

Chinese Vocabulary

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
adtu	繪 [Japanese]	painting (from kanji for silk)	[E]	Pictophonetic. Before paper, painting was on silk.
ef	漢字 [in Japanese]	literally - Chinese character	[kanji]	[Kanji in Japanese]
pr ʱ	日本 [Japanese word]	Japan	[Nihon (or Nippon)]	“origin (source) of the sun”
rr	森林浴 [Japanese phrase]	Forest Bath	[Shinrin ' yoku]	“forest bath” [Senlinyu in Chinese with same meaning]
ㄉ	書道半紙 [Japanese]	calligraphy paper (half-sized)	[Shodō hanshi]	calligraphy (the way of writing) half paper
adtu	水墨画 [Japanese] 水墨画 Shuǐmòhuà - Chinese	ink wash painting [water ink painting]	[Suibokuga]	Name for sumi-e borrowed from China. 水墨画 Shuǐmòhuà in Chinese
adtu	墨絵 [Japanese] one word	ink (black ink) painting 墨 can mean ink when combined with other kanji but usually black ink when alone	[Sumi-e]	In Chinese 墨 Mò - ink. 绘 - a radical - not a word. 绘 - Huì “painted,” “to paint”
j	幽玄 [Japanese] one word	Considered untranslatable. A PROFOUND, MYSTERIOUS SENSE OF THE BEAUTY OF THE UNIVERSE that triggers a deep emotional response (often tranquility) that no words can ever fully express. 幽 - pictograph of a very small mountain. (a distant place of peace and tranquility) 玄 - pictograph of tiny (silk thread) in the figurative sense of hard to see or discern with the symbol of a cover on top of it. (mysterious, profound)	[Yugen]	幽玄 - in Chinese (Yōu xuán), is 2 words simply meaning profound tranquility. The Japanese borrowed these kanji to express their more complex concept of Yugen.
ʌ	唉	Oh! Alas!	Āi	pictophonetic. mouth suggests
ʌ	爱 (悉 - archaic) (爱情 n.)	love, to love, like (love n.)	Ài (Àiqíng)	pictophonetic. Radicals: claw, cover, left, right hand. Trad. character included “heart” (love feeling)
ʌ θ	爱上	fall in love with	Ài shàng	“love upon”
ʌ μ	爱心	compassion	Àixīn	love heart
φ 一	安 (安全)	safe, tranquil; to install (safe, safety)	Ān (ānquán)	radicals: roof over woman (all safe)
λ	八	eight (& radical)	Bā	[hachi - Japanese]
Ω	巴 (almost always as a radical)	wish, hope for, desire, be close to (& radical)	Bā, ba	a kneeling figure
ʼpp	百	hundred	Bǎi	pictophonetic: 一 suggests meaning [hyaku - Japanese]
ppΩ	白 (白色)	white, bright, pure (& radical) (white color)	Bái (báisè)	color of mourning
pp	白白	in vain	Báibái	white white
pp	白天	daytime	Báitiān	bright sky
Ω	白银	silver <metal>	Báiyín	bright silver
ㄉ	半	half	Bàn	originally: bank between fields
ㄉ	半熟宣	half-baked xuan	Bànshú xuān	half baked xuan - half sized xuan paper
ɹ	宝	treasure, precious	Bǎo	jade under lid

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𠄎	暴 (暴力)	violent	Bào (bàolì)	originally, antler of a buck (violent power)
貝	贝 (貝 traditional)	shell, money (& radical)	Bèi	Picture of a shell - used as money in ancient China
㇀	杯 (杯子)	cup, glass (Measure word for things that come in glass)	Bēi. (bēizi)	“not water”
丷	北方	North	Běifāng	“north direction”
木	本	origin, source, this, root (book) (& radical) Measure Word for books & magazines.	Běn	a tree with mark pointing to roots
匕	匕	dagger, ladle	Bǐ	picture of spoon
竹	笔 (铅笔)	pen, writing brush, pencil (pencil)	Bǐ (qiānbǐ)	bamboo + hair (lead pen)
不	不	not (& radical)	Bù	a seed putting roots into ground
部	部	unit, part	Bù	pictophonetic - city (on right) suggests meaning
部	部首 or 部首字	radical (character)	Bù shǒu, Bù shǒu Zì	“chief unit”
不是	不是	no (not is OR not yes)	Bùshì	not is
彩	彩	color (bright color)	Cǎi	gather hair
艸	艸, 艸	grass radical	cǎo	picture of grass
草	草	grass, straw	cǎo	pictophonetic - 艸 suggest meaning. [cào is vulgar]
草草	草草	carelessly	cǎocǎo	straw straw
茶	茶	tea	Chá	person harvesting leaves (grass) from a plant (tree)
长 (長 - trad.)	长 (長 - trad.)	long (& radical)	Cháng	picture of person with long hair and walking stick
厂	厂	cliff, slope, factory (& radical)	Chǎng	picture of a cliff
昌	昌	prosperous	Chāng	sun over sun
長卷書畫紙 (长卷书画纸)	長卷書畫紙 (长卷书画纸)	long roll (scroll) calligraphy & painting paper	Chángjuǎn shūhuà zhǐ	traditional characters
中	中	sprout (radical)	Chè	picture of a sprout
车 (車 traditional)	车 (車 traditional)	vehicle, car (& radical)	Chē	pictographic - cart
尘 (灰尘)	尘 (灰尘)	dust, dirt	Chén (huīchén)	radicals: small over earth (gray-dust dirt)
橙 (橙色)	橙 (橙色)	orange (color, tree & fruit)	Chéng (Chéngsè)	pictophonetic- tree suggests meaning. color-good fortune
赤 (赤色)	赤 (赤色)	scarlet red; naked	Chì (Chìsè)	person on fire
绸	绸	silk	Chóu	pictophonetic: silk suggests
楮	楮	paper mulberry; (infrequent) paper	Chǔ {u is ü}	pictophonetic - tree suggests meaning

