day 11 food i like

Say what food you like best, and how good it is.

"What do you like to eat?" is the friendliest question in China, and an easy one to talk about for a minute.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
菜	cài	dish; vegetables	我爱吃中国菜。 I love Chinese food.
好吃	hǎochī	tasty; delicious	妈妈做的菜很好吃。 Mum's cooking is delicious.
肉	ròu	meat	我不吃肉。 I don't eat meat.
鱼	yú	fish	这儿的鱼很好吃。 The fish here is delicious.
米饭	mǐfàn	cooked rice	我爱吃米饭。 I love rice.
面条儿	miàntiáor	noodles	我想吃面条儿。 I'd like noodles.
饺子	jiǎozi	dumpling	你喜欢吃饺子吗? Do you like dumplings?
水果	shuǐguǒ	fruit	我们吃水果吧。 Let's have some fruit.
最	zuì	most, -est	我最喜欢中国菜。 Chinese food is my favourite.
非常	fēicháng	very; extremely	包子非常好吃。 The baozi are super tasty.

pattern 最 and 非常: your favourite, and how good it is

我 | 最 | 喜欢吃 | food

最 means "most": 我最喜欢吃饺子 is "I like dumplings most", your favourite. To say how good something is, put a word before the adjective: 很 (very), 非常 (really), 真 (truly!), 有点儿 (a bit, often a complaint), or 太…了 (so, too).

我最喜欢吃鱼。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī yú** Fish is my favourite.

这个菜非常好吃。 **zhège cài fēicháng hǎochī** This dish is really tasty.

学校旁边的面条儿真好吃! **xuéxiào pángbiān de miàntiáor zhēn hǎochī** The noodles next to school are so good!

这个饭馆的菜有点儿贵。 **zhège fànguǎn de cài yǒudiǎnr guì** The food in this restaurant is a bit expensive.

dialogue what's for lunch?

xiaoming 安娜，中午你想吃什么？
Ānnà zhōngwǔ nǐ xiǎng chī shénme · Anna, what do you want for lunch?

anna 我想吃面条儿。你呢？
wǒ xiǎng chī miàntiáor nǐ ne · I fancy noodles. You?

xiaoming 我最喜欢吃饺子。学校旁边的饺子非常好吃。
wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī jiǎozi xuéxiào pángbiān de jiǎozi fēicháng hǎochī · Dumplings are my favourite. The dumplings next to school are really good.

anna 饺子里有什么？
jiǎozi lǐ yǒu shénme · What's in them?

xiaoming 有肉，也有菜。你也吃饺子吧！
yǒu ròu yě yǒu cài nǐ yě chī jiǎozi ba · Meat and vegetables. Have dumplings too!

anna 好！吃了饺子，我们再吃一点儿水果。
hǎo chī le jiǎozi wǒmen zài chī yìdiǎnr shuǐguǒ · OK! And after the dumplings, let's have a bit of fruit.

xiaoming 太好了！
tài hǎo le · Great!

repeat listen, then say it back

我最喜欢吃鱼。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī yú** Fish is my favourite.

这个菜非常好吃。 **zhège cài fēicháng hǎochī** This dish is really tasty.

米饭有点儿冷了。 **mǐfàn yǒudiǎnr lěng le** The rice has gone a bit cold.

我每天都吃水果。 **wǒ měi tiān dōu chī shuǐguǒ** I eat fruit every day.

你最喜欢吃什么菜？ **nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme cài** What food do you like best?

我中午经常吃面条儿。 **wǒ zhōngwǔ jīngcháng chī miàntiáor** I often have noodles at lunchtime.

reply answer out loud

你最喜欢吃什么？ **nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme** What do you like to eat best?
→ 我最喜欢吃饺子。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī jiǎozi**

你喜欢吃鱼吗？ **nǐ xǐhuan chī yú ma** Do you like fish?
→ 喜欢，鱼非常好吃。 **xǐhuan yú fēicháng hǎochī**
→ 我不太喜欢吃鱼。 **wǒ bú tài xǐhuan chī yú**

你每天吃水果吗？ **nǐ měi tiān chī shuǐguǒ ma** Do you eat fruit every day?
→ 我每天都吃水果。 **wǒ měi tiān dōu chī shuǐguǒ**

你中午在哪儿吃饭？ **nǐ zhōngwǔ zài nǎr chī fàn** Where do you have lunch?
→ 我中午在学校吃饭。 **wǒ zhōngwǔ zài xuéxiào chī fàn**

你每天早上几点起床？ **nǐ měi tiān zǎoshang jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng** What time do you get up every morning?
→ 我每天早上七点起床。 **wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang qī diǎn qǐchuáng**

talk 75 seconds

What food do you like best? Why?

