# **Mandarin Corner**

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1		
完 / wán		
to finish		
读完	dúwán	to finish reading (an article / book)
看完	kànwán	to finish watching / reading
写完	xiěwán	to finish writing something
卖完	màiwán	to be sold out
洗完	xǐ wán	to finish washing
用完	yòngwán	to use up

zhè běn shū wǒ dú wán le.

这本书我读完了。

I finished reading this book.

zhège shìpín nǐ kàn wán le ma?

这个视频你看完了吗?

Did you finish watching this video?

wǒ hái méi xiě wán zuòyè.

我还没写完作业。

I haven't finished writing my homework.

#### 2

#### 成 / chéng

#### a) to become / to turn into

切成 qiēché	éng to cut into	(sections / pieces, etc.)
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- 翻译成 fānyì chéng to translate into
- 换成 huànchéng to change into
- 读成 dú chéng to pronounce as
- 变成 biàn chéng to change into / to turn into

bă dàngāo qiēchéng liǎng bàn.

把蛋糕切成两半。

Cut the cake into two halves.

nǐ néng bà zhè jù huà fānyì chéng yīngyǔ ma?

你能把这句话翻译成英语吗?

Can you translate this sentence into English?

wǒ yào bǎ zhèxiē rénmínbì huànchéng měiyuán.

我要把这些人民币换成美元。

I want to change these Renminbi into dollars.

#### b) to accomplish (a goal) / to succeed in doing something

做成	zuò chéng	to successfully complete
去成	qù chéng	to succeed in going
看成	kànchéng	to succeed in seeing (e.g., a movie)
办成	bànchéng	to succeed in doing

jīntiān wǒ zuò chéng le yī bǐ dà shēngyì.

今天我做成了一笔大生意。

Today I made a big business deal.

běnlái wǒ jīntiān shì dǎsuàn qù páshān de, dàn hòulái chēzi huài le, suǒyǐ méi qù chéng.

本来我今天是打算去爬山的,但后来车子坏了,所以没去成。

Initially, I planned to go hiking today, but the car broke down, and so I couldn't go.

zuówán yīnwèi jiābān, suǒyǐ méi kànchéng diànyǐng.

昨晚因为加班,所以没看成电影。

Last night I had to work overtime, so I couldn't go see the movie.

#### 3

#### 见 / jiàn

#### perception (sensory)

is used to describe the perception of something that is tangible and usually fleeting. For example: seeing a dog, smelling food, and so on.

听见	tīngjiàn	to hear
看见	kànjiàn	to see / to catch sight of
闻见	wénjiàn	to smell / to notice a smell

wǒ shénme dōu méi tīngjiàn.

我什么都没听见。

I didn't hear anything.

wǒ kànjiàn le yī zhī niǎo.

我看见了一只鸟。

I saw a bird.

wǒ wénjiàn le yī gǔ chòuwèi.

我闻见了一股臭味。

I smell something bad. (stinky)

#### 4

到 / dào

#### a) to arrive at a destination

- 走到 zǒudào to walk to
- 跑到 pǎodào to run to

寄到	jìdào	to send to / mail to
骑到	qí dào	to ride to
开到	kāidào	to drive to

yīzhí zǒu, zǒu dào xià gè lùkǒu, zài xiàng yòu guǎi.

一直走,走到下个路口,再向右拐。

Keep walking to the next intersection, then turn right.

tā pǎo dào chāoshì qù mǎi le yī píng xǐjiéjīng.

她跑到超市去买了一瓶洗洁精。

She ran to the supermarket and bought a bottle of dishwashing detergent.

zhège bāoguǒ jì dào shànghǎi yào duōjiǔ?

这个包裹寄到上海要多久?

How long will it take for this package to get to Shanghai?

#### b) "reach" (sensory perception)

As noted before, "见 / jiàn" is used to describe the perception of something that is fleeting and tangible. Whereas "到 / dào" can be used to describe the perception of the same tangible things as well as intangible things such as: emotions, feelings and so on. Thus "到 / dào" has a broader application.

听到	tīngdào	to hear
感觉到	gǎnjué dào	to sense / to become aware of
看到	kàndào	to see
闻到	wéndào	to smell
见到	jiàndào	to see / to meet

tīngdào zhège xiāoxi tā hěn jīngyà.