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
ㄩ	出 (出口)	go out, exit (& radical)	Chū {u is ü} (chūkǒu)	sprout coming out of container. The traditional character doesn't look like 2 mountains. (exit mouth)
ㄉ	楮纸	kozogami (Japanese Mulberry paper)	Chǔ zhǐ	Mulberry paper
ㄌ	船	ship	Chuán	pictophonetic. radicals: boat, son, mouth
丩	串	string, to string together (& radical)	Chuàn	two objects strung on rod
ㄨ	川	river, plain (& radical)	Chuān	picture of a river
ㄩ ㄛ	出口	exit	Chūkǒu	“go out of opening”
一	春	springtime	Chūn	“when plants grow with sun”
一	春天	spring (season)	Chūntiān	springtime sky
ㄩ	从	from	Cóng	one man follows another
一	寸	inch, thumb (& radical)	Cùn	hand with indicator mark
ㄇ	大	big (& radical)	Dà	person with arms spread wide
ㄇ	大大	greatly, significantly	Dàdà	great great
丩	刀 (刂 radical)	knife (& radical)	Dāo	picture of a knife
丶	道 道德经	way, path; way of virtue	Dào; Dàodé jīng Laozi (Lao Tzu)	man walking on a road
ㄇ ㄨ	大小	size	Dàxiǎo	large small
ㄇ	的	[ownership or attribution] of	De	pictophonetic
丶	德	virtue	Dé	“walk with a straight heart”
丶	息	virtue (radical)	Dé	“straight heart”
丩	电	electricity (& radical)	Diàn	trad. - stormy clouds with lightning below
丶	点	dot, dot character stroke	Diǎn	pictophonetic
丩	电话	telephone	Diànhuà	electric speech
丩	雕塑	sculpture	Diāosù	“carved shape”
宀	洞 (洞洞)	hole, cave	Dòng	pictophonetic. water suggests
ㄨ	东	East (& radical)	Dōng	radicals: one & small
ㄨ	东方	East	Dōngfāng	“east direction” 东 - sun rising behind tree
一	冬天; 冬	winter; wintertime	Dōngtiān	wintertime sky.
丶	短暂的	ephemeral, short-lived	Duǎnzàn de	“really temporarily short”

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
i	对	correct	Duì	radicals: right hand & thumb
ㄨ	多	many	Duō	“night (after) night”
㇇	朵 (耳朵)	blossom, flower, earlobe (ear)	Duǒ (Ěrduǒ)	flower growing on a plant (tree)
λ	二	two {used in counting} (& radical)	Èr	[ni - Japanese]
ㄩ	儿	son, child (& radical)	Ér (er - diminutive suffix)	In trad. character: picture of baby with ossification not closed.
㇇	耳 (耳朵)	ear (& radical)	Ěr (Ěrduǒ)	picture of ear (ear blossom)
D	法	rule, principle, law	Fǎ	radicals: water, earth, private
ㄣ	方	direction; square (adj.) (& radical)	Fāng	picture of knife handle
一	反射	reflection; to reflect	Fǎnshè	send out opposite
Ω	粉 (粉色)	powder; pink <with sé>	Fěn (Fěnsè)	pictophonetic: rice suggests meaning. 分 fēn knife - sound
ㄨ	风	wind (& radical)	Fēng	pictophonetic in traditional form
ㄝ	枫	maple	Fēng	tree wind
ㄣ	丰 (丰富)	rich, abundant (& radical)	Fēng (fēngfù)	picture of tree with abundant leaves (abundantly wealthy)
ㄨ	风暴	storm	Fēngbào	“violent wind”
d	风水	Feng Shui <wind water>	Fēngshuǐ	Arranging one's space to achieve harmony
ㄣ	丰田	Toyota (brand)	Fēngtián	“rich field”
ㄝ δ'	枫叶	maple leaf	Fēngyè	maple leaf
Ω	粉红 (粉色)	pink	Fěnhóng (Fěnhóngsè)	“red powder”
tt	阜 (阝 radical)	mound (& radical) (阝 on left of character means “mound”; on right means “city.”)	Fù	picture of hill with many steps
ㄣ	富 (丰富)	rich, wealthy	Fù (fēngfù)	wine in a house (abundantly wealthy)
σ	福 (幸福)	happiness, good fortune	Fú (Xìngfú)	radicals: pray, one, mouth, field (lucky good fortune)
l	夫 (丈夫 - husband)	husband, adult male (& radical)	Fū (zhàng fu)	one over big OR hairpin in big man's hair. (10 ft. male)
p ^ε	𠂇	sunset	Gàn	sun emptied
ε	干	tree trunk; oppose, offend	Gàn	picture of weapon
δ	甘	sweet	Gān	mouth with something in it
ε	干 (干燥)	dry, arid (& radical)	Gān (gānzáo)	picture of weapon (dry dry)
s	高	high, tall, expensive	Gāo	picture of tall building

