

## Top 12 Chinese Question Words

### Examples

shén me

什么

what [HSK1]

Nǐ jiào shén me míng zì?

A: 你叫什么名字?

What's your name?

Wǒ jiào Lǐ Léi.

B: 我叫李雷。

My name is Li Lei.

Nǐ xǐ huan chī shén me?

A: 你喜欢吃什么?

What do you like to eat?

Wǒ xǐ huan chī píng guǒ.

B: 我喜欢吃苹果。

I like to eat apples.

shéi

谁

who [HSK 1]

Tā shì shéi?

A: 他是谁?

Who is he?

Tā shì wǒ de lǎo shī.

B: 他是我的老师。

He is my teacher.

Tā men shì shéi?

A: 他们是谁?

Who are they?

Tā men shì wǒ de tóng xué.

B: 他们是我的同学。

They are my classmates.

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nǎ

哪

which [HSK 1]

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Nǐ shì nǎ guó rén?

A: 你是哪国人?

What is your nationality?

Wǒ shì Zhōng guó rén.

B: 我是中国人。

I'm Chinese.

Nǐ xǐ huan nǎ ge lǎo shī?

A: 你喜欢哪个老师?

Which teacher do you like?

Wǒ xǐ huan Hànyǔ lǎo shī.

B: 我喜欢汉语老师。

I like Chinese teacher.

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nǎr / nǎ li

哪儿/哪里

where [HSK 1]

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Nǐ jiā zài nǎr/nǎ li?

A: 你家在哪儿/哪里?

Where is your home?

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Wǒ jiā zài Běi jīng.

B:我家在北京。

My home is in Beijing.

Mā ma, gē ge zài nǎr/nǎ li?

A:妈妈，哥哥在哪儿/哪里？

Mother, where is my older brother?

Gē ge zài xué xiào.

B:哥哥在学校。

Your older brother is at school.

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## shén me shí hou

什么时候

when [HSK 1]

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Nǐ shén me shí hou huí jiā?

A:你什么时候回家？

When will you go home?

Wǒ míng tiān huí jiā.

B:我明天回家。

I will go home tomorrow.

Wǒ men shén me shí hou chī fàn?

A:我们什么时候吃饭？

When shall we have meal?

Wǒ men shí'èr diǎn chī fàn.

B:我们十二点吃饭。

We will have meal at 12 o'clock.

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## wèi shén me

为什么

why [HSK 2]

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Nǐ wèi shén me qǐng jià?

A: 你为什么请假?

Why did you ask for leave?

Yīn wèi wǒ shēng bìng le.

B: 因为我生病了。

Because I'm sick.

Nǐ wèi shén me bù chī fàn?

A: 你为什么不吃饭?

Why don't you have meal?

Yīn wèi wǒ bú è.

B: 因为我不饿。

Because I'm not hungry.

zěn me

怎么

how [HSK 1]

Nǐ zěn me qù xué xiào?

A: 你怎么去学校?

How do you go to school?

Wǒ zuò dì tiě qù xué xiào.

B: 我坐地铁去学校。

I take the subway to school.

Nǐ zěn me xué xí Zhōng wén?

A: 你怎么学习中文。

How do you learn Chinese?

Kàn Zhōng wén diàn yǐng.

B: 看中文电影。

By watching Chinese movie.

zěn me yàng

怎么样

how is it [HSK 1]

Wǒ de xīn qún zi zěn me yàng?

A: 我的新裙子怎么样?

How is my new skirt?

Hěn piào liang!

B: 很漂亮!

Very beautiful!

Zhè ge xué shēng zěn me yàng?

A: 这个学生怎么样?

How is this student?

Hěn hǎo!

B: 很好!

Very good!

---

jǐ

几

how many [HSK 1]

---

Xiàn zài jǐ diǎn?

A: 现在几点?

What time is it?

Xiàn zài bā diǎn shí fēn.

B: 现在八点十分。

It's ten past eight.

Nǐ yǒu jǐ ge mèi mei?

A: 你有几个妹妹?

How many younger sisters do you have?

Wǒ yǒu sān ge mèi mei.

B: 我有三个妹妹。

I have three younger sisters.

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duō shǎo

多少

how many [HSK 1]

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Nǐ yǒu duō shǎo ge xué shēng?

A: 你有多少个学生?

How many students do you have?

Wǒ yǒu wǔ shí ge xué shēng.

B: 我有五十个学生。

I have fifty students.

Zhè lǐ yǒu duō shǎo ge píng guǒ?

A: 这里有多少个苹果?

How many apples are there?

Shí wǔ ge.

B: 十五个。

Fifteen.

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duō shǎo qián

多少钱

how much [HSK 1]

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Zhè ge shǒu jī duō shǎo qián?

A: 这个手机多少钱?

How much is this cellphone?

Sān qiān kuài.

B: 三千块。

Three thousand RMB.

Zhè běn shū duō shǎo qián?

A: 这本书多少钱?

How much is this book?

Shí kuài qián.

B: 十块钱。

Ten RMB.

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duō jiǔ/ duō cháng shí jiān

多久 /多长时间

how long [HSK 3]/[HSK 2]

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Nǐ chī fàn yào duō jiǔ/duō cháng shí jiān?

A: 你吃饭要多久/多长时间?

How long does it take you to eat?

Èr shí fēn zhōng.

B: 二十分钟。

Twenty minutes.

Cóng nǐ jiā qù gōng sī yào duō jiǔ/duō cháng shí jiān?

A: 从你家去公司要多久/多长时间?

How long does it take from your home to the office.

Yí ge xiǎo shí.

B: 一个小时。

One hour.

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duō dà

多大

how old [HSK 1]

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Nǐ jīn nián duō dà?

A: 你今年多大?

How old are you?

Wǒ jīn nián shí liù suì.

B: 我今年十六岁。

I'm sixteen years old.

Nǐ gē ge duō dà?

A: 你哥哥多大?

How old is your brother?

Wǒ gē ge èr shí wǔ suì.

B: 我哥哥二十五岁。

My brother is twenty-five years old.

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jǐ suì  
几岁  
how old [HSK 1]

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Xiǎo péng you, nǐ jǐ suì le?

A: 小朋友，你几岁了？

Child, how old are you?

Wǒ sān suì le.

B: 我三岁了。

I'm three years old.

Nǐ mèi mei jīn nián jǐ suì?

A: 你妹妹今年几岁？

How old is your sister?

Wǒ mèi mei jīn nián wǔ suì.

B: 我妹妹今年五岁。

My sister is five years old.

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