

EFFORTLESS CHINESE

Restaurant & Café Chinese

餐厅和咖啡馆 100 句

A listening + speaking practice pack

Slow > Natural > Expressive > Your turn

Use this pack alongside the video. Each page keeps the sentence, its real natural-speech pitch trace, and the situation behind it.

你想先喝点什么？

Nǐ xiǎng xiān hē diǎn shénme?

What would you like to drink?



100 sentences

How to use this pack

The PDF is a visual companion. Use the video for the audio and the pause time.

01

Listen

Hear the sentence slowly first. Notice the words and the overall shape.

02

Compare

Hear the natural version, then the expressive version. Listen for the change in intention.

03

Read

Look at the natural F0 trace. It shows the voice moving through the whole sentence.

04

Speak

When the video gives you your turn, say the sentence aloud before moving on.

The curve is a guide to real connected speech, not a line to copy mechanically.

先听懂，再跟读；先模仿，再慢慢说得更自然。

Quick index

Sentences 1-50

#01	这家店你以前来过吗？	Have you been to this place before?	#26	这个分量吗？	Is this a large portion?
#02	我们进去看看吧。	Let's go inside and have a look.	#27	我们要两份这个。	We'll have two servings of this.
#03	你好，我们两位。	Hi, table for two, please.	#28	我还想要一个三明治。	I'd also like a sandwich.
#04	请问，里面还有位子吗？	Excuse me, are there any tables availa...	#29	先给我这些就好了。	That's all for me for now.
#05	我们可以坐这里吗？	Can we sit here?	#30	我不要香菜，谢谢。	No cilantro for me, thank you.
#06	可以给我看一下菜单吗？	Could I see the menu, please?	#31	可以少放一点辣椒吗？	Could you use a little less chili?
#07	你想坐里面还是外面？	Do you want to sit inside or outside?	#32	这个是甜的吗？	Is this sweet?
#08	我想坐安静一点的地方。	I'd like to sit somewhere a little quieter.	#33	饮料可以换成咖啡吗？	Could I have coffee instead?
#09	这里的菜看起来不错。	The food here looks good.	#34	我们还没有点完。	We haven't finished ordering yet.
#10	你想先喝点什么？	What would you like to drink?	#35	你想吃什么？	What do you want to eat?
#11	你第一次来这家店吗？	Is this your first time at this restaurant?	#36	这家店怎么样？	How is this place?
#12	这家店需要提前预约吗？	Do we need a reservation in advance?	#37	可以再说一遍吗？	Could you say that again?
#13	我们先看看菜单吧。	Let's look at the menu first.	#38	我没听清楚。	I didn't catch that.
#14	这里有中文菜单吗？	Do you have a Chinese menu here?	#39	你们这道菜是两个人的分量吗？	Is this dish enough for two people?
#15	现在可以点菜了吗？	Can we order now?	#40	我想先点这个，其他的等一会儿再说。	I'd like to order this first and decide ab...
#16	你觉得哪个更好？	Which one do you think is better?	#41	你们这里有什么不辣的菜吗？	What non-spicy dishes do you have he...
#17	我都可以。	Anything is fine with me.	#42	我不能吃花生。	I can't eat peanuts.
#18	我还没决定。	I haven't decided yet.	#43	我喝牛奶会不舒服。	I don't feel well when I drink milk.
#19	你是说我们坐这边吗？	Do you mean we should sit over here?	#44	这个里面有鸡蛋吗？	Does this contain eggs?
#20	如果可以的话，我们想坐窗边。	If possible, we'd like to sit by the windo...	#45	我比较喜欢清淡一点的。	I prefer something a little lighter.
#21	我想要一杯热茶。	I'd like a cup of hot tea.	#46	你觉得这个好吃吗？	Do you think this tastes good?
#22	我要一份牛肉面。	I'll have a bowl of beef noodles.	#47	这个和那个有什么区别？	What's the difference between this and...
#23	请给我一杯冰水。	Could I have a glass of ice water, plea...	#48	第一次来应该点哪个？	What should I order if it's my first time...
#24	你们有什么推荐吗？	What do you recommend?	#49	这个看起来比那个大。	This one looks bigger than that one.
#25	这个菜辣不辣？	Is this dish spicy?	#50	我想要一杯热一点的咖啡。	I'd like my coffee a little hotter.

Quick index

Sentences 51-100

#51	这个味道有点重。	The flavor is a little strong.	#76	真的谢谢你。	Thank you so much.
#52	我们可以一起分着吃吗？	Can we share this?	#77	不好意思，我来晚了。	Sorry I'm late.
#53	你觉得呢？	What do you think?	#78	你刚才说什么？	What did you just say?
#54	我更喜欢那个。	I prefer that one.	#79	不好意思，我们好像少了一道菜。	Excuse me, it seems we're missing a d...
#55	我不太喜欢这个。	I don't really like this one.	#80	不能换的话，我们就坐这儿也行。	If we can't switch tables, we can just si...
#56	这个酱怎么用？	How do I use this sauce?	#81	可以买单吗？	Could we have the bill, please?
#57	我不太确定。	I'm not quite sure.	#82	请给我看一下账单。	Could I see the bill, please?
#58	我可以试一下吗？	Can I try some?	#83	一共多少钱？	How much is it altogether?
#59	我本来想点这个，但是看起来有点太辣了。	I was going to order this, but it looks a...	#84	可以分开付吗？	Can we pay separately?
#60	如果你不确定，可以先点一份小的。	If you're not sure, you can order a sma...	#85	可以刷卡吗？	Can I pay by card?
#61	可以给我们一双筷子吗？	Could you give us a pair of chopsticks,...	#86	我用手机支付。	I'll pay with my phone.
#62	麻烦给我一点热水。	Could I have some hot water, please?	#87	这个总价对吗？	Is this the right total?
#63	我们还少一杯饮料。	We're still missing one drink.	#88	我们已经吃完了。	We've finished eating.
#64	这不是我们点的菜。	This isn't the dish we ordered.	#89	谢谢，味道很好。	Thank you. The food was delicious.
#65	这个菜还没来。	This dish hasn't arrived yet.	#90	下次我们还会再来。	We'll come back next time.
#66	可以帮我们看一下吗？	Could you take a look for us?	#91	我们先走了。	We're going to head off now.
#67	我们等了很久了。	We've been waiting for a long time.	#92	下次再聊。	Talk to you next time.
#68	这道菜可以重新做吗？	Could you remake this dish?	#93	路上小心。	Be careful on your way home.
#69	不好意思，这里有点太吵了。	Excuse me, it's a little too noisy here.	#94	你先忙，我们先走了。	You can carry on-we'll get going.
#70	可以帮我们换一张桌子吗？	Could you move us to another table?	#95	如果还需要什么，请告诉我。	Please let me know if you need anythi...
#71	你能帮我一下吗？	Could you help me for a moment?	#96	我们改天再来吧。	Let's come back another day.
#72	请等我一下。	Wait for me a second, please.	#97	这听起来不错。	That sounds good.
#73	我还不明白。	I still don't quite understand.	#98	我们吃得差不多了，可以把账单拿来吗？	We're almost finished; could you bring...
#74	没关系，别着急。	It's okay. Don't worry.	#99	这顿饭我来请，下一次你再请我。	I'll treat this time, and you can treat ne...
#75	我们需要一点时间再决定。	We need a little more time to decide.	#100	虽然等了一会儿，这顿饭还是不错。	Even though we had to wait a little, the me...

