

Reader Level  
Level One

Unique Characters  
300

# 盲人国

Máng rén Guó

---

# The Country of the Blind

H.G. Wells



Mandarin  
Companion

Chinese Graded Readers

Published by Mind Spark Press LLC Shanghai, China

Mandarin Companion is a trademark of Mind Spark Press LLC.

Copyright © Mind Spark Press LLC, 2013

For information about educational or bulk purchases, please contact Mind Spark Press at [BUSINESS@MANDARINCOMPANION.COM](mailto:BUSINESS@MANDARINCOMPANION.COM).

Instructor and learner resources and traditional Chinese editions of the Mandarin Companion series are available at  
[WWW.MANDARINCOMPANION.COM](http://WWW.MANDARINCOMPANION.COM).

First paperback print edition 2013

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data The Country of the Blind: Mandarin Companion Graded Readers: Level 1 ,  
Simplified Chinese Edition / H.G. Wells; [edited by] John Pasden, Yang Renjun, Yu Cui Shanghai, China: Mind Spark Press LLC, 2013  
Library of Congress Control Number: 2015901610

ISBN: 9781941875032 (Paperback)

ISBN: 9781941875162 (Paperback/traditional ch)

ISBN: 9780991005239 (ebook)

ISBN: 9780991005284 (ebook/traditional ch)

MCID: SSS20220926T165042

All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publishers.



# 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 6 unknown characters on that page, you may want to consider reading our books at a lower level. If the unknown characters are fewer than 6, 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 1 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 1 like this one:

- Include a core set of 300 Chinese words and characters learners are most likely to know.
- Are about 10,000 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

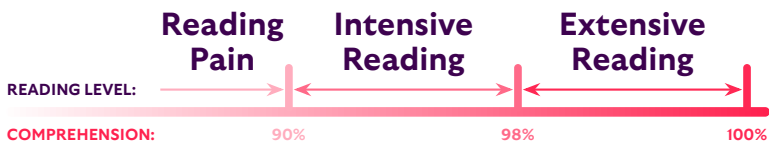
## What is Extensive Reading?

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](http://www.mandarincompanion.com)





# Table of Contents

Story Notes	vii
Character Adaptations	viii
Cast of Characters	viii
Locations	x
<b>Chapter 1</b> 盲人国	<b>1</b>
<b>Chapter 2</b> 那个很远的地方	<b>6</b>
<b>Chapter 3</b> 找盲人国	<b>11</b>
<b>Chapter 4</b> 这是哪里?	<b>12</b>
<b>Chapter 5</b> 这是什么人?	<b>13</b>
<b>Chapter 6</b> 两个世界的人	<b>14</b>
<b>Chapter 7</b> 什么是“看见”?	<b>15</b>
<b>Chapter 8</b> 我错了!	<b>16</b>
<b>Chapter 9</b> 眼睛	<b>17</b>
<b>Chapter 10</b> 最后的决定	<b>18</b>
Key Words	19
Grammar Points	23
Credits and Acknowledgments	28
About Mandarin Companion	29
Other Stories from Mandarin Companion	30







## Story Notes

This story is an adaptation of English sci-fi author H. G. Wells' s 1904 classic story, "The Country of the Blind." Referred to as the "Shakespeare of science fiction," Wells was a futurist foreseeing many technological advancements, even something resembling the internet.

The "Country of the Blind" is one of his most well-known short stories and was originally set in a remote but fictitious mountain in Peru. In this Mandarin Companion graded reader, the location has been set in Guizhou, a mountainous province known for its traditional rural villages inhabited by minority groups.

Among Guizhou' s most well-known minority groups are the Miao or 苗族 (Miáo zú), a group of linguistically related peoples throughout Southern China and Southeast Asia, where today communities of Miao still live in mountain villages. While most of these are now tourist attractions, they became the ideal setting for a legend about a lost village cut off from the world.

The time period of this adaptation is left up to the reader' s imagination, but you' ll notice that modern technology does not play a role in the story' s events. While the original story was published in 1904, Wells published a revised story in 1939 with a different ending. However, this version follows neither the original nor revised ending exactly, rather providing its own unique twist.

# Character Adaptations

The following is a list of the characters from this Chinese story followed by their corresponding English names from H.G. Wells'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.