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
s	高兴	happy	Gāoxìng	high eagerness
丩	个	individual, single (& radical) (measure word)	Gè	picture of single bamboo
艮	根	root	Gēn	pictophonetic - tree suggests meaning
工	工	work (& radical)	Gōng	picture of carpenter's square
宀	宫	palace, temple	Gōng	radicals: roof mouth mouth
公	公	public, equitable	Gōng	associative compound
工 亻	工人	worker	Gōngrén	person working
公 囗	公园	park	Gōngyuán {u is ü. a pronounced e}	public garden
鈎	钩	hook, hook on character stroke	Gōu	pictophonetic. gold suggests
骨	骨	bone (& radical)	Gǔ	picture of bones and removed flesh
古	古	ancient	Gǔ	ten mouths
广	广	wide (& radical)	Guǎng	picture of a house on cliff
光	光	light, brilliant, shine	Guāng	fire shining above man
古 老	古老	old, ancient	Gǔlǎo	ancient old
国	国	country, kingdom	Guó	proud gem
果 (水果)	果 (水果)	fruit (& radical)	Guǒ (shuǐguǒ)	field on a tree (water fruit)
旱 (干旱)	旱 (干旱)	drought	Hàn (gānhàn)	sun over dry (dry drought)
汉	汉	Chinese (language or people)	Hàn (named for a river)	pictophonetic. water suggests
汉字, 漢字	汉字, 漢字	Hanzi	Hànzì	"Chinese character"
好 (很好 - very good)	好 (很好 - very good)	good	Hǎo (hěnhǎo)	"woman with child"
和	和	and	Hé	radicals: grain & mouth
禾	禾	grain (& radical)	Hé	picture of top-heavy grain stalk
河 (河流)	河 (河流)	river (water radical on left)	Hé (héliú)	河 rarely used by itself; pictophonetic. (river stream)
褐 (褐色)	褐 (褐色)	brown <with sè> (most used, but interchangeable with 棕); by itself - coarse woolen cloth, dark, dull	Hè (Hèsè) <OR hé>	pictophonetic. Clothes suggests.
黑 (橙色) [黒 - Japanese]	黑 (橙色) [黒 - Japanese]	black, dark; evil, sinister	Hēi [Kuro - Japanese]	Ancient glyph was a person with face blackened by fire. Color of bad luck.
很	很	very	Hěn	pictophonetic. step suggests meaning
横	横	horizontal character stroke	Héng	pictophonetic. tree suggests

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Ω	红 (红色)	red, revolutionary	Hóng (Hóng sè)	radicals: silk, work. Color of joy
a 7	畫 (trad. form of 画)	painting, drawing	Huà	brush painting a field
扌	花 (花儿) (开花)	flower (flower + diminutive suffix) (open + flower)	Huā (huā er) (kāihuā)	pictophonetic - 艹 grass suggests meaning
a	话 (说话)	words, to talk (speak)	Huà (shuōhuà)	pictophonetic Speech suggests (speak words) Radicals: 1000 mouths speaking
a	画 (绘画)	painting, drawing, to paint, paint	Huà huìhuà)	field on a canvas [In Japanese, used only in compound words.] (paint a painting)
ab	画笔	paintbrush, brush	Huà bǐ	paint brush
ac	画具	painting utensil	Huà jù	paint tool
ㄣ	欢 (欢喜)	joyous, happy	Huān (huān xǐ)	pictophonetic (joyous happiness)
Ω	黄 (黄色)	yellow	Huáng (Huáng sè)	color of good luck pictophonetic. Field suggests.
Ω	黄褐色	tan	Huánghèsè	yellow brown color
卜	回	return, go back	Huí	Originally, picture of a swirl
adtu	绘 (Chinese)	painted; to paint	Huì	Pictophonetic. Before paper, painting was on silk.
ㄥ	会	be able to; group; understand	Huì	radicals: man on a cloud
Ω	灰 (灰色)	gray, ash	Huī (Huī sè)	radicals: left, fire. Color of humbleness
三	灰尘	dust, dirt	huīchén	gray dirt
Ω	灰褐色	beige	Huīhèsè	gray brown color
κ	火 (火 radical)	fire	Huǒ	picture of flames
κ λ	火车	train	Huǒchē	“fire vehicle”
e	甲	first; shell (& radical)	Jiǎ	picture of chest armor
φ	家 (家人 - family)	home; family (when combined with other characters)	Jiā (jiā rén)	“pigs under roof” pictophonetic
e	甲骨文	oracle bone script (1st Chinese writing)	jiǎ gǔ wén	(tortoise) shell & (animal) bone script. 1st characters were carved in shell or bone to tell the future.
丩	件	item (Measure word for events, things, clothes)	Jiàn	person dividing a cow
ㄥ	見 (traditional)	see, look (& radical)	Jiàn	eye over child
ㄥ	见 (simplified)	see, look, meet (& radical)	Jiàn	“person (child) with a big eye” (in traditional character)
三	尖	point, sharp	Jiān	small on top of big

