HSK 1 · LESSON 3

你叫什么名字

Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi

What's your name?

Today We Will Learn…

目标 · Goals

LISTENING — Hear j q x clearly, and catch the soft light syllables in 什么 and 名字 .

SPEAKING — Ask a new friend their name, and say your own name and who you are.

READING — Read 你叫什么名字？ and 你是中国人吗？ with pinyin support.

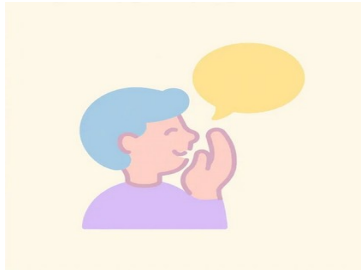
WRITING — Write 名 and 字 stroke by stroke, in the right order.

Names come first today — ask, answer, then write yours down.

Vocabulary

生词 · New Words

Word 1



叫

jiào

to call, to be called

Word 2



名字

míngzi

name

Word 3



什么

shénme

what

Word 4

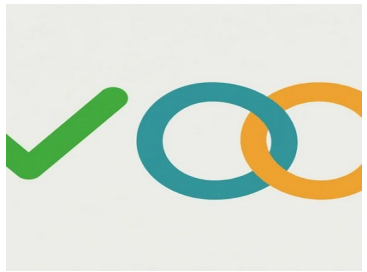


我

wǒ

I, me

Word 5



是

shì

to be

Word 6



老师

lǎoshī

teacher

Listen and repeat. Watch the mouth shape for each sound.

Vocabulary

生词 · New Words

Word 7



学生

xuésheng

student

Word 8



人

rén

person

Word 9



吗

ma

yes/no question particle

Word 10



中国

Zhōngguó

China

Word 11



美国

Měiguó

USA

Word 12



李月

Lǐyuè

Li Yue (a name)

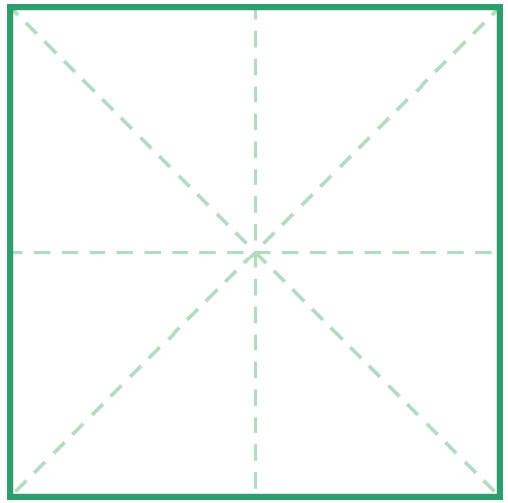
Learn to Write

名

míng

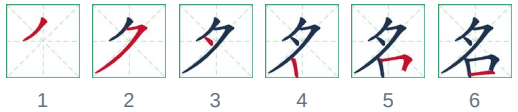
name

6 strokes



Made of 夕 (evening) + 口 (mouth).

A name is spoken out loud — the mouth 口 under the evening 夕: 名 . It opens 名字 .

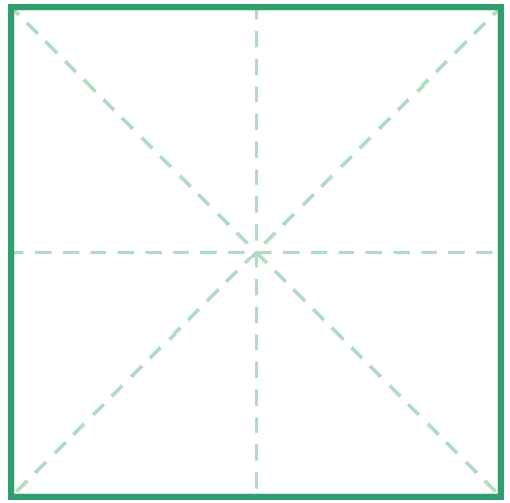


字

zì

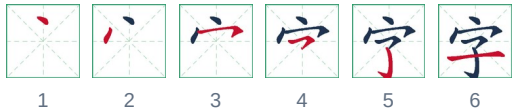
character; word

6 strokes



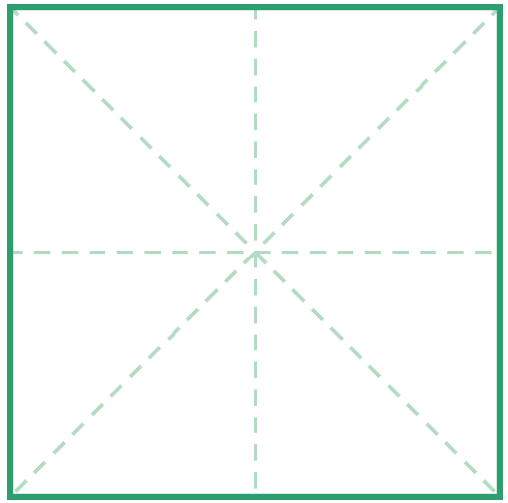
Made of 宀 (roof) + 子 (child).

