

RONNY MINTJENS



FIRST EXAMS MAY 2020

My IB Mandarin
Ab Initio Portfolio

**2 PARTS : WITH AND
WITHOUT PINYIN !**

*A Product of Mass
Instruction*



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My Mandarin Ab Initio Portfolio (for first exams in 2020)

My Mandarin Ab Initio Portfolio contains 333 questions and answer options that cover all 20 topics of the Ab Initio syllabus. It helps students understand all the questions that can be asked about the 20 topics and prepare and practise their personal responses to these questions. The various answer tables are presented in a way that allows the students to pick and choose the parts of the answers that best reflect their own situation.

This two-part Portfolio also encourages the students to review the relevant vocabulary and grammar prior to answering the questions, thus providing a great revision tool in preparation for the different assessment components. Part 1 of the Portfolio contains the pinyin for each character, whereas Part 2 does not. This helps the student progress towards the final examination in which no pinyin is provided.

About the author

Ronny Mintjens is a practising Language Ab Initio teacher, examiner and workshop leader for the International Baccalaureate. He is the author and publisher of the "Language Ab Initio Student Workbook" – the source publication for this Portfolio. He is also an IB workshop developer, a language acquisition and mother tongue consultant, a moderator for the IB Programme Communities, the Head of Languages at a world-renowned IB school and a tireless advocate for mother tongue entitlement in international education. Beyond his life as a linguist, Ronny is a world traveler, a published novelist and photographer, a former professional football coach, a serial writer and an avid reader.

The Mandarin translation of this Portfolio is the collaborative work of Ms Si Miao and Dr Luxia Yan. Ms Miao is an experienced and practising teacher and examiner of Mandarin Ab Initio in the IB Diploma Program. Dr Yan is an experienced and practising teacher, IB examiner, IB workshop leader and author of a wide variety of Mandarin Ab Initio resources for the IB Diploma Program.

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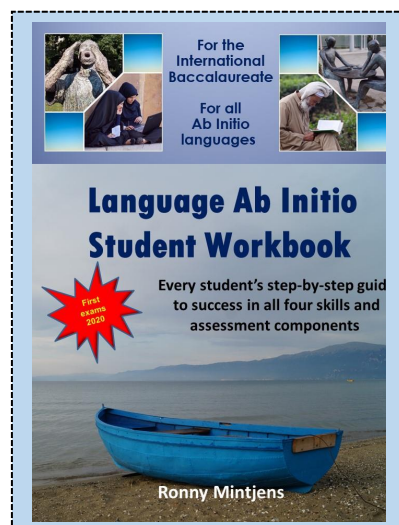
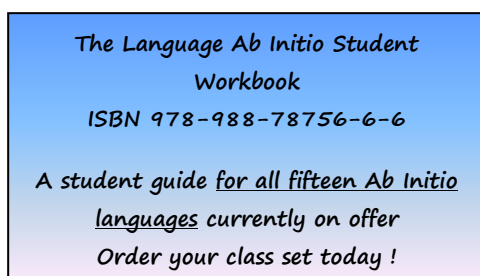
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This Portfolio is directly linked to the Language Ab Initio Student Workbook (ISBN 978-988-78756-6-6)

For orders of the Student Workbook, contact mihabinitio@gmail.com

For further information, visit www.mihunlimited.com



Mandarin Ab Initio Portfolio

Welcome to your Mandarin Portfolio. This resource will help you turn your Mandarin Ab Initio course into a personal journey and prepare you fully for the final assessments. The Mandarin portfolio is designed to be used in conjunction with the Language Ab Initio Student Workbook but can also be used independently.

What is the Ab Initio Portfolio ?

The Language Ab Initio course is an organic course. You will learn vocabulary, grammar, syntax, skills and cultural facts throughout the various units that your teacher presents. While the course is open-ended, there are a wide range of themes and topics that *must* be covered and that are the same for all languages.