陈方远 (Chén Fāngyuǎn) – Nuñez

江天雨 (Jiāng Tiānyǔ) – Yacob

江雪 (Jiāng Xuě) – Medina-Saroté

王爷爷 (Wáng Yéye) – Village elder

## Cast of Characters



陈方远  
(Chén Fāngyuǎn)



江天雨  
(Jiāng Tiānyǔ)



江雪  
(Jiāng Xuě)



王爷爷  
(Wáng Yéye)



RUSSIA

• Urumqi

## Locations

### 贵州 (Guìzhōu)

Guizhou is a mountainous province in South-west China with a subtropical climate. It is one of China's most diverse provinces and home to many ethnic minorities.

• Lhasa

MYANMAR





## One

## 盲人国

在贵州的大山里，有一个漂亮的地方。  
人们听说过那里，但是从来没有去过，所以  
他们很想知道那个地方的样子。听说，  
有一条路可以去那个地方，但是很难。如  
果要去那里，人们需要走过几个大山，然  
后走过一个长长的山洞。后来，二三十个

- 
- 1 漂亮 (piàoliang) *adj.* pretty  
2 听说 (tīngshuō) *v.* to have heard of, to hear talk of  
3 从来没有 (cónglái méiyǒu) *phrase* to have never (done something)  
4 样子 (yàngzi) *n.* appearance

- 5 条 (tiáo) *mw.* [a measure word for rivers, roads, and other long, thin things]  
6 需要 (xūyào) *v.* to need  
7 山洞 (shāndòng) *n.* cave (lit. "mountain hole")  
8 后来 (hòulái) *tm.* afterward



人带着孩子、一些吃的和他们所有的钱，  
 走了一个月，真的到了那里。那是个漂亮  
 的地方，这几十个人到了那里以后就一直  
 生活在那里，他们都很开心。

很多很多年以后，贵州下了一次大  
 雨，大雨下了一个月。山洞里的路变成了

9 带(dài) *v.* to carry, to take (a person somewhere to do something)

10 一直(yīzhí) *adv.* all along, continuously

11 生活(shēnghuó) *v.; n.* to live; life

12 变成(biànchéng) *v.* to turn into, to become



一条河，从那以后，再也没有路去那个漂亮的地方了。山洞里的这条河让贵州变成了两个世界，一个是那个漂亮的地方，一个是山洞外面的世界。

但是在那次大雨以前，有一个老人从那个地方走了出来。外面的人都问他：“那个地方怎么样？你为什么从那里出来？”

他想了一下，然后说：“这是一个很长的故事。那个地方很漂亮，我们在那里的生活很开心。可是不知道为什么，最近几年，那里的人的眼睛慢慢出现了一些问题。大

13 河 (hé) *n.* river

14 从那以后 (cóng nà yǐhòu) *phrase* from then on, from that point forward

15 再也没有 (zài yě méiyǒu) *phrase* never again (do something), (there was) never again

16 世界 (shìjiè) *n.* world

17 故事 (gùshi) *n.* story

18 眼睛 (yǎnjīng) *n.* eyes

19 出现 (chūxiàn) *v.* to appear, to emerge

人们慢慢看不见东西了，所有刚出生的孩子都是盲人。我的眼睛是最好的，也知道出来的路。所以他们给了我所有的钱，希望我能去外面的世界找到一个好办法帮他们。”可是没想到他出来以后，大雨下了一个月，那个山洞里的路变成了一条河，他没有回去的路了。所以他只能忘记那里的老婆、孩子和朋友，在外面的世界里生活。“他们还在等我，可是我回不去了！”想到这些，他难过地哭了。

后来，那个老人的眼睛也慢慢看不见

20 看不见 (kànbujiàn) *vc.* to be unable to see

21 生 (shēng) *v.* to give birth to

22 盲人 (máng rén) *n.* blind person

23 希望 (xīwàng) *v.* to hope

24 想到 (xiǎngdào) *vc.* to think of, to imagine

25 忘记 (wàngjì) *v.* to forget

26 老婆 (lǎopo) *n.* wife (informal)