听到这个消息她很惊讶。

Hearing this news, she was very surprised.

wǒ néng gǎnjuédào tā hěn jǐnzhāng.

我能感觉到她很紧张。

I can sense that she's very nervous.

nǐ kàndào wǒ de shǒujī le ma?

你看到我的手机了吗?

Have you seen my phone?

#### c) attainment of one's goal

买到	mǎi dào	(to have) bought
找到	zhǎodào	(to have) found
学到	xué dào	(to have) learned
借到	jiè dào	(to have) borrowed
吃到	chī dào	(to have) eaten

wǒ zhōngyú mǎidào le yī tiáo héshēn de qúnzi.

我终于买到了一条合身的裙子。

I finally bought a skirt that fits me.

nǐ zhǎodào nǐ de qiánbāo le ma?

你找到你的钱包了吗?

Have you found your wallet?

jīntiān wǒ xuédào le hěn duō xīn cíhuì.

今天我学到了很多新词汇。

Today I learned a lot of new vocabulary words.

### 5

### 着 / zháo

#### to obtain something / to succeed in

睡着	shuìzháo	to fall asleep
猜着	cāizháo	to guess correctly
找着	zhǎozháo	to find

bùhǎoyìsi! wǒ gānggang shuìzháo le.

不好意思!我刚刚睡着了。

Sorry! I just fell asleep.

ní zhǎozháo gōngzuò le ma?

你找着工作了吗?

Have you found a job?

nĭ cāizháo le.

你猜着了。

You've guessed right.

### 6

#### 懂 / dǒng

#### to understand / to comprehend

听懂	tīngdŏng	to understand (on hearing)
弄懂	nòngdǒng	to understand (by trying to figure out)
读懂	dúdǒng	to understand (by reading)
看懂	kàndǒng	to understand (by looking / reading)

wǒ méi tīngdǒng nǐ shuō de huà.

我没听懂你说的话。

I didn't understand what you said.

wǒ zhōngyú dúdǒng le zhè běn shū.

我终于读懂了这本书。

I finally understood this book.

wǒ háishi méi nòngdǒng nǐ de yìsi.

我还是没弄懂你的意思。

I still don't understand what you mean.

### 7

### 住 / zhù

#### a) (to do something) firmly / steadily

接住	jiēzhù	to catch (something thrown etc)
记住	jìzhù	to remember / learn by heart
抓住	zhuāzhù	to catch (or seize) hold of
拿住	názhù	to hold firmly

tā jiēzhù le wǒ rēng gěi tā de yàoshi.

她接住了我扔给她的钥匙。

She caught the key I threw to her.

jìzhu wǒ shuō de huà!

记住我说的话!

Remember what I said!

tā zhuāzhù le tā de gēbo.

她抓住了他的胳膊。

She grabbed his arm.

#### b) to cease movement

站住	zhànzhù	to hold one's ground
挡住	dǎngzhù	to block / to obstruct
卡住	kăzhù	to jam
停住	tíngzhù	to stop

tā tīngdào yǒurén jiào tā zhànzhù.

她听到有人叫她站住。

She heard someone telling her to stop.

nǐ dǎngzhù wǒ de lù le!

你挡住我的路了!

You're blocking my way!

zāogāo! lāliàn kăzhù le.

糟糕! 拉链卡住了。

Damn! The zipper got stuck.

### 8

掉 / diào

#### to indicate removal

#### off / away

扔掉	rēngdiào	to throw away
洗掉	xĭdiào	to wash off
脱掉	tuōdiào	to take off / to remove
跑掉	pǎodiào	to run away
逃掉	táodiào	to run away

wǒ bǎ jiù yīfu rēngdiào le.

我把旧衣服扔掉了。

I threw away some old clothes.

bái yīfu shàng de wūzì hěn nán xǐdiào.

白衣服上的污渍很难洗掉。

The stain on white clothes is hard to wash off.

tiānqì tài rè le, wǒ yào tuōdiào máoyī.

天气太热了,我要脱掉毛衣。

The weather is so hot that I want to take off my sweater.

