

Reader Level
Level Two

Unique Characters
450

美好的前途 (下)

Měihǎo de Qiántú (Xià)

Great Expectations: Part 2

Charles Dickens



Mandarin
Companion

Chinese Graded Readers

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What Graded Readers can do for you

Welcome to Mandarin Companion!

We've worked hard to create enjoyable stories that can help you build confidence and competence and get better at Chinese—at the right level for you.

Our graded readers have controlled and simplified language that allows you to bring together the language you've learned so far and absorb how words work naturally together. Research suggests that learners need to “encounter” a word 10-30 times before truly learning it. Graded readers provide the repetition that you need to develop fluency NOW at your level.

In the next section, you can take an assessment and discover if this is the right level for you. We also explain how it won't just improve your Chinese skills but will have a wide range of benefits, from better test scores to increased confidence.

We hope you enjoy our books, and best of luck with your studies.
Jared and John

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you have versions with pinyin over the characters?

No. Although this method is common for native Chinese learners, research and experience show it distracts a second language learner and slows down their ability to learn the characters. If you require pinyin to read most of the characters at this level, you should read something easier.

Is there an English translation of the story?

No. Research and experience show that an English translation will slow down the development of your Chinese language learning skills.

Is this the right level for me?

Let's find out. Open to a story page with characters and start reading. Keep track of the number of characters you *don't* know but don't count any key words you don't know. If there are more than 8 unknown characters on that page, you may want to consider reading our books at a lower level. If the unknown characters are fewer than 8, then this book is likely at your level! If you find that you know all the characters, you may be ready for a higher level. However, even if you know all the characters but are reading slowly, you should consider building reading speed before moving up a level.

How do you decide which characters to include at each level?

Each level includes a core set of characters based on our extensive analysis of the most common characters and words taught to and used by those learning Chinese as a second language. All books at each level are based on the same core set and they can be read in any order.

What to expect in a Level 2 book?

It's important that you read at the level that is right for you. Check out the next page to learn more about Extensive Reading and how we use that in graded readers to support the learning of Chinese by just enjoying a good story.

Books in our Level 2 like this one:

- Include a core set of 450 Chinese words and characters learners are most likely to know.
- Are about 15,000 characters in length
- Use level appropriate grammar
- Include pinyin and a translation of words and characters you are not

expected to know at this level

- Include a glossary at the back of book
- Include proper nouns that are underlined

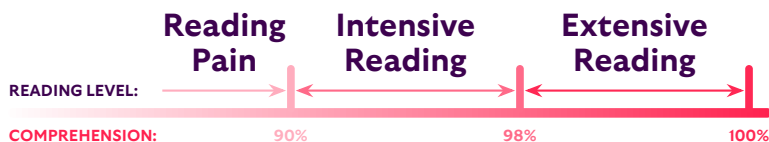
What is Extensive Reading?

It will improve test scores, your reading speed and comprehension, speaking, listening and writing skills. You'll pick up grammar naturally, you'll begin understanding in Chinese, your confidence will improve, and you'll enjoy learning the language.

Graded Readers are based on science that is backed by mountains of research and proven by learners all over the world. They are founded on the theories of Extensive Reading and Comprehensible Input.

Extensive Reading is reading at a level where you can understand almost all of what you are reading (ideally 98%) at a comfortable speed, as opposed to stumbling through dense paragraphs word by word.

When you read extensively, you'll understand most of the words and find yourself fully engaged with the story.



Reading at 98% comprehension is the sweet spot to max out your learning gains. You do still learn at the Intensive Reading level (90–98%), but the closer you are to the Extensive level, the faster your progress.

No one should be reading below a 90% comprehension level.

It's called Reading Pain for a reason. You spend so much time in a dictionary and after 30 painful minutes on ONE paragraph, you're not even sure what you've just read!

If you want to know more, check out our website

www.mandarincompanion.com



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Story Notes

Written in the last decade of his life and published in 1861, *Great Expectations* was Charles Dickens's last great novel and is widely considered to be his finest. A complex and multifaceted story, this tale required special care and attention when adapting into a Chinese graded reader. It follows the growth, trials, maturation, and ultimate self-realization of the main character, Pip, from boy to manhood. Its drama, satire, intrigue, and unexpected twists have captivated readers for over a century.