A child under the roof learning characters: 字 . It closes 名字 .



Learn to Write

什



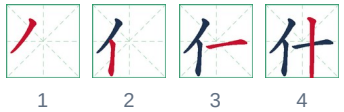
shén

what

4 strokes

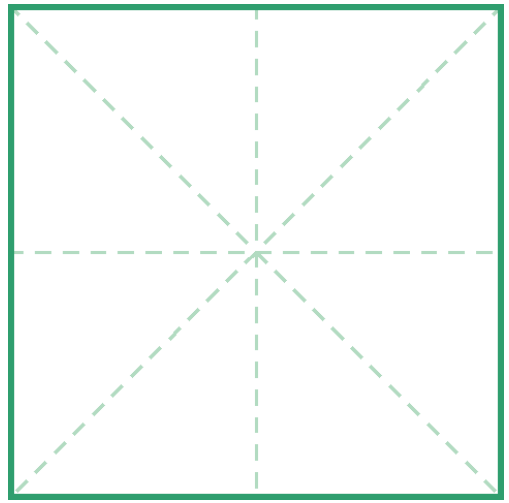
Made of 亻 (person) + 十 (ten).

什 lives in 什么 for now — learn the pair together, never on its own.



1 2 3 4

么



me

light second half of 什么

3 strokes

Made of 丿 (left-fall) + 厶 (small hooked shape).

么 is light and short in 什么 — say shén-me and never stress it.

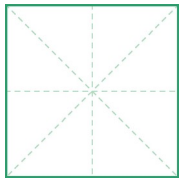


1 2 3

Building Blocks

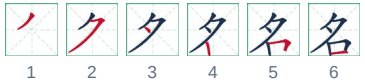
名字

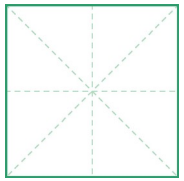
míngzi · name — the light zi is soft and short



名 míng

6 strokes





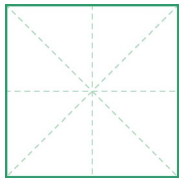
字 zì

6 strokes



什么

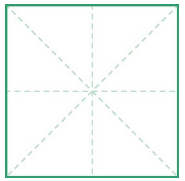
shénme · what — the light me is soft and short



什 shén

4 strokes





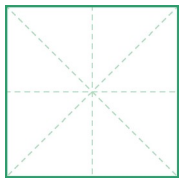
么 me

3 strokes



中国

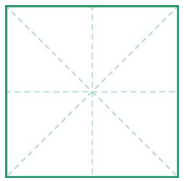
Zhōngguó · China



中 zhōng

4 strokes





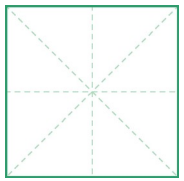
国 guó

8 strokes



学生

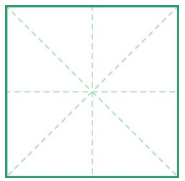
xuésheng · student — the light sheng is soft and short



学 xué

8 strokes





生 shēng

5 strokes



Sounds of the Lesson

j q x today, plus light syllables that go soft and short. Tap and repeat.

Sound focus	Tap & listen	Say it — tap!		
j — tongue behind the teeth, no puff	**jī**	*jǐ*	*jì*	*叫 jiào*
q — like j, with a strong puff	**qī**	*qǐ*	*qì*	
x — smile wide, gentle hiss	**xī**	*xǐ*	*xì*	*xiè*
Light syllables — soft and short		*什么 shénme*	*名字 míngzi*	*吗 ma*
Words from this lesson		*叫 jiào*	*学生 xuésheng*	*中国 Zhōngguó*

Grammar

吗 questions — yes/no

Statement + 吗?

Add 吗 to the end of a statement to make a yes/no question. Answer by repeating the verb: 是 / 不是，好 / 不好 .

你是老师吗? — *Nǐ shì lǎoshī ma?* Are you a teacher?

不是，我也是学生。 — *Bú shì, wǒ yě shì xuésheng.* No, I'm a student too.

是 sentences — “to be”

Subject + 是 + noun

是 links two nouns: 我是学生 (I am a student). Negative: 不是 . Note: adjectives don't take 是 — they use 很 (Lesson 6).

她是李月。 — *Tā shì Lǐyuè.* She is Li Yue.

他是中国人。 — *Tā shì Zhōngguó rén.* He is Chinese.

Grammar

什么 — asking “what”

[verb] + 什么?

什么 sits right after the verb, exactly where the answer goes: 你叫什么名字? (What is your name?). No word-order change like English.