27 回不去 (huíbuqù) *vc.* to be unable to go back

28 难过 (nánguò) *adj.* sad, upset



了，不长时间以后，他就死了。人们很快就忘记<sub>25</sub>了他，但是人们记住<sub>29</sub>了他的故<sub>17</sub>事<sub>1</sub>：在贵州的一个大山里，有一个漂亮<sub>1</sub>的地方，那里的人都是盲人<sub>22</sub>。所以现在，外面的人叫那个地方“盲人国”<sub>22</sub>。

29 记住 (jìzhù) v.c. to memorize, to remember for the future

## Two

## 那个很远的地方

外面世界的人都知道盲人国是一个  
 很漂亮的地方。那个从盲人国里出来的人  
 告诉过他们：“那里有你们想要的所有的  
 东西。天气不冷也不热。山很高，山上  
 有很多大树，树上的水果又大又好吃。每  
 年6月到8月，山上的雪就变成了水，然  
 后到了河里。我们喝河里的水，也用它种  
 花、种菜。动物每天都去河边喝水。住在

30 告诉(gàosu) *v.* to tell31 树(shù) *n.* tree32 雪(xuě) *n.* snow33 种(zhòng) *v.* to plant (a tree)



那里的人都是朋友，我们的生活很开心。”  
11

后来，那个从盲人国里出来的老人就  
8 22  
死了，但是，盲人国的故事还没有说完。  
22 17

盲人国里的人都在等那个去了外面世  
22  
界的老人，他们希望他能找到一个办法帮  
16 23  
他们。可是，那个老人一直没有回去，他  
10

们不知道，他回不去了。老人们的眼睛越来越差，年轻人也慢慢看不见东西了，孩子们出生就看不见。

但是，因为在盲人国里，外面都是高山，中间是一个很大很大的草地。没有可怕的动物，也没有不好的天气。那里有吃不完的菜、肉和水果。所以，在盲人国里，看不见的人也可以很好地生活。

最后一个看得见的人死了以后，盲人国里的人还是生活得很开心。他们慢慢忘记了眼睛，忘记了外面的世界，忘记了很

34 越来越 (yuèlái yuè) *adv.* more and more

35 差 (chà) *adj.* of poor quality

36 草地 (cǎodì) *n.* grassland, grassy field

37 可怕 (kěpà) *adj.* frightening

38 吃不完 (chībúwán) *vc.* to be unable to eat all of (some food)

39 看得见 (kàndéjiàn) *vc.* to be able to see

多很多事。但是，他们也学会了很多。没有眼睛，他们也可以种花、种菜、做饭。他们不需要看，就知道自己要去哪里，也知道身边有没有别人。

盲人国里的人只是眼睛看不见，但是他们的身体很好。他们生了很多孩子，慢慢地，盲人国里的人越来越多。从那个老人出去到现在，已经过了三百年了，盲人国也已经变成了一个小世界，盲人国里的人生活在自己的世界里。他们已经忘记了他们以前从外面的世界来，也不知道外面世界的样子。

盲人国里的人不会想到，有一天，一个人会从外面的世界来到盲人国；他们也不会想到，盲人国里会发生那么多有意思的事。

---

42 发生 (fāshēng) *v.* to happen, to occur

43 有意思 (yǒuyìsì) *adj.* interesting



Three

找盲人国

## Four

这是哪里？

Five

这是什么人？

The logo for the number 'Six' is a red rounded square with the word 'Six' in white, bold, sans-serif font.

# 两个世界的人

## Seven

# 什么是“看见”？

Eight

我错了！

Nine

眼睛

Ten

# 最后的决定





## Key Words 关键词 (Guānjiàncí)

1. 漂亮 piàoliang *adj.* pretty
2. 听说 tīngshuō *v.* to have heard of, to hear talk of
3. 从来没有 cónglái méiyǒu *phrase* to have never (done something)
4. 样子 yàngzi *n.* appearance
5. 条 tiáo *mw.* [a measure word for rivers, roads, and other long, thin things]
6. 需要 xūyào *v.* to need
7. 山洞 shāndòng *n.* cave (lit. “mountain hole”)
8. 后来 hòulái *tn.* afterward
9. 带 dài *v.* to carry, to take (a person somewhere to do something)
10. 一直 yīzhí *adv.* all along, continuously
11. 生活 shēnghuó *v.; n.* to live; life
12. 变成 biàncéng *v.* to turn into, to become
13. 河 hé *n.* river
14. 从那以后 cóng nà yǐhòu *phrase* from then on, from that point forward
15. 再也没有 zài yě méiyǒu *phrase* never again (do something), (there was) never again
16. 世界 shìjiè *n.* world
17. 故事 gùshi *n.* story
18. 眼睛 yǎnjīng *n.* eyes
19. 出现 chūxiàn *v.* to appear, to emerge
20. 看不见 kànbujiàn *vc.* to be unable to see
21. 生 shēng *v.* to give birth to
22. 盲人 máng rén *n.* blind person