SITUATION

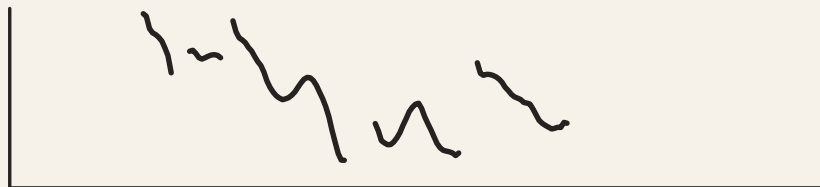
Your friend suggested this restaurant, and you want to know whether they have been here before.

INTENTION

Ask about your friend's previous experience with the restaurant.

PROSODY

Curious and friendly, with a light rise at the end.



这家店你以前来过吗？

Zhè jiā diàn nǐ yǐqián lái guo ma?

Have you been to this place before?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

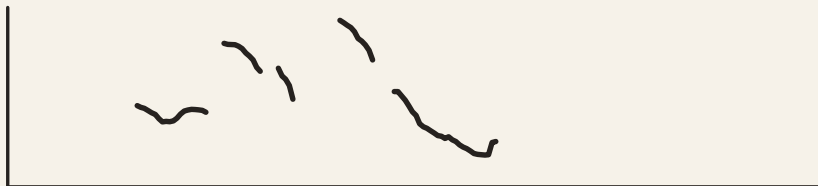
You and a friend are standing outside a restaurant.

INTENTION

Suggest entering and checking the place out.

PROSODY

Easygoing and inviting, with a gentle fall.



我们进去看看吧。

Wǒmen jìnqù kànkān ba.

Let's go inside and have a look.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You arrive at a restaurant and speak to the person at the entrance.

INTENTION

Tell the staff how many people are in your group.

PROSODY

Clear, polite, and matter-of-fact.



你好，我们两位。

Nǐ hǎo, wǒmen liǎng wèi.

Hi, table for two, please.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You want to know whether a restaurant still has space.

INTENTION

Ask politely about available seats.

PROSODY

Polite and clearly rising at the end.



请问，里面还有位子吗？

Qǐngwèn, lǐmiàn hái yǒu wèizi ma?

Excuse me, are there any tables available inside?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You see an available table and want to check whether it is free.

INTENTION

Ask for permission to use the table.

PROSODY

Considerate and gently rising.



我们可以坐这里吗？

Wǒmen kěyǐ zuò zhèlǐ ma?

Can we sit here?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You have just sat down and want to decide what to order.

INTENTION

Request the menu politely.

PROSODY

Soft, polite, and clearly rising.



可以给我看一下菜单吗？

Kěyǐ gěi wǒ kàn yíxià càidān ma?

Could I see the menu, please?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

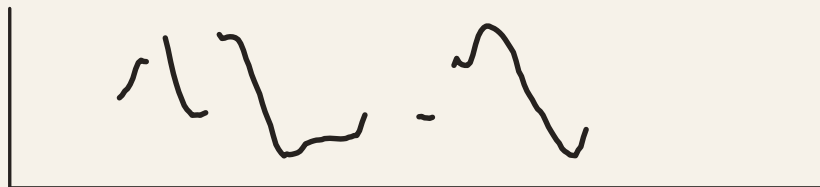
You and a friend can choose between two seating areas.

INTENTION

Ask for your friend's seating preference.

PROSODY

Open and conversational, with balanced emphasis on the two choices.



你想坐里面还是外面？

Nǐ xiǎng zuò lǐmiàn hái shì wàimiàn?

Do you want to sit inside or outside?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

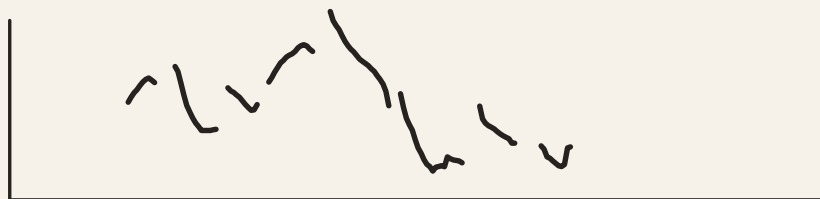
The restaurant has several possible tables and you want less noise.

INTENTION

Express a seating preference.

PROSODY

Calm and considerate, with a soft fall.



我想坐安静一点的地方。

Wǒ xiǎng zuò ānjìng yìdiǎn de dìfang.

I'd like to sit somewhere a little quieter.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You look at the menu or see dishes on nearby tables.

INTENTION

Share a positive first impression.

PROSODY

Bright but natural, with a gentle fall.



这里的菜看起来不错。

Zhèlǐ de cài kàn qǐlái búcuò.

The food here looks good.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

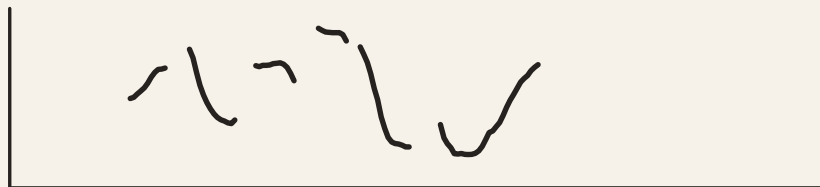
You are deciding what to order with a friend.

INTENTION

Ask about a drink preference.

PROSODY

Casual and lightly rising.



你想先喝点什么？

Nǐ xiǎng xiān hē diǎn shénme?

What would you like to drink?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are eating with someone who may not know the place.

INTENTION

Ask about their experience with the restaurant.

PROSODY

Friendly and curious, with a gentle rise.



你第一次来这家店吗？

Nǐ dì yī cì lái zhè jiā diàn ma?

Is this your first time at this restaurant?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are thinking about coming back to this restaurant later.

INTENTION

Ask whether reservations are required.

PROSODY

Practical and clearly rising at the end.



这家店需要提前预约吗？

Zhè jiā diàn xūyào tíqián yùyuē ma?

Do we need a reservation in advance?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You have sat down but have not decided what to order.

INTENTION

Suggest the next simple step.

PROSODY

Calm and cooperative, with a gentle fall.



我们先看看菜单吧。

Wǒmen xiān kànkàn càidān ba.

Let's look at the menu first.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

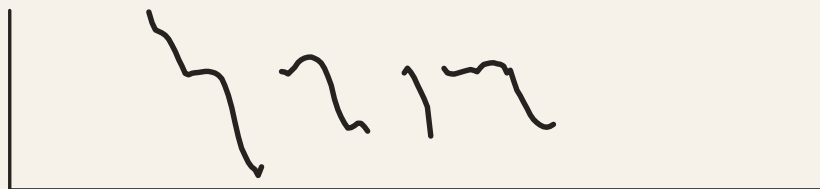
You are in a restaurant and want to read the menu in Chinese.

INTENTION

Ask whether a Chinese-language menu is available.

PROSODY

Simple and practical, with a light rise.



这里有中文菜单吗？

Zhèlǐ yǒu Zhōngwén càidān ma?