This story was adapted from Victorian England to modern-day Shanghai, both periods that feature stark contrasts between old and new, the wealthy and the poor. In this second volume, most of the story takes place in Shanghai proper, filled with highrises and picturesque views of the cityscape. Pip's, or 小毛 (Xiǎo Máo), apartment building and school front are both modeled after actual buildings in Shanghai.

Shanghai proved an appropriate setting to address many themes in Dickens's novel, such as wealth, poverty, injustice, mercy, unrequited love, and, of course, expectations—both societal and those self-imposed by the ambitions of youth.

As of the publishing of this book, the combined volumes of 美好的前途 (Měihǎo de Qiántú) is over thirty-thousand characters long and the longest Chinese graded reader in existence.

In writing the ending of this story, we could find no better words than Dickens's very own. You'll find the last sentence to be as close to a translation that could be rendered in a Mandarin Companion Level 2 graded reader. A story that ages like wine, we expect you'll enjoy discovering this classic tale in Chinese.

Character Adaptations

The following is a list of the characters from this Chinese story followed by their corresponding English names from Charles Dickens's original story. The names below are not translations; they are new Chinese names used for the Chinese versions of the original characters. Think of them as all-new characters in a Chinese story.

吴小毛 (Wú Xiǎomáo) – Pip
姐姐 (Jiějie) – Mrs. Joe Gargery
姐夫 (Jiěfu) – Joe Gargery
胖子 (Pàngzi) – Dolge Orlick
思思 (Sīsi) – Biddy
白小姐 (Bái Xiǎojiě) – Miss Havisham
冰冰 (Bīngbīng) – Estella
金子文 (Jīn Zǐwén) – Mr. Jaggers
小河 (Xiǎo Hé) – Herbert Pocket
老黑 (Lǎo Hēi) – Magwitch
龙哥 (Lóng Gē) – Compeyson

Cast of Characters



吴小毛
(Wú Xiǎomáo)



姐姐
(Jiějie)



姐夫
(Jiěfu)



胖子
(Pàngzi)



思思
(Sīsi)



白小姐
(Bái Xiǎojiě)



冰冰
(Bīngbīng)



金子文
(Jīn Zǐwén)



小河
(Xiǎo Hé)



老黑
(Lǎo Hēi)



龙哥
(Lóng Gē)

Locations

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.

外滩 (Wàitān)

The Bund in Shanghai is a row of grand buildings built in the early 1900's modeled after British and American architectural styles lining the west bank of the Huangpu River. The iconic Pudong skyline is on the east bank and home to three of the world's tallest buildings.

云南 (Yúnnán)

Yunnan Province in southwest China borders Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar to the south. It is home to many Chinese ethnic minorities, and even today has a bit of an exotic feel for many Chinese.

越南 (Yuènnán)

The country of Vietnam. Tropical and scenic, Vietnam is located on the south border of China. Today, Vietnam has become a growing industrial and commercial hub in Southeast Asia.

RUSSIA

• Urumqi

• Lhasa

MYANMAR



One

新生活

上海火车站就在市中心，下了火车，我站在路边，看着旁边¹的高楼、汽车，感觉美好²的前途³离我越来越近了。以前经常听别人说上海是一个热闹的大城市，也是一个很美好²的地方。现在我真的来了，我要在这里开始我新的生活了！

上次金律师⁴来我家的时候，给了我一张他的名片。他走了以后，我一直在等着很快再跟他见面。我知道只要找到他，就可以很快改变自己的生活。拿着他给我的那张名片，我找到了他的

1 旁边 (pángbiān) *n.* next to

2 美好 (měihǎo) *adj.* wonderful, glorious

3 前途 (qiántú) *n.* prospects, future, "expectations"

4 律师 (lǚshī) *n.* lawyer

办公室。
5

我到的时候，金律师不在。我坐下来等了一会儿，他就回来了，身后还跟着一个男人。我听到那个男人哭着对他说：“请你帮帮我弟弟吧，他不是小偷。”可金律师好像一点都不想听他说话：“你现在来找我已经没用了，我已经是别人的律师了，而且你弟弟的事情我也不想管。”这时候，金律师注意到我来了，他带我进了他自己的办公室，然后把门轻轻地关上了。
6 4 4 7 5

“衣服不错，跟上次不一样了。”金律师看了我一下，我不好意思地笑了笑。然后，他拿出了一个手机，说：“这个手机是给你的，你要去的是上海最好的高中，你的同学用的东西都是最新的，那个帮你的人希望你能跟他们一样。”
4 8

