



TRAVEL • EARLY BEGINNER

Directions, Taxis, and Public Transit in Mandarin

A printable beginner workbook for asking where a place is, following short directions, showing a destination, and checking a taxi or transit route in Mandarin.

Qǐngwèn, dìtiězhàn zài nǎr?

请问，地铁站在哪儿？

Excuse me, where is the metro station?

A polite location question.

By the end, you can...

- ✓ Ask politely where a place is and whether it is far
- ✓ Follow a two- or three-step spoken direction
- ✓ Show and confirm a written destination for a driver



Early beginner

45–60 minutes

24 pages

Answer guide

Self-contained print practice. Audio and web tools are optional.



1

Ask where

After this page, you can Build a polite location question around one destination.

 ASK

Four location questions



Qǐngwèn, dìtiězhàn zài nǎr?

请问，地铁站在哪儿？

Excuse me, where is the metro station?

请问 opens the question politely.



Xǐshǒujiān zài nǎr?

洗手间在哪儿？

Where is the restroom?

Replace the destination; keep 在哪儿.



Gōngjiāochēzhàn zài nǎr?

公交车站在哪儿？

Where is the bus stop?

A place-location question.



Lí zhèr yuǎn ma?

离这儿远吗？

Is it far from here?

A useful follow-up.



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



2

Ask where CONTINUED

After this page, you can Build a polite location question around one destination.

ASK

Choose the useful question

Select the line that matches the traveler's goal.

1

WORKED EXAMPLE

Ask where the bus stop is.



公交车站在哪儿？



在哪一站下车？



请送我到这个地址。

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

2

Ask whether it is far from here.



离这儿远吗？



一直走吗？



我要换车吗？

3

Politely open a question to a stranger.



请问.....



不用了.....



到了.....

4

Which frame lets you replace only the destination?



[place] 在哪儿？



[place] 多少钱？



[place] 吃什么？

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



3

Follow short directions

After this page, you can Recognize action words and location words in a two-step route.

∞ FOLLOW

Direction building blocks

1

Yìzhí zǒu.

一直走。

Go straight.

Continue in the same direction.

2

Zuǒzhuǎn.

左转。

Turn left.

An action.

3

Yòuzhuǎn.

右转。

Turn right.

An action.



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



4

Follow short directions CONTINUED

After this page, you can Recognize action words and location words in a two-step route.

∞ FOLLOW

Direction building blocks

4

Zài zuǒbian.

在左边。

It is on the left.

A location after moving.

5

Zài yòubian.

在右边。

It is on the right.

A location after moving.

6

Zài yínháng duìmiàn.

在银行对面。

It is opposite the bank.

Use a visible landmark.



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



5

Follow short directions

CONTINUED

After this page, you can Recognize action words and location words in a two-step route.

 FOLLOW

Turn the arrows into words

Choose the matching Mandarin direction.

5

WORKED EXAMPLE

↑ Continue ahead



一直走。



左转。



在右边。

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

6

← Turn



左转。



右转。



在对面。

7

→ Turn



右转。



左转。



一直走。

8

The café is across from the bank.



咖啡店在银行对面。



咖啡店在银行里面。



咖啡店一直走。

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



6

Read a fictional map

After this page, you can Use fixed landmarks to answer route questions without relying on a real map service.

NAVIGATE

Map key — north is at the top

All names and positions are invented for practice.

Place	Position on the page	Mandarin relation
Library 图书馆	Center	起点 · starting point
Café 咖啡店	Right of the library	在图书馆右边
Bank 银行	Left of the library	在图书馆左边
Metro 地铁站	Above the café	在咖啡店北边
Hotel 酒店	Across from the metro	在地铁站对面



Find, cover, recall

Find one useful row. Cover it and reconstruct the target form before checking.



7

Read a fictional map

CONTINUED

After this page, you can Use fixed landmarks to answer route questions without relying on a real map service.

NAVIGATE

Map check

Answer from the table only.

9

WORKED EXAMPLE

图书馆右边是什么？(What is to the right of the library?)



咖啡店



银行



酒店

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

10

银行在哪儿？(Where is the bank?)



在图书馆左边。



在图书馆右边。



在地铁站对面。

11

酒店在哪儿？(Where is the hotel?)



在地铁站对面。



在图书馆里面。



在银行右边。

12

Which location is directly above the café on this fictional map?



地铁站



图书馆



银行

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



8

Ask and confirm

After this page, you can Follow one short exchange from destination question to confirmation.

 **CONFIRM**

Finding a café on a fictional street

A separate fictional street scene. The helper supplies every route detail, so no map is needed.

T

TRAVELER

Qǐngwèn, kāfēidiàn zài nǎr?

请问，咖啡店在哪儿？

Excuse me, where is the café?

HELPER

Zài túshūguǎn yòubian.

在图书馆右边。

It is to the right of the library.

H

T

TRAVELER

Lí zhèr yuǎn ma?

离这儿远吗？

Is it far from here?

HELPER

Bù yuǎn. Yízhí zǒu, ránhòu yòuzhuǎn.

不远。一直走，然后右转。

Not far. Go straight, then turn right.

