

Lesson 01

Dialog L01-1 Hello!

你好!
nǐhǎo!



Part 1

你好！
我是老师。
你是学生。
我是中国人。
你是法国人。
你是法国人吗？
是的。
你是中国人吗？
不是，我是法国人。
再见！

nǐ hǎo!
wǒ shì lǎoshī.
nǐ shì xuéshēng.
wǒ shì Zhōngguórén.
nǐ shì Fǎguórén.
nǐ shì Fǎguórén ma?
shìde.
nǐ shì Zhōngguórén ma?
bùshì, wǒ shì Fǎguórén
zàijiàn!

Hello!
I am a teacher.
You are a student.
I am Chinese.
You are Frenchman.
Are you Frenchman?
Yes.
Are you Chinese?
No, I am Frenchman.
Goodbye!

Part 2

你好！
我很忙。
我也很忙。
我们都很忙。
我很累，你累吗？
我不太累。
你有时间吗？
有。
我有三本书。
你有几本书？

我有很多本书。
你会说汉语吗？

nǐ hǎo!
wǒ hěn máng.
wǒ yě hěn máng.
wǒmen dōu hěn máng.
wǒ hěn lèi, nǐ lèi ma?
wǒ bù tài lèi.
nǐ yǒu shíjiān ma?
yǒu.
wǒ yǒu sān běn shū.
nǐ yǒu jǐ běn shū.

wǒ yǒu hěn duō shū.
nǐ huì shuō Hànyǔ ma?

Hello!
I am busy.
I am also busy.
We all are busy.
I am tired, are you tired?
I am not too tired.
Do you have time?
Yes
I have three books.
How many books do you have?
I have many books.
Can you speak Chinese?

我会说一点，我在学习 汉语。	wǒ huì shuō yídiǎn, wǒ zài xuéxí Hànyǔ.	I can speak a little, I am studying Chinese.
你会说英语吗？	nǐ huì shuō Yīngyǔ ma?	Can you speak English?
不会。	bùhuì.	No, I can't.
那，我教你英语。	nà, wǒ jiāo nǐ Yīngyǔ.	In that case, I will teach you English.

谢谢。

xièxie.

Thanks.

Vocabulary, Grammar Notes and Comments

你好	nǐ hǎo	hello, hi, how are you (as a greeting) literally: you good
你 好	nǐ hǎo	you good

你好 *nǐ hǎo*: hello, hi, the common greeting, that is used all over the day and in any situation

你 *nǐ* and 好 *hǎo* are both 3rd tones but when a 3rd tone is followed by another 3rd tone, it is pronounced in 2nd tone: so it sounds as 你好 *nǐ hǎo*.

我是老师	wǒ shì lǎoshī	I am a teacher
我	wǒ	I, me, my
是	shì	to be,
老师	lǎoshī	teacher

Ancient Chinese is monosyllabic, which means that each word consists of only one syllable. In modern Chinese a lot of words consist of two syllables. In most cases the individual syllables exist as words as well and it helps memorizing the word when you also know the meaning of the building parts of the word. As far as the individual words are commonly used, we will give the meaning of them. In the word *lǎoshī*, teacher, 老 *lǎo* means old (of people) and 师 *shī* means master, expert. The old master is the teacher. 老 *lǎo* is pronounced in 3rd tone and 师 *shī* in first tone.

老	lǎo	old (of people)
师	shī	master, expert

我是老师; *wǒ shì lǎoshī*; 我是; *wǒ shì*; I am; 老师; *lǎoshī* teacher.

Verbs are not conjugated: so we say 我是; *wǒ shì*; I am; 你是; *nǐ shì*; you are; 他是; *tā shì*; he is;

是; *shì*; this is pronounced in 4th tone is much less commonly used than "to be" in English.

Mostly it is used in a construction "A equals B". A test whether it is used properly is to reverse the sentence B equal A, 老师是我; *lǎoshī shì wǒ*; although it sometimes will sound strange.

你是学生	nǐ shì xuéshēng	you are a student
你	nǐ	you