Do you have a Chinese menu here?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

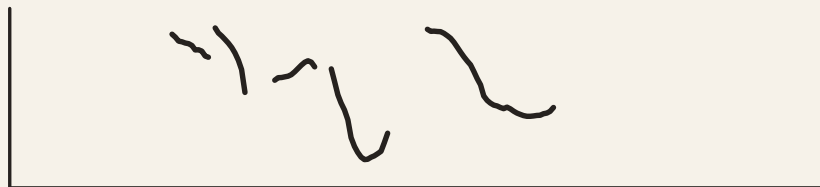
You have looked at the menu and are ready, but the staff has not come back to take your order.

INTENTION

Check whether the staff can take your order now.

PROSODY

Polite and clearly rising at the end.



现在可以点菜了吗？

Xiànzài kěyǐ diǎn cài le ma?

Can we order now?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

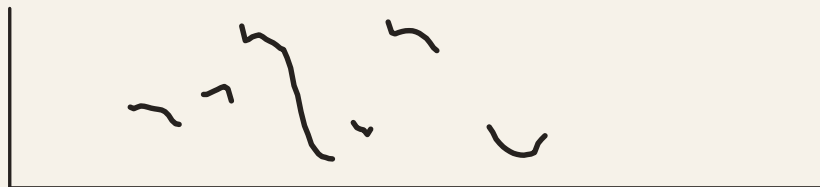
You and a friend are choosing between two dishes.

INTENTION

Invite the other person's opinion.

PROSODY

Open and clearly rising at the end.



你觉得哪个更好？

Nǐ juéde nǎge gèng hǎo?

Which one do you think is better?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Your friend asks you to choose between several restaurants or tables.

INTENTION

Say that you are flexible.

PROSODY

Easygoing and relaxed, with a soft fall.



我都可以。

Wǒ dōu kěyǐ.

Anything is fine with me.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Someone asks which dish or drink you want.

INTENTION

Ask for a little more time to choose.

PROSODY

Hesitant but calm, with a soft fall.



我还没决定。

Wǒ hái méi juéding.

I haven't decided yet.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

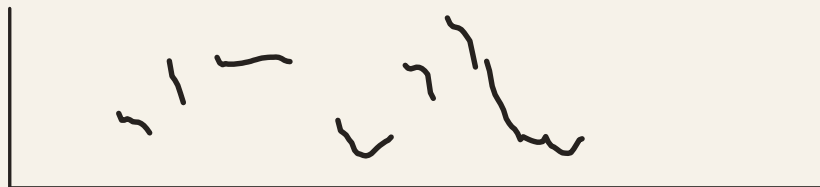
A staff member or friend points toward a table and you want to confirm.

INTENTION

Check that you understood the seating instruction.

PROSODY

Careful and rising at the end.



你是说我们坐这边吗？

Nǐ shì shuō wǒmen zuò zhèbiān ma?

Do you mean we should sit over here?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You want a particular table but do not want to sound demanding.

INTENTION

Make a polite conditional request.

PROSODY

Considerate, with a small pause after the opening phrase and a gentle fall.



如果可以的话，我们想坐窗边。

Rúguǒ kěyǐ dehuà, wǒmen xiǎng zuò chuāngbiān.

If possible, we'd like to sit by the window.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are ready to order a drink.

INTENTION

Order a hot tea politely.

PROSODY

Clear and calm, with a gentle fall.



我想要一杯热茶。

Wǒ xiǎng yào yì bēi rè chá.

I'd like a cup of hot tea.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are ordering your main dish.

INTENTION

State your order clearly.

PROSODY

Direct and natural, with a soft fall.



我要一份牛肉面。

Wǒ yào yí fèn niúròu miàn.

I'll have a bowl of beef noodles.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You want water when placing your order.

INTENTION

Make a simple polite request.

PROSODY

Polite and even, with a gentle fall.



请给我一杯冰水。

Qǐng gěi wǒ yì bēi bīng shuǐ.

Could I have a glass of ice water, please?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

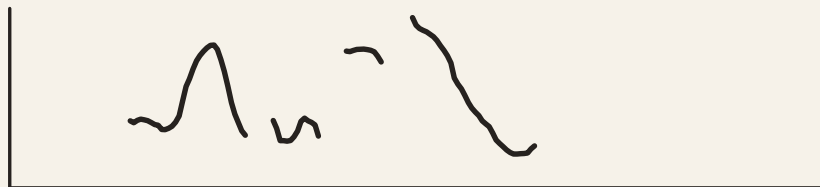
You are not sure what to order.

INTENTION

Ask the staff for a recommendation.

PROSODY

Open and clearly rising.



你们有什么推荐吗？

Nǐmen yǒu shénme tuījiàn ma?

What do you recommend?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

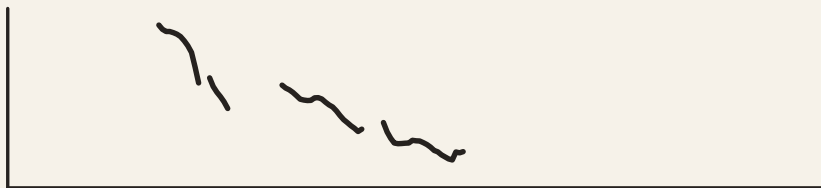
You are considering a dish but want to know about the spice level.

INTENTION

Check whether the dish is spicy.

PROSODY

Short and practical, with a clear rise.



这个菜辣不辣？

Zhège cài là bu là?

Is this dish spicy?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You want to know the size of a dish before ordering.

INTENTION

Ask about the serving size.

PROSODY

Curious and lightly rising.



这个分量大吗？

Zhège fènliàng dà ma?

Is this a large portion?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

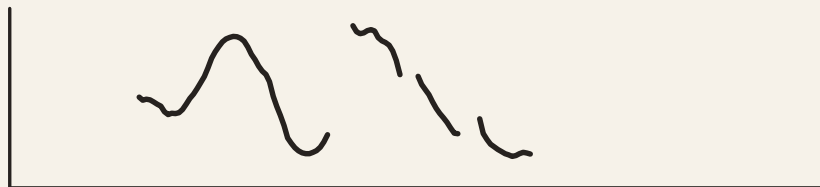
You and a friend decide to share the same dish.

INTENTION

Order two portions clearly.

PROSODY

Decisive and matter-of-fact, with a soft fall.



我们要两份这个。

Wǒmen yào liǎng fèn zhège.

We'll have two servings of this.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You add another item to your order.

INTENTION

Add one more item politely.

PROSODY

Casual and lightly positive, with a gentle fall.



我还想要一个三明治。

Wǒ hái xiǎng yào yí ge sānmíngzhì.

I'd also like a sandwich.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

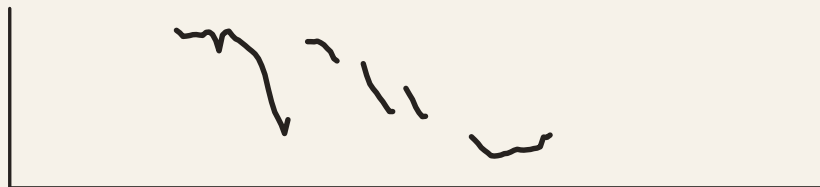
You want to stop ordering for the moment.

INTENTION

Signal that the current order is enough.

PROSODY

Relaxed and conclusive, with a soft fall.