H

Replay it three ways Read · switch roles · change one detail



9

Ask and confirm CONTINUED

After this page, you can Follow one short exchange from destination question to confirmation.

 **CONFIRM**

Finding a café on a fictional street

A separate fictional street scene. The helper supplies every route detail, so no map is needed.

T

TRAVELER

Yòuzhuǎn, duì ma?

右转，对吗？

Turn right, correct?

HELPER

Duì. Kāfēidiàn zài zuǒbian.

对。咖啡店在左边。

Correct. The café will be on the left.

H

T

TRAVELER

Míngbai le, xièxie!

明白了，谢谢！

Got it, thank you!

HELPER

Bú kèqì.

不客气。

You're welcome.

H

Replay it three ways Read · switch roles · change one detail



10

Taxi and pickup language

After this page, you can Show, confirm, and stop at a destination without naming a current ride service.

CONFIRM

Destination safeguards



Qǐng sòng wǒ dào zhège dìzhǐ.

请送我到这个地址。

Please take me to this address.

Show the address or map pin.



Shì zhège jiǔdiàn ma?

是这个酒店吗？

Is it this hotel?

Confirm the destination shown.



Wǒ zài běimén.

我在北门。

I am at the north gate.

State a visible pickup point.



Dào le qǐng gàosu wǒ.

到了请告诉我。

Please tell me when we arrive.

Ask for an arrival cue.



Zài zhèlǐ tíng kěyǐ ma?

在这里停可以吗？

Can you stop here?

Ask; the safe stopping place depends on local conditions.



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



11

Taxi and pickup language CONTINUED

After this page, you can Show, confirm, and stop at a destination without naming a current ride service.

 **CONFIRM**

Choose the confirmation

Pick the line that adds useful destination information.

13

WORKED EXAMPLE

You have a written address ready.



请送我到这个地址。



一直走。



我坐哪条线？

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

14

You are waiting at the north gate.



我在北门。



北门远吗？



请右转。



One more from you

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



12

Taxi and pickup language CONTINUED

After this page, you can Show, confirm, and stop at a destination without naming a current ride service.

 **CONFIRM**

Choose the confirmation

Pick the line that adds useful destination information.

15

You want an arrival cue.

- ☐ 到了请告诉我。 ☐ 我要换车吗? ☐ 在左边。

16

Which is safer than relying on spoken pronunciation alone?

- ☐ Show a verified written address or map pin ☐ Guess the local place name
- ☐ Assume every hotel has a unique name



One more from you

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



13

Public-transit questions

After this page, you can Ask for the missing route fact instead of guessing it.

 **ASK**

Questions that travel well



Wǒ zuò nǎ tiáo xiàn?

我坐哪条线?

Which line do I take?

Ask for the line; verify it on current signage.



Zài nǎ yí zhàn xià chē?

在哪一站下车?

At which stop do I get off?

Ask for the exit stop.



Wǒ yào huàn chē ma?

我要换车吗?

Do I need to transfer?

Check whether a change is needed.



Zhè liàng chē dào huǒchēzhàn ma?

这辆车到火车站吗?

Does this vehicle go to the train station?

Confirm before boarding.



Xià yí zhàn shì shénme?

下一站是什么?

What is the next stop?

A short orientation question.



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



14

Public-transit questions CONTINUED

After this page, you can Ask for the missing route fact instead of guessing it.

 **ASK**

Ask for the missing fact

Choose the question, not an invented route answer.

17

WORKED EXAMPLE

You do not know the line.



我坐哪条线?



我在北门。



一直走。

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

18

You do not know where to get off.



在哪一站下车?



离这儿远吗?



在这里停可以吗?

**One more from you**

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



15

Public-transit questions CONTINUED

After this page, you can Ask for the missing route fact instead of guessing it.

 **ASK**

Ask for the missing fact

Choose the question, not an invented route answer.

19

You do not know whether to transfer.

☐ 我要换车吗?☐ 下一站是什么?☐ 请送我到这个地址。

20

What should you use for a current service change?

☐ Live local signs, maps, or transport sources☐ This fictional workbook map☐ A memorized fare from an old trip

One more from you

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



16

Cold route rehearsal

After this page, you can Retrieve the core questions and write one verified-destination dialogue.

 REHEARSE

No-look review

Complete these before turning back.

21

WORKED EXAMPLE

Write the phrase for “go straight.”

One answer Yízhí zǒu.

一直走。

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

22

Write the question “Where is the metro station?”



One more from you

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



17

Cold route rehearsal CONTINUED

After this page, you can Retrieve the core questions and write one verified-destination dialogue.

 **REHEARSE**

No-look review

Complete these before turning back.

23

Write the line for showing a destination address.

24

Write the question "Which line do I take?"



One more from you

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



18

Cold route rehearsal CONTINUED

After this page, you can Retrieve the core questions and write one verified-destination dialogue.

REHEARSE

Build a route confirmation

25

Write five short turns: politely ask where a fictional place is, receive two direction steps, repeat one step to confirm, hear the confirmation, and thank the helper. Then note where you would verify a real route.

