



EFFORTLESS CHINESE • SHADOWING GUIDE

# Meet the Parents

Shadow a Real Chinese Conversation

150 words • HSK 1-3

Mark is meeting his Chinese girlfriend's parents tomorrow. It's 11 p.m., he can't sleep, so he calls her. Say every line of their call out loud — with only 150 words you already know.

# Four rounds, one conversation

The video takes you through the same 42 lines four times. Each round asks a little more of your mouth.

1

## Just listen

Play the conversation once. Don't repeat yet — just follow the story. Use the full dialogue in this guide if you get lost.

2

## Slow shadowing

After each line there's a pause. Say the line out loud in that pause. Copy the tones and the feeling, not just the words.

3

## Full speed

No pauses. Speak with them, at the same time — not after them. If you miss a word, don't stop. Keep going.

4

## You are Mark

Mark's voice is muted. When his mouth moves, that's your line. Use the "You are Mark" pages to practise first.

**Pinyin note.** The pinyin in this guide shows tone changes for 不 and 一 (bú shì, yíding, yìdiǎnr), because that's how they're actually said. Third-tone changes are not marked, and neutral tones have no mark.

# Every word in the conversation

● Teal words are explained in “9 tricky bits”.

## HSK 1 • 91 WORDS

|     |                                       |    |                                           |     |                                          |    |                                |
|-----|---------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| 喂   | wèi<br>hello (on the phone)           | 都  | dōu<br>already (here); all                | 十   | shí<br>ten                               | 一  | yī<br>one; a                   |
| 点   | diǎn<br>o'clock                       | 了  | le<br>particle: change / completion       | 你   | nǐ<br>you                                | 怎么 | zěnmě<br>how come; how         |
| 还   | hái<br>still                          | 不  | bù<br>not                                 | 睡   | shuì<br>to sleep                         | 我  | wǒ<br>I; me                    |
| 想   | xiǎng<br>to want; to think            | 在  | zài<br>(be) doing; at                     | 明天  | míngtiān<br>tomorrow                     | 的  | de<br>particle: 's / of        |
| 事   | shì<br>thing; matter                  | 要  | yào<br>going to; to want                  | 去   | qù<br>to go                              | 家  | jiā<br>home                    |
| 吃   | chī<br>to eat                         | 饭  | fàn<br>meal                               | 有点儿 | yǒudiǎnr<br>a bit                        | 什么 | shénme<br>what                 |
| 爸爸  | bàba<br>dad                           | 妈妈 | māma<br>mom                               | 会   | huì<br>will; can                         | 这  | zhè<br>this                    |
| 是   | shì<br>to be                          | 第  | dì<br>ordinal prefix (first, second...)   | 见   | jiàn<br>to see; to meet                  | 知道 | zhīdao<br>to know              |
| 太   | tài<br>too; very                      | 多  | duō<br>a lot; too much                    | 他们  | tāmen<br>they                            | 人  | rén<br>person                  |
| 很   | hěn<br>very                           | 好  | hǎo<br>good; nice; well                   | 真   | zhēn<br>really                           | 喜欢 | xǐhuan<br>to like              |
| 买   | mǎi<br>to buy                         | 再  | zài<br>also; then (do another thing)      | 一些  | yìxiē<br>some                            | 那  | nà<br>then; that               |
| 她   | tā<br>she                             | 水果 | shuǐguǒ<br>fruit                          | 贵   | guì<br>expensive                         | 呢  | ne<br>particle: what about...? |
| 爱   | ài<br>to love (to do)                 | 喝  | hē<br>to drink                            | 茶   | chá<br>tea                               | 可以 | kěyǐ<br>can; may               |
| 和   | hé<br>and                             | 住  | zhù<br>(after a verb) firmly              | 有   | yǒu<br>to have                           | 穿  | chuān<br>to wear               |
| 一点儿 | yìdiǎnr<br>a little                   | 件  | jiàn<br>measure word for clothes, matters | 怎么样 | zěnmeyàng<br>what (someone) is like; how | 他  | tā<br>he                       |
| 今年  | jīnnián<br>this year                  | 六  | liù<br>six                                | 岁   | sui<br>years old                         | 说话 | shuōhuà<br>to talk             |
| 对   | duì<br>to(ward); right                | 谁  | shéi<br>who; anyone                       | 说   | shuō<br>to say; to speak                 | 看  | kàn<br>to watch                |
| 你们  | nǐmen<br>you (plural)                 | 也  | yě<br>also; too                           | 吗   | ma<br>question particle                  | 能  | néng<br>can (be able to)       |
| 个   | gè<br>measure word (general)          | 问题 | wèntí<br>question; problem                | 中文  | Zhōngwén<br>Chinese (language)           | 听  | tīng<br>to listen; to hear     |
| 几   | jǐ<br>a few                           | 天  | tiān<br>day                               | 晚上  | wǎnshang<br>evening; night               | 星期 | xīngqī<br>week                 |
| 到   | dào<br>(after a verb) reached: 见到, 想到 | 高兴 | gāoxìng<br>glad; happy                    | 没有  | méiyǒu<br>not (have); 没 for short        | 现在 | xiànzài<br>now                 |
| 给   | gěi<br>for; to give                   | 饺子 | jiǎozi<br>dumplings                       | 下   | xià<br>below; down (楼下: downstairs)      | 谢谢 | xièxie<br>thank you            |
| 打电话 | dǎ diànhuà<br>to make a phone call    | 睡觉 | shuìjiào<br>to go to sleep                | 吧   | ba<br>particle: suggestion               |    |                                |