你最喜欢吃什么菜？为什么？ nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme cài wèi shénme

我最喜欢吃…… wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī

……非常好吃。 fēicháng hǎochī

因为……，所以…… yīnwèi suǒyǐ

model answer

我最喜欢吃饺子。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī jiǎozi

饺子里有肉，也有菜，非常好吃。 jiǎozi lǐ yǒu ròu yě yǒu cài fēicháng hǎochī

我妈妈做的饺子最好吃。 wǒ māma zuò de jiǎozi zuì hǎochī

因为我的家人都喜欢吃饺子，所以星期六我们经常一起做饺子。 yīnwèi wǒ de jiārén dōu xǐhuan chī jiǎozi suǒyǐ xīngqīliù wǒmen jīngcháng yìqǐ zuò jiǎozi

我也很喜欢吃水果。 wǒ yě hěn xǐhuan chī shuǐguǒ

Dumplings are my favourite food. They have meat and vegetables inside, and they're really tasty. The dumplings my mum makes are the best. My whole family loves dumplings, so on Saturdays we often make them together. I really like fruit too.

good to know · 菜 is both "a dish" and "vegetables": 点菜 is ordering dishes, 有肉也有菜 is "meat and veg". In a talk, say the food first, then one detail about it (what's inside, who makes it), then why you like it. Three steps and you've got your minute.

Now you can tell anyone what you love to eat, and make a friend over lunch.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 12 tea or coffee?

Ask “this or that?” with 还是, and say what you drink and how often.

Tea or coffee, hot or cold: you’ll be asked this in every home, café and office in China.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
茶	chá	tea	请喝茶。 Please have some tea.
咖啡	kāfēi	coffee	你喝咖啡吗? Do you drink coffee?
水	shuǐ	water	我想喝水。 I’d like some water.
牛奶	niúnǎi	milk	小明喝牛奶。 Xiaoming drinks milk.
奶茶	nǎichá	milk tea	我想喝一杯奶茶。 I’d like a milk tea.
红茶	hóngchá	black tea	我喜欢喝红茶。 I like black tea.
杯子	bēizi	cup, glass	这是我的杯子。 This is my cup.
还是	háishi	or (in questions); had better	你喝茶还是喝咖啡? Would you like tea or coffee?
热	rè	hot	七月很热。 July is hot.
一点儿	yīdiǎnr	a little; a bit	我会说一点儿汉语。 I can speak a little Chinese.

pattern a 还是 b? choose one

你喝 | A | 还是 | B | ?

还是 joins two choices in a question: 你喝茶还是喝咖啡? There’s no 吗 at the end, and you answer with one of the two. To say how often, put 经常 (often) or 有时 (sometimes) before the verb.

你喝红茶还是绿茶？——红茶。 **nǐ hē hóngchá háishi lǜchá hóngchá** Black tea or green tea? – Black tea.

你要热的还是冷的？ **nǐ yào rè de háishi lěng de** Hot or cold?

我经常喝绿茶，有时喝红茶。 **wǒ jīngcháng hē lǜchá yǒushí hē hóngchá** I often drink green tea, and sometimes black tea.

dialogue grandma’s tea

grandma 安娜，你喝茶还是喝咖啡？
Ānnà nǐ hē chá háishi hē kāfēi · Anna, will you have tea or coffee?

anna 喝茶吧，谢谢奶奶！
hē chá ba xièxie nǎinai · Tea, please. Thank you, Grandma!

grandma 红茶还是绿茶？
hóngchá háishi lǜchá · Black or green?

