

Daily Language Focus: Numbers, Money, and Time

Numbers: 1-10

Number	Pinyin	Chinese
0	líng	零
1	yī	一
2	èr	二
3	sān	三
4	sì	四
5	wǔ	五
6	liù	六
7	qī	七
8	bā	八
9	jiǔ	九
10	shí	十

Numbers: 11-19

Number	Pinyin	Chinese
11	shí yī	十一
12	shí èr	十二
13	shí sān	十三
14	shí sì	十四
15	shí wǔ	十五
16	shí liù	十六
17	shí qī	十七
18	shí bā	十八
19	shí jiǔ	十九

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Numbers: The Tens

Number	Pinyin	Chinese
20	èr shí	二十
30	sān shí	三十
40	sì shí	四十
50	wǔ shí	五十
60	liù shí	六十
70	qī shí	七十
80	bā shí	八十
90	jiǔ shí	九十

Numbers: Higher

Number	Pinyin	Chinese
100	yī bǎi	一百
200	èr bǎi	二百
...
1000	yì qiān	一千
2000	liǎng qiān	两千
...
10000	yí wàn	一万
20000	liǎng wàn	两万
...

Numbers: Ordinals

English	Pinyin	Chinese
first	dì yī	第一
second	dì èr	第二
third	dì sān	第三
...

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Money:

English	Pinyin	Chinese
money	qián	钱
Chinese dollar	yuán	元
"buck"	kuài	块
10 Chinese cents (spoken)	máo	毛
two of something (couple)	liǎng	两

Putting it together:

Whole dollar: (number) kuài [+ qián]

(Often "qián" is not said.)

Dollars and cents: (number) + kuài + (number) [+ máo qián]

(Often "máo qián" is not said.)

	Pinyin	Chinese
3.00	sān kuài (qián)	三块 (钱)
1.80	yī kuài bā (máo qián)	一块八 (毛钱)
2.10	liǎng kuài yī (máo qián)	两块一 (毛钱)
47.50	sì shí qī kuài wǔ (máo qián)	四十七块五 (毛钱)
99.00	jiǔ shí jiǔ kuài (qián)	九十九块 (钱)
3.20	sān kuài èr (máo qián)	三块二 (毛钱)

Time

English	Pinyin	Chinese
What time is it?	xiàn zài jǐ diǎn?	现在几点?
now	xiàn zài	现在
point; "o'clock"	diǎn	点
clock	zhōng	钟
half	bàn	半
morning	shàng wǔ	上午
afternoon	xià wǔ	下午
evening	wǎn shàng	晚上

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Examples

Time	Pinyin	Chinese
1:00	yī diǎn (zhōng)	一点 (钟)
2:00	liǎng diǎn (zhōng)	两点 (钟)
3:00	sān diǎn (zhōng)	三点 (钟)
...
1:30	yī diǎn bàn	一点半
2:30	liǎng diǎn bàn	两点半
3:30	sān diǎn bàn	三点半
...
1:15	yī diǎn shí wǔ	一点十五
2:45	liǎng diǎn sì shí wǔ	两点四十五
3:20	sān diǎn èr shí	三点二十
...
8:40 A.M.	shàng wǔ bā diǎn sì shí	上午八点四十
1:30 P.M.	xià wǔ yī diǎn bàn	下午一点半
10:15 P.M.	wǎn shàng shí diǎn shí wǔ	晚上十点十五

Content adapted from *Survival Chinese Lessons* by Joann Pittman