

12 Common Chinese Punctuation Marks

標點符號 / 标点符号 biāodiǎn fúhào : Punctuation Marks

Punctuation	Name	When to use	Example	Reminder
?	問號/ 问号 wèn hào	At the end of a question	你喜歡說中文嗎？/ 你喜欢说中文吗？ Nǐ xǐhuān shuō Zhōngwén ma? Do you like to speak Mandarin?	
!	驚嘆號/ 惊叹号 jīngtàn hào	At the end of a sentence or a short phrase which expresses very strong feeling	今天太熱了！/ 今天太热了！ Jīntiān tài rè le! It is too hot today!	
;	分號/ 分号 fēn hào	To connect related independent clauses	如果明天不下雨，我們就去海邊； 如果明天下雨，我們就在家看Netflix。/ 如果明天不下雨，我们就去海边； 如果明天下雨，我们就在家看Netflix。 Rúguǒ míngtiān bú xià yǔ, wǒmen jiù qù hǎibiān; Rúguǒ míngtiān xià yǔ, wǒmen jiù zài jiā kàn Netflix. If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we will go to the beach; if it rains, we will stay at home and watch Netflix.	

好順中文 Howsoon Mandarin

Instagram: @howsoon_mandarin/ FB: Howsoon Mandarin 好順中文

<https://mandarinwithyhhsuan.co.uk>

12 Common Chinese Punctuation Marks

Punctuation	Name	When to use	Example	Reminder
()	括號/ 括号 guāhào/ kuòhào	To explain or clarify information	我明天 (十月二十號) 要回台灣去。/ 我明天 (十月二十号) 要回台湾去。 Wǒ míngtiān (shíyuè èrshíhào) yào huí Táiwān qù. Tomorrow (the 20 th of October) I am going back to Taiwan.	

好順中文 Howsoon Mandarin

Instagram: @howsoon_mandarin/ FB: Howsoon Mandarin 好順中文

<https://mandarinwithyhhsuan.co.uk>

12 Common Chinese Punctuation Marks

Some Chinese punctuation marks are **different** from other languages. Let's have a look.

Punctuation	Name	When to use	Example	Reminder
。	句號/ 句号 jùhào	Full stop at the end of the sentence	我要一杯咖啡。 / 我要一杯咖啡。 Wǒ yào yìbēi kāfēi. I want a cup of coffee.	In Traditional Chinese, the full stop is full-width and is placed in the middle . However, the font may change its position.
，	逗號/ 逗号 dòuhào	To join together clauses that deal with a certain topic or line of thinking	我很累，我想回家。 Wǒ hěn lèi, wǒ xiǎng huíjiā. I am tired. I want to go home.	The comma is placed in the middle . In Mandarin, a long paragraph can consist of clauses joined by commas and a full stop coming at the very end.
、	頓號/ 顿号 dùnhào	To separate words constituting a list	我去過日本、英國、韓國和美國。 / 我去过日本、英国、韩国和美国。 Wǒ qùguò Rìběn, Yīngguó, Hánguó hàn Měiguó. I've been to Japan, the UK, South Korea, and the USA.	Normally, it is placed in the middle . Windows keyboard: Ctrl + ' (Traditional Chinese) \ (Simplified Chinese) Mac keyboard: \
「 ... 」 (Traditional Chinese) “ ... ” (Simplified Chinese)	引號/ 引号 yǐnhào	To show a quote, and to emphasise or to express satire	他說：「我不餓。」 / 他说：“我不饿。” Tā shuō: "wǒ búè". He said, "I am not hungry".	Quotation marks within quotation marks: Traditional Chinese: 「 ... 『 ... 』 ... 」 Simplified Chinese: “ ... ‘ ... ’ ... ”

好順中文 Howsoon Mandarin

Instagram: @howsoon_mandarin/ FB: Howsoon Mandarin 好順中文

<https://mandarinwithyihuan.co.uk>

12 Common Chinese Punctuation Marks

Punctuation	Name	When to use	Example	Reminder
:	冒號/ 冒号 màohào	To prompt following content or to summarise content above	他說：「沒問題！」/ 他说：“没问题！” Tā shuō: “méiwèntí!” He said, "no problem". 學中文的方法很多，例如：看電影、看書和跟朋友用中文聊天。/ 学中文的方法很多，例如：看电影、看书和跟朋友用中文聊天。 Xué Zhōngwén de fāngfǎ hěnduō, lìrú, kàn diànyǐng, kàn shū hàn gēn péngyǒu yòng Zhōngwén liáotiān. There are many ways to learn Mandarin, for example, watching movies, reading books, and chatting with friends in Mandarin.	Most of the time, the usage of a colon in Mandarin is the same as in English. However, in Mandarin, we also use colons before quotations . Please see the example sentence.
《 》	書名號/ 书名号 shūmíng hào	For titles of books and films	你看過《三體》嗎？/ 你看过《三体》吗？ Nǐ kànguò Sāntǐ ma? Have you read <i>The Three-Body Problem</i> ?	
……	刪節號/ 删节号 shānjié hào	Omission of a word, sentence, or whole section from a text without altering its original meaning, indicating	他緊張地說：「我……我真的……不知道。」/ 他紧张地说：“我……我真的……不知道。”	This mark is six dots , occupying the spaces as two characters. Windows keyboard: Ctrl + Alt + . (Traditional Chinese) Shift + 6 (Simplified Chinese)

好順中文 Howsoon Mandarin

Instagram: @howsoon_mandarin/ FB: Howsoon Mandarin 好順中文

<https://mandarinwithyhhsuan.co.uk>

12 Common Chinese Punctuation Marks

Punctuation	Name	When to use	Example	Reminder
		sentences are unfinished and the speech is on and off	Tā jǐnzhāngde shuō, 'wǒ...wǒ zhēnde...bù zhīdào'. He said nervously, 'I... I really... don't know'.	Mac keyboard: Shift + . + ↓ (Traditional Chinese) Shift + 6 (Simplified Chinese)
——	專名號/ 专名号 zhuānmíng hào	To indicate names	你到 <u>台灣</u> 去旅行，一定要去 <u>阿里山</u> 。 你到 <u>台湾</u> 去旅行，一定要去 <u>阿里山</u> 。 Nǐ dào Táiwān qù lǚxíng, yíding yào qù Ālǐshān. You have to go to Mount Ali when traveling to Taiwan.	It is placed under the names .