

PART 1 Duihua  
(Dialogue)

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KÈQIHUÀ GĒN SÚHUÀ

Yǒu yítian Mǎ Dàwéi gēn Lǐ Yǒunián tánqī Zhōngguó de kèqihuà gēn sùhuà lái le.

Mǎ: Nín kàn, chángyòng de Zhōngguó huà wǒ chàbùduō dōu huì shuō le, kěshi Zhōngguó de kèqihuà yǒude wǒ hái shì búdà huì yòng.

Lǐ: Nín tài kèqī. Wǒ juéde nín huì de bùshǎo. Bīfang shuō, xiàng "xièxie," "duìbuqǐ," "bàoqiàn," "lǎojià," "jièguāng," nín dōu yòngde hěn duì. Jìùshi shénme "guòjiǎng" a, "jiǔyǎng" a, "bùgǎndāng" a, nín búshì yě cháng shuō ma?

Mǎ: Duì le, zhèi lèi de huà dàoshì hěn shǎo shuōcuò. Kěshi xiàng "shāngguāng," "fùshang," "lǐngjiào," zhèi yí lèi de huà wǒ jiù búdà huì yòng le.

Lǐ: Búguò yǒuxie kèqihuà, jiěfàng yǐhou jiù búdà yòng le. Bīfang shuō, jiěfàng yǐqián, gēn rén tídao zìjǐ tàitai de shíhou shuō "nèirén." xiànzài chàbùduō dōu shuō "wǒ àiren."

Mǎ: Wǒ yě tīngshuō yǒu xiē chēnghu dōu gǎi le. Tándào kèqihuà, wǒ xiǎngqǐ yíjù Zhōngguó sùhuà, "Lǐ duō rén búguài."

Lǐ: Suǐrán dōu nème shuō, yàoshi kèqihuà yòng de tài duō le, dào hǎoxiàng yǒudiǎnr jiǎ le.

Mǎ: Yidiǎnr yě búcuò.

Lǐ: Yǒuxie kèqihuà gēn fēngsù xíguàn yǒu hěn dà de guānxi. Bīfang shuō, péngyou guò shēngrì, nín kéyì shuō "shēngrì kuàilè!" Kěshi duì lǎonián rén, zuìhǎo shuō "Bàishòu, bàishòu!" Yàoshi yǒurén jiéhūn huòshi shēng háizi, nín gēn tāmen shuō "Gōngxī, gōngxī!" Guònián de shíhou shuō "Xīnnián hǎo!" "Gōngxī fācái!" Kèren lái le shuō "Huānyíng, huānyíng!" Zhèixie kètào, yīnwei fēngsù xíguàn gèguó dōu chàbuduō, xuéqilai jìbù bǐjiào róngyì.

Mǎ: Nín shuō de hěn yǒu dào lǐ.

Lǐ: Yǒude shíhou, yīnwei fēngsù xíguàn bùtóng, huòshi shuōfǎ wánquán bù yíyàng, nà jiù bǐjiào nán le.

Mǎ: Zhèi fāngmiàn qǐng nín duō gěi wǒ jiǎngjiang, kéyì ma?

Lǐ: Hǎo de. Bīfang shuō, nín cóng péngyou jiālì chūlai, nín de péngyou sòngdào ménkǒu, nín kéyì shuō "Bié sòng le." huòshi "Qīnghuī," yàoshi nín sòng péngyou, nín kéyì shuō "Màn zǒu, wǒ bù yuǎn sòng le." "Zài jiā qīngkè chīfàn de shíhou, wǒmen cháng shuō "Méi shénme cài," huòshi "Jiāndānde hěn." Zài kèren zǒude shíhou shuō "Dàimàn, dàimàn." Zhèi lèi huà dōu hǎoxiàng bǐjiào nán yidiǎnr.

Mǎ: Kěshì fēicháng yǒuyòng. Wǒ chàbuduō dōu tīngjianguo, kěxī méi dōu jīzhù. Dēng yīhuìr, wǒ yào xiěxialai. Hái yǒu xiē sùhuà wǒ yě xiǎng xué, xiàng "Yīhuì shēng, liǎnghuì shǒu," "Huódào lǎo, xuédào lǎo," shénmede, búdàn hén yǒu yìsi, yíyì yě hěn shēn.

