

# Can you

- Are you Chinese?
- I'm not British
- I can speak a little Chinese
- I wouldn't like to drink British tea

Can you order the following characters to make sentences?

- 是人你国吗中？
- 人不我国是英
- 会中说我文
- 英喝我想要国茶不

• A clue:

- 想要 = xiǎng yào = would like      会=huì = can
- 一点= yī diǎn = a little      喝= hē = drink      说= shuō = speak

# How to remember tones?

- A good trick is to associate a colour with each tone. I'd suggest:
  - 1 (high tone) = green
  - 2 (rising tone) = blue
  - 3 (fall rise) = red
  - 4 (falling) = black
- Then associate the colour with the meaning to fix it in your brain – the more ridiculous the better. Eg **cha** = tea. A second tone. Imagine the waiter bringing you some tea and you're shocked to see that it's a strange blue colour (etc)

The verb 'to have' = 有 yǒu

This is the only verb in Chinese that is negated with the verb 'méi' 没 instead of 'bù' 不

I have = 我有 wǒ yǒu

I don't have = 我没有 wǒ méi yǒu

I don't have a problem/question

我没有一个问题 wǒ méi yǒu yī gè wèntí

No problem! 没问题

(Here the word 'have' is understood so it's dropped)

## Measure words

Every noun in Chinese has its own measure word. You could translate this as ‘a unit’ of whatever then noun is. I can’t literally say “I have three older brothers” in Chinese. I have to say:  
“I have 3 units of brother”

我有三个哥哥 wǒ yǒu sān gè gēgē

The most used measure word (and the one to use if in doubt) is 个 gè

The number 2

If you are using ‘2’ as a mathematical number then 二 èr is the correct character.  
If you mean ‘2 of something’ or ‘a couple’ then the correct character is: 两 liǎng

I have 2 younger sisters:

我有两个妹妹 wǒ yǒu liǎng gè mèimei

*Homework 作业 zuò yè:*

*Email me your ultra-simple description of your family*

Can you recall  
what these  
characters  
mean? (all to  
do with time)

年

号

月

日

Year

Month

Date

一九六四年 八月 二十七日

# 写一写

A



D



B



E



C



F

