

Mandarin Chinese Beginners

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noproblemchinese.com

没问题

Still remember the root meaning of these 'radicals'? I've added another couple

月

本

日

目

王

工

人

土

手

口

主

见

天

生

下

水

羊

牛

大

田

木

小

哪儿

nǎr

Zai4

To be located

Made up of a
shelter (on the left)
and the earth
radical (on the right)



Zhu4
To live

Made up of
'person' (on the
left) and 'master'
(on the right)



Na4
That

Get the right stroke
order with this one
and it will help you to
distinguish it from
other, similar looking
characters



Na3

Which

As in:

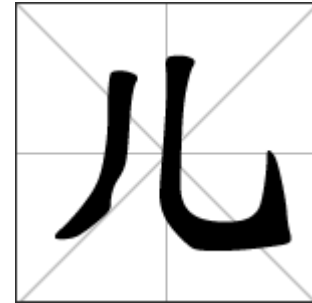
Ni3 shi4 na3 guo2
ren2?

You are which
nationality?



How to say 'where'

To the end of 哪, you add either:



or:

Get used to hearing or using both, even if you prefer to use one or the other



Examples

- 她在哪儿? Where is she
- 他在哪里? Where is he

- 他们在中国 He is in China

- 那是谁? Who is that?
- 她是谁? Who is she?

- 那儿 = there

Of course, you can also say:

那里

(Note that this character doesn't have the 口 at the start and it is a 4th tone (na4) so that's why it sounds different from 'where')

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| • Kate 在哪儿? | Where is Kate? |
| • 在那儿 | There. |
| • Silvio 在哪里? | Where's Silvio? |
| • 在那里 | There. |

点 (dian3)

- A dian in Chinese is a dot or a little bit of something. It's a very useful concept which we'll keep coming back to.

The characters 海, 酒, 泪, 湖, 洋

are all related to water (sea, alcohol, tears, lake, ocean) and all have the short form of 水 on the left: 3 dots. This is called 三点水 (three dot water).

To say 'a little' you can say "one dot"

一点

一点点

This makes a good response to the question: Can you speak Chinese?

This is often pronounced (especially in North East China) as 一点儿 or 一点儿点儿 (It sounds like: Eee diarr diarr)



tā shì nǎ guó rén
她是哪国人?



日本

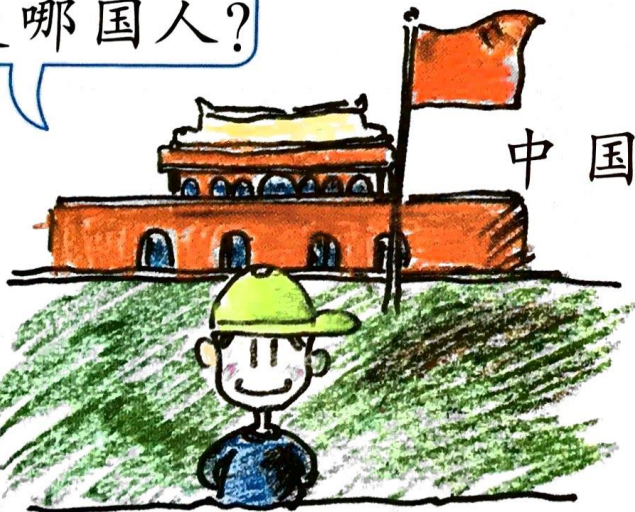


西安

1 tā zhù zài nǎr
他住在哪儿?

tā shì rì běn rén
她是日本人。

shì nǎ guó rén
是哪国人?



中国



北京

3 tā zhù zài nǎr
她住在哪儿?



香港

4 tā zhù zài nǎr
她住在哪儿?

9

Translation.

1



What is your nationality?

I am Japanese.

How are you?

2



Fine, thanks.
And you?

Practice
reading the
following
characters:

(1) 哪儿

(2) 哪国人

(3) 住

(4) 在

(5) 再见

(6) 香港

(7) 上海

(8) 日本

(9) 朋友

(10) 不错

作业

- Use pages 29 – 35 of the workbook to consolidate what we've covered so far. The exercises on pages 34 – 35 are particularly good (but don't worry about ex 4)
- Any questions or doubts, ask me next lesson
- 下次见!