23. 希望 xīwàng *v.* to hope
24. 想到 xiǎngdào *vc.* to think of, to imagine
25. 忘记 wàngjì *v.* to forget
26. 老婆 lǎopo *n.* wife (informal)
27. 回不去 huíbuqù *vc.* to be unable to go back
28. 难过 nánguò *adj.* sad, upset
29. 记住 jìzhu *vc.* to memorize, to remember for the future
30. 告诉 gàosu *v.* to tell
31. 树 shù *n.* tree
32. 雪 xuě *n.* snow
33. 种 zhòng *v.* to plant (a tree)
34. 越来越 yuèláiyuè *adv.* more and more
35. 差 chà *adj.* of poor quality
36. 草地 cǎodì *n.* grassland, grassy field
37. 可怕 kěpà *adj.* frightening
38. 吃不完 chībúwán *vc.* to be unable to eat all of (some food)
39. 看得见 kàndéjiàn *vc.* to be able to see
40. 别 bié *adv.* don't (do something)
41. 百 bǎi *num.* hundred
42. 发生 fāshēng *v.* to happen, to occur
43. 有意思 yǒuyìsi *adj.* interesting
44. 国王 guówáng *n.* king
45. 想法 xiǎngfa *n.* way of thinking, idea
46. 决定 juéding *v.; n.* to decide; decision
47. 为了 wèile *prep.* in order to, for the purpose of
48. 要不 yàobu *conj.* how about... (we do this)
49. 另外 lìngwài *pron.* another, other
50. 过去 guòqu *vc.* to pass, to pass through
51. 一定 yīdìng *adv.* surely, certainly
52. 石头 shítou *n.* stone, rock
53. 大声 dàshēng *adv.* loudly (lit. “(in a) loud voice”)
54. 没用 méiyòng *adj.* to be of no use
55. 醒 xǐng *v.* to awaken
56. 发现 fāxiàn *v.* to discover
57. 想起 xiǎngqǐ *vc.* to recall
58. 站起来 zhànqǐlai *vc.* to stand up

59. 摔 shuāi *v.* to trip and fall
60. 力气 lìqì *n.* strength, energy
61. 睡着 shuìzháo *vc.* to fall asleep
62. 鸟 niǎo *n.* bird
63. 奇怪 qíguài *adj.* strange
64. 窗 chuāng *n.* window
65. 颜色 yánsè *n.* color
66. 一点都 yīdiǎn dōu *phrase* (not) at all
67. 难看 nánkàn *adj.* bad-looking, ugly
68. 睡觉 shuìjiào *vo.* to sleep
69. 生气 shēngqì *adj.; v.* angry; to get angry
70. 耳朵 ěrduo *n.* ear
71. 自信 zìxìn *adj.; n.* self-confident; self-confidence
72. 认真 rènzhēn *adj.* earnest, serious
73. 笑 xiào *v.* to laugh, to smile
74. 抓 zhuā *v.* to grab
75. 摸 mō *v.* to touch, to feel (with the hands)
76. 要不然 yàoburán *conj.* otherwise
77. 没错 méicuò *phrase* no mistake, quite sure
78. 睡醒 shuìxǐng *vc.* to awaken from sleep, to be fully awake
79. 总是 zǒngshì *adv.* always
80. 有用 yǒuyòng *adj.* useful
81. 坐起来 zuòqǐlai *vc.* to sit up
82. 暖和 nuǎnhuo *adj.* warm
83. 睡不着 shuìbuzháo *vc.* to be unable to fall asleep
84. 对……来说 duì... láishuō *phrase* for... (a person)
85. 可笑 kěxiào *adj.* laughable
86. 以为 yǐwéi *v.* to (mistakenly) think that
87. 拿起 náqǐ *vc.* to pick up
88. 放下 fàngxia *vc.* to put down
89. 方向 fāngxiàng *n.* direction
90. 再也不 zài yě bù *phrase* never again
91. 用心 yòngxīn *vo.* to be attentive
92. 机会 jīhuì *n.* opportunity
93. 关心 guānxīn *v.* to be concerned over
94. 再也 zài yě *phrase* (never) again