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一	鉴 (反射)	reflection, mirror, warning; to view (reflection)	Jiàn (fǎnshè)	pictophonetic. primary radical - gold (send out opposite)
冫	间 (之间)	between; (n) room (between)	Jiàn (zhī jiān)	gap in door with sunlight between (of between)
氵	江	river (large)	Jiāng	water work
亻	家人	family members, household	Jiārén	“home people”
冫	家庭	family	Jiā tíng	“home garden”
人	今	this, now (& radical)	Jīn	open mouth above something about to be eaten
巾	巾	towel, scarf (& radical)	Jīn	picture of towel hanging from rack
钅	金 (金色) (钅 radical)	gold <metal>; gold color	Jīn (Jīnsè)	various objects (arrowheads, axe, ingots) made of metal
钅	镜	glass, mirror	Jìng	“gold at last”
日	晶	radiant, crystal	Jīng	3 suns
辶	经	through	Jīng	pictophonetic
目	睛 (眼睛)	eye, eyeball	Jīng (yǎnjīng)	pictophonetic. eye suggests. (eye eye)
钅	镜框	picture frame	Jìngkuāng	“glass frame”
人	今天	today, now	Jīntiān	This sky
九	九	nine (& radical)	Jiǔ	[ku - Japanese]
具	具	tool (& radical)	Jù {u is ü}	two hands raising a tripod
卷	卷	roll, rolled; (長卷 - scroll)	Juǎn {u is ü. a pronounced like e}	pictophonetic. seal suggests
开	开	to open, to start (& radical)	Kāi	trad: two hands opening a door
心	开心	to feel happy	Kāixīn	“open heart”
看	看	see, look	Kàn	pictophonetic. eye suggests
看	看见	see, look	Kànjiàn	look see
可	可	can, able to be	Kě	pictophonetic. mouth suggests
可	可爱	cute, adorable	Kě' ài	able to be loved
空	空 (天空)	sky, air, empty (sky, heaven)	Kōng (tiānkōng)	pictophonetic. cave suggests meaning (sky sky)
空	空气	air, atmosphere	Kōngqì	“sky (empty) gas”
口	口	mouth (& radical)	Kǒu	picture of open mouth
快	快 (快乐)	fast (happy)	Kuài (kuàilè)	(heart radical) pictophonetic (happy happy)
框	框	frame, box	Kuāng	“wooden great box”

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
r	来	come	Lái	picture of wheat plant
宀	岚	mountain mist	Lán	radicals: mountain, air
艹	兰	orchid	Lán	pictophonetic. grass suggests
Ω	蓝 (蓝色)	blue	Lán (Lánsè)	radicals: grass, dot, dish. Color of trust
耂	老	old	Lǎo	man leaning on a cane
亠	了	[past tense marker]	Le	picture of baby wrapped in blanket
丌	乐 (快乐)	happy (& radical)	Lè (kuàilè)	musical instrument on a stand (fast happy)
力	力	power, force (& radical)	Lì	picture of a plow (which requires strength)
At	里	in, inside, village, mile (& radical)	Lǐ	where there are fields and land for living
理	理	reason, logic, truth	Lǐ	pictophonetic - “king” suggests meaning
李	李	plum	Lǐ	tree with child under it
麗	丽 (美丽)	beautiful, pretty	Lì (měilì)	pictophonetic - traditional form shows deer to suggest meaning (pretty pretty)
立	立 (站立)	stand (& radical) (stand, stand up)	Lì (zhànli)	a man standing on the ground (stand stand)
脸	脸	face	Liǎn {a pronounced like e}	pictophonetic
两	两	two, two of, both of {with measure words - use 两, not 二}	Liǎng	
林	林	woods, forest	Lín	two trees
零	零	zero	Líng	pictophonetic
令	令	order, command	Lìng	picture of kneeling person under a roof
六	六	six (& radical)	Liù	[roku - Japanese]
流 (河流)	流 (河流)	stream, flow (water radical on left) (river)	Liú (héliú)	dragged by water (river stream)
李子树	李子树	plum tree	Lǐzǐ shù	plum tree
绿 (绿色)	绿 (绿色)	green	Lǜ (Lǜsè)	pictophonetic. Silk suggests. radicals: silk, snow, water. Color for clean
吗	吗	is it (interrogative particle)	ma	pictophonetic: mouth suggests meaning
卖	卖	sell	Mài	radicals: ten over second over head
买	买	buy	Mǎi	radicals: second over head
慢	慢	slow	Màn	(heart radical) pictophonetic
忙	忙	busy	Máng	(heart radical) pictophonetic