先给我这些就好了。

Xiān gěi wǒ zhèxiē jiù hǎo le.

That's all for me for now.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

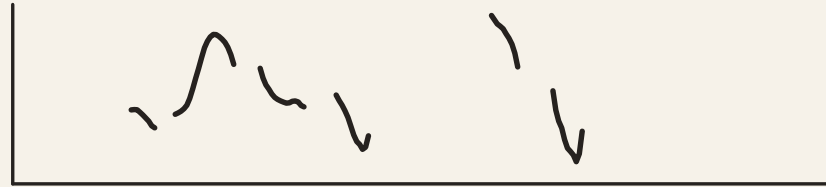
You are ordering a dish and want to leave out one ingredient.

INTENTION

State a food preference politely.

PROSODY

Clear but friendly, with a soft fall before thanks.



我不要香菜，谢谢。

Wǒ bú yào xiāngcài, xièxie.

No cilantro for me, thank you.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

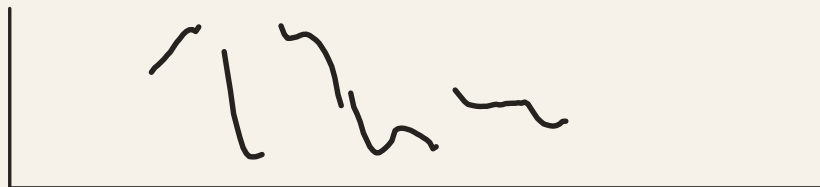
You want a dish to be less spicy.

INTENTION

Request a small change to the dish.

PROSODY

Polite and gently rising at the end.



可以少放一点辣椒吗？

Kěyǐ shǎo fàng yìdiǎn làjiāo ma?

Could you use a little less chili?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

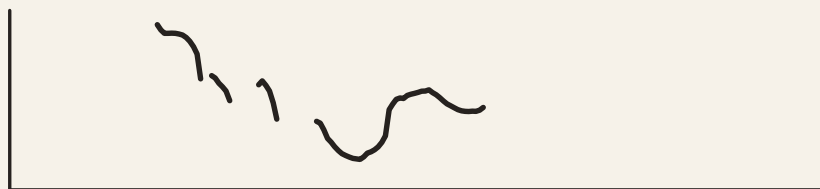
You are choosing between drinks or desserts.

INTENTION

Ask about the taste.

PROSODY

Short, curious, and rising.



这个是甜的吗？

Zhège shì tián de ma?

Is this sweet?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

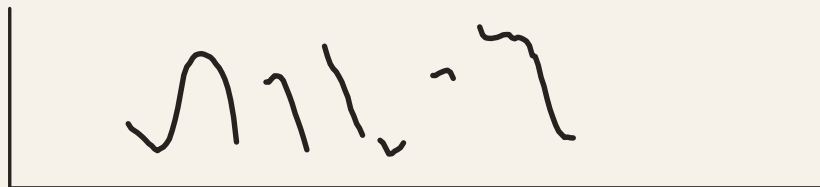
A set meal includes a drink, but you want coffee instead.

INTENTION

Ask whether you can change the drink.

PROSODY

Polite and clearly rising.



饮料可以换成咖啡吗？

Yǐnliào kěyǐ huàn chéng kāfēi ma?

Could I have coffee instead?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

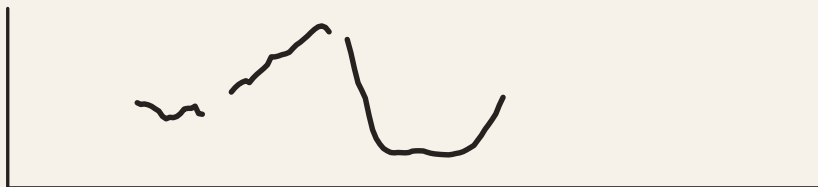
A staff member starts to leave before you have finished choosing.

INTENTION

Ask for a little more time.

PROSODY

Calm and informative, with a gentle fall.



我们还没有点完。

Wǒmen hái méiyǒu diǎn wán.

We haven't finished ordering yet.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

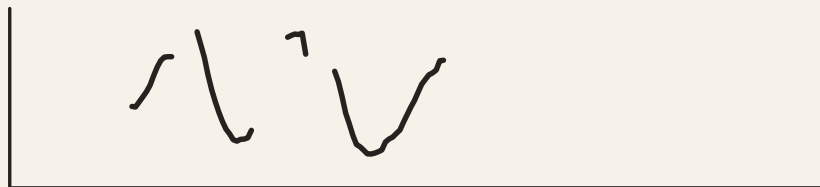
You are deciding what to order with a friend.

INTENTION

Ask for your friend's food preference.

PROSODY

Open and casual, with a clear rise.



你想吃什么？

Nǐ xiǎng chī shénme?

What do you want to eat?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

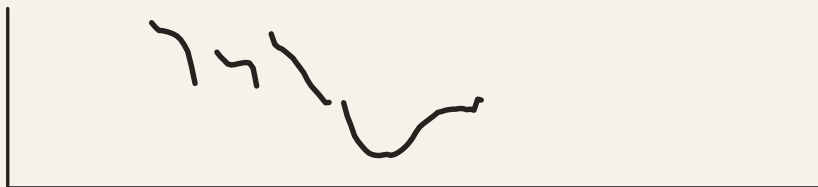
You are considering whether to order at a restaurant someone recommended.

INTENTION

Ask for an opinion about the restaurant.

PROSODY

Curious and lightly rising.



这家店怎么样？

Zhè jiā diàn zěnmeyàng?

How is this place?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

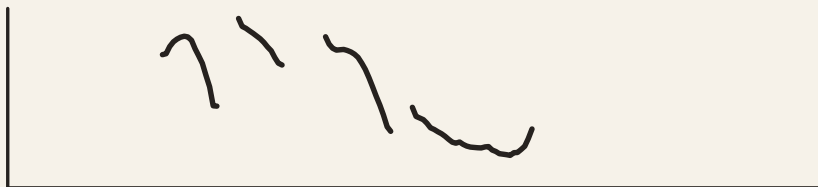
You did not hear the name of a dish clearly.

INTENTION

Ask the staff to repeat the dish name.

PROSODY

Polite, soft, and clearly rising.



可以说一遍吗？

Kěyǐ zài shuō yí biàn ma?

Could you say that again?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

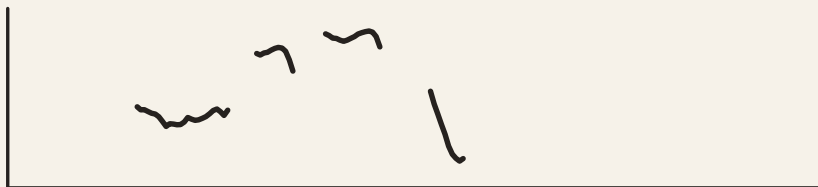
The staff member describes a dish too quickly for you to understand.

INTENTION

Briefly explain why you need a repetition.

PROSODY

Apologetic but matter-of-fact, with a soft fall.



我没听清楚。

Wǒ méi tīng qīngchū.