Lǐ: Shì de. Zhèi yàng de huà, nín dàgài yě huì bùshǎo le ba?

Mǎ: Shǎode kělián. Suóyì dào gāi yòng de shíhou jiù bùzhīdào shuō shénme hǎo le.

Lǐ: Duì le. Xiàng zhèiyàng de huà kě duō le. Yàoshi yòngcuò le jiù huì chū xiàohuà.

Mǎ: Yǒu yì jù sùhuà ràng wǒ gěi gǎi le. Nín tīngting kan zěnmeyàng: "Tiān búpà, dì búpà, jiù pà yángguǐzi shuō Zhōngguo huà."

Lǐ: (Dàxiào) Nín gǎide zhēn yǒu yìsi! Lián kāi wánxiào dōu méi wèntí le, zěnméi hái néng suàn shì yángguǐzi ne?

Mǎ: Wǒ zhè shì dōng yì jù, xī yì jù, suíbiàn luàn shuō. Nín kě bié xiàohuà wǒ. Yǒu rén shuō "shuōhuà róngyì, zuòshì nán." Wǒ kàn shuōhuà yě bújiānde róngyì.

Lǐ: Dìquè shì zhèiyàng. Yíge rén yàoshi xiǎng shénme jiù shuō shénme, nà hái suàn róngyì. Yàoshi shuōhuà de shíhou yòu yào zhùyì lǐmào, yòu yào zhùyì fēngsù xíguàn, zài jiāshàng shuōchū huà lai, pà rén tīngzhe bùshūfu, nà kě jiù gèng nán le.

Mǎ: Kě búshi ma. Wǒ zhèige rén xiànglǎi shì xīnzhí kǒukuài.  
Gēn shóurén zài yíkuàir suíbiàn liáotiānr, hái méi shénme  
guānxi, kěshi yíjiànzhao shēngrén, bié shuō shì Zhōngguó huà  
le, jìushi Yīngwén yě bùzhīdào shuō shénme hǎo le. Yǒu yíjù  
Zhōngguó sùhuà shuō "Huì de bùrán, nán de bùhuì." wǒ  
rènwei hěn yǒu dàoǐ. Wǒ juéde nán, shì yīnwèi wǒ bùhuì.

Lǐ: Nín yǒu kèqǐ le. Měiguó rén duì shuō huà duōbàn dōu hěn  
zhùyì. Píngcháng liànxí de jǐhuì yě duō, suǒyǐ tāmen hěn  
néng bǐdà zìjǐ de yìsi.

Mǎ: Nà yě děi kàn shì shénme rén. Huà shuōde bù qīngchu,  
húlihtu de rén yě bùshǎo.

Lǐ: Yǒuxie Zhōngguó de sùhuà gēn Měiguó de chàbùduō. Bùzhīdào  
nín zhùyì le méiyǒu?

Mǎ: Shì yǒu zhèiyàng de sùhuà. Bīfang shuō "Shuō Cáo Cáo,  
Cáo Cáo jìù dào."

Lǐ: Yàoshi néng bǐ zhèi lèi de huà dōu xiěxialai, yídīng hěn yǒu  
yìsi.

Mǎ: Yǒu méiyǒu zhèi lèi de shù?

Lǐ: Kěnéng yǒu. Wǒmen kěyǐ dào shūdiàn huòshi túshūquǎn qu  
wènwen.

Mǎ: Rúguǒ méiyǒu de huà, nín bùfāng xiě yībēn.

Lǐ: Wǒ bùxíng. Wǒ zhīdao de búgòu. Wǒ kàn nín tíng yǒu xíngqu,  
nín xiě ba.

Mǎ: Wǒ xiě? Nà děi xiědao nēi nián na?

Lǐ: Sùhuà shuō "Búpà màn, jiù pà zhàn." Mǎnmǎnr lái, yidiǎnr  
yidiǎnrde xiě. Zhǐyào bú "zhànzhù," zǎowǎn néng xiěchu  
yìběn shū lai.

Mǎ: Yǒudàoli. "Jǐ shǎo chéng duō," "Pàngzi búshì yìkǒu chǐ de."  
Dui budui?