The following are the Themes and Topics of the Ab Initio course :

Identities	Experiences	Human ingenuity	Social organization	Sharing the planet
Personal attributes	Daily routine	Transport	Neighbourhood	Climate
Personal relationships	Leisure	Entertainment	Education	Physical geography
Eating and drinking	Holidays	Media	The workplace	Environment
Physical well-being	Festivals and celebrations	Technology	Social issues	Global issues

Since the acquisition of a new language is an ongoing and organic process, you are encouraged to develop your personalized Mandarin Ab Initio **Portfolio**. The development of a Portfolio is *not* an IB requirement but will help you a great deal as you expand your knowledge and understanding of spoken and written Mandarin and as you undertake progressively more complex readings, writings and oral presentations.

In this Portfolio, the Ab Initio course has been divided up into its various Themes (5) and Topics (20). For each topic a number of questions have been suggested. The questions range from basic to complex and you are encouraged to answer each one of these questions whilst using the vocabulary and grammar that you learn in your lessons.

This process of answering many questions allows you to familiarize yourself with the topic-specific vocabulary, to revise and practise the grammatical concepts learned and to provide personalized answers in writing and speaking. The creative nature of the Portfolio also allows for differentiation, where you can challenge yourself to provide detailed answers, to explore grammatical variations (eg tenses) and to set minimum requirements for yourself (eg “use at least three adjectives”).

The table on page 4 shows you the various applications of your Portfolio.

Applications of the Portfolio	Paper 1	Paper 2	Written Assignment	Individual Oral
Coverage of all the course topics	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vocabulary practice	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grammar practice		✓	✓	✓
Writing practice	✓	✓	✓	
Speaking practice				✓
Combining Portfolio paragraphs will lead to almost complete responses		✓	✓	✓
Cultural understanding	✓	✓	✓	✓

By the time you reach the end of the course, you will have a complete set of questions and answers that will, in various forms, be tested in your Individual Oral examination, your Paper I creative writing and your Paper 2 reading and listening comprehension exercises.

How do I use my Mandarin Portfolio ?

This Portfolio contains a comprehensive list of questions and answer options that have been grouped by theme and by topic.

Your task is to :

- find the questions that you cover as you progress through the Ab Initio course. For example, once you have covered part or all of the topic of “Eating and Drinking”, you should consult the Portfolio section on this topic;
- study the vocabulary and the grammar related to the topic in question before attempting to answer all the relevant questions;
- study the many answer options that have been given and select the ones that apply to your personal situation. From these options, construct your answers in a personalized manner. For example, when you describe yourself, simply select the features that correspond with what you look like. Of course, you are free to add more features or to change what needs to be changed;
- practise your writing but also your speaking : read the questions and the answer options out loud, draft your answer paragraph and learn how to say that paragraph;
- keep up to date with your course. As soon as you have covered a certain topic, or parts thereof, you should work on the corresponding questions. This will prevent your independent work from building up beyond manageable levels. Always remember that a new language is learned on a daily basis, not on the eve of the examination ...
- add your own additional questions at the end of each section. We do not claim to have produced an exhaustive list of questions.
- work progressively from the pinyin section to the non-pinyin section.

Portfolio example

- When you are being asked

nǐ kěyǐ miáoshù yíxià nǐ de fángzi gōngyù ma
 «你 可 以 描 述 一 下 你 的 房 子 / 公 寓 吗? » (Question 14)

you must not simply say that your house is big or small or that your flat has five rooms.

In order to fully utilise this question and show how much you have learned in Mandarin, you should differentiate between :

- whether your home is a house, an apartment, a chalet, a mansion
- whether your home is big or small
- whether your home is modern or not
- whether your home is near the city centre, in the suburbs or in the countryside
- whether there is one floor or more than one floor
- whether there is a garden or not
- whether there is a view of the mountains or of the town
- how many rooms there are in your home and which ones they are
- etc.

When describing your home, why not include a photo in your write-up, Powerpoint presentation or blog entry ? Be as creative and artistic as you can when working on your Portfolio – it is there for you to enjoy !

Possible formats of your Portfolio

Eventually your Portfolio will become a summary and a record of your language-learning experience. It is something you should celebrate and be proud of, so think of a way in which you can fully express yourself and revise best for your IB examinations.

Some options include :

- using an exercise book to prepare your answers in writing;
- working on a word-processed Portfolio;
- developing a blog;
- creating Powerpoint presentations;
- producing short video clips;
- etc.

Your teacher may also ask you to produce a combination of the above (and other) options.