I didn't catch that.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

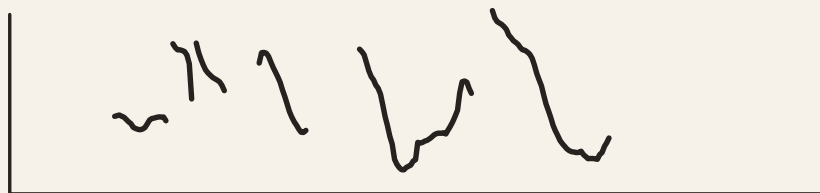
You want to know how many people a dish can serve before ordering.

INTENTION

Check the serving size in a complete question.

PROSODY

Practical and clearly rising at the end.



你们这道菜是两个人的分量吗？

Nǐmen zhè dào cài shì liǎng ge rén de fènliàng ma?

Is this dish enough for two people?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

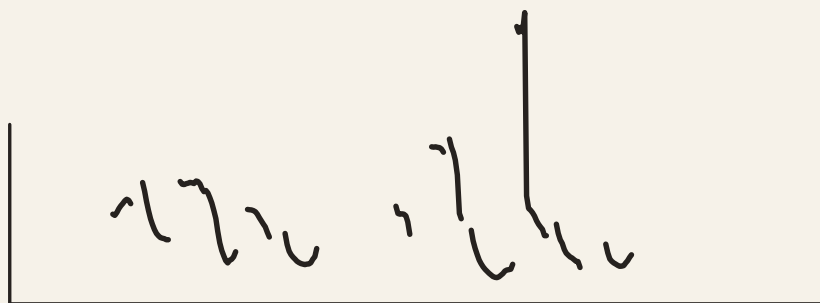
You are ready to order one item but still need time to choose the others.

INTENTION

Order part of the meal while keeping the conversation open.

PROSODY

Organized and conversational, with a small pause after the first clause.



我想先点这个，其他的等一会儿再说。

Wǒ xiǎng xiān diǎn zhège, qítā de děng yíhuìr zài shuō.

I'd like to order this first and decide about the rest in a moment.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You prefer food that is not spicy.

INTENTION

Ask for suitable non-spicy choices.

PROSODY

Polite and clearly rising.



你们这里有什么不辣的菜吗？

Nǐmen zhèlǐ yǒu shénme bú là de cài ma?

What non-spicy dishes do you have here?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You need to tell the staff about a food restriction.

INTENTION

State an important dietary restriction clearly.

PROSODY

Serious and direct, with a firm fall.



我不能吃花生。

Wǒ bù néng chī huāshēng.

I can't eat peanuts.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

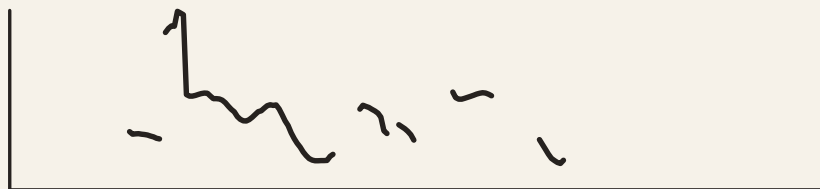
You explain that you do not feel well after having milk.

INTENTION

Explain a simple food sensitivity.

PROSODY

Careful and matter-of-fact, with a soft fall.



我喝牛奶会不舒服。

Wǒ hē niúǎi huì bù shūfu.

I don't feel well when I drink milk.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

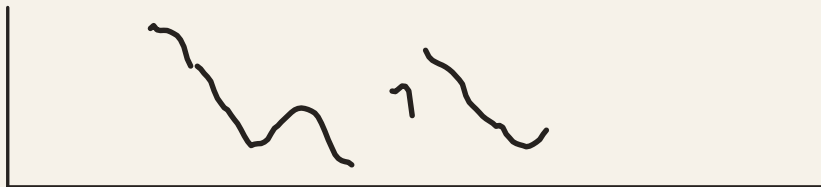
You want to check the ingredients before ordering.

INTENTION

Ask whether eggs are in the dish.

PROSODY

Short and clearly rising.



这个里面有鸡蛋吗？

Zhège lǐmiàn yǒu jīdàn ma?

Does this contain eggs?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

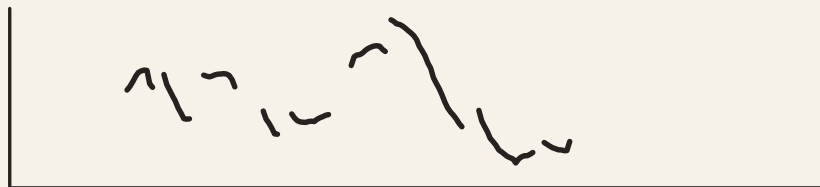
Someone asks what kind of food you like.

INTENTION

Express a preference for lighter flavors.

PROSODY

Calm and gently falling, with light emphasis on the preference.



我比较喜欢清淡一点的。

Wǒ bǐjiào xǐhuan qīngdàn yìdiǎn de.

I prefer something a little lighter.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

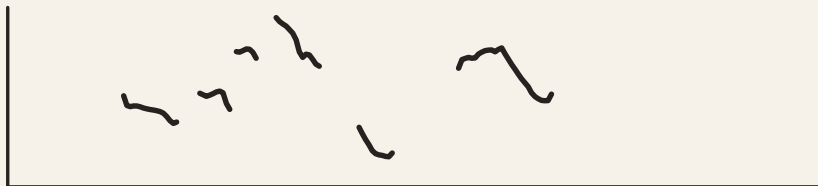
You are looking at a dish someone has tried.

INTENTION

Ask for an opinion about the taste.

PROSODY

Friendly and lightly rising.



你觉得这个好吃吗？

Nǐ juéde zhège hǎo chī ma?

Do you think this tastes good?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Two dishes look similar on the menu.

INTENTION

Ask for a simple comparison.

PROSODY

Curious and practical, with a clear rise at the end.



这个和那个有什么区别？

Zhège hé nàge yǒu shénme qūbié?

What's the difference between this and that?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are new to the restaurant and want a recommendation from a friend or server.

INTENTION

Ask for a suitable first choice.

PROSODY

Open and polite, with a gentle rise at the end.



第一次来应该点哪个？

Dì yī cì lái yīnggāi diǎn nǎge?

What should I order if it's my first time here?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You compare two portions before choosing.

INTENTION

Make a simple observation to help decide.

PROSODY

Matter-of-fact, with a gentle fall.



这个看起来比那个大。

Zhège kàn qǐlái bǐ nàge dà.

This one looks bigger than that one.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

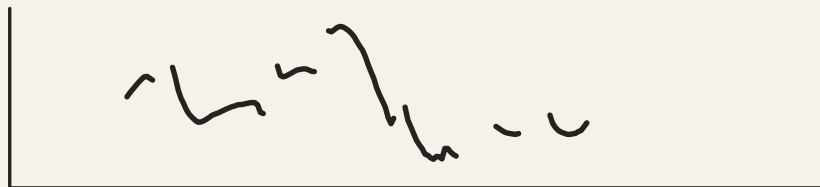
You are ordering coffee and want it hotter than the usual serving temperature.

INTENTION

State a specific temperature preference.

PROSODY

Simple and gently falling, with light emphasis on hotter.



我想要一杯热一点的咖啡。

Wǒ xiǎng yào yì bēi rè yìdiǎn de kāfēi.

I'd like my coffee a little hotter.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You taste a dish and want to describe it politely.

INTENTION

Give mild negative feedback.

