǔ
直	zhí	一直 直到	yīzhí zhídào
质	zhì	地质学 地质学家	dìzhìxué dìzhìxuéjiā
深	shēn	深	shēn
喷	pēn	喷 喷发	pēn pēnfā
需	xū	需要	xūyào
洞	dòng	洞 山洞	dòng shāndòng
蓝	lán	蓝色	lánsè
骨	gǔ	骨头 人骨	gǔtōu réngǔ
扔	rēng	扔	rēng

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
密	mì	秘密	mìmì
终	zhōng	终于	zhōngyú
破	pò	破	pò

Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) Levels 1-4

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

Character	Pinyin	Word(s)	Pinyin
石	shí	石头	shítou
喷	pēn	喷 喷发	pēn pēnfā
抓	zhuā	抓 抓到 抓住	zhuā zhuādào zhuāzhù
洞	dòng	洞 山洞	dòng shāndòng
岛	dǎo	岛	dǎo
撞	zhuàng	撞	zhuàng
秘	mì	秘密	mìmì
骨	gǔ	骨头 人骨	gǔtòu réngǔ
晕	yūn	晕	yūn
罗	luó	罗	Luó
湾	wān	台湾	Táiwān

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 B1 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	
Events in quick succession with “yi... jiu”	一……就……
Turning adjectives into adverbs	Subj. + Adj. + 地 + Verb
Resultative complement “chu(lai)”	Verb + 出来
Comparing “gang” and “gangcai”	刚 vs 刚才
“Bei” sentence	被 + Verb + ……
“No matter” with “buguan”	不管 + Situation + Subj. + (都 / 也) + Result
Appearance with “kanqilai”	Subj. + 看起来 + Adj.
Expressing earliness with “jiu”	Subj. + Time + 就 + Verb + Obj.
Causative verbs	Subj. + Causative Verb + Noun / Pronoun + Verb-Obj.
The “ba” sentence	Subj. + 把 + Obj. + Verb Phrase
Sequencing past events with “houlai”	……后来……
“If..., then...” with “ruguo..., jiu...”	如果 + Statement + 就 + Result
Again in the future with “zai”	Subj. + 再 + Verb + Obj.
Aspect particle “zhe”	Verb + 着
Again in the past with “you”	Subj. + 又 + Verb + 了
Continuation with “hai”	Subj. + 还 + Verb + Obj.

Tricky uses of “dao”	Subj. + Verb + 到
“Must” modal “dei”	Subj. + 得 + Verb + Obj.
“It seems” with “haoxiang”	Subj. + 好像 ·····
CHAPTER 2	
“If... then...” with “yaoshi”	要是 + Statement + 就 + Result
Expressing purpose with “weile”	为了 + [Purpose], Subject + Predicate
Expressing lateness with “cai”	Subj. + Time + 才 + Verb + Obj.
Using “zhao” as complement	Verb + 着
Expressing “even if...” with “jiusuan”	就算 + [Hypothetical Statement] + 也 + [Action]
Assessing situations with “kanlai”	看来 + Perspective
“Ye” and “dou” together	Subj. + 也 + 都 + Verb / Adj.
“Had better” with “haishi”	Subj. + 还是 + Action + 吧
Descriptive complement	Verb / Adj. + 得 + Description
Expressing “every time” with “mei” and “dou”	每 ····· 都 ·····
“Not at all”	Subj. + 一点也 / 都 + 不 + Adj.
Expressing “how often”	Subj. + 多长时间 + Verb + 一次 (+ Obj.)
Verbs with “gei”	Subj. + 给 + Target + Verb + Obj.
“Except” and “in addition” with “chule... yiwai”	除了 ·····(以外), 都 ·····
Mistakenly think that	Subj. + 以为 + Phrase
Descriptive complement	Verb / Adj. + 得 + Description
CHAPTER 3	
Comparing “chao” “xiang” and “wang”	向 / 朝 / 往 + 具体方向 + Verb
Adjectives with “name” and “zheme”	Subj. + 那么 / 这么 + Adj.
Reduplication of adjectives	Adj. + Adj. + 的 (+ Noun)
Expressing “more and more” with “yue... yue...”	Subj. + 越来越 + Adj. + 了

“Verbing away” using “zhe”	Verb + 着 + Verb + 着 + 就 + Comment + 了
Further uses of resultative complement “qilai”	Verb + 起来
Sequencing with “xian” and “zai”	先……再……
Indicating a number in excess	Number + 多 + Measure word + (Noun)
“Only if” with “zhiyou”	只有 + Essential Condition + 才 + Desired Outcome
CHAPTER 4	
“Never again” with “zai ye bu”	Subj. + 再也不 + Verb + Obj. + 了
Modal particle “de”	Statement + 的
“Not... but rather...” with “er shi”	不是 + A + 而是 + B
“Not often” with “bu zenme”	Subj. + 不怎么 + Verb
“In addition” with “zaishuo”	……再说……
Doing something less with “shao”	Subj. + 少 + Verb + Obj.
CHAPTER 5	
Referring to “all” using “suoyou”	所有的 + Noun + 都 + Verb / Adj.
Complements with “dao”, “gei” and “zai”	Subj. + Verb + 到 / 给 / 在……
Expressing “almost” using “chadian”	Subj. + 差点 (儿) + [Verb Phrase] + 了
“As long as” with “zhiyao”	只要 + Condition + 就 + Result
CHAPTER 6	
“Just” with “jiu”	Subj. + 就……
Conceding a point with “shi”	Adj. + 是 + Adj. + 但是……
Saying “ever since” with “yilai”	Time or Event + 以来
Separable verb	“离合词”
CHAPTER 7	
Result complement “-cuo”	Obj. + Subj. + Verb + 错 + 了
Basic comparisons with “yiyang”	Noun 1 + 跟 / 和 + Noun 2 + 一样

CHAPTER 8

The pattern “it’s not..., it’s...” Subj. + 不是 + Adj. / Noun / Verb 1 + 是 + Adj. / Noun / Verb 2

Doing something more with “duo” 多 + Verb + Obj.

Expressing “not only... but also” Subj. + 不但 + Adj. / Verb, 而且 + Adj. / Verb

Comparing “haishi” and “huozhe” Subj. + Verb + Option A + 还是 + Option B

CHAPTER 9

“For” with “wei” 为 + [Some Part] + Verb

Comparing “zongsuan” and “zhongyu” Subj. + 总算 / 终于 + Verb

Expressing “everyone” with “shei” 谁也 / 都

“Verbing around” with “lai” and “qu” Verb + 来 + Verb + 去

CHAPTER 10

“Always” with “conglai” Subj. + 从来 + 都 + Verb Phrase

Resultative complement “zhu” Verb + 住

CHAPTER 11

Basic comparisons with “meiyou” Noun 1 + 没有 + Noun 2 + Adj.

Using “dui” 对 + Obj. + Verb Phrase

Expressing “much more” in comparisons Subj. + 比 + Noun + Adj. + 得多 / 多了 / 很多

CHAPTER 12

Comparing “turan” and “huran” 突然 / 忽然 + Verb

Other Stories from Mandarin Companion

Level 1 Readers: 300 Characters

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

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

The Monkey's Paw 《猴爪》 by W. W. Jacobs

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

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

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

Emma 《安末》 by Jane Austen

The Ransom of Red Chief 《红猴的价格》 by O. Henry

Level 2 Readers: 450 Characters

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

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

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