anna 红茶。我早上喝咖啡，下午喜欢喝红茶。
hóngchá wǒ zǎoshang hē kāfēi xiàwǔ xǐhuan hē hóngchá · Black. I drink coffee in the morning, and I like black tea in the afternoon.

grandma 我也最爱喝茶，每天都喝五六杯！
wǒ yě zuì ài hē chá měi tiān dōu hē wǔliù bēi · I love tea more than anything too. I drink five or six cups a day!

xiaoming 奶奶，我不喝茶，我要一杯牛奶。
nǎinai wǒ bù hē chá wǒ yào yì bēi niúnǎi · Grandma, I don't want tea. I'll have a glass of milk.

grandma 你要热的还是冷的？
nǐ yào rè de háishi lěng de · Hot or cold?

xiaoming 热的，谢谢奶奶！
rè de xièxie nǎinai · Hot, thanks Grandma!

repeat listen, then say it back

我想喝一点儿水。 wǒ xiǎng hē yìdiǎnr shuǐ I'd like a little water.

我要一杯热牛奶。 wǒ yào yì bēi rè niúnǎi I'll have a glass of hot milk.

你喝红茶还是绿茶？ nǐ hē hóngchá háishi lǜchá Do you drink black tea or green tea?

下午我喜欢喝奶茶。 xiàwǔ wǒ xǐhuan hē nǎichá In the afternoon I like milk tea.

我早上经常喝咖啡。 wǒ zǎoshang jīngcháng hē kāfēi I often drink coffee in the morning.

我有时喝一点儿红茶。 wǒ yǒushí hē yìdiǎnr hóngchá Sometimes I drink a little black tea.

reply answer out loud

你喝茶还是喝咖啡？ nǐ hē chá háishi hē kāfēi Do you drink tea or coffee?
→ 我喝茶。 wǒ hē chá
→ 我喝咖啡，不喝茶。 wǒ hē kāfēi bù hē chá

你早上喝什么？ nǐ zǎoshang hē shénme What do you drink in the morning?
→ 我早上喝一杯牛奶。 wǒ zǎoshang hē yì bēi niúnǎi

你的杯子里是什么？ nǐ de bēizi lǐ shì shénme What's in your cup?
→ 我的杯子里是红茶。 wǒ de bēizi lǐ shì hóngchá

你经常喝奶茶吗？ nǐ jīngcháng hē nǎichá ma Do you often drink milk tea?
→ 我有时喝奶茶。 wǒ yǒushí hē nǎichá

你最喜欢吃什么菜？ nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme cài What food do you like best?
→ 我最喜欢吃鱼。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī yú

talk 75 seconds

Do you prefer tea or coffee? Why?

你喜欢喝茶还是喝咖啡？为什么？ nǐ xǐhuan hē chá háishi hē kāfēi wèi shénme

我喜欢喝……，不喜欢喝…… wǒ xǐhuan hē bù xǐhuan hē

我经常……，有时…… wǒ jīngcháng yǒushí

因为……，所以…… yīnwèi suǒyǐ

model answer

我喜欢喝茶，不太喜欢喝咖啡。 wǒ xǐhuan hē chá bú tài xǐhuan hē kāfēi

我每天都喝三四杯茶。 wǒ měi tiān dōu hē sānsì bēi chá

早上我经常喝绿茶，下午有时喝红茶。 zǎoshang wǒ jīngcháng hē lǜchá xiàwǔ yǒushí hē hóngchá

因为喝咖啡晚上睡不好，所以下午我不喝咖啡。 yīnwèi hē kāfēi wǎnshang shuì bu hǎo suǒyǐ xiàwǔ wǒ bù hē kāfēi

我的朋友喜欢喝奶茶，我们有时一起去喝。 wǒ de péngyou xǐhuan hē nǎichá wǒmen yǒushí yìqǐ qù hē

I like tea, and I'm not very keen on coffee. I drink three or four cups of tea a day. In the morning I often have green tea, and in the afternoon sometimes black tea. Coffee stops me sleeping well at night, so I don't drink it in the afternoon. My friends like milk tea, and sometimes we go for one together.

good to know · A 还是 B already makes a question: never add 吗. 你喝茶还是咖啡吗 is a classic beginner slip. Answer a choice question with just the choice: 红茶。 or 热的。 That's natural, short and safe in a timed reply.

