

## 中国话语音基础 RUDIMENTS OF CHINESE PHONETICS

CHINESE THROUGH LISTENING

中国话物力

# 中国话听力 Chinese Through Listening 1

中国话语音基础

## Rudiments of Chinese Phonetics

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### 中国話所力(一) 中国话语音基础

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## 《中国话听力》

#### (一)对象

《中国话听力》(包括磁带及使用说明)的主要使用者是在世界各地学习中国话但缺乏语言环境的人们。它针对初学者、中级水平或较高水平的进修者的不同情况,由浅入深地提供一套完整的听力训练材料,可供自学,也可供教学辅导。这一套磁带联成一个整体,但各盘又是相对独立的,可以根据学习者的不同程度和要求,分别选用。

#### (二)目标

编制这套听力材料的总原则是一以海嵩信息理论为指导,针对外国人学中国话的听力困难,结合中国人日常生活的语言实践,根据中国资本身的原谅,在语面接收和语义理解两方面提供全新的训练方法。它的目标是通过这一套材料,帮助学习者来得吃懂中国海的基本或能。

#### (三)内容

《中国话听力》包括:

A. 初级部分 中国话语音基础 中国话听力入门

- B 中级部分 在北京生活 在中国旅行
- C. 高级部分 广播、课堂 中国文化欣赏

(以上各专题都有标准录音磁带及使用文字说明。)

此外,跟它配套的还有一本《中国话听力的理论和实践》以及一本《中国话听力词汇手册》,可供使用者参考。

这一套《中国话听力》由王力教授、周有光教授担任审订工作,由吴宗济教授担任语音指导,由申葆青副教授担任英语翻译。

中国话语音基础》磁带发音人是刘骥和郝洁平,英语解说是申葆青,由赵平担任录音剪辑工作。感谢 Harvey Taylor 先生和 Marcia Bliss Marks 女士对于英译文提出宝贵意见。

编 者 陈明远 朱 竹 刘 骥 1982年6月

### CHINESE THROUGH LISTENING EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### 1. For whom the course is intended

Chinese Through Listening is a course intended for those who are learning to speak Chinese in a non-Chinese environment. It comprises three units, ranging from easy to difficult, catering respectively to learners at the elementary, the intermediate and the advanced level. All the lessons are recorded on cassette tapes with corresponding scripts and directions on how to use them. This set of tapes is an integrated whole, but relative independence has been allowed for each individual unit. Thus learners at different levels can study just what is most needed from any of the three stages. It can be used for self-study or as a supplement to classroom study.

#### 2. Aims

The general principle underlying the compilation of the aural comprehension materials is the treating of language as a set of signals. This provides for an entirely new approach: the training of the hearer to receive sound signals and to understand their semantic meanings. Special difficulties in aural comprehension arising from learning Chinese as a foreign language and peculiarities of the Chinese language are also taken into account. The language style used in the materials is the Putonghua (Standard Chinese) which people in China speak every day. The entire course is aimed

at helping the learners to acquire the basic skills needed for understanding spoken Chinese.

#### 3. Contents

Unit A Elementary Level

- 1) Rudiments of Chinese Phonetics
- 2) Elementary Aural Comprehension

Unit B Intermediate Level

- 1) Living in Beijing
- 2) Travelling in China

Unit C Advanced Level

- 1) Broadcasts and Lectures
- 2) Appreciating Chinese Culture

(For each of the topics listed above, there is a cassette tape with printed directions on how to use it.)

Besides, for reference of learners using the tapes, two more booklets are available: The Theory and Practice of Chinese Through Listening and A Glossary for Chinese Through Listening

The examiners of Chinese Through Listening are Professor Wang Li and Professor Zhou Youguang, with Professor Wu Zongji as advisor in phonetics and Associate Professor Shen Baoqing as translator.

Special thanks go to Dr. Harvey Taylor and Miss Marcia Bliss Marks for the advice and comments on the English translation.

Compilers: Chén Míngyuǎn Zhū Zhú

Liú Jì

June 1982

#### 如中国话听为m序 王 力

《中国话听为中共庆历明·配有录音磁带和文字说明·供外国人学习中国话使用。在我国,是首众向世界各地正式发行追挥一套明力材料。

练方式。今后还将根据实际经验·不断加以行 订,以辞完基。

希望这一套4中国该时力》在帮助外国人学习中国该确过程中 获得成功。

1983年1月10日

#### **FOREWORD**

"Chinese Through Listening" consists of six volumes of text with accompanying cassette tapes designed to aid foreign students in learning spoken Chinese. It is the first such aid published in China for distribution abroad.

A special feature of this course is that it aims to integrate effectively the results of theoretical research in modern Chinese linguistics and the data gained in phonetic experiments with practical experience in teaching Chinese as a foreign language. In phonetics, for instance, a new approach has been introduced in the teaching of the initials, the finals, the basic syllables and syllable combinations. Throughout all the four stages in training listening comprehension, special attention has been focused on the characteristics of the spoken word of the Chinese language, emphasizing the differences between those elements which are easily confused and laying stress on recognizing the markers in connected speech.