The addition of visuals to some of the responses will provide a great creative touch and will, in many cases, also aid recognition and recollection of these responses. Furthermore, you may occasionally present parts of your Portfolio to your classmates, either as practice or as an assessment.

Remember, in order to stand out from the crowd and fully explore your linguistic ability, you must produce answer paragraphs that have a range of vocabulary, grammar and cultural content. Don't

be satisfied with one-word answers – they will not earn you good grades and they will limit the communication that you must establish with your audience.

Good luck !

Share the ways in which you use the Ab Initio Portfolio – as a classroom resource, an independent study resource, a differentiation resource or simply to learn a language you will use during your next holidays !

**Join one of our Language Ab Initio online communities
for further support and resources :**

For teachers :

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1081827915163033/>

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8447950>

For students :

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/500435416956563/>

PART 1



TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. Identities	p. 8
B. Experiences	p. 90
C. Human ingenuity	p. 152
D. Social organization	p. 188
E. Sharing the planet	p. 274
F. Additional questions	p. 304
Part 2 (no pinyin)	p. 310

shēn fèn

A. 身份

IDENTITIES

**CONTENT :**

A.1.	PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES	p. 9
A.2.	PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS	p. 41
A.3.	EATING AND DRINKING	p. 55
A.4.	PHYSICAL WELL-BEING	p. 76

g è r é n t è diǎn

A. 1. 个人特点

Personal attributes



nǐ hǎo ma

1. 你好吗?

wǒ hěn hǎo 我 很 好	xiè xiè nǐ 谢 谢 你	nǐ ne 你呢?
wǒ tǐnghǎo de 我 挺 好 的	xiè xiè 谢 谢	
wǒ juéde hǎo jí le 我 觉 得 好 极 了		
búcuò 不 错		
yìbānbān 一 般 般		
jīntiān wǒ juéde bú tài hǎo 今 天 我 觉 得 不 太 好		
jīntiān wǒ juéde hěnlèi 今 天 我 觉 得 很 累		

nǐ de míngzì shì jiào shénme

2. 你的名字是 / 叫什么?

wǒ de míngzì shì 我 的 名 字 是 / jiào 叫	Anna Christopher Daniela Ibrahim Suh Yoon
--	---

nǐ huì xiě nǐ de míngzì ma zěnyàng xiě nǐ de míngzì

3. 你会写你的名字吗? 怎样写你的名字?

wǒ huì xiě wǒ de míngzì 我 会 写 我 的 名 字	A-n-n-a C-h-r-i-s-t-o-p-h-e-r
wǒ de míngzì shì 我 的 名 字 是	D-a-n-i-e-l-a I-b-r-a-h-i-m S-u-h Y-o-o-n

nǐ de diànhuà hámǎ shì duōshǎo

4. 你的电话号码是多少?

wǒ de diànhuà hámǎ shì 我 的 电 话 号 码 是	1234 5678 876 54 321
---	-------------------------

j īng l ì j īngy à n

B. 经历、经验

EXPERIENCES



CONTENT :

B.1.	DAILY ROUTINE	p. 91
B.2.	LEISURE	p. 97
B.3.	HOLIDAYS	p. 123
B.4.	FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS	p. 143

r ì ch á ngsh ē ngh u ó

B. 1. 日常生活

Daily routine



nǐ kěyǐ shuō yì shuō nǐ rìcháng de yì tiān ma
32. 你 可 以 说 一 说 你 日 常 的 一 天 吗?

zhōu mò de 周 末 的 shí hou 时 候 shàng xué de 上 学 的 shí hou 时 候 xīngqī tiān 星 期 天 jiàqī lǐ 假 期 里	wǒ 我	tōngcháng 通 常 / jīngcháng 经 常 / chángcháng 常 常	liù diǎn 六 点 zǎoshàng qī diǎn bàn 早 上 七 点 半 zài chī zǎofàn qián 在 吃 早 饭 前 dàgài zhōngwǔ de shí hou 大 概 中 午 的 时 候 wǔfàn yǐ hòu 午 饭 以 后 xiàwǔ liǎng diǎn 下 午 两 点 xiàwǔ 下 午 wǎnfàn yǐ hòu 晚 饭 以 后 wǎnshàng 晚 上 shàngchuáng shuì jiào 上 床 睡 觉 qián 前	xǐng lái 醒 来 qǐ chuáng 起 床 chuānhǎo yīfu 穿 好 衣服 xǐzǎo 洗 澡 shuā yá 刷 牙 xǐ liǎn 洗 脸 chīfàn 吃 饭 hē chá 喝 茶 shàngcè suǒ 上 厕 所 tīng yì huì er yīnyuè 听 一 会 儿 音 乐 kàn yì huì er shū 看 一 会 儿 书
			wǎnshàng shí yī diǎn 晚 上 十 一 点	shuì jiào 睡 觉