PROSODY

Restrained and slightly hesitant, with a soft fall.



这个味道有点重。

Zhège wèidào yǒudiǎn zhòng.

The flavor is a little strong.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You want to share one dish with the people at the table.

INTENTION

Suggest sharing the food.

PROSODY

Friendly and gently rising.



我们可以一起分着吃吗？

Wǒmen kěyǐ yìqǐ fēnzhe chī ma?

Can we share this?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You have compared two dishes and want your friend's view.

INTENTION

Invite an opinion.

PROSODY

Open, short, and lightly rising.



你觉得呢？

Nǐ juéde ne?

What do you think?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are choosing between two dishes or drinks.

INTENTION

State a stronger preference.

PROSODY

Light emphasis on the preferred choice, with a soft fall.



我更喜欢那个。

Wǒ gèng xǐhuan nàge.

I prefer that one.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You want to reject a dish without sounding too strong.

INTENTION

Express a polite negative preference.

PROSODY

Gentle and restrained, with a soft fall.



我不太喜欢这个。

Wǒ bú tài xǐhuan zhège.

I don't really like this one.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

A small bowl of sauce arrives with your food and you are unsure how to use it.

INTENTION

Ask for a practical explanation.

PROSODY

Curious and clearly rising.



这个酱怎么用？

Zhège jiàng zěnmē yòng?

How do I use this sauce?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

A friend asks which dish you want and you need more time.

INTENTION

Express uncertainty honestly.

PROSODY

Hesitant but calm, with a soft fall.



我不太确定。

Wǒ bú tài quèdìng.

I'm not quite sure.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

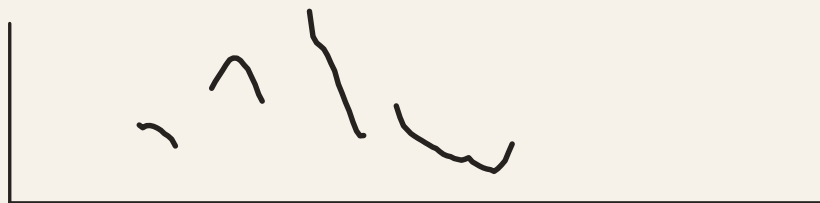
A friend offers you a bite of a dish you have not tried.

INTENTION

Ask politely to taste something.

PROSODY

Friendly and gently rising.



我可以试一下吗？

Wǒ kěyǐ shì yíxià ma?

Can I try some?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You change your mind after noticing how spicy a dish may be.

INTENTION

Explain a change of choice with a contrast.

PROSODY

Thoughtful at first, then slightly concerned after 但是.



我本来想点这个，但是看起来有点太辣了。

Wǒ běnlái xiǎng diǎn zhège, dànshì kàn qǐlái yǒudiǎn tài là le.

I was going to order this, but it looks a little too spicy.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You suggest a low-risk choice to a friend who cannot decide.

INTENTION

Offer practical reassurance and advice.

PROSODY

Calm and helpful, with a gentle fall.



如果你不确定，可以先点一份小的。

Rúguǒ nǐ bù quèdìng, kěyǐ xiān diǎn yí fèn xiǎo de.

If you're not sure, you can order a small one first.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Your food arrives but you do not have chopsticks.

INTENTION

Make a polite request for an item.

PROSODY

Polite and clearly rising.



可以给我们一双筷子吗？

Kěyǐ gěi wǒmen yì shuāng kuàizi ma?

Could you give us a pair of chopsticks, please?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

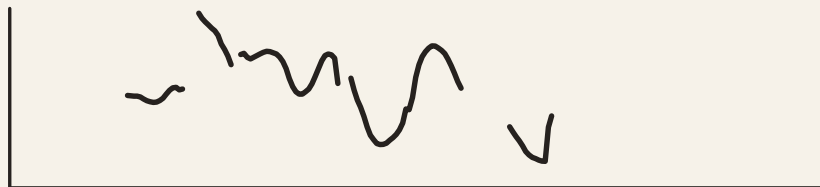
You would like hot water during the meal.

INTENTION

Make a brief, polite request.

PROSODY

Considerate and gently falling.



麻烦给我一点热水。

Máfan gěi wǒ yìdiǎn rè shuǐ.

Could I have some hot water, please?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Most of the order has arrived but one drink is missing.

INTENTION

Point out a missing item clearly.

PROSODY

Calm and factual, with a soft fall.



我们还少一杯饮料。

Wǒmen hái shǎo yì bēi yǐnliào.

We're still missing one drink.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

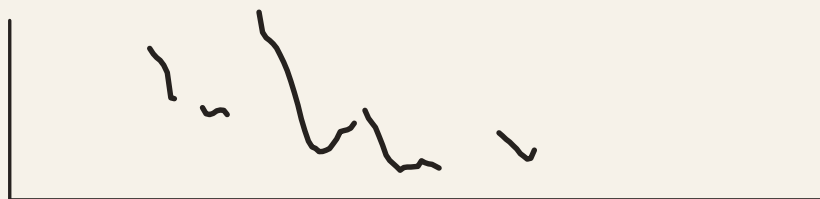
A dish arrives that belongs to another table or is different from your order.

INTENTION

Correct a simple mistake.

PROSODY

Clear and firm but not angry, with a fall.



这不是我们点的菜。

Zhè bú shì wǒmen diǎn de cài.

This isn't the dish we ordered.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are checking on an item that has not come with the rest of the food.

INTENTION

Report a delayed dish.

PROSODY

Matter-of-fact and slightly concerned.



这个菜还没来。

Zhège cài hái méi lái.

This dish hasn't arrived yet.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

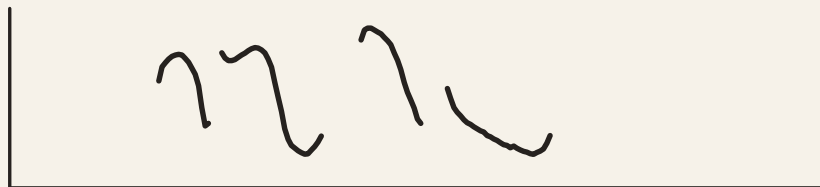
You need staff to check an order or a small problem.

INTENTION

Ask for help without giving a long explanation.

PROSODY

Polite and gently rising.



可以帮我们看一下吗？

Kěyǐ bāng wǒmen kàn yíxià ma?

Could you take a look for us?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Your order has taken longer than expected.

INTENTION

Explain the reason for asking about the order.

PROSODY

Firm but controlled, with emphasis on how long.



我们等了很久了。

Wǒmen děng le hěn jiǔ le.

We've been waiting for a long time.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

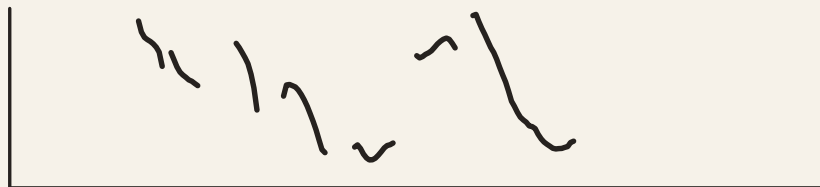
A dish arrives with a serious problem and you need a replacement.

INTENTION

Ask politely for the dish to be remade.

PROSODY

Careful and rising at the end.



