

Practice for Vowels (1)

Simple Vowels

a o e i u ü

báishí tǎ
白石塔

R029

Practice: a

Báishí tǎ
白石塔，

báishí dā,
白石⁽¹⁾搭，

báishí dā bái tǎ,
白石搭白塔，

bái tǎ báishí dā,
白塔白石搭，

dā hǎo báishí tǎ,
搭好白石塔，

bái tǎ bái yòu dà.
白塔白又大。

English

White stone tower,
White stones build,
White stones build white tower
White tower white stones build,
Finish building white stone tower,
White tower is white and big.

(1) 搭 [dā] v.
put up, build

wǎ dǎ mǎ

瓦打马

R030

Practice: a ua

Lùshang pǎo lái mǎ,
路上跑来马，

zhuàng shàng lùbiān wǎ.
撞上路边瓦。

Wǎ dǎ huài mǎ,
瓦⁽¹⁾打坏马，

mǎ tà suì wǎ.
马踏碎瓦。

Wǎ yào mǎ péi wǎ,
瓦⁽²⁾要马⁽³⁾赔瓦，

mǎ yào wǎ péi mǎ.
马要瓦赔马。

English

A horse running on the road,
Runs into the tile on the roadside.
The tile injures the horse,
The horse crushes the tile.
The tile wants the horse to compensate the tile,
The horse wants the tile to compensate the horse.

(1) 打坏
break, damage

(2) 要 [yào] v.
ask

(3) 赔 [péi] v.
compensate

mò yǔ mó
墨 与 馍

R031

Practice: o

Lǎobóbo mài mò,
老伯伯 卖 墨，

lǎopópo mài mó,
老婆婆 卖 ⁽¹⁾ 馍，

lǎopópo mài mó mǎi mò,
老婆婆 卖 馍 买 墨，

lǎobóbo mài mò mǎi mó.
老伯伯 卖 墨 买 馍。

Mò huàn mó lǎobóbo yǒu mó,
墨 换 馍 老伯伯 有 馍，

mó huàn mò lǎopópo yǒu mò.
馍 换 墨 老婆婆 有 墨。

English

Grandfather sells ink,

Grandmother sells steamed bun,

Grandmother sells steamed bun and buys ink,

Grandfather sells ink and buys steamed bun.

Trade ink for steamed bun, Grandfather has steamed bun,

Trade steamed bun for ink, Grandmother has ink.

(1) 馍 [mó] n.
mantou (steamed
bun made of wheat
flour)

mǎi bōbo
买 饽饽

R032

Practice: o

Bái bóbo, Péng bóbo,
白伯伯, 彭伯伯,

bōbopù li mǎi bōbo.
饽饽铺里买⁽¹⁾饽饽。

Bái bóbo mǎi de bōbo dà,
白伯伯买的饽饽大,

Péng bóbo mǎi de dà bōbo.
彭伯伯买的大饽饽。

Ná dào jiāli wèi pópo,
拿到家里⁽²⁾喂婆婆,

pópo yòu qù bǐ bōbo.
婆婆又去比饽饽。

Bù zhī Bái bóbo mǎi de bōbo dà,
不知白伯伯买的饽饽大,

háishi Péng bóbo mǎi de bōbo dà?
还是彭伯伯买的饽饽大?

English

Uncle Bai, Uncle Peng,

Buy pastries from the pastry shop.

The pastry Uncle Bai buys is big,

A big pastry is what Uncle Peng buys.

They take them home to feed Grandma,

Grandma also goes to compare the pastries.

I don't know if the pastry Uncle Bai bought was bigger,

Or if the pastry Uncle Peng bought was bigger?

(1) 饽饽 [bōbo] n.
pastry, cake

(2) 喂 [wèi] v.
feed

gé shang yì wō gē
阁 上 一 窝 鸽

Gé shang yì wō gē,
阁 上 一 ⁽¹⁾窝 鸽，

gē kě jiào gēgē.
鸽 渴 叫 咯 咯。

Gēge dēng gé gē shuǐ gěi gē hē,
哥 哥 登 阁 ⁽²⁾搁 水 给 鸽 喝，

gēzi hē shuǐ bù kě bù gēgē.
鸽 子 喝 水 不 渴 不 咯 咯。

English

In the attic there's a nest of doves,
The doves were thirsty and clucked loudly.
Big Brother scaled the attic and left water for the
doves to drink,
The doves drank the water, now they're not thirsty
and don't cluck.

(1) 窝 [wō] measure word
(for animals) litter

(2) 搁 [gē] v.
put

é guò hé
鹅过河

Pō shang lìzhe yì zhī é,
坡上立着一只鹅，

pō xia jiù shì yì tiáo hé.
坡下就是一条河。

Kuānkuān de hé, féiféi de é,
宽宽的河，肥肥的鹅，

é yào guò hé, hé yào dù é.
鹅要过河，河要渡鹅。

Bù zhī shì é guò hé, hái shì hé dù é?
不知是鹅过河，还是河渡鹅？

English

A goose is standing on a slope,

At the bottom of the slope is a river.

A wide, wide river, a fat, fat goose,

The goose wants to cross the river, the river wants to ferry the goose.