## THE 150 WORDS

### HSK 2 • 29 WORDS

|    |                                             |
|----|---------------------------------------------|
| 就  | jiù<br>just; then                           |
| 别  | bié<br>don't                                |
| 得  | de<br>particle after a verb (how it's done) |
| 笑  | xiào<br>to smile; to laugh                  |
| 最  | zuì<br>most                                 |
| 帮  | bāng<br>to help                             |
| 告诉 | gàosu<br>to tell                            |
| 那么 | nàme<br>that (much)                         |
| 等  | děng<br>to wait                             |
| 比  | bǐ<br>than                                  |

|    |                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 次  | cì<br>time (occurrence)              |
| 让  | ràng<br>to let; to make (someone do) |
| 白色 | báisè<br>white                       |
| 这样 | zhèyàng<br>like this                 |
| 足球 | zúqiú<br>soccer                      |
| 懂  | dǒng<br>to understand                |
| 每  | měi<br>every                         |
| 包  | bāo<br>to wrap (dumplings)           |
| 进  | jìn<br>to enter                      |
| 快  | kuài<br>quickly; hurry               |

|    |                           |
|----|---------------------------|
| 啊  | a<br>particle (soft tone) |
| 花  | huā<br>flowers            |
| 可能 | kěnéng<br>maybe; might    |
| 跟  | gēn<br>with               |
| 错  | cuò<br>wrong              |
| 已经 | yǐjīng<br>already         |
| 教  | jiāo<br>to teach          |
| 楼  | lóu<br>building           |
| 门  | mén<br>door               |

### HSK 3 • 30 WORDS

|    |                                             |
|----|---------------------------------------------|
| 可是 | kěshì<br>but                                |
| 又  | yòu<br>(emphasis) it's not like...          |
| 礼物 | lǐwù<br>gift                                |
| 行  | xíng<br>OK; will do                         |
| 衬衫 | chènshān<br>shirt                           |
| 聊  | liáo<br>to chat                             |
| 怕  | pà<br>to be afraid                          |
| 练  | liàn<br>to practice                         |
| 迟到 | chídào<br>to be late                        |
| 阿姨 | āyí<br>auntie (friend's / partner's mother) |

|    |                                         |
|----|-----------------------------------------|
| 一直 | yìzhí<br>all the time; keep (doing)     |
| 应该 | yīnggāi<br>should                       |
| 酒  | jiǔ<br>alcohol; wine                    |
| 记  | jì<br>to remember (记住: to keep in mind) |
| 见面 | jiànmiàn<br>to meet (up)                |
| 如果 | rúguǒ<br>if                             |
| 而且 | érqiě<br>and also; moreover             |
| 一样 | yíyàng<br>the same                      |
| 先  | xiān<br>first                           |
| 好多 | hǎoduō<br>much (better)                 |

|     |                                               |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------|
| 担心  | dānxīn<br>to worry                            |
| 带   | dài<br>to bring                               |
| 不用  | búyòng<br>no need                             |
| 干净  | gānjìng<br>clean; neat                        |
| 比赛  | bǐsài<br>match; game                          |
| 怎么办 | zěnmébàn<br>what to do                        |
| 句   | jù<br>measure word for sentences              |
| 一定  | yídìng<br>definitely                          |
| 叔叔  | shūshu<br>uncle (friend's / partner's father) |
| 开心  | kāixīn<br>happy                               |