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B2	毛	hair, wool, feathers (& radical)	Máo	picture of a feather
亠	么	[question suffix]	Me	picture of silk strands
木	梅	plum	Méi	pictophonetic - tree suggests meaning
𠄎	每	every	Měi	pictophonetic
𠄎 m	美 (美丽)	beautiful, pretty	Měi (měilì)	person decorated by ram's horns (pretty pretty)
𠄎	每天	every day	Měi tiān	every sky
木	梅花	plum blossom	Méihuā	plum flower
𠄎 m	美术	art, fine arts (activity of drawing, painting)	Měishù	"beautiful technique"
亠	们	[plural marker]	Men	pictophonetic. person suggests
门	门	door, gate (& radical)	Mén	picture of a gate
门	門	door, gate (radical)	Mén	picture of a gate
艸	梦	dream	Mèng	radicals: forest & evening
门 δ	门口	doorway, gate	Ménkǒu	"gate opening"
宀	一	cover (radical)	Mì	picture of a cover
米	米	rice (& radical)	Mǐ	picture of scattered rice grains
米	米纸	rice paper (for food, not drawing)	Mǐ zhǐ	rice paper
宀	宀	roof (radical)	Mián	picture of roof
面	面	surface, face	Miàn	picture of a face
面	面	face (radical)	Miàn	picture of a face
女	妙 (奇妙)	wonderful	Miào	pictophonetic. woman suggests (wonderful wonderful)
皿	皿	dish (& radical)	Mǐn	picture of a dish
明	明	bright, clear, next, to understand	Míng	sun and moon
名 (名字)	名 (名字)	name, reputation (name word)	Míng (míngzì)	associative: what is needed to call someone in the dark. radicals: evening & mouth
明白	明白	obvious, to understand	Míngbái	clear and bright
明天	明天	tomorrow	Míngtiān	next sky
末	末	end, final, last (& radical)	Mò {o like aw}	A tree with mark pointing to top. Inverse of 本.
墨 [墨 - Japanese]	墨 [墨 - Japanese]	ink	Mò [Sumi - Japanese]	black dust

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r ㄊ	木 (see 树)	tree; (usually meaning) wood (& radical)	Mù	picture of a tree with branches
㇇	目 (眼睛)	eye (& radical) (eye, eyeball)	Mù (yǎnjīng)	picture of an eye (now on its side) (eye eye)
㇇	那	that	Nà	“city of the bearded people”
㇇	捺	downward right concave character stroke	Nà	pictophonetic. hand suggests
AA	男	male, man	Nán	field over plow (strength)
㇇	南方	South	Nánfāng	“south direction”
y	你 (尔 - ěr)	you	Nǐ	small & man radicals. etymology unclear
xy	你好	hello	Nǐ hǎo	“you good”
xyz	你好吗	How are you?	Nǐ hǎo ma	“you good is it”
p ㄊ	年 (周年)	year (& radical) (anniversary)	Nián (Zhōu Nián) {a pronounced like e}	person carrying the harvest (annual event)
B2	鸟	bird (& radical)	Niǎo	picture of a bird
㇇	牛	cow (& radical)	Niú	picture of ox head
㇇	女 (女人 - woman) (女儿 - daughter)	woman, female (& radical) (female person) (female child)	Nǚ (nǚ rén) (nǚ ér)	picture of seated woman
oo	朋	friend	Péng	Originally 2 strings of shells. Now two moons.
㇇	片	sheet, piece, film (& radical)	Piàn	picture of half piece of wood
㇇	撇	left-slanting downward character stroke	Piē	pictophonetic. hand suggests
Δ	品	article	Pǐn	originally meant many containers
ε	平	level, flat; peaceful (& radical)	Píng	picture of a level scale
㇇	奇	strange, wonderful	Qí	associative
㇇	器	instrument, device	Qì	dog guarding several vessels
a	漆	paint, varnish	Qī	water + [tree over join over water (liquid) - resin] = paint, varnish
λ	七	seven (& radical)	Qī	[nana - Japanese]
㇇	气 (天气 - weather)	air, breath, spirit, energy (& radical)	Qì (tiān qì)	steam {rising from bowl of rice in trad. character} (sky air)
b	铅	lead {chemistry}	Qiān	radicals: gold, table, mouth
α	口	receptacle (& radical)	Qiǎn {a pronounced like e}	picture of a tray
㇇	千	thousand (& radical)	Qiān. {a pronounced like e}	one over a person [sen - Japanese]