我从没想过自己能用上这么好的手机！还

5 办公室 (bàngōngshì) *n.* office

6 小偷 (xiǎotōu) *n.* thief

7 注意 (zhùyì) *v.* to notice

8 希望 (xīwàng) *v.; n.* to hope; hope



是别人送给我的！

“我以后住在学校里吗？”我问金律师。⁴

“不用。帮你的人想让你多看看大城市的生活，所以我已经帮你找到了一个住的地方，那儿离外滩不远，你就跟我同事的儿子住。另外，你每个星期都可以来我这儿拿一些钱，也跟我聊聊你的生活。你的事我不会管太多，但是我

需要把这些都告诉帮你的人。”

从金⁴律师⁵的办公室出来以后，我也不认识路，就打了一辆⁹车。司¹⁰机听说我要去外滩，就跟我聊了起来。不到十分钟，车停在了一个大楼门口。我带着自己的东西，上了楼。新家特别大，从窗子看出去就是外滩，那是上海最贵最漂亮的地方。能住在这样的房子里，我感觉自己很快就会变成一个不一样的“吴小毛”了。

就在这时候，走进来一个男孩，戴¹¹着眼镜，瘦瘦的，看起来跟我差不多大。他应该就是金律师⁴同事的儿子，可我感觉好像在哪儿见过他。他走到我面前¹²，看着我说：“你是在白小姐家打赢¹³我的那个男孩！”

9 辆 (liàng) *mv.* [measure word for cars]

10 司机 (sījī) *n.* driver

11 戴 (dài) *v.* to wear (glasses, jewelry, accessories)

12 面前 (miànqián) *n.* in front of one's face

13 赢 (yíng) *v.* to win



“是你！”他这么一说我就认出¹⁴他了，因为他戴¹¹着眼镜。“那个跟我打架的孩子！”

我们都笑了起来，“在白小姐家真的太无聊¹⁵了，我总想找人打架。后来好不容易¹⁶找到了你，没想到每次都是你赢¹³。其实¹⁷我一直想跟你说‘对不起’，现在说不晚吧？”

14 认出 (rènrchū) *vc.* to recognize (someone)

15 无聊 (wúliáo) *adj.* bored, boring, lame

16 好不容易 (hǎobùróngyì) *adv.* with great difficulty

17 其实 (qíshí) *adv.* actually



我也笑了：“其实¹⁷我没想¹⁸伤害¹³你，也没想¹³打¹³赢¹³你。我只是想不明白你为什么要¹³跟我打架，就感觉你好像挺无聊¹⁵的。其实¹⁷应该说‘对不起’的人是我。我叫吴小毛，你叫什么？”

“你叫我‘小何’就好了，以后我就叫你‘小毛’吧。”男孩笑着说，我觉得他是一个很阳光¹⁹很爱笑¹⁹的男孩，跟我们上次见面的时候不一样。

“你知道我那天为什么在白小姐家吗？”小何问。

18 伤害 (shānghài) *v.; n.* to hurt; harm

19 阳光 (yángguāng) *n.* sunlight

“因为白小姐想找个男孩去她家玩?”

“对。但是因为我爸爸是白小姐叔叔的孩子，
所以她不喜欢我。如果她喜欢我的话，可能
我现在就是一个有钱人了，或者要跟冰冰结婚
了。” 小何说。

“你想跟冰冰结婚吗?” 我有点好奇。

“我才不想呢。她有什么好? 一点也不可爱!
而且她又不是白小姐的女儿。白小姐让她过这
么好的生活，只是为了让她去伤男人的心。世
界上谁会对自己的女儿做出这样的事?”

“什么? 真的吗?” 我不太敢相信小何说的话，
但是他的话也让我对冰冰的事更好奇了。

“白小姐的妈妈死得早，她那有钱的爸爸很
快就跟他们家的阿姨结婚了。那个阿姨后来生

20 叔叔 (shūshu) *n.* uncle

21 结婚 (jiéhūn) *vo.* to get married

22 好奇 (hàoqí) *adj.* curious

23 世界 (shìjiè) *n.* world

24 敢 (gǎn) *v.* to dare (to)