Hot or cold, tea or coffee: now you can ask, choose and say why, like a good host.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 13 at a restaurant

Order in a restaurant, say what you'd like and ask what it costs.

Eating out is cheap and fun in China, and ordering is the speaking you'll do most.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
饭馆	fànguǎn	restaurant	我们去饭馆吃饭吧。 Let's go and eat at a restaurant.
点	diǎn	order (food)	我们点{dian3-2}菜吧! Let's order!
要	yào	to want; I'll have	我要米饭。 I'll have rice.
想	xiǎng	would like to; to think; to miss	我想吃包子。 I'd like to eat steamed buns.
请	qǐng	please; to invite	请吃饺子! Please have some dumplings!
多少	duōshao	how many; how much	你认识多少汉字? How many Chinese characters do you know?
钱	qián	money	这个多少钱? How much is this?
块	kuài	yuan (spoken); piece	十块钱。 Ten yuan.
可以	kěyǐ	can, may	我可以看一下吗? May I take a look?
再	zài	again; then (later)	你明天再来吧。 Come back tomorrow.

pattern 想 and 要: what you'd like

我 | 想 / 要 | 吃 / 喝 / 点 | thing

想 + verb is "would like to", a wish: 我想吃鱼. 要 is firmer, "I want, I'll have", and it can take the thing straight away: 我要一杯茶, which is how you order. Start a request with 请 (please), and end a suggestion with 吧 (let's). Ask the price with 多少钱; 太贵了 is "too expensive!".

我想吃饺子。 **wǒ xiǎng chī jiǎozi** I'd like some dumplings.

我要两杯奶茶。 **wǒ yào liǎng bēi nǎichá** I'll have two milk teas.

请再给我一个杯子。 **qǐng zài gěi wǒ yí gè bēizi** Could I have another cup, please?

这个多少钱? ——三十块。 **zhège duōshao qián sānshí kuài** How much is this? – Thirty yuan.

dialogue xiaoming's treat

xiaoming 安娜，今天我请你吃饭！你想吃什么？
Ānnà jīntiān wǒ qǐng nǐ chī fàn nǐ xiǎng chī shénme · Anna, dinner's on me today! What would you like?

anna 谢谢！我想吃鱼。这个鱼多少钱？
xièxie wǒ xiǎng chī yú zhège yú duōshao qián · Thanks! I'd like fish. How much is this fish?

xiaoming 八十八块。
bāshíbā kuài · Eighty-eight yuan.

anna 太贵了！我们点面条儿吧，面条儿很便宜。
tài guì le wǒmen diǎn miàntiáor ba miàntiáor hěn piányi · That's too expensive! Let's get noodles, noodles are cheap.

xiaoming 没关系，你想吃就点吧！
méi guānxi nǐ xiǎng chī jiù diǎn ba · Don't worry, if you want it, order it!

anna 好吧，谢谢你！那我们再要一个菜，可以吗？
hǎo ba xièxie nǐ nà wǒmen zài yào yí gè cài kěyǐ ma · OK then, thank you! And can we have one more dish?

xiaoming 不客气！你好，我们要这个鱼和这个菜，请再给我们两杯茶。
búkèqi nǐhǎo wǒmen yào zhège yú hé zhège cài qǐng zài gěi wǒmen liǎng bēi chá · You're welcome! Hello, we'll have this fish and this dish, and two teas, please.

anna 小明，下次我请你！对了，洗手间在哪儿？
Xiǎomíng xià cì wǒ qǐng nǐ duì le xǐshǒujiān zài nǎr · Xiaoming, next time it's my treat! Oh, by the way, where's the toilet?

xiaoming 在前面，右边就是。
zài qiánmiàn yòubian jiù shì · Straight ahead, on the right.

repeat listen, then say it back

这个菜多少钱？ **zhège cài duōshao qián** How much is this dish?

你想点什么菜？ **nǐ xiǎng diǎn shénme cài** What would you like to order?

我想去饭馆吃饭。 **wǒ xiǎng qù fànguǎn chī fàn** I'd like to eat out.

