

## **You Can Learn Chinese**

The idea of learning Chinese can seem like a difficult task, but it does not have to be. With the right instruction, learning Chinese is quite simple and straightforward compared to many other languages. Not to mention, there are many benefits to knowing this language. With around 1.2 billion speakers, Chinese is the most spoken language in the world. As China's development continues to progress, having knowledge of Mandarin Chinese will come in handy for career options as well. In order to effectively learn Chinese, you must commit to a solid and steady program. Programs that promise fluency in Chinese within days or weeks will not provide you with the right equipment to truly understand the language. Fluency in Chinese will come gradually, and with consistent practice to build skills and confidence. ChinaNow's language learning program is structured in a way that builds from frequently used words and phrases to more complex grammatical structures. By the end, you will be able to clearly speak, read, and write in Mandarin Chinese.

### **It does now have to be hard.**

ChinaNow strives to put to rest any anxiety you may have about learning Chinese. Spoken Mandarin has several things in common with the English language, specifically quite a few sentence and grammatical structures. Mandarin is also much more straightforward than English when it comes to things like verb tenses and singular or plural nouns. ChinaNow is organized into short lessons that teach you common phrases you will need in daily life. There are also many opportunities to practice and review phrases until you feel confident and are able to communicate with ease.

## **English has tones too.**

One thing that is important when learning Chinese, is being able to understand the tonal aspects of the language. Essentially, the inflections of your pronunciation of individual words communicates their meaning. Therefore, mastering these inflections will be one of the first steps on your journey to mastering Chinese. Mandarin has four tones, including a level tone ( 平 ping), a rising tone ( 上 shang), a departing tone ( 去 qu), and a final tone ( 入 ru). Do not worry, this is not as complex as it seems. In fact, English also uses a similar tonal system at times. It can be used for emphasis or for meaning. For example, produce in English is a verb meaning to create, while produce is a noun meaning fruits and vegetables. Listening closely and mimicking pronunciations of vocabulary words is helpful to learning how to correctly say these tones. Just like English, context is also important when conveying an idea, and will help you easily get your point across.

## **Your goals are obtainable**

Getting a solid grip on tones and pronunciation will help you to quickly move through memorizing vocabulary and phrases. It is important that you practice these words and phrases daily to commit them to memory. Although there is no need to spend 24 hours a day working on Chinese, it does require dedication. Setting aside time every day to practice and review is key to learning any language. Immersing yourself into the language will also be helpful. Watching Chinese movies, shows, listening to music or podcasts are all effective ways of subconsciously picking up phrases and pronunciation. Through these methods, you will be able to successfully learn Mandarin Chinese with ChinaNow.