25 阿姨 (āyí) *n.* aunt

了一个儿子，所以白小姐有个弟弟。那个弟弟坏得很，做了很多坏事。后来，白小姐喜欢上了一个男人，那个男人要什么，白小姐就给他什么。但是，我爸爸让白小姐不要相信这个男人，她很不高兴，不相信我爸爸。但是就在白小姐结婚的那天早上，那个男人突然不见了。白小姐穿好婚纱等他，一直等。白小姐知道这件事情的时候是早上 8 点 40 分，她刚开始不相信这件事真的发生了，因为她怎么想都想不明白，还哭着说要去找他。不过时间长了以后，白小姐慢慢意识到那个男人不可能再回来了，就开始变得很奇怪。总是穿着那件婚纱，把自己关在房间里，再没出来过，也再没见过阳光。她家的钟也一直停在 8 点 40 分。人们都说，那个男人是她弟弟的朋友，他跟白小姐结婚

26 突然 (tūrán) *adv.; adj.* suddenly; sudden

27 意识到 (yìshí dào) *vc.* to realize

都是她弟弟的主意。因为白小姐的爸爸死了以后，她弟弟得到的钱没有她得到的钱多。弟弟为了从她那儿得到更多的钱，就想出了这个坏主意。那个男人可能从来都没爱过白小姐，他跟她在一起只是为了得到她的钱。”

听完小何的话，我有点不知道该说什么。不过在我看来，白小姐说过的那些奇怪的话，现在都不难理解了。

“白小姐跟我说冰冰也在这里上学。你见过她吗？”我很想了解一些冰冰最近的生活。

“见过。我们都在一个学校。真不知道她这样的女孩会不会有朋友。”听起来小何真的不太喜欢冰冰。

真希望学校明天就开学！

8

Two

又见到冰冰了

几天后，我开学了。

第一次走进新学校的时候，我有点不敢²⁴相信自己的眼睛。世界上²³原来²⁹还有这么漂亮的学校！学校里有那么多的新东西，好多我都没见过。很多同学都是父母或者自己家的司机¹⁰开车送到学校门口的。看着他们，我开始担心³⁰了，要是被³¹大家发现我是从村子里来的，他们还愿³²意跟我做朋友吗？不过，一想到今天能见到冰³²冰，我所有的担心³⁰和不开心很快全都没了。

我和冰冰虽然在同一个学校，但是学校很

29 原来 (yuánlái) *adv.; adj.* it turns out that...; original

30 担心 (dānxīn) *v.* to worry

31 被 (bèi) *part.* [passive particle]

32 愿意 (yuànyì) *v.* to be willing

大，我只有在吃饭的时候才能看到她。很久没见到冰冰，她变得比以前更漂亮了，但是她还是跟以前一样，看到我的时候不跟我说话，也不笑，冷冷的，好像不认识我一样。

为了让冰冰注意到我的变化，我请小何帮我买了一辆车。车是二手的，不过挺新的，而且也不贵。如果我每天自己开车上学，一定会改变冰冰原来对我的看法。

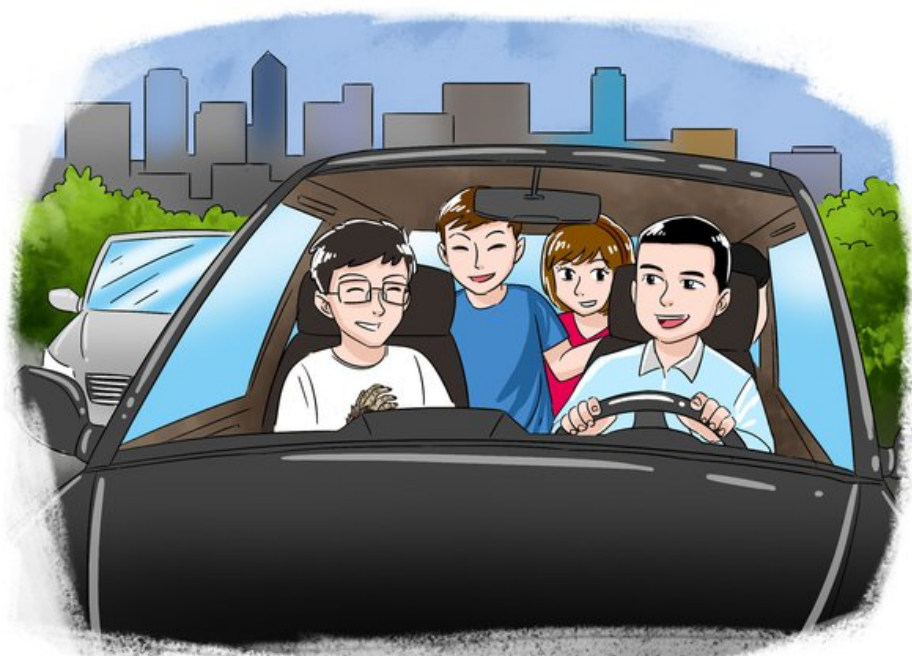
我喜欢小何这个朋友，也喜欢跟他住在一起。我们从不自己做饭，每天都去饭店吃。小何也经常带我去一些很好的饭店，饭后还会去KTV。这样的生活让我的钱很快就不够花了。慢慢地，我发现从金律师那里拿的钱其实还不够多。于是我又去办了一张信用卡。