请给我一杯热水。 **qǐng gěi wǒ yì bēi rè shuǐ** A glass of hot water, please.

太贵了，我们不点了。 **tài guì le wǒmen bù diǎn le** That's too expensive, we won't order it.

我要一条鱼和米饭。 **wǒ yào yì tiáo yú hé mǐfàn** I'll have a fish and rice.

reply answer out loud

你想吃什么？ nǐ xiǎng chī shénme What would you like to eat?
→ 我想吃饺子。 wǒ xiǎng chī jiǎozi
你要喝什么？ nǐ yào hē shénme What will you have to drink?
→ 我要一杯红茶。 wǒ yào yì bēi hóngchá
这个菜多少钱？ zhège cài duōshao qián How much is this dish?
→ 这个菜三十块钱。 zhège cài sānshí kuài qián
你喝茶还是喝咖啡？ nǐ hē chá háishi hē kāfēi Do you drink tea or coffee?
→ 我喝茶。 wǒ hē chá
洗手间在哪儿？ xǐshǒujiān zài nǎr Where's the toilet?
→ 洗手间在前面，右边就是。 xǐshǒujiān zài qiánmiàn yòubian jiù shì
→ 不好意思，我不知道。 bù hǎoyìsi wǒ bù zhīdào

talk 75 seconds

Do you often eat out? What do you like to order?

你经常去饭馆吃饭吗？你喜欢点什么菜？ nǐ jīngcháng qù fànguǎn chī fàn ma nǐ xǐhuan diǎn shénme cài

我有时跟……去饭馆吃饭。 wǒ yǒushí gēn qù fànguǎn chī fàn

我最喜欢点…… wǒ zuì xǐhuan diǎn

那儿的菜不贵，…… nàr de cài bú guì

model answer

我有时跟朋友去饭馆吃饭，一个星期去一两次。 wǒ yǒushí gēn péngyou qù fànguǎn chī fàn yí gè xīngqī qù yìliǎng cì

我们经常去学校旁边的饭馆。 wǒmen jīngcháng qù xuéxiào pángbiān de fànguǎn

我最喜欢点鱼和饺子，饺子非常好吃。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan diǎn yú hé jiǎozi jiǎozi fēicháng hǎochī

那儿的菜不贵，两个人一百块钱就可以吃得很好。 nàr de cài bú guì liǎng gè rén yìbǎi kuài qián jiù kěyǐ chī de hěn hǎo

我想下个星期再去。 wǒ xiǎng xià gè xīngqī zài qù

I sometimes eat out with friends, once or twice a week. We often go to the restaurant next to school. I like to order fish and dumplings best; the dumplings are really tasty. The food there isn't expensive: two people can eat really well for a hundred yuan. I want to go again next week.

good to know · To call the staff in a restaurant, a friendly 你好！ is all you need. Then order with 我们要…: 我们要这个和这个. 我请你 means "it's my treat". In China friends often take turns paying, so 下次我请你 is the polite reply. 不好意思 is the everyday "excuse me" or "sorry" (asking the way, a small slip); 不客气 is "you're welcome", the answer to 谢谢.

You can walk into a restaurant, order for the table and talk about the bill. Dinner is served!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 14 cooking at home

Say what you can cook, and how well, with 会 and 得.

Cooking is a great small-talk topic, and “can you cook?” is a classic speaking question.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
做饭	zuòfàn	to cook	今天我做饭吧! Let me cook today!
会	huì	can (know how to)	我会说汉语。 I can speak Chinese.
做	zuò	to do; to make	你妈妈做什么工作? What does your mum do?
超市	chāoshì	supermarket	我在超市买东西。 I’m shopping at the supermarket.
买	mǎi	to buy	我想买苹果。 I’d like to buy apples.
东西	dōngxi	thing, stuff	我去超市买东西。 I’m going to the supermarket to do some shopping.
得	de	(after a verb: how well, how fast)	你说得很好! You speak really well!
不错	bùcuò	pretty good, not bad	这个饭馆很不错。 This restaurant is really good.
鸡蛋	jīdàn	(hen’s) egg	我要一个鸡蛋。 I’ll have an egg.
多	duō	many, much	饭馆里人很多。 There are lots of people in the restaurant.

pattern 会 + verb: what you can do, and 得: how well

我 | 会 / 不会 | 做 | dish

会 + verb means you can do something because you learned how: 我会做饭. Say 不会 for “can’t”. To say how well, add 得 + adjective after the verb: 做得很好. With an object, say the verb twice: 她做饭做得很好.