这道菜可以重新做吗？

Zhè dào cài kěyǐ chóngxīn zuò ma?

Could you remake this dish?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are having trouble talking because the restaurant is loud.

INTENTION

Raise a problem politely.

PROSODY

Apologetic and restrained, with a soft fall.



不好意思，这里有点太吵了。

Bù hǎoyìsi, zhèlǐ yǒudiǎn tài chǎo le.

Excuse me, it's a little too noisy here.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Your table is uncomfortable or too noisy.

INTENTION

Request a change of table politely.

PROSODY

Considerate and clearly rising.



可以帮我们换一张桌子吗？

Kěyǐ bāng wǒmen huàn yì zhāng zhuōzi ma?

Could you move us to another table?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

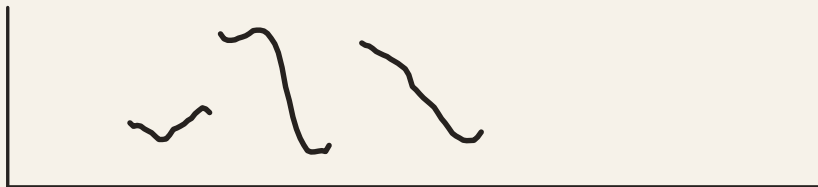
You need help from a friend or a staff member with a small problem.

INTENTION

Ask for help politely.

PROSODY

Friendly and gently rising.



你能帮我一下吗？

Nǐ néng bāng wǒ yíxià ma?

Could you help me for a moment?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Your friend is ready to leave but you need to finish something at the table.

INTENTION

Ask for a short pause.

PROSODY

Brief, polite, and gently falling.



请等我一下。

Qǐng děng wǒ yíxià.

Wait for me a second, please.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

A staff member explains a charge or an order and you are still confused.

INTENTION

Ask for the explanation to continue.

PROSODY

Honest and slightly hesitant, with a soft fall.



我还不明白。

Wǒ hái bú tài míngbai.

I still don't quite understand.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

A friend worries that a small restaurant problem is their fault.

INTENTION

Reassure the other person.

PROSODY

Slow, calm, and soothing, with a gentle fall.



没关系，别着急。

Méi guānxi, bié zháojí.

It's okay. Don't worry.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

A server asks whether you are ready to order, but you and your friend are still choosing.

INTENTION

Ask for more time without refusing.

PROSODY

Calm and considerate, with a gentle fall.



我们需要一点时间再决定。

Wǒmen xūyào yìdiǎn shíjiān zài juéding.

We need a little more time to decide.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Someone helps fix a problem at your table.

INTENTION

Show sincere appreciation.

PROSODY

Warm and sincere, with gentle emphasis on thanks.



真的谢谢你。

Zhēn de xièxie nǐ.

Thank you so much.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You arrive after your friend has already been waiting at the restaurant.

INTENTION

Apologize for arriving late.

PROSODY

Apologetic and sincere, with a soft fall.



不好意思，我来晚了。

Bù hǎoyìsi, wǒ lái wǎn le.

Sorry I'm late.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

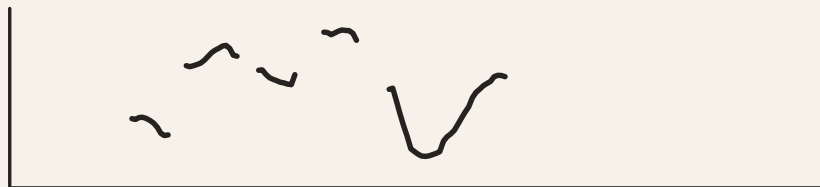
You did not hear what your friend or the staff member said.

INTENTION

Ask for clarification.

PROSODY

Polite and slightly puzzled, with a rise.



你刚才说什么？

Nǐ gāngcái shuō shénme?

What did you just say?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You check the order and notice that one dish has not arrived.

INTENTION

Point out a problem politely and cautiously.

PROSODY

Apologetic at first, then careful and gently falling.



不好意思，我们好像少了一道菜。

Bù hǎoyìsi, wǒmen hǎoxiàng shǎo le yí dào cài.

Excuse me, it seems we're missing a dish.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

The restaurant cannot move you to another table, so you accept the current table and reassure the staff or your friend.

INTENTION

Accept a limitation in a natural, easygoing way.

PROSODY

Conversational and relaxed, with a small pause after the condition and a light fall at the end.



不能换的话，我们就坐这儿也行。

Bù néng huàn dehuà, wǒmen jiù zuò zhèr yě xíng.

If we can't switch tables, we can just sit here.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You have finished eating and are ready to pay.

INTENTION

Ask for the bill politely.

PROSODY

Short, polite, and rising.



可以买单吗？

Kěyǐ mǎidān ma?

Could we have the bill, please?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

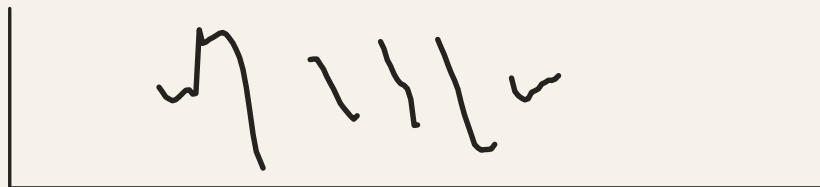
The bill arrives and you want to check it.

INTENTION

Request to look at the bill.

PROSODY

Clear and polite, with a gentle fall.



请给我看一下账单。

Qǐng gěi wǒ kàn yíxià zhàngdān.

Could I see the bill, please?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You want to confirm the total cost.

INTENTION

Ask for the total price.

PROSODY

Direct and clearly rising.



一共多少钱？

Yígòng duōshao qián?

How much is it altogether?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

Several people want to pay their own shares.

INTENTION

Ask whether separate payment is possible.

PROSODY

Polite and clearly rising.



可以分开付吗？

Kěyǐ fēnkāi fù ma?

Can we pay separately?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are ready to pay and want to know which payment methods are accepted.

INTENTION

Check whether card payment is available.

PROSODY

Short and practical, with a clear rise.



可以刷卡吗？

Kěyǐ shuākǎ ma?

Can I pay by card?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

The staff asks how you would like to pay.

INTENTION

State your payment method.

PROSODY

Clear and matter-of-fact, with a soft fall.



我用手机支付。

Wǒ yòng shǒujī zhīfù.

I'll pay with my phone.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

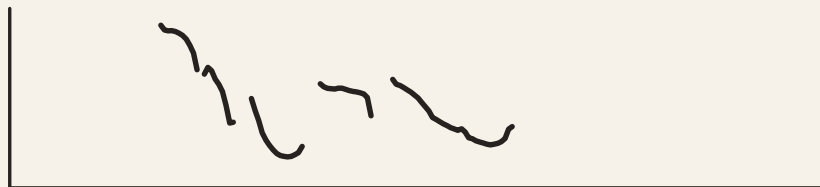
You look at the bill and want to check the amount before paying.

INTENTION

Ask for clarification about the total.

PROSODY

Careful and rising at the end.



这个总价对吗？

Zhège zǒngjià duì ma?