## 42 lines • 5 sections

### SECTION 1 • CAN'T SLEEP • 睡不好

01 • 林静 Lín Jìng

**喂，Mark？都十一点了，你怎么还不睡？**

Wèi, Mark? Dōu shíyī diǎn le, nǐ zěnmé hái bú shuì?

Hello, Mark? It's already eleven. How come you're still up?

02 • Mark

**我想睡，可是一一直在想明天的事。明天就要去你家吃饭了，我有点儿担心。**

Wǒ xiǎng shuì, kěshì yìzhí zài xiǎng míngtiān de shì. Míngtiān jiù yào qù nǐ jiā chīfàn le, wǒ yǒudiǎnr dānxīn.

I want to sleep, but I keep thinking about tomorrow. I'm having dinner at your place tomorrow. I'm a bit worried.

03 • 林静 Lín Jìng

**担心什么？我爸妈又不会吃了你。**

Dānxīn shénme? Wǒ bà mā yòu bú huì chī le nǐ.

Worried about what? My parents aren't going to eat you.

04 • Mark

**可是这是我第一次见你爸妈啊。**

Kěshì zhè shì wǒ dì-yī cì jiàn nǐ bà mā a.

But it's my first time meeting your parents.

05 • 林静 Lín Jìng

**我知道。你别想太多，他们人很好。**

Wǒ zhīdao. Nǐ bié xiǎng tài duō, tāmen rén hěn hǎo.

I know. Don't overthink it. They're really nice.

06 • Mark

**我真的很想让他们喜欢我。**

Wǒ zhēn de hěn xiǎng ràng tāmen xǐhuan wǒ.

I really want them to like me.

### SECTION 2 • WHAT TO BRING • 带什么，穿什么

07 • Mark

**我应该带什么礼物？我想买酒，再买一些花。**

Wǒ yīnggāi dài shénme lǐwù? Wǒ xiǎng mǎi jiǔ, zài mǎi yìxiē huā.

What gift should I bring? I'm thinking some wine, and some flowers.

## THE FULL CONVERSATION

08 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**花就不用了，我妈不太喜欢花。**

Huā jiù búyòng le, wǒ mā bú tài xǐhuan huā.

Skip the flowers. My mom isn't really into flowers.

09 · Mark

**那你妈妈喜欢什么？**

Nà nǐ māma xǐhuan shénme?

Then what does your mom like?

10 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**她喜欢水果。你买一些水果就行，不用买太贵的。**

Tā xǐhuan shuǐguǒ. Nǐ mǎi yìxiē shuǐguǒ jiù xíng, búyòng mǎi tài guì de.

She likes fruit. Just get some fruit. Nothing too expensive.

11 · Mark

**你爸爸呢？**

Nǐ bàba ne?

And your dad?

12 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**我爸爸爱喝茶。你可以买一些好茶。**

Wǒ bà ài hē chá. Nǐ kěyǐ mǎi yìxiē hǎo chá.

My dad loves tea. You could get some good tea.

13 · Mark

**好，茶和水果。我记住了。还有，我穿什么好呢？**

Hǎo, chá hé shuǐguǒ. Wǒ jìzhù le. Hái yǒu, wǒ chuān shénme hǎo ne?

OK, tea and fruit. Got it. Also, what should I wear?

14 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**穿得干净一点儿就行。你那件白色的衬衫就很好。**

Chuān de gānjìng yìdiǎnr jiù xíng. Nǐ nà jiàn báisè de chènshān jiù hěn hǎo.

Just look neat. That white shirt of yours is perfect.