我会做饺子。 **wǒ huì zuò jiǎozi** I can make dumplings.

小明不会做饭。 **Xiǎomíng bú huì zuòfàn** Xiaoming can’t cook.

奶奶做菜做得非常好。 **nǎinai zuò cài zuò de fēicháng hǎo** Grandma cooks really well.

她做得很快。 **tā zuò de hěn kuài** She’s quick at it.

dialogue a plan for grandma

xiaoming 安娜，下个星期六是我奶奶的生日。
Ānnà xià gè xīngqīliù shì wǒ nǎinai de shēngrì · Anna, next Saturday is my grandma's birthday.

anna 你想给奶奶做饭吗?
nǐ xiǎng gěi nǎinai zuòfàn ma · Do you want to cook for her?

xiaoming 是啊，但是我不太会做饭。我就会做鸡蛋!
shì a dànshì wǒ bú tài huì zuòfàn wǒ jiù huì zuò jīdàn · Yes, but I'm not much of a cook. I can just about make eggs!

anna 没关系，我会做鱼，我们一起做吧!
méi guānxi wǒ huì zuò yú wǒmen yìqǐ zuò ba · Don't worry, I can cook fish. Let's cook together!

xiaoming 太好了！你做鱼做得怎么样?
tài hǎo le nǐ zuò yú zuò de zěnmeyàng · Great! How good is your fish?

anna 还不错！我们去超市买东西吧。
hái búcuò wǒmen qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi ba · Not bad at all! Let's go and get the shopping.

xiaoming 买鱼、鸡蛋，再买一些水果。
mǎi yú jīdàn zài mǎi yìxiē shuǐguǒ · Fish, eggs, and some fruit too.

anna 好！奶奶喜欢吃水果，我们多买一点儿。
hǎo nǎinai xǐhuan chī shuǐguǒ wǒmen duō mǎi yìdiǎnr · Good! Grandma likes fruit, let's get plenty.

repeat listen, then say it back

我不太会做饭。 **wǒ bú tài huì zuòfàn** I'm not much of a cook.

你做的鱼真不错！ **nǐ zuò de yú zhēn búcuò** The fish you made is really good!

我们去超市买东西。 **wǒmen qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi** We're going shopping at the supermarket.

妈妈做饭做得很好。 **māma zuòfàn zuò de hěn hǎo** Mum is a good cook.

我会做鸡蛋，不会做鱼。 **wǒ huì zuò jīdàn bú huì zuò yú** I can make eggs, but I can't cook fish.

你多吃一点儿鸡蛋吧！ **nǐ duō chī yìdiǎnr jīdàn ba** Have some more eggs!

reply answer out loud

你会做饭吗? **nǐ huì zuòfàn ma** Can you cook?
→ 我会做饭。 **wǒ huì zuòfàn**
→ 我不太会做饭。 **wǒ bú tài huì zuòfàn**

你会做什么菜? **nǐ huì zuò shénme cài** What can you make?
→ 我会做鸡蛋和面条儿。 **wǒ huì zuò jīdàn hé miàntiáor**

你家谁做饭做得最好? **nǐ jiā shéi zuòfàn zuò de zuì hǎo** Who's the best cook in your family?
→ 我妈妈做饭做得最好。 **wǒ māma zuòfàn zuò de zuì hǎo**

你经常去超市吗? **nǐ jīngcháng qù chāoshì ma** Do you often go to the supermarket?
→ 我经常去超市买东西。 **wǒ jīngcháng qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi**

你家有几口人? **nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén** How many people are there in your family?
→ 我家有四口人。 **wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén**

talk 75 seconds

Can you cook? What can you make? How good is it?

