

RONNY MINTJENS

# My Mandarin

# Portfolio

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

THE IDEAL COMPANION FOR EVERY LEARNER OF THE MANDARIN LANGUAGE ...

*A Product of Mass Instruction*



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## My Mandarin Portfolio

**My Mandarin Portfolio** contains 333 questions and answer options that cover 20 language acquisition topics. 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.

The 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.

### **About the author**

Ronny Mintjens is a practising language acquisition teacher, examiner and workshop leader for the International Baccalaureate. He is the author of several resources for the various stages in language acquisition in six different languages. He is a language teacher workshop developer, a language acquisition and mother tongue consultant, a moderator for the IB Programme Communities, the Head of Languages at a world-renowned international school and a tireless advocate for mother tongue entitlement in international education. Beyond his life as a linguist, Ronny is a world traveller, 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. Dr Yan is an experienced and practising teacher, examiner, workshop leader and author of a wide variety of Mandarin language acquisition resources.

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## My Mandarin Portfolio

Welcome to your Mandarin Portfolio. This resource will help you turn your Mandarin language acquisition course into a personal journey and prepare you fully for the assessments.

### What is the Mandarin Portfolio ?

Every language acquisition 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 most common themes and topics of a language acquisition course :

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

Since the acquisition of a new language is an ongoing and organic process, you are encouraged to develop your personalized Mandarin **Portfolio**. The development of a Portfolio 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.

This Portfolio has been divided up into five themes and twenty topics. 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	Writing	Listening	Reading	Speaking
Coverage of all the course topics	√	√	√	√
Vocabulary practice	√	√	√	√
Grammar practice	√	√	√	√
Writing practice	√		√	
Speaking practice				√
Listening 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 various formative and summative assessments.

### **How do I use my Mandarin Portfolio ?**

This Portfolio workbook 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 language acquisition 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 test or 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 !

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 tests and 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 !

# PART 1



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shēn fèn

# A. 身份

**IDENTITIES****CONTENT :**

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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 tǐng hǎo de 我 挺 好 的	xiè xiè 谢 谢	
wǒ jué de hǎo jí le 我 觉 得 好 极 了		
bú cuò 不 错		
yì bān bān 一 般 般		
jīn tiān wǒ jué de bú tài hǎo 今 天 我 觉 得 不 太 好		
jīn tiān wǒ jué de hěn lèi 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 diànhuàhàomǎ shì duōshǎo

4. 你的电话号码是多少?

wǒ de diànhuàhàomǎ 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



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r ì chángshēnghuó

# B. 1. 日常生活

Daily routine



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

zhōu mò de 周 末 的	wǒ 我	tōngcháng / 通 常 /	liù diǎn 六 点	xǐng lái 醒 来
shí hou 时 候		jīngcháng / 经 常 /	zǎoshàng qī diǎn bàn 早 上 七 点 半	qǐ chuáng 起 床
shàng xué de 上 学 的		chángcháng 常 常	zài chī zǎo fàn qián 在 吃 早 饭 前	chuān hǎo yī fu 穿 好 衣 服
shí hou 时 候			dà gài zhōng wǔ de shí hou 大 概 中 午 的 时 候	xǐ zǎo 洗 澡
xīng qī tiān 星 期 天			wǔ fàn yǐ hòu 午 饭 以 后	shuā yá 刷 牙
jià qī lǐ 假 期 里			xià wǔ liǎng diǎn 下 午 两 点	xǐ liǎn 洗 脸
			xià wǔ 下 午	chī fàn 吃 饭
			wǎn fàn yǐ hòu 晚 饭 以 后	hē chá 喝 茶
			wǎn shàng 晚 上	shàng wǎn suǒ 上 厕 所
			shàng chuáng shuì jiào 上 床 睡 觉	tīng yì huì er yīnyuè 听 一 会 儿 音 乐
			qián 前	kàn yì huì er shū 看 一 会 儿 书
			wǎn shàng 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



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sh è hu ì c é ngmì à n

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SOCIAL ORGANIZATION



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d ì qí ú gò ngxi ǎ ng

# E. 地球共享

SHARING THE PLANET



## CONTENT :

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huán jì ng

# E. 3. 环境

# Environment



296. dāng nǐ qù hǎitān shí nǐ xǐhuan zuò shénme  
 当 你 去 海 滩 时 你 喜 欢 做 什 么 ？

<p>dāng wǒ          当 我          qù hǎitān          去 海 滩          shí          时</p>	<p>wǒ xǐhuan          我 喜 欢          wǒ          我          chángcháng          常 常          wǒ          我          tōngcháng          通 常</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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 ànbiān          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 yīdùn 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 。</p>		

## 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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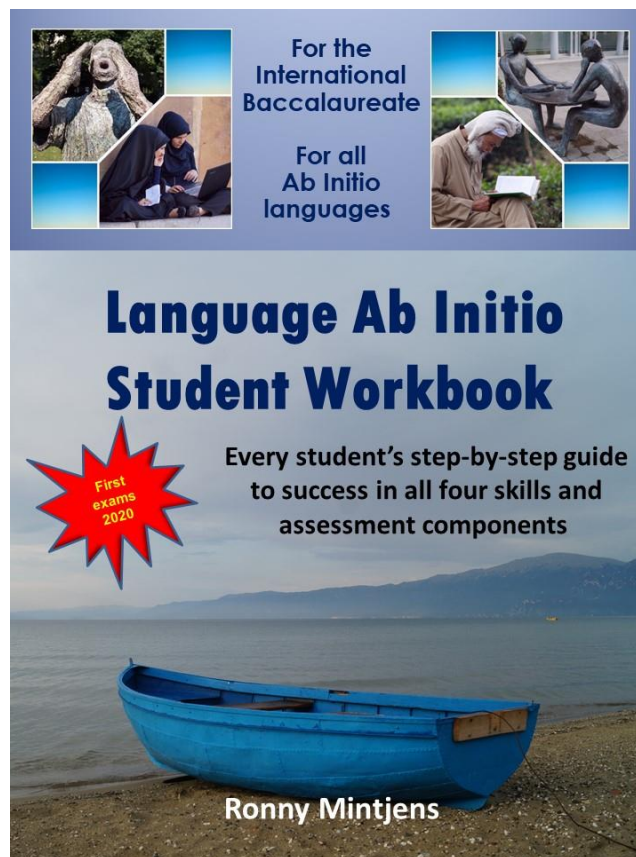
22. 为了保持体型,你喜欢吃什么?

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](http://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](http://www.mihunlimited.com)  
To place an order, please contact [mihabinitio@gmail.com](mailto:mihabinitio@gmail.com)

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**Also by Ronny Mintjens**

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