### 9

### 会 / huì

#### mastery (of a skill)

学会	xuéhuì	to learn (well) / to master
教会	jiāo huì	to teach (successfully)

wǒ xuéhuì le tán jítā.

我学会了弹吉他。

I learned how to play the guitar.

### A:

shì shuí jiāohuì nǐ zuòfàn de?

是谁教会你做饭的?

Who taught you how to cook?

#### B:

shì wǒ mā jiāohuì wǒ zuòfàn de.

是我妈教会我做饭的。

It was my mom who taught me how to cook.

#### 10

#### 开 / kāi

#### to open / to separate

打开	dăkāi	to open
撕开	sīkāi	to tear open

拉开 lākāi to pull open

推开 tuīkāi to push open (a door)

分开 fēnkāi to separate

nì néng bà chuānghu dàkāi ma?

你能把窗户打开吗?

Can you open the window?

tā sī kāi le kāfēi de bāozhuāng.

她撕开了咖啡的包装。

She tore open the coffee.

fángjiān lǐ tài àn le, wǒ qù bǎ chuānglián lākāi.

房间里太暗了,我去把窗帘拉开。

The room is so dark that I am going to open the curtain.

#### 11

#### 走 / zǒu

#### away

搬走	bānzǒu	to move away
拿走	názǒu	to take / bring away
偷走	tōuzǒu	to steal away
逃走	táozǒu	to run away
带走	dàizǒu	to take away

tā xià ge yuè bānzǒu.

她下个月搬走。

She is moving away next month.

shuí bǎ wǒ de sǎn názǒu le.

谁把我的伞拿走了?

Who took my umbrella?

tā de bāo bèi xiǎotōu tōuzǒu le.

她的包被小偷偷走了。

Her purse got stolen by a thief.

### 12

### 光 / guāng

### completely used up / none left

花光	huāguāng	to spend all one's money
吃光	chīguāng	to eat up
用光	yòngguāng	to use up
卖光	màiguāng	to sell out all of something

tā yijīng huāguāng le zhège yuè de gōngzī.

她已经花光了这个月的工资。

She already spent all her monthly salary.

tā yīgèrén bǎ nà kuài dàngāo chīguāng le.

她一个人把那块蛋糕吃光了。

She ate all of that piece of cake by herself.

mùyùlù yòngguāng le, wǒ děi qù mǎi yī píng xīn de.

沐浴露用光了,我得去买一瓶新的。

The body wash is all used up. I need to go and buy a new one.

#### 13

#### 惯 / guàn

#### to be used to

吃惯	chīguàn	to be used to eating (something)
睡惯	shuì guàn	to be used to sleeping (under certain conditions
住惯	zhù guàn	to be used to living (under certain conditions)
穿惯	chuān guàn	to be used to wearing (something)
用惯	yòng guàn	to be used to using (something)

wǒ chīguàn le zhōngcān.

我吃惯了中餐。

I am used to eating Chinese food.

tā méi shuì guàn zhème yìng de chuángdiàn.

她没睡惯这么硬的床垫。

She is not used to sleeping on such a hard mattress.

wǒ zài chéngshì zhù guàn le, bù xiǎng huí xiāngxia zhù.

我在城市住惯了,不想回乡下住。

I am used to living in the city, so I don't want to return to the countryside.

#### 14

醒 / xǐng

#### awaken

睡醒	shuìxĭng	to wake up
叫醒	jiàoxǐng	to wake somebody up
吵醒	chǎoxǐng	to wake somebody up with a noise

míngtiān zǎoshang nǐ néng dǎdiànhuà jiàoxing wǒ ma?

明天早上你能打电话叫醒我吗?

Can you call me tomorrow morning to wake me up?

wǒ hái méi shuìxǐng, zài ràng wǒ shuì yīhuìr ba.

我还没睡醒,再让我睡一会儿吧。

I am still not fully awake. Let me sleep a little bit longer.

tā bèi línjū jiā de gǒu jiàoshēng gěi chǎoxǐng le.

她被邻居家的狗叫声给吵醒了。

She was awaken by her neighbor's dog.

#### 15

#### 死 / sĭ

to death (usually figuratively) / extremely

吓死	xià sĭ		frighten to death
忙死	máng sĭ		extremely busy
饿死	èsĭ		starve to death
累死	lèi sĭ		extremely tired
杀死	shāsĭ	to kill	

nǐ xià sǐ wǒ le!