## SECTION 3 · HER DAD · 她爸爸

15 · Mark

**你爸爸人怎么样？**

Nǐ bàba rén zěnmeyàng?

What's your dad like?

## THE FULL CONVERSATION

16 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**他今年六十岁，不太爱说话。第一次见面，他可能不怎么笑。**

Tā jīnnián liùshí suì, bú tài ài shuōhuà. Dì-yī cì jiànmiàn, tā kěnéng bù zěnmē xiào.

He's sixty this year, and he doesn't talk much. When you first meet, he might not smile much.

17 · Mark

**不笑？那他是不是不喜欢我？**

Bú xiào? Nà tā shì bu shì bù xǐhuan wǒ?

Not smile? So he doesn't like me?

18 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**不是不是。他对谁都这样。**

Bú shì bú shì. Tā duì shéi dōu zhèyàng.

No, no. He's like that with everyone.

19 · Mark

**那我跟他说什么呢？**

Nà wǒ gēn tā shuō shénme ne?

Then what do I talk to him about?

20 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**他最爱看足球比赛。你们可以聊足球。**

Tā zuì ài kàn zúqiú bǐsài. Nǐmen kěyǐ liáo zúqiú.

He loves watching soccer. You two can talk about soccer.

21 · Mark

**太好了，我也喜欢足球！他会让我喝酒吗？我不太能喝酒。**

Tài hǎo le, wǒ yě xǐhuan zúqiú! Tā huì ràng wǒ hē jiǔ ma? Wǒ bú tài néng hē jiǔ.

Great, I like soccer too! Will he make me drink? I can't really hold my alcohol.

22 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**他可能会让你喝。你喝一点儿就行，别喝多了。**

Tā kěnéng huì ràng nǐ hē. Nǐ hē yìdiǎnr jiù xíng, bié hē duō le.

He might. Just have a little. Don't drink too much.

23 · Mark

**如果我喝多了，说错了怎么办？**

Rúguǒ wǒ hē duō le, shuō cuò le zěnmēbàn?

What if I drink too much and say something wrong?

## THE FULL CONVERSATION

24 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**哈哈，那我就帮你说。**

Hāha, nà wǒ jiù bāng nǐ shuō.

Haha, then I'll do the talking for you.

### SECTION 4 · A SECRET · 一个秘密

25 · Mark

**还有一个问题。我的中文不太好，我怕他们听不懂我。**

Háiyǒu yí ge wèntí. Wǒ de Zhōngwén bú tài hǎo, wǒ pà tāmen tīng bu dǒng wǒ.

One more thing. My Chinese isn't great. I'm afraid they won't understand me.

26 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**你的中文已经很好了！而且，我告诉你一件事。**

Nǐ de Zhōngwén yǐjīng hěn hǎo le! Érqiě, wǒ gàosu nǐ yí jiàn shì.

Your Chinese is already really good! And let me tell you something.

27 · Mark

**什么事？**

Shénme shì?

What is it?

28 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**我爸这几天每天晚上都让我教他说一句……**

Wǒ bà zhè jǐ tiān měitiān wǎnshàng dōu ràng wǒ jiāo tā shuō yí jù...

Every night this week, my dad has had me teach him one sentence...

29 · Mark

**一句什么？**

Yí jù shénme?

What sentence?

30 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**"Nice to meet you"。他想明天跟你说。他已经练了一个星期了。**

"Nice to meet you". Tā xiǎng míngtiān gēn nǐ shuō. Tā yǐjīng liàn le yí ge xīngqī le.

"Nice to meet you." He wants to say it to you tomorrow. He's been practicing for a whole week.

31 · Mark

**一个星期？**

Yí ge xīngqī?

A whole week?

## THE FULL CONVERSATION

32 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**对。他也很担心，跟你一样。他见到你，一定会很高兴。**

Duì. Tā yě hěn dānxīn, gēn nǐ yíyàng. Tā jiàndào nǐ, yídìng huì hěn gāoxìng.

Yep. He's worried too, just like you. He'll be really happy to meet you.

33 · Mark

**我没想到。我现在没那么担心了。**

Wǒ méi xiǎngdào. Wǒ xiànzài méi nàme dānxīn le.

I didn't see that coming. I'm not so worried anymore.