This set of listening comprehension material presents various situations in which spoken Chinese is used for communication: everyday life in Beijing, a tour of different parts of China, broadcasts and lectures in China and appreciation of Chinese culture. Through these lively situations the foreign students are trained to understand spoken Chinese from simple to more and more complex sentences. New methods of training are adopted to help the students receive

and comprehend phonetic information. Further revisions and improvements based on teaching experience will be made so as to bring this material closer to perfection.

The Chinese language has a written record of more than 3,000 years. It is spoken by over one-fifth of the world's population. It has no equal in length of historical development and scope of geographical distribution. Although the complicated Chinese characters make the mastery of writing Chinese a difficult academic endeavor, oral Chinese is relatively easy to learn. It is more so since the Pinyin spelling is used all through the written text of this set of "Chinese Through Listening" as a tool for learning spoken Chinese. The foreign student will find it much easier to learn since this spelling system closely represents the actual pronunciation.

It is our hope that this set of "Chinese Through Listening" will be a success in helping foreign students learn spoken Chinese.

> Wang Li January 10, 1983

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#### RUDIMENTS OF CHINESE PHONETICS

Rudiments of Chinese Phonetics, the first part of Chinese Through Listening, teaches you correct Chinese pronunciation and acquaints you with the 404 basic syllables in the Chinese language. The exercises on the 110 syllables in common use and intensive drills on the combination of tones are intended to help you learn and distinguish the four tones.

If you have learned to say the four tones the way a native speaker says them by the time you finish this part, it means you are ready to move on to the next part which teaches you the basics of understanding spoken Chinese.

### I. THE CHINESE PHONETIC ALPHABET (Hanyu Pinyin)

∆name:	Aa	Bb	Cc	Dd	Ee	Ff	Gg
	a	bê	cê	dê	e	êf	gê
	Hh '	li	Jj	Kk	Ll	Mm	Nn
	ha	i	jie	kê	êl	êm	nê
	Oo	Pp	Qq	Rr	Ss	Tt	
	o	pê.	qiu	ar	ês	tê	
	Uu	Vv	Ww	Xx	Yу	Zz	
	u	vê	wa	хi	ya	zê△ *	<b>!</b>

<sup>\*</sup>The paragraphs between two  $\triangle$  are recorded on the tape.

#### II. INITIALS

△The Chinese syllable is usually composed of an initial and a final, and each syllable has four different tones. The initial is a consonant that begins the syllable and the final is the rest of the syllable, e.g. "bang" in which "b" is an initial and "ang" is a final.

There are 23 initials in Chinese:

b	[p]	p	[p']	m	[m]	f	[f]	W	[w]
d	[ģ]	t	[t']	n	[n]	1	[1]		
g	[g]	k	[k']			h	[x]		
<b>Z</b> .	[ds]	c	[ts']			s	[s]		
zh	[ <b>ģ</b> §]	ch	[ts*]			sh	[§]	r	[1]
j	[đ¢]	q	[tø']	•		x	[¢]	у	[j]

Please bear this in mind: The Chinese initials are not syllabic sounds. No word in Chinese consists of only an initial. $\triangle$ 

When you have listened through the list of Chinese initials, compare them with the consonant sounds in your own language and try to tell the difference between the two. Now, with your eyes on the list, listen to the tape once again, repeat each sound after the tape and see if you can pronounce it properly. In the following six pairs of initials, the first one is unaspirated, the second aspirated: b—p, d—t, g—k, j—q, z—c and zh—ch. You may find it difficult to make an aspirated sound and you may confuse it with an unaspirated one, but there is a way to tell the difference: hold a

thin piece of paper before your mouth and see whether it is pushed by the air coming out of your mouth when you are making the sounds. The paper should not stir when the sounds b, d, g, j, z, zh are made. But it should, when p, t, k, q, c, ch are pronounced. You can easily tell the difference in this way.

There are three more pairs of initials: zh—z, ch—c and sh—s. The first one, a retroflex one, is made by curling the tip of the tongue a bit towards the hard palate, the second is made without curling the tongue. If your zh, ch and sh do not sound right, it may be because you fail to curl the tip of your tongue in pronouncing them. So try again and curl the tip of your tongue.

#### III. FINALS

#### △There are 36 finals in Chinese:

a	[A]	0	[o]	e	[¥]	I	[1,1]	er	[a]
		ai	[ai]	ei	[ei]	ao	[au]	ou	[əu]
		an	[an]	en	[ən]	ang	[aŋ]	eng	[əŋ]
i	[i]	ia	[iA]	ie	[iɛ]	iao	[iau]	iu	[iəu]
		ian	[iɛn]	in	[in]	iang	[iaŋ]	ing	[iŋ]
u	[u]	ua	[uA]	uo	[uɔ]	uai	[uai]	ui	[uei]
		uan	[uan]	un	[uən]	uang	[uaŋ]	ong	[øŋ]
ü	[y]	üe	[ye]	üan	[yan]	ün	[yn]	iong	[yon]

You may have noticed that most of the finals in the Chinese Phonetic Alphabet are combinations of more than one vowel sound instead of a single vowel sound.△