你吓死我了!

You scared me to death!

zhè duàn shíjiān wǒ máng sǐ le.

这段时间我忙死了。

During this period of time, I've been extremely busy.

wǒ kuài èsǐ le! nǐ kuàidiǎn!

我快饿死了! 你快点!

I am starving to death. Hurry up!

#### 16

对 / duì

#### correctly

答对	dáduì	to answer correctly
猜对	cāi duì	to guess correctly
写对	xiě duì	to write correctly
说对	shuō duì	to say correctly

读对 dú duì to pronounce correctly

zhèxiē tí wǒ dōu dá duì le.

这些题我都答对了。

I answered all these questions correctly.

nǐ cāi duì le! tā shì wǒ dìdi.

你猜对了!他是我弟弟。

You guessed it right! He is my younger brother.

zhège zì wǒ xiě duì le ma?

这个字我写对了吗?

Did I write this character correctly?

#### 17

#### 错 / cuò

#### wrong / incorrectly

打错	dăcuò	to dial a wrong number
算错	suàn cuò	to calculate incorrectly
写错	xiě cuò	to write incorrectly
说错	shuō cuò	to speak incorrectly / to misspeak
做错	zuòcuò	to do in a wrong way
读错	dú cuò	to mispronounce (a word)

### Example1:

A: nǐhǎo! qǐngwèn shì lǐ xiǎojie ma?

你好!请问是李小姐吗?

Hello! Is this Miss Lee?

B: bùshì

B: 不是

No

A: bùhǎoyìsi! wǒ dǎcuò le.

A:不好意思!我打错了。

Sorry! I dialed the wrong number.

#### Example 2:

a! wǒ suàn cuò le!

啊!我算错了!

Ah... I added it up wrong.

zhège zì nǐ xiě cuò le!

这个字你写错了!

You wrote this character wrong!

#### 18

#### 好 / hǎo

satisfactory outcome or completion / (to do something) properly

chī	hǎo
	chī

to finish eating

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准备好	zhǔnbèi hǎo	to be ready
商量好	shāngliang hǎo	to reach an agreement (by discussion)
做好	zuò hǎo	to finish / to complete
坐好	zuòhǎo	to sit properly

wŏ chī hǎo le.

我吃好了。

I finished eating.

women shāngliang hảo zài huífù nǐ.

我们商量好再回复你。

We will get back to you after we discuss this.

wǒ zhǔnbèi hǎo le, nǐ zhǔnbèi hǎo le ma?

我准备好了,你准备好了吗?

I am ready. Are you ready?

#### 19

饱 / bǎo

#### full (satisfaction of appetite)

吃饱 chībǎo to be full from eating

wǒ yǐjīng chībǎo le, zhège gěi nǐ chī.

我已经吃饱了,这个给你吃。

I am already full. You can have this.

wǒ hái méi chībǎo, wǒ xiǎng zài chī yī piàn miànbāo.

我还没吃饱,我想再吃一片面包。

I am still not full. I'd like to eat another slice of bread.

#### 20

#### 够 / gòu

#### enough

睡够	shuì gòu	to get enough sleep
存够	cún gòu	to save enough (money)
受够	shòugòu	to have had enough of / to be fed up with

zuówăn wǒ méi shuì gòu, xiànzài hǎo kùn.

昨晚我没睡够,现在好困。

Last night I didn't get enough sleep. Now I am so sleepy!

děng wǒ cún gòu qián, wǒ jiù qù lǚyóu.

等我存够钱,我就去旅游。

When I have saved enough money, I will go traveling.

wǒ shòugòu nǐ le! wǒ yào zǒu le!

我受够你了!我要走了!

I've had enough of you! I am leaving!

### 21

#### 坏 / huài

break / damage

弄坏	nònghuài	cause to break down
7721	nongnaa	

摔坏 shuāihuài to fall / drop to the ground and become damaged / to smash

压坏 yāhuài to squash

shuí bă wǒ de diànnǎo nòng huài le?

谁把我的电脑弄坏了?