## PART 2 Cíyǔ Yòngfǎ (Word Usage)



1. sùhuà/sùyǔ(r) N: proverb, common saying  
(M: -jù)  
Sùyǔ/sùhuà shuō: "Huì de bùrán, nán de bùhuì."
2. lèi M: kind, class, category  
Wǒ búyuànyì gēn zhèi lèi rén shuōhuà.
3. língjiào V: to be taught, to get  
instruction, to get advice  
(a polite way of asking for  
advice)  
Wǒ yǒu yíge wèntí gēn nín língjiào. língjiào.
4. chēnghu V/N: to call, to address/form of  
address  
Zhōngguó rén chēnghu jiějie de xiānsheng "jiěfu."
5. lǐ N: courtesy, ceremony, gift,  
present  
lǐwù N: gift, present  
sònglǐ VO: to give gifts  
lǐmào N: manners, courtesy  
yǒulǐmào SV: be polite, have manners  
a. Lǐ qīng rényì zhòng.  
b. Nèige háizi hěn yǒulǐmào.  
c. Wòshǒu shì yí zhǒng hěn píngcháng de lǐmào.
6. guài V/SV: to blame/be offended at, be  
strange, be queer, be odd  
guàibudé A: no wonder

nánguài

A: no wonder

a. Yàoshi wǒ shuō cuòle huà, nǐn bié guài wǒ.

b. Nèige rén zhēn guài.

c. Lǐ duō rén búguài.

7. jiǎ

SV: be false

Tāde húzi shì jiǎ de.

8. guò

V: to celebrate

guò shēngri

VO: to celebrate a birthday

guònián

VO: to celebrate the new year

guòjié

VO: to celebrate a festival

9. kuàilè

SV: be happy, be joyful

10. jié

N: festival

11. bàishòu

IE: to offer birthday wishes

bàinián

IE: to wish somebody happy new year

12. xī

SV: be happy, be delighted, be pleased

dàoxī

VO: to congratulate somebody on a happy occasion

gōngxī

IE: congratulations

gōngxī fācái

IE: congratulations and be prosperous (a traditional lunar new year greeting)

13. búsong

IE: I won't accompany you further. (said by host)

bié sòng

IE: Don't accompany me further. (said by guest only)

14. qīnghuí

IE: Please return. (said by guest)

15. dàimàn

IE: I have been a poor host.  
(to a friend at the close of a party)

16. yángguǐzi

N: foreign devil (a term used for foreign invaders)

Tiān búpà, dǐ búpà, jiù pà yángguǐzi shuō Zhōngguó huà.

17. kāi wánxiào

VO: to make fun of, to crack a joke

Nín bié gēn tā kāi wánxiào.

18. díquè

A: really, indeed

19. xīnzhí kǒukuài

SV: be frank and outspoken

20. liáotiānr

V: to chat

21. biǎodá

V: to express, to convey

Wǒmen yīngdāng bǎ dàjiā de yìsī biǎodá gěi shàngtōu.

22. Cáo Cāo

N: Cao Cao, 150-220 (a ruler of the kingdom of Wei during the Three Kingdoms' period)

Shuō Cáo Cāo, Cáo Cāo jiù dào.

23. zǎowǎn

A: sooner or later

Tā zǎowǎn yào dào Zhōngguó qù.

24. jǐshǎo chéngduō

IE: Many drops make a shower.



25. -kǒu

M: mouthful, measure for  
persons

yīkǒu fàn

PH: a mouthful of rice

a. Tā jiā yǒu jīkǒu(r) rén?

b. Pàngzi búshì yīkǒu chǐ de.

26. mǎhu

SV: be careless, not serious  
minded

māmāhūhū

SV: be careless, be casual,  
be fair, not so bad

Tā xiànglái shì māmāhūhū.

## PART 3 Júzi Gòuzào (Sentence Structure)



### Translating Conventional Courtesy Remarks

In languages as diverse as English and Chinese, polite usages and small talk are things which cannot be satisfactorily translated word by word, or even sentence by sentence. The question, then, is not so much, "How do I say this in Chinese?" as, "What would a Chinese say in this situation?"

The following conversations, which contain courtesy remarks typical in a Chinese social gathering, cannot be translated phrase for phrase. In some situations, the courtesy remark is better left unsaid -- it simply wouldn't be uttered in a similar Chinese situation.