我经常请同学吃饭，或者请他们去KTV，有

33 KTV (K-T-V) *n.* karaoke

35 信用卡 (xìnyòngkǎ) *n.* credit card

34 于是 (yúshì) *phrase as a result...*, and then...



时候还开车带他们出去玩。我开车开得很快，有几次还差点³⁶ ³⁷撞到了别人。但是我不怕，我喜欢跟大家一起玩，跟他们在一起让我感觉自己再也不是以前的那个吴小毛了。就这样，我交了很多朋友。高一³⁸很快就过去了，这一年里，我经常能见到冰冰，但是她一直对我冷冷的。

36 差点 (chàdiǎn) *adv.* almost

37 撞 (zhuàng) *v.* to crash into

38 高一 (gāo-yī) *phrase* first year of high school (高中一年级)

冰冰真的是越来越漂亮了，学校很多男生都喜欢她，不过冰冰对他们都很冷。但是最近，我发现冰冰总是跟一个男生在一起，还总是对那个男生笑。这让我很生气，因为冰冰很少对我笑！

后来听朋友说，那个男生叫万成，家里特别有钱，但是他说话很大声，学习不好，还经常打人。大家都觉得他很烦，特别是我，而且我完全³⁹不理解冰冰为什么要跟这种人在一起。

有一天，冰冰一个人在吃饭，我看旁边¹没人，走过去问她：“冰冰，你了解万成吗？难道⁴⁰你不知道大家都不喜欢他吗？你怎么会跟他这种人在一起？还总是对他笑！你真心⁴¹喜欢他吗？”

“你是不是太无聊¹⁵了？我喜不喜欢他跟你有什么关系？也许他是不够好，可我就是喜欢

39 完全 (wánquán) *adv.* completely

41 真心 (zhēnxīn) *adj.* sincere, heart-felt

40 难道 (nándào) *conj.* “Could it be that...?” [rhetorical question marker]



跟他在一起！再说，我爱对谁笑是我自己的事，要你管？你知不知道你这个人很烦？”冰冰越说越不高兴，“我不对你笑，你应该感到⁴²高兴，因为你看到的冰冰才是真正的冰冰。”

她这样说让我不知道该哭还是该笑。我最喜欢的女孩，不对我笑，但是我应该高兴？这怎

42 感到 (gǎndào) v.c. to feel

么可能？我这么关心⁴³她，她不但不理解我的心⁴⁴
情，还说我无聊¹⁵，我真是越想越难过。

晚上一进家门，小何就走过来跟我说，他有女朋友了。

“真的吗？太好了。什么时候让我见见？”我真的很为他高兴。

“好啊。她特别可爱，你一定会喜欢她的。可是现在的问题是，她家没什么钱，我爸妈不同意我跟她在一起。我爸说，如果我要跟她结²¹
婚，家里是不会给我们买房子的。所以，以后我得好好工作，自己买房。”小何好像已经为以后的生活做好了打算⁴⁵。

我知道，如果小何决定这样做，那他以后的生活应该不会再像以前那么容易了，但是我特别能理解他的这个决定。一个人只要能跟自己

43 关心 (guānxīn) v. to be concerned (with)

45 打算 (dǎsuan) v.; n. to plan to; plans

44 心情 (xīnqíng) n. mood

喜欢的人在一起就够了。再说，他还那么年轻，别的都还有希望，不是吗？想想我自己，现在是有了点钱，学校也不错，可我总觉得少了点儿什么。

Three

受伤的心

Four**不一样的我**

Five

帮我的人出现了

Six

老黑的故事

Seven

村子里的变化

Eight**意外的短信**

Nine

老黑和龙哥

Ten

思思结婚了

Eleven

十年之后



Key Words 关键词 (Guānjiàncí)

