



Most Common Chinese Expressions

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Expression	Pinyin	Meaning
爸爸	bà ba	(informal) father; CL:個 个; 位[wèi]
杯子	bēi zi	cup; glass; CL:個 个
北京	Běi jīng	Beijing; capital of People's Republic of China; Peking
不客气	bù kè qi	you're welcome; impolite; rude
出租车	chū zū chē	taxi; (Taiwan) rental car
打电话	dǎ diàn huà	to make a telephone call
电脑	diàn nǎo	computer; CL:臺 台[tái]
电视	diàn shì	television; TV; CL:臺 台
电影	diàn yǐng	movie; film; CL:部
东西	dōng xi	thing; stuff; person
对不起	duì bu qǐ	unworthy; to let down; I'm sorry
多少	duō shao	how much; how many; which (number)
儿子	ér zi	son
饭馆	fàn guǎn	restaurant; CL:家[jiā]
飞机	fēi jī	airplane; CL:架[jià]
分钟	fēn zhōng	minute
高兴	gāo xìng	happy; glad; willing (to do sth)
工作	gōng zuò	to work; (of a machine) to operate; job
汉语	Hàn yǔ	Chinese language; CL:門 门[mén]
后面	hòu mian	rear; back; behind
火车站	huǒ chē zhàn	train station
今天	jīn tiān	today; at the present; now
看见	kàn jiàn	to see; to catch sight of
老师	lǎo shī	teacher; CL:個 个; 位[wèi]
妈妈	mā ma	mama; mommy; mother
没关系	méi guān xi	it doesn't matter
米饭	mǐ fàn	(cooked) rice
明天	míng tiān	tomorrow
名字	míng zi	name (of a person or thing); CL:個 个[gè]
女儿	nǚ ér	daughter
朋友	péng you	friend; CL:個 个; 位[wèi]
漂亮	piào liang	pretty; beautiful

Expression	Pinyin	Meaning
苹果	píng guǒ	apple; CL:個 个; 顆 颗[kē]
前面	qián miàn	ahead; in front; preceding
认识	rèn shi	to know; to recognize; to be familiar with
商店	shāng diàn	store; shop; CL:家
上午	shàng wǔ	morning; CL:個 个[gè]
什么	shén me	what?; who?; something
时候	shí hou	time; length of time; moment
水果	shuǐ guǒ	fruit; CL:個 个[gè]
睡觉	shuì jiào	to go to bed; to sleep
说话	shuō huà	to speak; to say; to talk
天气	tiān qì	weather
同学	tóng xué	to study at the same school; fellow student; classmate
我们	wǒ men	we; us; ourselves
喜欢	xǐ huan	to like; to be fond of
下午	xià wǔ	afternoon; CL:個 个[gè]; p.m.
下雨	xià yǔ	to rain; rainy
先生	xiān sheng	teacher; husband; doctor (topolect)
现在	xiàn zài	now; at present; at the moment
小姐	xiǎo jie	young lady; miss; (slang) prostitute
谢谢	xiè xie	to thank; thanks
星期	xīng qī	week; CL:個 个[gè]; day of the week
学生	xué sheng	student; schoolchild
学习	xué xí	to learn; to study
学校	xué xiào	school; CL:所[suǒ]
衣服	yī fu	clothes; CL:件; 套[tào]
医生	yī shēng	doctor; CL:個 个; 位
医院	yī yuàn	hospital; CL:所; 家
椅子	yǐ zi	chair; CL:把; 套[tào]
再见	zài jiàn	goodbye; see you again later
怎么	zěn me	variant of 怎麼 怎么[zěn me]
怎么样	zěn me yàng	how?; how about?; how was it?
中国	Zhōng guó	China; Middle Kingdom
中午	zhōng wǔ	noon; midday; CL:個 个[gè]
桌子	zhuō zi	table; desk; CL:張 张
昨天	zuó tiān	yesterday
帮助	bāng zhù	assistance; aid; to help