Who broke my computer?

wǒ bù xiǎoxīn bǎ zhàoxiàngjī shuāi huài le.

我不小心把照相机摔坏了。

I accidently dropped and broke my camera.

wǒ de xiāngjiāo bèi yā huài le.

我的香蕉被压坏了。

My banana is squashed.

### 22

累 / lèi

tired

走累	zǒu lèi	to become tired from walking
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跑累 pǎo lèi to become tired from running

wǒ zǒu lèi le, xūyào xiūxi yīhuìr.

我走累了,需要休息一会儿。

I am tired from walking. I need to rest a little bit.

wǒ cái pǎo le shí fēnzhōng jiù pǎo lèi le.

我才跑了十分钟就跑累了。

I only ran for ten minutes and I am already tired.

### 23

#### 脏 / zāng

#### dirty

- 弄脏 nòngzāng to make dirty
- 穿脏 chuān zāng to get dirty from wearing

#### tā bǎ wǒ de dìbǎn nòngzāng le!

她把我的地板弄脏了!

She made my floor dirty!

bái yīfu hěn róngyì bèi chuān zāng.

白衣服很容易被穿脏。

White clothes are easy to get dirty.

### 24

#### 胖 / pàng

#### fat

- 吃胖 chī pàng to gain weight from eating
- 长胖 zhǎng pàng to grow fat / to gain weight

jĭge yuè bùjiàn, nǐ hǎoxiàng zhǎng pàng le.

几个月不见,你好像长胖了。

I haven't seen you for a few month, it seems like you have put on some weight.

wǒ juéde wǒ zuìjìn chī pàng le.

我觉得我最近吃胖了。

I think I have put on some weight (by eating) recently.

#### 25

#### 满 / mǎn

#### full

装满	zhuāngmǎn to fill	up (a container)
塞满	sāimǎn	to stuff full / to fill up
倒满	dào mǎn	to pour to the brim of a container

zhège xiāngzi lǐ zhuāngmǎn le dōngxi.

这个箱子里装满了东西。

This box is loaded with stuff.

wǒ de yīguì lǐ sāimǎn le yīfu.

我的衣柜里塞满了衣服。

My closet is filled up with clothes.

máfan bāng wǒ bǎ bēizi dào mǎn!

麻烦帮我把杯子倒满!

Please fill up my cup!

#### 26

大 / dà

#### big / tall

长大	zhǎngdà	to grow up
放大	fàngdà	to enlarge
养大	yǎng dà	to bring up (children)

zhǎngdà hòu wǒ yào dāng yī míng yīshēng.

长大后我要当一名医生。

I want to become a doctor when I grow up.

bă zhàopiàn fàngdà yīdiǎn!

把照片放大一点!

Enlarge the photo!

tā shì nǎinai yǎng dà de.

她是奶奶养大的。

She was brought up by her grandmother.

### 27

### 干净 / gānjìng

#### clean

洗干净	xĭ gānjìng	to wash clean
擦干净	cā gānjìng	to rub / wipe clean
刷干净	shuā gānjìng	to brush clean

wǒ děi gǎnjìn bǎ tā xǐ gānjìng.

我得赶紧把它洗干净。

I need to quickly wash this clean.

wǒ bǎ zhuōzi cā gānjìng le.

我把桌子擦干净了。

I cleaned the table.

tā bǎ xiézi shuā gānjìng le.

她把鞋子刷干净了。

She cleaned the shoes.

#### **28**

### 清楚 / qīngchu

clear

听清楚 tīng qīngchu to hear clearly

解释清楚 jiěshì qīngchu to explain clearly

看清楚 kàn qīngchu to see clearly

Note: if you use "不" between the verb and the RVE, it means unable to do something, e.g., 看不清楚 / kàn bù qīngchu means unable to see clearly.

wǒ méi tīng qīngchu, nǐ gānggang zài shuō shénme?

我没听清楚,你刚刚在说什么?

I didn't hear clearly. What were you just saying?

zhè hěn nán jiěshì qīngchu.

这很难解释清楚。

This is hard to explain.

wǒ wàng dài yǎnjìng le, kàn bù qīngchu.

我忘带眼镜了,看不清楚。

I forgot to bring my glasses. I can't see clearly.