wishyou.today learning

day 14 tea time

Offer food and drink politely and make suggestions: “please have some tea”, “let’s eat”.

Being offered tea is the first thing that happens in a Chinese home. Now you can answer, and offer back.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	how it’s built
水	shuǐ	water	水 is a real picture of a stream: water down the middle, splashes at the sides.
茶	chá	tea	Leaves on top, a person in the middle, a tree below: tea time.
牛奶	niúnǎi	milk	牛 cow, ox + 奶 milk
杯子	bēizi	cup, glass	杯 cup + 子 child
早饭	zǎofàn	breakfast	早 early + 饭 meal, cooked rice
午饭	wǔfàn	lunch	午 noon + 饭 meal, cooked rice
晚饭	wǎnfàn	dinner, supper	晚 late; evening + 饭 meal, cooked rice
水果	shuǐguǒ	fruit	水 water + 果 fruit
苹果	píngguǒ	apple	苹 apple (plant) + 果 fruit
做饭	zuòfàn	to cook	做 to do, make + 饭 meal, cooked rice
请	qǐng	please; to invite	Ching! A polite little bell before you offer something.
吧	ba	let’s; OK? (suggestion)	吧 turns an order into an idea: “let’s… OK?”
来	lái	to come	“Lie” on my sofa: come over!

pattern 请 “please…” and 吧 “let’s…”

who | do what | 吧

Put 吧 at the end to suggest something: 我们喝茶吧, “let’s have tea”. Put 请 in front of a verb to offer or ask politely: 请喝茶, “please have some tea”. They make you sound warm, not bossy.

我们吃水果吧！ **Wǒmen chī shuǐguǒ ba!** Let’s have some fruit!

请喝水。 **Qǐng hē shuǐ.** Please have some water.

你休息吧。 **Nǐ xiūxi ba.** Go on, have a rest.

来，喝一杯茶吧！ **Lái, hē yì bēi chá ba!** Come on, have a cup of tea!

dialogue tea at xiaoming's home

ms zhang 安娜，来，请喝茶。
Ānnà, lái, qǐng hē chá. · Anna, come, have some tea.

anna 谢谢您！
Xièxie nín! · Thank you!

xiaoming 妈妈，我不想喝茶。我要一杯牛奶。
Māma, wǒ bù xiǎng hē chá. Wǒ yào yì bēi niúnǎi. · Mum, I don't want tea. I'd like a glass of milk.

ms zhang 好。安娜，请吃苹果。
Hǎo. Ānnà, qǐng chī píngguǒ. · OK. Anna, please have an apple.

anna 谢谢！我很喜欢吃水果。
Xièxie! Wǒ hěn xǐhuan chī shuǐguǒ. · Thanks! I really like fruit.

ms zhang 今天晚上在我们家吃晚饭吧！
Jīntiān wǎnshang zài wǒmen jiā chī wǎnfàn ba! · Stay and have dinner with us tonight!

anna 好！我会做饺子。我做饭吧！
Hǎo! Wǒ huì zuò jiǎozi. Wǒ zuòfàn ba! · Great! I can make dumplings. Let me cook!

xiaoming 好！晚饭吃饺子！
Hǎo! Wǎnfàn chī jiǎozi! · Yes! Dumplings for dinner!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

茶
chá
tea

来
lái
to come

good to know · When someone pours your tea, a light tap of two fingers on the table is a quiet "thank you", especially in southern China. 吧 softens things: 你休息吧 sounds caring, "go on, rest", not like an order.

Next time someone says 请喝茶, you'll understand, and you can offer tea right back.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**