The passages are examples of Chinese social expressions. Students should keep in mind that polite usage varies from individual to individual.

Mr. Chén: Mr. Wèi, I'd like you to meet my friend, Mr. Liú.	Chén Xs: Wèi Xiānsheng, wǒ gěi nín jièshào yíge péngyou, zhèi wèi shì Liú Xiānsheng.
Mr. Wèi: How do you do, Mr. Liú. I have heard about you for a long time.	Wèi Xs: Liú xiānsheng, jiǔ-yǎng, jiǔyǎng.
Mr. Liú: Same here, Mr. Wèi.	Liú Xs: Wèi Xiānsheng, bǐcǐ, bǐcǐ. (lit., "mutually")
Mr. Wèi: Please, come in and make yourself at home. This is a (informal) birthday party in honor of Mr. Chén here. It's very nice to have you join us. I'm sure you will find plenty of people with whom you're acquainted.	Wèi Xs: Qǐng jìnlai suíbiàn zuò. Jīntiān wǒmen zài zhèr gěi Chén Xiānsheng zhùghòu. Nín lái cānjiā wǒmen fēicháng huānyíng. Zhèr yíding yǒu nín bùshǎo shù péngyou.
Mr. Chén: Mr. Wèi, you really shouldn't have done this. You have put yourself to a great deal of trouble.	Chén Xs: Zhēnshi bùgǎndāng, Wèi Xiānsheng tài máfan nimen le.

Mr. Wèi: (That's all right.) You deserve it. Happy birthday to you. And now will you be so good as to take Mr. Liú in and introduce him to the people inside? I must get back to the door and greet the people who have just arrived.

...

(Later, in the reception hall)

Mrs. Wèi: (To a servant) Serve the drinks now please. (To the guests) Will you all help yourselves please. Won't you have some more?

Mr. Xiè: After you please. This drink is delicious. May I ask what brand it is?

Mrs. Wèi: Mr. Wèi brought it from France. I'm glad you like it.

Servant: Dinner is served.

Mrs. Wèi: Shall we all go out to the dining room?

(After all are seated in the dining room)

Mrs. Wèi: Which kind of meat would you prefer, or would you like some of each?

Mrs. Xiè: I beg your pardon?

Mrs. Wèi: Which one do you prefer?

Wèi Xs: Zhèi shì yǐngdāng de. Gěi nín bàishòu. Qīng nín péi Liú Xiānshēng dào lǐtōu qù, gěi tā jièshāojièshāo. Wǒ dào ménkǒu qù kànkàn, yǒu yǒu shéi lái le.

...

(Guòle yíhuìr zài kètīnglǐ)

Wèi Tt: (Duì yònggrén) Nà jiù lái ba. (Duì kèrén) Qīng suíbiàn, zìjǐ lái, bié kèqǐ. Nín zài lái diǎnr.

Xiè Xs: Nín xiān lái. Zhèi jiù zhēn hǎo. Shì shénme páizi de?

Wèi Tt: Shì Wèi Xiānshēng cóng Fǎguó dàilái de. Nín xǐhuan, qīng duō hé diǎnr.

Yònggrén: Fàn hǎo le.

Wèi Tt: Qīng dōu dào fàntīng zuò ba.

(Zài fàntīnglǐ dōu zuòhǎole yǐhòu)

Wèi Tt: Nín xǐhuan nēige cài, hǎishì yíyàngr yào yí-diǎnr?

Xiè Tt: Duìbuqǐ, nín shuō shénme?

Wèi Tt: Nín yào nēige cài?

Mrs. Xiè: A little of the fried chicken, if you please.

...

Mr. Liú: Mr. Wèi, may I ask a favor of you? Perhaps this isn't the proper time for such matters, but I want to take advantage of the opportunity.

Mr. Wèi: Go right ahead, Mr. Liú. What can I do for you?

Mr. Liú: ... I shall be everlastingly obliged to you if you can do this.

Mr. Wèi: That's nothing at all. It will be a pleasure to do it for you.

Mr. Liú: You are so obliging. I appreciate it very much.

Mr. Wèi: The pleasure is all mine.

...

Mrs. Wèi: Mrs. Lín, which kind of ice cream would you like? This is coffee, and this is orange.

