



LESSON A.10

MEASURE WORDS

量词 LIÀNGCÍ



LESSON A.9 REVISION



Construct words/phrases from the below characters:

为
wèi

在
zài

多少
duōshǎo

请
qǐng

鸡蛋
jīdàn

问
wèn

电邮
diànyóu

怎么
zěnme

地址
dìzhǐ

问
wèn

哪里
nǎlǐ

什么
shénme

样
yàng

钱
qián

炒饭
chǎofàn

问题
wèntí

STUDENT PRESENTATION

3

学生演讲

xuéshēng yǎnjiǎng

sit back

坐下来

zuò xiàlái

enjoy

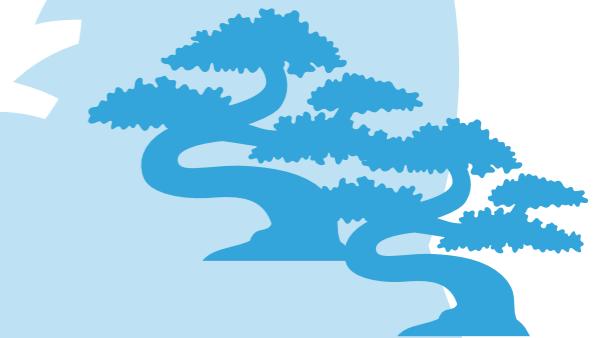
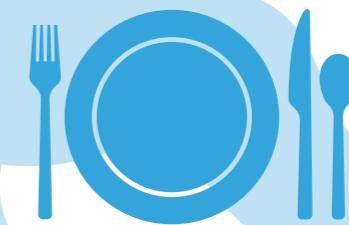
享受

xiǎngshòu

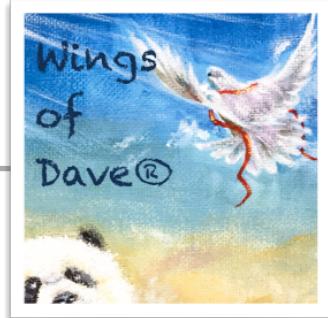
relax

放松

fàngsōng



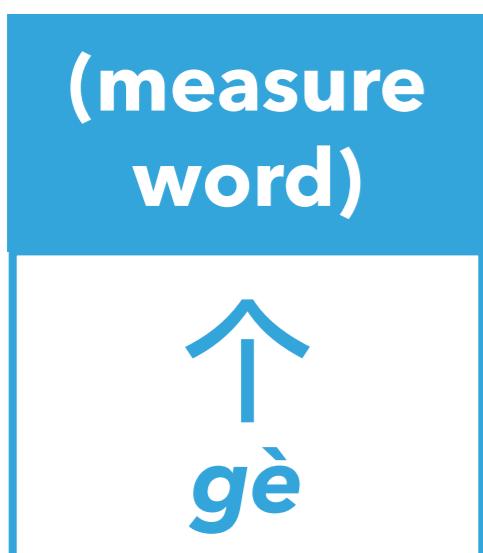
MEASURE WORDS



- In Chinese, you can't just insert the number before an object.
- You **ALWAYS** need to use a **medium** which does not always exist in English and has no direct translation. This is called a **measure word** 量词 (*liàngcí*).
- The concept is similar to "a **piece** of paper", "two **cups** of tea", "two **plots** of land", "three **pinches** of salt", "two **doses** of vaccine", "two **lots** of antibiotics".
- Below example illustrates how important a measure word is:

三个月 = 3 months
三月 = March

- The most common measure word is 个. Use it if in doubt.



• "10 people"	<i>shí gè rén</i>	十个人
• "5 apples"	<i>wǔ gè píngguǒ</i>	五个苹果
• "1 football"	<i>yīgè zúqiú</i>	一个足球

GRAMMAR - CATEGORIZE MEASURE WORDS

- In general, a measure word can be applied to the **same category**.
- For example, use 只 to measure animals. In terms of pictograph, 只 resembles head and feet.



