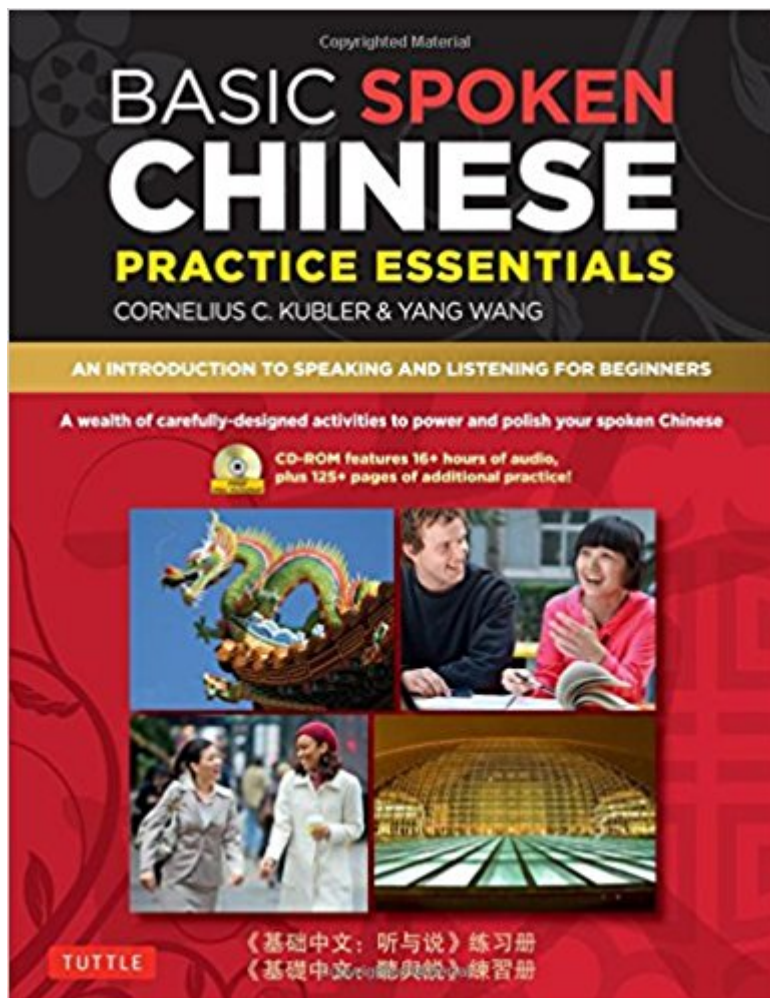


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Basic Spoken Chinese Practice Essentials: An Introduction To Speaking And Listening For Beginners (CD-Rom With Audio Files And Printable Pages Included) (Basic Chinese)





Synopsis

Use this one-of-a-kind practice guide together with any Chinese book or language program, and dramatically enhance your speaking and listening skills. No matter what book or course you're using to learn Chinese, it takes a lot of practice. Here is a wealth of effective practice activities—including more than 16 hours of audio material—to help polish your spoken Mandarin Chinese. This book corresponds to Basic Spoken Chinese and allows you to move from complete beginner level to basic proficiency. An included disc contains over 16 hours of audio material, as well as (printable) PDF files of hundreds of additional practice pages and exercises. Basic Spoken Chinese Practice Essentials includes carefully designed activities to help solidify every aspect of your spoken Chinese skills, including: Pronunciation exercises . Vocabulary and Grammar summaries . Substitution drills . Transformation and Response drills . Role Play & Listening Comprehension exercises . Dictation exercises . Translation exercises . The accompanying CD-ROM contains: 16 hours of audio by native Mandarin speakers. Printable practice pages. Printable exercises and activities. Together with or after this book, you can use Basic Written Chinese if you want to learn Chinese reading and writing. It introduces the highest-frequency characters and words in a systematic way. About the Series Respected Chinese language expert Dr. Cornelius Kubler, who has taught diplomats, business people and students, presents a learning system that uses separate but integrated "tracks" to help you efficiently master the basics of spoken and written Chinese. The materials in the Basic Spoken Chinese series allow you to move from complete beginner level to intermediate fluency.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"I have been teaching Chinese to high school students for over 25 years and have used a variety of texts. I decided to try Basic Spoken Chinese (BSC) with one of my classes on an experimental level, and I have to say it is the best text of its kind that I have ever seen." Åçâ –â •Richard Ayres, St. Xavier High School, Louisville, KY"Professor Kubler in a detailed manner explains the structure of Mandarin sentences and does a good job comparing Mandarin sentences with the corresponding English ones, highlighting many of the pitfalls faced by the average English speakers trying to learn Chinese." Åçâ –â • Study More Chinese"Meticulously planned, carefully prepared and patiently tested for over a decade, the Basic Chinese series represents the most comprehensive introductory materials available now. The eclectic approach, the flexibility in use, the attention to authenticity of language in its sociolinguistic context, the myriad of audio and visual aids, and the array of rigorously designed exercises makes the Basic Chinese the ideal material for any committed learner embarking on the journey of learning the Chinese language." Åçâ –â •Dr. Jun Yang, Senior Lecturer in Chinese, University of Chicago"This is one of the best elementary Chinese textbooks, I believe, ever produced in the history of teaching Chinese as a second languageÅçâ –Â| A great and unique work which will benefit students and teachers for many years to come." Åçâ –â •Dr. Shengli Feng, Professor of Chinese Linguistics, Chinese University of Hong Kong"Outstanding for its carefully graduated presentation of material in easily digestible sub-units, comprehensive and clearly written grammatical and cultural notes, and perhaps most important of all, its separation of the task of learning to speak the language from the very different processes of learning to read and write Chinese charactersÅçâ –Â| The most exciting Chinese language textbook I have seen in many years." Åçâ –â •Dr. James E. Dew, retired associate professor of Chinese, University of Michigan; former Director of the Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies in Taipei"A breath of fresh airÅçâ –Â| Its dual track for spoken and written language finally gives American students a chance to develop oral proficiency without being slowed down by the character writingÅçâ –Â| An ideal textbook for any program that seeks to advance rapidly in spoken Chinese and to fully prepare the students for their encounter with China." Åçâ –â •Dr. Jingqi Fu, Associate Professor of Chinese, St. Mary's College of Maryland"Contextualized so learners know not only what to say, but why, when, and with whom it is appropriate to use such language. Åçâ –Â|thorough and clearÅçâ –Â|refreshing." Åçâ –â •Dr. Matthew Christensen, Associate Professor of Chinese, Brigham Young University"Kubler's books distinguish themselves with