Mrs. Lín: Thank you, Mrs. Wèi, but if you will pardon me, I won't take any dessert. It has been so appetizing a meal that I have had more than enough already.

...

Xiè Tt: Qīng nín gěi wǒ diǎnr nèige zhǎji.

...

Liú Xs: Wèi Xiānsheng, wǒ xiàng qiú nín diǎnr shí. Yěxǔ wǒ bùyīng-gāi zhèige shíhou shuō, kěshì wǒ pà guò yihuīr wàng le.

Wèi Xs: Nín shuō ba. Méi guānxi.

Liú Xs: ... Yàoshi nín néng bāng zhèige máng, nà zhēn tài hǎo le.

Wèi Xs: Méi shénme. Nín bú-yòng kèqǐ. Wǒ yídīng gěi nín bàn.

Liú Xs: Nín zènme kěn bāngmáng, Zhēn xièxie nín.

Wèi Xs: (Smiles appreciatively)

...

Wèi Tt: Lín tàitai, nín yào nǐ yàng de bīngqí-lín? Yǒu kāfēi de gēn júzi de.

Lín Tt: Xièxie nín. Duìbuqǐ, wǒ shénme dōu chībuxià le. Cài tài hǎo le. Wǒ zhǐ de hěn bǎo.

...

- Mr. Chén: Mr. Liú, I think we'd better be going, don't you?
- Mr. Liú: Let's see. It's 10:30. Would it be polite for us to leave so soon?
- Mr. Chén: Oh, this isn't a formal occasion. We can leave any time we like. Besides, Mr. and Mrs. Wèi will understand that we have a long way to go to get home.
- Mr. Liú: Just as you say. (Stepping up to Mrs. Wèi) Mrs. Wèi, this has been a delightful evening, and it was very good of you to welcome a stranger to your party.
- Mrs. Wèi: I'm so glad you could be with us, Mr. Liú. It's been a pleasure meeting you, and I trust you will come to see us again when there aren't so many people and we can get really acquainted. Good night, Mr. Liú.
- Mr. Liú: Good night, Mrs. Wèi. I certainly shall. Good night, Mr. Wèi.
- Mr. Wèi: Good night, Mr. Liú. I'm so glad Mr. Chén brought you. We must see more of each other.
- Chén Xs: Liú Xiānsheng, wǒ xiǎng wǒmen děi zǒu le ba?
- Liú Xs: Wǒ kànkàn. Shí diǎn bàn. Zěnmé zǎo zǒu búdá hǎoyìsi ba?
- Chén Xs: Búyàojiàn. Dōu shì shù péngyou. Shénme shíhou zǒu dōu xíng. Wǒmen zhù de dìfang yuǎn, tamen dōu zhīdao.
- Liú Xs: Hǎo, tǐng nǐde ba. (Zǒu guòqu gēn Wèi Tàitai shuō.) Wèi Tàitai, duōxiè. Jīntiān wǎnshàng de cài zhēnshì hǎo jí le. Nín kàn, méiqīng wǒ jiù lái le, zhēn bùhǎoyìsi.
- Wèi Tt: Nǐ de huà! Nándé nín jīntiān wǎnshàng yǒu gōngfu lái. Kěxǐ rén tài duō, méinéng gēn nín hǎohàorde tán. Yǒu gōngfu qīng nín yīdīng zài guòlái tántan. Zàijiàn, Liú Xiānsheng.
- Liú Xs: Hǎo, yīdīng, yīdīng. Zàijiàn, zàijiàn. Wèi Xiānsheng, zàijiàn.
- Wèi Xs: Liú Xiānsheng, zàijiàn. Jīntiān nín néng shàngguāng gēn Chén Xiānsheng yīkuàir lái, zhēnshì hǎojíle. Yǐhòu hái yào duō gēn nín qīngjiào ne.

Mr. Chén: Good night to both of you. I've had an awfully good time, and thank you ever so much for giving me such a lovely party.

Mrs. Wèi: Do come and see us. And thank you for coming.

Chén Xs: Zhēnshi tài xièxie nǐmen le, jīntiān wǎnshang wèi wǒ zhème fèishì. Zàijiàn; duōxiè, duōxiè. Nín qīnghuī ba.

Wèi Tt: Yǒu gōngfu qīng lái wǎnr. Mǎnzǒu, mǎnzǒu.