34 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**还有，我妈说，明天要给你包饺子。**

Háiyǒu, wǒ mā shuō, míngtiān yào gěi nǐ bāo jiǎozi.

Oh, and my mom says she's making dumplings for you tomorrow.

35 · Mark

**饺子！我最爱吃饺子了！**

Jiǎozi! Wǒ zuì ài chī jiǎozi le!

Dumplings! I love dumplings!

## SECTION 5 · SEE YOU TOMORROW · 明天见

36 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**明天晚上六点，我在楼下等你。**

Míngtiān wǎnshàng liù diǎn, wǒ zài lóuxià děng nǐ.

Tomorrow at six p.m., I'll wait for you downstairs.

37 · Mark

**好，我一定不迟到。那我进门先说什么？**

Hǎo, wǒ yídìng bù chídào. Nà wǒ jìn mén xiān shuō shénme?

OK, I won't be late. So what do I say first when I walk in?

38 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**你就说"叔叔好，阿姨好"。**

Nǐ jiù shuō "shūshu hǎo, āyí hǎo".

Just say, "Hello, Uncle. Hello, Auntie."

39 · Mark

**叔叔好，阿姨好。这样对吗？**

Shūshu hǎo, āyí hǎo. Zhèyàng duì ma?

Hello, Uncle. Hello, Auntie. Like that?

## THE FULL CONVERSATION

40 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**很好！比我爸说得好多了。**

Hěn hǎo! Bǐ wǒ bà shuō de hǎoduō le.

Perfect! Way better than my dad's English.

41 · Mark

**哈哈。谢谢你，我现在很开心。明天见！**

Hāha. Xièxie nǐ, wǒ xiànzài hěn kāixīn. Míngtiān jiàn!

Haha. Thank you, I feel good now. See you tomorrow!

42 · 林静 Lín Jìng

**明天见。别再给我打电话了，快去睡觉吧！**

Míngtiān jiàn. Bié zài gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà le, kuài qù shuìjiào ba!

See you tomorrow. Stop calling me and go to sleep!

# Sounds the spelling won't warn you about

1

## 不 changes its tone

不 is normally fourth tone, **bù**. Before another fourth tone it becomes second tone, **bú**.

不喜欢 **bù** xǐhuan    不是 **bú** shì    不太 **bú** tài    不用 **bú** yòng

不是不是。他对谁都这样。

Bú shì bú shì. Tā duì shéi dōu zhèyàng.

No, no. He's like that with everyone. (line 18)

2

## 一 changes too

When you count, it's **yī**. Before a fourth tone it's **yí**; before the other tones it's **yì**.

一定 **yí**dìng    一件 **yí** jiàn    一些 **yì**xiē    一点儿 **yì**diǎnr    一直 **yì**zhí

我想睡，可是一一直在想明天的事。明天就要去你家吃饭了，我有点儿担心。

Wǒ xiǎng shuì, kěshì yìzhí zài xiǎng míngtiān de shì. Míngtiān jiù yào qù nǐ jiā chīfàn le, wǒ yǒudiǎnr dānxīn.

I want to sleep, but I keep thinking about tomorrow. I'm having dinner at your place tomorrow. I'm a bit worried. (line 2)

3

## 叔叔好，阿姨好

The most important line in the story. In 叔叔 the second *shu* is light and short: **shūshu**. And 好 is low — just let it drop.

你就说"叔叔好，阿姨好"。

Nǐ jiù shuō "shūshu hǎo, āyí hǎo".

Just say, "Hello, Uncle. Hello, Auntie." (line 38)

叔叔好，阿姨好。这样对吗？

Shūshu hǎo, āyí hǎo. Zhèyàng duì ma?

Hello, Uncle. Hello, Auntie. Like that? (line 39)

## Easy words with a second meaning

4

### 怎么 = how come?

You know 怎么 as “how”. Here it means “how come / why”, and it sounds a bit surprised.

喂，Mark？都十一点了，你怎么还不睡？

Wèi, Mark? Dōu shíyī diǎn le, nǐ zěnmē hái bú shuì?

Hello, Mark? It's already eleven. How come you're still up? (line 1)

5

### 又 is not always “again”

This 又 pushes back: “It's not like...”. You'll hear it a lot when people tease each other.

