

Chinese name pronunciation and culture



By Karen Morgan

TRY to pronounce these names



Romanization created by British

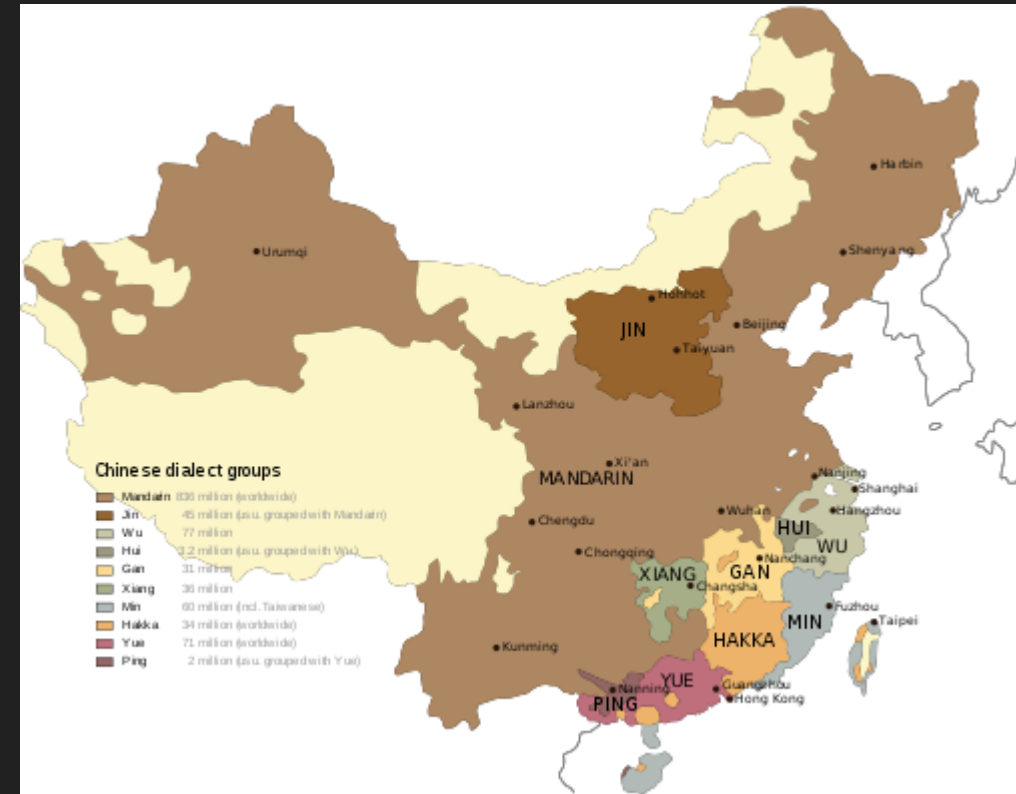
- Hsieh Cheng Hsun
- Chiang Kai-shek
- Chow Yun-fat
- Jay Chou

Han Yu Pin Yin created by Chinese

- Xie Cheng Xun. 謝承勳
- Jiang Jie Shi 蔣介石
- Zhou Run-Fa 周潤發
- Zhou Jie Lun 周杰倫

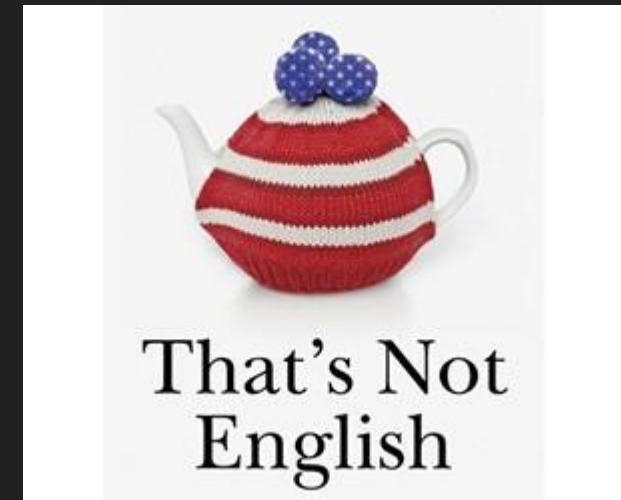
Features of Chinese Language

- Many dialects are mutually unintelligible
- A tonal language. Mandarin has 4 tones. The sound “yi” can represent the following characters which have different means: 一 依 醫 伊 衣 禱 漪 壹 揖
- Family name before given name, usually is consisted of 3 characters 余元玉 Yu, Yuan-Yu
- confusing recent trend
 - 習近平 Jinping Xi or Xi Jinping 禹璐 Lu Yu or Yu Lu
- A messy modern history of Romanization
- Younger generation likes to use their English name



General Rules to Han Yu Pin Yin

- Each Chinese character is a monosyllable, ending with vowels or nasalized vowels (an, ang, en, eng, ong), no consonants at the end of the syllabus. Therefore, Chinese vowels are pronounced with **longer** duration. Ni Hao ! (how are you)
- **a** is always pronounced like Spanish “a” **Vera Wang**
- **o** is always pronounced as “o” **kong**
- “**ao**” is like “ow” in DOW **bao**
- “**ui**” is like “way” **Rui**
- “**iu**” is like “yo” **xiu**
- “**i**” has 2 pronunciations **lin** vs. **shi**
- “**e**” has 2 pronunciations **le** vs. **lei, lie**



Some difficult pronunciations

Pin Yin

- Cao
- Cui
- Ji
- Jie
- Qi
- Xi
- xia
- Shi
- xu



Sounds like English

- Tsao
- Tray
- G
- Jay
- Chi in Tai Chi
- She
- shia
- Shih
- Shu...(be quiet)

Tell us your experiences interacting with Chinese friends or your Chinese Students

Old stereotype



New Stereotype



Chinese Culture

- Family-centered—easily affected by the change in their family
 - Grandparents raise grandchildren to let parents focus on work
 - When the parents divorce.....



Common Attitudes Among Chinese Students

- Avoid embarrassment—pretend they understand the conversation
- Conformity—group oriented, high peer-pressure
- Pragmatism—desire “practical degrees”
- Respect authority
 - Avoid confrontation—Maintain harmony and hierarchy
 - Show respect to teachers and officials
- Emphasize perseverance and diligence (not give up a major easily)
- When at fault, one tends to reflect on themselves first

Why Do Chinese Students Come to America?

They wanted
to escape
this.....



To freedom and happiness



And they see



Challenges Chinese Students Face in the U.S.

- Language barrier—interpret phrases literally, hard time understanding sarcasm/jokes, relying on their peers and Google Translate
- Unrealistic expectations of American college life (especially for Purdue)
- Lack information and guidance on majors
- Poor college preparation
 - More students coming to the US at younger age
 - More students study in the international schools or international division
- Mental Health Issues
 - Heavy pressure from family
 - Home sickness
- Peer pressure—taking courses together and living off campus (parties, drugs, etc)
- Money, money, money—want to start their business early, believing they can have all.

End of Presentation, ANY QUESTIONS?