Is this the right total?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

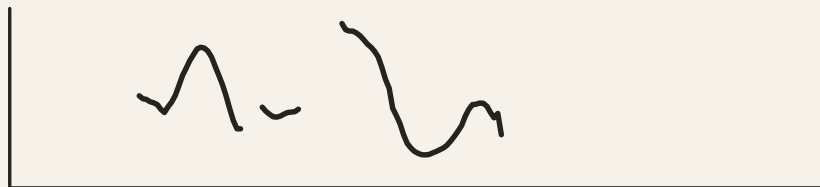
You want to signal that the table is ready for the bill.

INTENTION

Explain that the meal is finished.

PROSODY

Relaxed and gently falling.



我们已经吃完了。

Wǒmen yǐjīng chī wán le.

We've finished eating.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You are thanking the staff or host as you finish the meal.

INTENTION

Give positive feedback and thanks.

PROSODY

Warm and sincere, with a gentle fall.



谢谢，味道很好。

Xièxie, wèidào hěn hǎo.

Thank you. The food was delicious.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

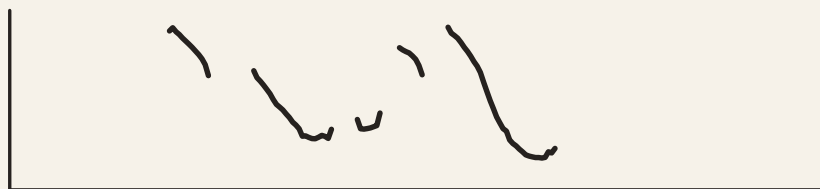
You enjoyed the meal and are saying goodbye.

INTENTION

Express a positive intention to return.

PROSODY

Warm and confident, with a gentle fall.



下次我们还会再来。

Xià cì wǒmen hái huì zài lái.

We'll come back next time.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You and your friends are leaving the restaurant.

INTENTION

Announce your departure casually.

PROSODY

Matter-of-fact and relaxed, with a soft fall.



我们先走了。

Wǒmen xiān zǒu le.

We're going to head off now.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

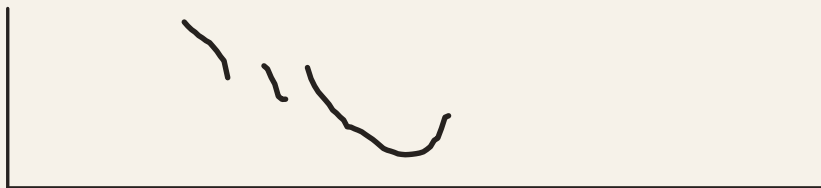
You finish a meal with a friend and are ending the conversation.

INTENTION

Close warmly and leave the door open to talk again.

PROSODY

Warm, relaxed, and falling gently at the end.



下次再聊。

Xià cì zài liáo.

Talk to you next time.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

A friend leaves the restaurant before you.

INTENTION

Offer a caring goodbye.

PROSODY

Short, warm, and gently falling.



路上小心。

Lùshang xiǎoxīn.

Be careful on your way home.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

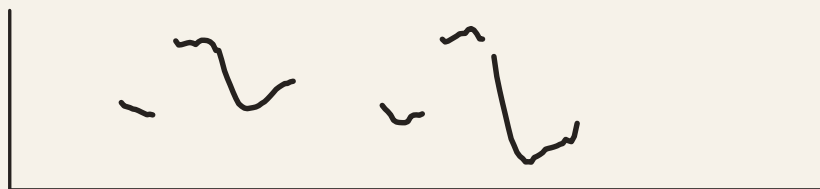
A friend is busy talking with the staff while you are ready to leave.

INTENTION

Give the friend permission to stay while you leave.

PROSODY

Considerate and relaxed, with a small pause after the first clause.



你先忙，我们先走了。

Nǐ xiān máng, wǒmen xiān zǒu le.

You can carry on-we'll get going.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

A staff member offers help before you leave or finish ordering.

INTENTION

Leave an open offer of help.

PROSODY

Warm and reassuring, with a gentle fall.



如果还需要什么，请告诉我。

Rúguǒ hái xūyào shénme, qǐng gàosu wǒ.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

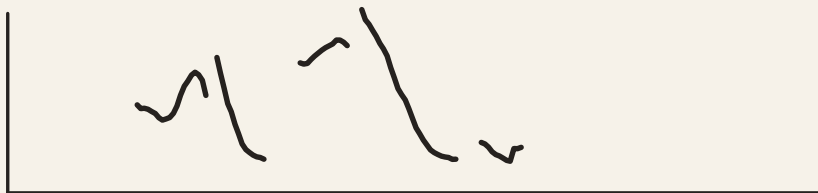
You enjoyed the meal and suggest returning on another day.

INTENTION

Suggest a future visit in a relaxed way.

PROSODY

Warm and inviting, with a gentle rise-fall.



我们改天再来吧。

Wǒmen gǎitiān zài lái ba.

Let's come back another day.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

A friend suggests coming back to the restaurant another day.

INTENTION

Show positive interest in the next plan.

PROSODY

Warm and approving, with a gentle fall.



这听起来不错。

Zhè tīng qǐlái búcuò.

That sounds good.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

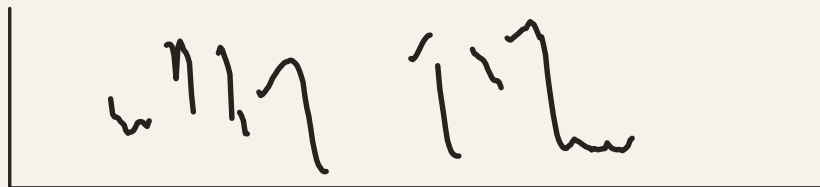
You are nearly done eating and want to ask for the bill naturally.

INTENTION

Combine a status update with a polite request.

PROSODY

Relaxed in the first clause, then clearly rising in the request.



我们吃得差不多了，可以把账单拿来吗？

Wǒmen chī de chàbuduō le, kěyǐ bǎ zhàngdān ná lái ma?

We're almost finished; could you bring us the bill?

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

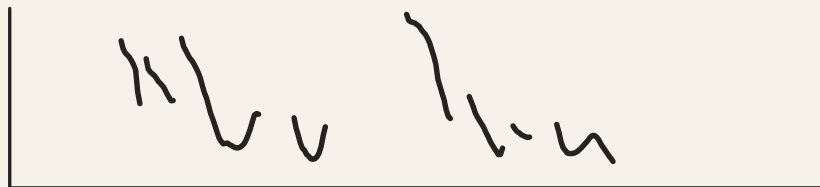
You and a friend are deciding who will pay for the meal.

INTENTION

Offer to pay while creating a friendly future plan.

PROSODY

Warm and lightly playful, with a clear contrast between now and next time.



这顿饭我来请，下一次你再请我。

Zhè dùn fàn wǒ lái qǐng, xià yí cì nǐ zài qǐng wǒ.

I'll treat this time, and you can treat next time.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.

SITUATION

You reflect on the meal after a small delay or problem.

INTENTION

Give balanced feedback with a positive conclusion.

PROSODY

Slightly restrained in the first clause, then warmer and more positive after the pause.



虽然等了一会儿，这顿饭还是很不错。

Suīrán děng le yíxià, zhè dùn fàn háishi hěn búcuò.

Although we had to wait a little, the meal was still very good.

Slow

Natural

Expressive



Use the video to hear each version, then pause and say it yourself.