



LESSON A.8

ORDERING FOOD AND DRINKS

点菜和饮料 DIǎN CÀI HÉ YǐNLIÀO

LESSON A.7 REVISION



2

Construct words/phrases from the below characters:

父
fù

孩子
hái

兄弟
xiōngdì

姑
gū

老
lǎo

我
wǒ

宝
bǎo

青
qīng

母
mǔ

娘
niáng

姐妹
jiěmèi

们
men

公
gōng

年
nián

宝
bǎo

子
zi



big restaurant

大酒家
dà jiǔjiā



canteen

餐馆
cānguǎn



noodle bar/stand

面档
miàn dǎng



cafe

咖啡店
kāfēi diàn



food court

美食广场
měishí guǎngchǎng



Sichuan dish

四川菜
sìchuān cài



Cantonese dish

广东菜
guǎngdōng cài



Beijing dish

北京菜
běijīng cài



Dim sum

点心
diǎnxīn



Shanghai dish

上海菜
shànghǎi cài



Hotpot

火锅
huǒguō

LET'S START WITH FEW ESSENTIAL WORDS



5

English	Chinese	Pinyin
a menu	一 份 菜单	<i>yī fèn càidān</i>
a wine list	一 份 酒单	<i>yī fèn jiǔ dān</i>
starters	头盘	<i>tóu pán</i>
main courses	主菜	<i>zhǔ cài</i>
desserts	甜点	<i>tiándiǎn</i>
breakfast	早餐	<i>zǎocān</i>
lunch	午餐	<i>wǔcān</i>
dinner	晚餐	<i>wǎncān</i>
waiter	服务生/服务员	<i>fúwù shēng/fúwù yuán</i>
customer	顾客	<i>gùkè</i>
food	食物/菜	<i>shíwù / cài</i>
to order food	点菜	<i>diǎn cài</i>
to pay bill	结账/买单	<i>jié zhàng (fomal) /mǎidān (infomral)</i>

Note: adding measure word

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English	Chinese	Pinyin
drinks	饮料	yǐnliào
to drink	喝	hē
to eat	吃	chī
a (can of) coke	一罐可乐	yī guàn kělè
a (glass of) beer	一杯啤酒	yī bēi píjiǔ
a glass of red wine	一杯红酒	yī bēi hóngjiǔ
a bottle of white wine	一瓶白葡萄酒*	yī píng bái pútáojiǔ
a bottle of mineral water	一瓶矿泉水	yī píng kuàngquán shuǐ
a cup of jasmine tea	一杯茉莉花茶	yī bēi mòlìhuā chá
a (bowl of) soup	一碗汤	yī wǎn tāng
a (bowl of) plain rice	一碗白飯	yī wǎn báifàn
a (bowl of) egg fried rice	一碗鸡蛋炒饭	yī wǎn jīdàn chǎofàn
a (string of) fish	一条蒸鱼	yī tiáo zhēng yú
a (dish of) seafood noodle	一盘海鲜面	yī pán hǎixiān miàn
a (cup of) chocolate ice cream	一杯巧克力冰淇淋	yī bēi qiǎokèlì bīngqílín

IN A RESTAURANT



7

在一家餐馆 *zài yījiā cānguǎn*

服务生
*fúwù
shēng*

几位?
jǐ wèi

How many of you?

顾客一
*gùkè
yī*

两位。
liǎng wèi

2 people (no need to say please).

服务生
*fúwù
shēng*

您们有预订吗?
nínmen yǒu yùdìng ma

Have you got a reservation?

服务生
*fúwù
shēng*

请稍候, 这边座。
qǐng shāo hòu, zhè biān zuò

Please wait...sit here.

LET'S GET SOME DRINKS FIRST....



8

服务生
fúwù
shēng

您们想喝什么?
nínmen xiǎng hē shénme

What would you like to drink?

顾客一
gùkè
yī

我想要一杯啤酒, 好吗?
wǒ xiǎng yào yī bēi píjiǔ, hǎo ma

I would like a beer, please
(please = is it okay?)

顾客二
gùkè
èr

还有一瓶矿泉水。
hái yǒu yī píng kuàngquán shuǐ

...also a bottle of mineral water.