你会做饭吗？你会做什么菜？做得怎么样？ nǐ huì zuòfàn ma nǐ huì zuò shénme cài zuò de zěnmeyàng

我会做……，不会做…… wǒ huì zuò bú huì zuò

我……做得很…… wǒ zuò de hěn

我经常去超市买…… wǒ jīngcháng qù chāoshì mǎi

model answer

我会做饭，但是做得不太好。 wǒ huì zuòfàn dànshì zuò de bú tài hǎo

我会做鸡蛋和面条儿，不会做鱼。 wǒ huì zuò jīdàn hé miàntiáor bú huì zuò yú

我妈妈做饭做得非常好，她做的饺子最好吃。 wǒ māma zuòfàn zuò de fēicháng hǎo tā zuò de jiǎozi zuì hǎochī

星期六我经常跟妈妈去超市买东西，回家一起做饭。 xīngqīliù wǒ jīngcháng gēn māma qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi huí jiā yìqǐ zuòfàn

我想跟她学做鱼。 wǒ xiǎng gēn tā xué zuò yú

I can cook, but not very well. I can make eggs and noodles, but not fish. My mum is a really good cook; her dumplings are the best. On Saturdays I often go to the supermarket with her, and then we cook together at home. I want her to teach me how to cook fish.

good to know · 会 is for skills you learned (cooking, swimming, Chinese). For “able to right now” Chinese uses 能: you’ll meet it again in unit 5. Modest answers sound natural in Chinese: 做得不太好 or 还不错 rather than “I’m a great cook”.

Now you can talk about your cooking, honestly and modestly, like a local.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 15 mission: grandma's birthday dinner

Chinese HSKK beginner
in 32 days
unit 3 · food & drink

Talk about food and drink for a minute and a half: what you like, what you order, what you can cook, and how you spend a birthday.

A mock round on unit 3: repeat, answer and talk, the three parts of the speaking test, all about food.

chapter 1 shopping for grandma

anna 小明，今天是奶奶的生日，我们买什么？
Xiǎomíng jīntiān shì nǎinai de shēngrì wǒmen mǎi shénme · Xiaoming, it's Grandma's birthday today. What shall we buy?

xiaoming 买鱼、肉和鸡蛋。奶奶最喜欢吃鱼。
mǎi yú ròu hé jīdàn nǎinai zuì xǐhuan chī yú · Fish, meat and eggs. Fish is Grandma's favourite.

anna 我还想给奶奶买花。
wǒ hái xiǎng gěi nǎinai mǎi huā · I'd also like to get Grandma some flowers.

xiaoming 好啊！这些花多少钱？
hǎo a zhèxiē huā duōshao qián · Good idea! How much are these flowers?

anna 五十块。有点儿贵，但是真漂亮！
wǔshí kuài yǒudiǎnr guì dànshì zhēn piàoliang · Fifty yuan. A bit expensive, but they're so pretty!

chapter 2 who made the fish?

xiaoming 安娜，你做鱼做得真好！
Ānnà nǐ zuò yú zuò de zhēn hǎo · Anna, your fish is really good!

anna 谢谢！你做的鸡蛋也不错。
xièxie nǐ zuò de jīdàn yě búcuò · Thanks! Your eggs aren't bad either.

ms zhang 你们两个都会做饭了！太好了。
nǐmen liǎng gè dōu huì zuòfàn le tài hǎo le · You can both cook now! Wonderful.

dr li 我在网上点了三个菜，快到了。
wǒ zài wǎngshang diǎn le sān gè cài kuài dào le · I've ordered three dishes online. They'll be here soon.

xiaoming 大家来吃饭吧！
dàjiā lái chī fàn ba · Dinner's ready, everyone!

chapter 3 flowers for grandma

anna 奶奶，生日快乐！这些花是送给您的。
nǎinai shēngrì kuàilè zhèxiē huā shì sòng gěi nín de · Happy birthday, Grandma! These flowers are for you.

grandma 谢谢你，安娜！花真漂亮。
xièxie nǐ Ānnà huā zhēn piàoliang · Thank you, Anna! They're beautiful.

xiaoming 奶奶，这个鱼是安娜做的，您吃一点儿吧。
nǎinai zhège yú shì Ānnà zuò de nín chī yìdiǎnr ba · Grandma, Anna made this fish. Have some.