1. 旁边 pángbiān *n.* next to
2. 美好 měihǎo *adj.* wonderful, glorious
3. 前途 qiántú *n.* prospects, future, “expectations”
4. 律师 lǜshī *n.* lawyer
5. 办公室 bàngōngshì *n.* office
6. 小偷 xiǎotōu *n.* thief
7. 注意 zhùyì *v.* to notice
8. 希望 xīwàng *v.; n.* to hope; hope
9. 辆 liàng *mv.* [measure word for cars]
10. 司机 sījī *n.* driver
11. 戴 dài *v.* to wear (glasses, jewelry, accessories)
12. 面前 miànqián *n.* in front of one's face
13. 赢 yíng *v.* to win
14. 认出 rènchū *vc.* to recognize (someone)
15. 无聊 wúliáo *adj.* bored, boring, lame
16. 好不容易 hǎobùróngyì *adv.* with great difficulty
17. 其实 qíshí *adv.* actually
18. 伤害 shānghài *v.; n.* to hurt; harm
19. 阳光 yángguāng *n.* sunlight
20. 叔叔 shūshu *n.* uncle
21. 结婚 jiéhūn *vo.* to get married
22. 好奇 hàoqí *adj.* curious
23. 世界 shìjiè *n.* world
24. 敢 gǎn *v.* to dare (to)
25. 阿姨 āyí *n.* aunt
26. 突然 tūrán *adv.; adj.* suddenly; sudden

27. 意识到 yìshí dào *vc.* to realize
28. 主意 zhǔyi *n.* idea
29. 原来 yuánlái *adv.; adj.* it turns out that...; original
30. 担心 dānxīn *v.* to worry
31. 被 bèi *part.* [passive particle]
32. 愿意 yuànyì *v.* to be willing
33. KTV K-T-V *n.* karaoke
34. 于是 yúshì *phrase* as a result..., and then...
35. 信用卡 xìnyòngkǎ *n.* credit card
36. 差点 chàdiǎn *adv.* almost
37. 撞 zhuàng *v.* to crash into
38. 高一 gāo-yī *phrase* first year of high school (高中一年级)
39. 完全 wánquán *adv.* completely
40. 难道 nándào *conj.* “Could it be that...?” [rhetorical question marker]
41. 真心 zhēnxīn *adj.* sincere, heart-felt
42. 感到 gǎndào *vc.* to feel
43. 关心 guānxīn *v.* to be concerned (with)
44. 心情 xīnqíng *n.* mood
45. 打算 dǎsuan *v.; n.* to plan to; plans
46. 高三 gāo-sān *phrase* third year of high school (高中三年级)
47. 紧张 jǐnzhāng *adj.* nervous
48. 机会 jīhuì *n.* opportunity
49. 抓 zhuā *v.* to grab, to try to catch
50. 千万 qiānwàn *adv.* absolutely (not)
51. 留 liú *v.* to leave behind, to stay behind
52. 感情 gǎnqíng *n.* emotion, sentiment
53. 待 dāi *v.* to stay
54. 失望 shīwàng *v.* to be disappointed
55. 怪 guài *v.* to blame
56. 受不了 shòubuliǎo *vc.* to be unable to stand (something)
57. 按 àn *v.* to press, to hold (down)
58. 原因 yuányīn *n.* cause, reason
59. 不停地 bùtíng de *adv.* unceasingly, without stopping
60. 脸 liǎn *n.* one's face
61. 就算 jiùsuàn *conj.* even if

62. 不管 bùguǎn *conj.* no matter...
63. 条件 tiáojiàn *n.* condition; (living) conditions
64. 短信 duǎnxìn *n.* text (message)
65. 习惯 xíguàn *n.; v.* habit, custom; to be used to
66. 饼 bǐng *n.* a cake or crepe (not always sweet)
67. 自然 zìrán *adv.; adj.* naturally; natural
68. 音乐 yīnyuè *n.* music
69. 害怕 hàipà *v.* to be afraid (of)
70. 灯 dēng *n.* light, lamp
71. 黑 hēi *adj.* dark
72. 偷 tōu *v.* to steal
73. 警察 jǐngchá *n.* police officer, the police
74. 放开 fàngkāi *vc.* to let go
75. 犯人 fànrén *n.* a convict
76. 感谢 gǎnxiè *v.* to be grateful (to)
77. 做生意 zuò shēngyì *vo.* to do business
78. 脏 zāng *adj.* dirty
79. 安全 ānquán *adj.; n.* safe; safety
80. 哥们儿 gēmenr *n.* dude, brothers, bro
81. 失去 shīqù *v.* to lose
82. 罪 zuì *n.* crime, sin
83. 犯 fàn *v.* to commit (a crime, a mistake)
84. 严重 yánzhòng *adj.* serious, grave
85. 害 hài *v.* to harm
86. 本来 běnlái *adv.* originally
87. 结果 jiéguǒ *n.; conj.* result; as a result, in the end
88. 同情 tóngqíng *v.* to sympathize with
89. 照片 zhàopiàn *n.* photograph
90. 意外 yìwài *adj.* unexpected
91. 受伤 shòushāng *vo.* to be injured
92. 快乐 kuàilè *adj.* happy
93. 偷偷地 tōutōu de *adv.* stealthily, secretly
94. 老婆 lǎopo *n.* wife
95. 光 guāng *n.* light
96. 倒 dǎo *v.* to fall down, to fall over
97. 出现 chūxiàn *v.* to appear, to emerge