顾客一
gùkè
yī

干杯!
gānbēi

Cheers!

MOVING ON TO FOOD...



9

服务生
fúwù
shēng

想吃什么?
xiǎng chī shénme

What would **you**
like to eat?

顾客一
gùkè
yī

来一个北京烤鸭。
lái yīgè běijīng kǎoyā

Bring us a Peking duck.

服务生
fúwù
shēng

还有什么?
hái yǒu shénme?

What else?

顾客二
gùkè
èr

我要一盘龙虾炒面。
wǒ yào yī pán lóngxiā chǎomiàn

I want a lobster fried noodle.

Note: skip saying "you" in a one on one informal dialogue.



顾客一
gùkè
yī

你吃饱了吗?

nǐ chī bǎole ma

Are you full?

顾客二
gùkè
èr

很饱，真好吃!

hěn bǎo, zhēn hǎo chī

Very full. Really
delicious!

(Lit. Really good to eat)

顾客一
gùkè
yī

小姐，请结账。

xiǎojiě, qǐng jié zhàng

Miss (little elder sister),
bill please.

顾客二
gùkè
èr

让我来。

ràng wǒ lái

Let me pay.

(Literally let me come)



你有素食吗？

nǐ yǒu sùshí ma?

Do you have
vegetarian dishes?

有的，我们有蔬菜和豆腐。

yǒu de, wǒmen yǒu shūcài hé dòufu

Yes,
we have vegetable and tofu
dishes.

请给我一盘麻婆豆腐。

qǐng gěi wǒ yī pán má pó dòufu

Can I have a mapo
tofu please. (lit. please give me
Mapo tofu)

非常辣的！你要有点辣吗？

fēicháng là de! nǐ yào yǒudiǎn là ma

(It is) very spicy!
Would you like mild? (slightly
spicy)

ADVANCED – CHINESE DISHES



12



Sweet and sour pork

咕佬肉
gū lǎo ròu



Peking duck

北京烤鸭
běijīng kǎoyā



Pak choi with garlic

蒜蓉白菜
suàn róng báicài



Fried noodles

炒面
chǎomiàn



Wonton soup

馄饨 / 云吞汤
húntún / yúntūn tāng



Mapo tofu (beancurd)

麻婆豆腐
má pó dòufu



Dumplings

饺子
jiǎozi



Kung pao chicken

宫保鸡丁
gōng bǎo jī dīng



Shanghai xia long bao

上海小笼包
shànghǎi xiǎo lóng bāo

中国菜 *zhōngguó cài*

ADVANCED – BRITISH DISHES



13



Fish and chips

鱼和薯条
yú hé shǔ tiáo



Full breakfast

全套早餐
quántào zǎocān



Sunday roast

週日烤肉
zhōurì kǎoròu



Toad in the hole

裏面烤香肠
guǒ miàn kǎo xiāngcháng



Bangers and mash

香肠和土豆泥
xiāngcháng hé tǔdòu ní



Shepherd's pie

牧羊人的馅饼
mùyáng rén de xiàn bǐng

英国菜
yīngguó cài

ADVANCED – HOW TO ADDRESS WAITER IN CHINA



14

waiter/waitress

服务生/服务员
fúwù shēng/fúwù yuán

- In a restaurant in UK, we seldom address waiter by their profession directly. We may wave our hand or say "excuse me" to get their attention.
- This is the same as in China. We don't address waiter as 服务生/服务员.
- China is a vast country, with many different local etiquettes. Below are few examples to address waiter/waitress:



Region	Waiter	Waitress
General 通用的 (<i>tōngyòng de</i>)	handsome guy 帅哥 (<i>shuàigē</i>)	belle 美女 (<i>měinǚ</i>)
Senior 年长的 (<i>nián zhǎng de</i>)	boss 老板 (<i>lǎobǎn</i>)	boss 老板娘 (<i>lǎobǎnniáng</i>)
Beijing 北京 (<i>běijīng</i>)	buddy 伙计 (<i>huǒjì</i>)	young lady 姑娘 (<i>gūniáng</i>)
Canton 广东 (<i>guǎngdōng</i>)	handsome boy 靓仔 (<i>liàngzǎi</i>) (<i>leng3 zai2</i>)	pretty girl 靓女 (<i>liàngnǚ</i>) (<i>leng3 neoi5</i>)
Shanghai 上海 (<i>shànghǎi</i>)	Mr. 先生 (<i>xiānshēng</i>)	Miss 小姐 (<i>xiǎojiě</i>)
Sichuan 四川 (<i>sìchuān</i>)	lad 小伙子 (<i>xiǎohuǒzi</i>)	little girl 小妹儿 (<i>xiǎomèi'er</i>)
Shandong 山东 (<i>shāndōng</i>)	big brother 大哥 (<i>dàgē</i>)	young lady 姑娘 (<i>gūniáng</i>)
Xi'an 西安 (<i>xī'ān</i>)	guy 小伙 (<i>xiǎohuǒ</i>)	little sister 小妹 (<i>xiǎomèi</i>)
Yunnan 云南 (<i>yúnnán</i>)	fat gold brother 胖金哥 (<i>pàng jīn gē</i>)	fat gold sister 胖金妹 (<i>pàng jīn mèi</i>)



Century Egg 皮蛋 (*pídàn*)

- Also known as preserved egg, thousand-year egg and millennium egg.
- It is made by preserving duck egg in a mixture of alkaline clay, ash, salt, quicklime, and rice hulls for up to **several months**.
- Through the process, the yolk becomes a **dark green color**, with a creamy consistency and strong flavor, while the white becomes a **dark brown**, translucent jelly with a salty flavor.
- As an hors' d'oeuvre, the Cantonese wrap egg chunks with pickled ginger root. Shanghainese recipe mixes chopped eggs with chilled tofu. In Taiwan, it is popular to eat sliced century eggs placed on top of cold tofu.
- A favourite household dish is **century egg and lean pork congee** 皮蛋瘦肉粥 (*pídàn shòuròu zhōu*).



Sweet and Sour 甜酸酱 (*tián suān jiàng*)

- Sweet and sour sauce has been used in England since the Middle Ages and remains popular in Europe and the Americas.
- Many places in China use sweet and sour as a **dipping sauce**, rather than in cooking as is commonly found in westernized Chinese cuisine.
- There are various ways of preparing sweet and sour but the English version is commonly made of **vinegar, ketchup, and Worcestershire sauce**.





Chinese Meal 中餐 (*zhōngcān*)

- Chinese people like to order several dishes and share the food in the middle of the table.
- A typical meal in China consists of rice and a soup, together with a variety of fish, meat, and vegetable dishes.
- The meal is served with pickles and other condiments such as raw spring onions and chilli sauce depending on the region.
- Alcohol is consumed before the rice or noodles are served.



Vegetarian 素食者 (*sùshí zhě*)

- Being a vegetarian in China can be difficult.
- Most Chinese become vegetarian because of their religious practice - Buddhism.
- Generally, meat 肉 (*ròu*) is used in a lot of dishes to add flavour. Apart from that, they are often used as garnish.



CLASSROOM EXERCISE A.8



17

- Two customers walk into a restaurant, the waiter writes down what they have ordered below. Please replay the conversation between the waiter and the customers.

Customer 1 顾客一 gùkè yī

1 red wine
一杯红酒 yī bēi hóngjiǔ

1 Peking duck
一个北京烤鸭 yīgè běijīng kǎoyā

1 Lobster fried noodle
一盘龙虾炒面 yī pán lóngxiā chǎomiàn
1 Egg fried rice
一碗鸡蛋炒饭 yī wǎn jīdàn chǎofàn

1 Chocolate ice cream
一杯巧克力冰淇淋 yī bēi qiǎokèlì bīngqílín

Drink 饮料 yǐnliào

Starter 头盘 tóu pán

Main Course 主菜 zhǔ cài

Dessert 甜点 tiándiǎn

Customer 2 顾客二 gùkè èr

1 coke
一罐可乐 yī guàn kělè

1 Wonton soup
一碗馄饨汤 yī wǎn hùntún tāng

1 Mapo tofu
一盘麻婆豆腐 yī pán má pó dòufu
1 Plain rice
一碗白饭 yī wǎn báifàn

1 Green tea
一杯茉莉花茶 yī bēi mòlìhuā chá