natural, culturally-rooted dialogues, detailed notes (for both written and spoken language), generous practice activities and an amazing care for organization. These books will be valuable tools for both students and their teachers." —Prof. Eric Pelzl, Wisconsin Lutheran College

Cornelius C. Kubler, Stanfield Professor of Asian Studies at Williams College, received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in linguistics from Cornell University. He earned a second M.A. in Chinese literature from National Taiwan University. From 1980-1991 he was employed at the Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State, where he served as Language Training Supervisor in Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese, and Mongolian; as Principal of the advanced Chinese field school in Taiwan; and as Chair of the Department of Asian and African Languages. Since joining Williams College in 1991, he has chaired the former Department of Chinese and Asian Studies Program as well as the Department of Asian Studies, which he was instrumental in founding. He has also served as visiting professor at Eisenhower College, Portland State University, Middlebury College, National Taiwan Normal University, Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages. Kubler, who is author or coauthor of 20 books and over 50 articles on Chinese language pedagogy and linguistics, frequently serves as reviewer or consultant for Chinese and Asian Studies programs in the U.S. and overseas. He has served as Chair of the Test Development Committee for the SAT Subject Test in Chinese and as member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages of the Modern Language Association. He is currently serving as American Co-Director of The Johns Hopkins University-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies in Nanjing, China. Yang Wang, native to Beijing, is Senior Lecturer in Chinese at Brown University, where she teaches all levels of modern Chinese language. Before joining the Brown faculty, she taught Chinese at The Ohio State University and Williams College. She also taught for several years at the Middlebury College Summer Chinese School. Wang is interested in the implications of pragmatics in Chinese pedagogical practice, teaching materials development, and the integration of technology into the curriculum.

Like its sister volume "Basic Spoken Chinese," this book is very good at simulating the kinds of daily conversations you'll have in China or Taiwan. A very important disclosure - this book does not use characters, only pinyin. The efficacy of this is the source of heated debate, but if your goal is simply to learn how to speak Chinese, and not read or write, then the Kubler books are a great place to start. I like that these books start out at a "real life" pace and use colloquial phrases, so you can get used to hearing how Chinese is actually spoken.

I have purchased many Chinese courses only to find deficiencies and gaps in the scope, content, and depth in each. I have studied Chinese for 3 years and never felt comfortable in my knowledge, both in active vocabulary, its usage, and grammar. Assimil came close, but then I found this book. Even my wife, who is Chinese, has noticed a marked improvement in my skill. This book, along with the workbook, are a must have for any serious student of Chinese. Vocabulary, structure, grammar, and cultural context are all addressed extremely well. Each lesson contains a short dialog followed by an in-depth analysis of each word, phrase, and sentence. Grammar is explained in great detail - no need for a supplemental grammar book. The workbook then drills each new construction in a way that is very effective and rewarding. You leave each lesson with a confidence you may never have had with another course. The worse of which, in my opinion, are the Teach Yourself and Colloquial series. Those contain very little substantive drills. I highly recommend this course, and wish it had more visibility in the mainstream of language courses available. The authors did a fantastic job with this, and it sets a new standard for pedagogical materials for language students.

The Basic Spoken & Basic Written Chinese books/series are very good learning tools. I am learning Chinese primarily on my own and am using these books to learn. They are great at explaining the context, history, learning methods, etc. I have found that having the written text + audio is essential for me to grasp an understanding of the language... This series provides that. I am currently (6/6/13) in the pronunciation part of the "Basic Spoken" and just finished the intro in the "Basic Written". My friends from Taiwan & China all say that I have a surprisingly good pronunciation & understanding... it is primarily credited to this series.

Didn't really use this book at all for the class

I am disappointed. This book does not come with answers to any of the exercises. I am learning this independently, so I have no tutor, no teacher, no one, period, to check my answers. How am I supposed to know if I answer anything correctly. They should at least include the answers on the CD-ROM.

My SO requested this as a birthday gift, in order to learn/brush up on basic conversational Chinese to be able to communicate better with his patients. I misunderstood that the enclosed CDs are for the computer, not an audio CD player but my SO seems to be quite happy with it. Shipping was

quick.

These are the absolute BEST Chinese language textbooks on the market. The author (Kubler) has created a curriculum that anyone can learn. The CD's work great, the textbook is easy to follow, and you'll be learning some basic conversational Chinese in no time! Great purchase!

I have collected almost all of the books, tapes, videos on learning CHinese. This pinyin based book is a good beginning with a fine dvd.

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