Expression	Pinyin	Meaning
报纸	bào zhǐ	newspaper; newsprint; CL:份
唱歌	chàng gē	to sing a song
打篮球	dá lán qiú	Play basketball
大家	dà jiā	everyone; influential family; great expert
但是	dàn shì	but; however
弟弟	dì di	younger brother; CL:個 个; 位[wèi]
第一	dì yī	first; number one
房间	fáng jiān	room; CL:間 间[jiān]
非常	fēi cháng	unusual; extraordinary; extreme
服务员	fú wù yuán	waiter; waitress; attendant
告诉	gào su	to tell; to inform; to let know
哥哥	gē ge	older brother; CL:個 个; 位[wèi]
公共汽车	gōng gòng qì chē	bus; CL:輛 辆; 班[bān]
公斤	gōng jīn	kilogram (kg)
公司	gōng sī	(business) company; company; firm
孩子	hái zi	child
好吃	hǎo chī	tasty; delicious
欢迎	huān yíng	to welcome; welcome
回答	huí dá	to reply; to answer; the answer
机场	jī chǎng	airport; airfield; CL:家
鸡蛋	jī dàn	(chicken) egg; hen's egg; CL:個 个
教室	jiào shì	classroom; CL:間 间[jiān]
姐姐	jiě jie	older sister; CL:個 个[gè]
介绍	jiè shào	to introduce (sb to sb); to give a presentation; to present (sb for a job etc)
觉得	jué de	to think; to feel
咖啡	kā fēi	coffee; CL:杯[bēi]
开始	kāi shǐ	to begin; beginning; to start
考试	kǎo shì	to take an exam; exam; CL:次[ci]
可能	kě néng	might (happen); possible; probable
可以	kě yǐ	can; may; possible
快乐	kuài lè	happy; merry
旅游	lǚ yóu	trip; journey; tourism
妹妹	mèi mei	younger sister; fig. younger woman (esp. girl friend or rival); CL:個 个[gè]
男人	nán rén	a man; a male; men
牛奶	niú nǎi	cow's milk; CL:瓶, 杯[bēi]
女人	nǚ rén	woman

Expression	Pinyin	Meaning
旁边	páng biān	lateral; side; to the side
跑步	pǎo bù	to walk quickly; to march; to run
便宜	pián yi	small advantages; to let sb off lightly; cheap
妻子	qī zi	wife; CL: 個 个[gè]
起床	qǐ chuáng	to get out of bed; to get up
去年	qù nián	last year
上班	shàng bān	to go to work; to be on duty; to start work
身体	shēn tǐ	(human) body; health; CL: 個 个[gè]
生病	shēng bìng	to fall ill
生日	shēng rì	birthday; CL: 個 个[gè]
时间	shí jiān	time; period; CL: 段[duàn]
事情	shì qing	affair; matter; thing
手表	shǒu biǎo	wrist watch; CL: 塊 块; 隻 只
手机	shǒu jī	cell phone; mobile phone; CL: 部
所以	suǒ yǐ	therefore; as a result; so
跳舞	tiào wǔ	to dance
晚上	wǎn shang	evening; night; CL: 個 个[gè]
问题	wèn tí	question; problem; issue
西瓜	xī guā	watermelon; CL: 條 条[tiáo]
希望	xī wàng	to wish for; to desire; hope CL: 個 个[gè]
小时	xiǎo shí	hour; CL: 個 个[gè]
休息	xiū xi	rest; to rest
颜色	yán sè	color; CL: 個 个[gè]
眼睛	yǎn jing	eye; CL: 隻 只; 雙 双[shuāng]
羊肉	yáng ròu	mutton
已经	yǐ jīng	already
一起	yī qǐ	in the same place; together; with
意思	yì si	idea; opinion; meaning
因为	yīn wèi	because; owing to; on account of
游泳	yóu yǒng	swimming; to swim
右边	yòu bian	right side; right; to the right
运动	yùn dòng	to move; to exercise; sports
早上	zǎo shang	early morning; CL: 個 个[gè]
丈夫	zhàng fu	husband; CL: 個 个[gè]
正在	zhèng zài	in the process of (doing something or happening); while (doing)
知道	zhī dào	to know; to be aware of; also pron. [zhī dao]

