

Practice for Vowels (5)

Front nasals

an ian uan üan
en uen in ün

帆船

Practice: an uan

Dà fānchuán, xiǎo fānchuán,

大帆船, 小帆船,

shù qǐ wéigān chēng qǐ chuán.

(1) 竖起桅杆 (2) 撑起船。

Fēng chuī fān,

风吹帆,

fān yǐn chuán,

帆引船,

fānchuán shùnfēng zhuǎn hǎiwān.

帆船顺风转海湾。

English

Big sailboat, small sailboat,

Raise the mast and brace the boat.

Wind blows the sail,

Sail pulls the boat,

A tailwind carries the boat to the bay.

(1) 竖 [shù] v.
erect(2) 撑 [chēng] v.
punt

shuǐ lián tiān

水 连 天

R058

Practice: ian

Tiān lián shuǐ, shuǐ lián tiān,
天 连 水, 水 连 天,

shuǐ tiān yí sè wàng wúbiān,
水 天 一 色 ⁽¹⁾ 望 无 边,

lánlán de tiān sì lǜ shuǐ,
蓝 蓝 的 天 似 绿 水,

lǜlǜ de shuǐ rú lán tiān.
绿 绿 的 水 如 蓝 天。

Dàodǐ shì tiān lián shuǐ,
⁽²⁾ 到 底 是 天 连 水,

háishi shuǐ lián tiān?
还 是 水 连 天?

English

Sky meets water, water meets sky,
Water and sky merge in one color, if you look
there's no border,
The blue, blue sky seems like green water,
The green, green water is like blue sky.
Is the sky meeting the water,
or is the water meeting the sky?

(1) 望无边

stretch as far as the eye can see
= 一望无边 [yí wàng wúbiān]

(2) 到底 [dàodǐ] adv.
after all

lánbù mián ménlián
蓝布 棉 门帘

Practice: an ian

Chū qiánmén, wǎng zhèng nán,
出 前门, 往 正南,
yǒu ge miànpù miàn chòng nán,
有 个 面铺面 ⁽¹⁾ 冲 南,
ménkǒu guàzhe lánbù mián ménlián.
门口 挂着 蓝布 棉 ⁽²⁾ 门帘。

Zhāile tā de lánbù mián ménlián,
⁽³⁾ 摘 了 它 的 蓝布 棉 门帘,
miànpù miàn chòng nán,
面铺面 冲 南,
gěi tā guà shàng lánbù mián ménlián,
给 他 挂 上 蓝布 棉 门帘,
miànpù hái shì miàn chòng nán.
面铺 还是 面 冲 南。

English

Exit the front gate, go due south,
There's a noodle shop facing south,
At the entrance hangs a blue cloth cotton door curtain.

I took its blue cloth cotton door curtain,
The noodle shop faced south,
I hung up the blue cloth cotton door curtain,
The noodle shop remained facing south.

(1) 冲 [chòng] prep.
towards

(2) 门帘 [ménlián] n.
door curtain

(3) 摘 [zhāi] v.
take off

严眼圆

Practice: ian üan

Shān qián yǒu ge Yán Yuányǎn,
山 前 有 个 严 圆 眼，

shān hòu yǒu ge Yán Yǎnyuán,
山 后 有 个 严 眼 圆，

èr rén shān qián lái bǐ yǎn,
二 人 山 前 来 比 眼，

bù zhī shì Yán Yuányǎn de yǎn yuán,
不 知 是 严 圆 眼 的 眼 圆，

háishi Yán Yǎnyuán bǐ Yán Yuányǎn de yǎn yuán.
还 是 严 眼 圆 比 严 圆 眼 的 眼 圆。

English

In front of the mountain is a Yan Roundeyes

Behind the mountain is a Yan Eyesround

The two met in front of the mountain to compare eyes,

No one knows if Yan Roundeyes' eyes are round,

Or if Yan Eyesround's eyes are rounder than Yan Roundeyes's.

xiǎo Chén hé xiǎo Shěn

小陈 和 小沈

R061

Practice: en

Xiǎo Chén qù mài zhēn,

小陈去卖针，

xiǎo Shěn qù mài pén.

小沈去卖盆。

Liǎ rén tiāozhe dàn,

俩人⁽¹⁾挑着担，

yìqǐ chūle mén.

一起出了门。

Xiǎo Chén hǎn mài zhēn,

小陈喊卖针，

xiǎo Shěn hǎn mài pén.

小沈喊卖盆。

Yě bù zhī shì shuí mài zhēn,

也不知是谁卖针，

yě bù zhī shì shuí mài pén.

也不知是谁卖盆。

English

Xiao Chen went to sell needles

Xiao Shen went to sell pots

The two shouldered their poles

And left the gate together

Xiao Chen cried, "Needles for sale!"

Xiao Shen cried, "Pots for sale!"

But no one knew who was selling needles,

And no one knew who was selling pots.

(1) 挑担 [tiāo dàn] v.
shoulder the pole

dùn dòng dòufu
炖 冻 豆腐

Practice: uen

Huì dùn wǒ de dùn dòng dòufu,
会 ⁽¹⁾ 炖 我的 炖 冻 豆腐，
lái dùn wǒ de dùn dòng dòufu,
来 炖 我的 炖 冻 豆腐，
bú huì dùn wǒ de dùn dòng dòufu,
不 会 炖 我的 炖 冻 豆腐，
jiù bié dùn wǒ de dùn dòng dòufu.
就 别 炖 我的 炖 冻 豆腐。

English

If you can stew my stewed frozen tofu,
Come stew my stewed frozen tofu,
If you can't stew my stewed frozen tofu,
Then don't stew my stewed frozen tofu.

(1) 炖 [dùn] v.
stew

huàn qúnzi

换裙子

R063

Practice: ün

Jūnchē yùn lái yì duī qún,
军车运来一⁽¹⁾堆裙，

yí sè jūnyòng lǜsè qún.
一色军用绿色裙。

Jūnxùn nǚshēng yí dà qún,
军训女生一大群，

huàn xià huā qún huàn lǜ qún.
换下花裙换绿裙。

English

An army vehicle came transporting a pile of skirts,
Identical green skirts used by the army.

A big group of female army trainees,
Took off their flowered skirts and exchanged them
for the green skirts.

(1) 堆 [duī] measure word
pile