95. 成为 chéngwéi *v.* to become

96. 看不清 kànbuqīng *vc.* to be unable to see clearly

### Part of Speech Key

*adj.* Adjective

*adv.* Adverb

*aux.* Auxiliary Verb

*conj.* Conjunction

*cov.* Coverb

*mw.* 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



# 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	
Expressing location with “zai...shang/xia/li”	在 + Location + 上/下/里/旁边
Measure words for counting	Number + Measure Word + Noun
Modifying nouns with adjective + “de”	Adj. + 的 + Noun
Expressing experiences with “guo”	Verb + 过
Two words for “but”	Statement, 可是/但是 + transitional statement
“Never” with “conglai”	从来不/从来没(有)
Explaining results with “suoyi”	……, 所以……
Special verbs with “hen”	很 + Verb
“Would like to” with “xiang”	想 + Verb
Measure words to differentiate	这 / 那 + Measure Word (+ Noun)
“If..., then...” with “ruguo..., jiu...”	如果……, 就……

Using “ji” to mean “several”	几 + Measure Word + Noun
Reduplication of adjectives	Adj. + Adj.
Sequencing past events with “houlai”	……, 后来……
“Some” using “yixie”	一些 + Noun
Referring to “all” using “suoyou”	所有……都……
Expressing duration with “le”	Verb + 了 + Duration
To go to a place	Using “dao”
Expressing completion with “le”	Subj. + Verb + 了 + Obj.
After a specific time	Time/Time phrase + 以后
Expressing earliness with “jiu”	就
“All along” with “yizhi”	Subj. + 一直 + Predicate
“Zai” following verbs	Verb + 在 + Place
Emphasizing quantity with “dou”	大家 / 很多人 + 都……
Measure words for verbs	Verb + Number + Measure Word
Separable verb	Verb-Obj. / Verb + ……+ Obj.
Modifying nouns with phrase + “de”	(Phrase) + 的 + Noun
Change of state with “le”	……了
Before a specific time	Time / Verb + 以前
Direction complement	Verb (+ Direction) + 来 / 去
Potential complement	Verb + 得 / 不……
“Just” with “gang”	Subj. + 刚 + Verb.
The “zui” superlative	最 + Adj.
Continuation with “hai”	还 + Verb / Adj.
Expressing actions in progress	(正) 在 + Verb
Turning adjectives into adverbs	Adj. + 地 + Verb

## CHAPTER 2

Pronoun “mei” for “every”	每 + Measure Word (+ Noun)
Expressing “every” with “mei” and “dou”	每……都……
Actions in a row	(Verb Phrase 1) + (Verb Phrase 2)
Expressing “more and more” with “yue…yue…”	Subj. + Verb + 完 + Obj.
Expressing “all” with “shenme dou”	什么都/也
Cause and effect with “yinwei” and “suoyi”	因为……所以……
“From…to…” with “cong…dao…”	从……到……
“Already” with “yijing”	已经……了
Auxiliary verb “hui” for “will”	会 + Verb
Adjectives with “name” and “zheme”	那么 / 这么 + Adj.

## CHAPTER 3

At the time when	……的时候
Emphasis with “jiu”	就 + Verb
Expressing purpose with “weile”	为了 + Purpose + Verb
Expressing “otherwise” with “yaobu”	要不……
Negative commands with “bie”	别 + Verb
Again in the future with “zai”	再 + Verb
Using “dui”	对 + Noun……
“Already” with “dou…le”	都……了
Verb reduplication with “yi”	Verb + 一 + Verb
Basic comparisons with “bi”	Noun 1 + 比 + Noun 2 + Adj.
Expressing “and also” with “hai”	还 + Verb
Aspect particle “zhe”	Verb + 着
Expressing “a little too” with “you dian”	有点(儿) + Adj.
Expressing lateness with “cai”	才