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
Ω	青	green (usually), blue (of sky); (root meaning: color of nature)	Qīng	radicals: grass, dot, dish. Color of trust
㇇	情 (爱情)	affection, feeling, passion. (love)	Qíng (àiqìng)	pictophonetic. heart suggests
灬	青蛙	frog	Qīngwā	(green frog)
一	秋天; 秋	fall, autumn	Qiū	autumn sky. picture: "season when crop fields are burned"
彳	去	go	Qù {u is ü}	picture of person leaving home (厶 private space)
Φ 一	全	all, whole	Quán	bring in jade to keep it whole
ppd	泉	spring, fountain	Quán {u is ü. a pronounced like e}	pure (white) water
PPP	然	thus, like this, yes; however	Rán	pictophonetic, fire suggests. Originally "to burn"
辶	冉	slowly (& radical)	Rǎn	archaic radical meant "hairy"
丨	热	fervent, to heat up	Rè	pictophonetic. fire suggests
丨 ㇇	热爱	adore	Rè-ài	hot love
亻	人 (亻 or 人 as radical)	person (大人 - adult)	Rén	picture of person with 2 legs
讠	认 (认识)	recognize, know (to know)	Rèn (rènshí)	radicals: speech & man (know know)
人人	人人	everyone	Rén Rén	two people
丨 ㇇	热心	enthusiasm	Rèxīn	hot heart
P	日 (see 太阳 Tàiyáng)	day; sun (usually in compound words) (& radical)	Rì	picture of sun
P ㇇	日出	sunrise	Rì chū	sun comes out
Pr 彳	日本 Chinese word	Japan	Rìběn	"origin (source) of the sun"
III	入	enter (& radical)	Rù	picture of arrow point
III δ	入口	entrance	Rùkǒu	enter mouth
λ	三	three (& radical)	Sān	[san - Japanese]
Ω	色	color, hue; form; beauty	Sè	what one hopes for
rr	森	forest (usually 森林), dark	Sēn (Sēnlín)	many trees
rr	森林	forest	Sēnlín	many trees
rr	森森	dense, eerie, ghastly	Sēnsēn	many trees
灬	沙	sand	Shā	small water
灬	砂	sand	Shā	small stone
冫	闪	flash	Shǎn	person peeking through door

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
B2	彡	hair (radical)	Shān	picture of hair
g	山	mountain (& radical)	Shān	Picture of mountains
g ^K	山火	forest fire	Shān huǒ	“mountain fire”
ʹ	闪电	lightning	Shǎndiàn	electricity flash
θ	上	top, above, go up, go to	Shàng	line above the ground
gd	山水	landscape	ShānShuǐ	water mountains
ʋ	绳	rope	Shéng	pictophonetic. silk suggests (see 纟 & 冫)
te	圣	sacred, holy	Shèng	radicals: right hand & earth
ɣ	生	life, raw, birth, to exist (& radical)	Shēng	sprout from the earth
ㄉ	生宣	raw xuan	Shēng xuān	raw xuan
ɣp	生日	birthday	Shēngrì	birth day
p ^ʹ	时	time, period, season	Shí	pictophonetic - sun suggests meaning
p	实	real, true, fact	Shí	pictographic - someone with house and money
λ	十	ten (& radical)	Shí	[juu - Japanese]
ㄣ	石	stone, rock (& radical)	Shí	picture of a stone beneath a cliff
i	是	is, yes	Shì	“speak straight”
T	士	scholar, gentleman (& radical)	Shì	picture of an axe
ㄝ	市 (冫 - radical)	city	Shì	“a place where cloth is sold”
ㄨ	示	show, demonstrate	Shì	picture of sacrificial altar
l	识 (认识)	knowledge, to know (to know)	Shí (rènshí)	pictophonetic. speech suggests (know know)
ㄣ	石墨	graphite	Shímò	ink rock
v	首	first, chief, head (& radical)	Shǒu	picture of a head
n	手 (扌 or 廾 radical)	hand	Shǒu	picture of a hand
nζ	手工	handicraft	Shǒu gōng	hand work
ㄝ	术	art (skill, technique, method) (& radical)	shù	pictophonetic
ㄈ	树	tree	Shù	pictophonetic - tree suggests meaning
ㄨ	竖	vertical character stroke	Shù	pictophonetic. stand suggests
ㄞ	数	number	Shù	pictophonetic. radicals: rice, woman, knock

