CHEAT SHEETS HERO

Chinese Language Cheatsheet

A comprehensive cheat sheet covering essential aspects of the Chinese language, including tones, pronunciation (pinyin), basic grammar, useful phrases, and characters. Useful for beginners and intermediate learners alike.

Pinyin & Pronunciation

Initials (Consonants)

b	pronounced like 'b' in 'boy'
p	pronounced like 'p' in 'pot' (aspirated)
m	pronounced like 'm' in 'mom'
f	pronounced like 'f' in 'fun'
d	pronounced like 'd' in 'dog'
t	pronounced like 't' in 'top' (aspirated)
n	pronounced like 'n' in 'no'
l	pronounced like 'l' in 'low'

Finals (Vowels)

a	pronounced like 'ah' in 'father'
o	pronounced like 'o' in 'more'
e	pronounced like 'uh' in 'her'
i	pronounced like 'ee' in 'see'
u	pronounced like 'oo' in 'moon'
ü (or v on some keyboards)	pronounced like 'u' in French 'tu' or German 'über'

Tones

First Tone (ā)	High and level. Example: mā (妈 - mother)
Second Tone (á)	Rising. Example: má (麻 - hemp)
Third Tone (ǎ)	Falling then rising. Example: mǎ (马 - horse)
Fourth Tone (à)	Falling. Example: mà (骂 - to scold)
Neutral Tone (a)	Short and light. Example: ma (吗 - question particle)

Basic Grammar

Word Order

Chinese follows Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) word order, similar to English.

Example:
我 (wǒ - I) 吃 (chī - eat) 苹果 (píngguǒ - apple). I eat apple. (I eat an apple.)

Measure Words

Measure words (or classifiers) are used when counting nouns. They come between the number and the noun.

Example:
一个人 (yī gè rén) - one person (个 is a common measure word)
三本书 (sān běn shū) - three books (本 is the measure word for books)

Basic Sentence Structure

Subject + Verb	我走 (wǒ zǒu) - I walk
Subject + Verb + Object	我吃饭 (wǒ chī fàn) - I eat rice
Subject + Adverb + Verb	我很快走 (wǒ hěn kuài zǒu) - I walk very fast
Subject + Verb + Object + Modifier	我昨天吃饭 (wǒ zuótiān chī fàn) - I ate rice yesterday

Using 是 (shì - to be)

是 (shì) is used to link a subject with its description or identity.

Example:
我是学生 (wǒ shì xuésheng) - I am a student.

Useful Phrases

Greetings

你好 (nǐ hǎo)	Hello
您好 (nín hǎo)	Hello (formal)
早上好 (zǎoshang hǎo)	Good morning
晚上好 (wǎnshàng hǎo)	Good evening
好久不见 (hǎojiǔ bújiàn)	Long time no see

Basic Interactions

谢谢 (xièxie)	Thank you
不客气 (bú kèqì)	You're welcome
对不起 (duìbuqǐ)	Sorry
没关系 (méi guānxi)	It's okay/No problem
请 (qǐng)	Please

Asking Questions

你叫什么名字？(Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?)	What's your name?
你是哪里人？(Nǐ shì nǎli rén?)	Where are you from?
多少钱？(Duōshao qián?)	How much?
这是什么？(Zhè shì shénme?)	What is this?
为什么？(Wèi shénme?)	Why?

Common Characters

Numbers

一 (yī)	One
二 (èr)	Two
三 (sān)	Three
四 (sì)	Four
五 (wǔ)	Five
六 (liù)	Six
七 (qī)	Seven
八 (bā)	Eight
九 (jiǔ)	Nine
十 (shí)	Ten

Basic Words

人 (rén)	Person
家 (jiā)	Home/Family
好 (hǎo)	Good
大 (dà)	Big
小 (xiǎo)	Small

Pronouns

我 (wǒ)	I/Me
你 (nǐ)	You
他 (tā)	He/Him
她 (tā)	She/Her
我们 (wǒmen)	We/Us
你们 (nǐmen)	You (plural)
他们 (tāmen)	They/Them (masculine)
她们 (tāmen)	They/Them (feminine)