Category	Measure Word	Example		
animal	只	1 panda	一只熊猫	yī zhǐ xióngmāo
room	间	1 room	一间房	yī jiān fáng
vehicle	辆	3 cars	三辆车	sān liàng chē
plant	棵	5 trees	五棵树	wǔ kē shù
flower	朵	6 flowers	六朵花	liù duǒ huā
line	条	3 fish	三条鱼	sān tiáo yú
sheet	张	4 tickets	四张票	sì zhāng piào
furniture	张	2 tables	两张桌子	liǎng zhāng zhuōzi
people (respectfully)	位	5 guests	五位客人	wǔ wèi kèrén

CLASSROOM EXERCISE A.10 - MEASURE WORD

6

- Can you describe the frog with the corresponding measure words?



legs

腿
tuǐ

mouth

嘴
zuǐ

eyes

眼睛
yǎnjīng

frog

青蛙
qīngwā

SONG - FROZEN 冻结的 DÒNGJIÉ DE

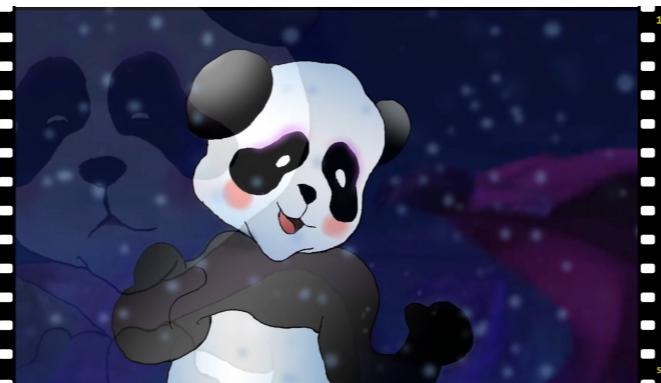
7



Ice and Snow Destiny

冰雪奇缘

bīngxuě qí yuán



<https://vimeo.com/315216942>

Not a footprint

没有脚印

méiyǒu jiǎoyìn

Queen

女皇

nǚhuáng

Hurt

伤

shāng

Let it go

随它吧

suí tā ba

I don't care

我不管

wǒ bùguǎn

Anyway

反正

fǎnzhèng

Icy sky and snowy land

冰天雪地

bīngtiānxuědì

I am also not afraid

我也不怕

wǒ yě bùpà

Advance

向前

xiàng qián

This home

这个家

zhège jiā

My power

我力量

wǒ lìliàng

My soul

我灵魂

wǒ línghún

CULTURE - CHRISTMAS

8

- Christmas 圣诞 (*shèngdàn*) isn't generally celebrated in China.
- 圣诞 literally means the saint's birth, though many Chinese are not familiar with Jesus Christ 耶稣基督 (*yēsū jīdū*).
- In China only about one percent of people are Christians, so most people only know a few things about Christmas. The main religions in China are Buddhism 佛教 (*fójiào*), Chinese folklore, Taoism and Confucianism.
- Shopping centres are decorated with Christmas lights and Santa 圣诞老人 (*shèngdàn lǎorén*) is taking the centre stage.
- The Christmas trees 圣诞树 (*shèngdànshù*) that most people would see would be in shopping centres. The irony is that most of the world's plastic Christmas trees and Christmas decorations are made in China.



CHINESE CHARACTERS AT A GLANCE



CLASSROOM GAME: 宾果游戏 BĪN GUŌ YÓUXÌ

10



- Your tutor will assign each a random table and call out each word by random.
- All players check if that word appears on their card. If it is, mark it with a cross. When a player has 5 marked words in a **row, column, or diagonal**, he or she calls out 宾果 (bīn guō).

1

生日	早上	中国人	爸爸
我	再见	请	英国
认识	明天	高兴	什么
你好	妈妈	谢谢	不

2

不	生日	高兴	中国人
你好	英国	谢谢	认识
明天	妈妈	请	我
早上	爸爸	再见	什么

3

谢谢	不	认识	你好
我	高兴	明天	早上
请	爸爸	中国人	再见
英国	生日	什么	妈妈

4

早上	生日	爸爸	中国人
再见	你好	认识	我
请	不	妈妈	英国
谢谢	高兴	明天	什么

5

英国	爸爸	中国人	请
明天	妈妈	生日	高兴
谢谢	你好	早上	再见
不	什么	认识	我

6

你好	明天	爸爸	生日
英国	早上	不	认识
我	谢谢	再见	中国人
妈妈	什么	请	高兴

7

不	我	再见	明天
妈妈	你好	请	英国
生日	中国人	高兴	什么
早上	爸爸	谢谢	认识

8

认识	你好	再见	中国人
请	不	高兴	我
早上	妈妈	爸爸	英国
明天	生日	什么	谢谢