98. 照 zhào *v.* to shine (on)
99. 血 xuè *n.* blood
100. 交通事故 jiāotōng shìgù *n. phrase* traffic accident
101. 住院 zhùyuàn *vo.* to stay in the hospital, to be hospitalized
102. 分开 fēnkāi *v.* to part
103. 拆 chāi *v.* to tear down, to disassemble
104. 离婚 líhūn *vo.* to get divorced
105. 月亮 yuèliang *n.* the moon
106. 月光 yuèguāng *n.* moonlight

Part of Speech Key

<i>adj.</i> Adjective	<i>prep.</i> Preposition
<i>adv.</i> Adverb	<i>pr.</i> Pronoun
<i>aux.</i> Auxiliary Verb	<i>pn.</i> Proper noun
<i>conj.</i> Conjunction	<i>tn.</i> Time Noun
<i>cov.</i> Coverb	<i>v.</i> Verb
<i>mw.</i> Measure word	<i>vc.</i> Verb plus complement
<i>n.</i> Noun	<i>vo.</i> Verb plus object
<i>on.</i> Onomatopoeia	
<i>part.</i> Particle	



Grammar Points

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.

ENGLISH	CHINESE
CHAPTER 1	
Complements with “dao”, “gei” and “zai”	Verb + 到 / 给 / 在……
Aspect particle “zhe”	Verb + 着
Again in the future with “zai”	再 + Verb
As long as with “zhiyao”	只要……, 就……
Direction complement	Verb (+ Direction) + 来 / 去
Expressing earliness with “jiu”	就
Using “dui”	对 + Noun……
It seems with “haoxiang”	好像……
Not at all	一点 (儿) 也不……
Topic-comment sentences	Topic, Comment
Ba sentence	把 + Noun + Verb……

Reduplication of Adj.s	Adj. + Adj.
Turning Adj.s into adverbs	Adj. + 地 + Verb
Resultative complement “chu(lai)”	Verb + 出 (来)
Doing something more with “duo”	多 + Verb
Causative verbs	Noun 1 + 让/叫/请 + Noun 2……
In addition as “lingwai”	另外
Expressing “every” with “mei” and “dou”	每……都……
Further uses of resultative complement “qilai”	Verb + 起来
Adding emphasis with “jiushi”	就是
Appearance with “kanqilai”	看起来……
Events in quick succession with “yi… jiu”	一……，就……
Quite with “ting”	挺 + ……+ 的
Comparing “haishi” and “huozhe”	还是 vs 或者
The “if” sandwich pattern	如果…… (的话)，……
Emphasizing with “cai”	才
Emphasizing negation with “you”	又 + Negative Words
Expressing purpose with “weile”	为了 + Purpose + Verb
Adjectival complement “de hen”	Adj. + 得很
Sequencing past events with “houlai”	……，后来……
Expressing “as one likes” with “jiu”	想 + Verb + 就 + Verb
Comparing “turan” and “huran”	突然 vs 忽然
A softer “but”	……，不过……
Assessing situations with “kanlai”	(在 + somebody +) 看来，……