担心什么？我爸妈又不会吃了你。

Dānxīn shénme? Wǒ bà mā yòu bú huì chī le nǐ.

Worried about what? My parents aren't going to eat you. (line 3)

6

### 就行 = that'll do

就行 means “that's enough, don't overthink it”. Linjing says it three times in this call.

她喜欢水果。你买一些水果就行，不用买太贵的。

Tā xǐhuan shuǐguǒ. Nǐ mǎi yìxiē shuǐguǒ jiù xíng, búyòng mǎi tài guì de.

She likes fruit. Just get some fruit. Nothing too expensive. (line 10)

穿得干净一点儿就行。你那件白色的衬衫就很好。

Chuān de gānjìng yìdiǎnr jiù xíng. Nǐ nà jiàn báisè de chènshān jiù hěn hǎo.

Just look neat. That white shirt of yours is perfect. (line 14)

他可能会让你喝。你喝一点儿就行，别喝多了。

Tā kěnéng huì ràng nǐ hē. Nǐ hē yìdiǎnr jiù xíng, bié hē duō le.

He might. Just have a little. Don't drink too much. (line 22)

## Three pairs people mix up

7

### 想 vs 要

想 is wanting or thinking. In 明天就要去你家了, 要 is about what's coming — what's happening, not what you want.

我想睡觉 Wǒ xiǎng shuìjiào — I want to sleep.

**我想睡，可是一一直在想明天的事。明天就要去你家吃饭了，我有点儿担心。**

Wǒ xiǎng shuì, kěshì yìzhí zài xiǎng míngtiān de shì. Míngtiān jiù yào qù nǐ jiā chīfàn le, wǒ yǒudiǎnr dānxīn.

I want to sleep, but I keep thinking about tomorrow. I'm having dinner at your place tomorrow. I'm a bit worried. (line 2)

8

### 会 vs 能

会 here means “will he? is it likely?”. 能 is about your body — whether you can handle it.

**太好了，我也喜欢足球！他会让我喝酒吗？我不太能喝酒。**

Tài hǎo le, wǒ yě xǐhuan zúqiú! Tā huì ràng wǒ hē jiǔ ma? Wǒ bú tài néng hē jiǔ.

Great, I like soccer too! Will he make me drink? I can't really hold my alcohol. (line 21)

我不会喝酒 Wǒ bú huì hē jiǔ — I don't drink / I never learned to.

我不能喝酒 Wǒ bù néng hē jiǔ — I can't drink (right now / for a reason).

9

### 见 vs 见面

见 takes a person directly. 见面 doesn't — so you can't say 见面你爸妈. If you want both, use 跟...见面.

**可是这是我第一次见你爸妈啊。**

Kěshì zhè shì wǒ dì-yī cì jiàn nǐ bà mā a.

But it's my first time meeting your parents. (line 4)

**他今年六十岁，不太爱说话。第一次见面，他可能不怎么笑。**

Tā jīnnián liùshí suì, bú tài ài shuōhuà. Dì-yī cì jiànmiàn, tā kěnéng bù zěnme xiào.

He's sixty this year, and he doesn't talk much. When you first meet, he might not smile much. (line 16)

跟你爸妈见面 gēn nǐ bà mā jiànmiàn — meet (with) your parents

## You are Mark

Read Linjing's line (grey), then say Mark's line out loud — first slowly, then at full speed. When you can do it without looking, play round 4 of the video.

林静：喂，Mark？都十一点了，你怎么还不睡？

**我想睡，可是一直在想明天的事。明天就要去你家吃饭了，我有点儿担心。**

Wǒ xiǎng shuì, kěshì yìzhí zài xiǎng míngtiān de shì. Míngtiān jiù yào qù nǐ jiā chīfàn le, wǒ yǒudiǎnr dānxīn.

林静：担心什么？我爸妈又不会吃了你。

**可是这是我第一次见你爸妈啊。**

Kěshì zhè shì wǒ dì-yī cì jiàn nǐ bà mā a.

林静：我知道。你别想太多，他们人很好。

**我真的很想让他们喜欢我。**

Wǒ zhēn de hěn xiǎng ràng tāmen xǐhuan wǒ.