你叫什么名字? — ***Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?*** What's your name?

我叫小裴。 — ***Wǒ jiào Xiǎo Péi.*** My name is Xiao Pei.

Pattern — saying your name

你叫什么名字? → 我叫 + [name]

Answer a name question with the same frame: 我叫 + your name. The answer sits exactly where 什么 asked.

我叫李月。 — ***Wǒ jiào Lǐyuè.*** My name is Li Yue.

我叫李月。你呢? — ***Wǒ jiào Lǐyuè. Nǐ ne?*** I'm Li Yue. And you?

Grammar

Pattern — nationality

[person] 是 [country] 人

[country] + 人 names a nationality: 中国人， 美国人 . Put the whole word after 是 to say who someone is.

她是美国人。 *Tā shì Měiguó rén.* She is American.

他是中国人。 *Tā shì Zhōngguó rén.* He is Chinese.

Writing

Stroke order — eight rules

1. Top before bottom
2. Left before right
3. Horizontal before vertical
4. Left-fall before right-fall
5. Outside before inside
6. Close the frame last
7. Middle before the sides
8. Little dots come last

Say the rule out loud while you air-write. Slow is smooth — smooth is fast.

Characters of this lesson — tap to hear

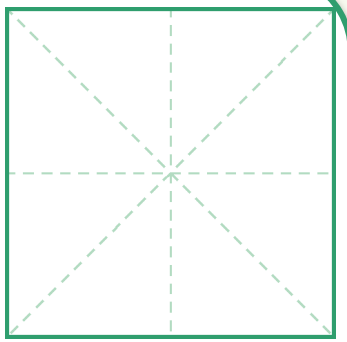
名	*míng* name	字	*zì* character
什	*shén* what	么	*me* light syllable
叫	*jiào* to be called	我	*wǒ* I, me
是	*shì* to be	人	*rén* person

名

míng

name

6 strokes — watch it move!



Follow the red strokes in the GIF, then copy 名 in your grid book.

Dialogue

A 你好！你叫什么名字?

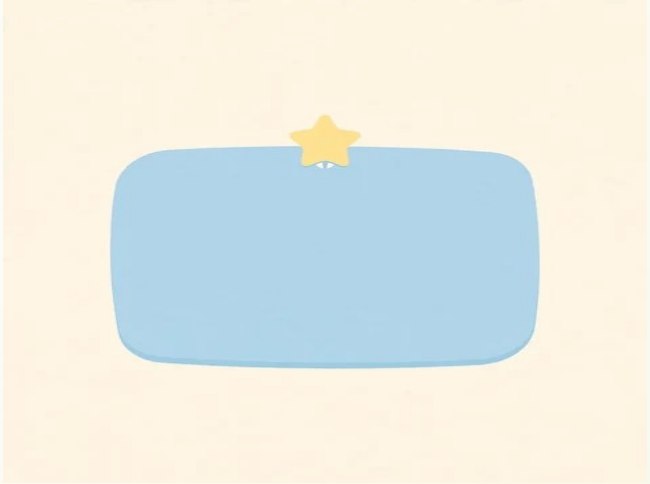
Nǐ hǎo! Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi? Hi! What's your name?

B 我叫李月。你呢?

Wǒ jiào Lǐyuè. Nǐ ne? I'm Li Yue. And you?

A 我叫小裴。我是学生，你是老师吗?

Wǒ jiào Xiǎo Péi. Wǒ shì xuésheng, nǐ shì lǎoshī ma? Xiao Pei.





Dialogue · 2

B 不是，我也是学生。

Bú shì, wǒ yě shì xuésheng. No, I'm a student too.

A 你是中国人吗?

Nǐ shì Zhōngguó rén ma? Are you Chinese?

B 是，我是中国人。

Shì, wǒ shì Zhōngguó rén. Yes, I am Chinese.

Copy the question to answer it

Every answer copies the question frame: 你叫什么名字? becomes 我叫…… . And a 吗 question is answered with 是 or 不是 — no extra words needed.

Listen → repeat line by line → act it out with a partner!

Practice Time

Your turn — say it out loud!

1. A new friend asks your name. Answer as Li Yue.

Answer: 我叫李月。 Wǒ jiào Lǐyuè.

2. Ask your partner: What's your name?

Answer: 你叫什么名字? Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?

3. Reply to 你是老师吗? — you are a student.

Answer: 不是，我是学生。 Bú shì, wǒ shì xuésheng.

4. Read together: 你是中国人吗？是，我是中国人。

“Are you Chinese? Yes, I am Chinese.”

5. Write it: copy 名字 three times in your grid book.

Check the stroke order — 名 first, then 字.



Speaking first!

Listen → repeat → say it to a friend.

Great work today!

名字

Ask their name, say yours, and tell who you are.

See you in Lesson 4!