“Shi... de” construction	Subj. + 是 + [information to be emphasized] + Verb + 的
Questions with “le ma”	Verb + 了 + 吗?
Again in the past with “you”	又 + Verb
Descriptive complements	Verb/Adj. + 得……

## CHAPTER 4

Expressing duration of inaction	Duration + 没 + Verb Phrase (+ 了)
Ordinal numbers with “di”	第 + Number (+ Measure Word)
“Not at all”	一点 (儿) 也不……
“It seems” with “haoxiang”	好像……
Appearance with “kanqilai”	看起来……
Simultaneous tasks with “yibian”	(一) 边 + Verb, (一) 边 + Verb
Expressing “in addition” with “haiyou”	Clause 1, 还有 (+, )+ Clause 2

## CHAPTER 5

Resultative complement “zhu”	Verb + 住
Inability with “mei banfa”	没办法 + Verb
“Yinggai” for should	应该 / 该 + Verb
Expressing “otherwise” with “yaobu”	要不……
“Always” with “zongshi”	总是 + Verb
The “-bu dong” (don’t understand) potential complement	Verb + 不懂

## CHAPTER 6

“Some” with “youde”	有的 + Noun
“Both A and B” with “you”	又……又……
“Before” in general	以前, ……



Softening speech with “ba”	……吧。
Expressing “with” with “gen”	跟……+ Verb
About to happen with “le”	快 + Verb/Verb Phrase + 了

CHAPTER 7

Basic comparisons with “yiyang”	Noun 1 + 跟 + Noun 2 + 一样 + Adj.
Expressing “together” with “yiqi”	一起 + Verb
Indicating a number in excess	Number + 多
Result complement	Subj. + Verb + 完 + Obj.

CHAPTER 8

Mistakenly think that	以为……
“Not very” with “bu tai”	不太 + Adj.

CHAPTER 9

“Not often” with “bu zenme”	不怎么 + Verb
-----------------------------	------------

CHAPTER 10

Doing something more with “duo”	多 + Verb
“Only if” with “zhiyou”	只有 + essential condition + 才 + desired outcome



## Credits

**Original Author :** H. G. Wells  
**Editor-in-Chief :** John Pasden  
**Content Editor :** Chen Shishuang  
**Adapted by :** Yang Renjun  
**Illustrator :** Hu Shen  
**Producer :** Jared Turner

## Acknowledgments

We are grateful to Yang Renjun, Yu Cui, Song Shen and the entire team at AllSet Learning for working on this project and contributing the perfect mix of talent to produce this series.

Thank you to our enthusiastic testers, Logan Pauley, Ashlyn Weber, Michelle Holding Birkenfeldt, Vanessa Dewey, and Ariel Bowman. Thank you to Judy Yang who helped with our cover and book design.

A special thanks to Rob Waring, to whom we refer as the “god-father of extensive reading” for his encouragement, expert advice, and support with this project.

Thank you to Heather Turner for being the inspiration behind the entire series, and 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.



## 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](http://www.mandarincompanion.com)



# Other Stories from Mandarin Companion

## Breakthrough Readers: 150 Characters

*The Misadventures of Zhou Haisheng*  
《周海生》

by John Pasden, Jared Turner

*My Teacher Is a Martian*  
《我的老师是火星人》

by John Pasden, Jared Turner

*Xiao Ming, Boy Sherlock*  
《小明》

by John Pasden, Jared Turner

*In Search of Hua Ma*  
《花马》

by John Pasden, Jared Turner

*Just Friends?*

《我们是朋友吗?》

by John Pasden, Jared Turner

## 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

*The Monkey's Paw*  
《猴爪》

by W. W. Jacobs

*Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Curly-Haired Company*  
《卷发公司的案子》

by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

*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

*Journey to the Center of the Earth*

《地心游记》

by Jules Verne

*Great Expectations: Part 2*

《美好的前途（下）》

by Charles Dickens

*Jekyll and Hyde*

《江可和黑德》

by Robert Louis Stevenson

---

**Mandarin companion is producing  
a growing library of graded readers  
for Chinese language learners.**

Visit our website for the newest books available:

WWW.MANDARINCOMPANION.COM