**我应该带什么礼物？我想买酒，再买一些花。**

Wǒ yīnggāi dài shénme lǐwù? Wǒ xiǎng mǎi jiǔ, zài mǎi yìxiē huā.

林静：花就不用了，我妈不太喜欢花。

**那你妈妈喜欢什么？**

Nà nǐ māma xǐhuan shénme?

林静：她喜欢水果。你买一些水果就行，不用买太贵的。

**你爸爸呢？**

Nǐ bàba ne?

林静：我爸爱喝茶。你可以买一些好茶。

**好，茶和水果。我记住了。还有，我穿什么好呢？**

Hǎo, chá hé shuǐguǒ. Wǒ jìzhù le. Háiyǒu, wǒ chuān shénme hǎo ne?

林静：穿得干净一点儿就行。你那片白色的衬衫就很好。

**你爸爸人怎么样？**

Nǐ bàba rén zěnmeyàng?

林静：他今年六十岁，不太爱说话。第一次见面，他可能不怎么笑。

**不笑？那他是不是不喜欢我？**

Bú xiào? Nà tā shì bu shì bù xǐhuan wǒ?

林静：是不是。他对谁都这样。

**那我跟他说什么呢？**

Nà wǒ gēn tā shuō shénme ne?

## ROUND 4 PRACTICE

林静：他最爱看足球比赛。你们可以聊足球。

**太好了，我也喜欢足球！他会让我喝酒吗？我不太能喝酒。**

Tài hǎo le, wǒ yě xǐhuan zúqiú! Tā huì ràng wǒ hē jiǔ ma? Wǒ bú tài néng hē jiǔ.

林静：他可能会让你喝。你喝一点儿就行，别喝多了。

**如果我喝多了，说错了怎么办？**

Rúguǒ wǒ hē duō le, shuō cuò le zěnmébàn?

林静：哈哈，那我就帮你说。

**还有一个问题。我的中文不太好，我怕他们听不懂我。**

Háiyǒu yí ge wèntí. Wǒ de Zhōngwén bú tài hǎo, wǒ pà tāmen tīng bu dǒng wǒ.

林静：你的中文已经很好了！而且，我告诉你一件事。

**什么事？**

Shénme shì?

林静：我爸这几天每天晚上都让我教他说一句……

**一句什么？**

Yí jù shénme?

林静："Nice to meet you"。他想明天跟你说。他已经练了一个星期了。

**一个星期？**

Yí ge xīngqī?

林静：对。他也很担心，跟你一样。他见到你，一定会很高兴。

**我没想到。我现在没那么担心了。**

Wǒ méi xiǎngdào. Wǒ xiànzài méi nàme dānxīn le.

林静：还有，我妈说，明天要给你包饺子。

**饺子！我最爱吃饺子了！**

Jiǎozi! Wǒ zuì ài chī jiǎozi le!

林静：明天晚上六点，我在楼下等你。

**好，我一定不迟到。那我进门先说什么？**

Hǎo, wǒ yíding bù chídào. Nà wǒ jìn mén xiān shuō shénme?

林静：你就说"叔叔好，阿姨好"。

**叔叔好，阿姨好。这样对吗？**

Shūshu hǎo, āyí hǎo. Zhèyàng duì ma?

林静：很好！比我爸说得好多了。

**哈哈。谢谢你，我现在很开心。明天见！**

Hāha. Xièxie nǐ, wǒ xiànzài hěn kāixīn. Míngtiān jiàn!

林静：明天见。别再给我打电话了，快去睡觉吧！

## Two small things, today

1

**Say it five times**

叔叔好，阿姨好。

Shūshu hǎo, āyí hǎo.

Out loud, five times. Second *shu* light and short, 好 low.

2

**Record yourself as Mark**

Play round 4 of the video, record yourself saying Mark's lines, then listen back. You'll be surprised how much you can already say.

Tell me in the comments on YouTube how it went — [@EffortlessChinese26](#).

#### TAKEAWAY

**You don't need more words to speak Chinese — you need to say the words you already know, out loud, at real speed.**

你不缺词，缺的是把会的词大声、按真实语速说出来。