grandma 非常好吃！安娜，你还会做什么菜？
fēicháng hǎochī Ānnà nǐ hái huì zuò shénme cài · Delicious! Anna, what else can you cook?

anna 我还会做面条儿。下次我给您做！
wǒ hái huì zuò miàntiáor xià cì wǒ gěi nín zuò · I can make noodles too. I'll make you some next time!

grandma 对，对！大家多吃一点儿！
duì duì dàjiā duō chī yìdiǎnr · Yes, yes! Eat up, everyone!

repeat listen, then say it back

今天是奶奶的生日。 **jīntiān shì nǎinai de shēngrì** It's Grandma's birthday today.

我想给奶奶买些花。 **wǒ xiǎng gěi nǎinai mǎi xiē huā** I'd like to buy Grandma some flowers.

我们去超市买东西吧。 **wǒmen qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi ba** Let's go shopping at the supermarket.

奶奶做饭做得非常好。 **nǎinai zuòfàn zuò de fēicháng hǎo** Grandma is a really good cook.

你喝红茶还是喝绿茶？ **nǐ hē hóngchá háishi hē lǜchá** Do you drink black tea or green tea?

reply answer out loud

你最喜欢吃什么水果？ **nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme shuǐguǒ** What's your favourite fruit?
→ 我最喜欢吃苹果。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī píngguǒ**

你喜欢喝热茶还是冷茶？ **nǐ xǐhuan hē rè chá háishi lěng chá** Do you like your tea hot or cold?
→ 我喜欢喝热茶。 **wǒ xǐhuan hē rè chá**

你经常去饭馆吗？ **nǐ jīngcháng qù fànguǎn ma** Do you often eat out?
→ 我有时去饭馆吃饭。 **wǒ yǒushí qù fànguǎn chī fàn**

你会做什么菜？ **nǐ huì zuò shénme cài** What can you cook?
→ 我会做鱼，也会做鸡蛋。 **wǒ huì zuò yú yě huì zuò jīdàn**

你的生日是几月几号？ **nǐ de shēngrì shì jǐ yuè jǐ hào** When is your birthday?
→ 我的生日是五月八号。 **wǒ de shēngrì shì wǔ yuè bā hào**

talk 90 seconds

What do you like to do on your birthday? Why? Talk for a minute and a half.

过生日的时候，你喜欢做什么？为什么？ guò shēngrì de shíhou nǐ xǐhuan zuò shénme wèi shénme

我的生日是……月……号。 wǒ de shēngrì shì yuè hào

……的时候，我们…… de shíhou wǒmen

model answer

我的生日是五月八号。 wǒ de shēngrì shì wǔ yuè bā hào

过生日的时候，我喜欢跟家人和朋友一起吃饭。 guò shēngrì de shíhou wǒ xǐhuan gēn jiārén hé péngyou yìqǐ chī fàn

有时候我们在家吃，妈妈给我做很多好吃的菜。 yǒu shíhou wǒmen zài jiā chī māma gěi wǒ zuò hěn duō hǎochī de cài

有时候我们去饭馆，点鱼、肉和饺子。 yǒu shíhou wǒmen qù fànguǎn diǎn yú ròu hé jiǎozi

朋友们还送我花，给我唱生日歌。 péngyoumen hái sòng wǒ huā gěi wǒ chàng shēngrì gē

因为大家都在一起，所以我非常高兴。 yīnwèi dàjiā dōu zài yìqǐ suǒyǐ wǒ fēicháng gāoxìng

在中国，过年的时候大家也都回家，跟家人一起吃饭。 zài Zhōngguó guònián de shíhou dàjiā yě dōu huí jiā gēn jiārén yìqǐ chī fàn

My birthday is on the eighth of May. On my birthday I like to eat with my family and friends. Sometimes we eat at home, and Mum makes me lots of tasty dishes. Sometimes we go to a restaurant and order fish, meat and dumplings. My friends also give me flowers and sing me the birthday song. Everyone is together, so I'm very happy. In China, at New Year everyone goes home too, and eats with their family.

Unit 3 done! You can talk about food, drinks, eating out and cooking: that's a lot of conversations.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**