Success looks like Accept a coherent five-turn exchange using at least two direction phrases plus a specific live-verification source such as local signage or a current map.

Choose your mode Write in Hanzi · write in tone-marked pinyin · say and record it



19

Check your work

After this page, you can compare your response, understand the repair, and choose one item to replay later.

✓ ANSWER GUIDE

Answers with useful feedback

Closed tasks have a direct answer. Open tasks include a model or success criteria; your response does not need to match word for word.

1

Ask where the bus stop is.

Gōngjiāochēzhàn zài nǎr?

公交车站在哪儿？

2

Ask whether it is far from here.

Lí zhèr yuǎn ma?

离这儿远吗？

3

Politely open a question to a stranger.

qǐng wèn

请问……

4

Which frame lets you replace only the destination?

zài nǎ ér

[place] 在哪儿？

5

↑ Continue ahead

Yízhí zǒu.

一直走。

6

← Turn

Zuǒzhuǎn.

左转。

Do not stop at checking. Circle one repair and make that response again with the answer covered.



20

Check your work CONTINUED

After this page, you can compare your response, understand the repair, and choose one item to replay later.

✓ ANSWER GUIDE

Answers with useful feedback

Closed tasks have a direct answer. Open tasks include a model or success criteria; your response does not need to match word for word.

7

→ Turn
Yòuzhuǎn.
右转。

8

The café is across from the bank.
kā fēi diàn zài yín háng duì miàn
咖啡店在银行对面。

9

图书馆右边是什么？(What is to the right of the library?)
kā fēi diàn
咖啡店

10

银行在哪儿？(Where is the bank?)
zài tú shū guǎn zuǒ biān
在图书馆左边。

11

酒店在哪儿？(Where is the hotel?)
zài dì tiě zhàn duì miàn
在地铁站对面。

12

Which location is directly above the café on this fictional map?
dì tiě zhàn
地铁站

Do not stop at checking. Circle one repair and make that response again with the answer covered.



21

Check your work CONTINUED

After this page, you can compare your response, understand the repair, and choose one item to replay later.

✓ ANSWER GUIDE

Answers with useful feedback

Closed tasks have a direct answer. Open tasks include a model or success criteria; your response does not need to match word for word.

13

You have a written address ready.

Qǐng sòng wǒ dào zhège dìzhǐ.

请送我到这个地址。

14

You are waiting at the north gate.

Wǒ zài běimén.

我在北门。

15

You want an arrival cue.

Dào le qǐng gàosu wǒ.

到了请告诉我。

16

Which is safer than relying on spoken pronunciation alone?

Show a verified written address or map pin

17

You do not know the line.

Wǒ zuò nǎ tiáo xiàn?

我坐哪条线？

18

You do not know where to get off.

Zài nǎ yí zhàn xià chē?

在哪一站下车？

Do not stop at checking. Circle one repair and make that response again with the answer covered.



22

Check your work CONTINUED

After this page, you can compare your response, understand the repair, and choose one item to replay later.

✓ ANSWER GUIDE

Answers with useful feedback

Closed tasks have a direct answer. Open tasks include a model or success criteria; your response does not need to match word for word.

19

You do not know whether to transfer.

Wǒ yào huàn chē ma?

我要换车吗？

20

What should you use for a current service change?

Live local signs, maps, or transport sources

21

Write the phrase for "go straight."

Yīzhí zǒu.

一直走。

22

Write the question "Where is the metro station?"

dì tiě zhàn zài nǎ ér

地铁站在哪儿？

Why: 请问，地铁站在哪儿？ is the more polite complete version.

23

Write the line for showing a destination address.

Qǐng sòng wǒ dào zhège dìzhǐ.

请送我到这个地址。

24

Write the question "Which line do I take?"

Wǒ zuò nǎ tiáo xiàn?

我坐哪条线？

Do not stop at checking. Circle one repair and make that response again with the answer covered.



23

Check your work CONTINUED

After this page, you can compare your response, understand the repair, and choose one item to replay later.

✓ ANSWER GUIDE

Answers with useful feedback

Closed tasks have a direct answer. Open tasks include a model or success criteria; your response does not need to match word for word.

25

Write five short turns: politely ask where a fictional place is, receive two direction steps, repeat one step to confirm, hear the confirmation, and thank the helper. Then note where you would verify a real route.

ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER

A: Qǐngwèn, Xīngguāng Shūdiàn zài nǎr? / B: Yízhí wǎng qián zǒu, ránhòu zuǒzhuǎn. / A: Xiān yízhí zǒu, zài zuǒzhuǎn, duì ma? / B: Duì. / A: Xièxie!

A: 请问，星光书店在哪儿？ / B: 一直往前走，然后左转。 / A: 先一直走，再左转，对吗？ / B: 对。 / A: 谢谢！ Verify a real route with current local signs or a current map.

Why: The practice map is fictional; a usable real route still needs current signs, staff guidance, or a current map.

Success criteria: Accept a coherent five-turn exchange using at least two direction phrases plus a specific live-verification source such as local signage or a current map.

Do not stop at checking. Circle one repair and make that response again with the answer covered.