

The Question Word 几 jǐ

The question word 几 *jǐ* (“How many?”) is needed to ask what grade you’re in or what your age is. It functions grammatically like a number in the pattern:

几 *jǐ* + Measure Word

几年级 *jǐ-niánjí* 几岁 *jǐ-suì*

A: 我上十年级，你上几年级？ *Wǒ shàng shí-niánjí, nǐ shàng jǐ-niánjí?*

B: 我也上十年级。 *Wǒ yě shàng shí-niánjí.*

A: 我十六岁，你几岁？ *Wǒ shíliù-suì, nǐ jǐ-suì?*

B: 我十五岁。 *Wǒ shíwǔ-suì.*

Language Note

To ask the age of people 20 years old or more, you may also use 你多大? *Nǐ duō dà?* or 你多大年纪? *Nǐ duō dà niánjì?*



Confirm something by using 对不对 *duì bú duì*

The interrogative phrase 对不对 *duì bú duì* (“Is that right?”) is added at the end of a statement to make it into a question and asks for confirmation of the information in the statement.

Sentence + 对不对 *duì bú duì?*

To give a short answer to 对不对 *duì bú duì* questions, say 对 *duì* for “correct”, or 不对 *bú duì* for “no”.

对 *duì* + Sentence OR 不对 *bú duì* + Sentence

A: 李老 是中国人，对不对？ *Lǐ lǎoshī shì Zhōngguó rén, duì bú duì?*

B: 对。 *Duì.*

A: Michael Schumacher 是西班牙人，对不对？ *Michael Schumacher shì Xībānyá rén, duì bú duì?*

B: 不对，他不是西班牙人，他是德国人。 *Bú duì, tā bú shì Xībānyá rén, tā shì Déguó rén.*