CHAPTER 2

Again in the past with “you”	又 + Verb
All along with “yuanlai”	原来……

Adj. with “name” and “zheme”	那么 / 这么 + Adj.
If...then...with “yaoshi”	要是……，就……
Bei sentence	被 + Verb + ……
Shi... de construction	是……的
Tricky uses of “dao”	Verb + 到
Referring to “all” using “suoyou”	所有……都……
Although with “suiran” and “danshi”	虽然……但是……
Only if with “zhiyou”	只有……，才……
Using “not enough” with verbs	不够 + Verb
Using objects with complements	(Verb+) Obj. + Verb + 得 + Complement
Expressing “almost” using “chadian”	Subj. + 差点 (儿) + Verb + 了
Never again with “zai ye bu”	再也不 + Verb + 了
Clarifying relationships with “guanxi”	跟/和……（没）有关系
Expressing “not only...but also”	不但……，而且……
Emphasis with “jiu”	就 (是) + Verb
Rhetorical questions with “nandao”	难道……?
In addition with “zaishuo”	再说，……
Expressing “more and more” with “yue...yue...”	越……越……
For with “wei”	为 + Noun……
Must modal “dei”	得 + Verb
Comparing specifically with “xiang”	Noun1 + 像 + Noun2 + (那么……)

CHAPTER 3

Indicating the whole with “quan”	全 + Noun
For with “gei”	Subj. + 给 + Person + Verb + Obj.
Expressing “to make certain” with “qianwan”	千万 + Verb / Verb Phrase
Mistakenly think that	以为……

Expressing “all” with “shenme dou”	什么都/也……
Potential complement “bu liao”	Verb + 不了
Expressing “not even one”	一 + Measure Word + (Noun) + 也/都 + Verb
Using “xiang”	向 + Noun……
Expressing “in addition” with “haiyou”	Clause 1, 还有 + (,) + Clause 2
Resultative complement “zhu”	Verb + 住
Sequencing with “xian” and “zai”	先……, 再……
Comparing “buduan” and “buting”	不断 vs 不停
Expressing “even if…” with “jiusuan”	就算……, 也……
Expressing “everyone” with “shei”	谁都/也……
No matter with “buguan”	不管……, 都/也……
Had better with “haishi”	还是 + Verb + 吧
Expressing lateness with “cai”	才 + Verb Phrase

CHAPTER 4

Expressing “how often”	Subj. + 多长时间 + Verb + 一次 (+ Obj.)
Expressing duration of inaction	Duration + 没 + Verb Phrase (+ 了)
Expressing difficulty with “hao (bu) rongyi”	好 (不) 容易
Resultative complement “huai”	Verb + 坏了
Comparing “gang” and “gangcai”	刚 vs 刚才

CHAPTER 5

Resultative complement “kai”	Verb + 开
Verbing away using “zhe”	Verb + 着 + Verb + 着 + 就……了
Comparing “chao” “xiang” and “wang”	朝 vs 向 vs 往
All at once with “yixiazi”	一下子……

Indicating a number in excess	Number + 多
zhao as complement	Verb + 着
Just with “jiu”	就……
Already with “dou…le”	都……了
Comparing “weile” and “yinwei”	为了 vs 因为

CHAPTER 6

Expressing “much more” in comparisons	Noun1 + 比 + Noun2 + Adj. + 多了 / 得多
Comparing “benlai” and “yuanlai”	本来 vs 原来

CHAPTER 7

“Cai” used for small numbers	才 + Number + Measure Word + Noun
Expressing not knowing how to do something using “hao”	不知道……好
Result complement “-cuo”	Verb + 错
Separable verb	Verb-Obj. / Verb + ……+ Obj.
Verbing around with “lai” and “qu”	Verb + 来 + Verb + 去

CHAPTER 11

Expressing comparable degree with “you”	A 有 B + Adj. + 吗?
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Credits

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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 seats forced them to sit next to each other.

John majored in Japanese in college in the US and later learned Mandarin before moving to China, where he was admitted into an all-Chinese masters program in applied linguistics at East China Normal University in Shanghai. John lives in Shanghai with his wife and children. John is the editor-in-chief at Mandarin Companion and ensures each story is written at the appropriate level.

Jared decided to move to China with his young family in search of career opportunities, despite having no Chinese language skills. When he learned about Extensive Reading and started using graded readers, his language skills exploded. In 3 months, he had read 10 graded readers and quickly became conversational in Chinese. Jared lives in the US with his wife and children. Jared runs the business operations and focuses on bringing stories to life.

John and Jared work with Chinese learners and teachers all over the world. They host a podcast, You Can Learn Chinese, where they discuss the struggles and joys of learning to speak the language. They are active on social media, where they share memes and stories about learning Chinese.

You can connect with them through the website

www.mandarincompanion.com



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