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
宀	数 (数数)	count, to enumerate {数一数 to count (diminutive)}	Shǔ	pictophonetic. radicals: rice, woman, knock
灬	書 (trad form of 书)	calligraphy, book, to write	Shū	brush writing words
冫	书 (书本)	book; calligraphy (book)	Shū (shūběn)	picture of a mark written by a brush (book origin)
灬	熟	baked, cooked	Shú {u is ü}	pictophonetic. fire suggests
冫	双	pair, double (Measure word for “a pair of”)	Shuāng	2 又 (right hands)
氵	水 (冫 radical)	water (& radical)	Shuǐ	picture of flowing water
氵	水手	sailor	Shuǐ shǒu	water hand
氵	水彩	watercolor	Shuǐcǎi	water color
氵	水墨画	ink wash painting	Shuǐmòhuà	water ink painting
讠	说 (说话)	speak, say	Shuō (shuōhuà)	pictophonetic. Speech suggests (speak words)
巳	巳	year of the snake (& radical)	Sì	picture of a snake
四	四	four (& radical)	Sì	[yon - Japanese]
死	死	death, to die	Sǐ	person kneeling over dead body
纟	丝 (丝绸)	silk	Sī	(silk threads)
纟	糸	silk (radical: traditional form of 纟)	Sī	纟 (tiny) over 小 (small)
冫	厶 (radical)	private, I, self	Sī	picture of silk cocoon
纟	丝绸	silk, silk cloth	sīchóu	silk silk
宀	它	it	Tā	radicals: roof & dagger
太	太	too (& radical)	Tài	emphasized bigness
太阳	太阳	sun (most frequent choice for sun)	Tàiyáng	“too sun”
叹 (叹气)	叹 (叹气)	sigh	Tàn (tànqì)	pictophonetic. mouth suggests. (breathe a sigh)
提	提	upward character stroke	Tí	pictophonetic. hand suggests
田	田	field, farm (& radical)	Tián	picture of field
天 (天空)	天 (天空)	sky, heaven, day (& radical)	Tiān (tiānkōng)	line points to space above person (sky sky)
田间	田间	field, farm	Tiánjiān	between fields
条	条	article (Measure word for long, thin objects)	Tiáo	pictophonetic. tree suggests
庭	庭	courtyard	Tíng	pictophonetic. shelter suggests
同	同	same, with	Tóng	all speaking with same voice

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
mmm	头	head	Tóu	pictophonetic
φ	宀	lid (radical)	tóu	picture of a lid
t	土	earth, dust, clay (& radical)	Tǔ	picture of a mound on the ground
𠃉	蛙 (青蛙)	frog	Wā (Qīngwā)	pictophonetic. insect suggests (green frog)
𠃉	晚	night, evening (7 - 10 pm)	Wǎn	pictophonetic. sun suggests
𠃉	弯	curved down left character stroke	Wān	pictophonetic
𠃉	王	king (& radical)	Wáng	picture of axe (symbol of power)
o	汪	pool, puddle	Wāng	pictophonetic: water
Δ	口	enclosure, erect, proud (& radical)	Wéi	picture of box
𠃉	未	not yet (& radical)	Wèi	A tree with many leaves. Originally - abundant.
e	文	language, arts, script (& radical)	Wén	picture of tattooed chest (tattoo - former meaning)
e	纹	line, mark, trace	Wén	silk script
y	我	I	Wǒ	hand holding a spear
^l y	我爱你	I love you.	Wǒ ài nǐ	I love you
λ	五	five (& radical)	Wǔ	[go - Japanese]
𠃉	午	noon (& radical)	Wǔ	picture of a pestle
u	乌	dark, black	Wū	picture of a crow
l	喜	happiness, like, love	Xǐ	picture (archaic) of beating a drum & laughing
𠃉	夕	night, evening, sunset, (5-7 pm) (& radical)	Xī	picture of early evening half moon
π	西	west, western (& radical)	Xī	picture of nest where bird returns when sun sets in west
π	西安	Xi'an (city in China)	Xī' ān	peaceful west
θ	下	down, under, go down (& radical)	Xià	pointing below marker
𠃉	显	clear, evident	Xiǎn	traditional: pictophonetic. leaf suggests
𠃉	巳, 卩	seal (radical); 卩 at bottom of character	Xiān	picture of kneeling person
𠃉	相	picture, portrait	Xiàng	looking at a tree
𠃉	相机	camera	Xiàngxiàng	picture picture
𠃉	显示器	monitor (for computer)	Xiǎnshìqì	show reveal device; clear demonstrate instrument
τ	小	small, young (& radical)	Xiǎo	(Something divided into pieces by a tool)