I don't know if the the goose crosses the river, or if the river ferries the goose?

chī bǐqí
吃荸荠

Bíqí yǒu pí,
荸荠有皮，
pí shàng yǒu ní.
皮上有泥。

Xǐ diào bíqí pí shàng de ní,
洗掉荸荠皮上的泥，

xiāo qù bíqí wàimian de pí,
(1) 削去荸荠外面的皮，

xiǎo Lì, xiǎo Yì hé xiǎo Qí,
小丽、小艺和小奇，

huānhuānxǐxǐ chī bíqí.
(2) 欢欢喜喜吃荸荠。

English

Water chestnuts have skin,

On the skin is mud.

Wash away the mud on the water chestnuts' skin,

Remove the skin on the outside of the water
chestnut,

Xiao Li, Xiao Yi and Xiao Qi,

Joyfully eat the water chestnuts.

(1) 削 [xiāo] v.
peel with a knife

(2) 欢欢喜喜
delighted = 欢喜 [huānxǐ]

Gǔ shàng huà zhī hǔ
 鼓 上 画 只 虎

Gǔ shàng huà zhī hǔ,
 鼓 上 画 只 虎，

pò le ná bù bǔ.
 破 了 拿 布 补。

Bù zhī bù bǔ gǔ,
 不 知 布 补 鼓，

háishi bù bǔ hǔ.
 还 是 布 补 虎。

English

The tiger drawn on top of the drum,
 It's broken, take cloth and patch it.
 I don't know if the cloth patches the drum,
 Or if the cloth patches the tiger.

Sūzhōu yǒu ge Sū Húzi
苏州有个苏胡子

Sūzhōu yǒu ge Sū Húzi,
苏州有个苏胡子，

Húzhōu yǒu ge Hú Fūzi,
湖州有个胡夫子，

Sū Húzi wèn Hú Fūzi jiè shūzi shū húzi.
苏胡子⁽¹⁾问胡夫子借梳子梳胡子。

English

In Suzhou there's a Su Huzi,

In Huzhou there's a Hu Fuzi,

Su Huzi asks Hu Fuzi to lend him a comb to comb his beard.

(1) 问 [wèn] prep.
ask (sb.) for sth

cù bù tù
醋 布 兔

Jiān bēi yì pǐ bù,
肩 背 一⁽¹⁾ 匹 布,

shǒu tí yì píng cù,
手 提 一 瓶 醋,

zǒule yì lǐ lù,
走 了 一⁽²⁾ 里 路,

kànjiàn yì zhī tù,
看 见 一 只 兔,

xièxià bù, fàngxià cù, qù zhuō tù.
⁽³⁾ 卸 下 布, 放 下 醋, 去 捉 兔。

Pǎole tù, diūle bù, sǎle cù.
跑 了 兔, 丢 了 布, ⁽⁴⁾ 洒 了 醋。

English

On my back a bolt of cloth,
In my hand a bottle of vinegar,
I walk down a 1 li road,
I spot a rabbit,
I unload the cloth, put down the bottle, go catch
the rabbit.
The rabbit escapes, I lose the cloth, I spill the
vinegar.

(1) 匹 [pǐ] measure word
for rolls of cloth or silk

(2) 里 [lǐ] measure word
li (unit of length, equal to 500
meters or a half kilometer)

(3) 卸下 [xièxià] v.
unload, disassemble

(4) 洒 [sǎ] v.
spill

Wúhú Xú Rúyù
 芜湖 徐如玉

Wúhú Xú Rúyù,
 芜湖 徐如玉，

chūqu lǚcì yù dàwù.
 出去⁽¹⁾ 屡次 遇 大雾。

Qūfù Sū Yúlú,
 曲阜 苏渔卢，

Shànglù wǔ huí yù dàyǔ.
⁽²⁾ 上路 五回 遇 大雨。

English

Xu Ruyu of Wuhu,

Goes out again and again and encounters thick fog.

Su Yulu of Qufu,

Sets out five times and encounters heavy rain.

(1) 屡次 [lǚcì] adv.
 repeatedly

(2) 上路 [shàng lù] v.
 set out

nǚ xiǎo Lǚ hé nǚ lǎo Lǐ
女小吕 和 女老李

Practice: i ü

Zhè tiān tiān xià yǔ,
这 天 天 下 雨，

tǐyùjú chuān lǜ yǔyī de nǚ xiǎo Lǚ,
体 育 局 穿 绿 雨 衣 的 女 小 吕，
qù zhǎo chuān lǜ yùndòngyī de nǚ lǎo Lǐ.
去 找 穿 绿 运 动 衣 的 女 老 李。

Chuān lǜ yǔyī de nǚ xiǎo Lǚ,
穿 绿 雨 衣 的 女 小 吕，
méi zhǎo dào chuān lǜ yùndòngyī de nǚ lǎo Lǐ,
没 找 到 穿 绿 运 动 衣 的 女 老 李，
chuān lǜ yùndòngyī de nǚ lǎo Lǐ,
穿 绿 运 动 衣 的 女 老 李，
yě méi jiàn ⁽¹⁾ 着 穿 绿 雨 衣 的 女 小 吕。

English

On this day, rain fell from the sky,
The woman Young Lu, wearing green rain clothes from the physical
education office,
Went looking for the woman Old Li, who was wearing green sports
clothes.
The woman Young Lu wearing the green rain clothes,
Didn't find the woman Old Li wearing the green sports clothes,
The woman Old Li wearing the green sports clothes,
Also didn't see the woman Young Lu the wearing green rain clothes.

(1) 着 [zháo] v.
succeed in doing
sth.