Expression	Pinyin	Meaning
准备	zhǔn bèi	preparation; to prepare; to intend
自行车	zì xíng chē	bicycle; bike; CL:輛 辆[liàng]
左边	zuǒ bian	left; the left side; to the left of
阿姨	ā yí	maternal aunt; step-mother; childcare worker
爱好	ài hào	to like; to take pleasure in; keen on
安静	ān jìng	quiet; peaceful; calm
办法	bàn fǎ	means; method; way (of doing sth)
办公室	bàn gōng shì	office; business premises; bureau
帮忙	bāng máng	to help; to lend a hand; to do a favor
北方	běi fāng	north; the northern part a country; China north of the Yellow River
鼻子	bí zi	nose; CL:個 个; 隻 只[zhī]
比较	bǐ jiào	to compare; to contrast; comparatively
比赛	bǐ sài	competition (sports etc); match; CL:場 场
必须	bì xū	to have to; must; compulsory
变化	biàn huà	change; variation; to change
表示	biǎo shì	to express; to show; to say
表演	biǎo yǎn	play; show; performance
别人	bié ren	other people; others; other person
宾馆	bīn guǎn	guesthouse; lodge; hotel
冰箱	bīng xiāng	icebox; freezer cabinet; refrigerator
菜单	cài dān	menu; CL:份; 張 张[zhāng]
参加	cān jiā	to participate; to take part; to join
超市	chāo shì	supermarket (abbr.); CL:家[jiā]
衬衫	chèn shān	shirt; blouse; CL:件[jiàn]
成绩	chéng jì	achievement; performance records; grades
城市	chéng shì	city; town; CL:座[zuò]
迟到	chí dào	to arrive late
出现	chū xiàn	to appear; to arise; to emerge
除了	chú le	besides; apart from (... also...); in addition to
厨房	chú fáng	kitchen; CL:間 间[jiān]
词语	cí yǔ	word (general term including monosyllables through to short phrases); term (e.g. technical term); expression
聪明	cōng míng	acute (of sight and hearing); clever; intelligent
打扫	dǎ sǎo	to clean; to sweep
打算	dǎ suàn	to plan; to intend; to calculate
担心	dān xīn	anxious; worried; uneasy
蛋糕	dàn gāo	cake; CL:塊 块; 個 个[gè]

Expression	Pinyin	Meaning
当然	dāng rán	only natural; as it should be; certainly
地方	dì fang	area; place; space
地铁	dì tiě	subway; metro
地图	dì tú	map; CL:張 张; 本[běn]
电梯	diàn tī	elevator; escalator; CL:臺 台
电子	diàn zǐ	electronic; electron (particle physics)
动物	dòng wù	animal; CL:隻 只; 群
锻炼	duàn liàn	to engage in physical exercise; to work out; to toughen
多么	duō me	how (wonderful etc); what (a great idea etc); however (difficult it may be etc)
而且	ér qiě	(not only ...) but also; moreover; in addition
耳朵	ěr duo	ear; CL:隻 只; 個 个
发烧	fā shāo	to have a high temperature (from illness); to have a fever
发现	fā xiàn	to find; to discover
方便	fāng biàn	convenient; to help out; to make things easy for people
放心	fàng xīn	to feel relieved; to feel reassured; to be at ease
附近	fù jìn	(in the) vicinity; nearby; neighboring
复习	fù xí	variant of 復習 复习; to revise; to review
干净	gān jìng	clean; neat
感冒	gǎn mào	to catch cold; (common) cold; CL:場 场
刚才	gāng cái	(just) a moment ago
根据	gēn jù	according to; based on; basis
公园	gōng yuán	public park; CL:場 场[chǎng]
故事	gù shi	narrative; story; tale
关系	guān xi	variant of 關係 关系[guān xi]