Prior Knowledge and Skills
This course is for beginners with no knowledge or minimal knowledge of Modern Standard Chinese (also known as Mandarin).

Proficiency Level
The content of this course corresponds approximately to level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Course Aim
Developing competencies in common communicative topics and functions as outlined in the Course Content are the focus of this Level 1 course. Learners will be enhancing their language skills in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing in appropriate cultural contexts. They will also study more grammatical structures and develop greater fluency in speech and script, including the 12 basic radicals, 12 basic strokes and 7 rules of stroke order of Chinese characters. Approximately 150 characters will be learnt to enable learners to write simple sentences on the subject matters covered in the course.

Course Details

- IML strongly recommends the use of dictionaries, which exist in a variety of printed, online and electronic formats. Tutors may recommend a dictionary at the commencement of the course.
- Each topic includes relevant social and cultural information.
- Additional tasks and resources will be provided in class.
- The IML library, located on level 1 in the Joyce Ackroyd Building, also has books, magazines, kits, CDs, DVDs and videos for loan to IML students.

Revision
Language is learned best with maximum contact and usage. Home exercises will be designed for revision and consolidation of each course segment. Revision is most effective when undertaken regularly in short sessions.

Assessment
Assessment is optional. Listening and Speaking skills are assessed throughout the course. An examination to assess Reading and Writing competencies is held at the end of the course and a statement of attainment is then issued. A statement of attendance is available upon request for students not undertaking assessment who have attended at least 75% of the course.

Further Study Options
Learners who wish to pursue further studies of this language can enrol in any of the IML Chinese (Mandarin) Level 2 Courses

Contacts
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# COURSE CONTENT

## An introduction to the Chinese language

**Language Functions**
- Classroom expressions

**Language Structures**
- Introduction of Pinyin and the 4 tones
- Cardinal numbers 1 to 20

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## Introduction

### Unit 1

**Language Functions**
- Formal and informal Greetings
- Identifying family names and given names
- Forms of address

**Language Structures**
- Verbs *jiao* (叫), *xing* (姓), *shi* (是)
- Questions ending with the model particle *ne* (呢)
- Radicals: 亻 and 女
- Characters: 你 他 她 们 姓 好 什么 名字 中文 认识 高兴 对不起 请问
- Supplementary characters (recommended): 我 呢

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## Countries and Nationalities

### Unit 2

**Language Functions**
- Enquiring about a person’s nationality
- Identifying someone’s address, place of residence

**Language Structures**
- Questions ending with the model particle *ma* (吗)
- The question words *nali* (哪里), *na* (哪)
- Negative adverb *bu* (不)
- Radicals: 口 and 日
- Characters: 哪 吗 不 但 住 在 叫 是 哪里 早上 北京 美国 明星
- Supplementary characters (recommended): 人 中国

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## Occupations and Family members

### Unit 3

**Language Functions**
- Identifying and enquiring about someone’s family and their occupation

**Language Structures**
- The adverbs *ye* (也), *dou* (都)
- Word order of Chinese sentences
- Pronouns as modifiers: pronoun + the structural particle *de* (的)
- Radicals: 宀 and 阝
- Characters: 家 安 字 都 那 爸 妈 姐 妹 哥 弟 工作 医生
- 老师 学生
- Supplementary characters (recommended): 也 做 的 都

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## Age and Appearances

### Unit 4

**Language Functions**
- Describing a person’s appearance
- Asking about someone’s age
- Expressing favourites

**Language Structures**
- The question word *shei* (谁)
- The question word *duoda* (多大)
- The Adverb *zhen* (真), *hen* (很) + adjective
- Radicals: 土 and 力
- Characters: 高 酷 帅 可爱 年轻 演员 漂亮 上海 法国 出生地
- Supplementary characters (recommended): 真 很 岁 最 现在

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## Addresses and Contact numbers

### Unit 5

**Language Functions**
- Enquiring about addresses and contact numbers

**Language Structures**
- The question word *duoshao* (多少)
- Expressing telephone and room numbers
- Radicals: 亻 and ミ
- Characters: 谁 这 发 送 退出 电话 号码 多少 地址 路 公寓 房间
- Supplementary characters (recommended): 给

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## Dates, Days and Festivals

### Unit 6

**Language Functions**
- Asking for and telling days and dates
- Creating daily activities on a weekly planner
- Extending invitations

**Language Structures**
- Expressing days and dates
- Sentences without verbs
- The word *qing* (请) in the sense of to invite
- Radicals: 月 和 木
- Characters: 月 打 去 学 跟 星期 护士 今天 几 号 吃饭 见面 看书 上班
- Supplementary characters (recommended): 明天 年 怎么样

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Course Outline, Chinese (Mandarin) Level 1