

CHAPTER 7

我是中國人

I am Chinese

Quizlet flashcards for this chapter can be found here:

<https://quizlet.com/8jpd5?x=1jqt&i=2f4qkn>

Page 33 – 34

Chinese	Pronunciation	Meaning	Spoken Cantonese
中國人	zung1 gwok3 jan4	Chinese (person)	
上課	soeng5 fo3	Have a lesson, attend class	soeng5 tong4 (上堂)
時	si4	When, while See Grammar Note 1	go2 zan6 si4 (嗰陣時)
老師	lou5 si1	Teacher	
同學們	tung4 hok6 mun4	Classmates	tung4 hok6 (同學)
誰	seoi4	Who?	bin1 go3 (邊個)
我們	ngo5 mun4	We	ngo5 dei6 (我哋)
不用	bat1 jung6	Need not, needn't	m4 sai2 (唔使)
想也不用想	soeng2 jaa5 bat1 jung6 soeng2	(We) didn't even need to think about it	nam2 dou1 m4 sai2 nam2 (諗都唔使諗)
舉起	geoi2 hei2	Raise, put up	
手	sau2	Hand	
為什麼	wai4 sam6 mo1	Why?	dim2 gaai2 (點解)
你	nei5	You	

Chinese	Pronunciation	Meaning	Spoken Cantonese
能	nang4	Can, able to	
理由	lei5 jau4	Reason	
思華	si1 waa4	Somebody's name	
因為	jan1 wai4	Because	
頭髮	tau4 faat3	Hair (on the head)	
黃	wong4	Yellow	
皮膚	pei4 fu1	Skin	
所以	so2 ji5	So, therefore	
國強	gwok3 koeng4	Somebody's name	
我寫的	ngo5 se2 dik1	What I write See Grammar Note 2	ngo5 se2 ge3 (我寫嘅)
家欣	gaa1 jan1	Somebody's name	
當然	dong1 jin4	Of course	
子龍	zi2 lung4	Somebody's name	
香港	hoeng1 gong2	Hong Kong	
出生	ceot1 saang1	Be born	ceot1 sai3 (出世)
部分	bou6 fan6	Part	
微笑	mei4 siu3	Smile	
微笑地	mei4 siu3 dei6	With a smile, smilingly	siu3 zyu6 (笑住)
點頭	dim2 tau4	Nod one's head	
大家	daai6 gaa1	All of us, everybody	

Grammar Notes

1. Unlike English “when”, Chinese 時 (si4), as well as other time words such as 後 (hau6) “after” and 前 (cin4) “before”, go **after** the phrases they refer to **not in front** of them.

Eg:

我五歲時 (ngo5 ng5 seoi3 si4) **When** I was five years old
我五歲前 (ngo5 ng5 seoi3 cin4) **Before** I was five years old.

2. We can put 的是 (dik1 si6) after a phrase to change a sentence similarly to the way we can change English sentences using “what ... is/are”. For example:

我寫中國字 (ngo5 se2 zung1 gwok3 zi6).

I write Chinese characters.

我寫的是中國字(ngo5 se2 dik1 si6 zung1 gwok3 zi6).

What I write are Chinese characters.

我說中國話 (ngo5 syut3 zung1 gwok3 waa6).

I speak Chinese.

我說的是中國話 (ngo5 syut3 dik1 si6 zung1 gwok3 waa6).

What I speak is Chinese.

Translation

I am Chinese

During class, teacher asked us: “Classmates, who (of you) are Chinese?” Without even needing to think about it, we all put up our hands.

Teacher then asked: “Why are you Chinese? Who can explain the reasons?”

Si Wa said: “Because I have black eyes, black hair and yellow skin, so I am Chinese.”

Gwok Koeng said: “What I write are Chinese characters and what I speak is Chinese.”

Ga Jan said: “My Dad and my Mum are Chinese. Of course, I am Chinese!”

Zi Lung said : “I was born in Hong Kong, Hong Kong is a part of China, so I am Chinese.”

Teacher smiled, nodded his head and said: “You all spoke well, we are all Chinese.”