

Useful Phrases in Mandarin

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ENGLISH	Mandarin Pronunciation	ENGLISH	Mandarin Pronunciation
<u>Hello</u> / How do you do?	ni hao! [nee how]	<u>Hotel</u>	fan dian
<u>How are you?</u>	nee hao ma?	<u>Taxi</u>	chu su chi che
<u>Please</u>	qing [ching]	<u>Bank</u>	yin hang
<u>Thank you</u>	Xie Xie [tsheh tsheh]	Airport	jee chang
<u>Yes</u>	yao [yowl]	Railway station	hor-chur chan
<u>No</u>	bu yao [boo yowl]	Bus station (stop)	chi che chan
<u>It's no bother</u> [= You're welcome]	bu kachi [boo ker chi]	<u>Where is the restroom?</u>	za suo zai na er?
<u>Sorry</u>	douy bu chi	Where is a telephone?	dian hua zai na er?
I can't understand	wo bu tung	<u>When</u> (what time)?	ji dian?
<u>Good-bye</u>	zai jian	The food was delicious	hen hao chi
Good morning	nee zao	Cheers! / Bottoms up!	Gan bai
Good afternoon	xia wu hao	Excellent	hung hao!
Good evening	wan shang hao	Coffee	ka fei
Good night	wan an	Tea	cha
See you tomorrow	ming tian jian	Beer (normally warm)	pi jou
You are nice	nee hung hao	<u>Cold Beer</u>	bing pi jou
I am	wo shi	Mineral water	kuang chuan shia
American	mei guo ren	Ice cubes	bing kuai
May I ask your name?	Ching wen kuei hsing?	<u>SHOPPING:</u>	
My name is	wo jiao	I don't want it	bu yao
I want	wo yao	How much?	duo shao chian
I want to go to	wo yao chuh	It's too expensive	Tai gui le
I want to return to	wo yao whee		

FOUR TONES: 1 – High Level = first tone ex. – **mā** mother
 2 – Rising = second tone ex. – **má** hemp
 3 – Falling Rising = third tone ex. – **mǎ** horse
 4 – Falling = fourth tone ex. – **mà** scold

Hear audio examples at <http://mandarin.about.com/od/pronunciation/a/tones.htm>