r é n l è i chuàng z à o

C. 人类创造

HUMAN INGENUITY



CONTENT :

C.1.	TRANSPORT	p. 153
C.2.	ENTERTAINMENT	p. 165
C.3.	MEDIA	p. 174
C.4.	TECHNOLOGY	p. 184

sh è hu ì c é ngmì à n

D. 社会层面

SOCIAL ORGANIZATION



CONTENT :

D.1.	NEIGHBOURHOOD	p. 189
D.2.	EDUCATION	p. 213
D.3.	THE WORKPLACE	p. 251
D.4.	SOCIAL ISSUES	p. 263

d ì qí ú gòngxiǎng

E. 地球共享

SHARING THE PLANET



CONTENT :

E.1.	CLIMATE	p. 275
E.2.	PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY	p. 283
E.3.	ENVIRONMENT	p. 288
E.4.	GLOBAL ISSUES	p. 298

huán jìng

E. 3. 环境

Environment



dāng nǐ qù hǎitān shí nǐ xǐhuan zuò shénme
296. 当你去海滩时你喜欢做什么？

dāng wǒ 当我 qù hǎitān 去海滩 shí 时	wǒ xǐhuan 我喜欢 wǒ 我 chángcháng 常常 wǒ 我 tōngcháng 通常	fàngsōng zìjǐ bìng dú yīběn hǎo 放松自己，并读一本好 shū 书 huā yíduàn shíjiān sànbù 花一段时间散步 tī zúqiú huòzhě dǎ shātān páiqiú 踢足球或者打沙滩排球 tǎng zài shātān shàng shài tàiyáng 躺在沙滩上晒太阳 pāizhào wǒ xǐhuan pāi shātān shàng 拍照，我喜欢拍沙滩上 de rén hé rìchūrìluò de zhàopiàn 的人和日出日落的照片 bāngmáng jiǎnqǐ chōng shàng ànde 帮忙捡起冲上岸的 lājī 垃圾
xuéxiào huì zǔzhī wǒmen zhìshǎo yí gè yuè qù yí cì 学校会组织我们至少一个月去一次 hǎitān wǒmen huì huā yī zhěngtiān de shíjiān qīnglǐ ànbīān 海滩。我们会花一整天的时间清理岸边 de lājī wǒmen bǎ shātān shàng de lājī jiǎnqǐ lái rēng zài 的垃圾。我们把沙滩上的垃圾捡起来扔在 dàhézi lǐ dāngdì zhèngfǔ huì tígōng gěi wǒmen yí dùn miǎn 大盒子里，当地政府会提供给我们一顿免 fèi de wǔcān 费的午餐。		

PART 2

Part 2 of this Mandarin Ab Initio Portfolio contains all the same questions as Part 1, with the only difference being that you will now not find any pinyin transcriptions in the questions and answers.

Once you have practised the questions and answers in Part 1, using the pinyin, proceed to this second part so that you familiarize yourself with the characters without the help of pinyin.

Remember that in your final IB assessments there will be no pinyin either, so it is essential that you recognize, understand and master all these characters without pinyin transcriptions given.



A. 4. 身体健康

Physical well-being



20. 你今天/今天早上/今天下午觉得怎么样?

我很好	谢谢你	你呢?
我觉得有点紧张 我很着急 我觉得很开心 我不高兴 我很累 我今天早上胃疼 我昨天晚上没睡觉-整晚上都在想我的口语考试		

21. 当感觉不好的时候你做什么?

