

Chinese Basics 005

找厕所 | Looking for the Restroom

<https://www.youtube.com/@DrGeniusChinese>



厕所	cè suǒ	bathroom / restroom
知道	zhī dào	to know
哪里	nǎ lǐ	where
那边	nà biān	over there
直走	zhí zǒu	go straight
咖啡店	kā fēi diàn	coffee shop / café
左转	zuǒ zhuǎn	turn left
右转	yòu zhuǎn	turn right
回来	huí lái	to come back
找到	zhǎo dào	to find
书店	shū diàn	bookstore
走错	zǒu cuò	to go the wrong way
原来	yuán lái	so that's how it is
记得	jì de	to remember
手纸	shǒu zhǐ	toilet paper
要钱	yào qián	to cost money
放心	fàng xīn	to not worry / feel relieved
是不是	shì bú shì	whether or not / is it true that
一会儿	yí huìr	a little while

儿化音 (érhuà yīn) is a feature in Mandarin where an “r” sound is added to the end of a word such as “一会儿 (yí huìr).”

It is very common in northern China, especially in Beijing Mandarin, and makes speech sound more natural and conversational.

In southern China, people usually use less 儿化音 or may not use it at all in daily speech.

哦 (ò / ó / o) is a very common Chinese particle used to show reaction or understanding.

Its meaning changes slightly depending on tone and context.

哦 (ò) → “Oh, I see.” / realization

哦 (ó) → “Oh?” / surprise or questioning

哦 (o) → soft agreement or acknowledgment in casual speech

Example:

“哦，是的。” = “Oh, yes.”

“哦，那你走错了。” = “Oh, then you went the wrong way.”

This word turns a statement into a yes/no question. It does not have meaning by itself, but indicates that the speaker is asking for confirmation or information.

嗯 (èn / en) is a common Chinese sound used to show agreement, thinking, or acknowledgment, similar to “mm,” “uh-huh,” or “hmm” in English.

Its meaning depends on tone and context.

嗯 (èn) → agreement or confirmation, like “yeah” or “uh-huh”

Can also show thinking or hesitation, similar to “hmm...”

Example:

“嗯，是的。” = “Mm-hmm, yes.”

“嗯.....我没找到厕所。” = “Hmm... I couldn’t find the bathroom.”

我要去厕所。

wǒ yào qù cèsuǒ

I need to go to the bathroom.

你知道厕所在哪里吗？

nǐ zhīdào cèsuǒ zài nǎlǐ ma

Do you know where the bathroom is?

在那边。

zài nàbiān

Over there.

那边？

nàbiān?

Over there?

对，直走，到了咖啡店后左转。

duì, zhí zǒu, dào le kāfēidiàn hòu zuǒzhuǎn

Yes, go straight, then turn left after you reach the coffee shop.

好的。多谢！

hǎo de, duōxiè!

Okay. Thanks!

过了一会儿。。。

guò le yíhuìr...

After a while...

回来了？

huílái le?

You’re back?

嗯。我没找到厕所。

èn, wǒ méi zhǎodào cèsuǒ

Yeah... I couldn't find the bathroom.

你走到哪里了？

nǐ zǒu dào nǎlǐ le?

Where did you go?

我到了一个书店。

wǒ dào le yí ge shūdiàn

I ended up at a bookstore.

哦，那你走错了。

ò, nà nǐ zǒu cuò le

Oh, then you went the wrong way.

啊？！

a?!

Huh?!

你是不是在咖啡店那儿右转了？

nǐ shì bú shì zài kāfēidiàn nàr yòuzhuǎn le?

Did you turn right at the coffee shop?

哦，是的。

ò, shì de

Oh, yes.

你到了咖啡店后，要左转，不是右转。

nǐ dào le kāfēidiàn hòu, yào zuǒzhuǎn, bú shì yòuzhuǎn

After you reach the coffee shop, you need to turn left, not right.

原来是这样。

yuánlái shì zhèyàng

Oh, I see.

记得带上手纸！

jìde dài shàng shǒuzhǐ!

Remember to bring some toilet paper!

嗯。那儿要钱吗？

èn, nàr yào qián ma?

Hmm. Do I need to pay there?

不要。放心去吧!

búyòng, fàngxīn qù ba!

No. Don't worry, just go!

非常谢谢。

fēi cháng xiè xie

Thank you very much.