当感觉不好的时候	我会	请假休息 吃很多水果 去看医生 睡很多觉 走很长的路 听我最喜欢的音乐 喝很多水
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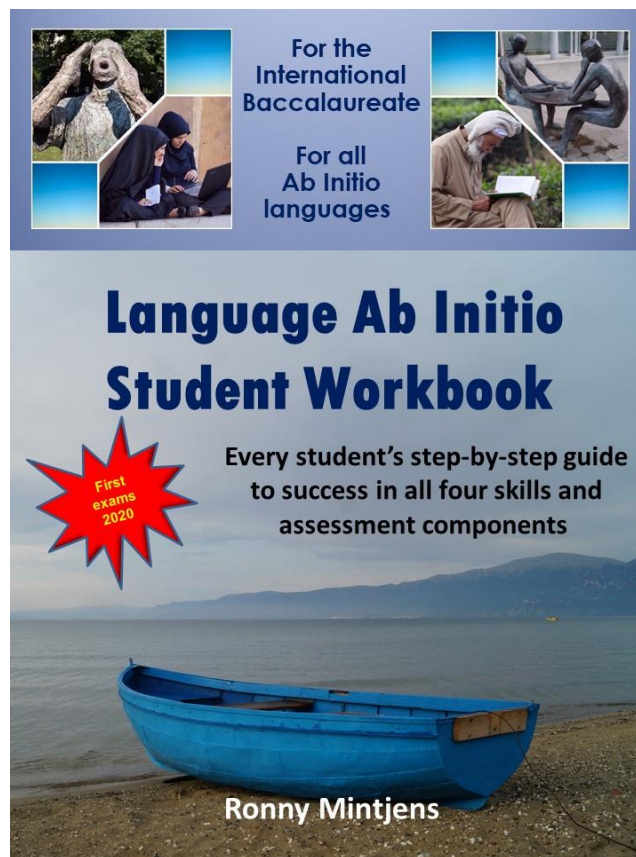
22. 为了保持体型,你喜欢吃什么?

为了保持体型	我吃	很多水果 瘦肉和蔬菜 低卡路里的食物 很多酸奶
	我	每天只吃两顿清淡的食物 喝燕麦粥 每天喝很多柠檬水

The Language Ab Initio Student Workbook

The Language Ab Initio Student Workbook covers all the components of this language acquisition course and provides a step-by-step guide to the various assessments. Each component is broken down into its various parts and plenty of advice and practice are provided in order to ensure that the student is fully prepared when it matters most. This workbook focuses on reading, writing, listening and speaking and is supported by online resources on the author's website (www.mihunlimited.com).

The introduction of a personal Portfolio helps the student create an ongoing record of their learning and allows them to manipulate the language according to the assessment tasks, the formats and the criteria. By making language learning fun and personal, the Ab Initio student will find a great deal of motivation to create, share and reflect on content and culture in the target language.



For more information, visit www.mihunlimited.com
 To place an order, please contact mihabinitio@gmail.com

ISBN 978-988-78756-6-6

Also by Ronny Mintjens

The Language Ab Initio Student Workbook

See description on page 22

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An autobiographical novel about the author's life in football and in foreign cultures – his journey from being a footballing toddler in Belgium, then a top division football player in Swaziland and Tanzania, and finally becoming the national youth team coach of Tanzania and Qatar

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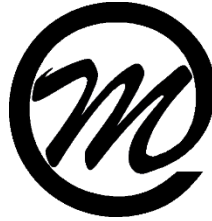
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Teachers of Language Ab Initio – join our teachers’ Facebook group to share, ask, answer and discuss :

“IB Ab Initio Language” - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1081827915163033/>

Join our mailing list for updates on new resources and special offers !

Students of Language Ab Initio – join our students’ Facebook group : “IB Language Ab Initio Student Community” - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/500435416956563/>

YouTube : MIH Productions -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdGm7OsXdpwS9kV7ifXm8Iw>

Instagram : @mihunlimited (for practice visual stimuli and updates on resources)

Twitter : @MIH Unlimited

Website : www.mihunlimited.com

Email : mihunlimited@gmail.com

Contact rmintjens@gmail.com for enquiries on :

- any of the above products
- consultancies on designing and implementing Group 1 and Group 2 Language programs
- consultancies on designing and writing a Language Policy
- consultancies on effective language teaching (Group 1 and Group 2)
- consultancies on Language A School-Supported Self-Taught
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