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
ㄒ ㄣˊ	小时	hour	Xiǎoshí	small time
一	夏天; 夏	summer; summertime	Xiàtiān	summertime sky. picture of person's head and feet
ㄒ ㄜˋ	谢 (谢谢)	thanks, to thank (thanks)	Xiè	pictophonetic. speech suggests
ㄒ ㄩˊ	西方	West	Xīfāng	“west direction”
ㄌ ㄩˊ	喜欢	like	Xǐhuān	“like joyous”
ㄒ ㄩˋ	信	trust, believe; letter	Xìn	a “person's word” is to be believed
ㄒ ㄩˊ	心 (忄 radical)	heart	Xīn	pictographic
ㄒ ㄩˋ	辛	bitter, laborious (& radical)	Xīn	picture of tool for tattooing slaves
ㄒ ㄩˋ	兴	excitement; prosper, rise	Xìng	hands lifting something together
ㄒ ㄩˋ	幸	lucky, good fortune	Xìng	radicals: earth over eight over dry
ㄒ ㄩˋ	星	star, satellite	Xīng	pictophonetic Sun suggests meaning.
ㄒ ㄩˋ	星期	week	Xīngqī	“star period”
ㄒ ㄩˋ	星云	nebula	Xīngyún	star cloud
ㄒ ㄩˋ	玄	mysterious, profound, black	Xuán {u is ü. a pronounced e}	tiny under lid
ㄒ ㄩˋ	宣	Xuan (Xuancheng region in China); proclaim	Xuān {u is ü. a pronounced e}	pictophonetic. roof suggests meaning of palace (of the Yuancheng region)
ㄒ ㄩˋ	宣纸	rice paper (xuan paper)	Xuānzhǐ {u is ü. a pronounced e}	Xuan paper
ㄒ ㄩˋ	雪 (冫 also snow radical)	snow (& radical)	Xuě {u is ü}	rain & snow radicals
ㄚˋ	亚	Asia, Asian; second	Yà	picture of a clan temple
ㄩˋ	眼 (眼睛)	eye, small hole	Yǎn (yǎnjīng)	pictophonetic. eye suggests. (eye eye)
ㄩˋ	炎	flame, inflammation	Yán {a pronounced like e}	2 pictures of flames
ㄩˋ	言 (讠 radical)	word, speech	Yán {a pronounced like e}	pictophonetic - mouth suggests meaning
ㄩˋ	焱	flames	Yàn {a pronounced like e}	3 pictures of flames
ㄩˋ	广	house on cliff (radical)	Yǎn {a pronounced like e}	picture of a house on cliff
ㄩˋ	阳	sun	Yáng	pictophonetic. radicals: sun, mound.
ㄩˋ	阳 (陽)	yang, positive principle of yin/yang, male	Yáng	sunny side of hill
ㄩˋ	羊	sheep (& radical)	Yáng	picture of a sheep
ㄩˋ	垚	mound	Yáo	picture of 3 mounds of earth

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
ㄨ	纛 (small thread rad)	small, tiny (纛 silk radical)	Yāo	(2 rolls of silk)
ㄉ	叶	leaf, foliage, (rarely) - page	Yè	originally: many voices in harmony; now: borrowed as “leaf” (phonetic)
ㄉ	頁 or 页	page, leaf of a book (& radical)	Yè	originally: head of person; later: page
ㄩ	艺	art (talent, skill)	yì	pictophonetic
ㄨ	一	one, 一 (& radical) (in speaking number list, replaced with 纛-yāo to avoid misunderstanding)	Yī	[ichi - Japanese]
ㄨ	一生	lifetime	Yī shēng	one life
一	印	seal, stamp (Chinese for inkan)	Yìn	person pressing down
ㄇ	因	because; reason	Yīn	big in enclosure
ㄩ	阴 (陰)	yin, negative principle of yin/yang, feminine, moon	Yīn	pictophonetic. Place suggests
ㄩ	音	sound, voice (& radical)	Yīn	word with something in mouth
ㄩ	银 (银色)	silver <metal>; silver color	Yín (Yínsè)	pictophonetic. Gold suggests.
一	影	shadow, image, picture; reflection	Yǐng	pictophonetic. bristle suggests
ㄩ	银河系	Milky Way galaxy	Yínhé	“silver river system”
一	印鑑	seal stamp (Chinese for hanko)	Yìnjiàn	“seal reflection”
ㄩ	艺术	art (paintings, sculpture, etc.)	Yìshù	“art technique”
ㄨ	用	use (& radical)	yòng	picture of a bell
ㄉ	永	eternity, forever, always (& radical)	Yǒng	perpetually flowing stream
ㄉ	永远	eternity, forever	Yǒngyuǎn	by far forever
ㄉ	永字八法	The Eight Principles of Yong	Yǒngzì bā fǎ	Yong character eight rules
ㄨ	又	again, also	Yòu	picture of right hand which is used again and again
ㄨ	又	right hand (radical)	Yòu	picture of right hand
ㄩ	右	right (vs. left)	Yòu	Left hand with mouth
ㄩ	有	have	Yǒu	hand holding meat
ㄩ	幽	quiet, secluded, tranquil	Yōu	radicals: small, mountain
ㄩ	幽玄	profound tranquility	Yōu xuán (2 words)	[Yugen in Japanese]
ㄩ	于	in, to, on (& radical)	Yú {u is ü}	picture of breath exhaling
ㄩ	鱼	fish (& radical)	Yú {u is ü}	pictographic of fish

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
b	聿	brush (radical)	Yù {u is ü}	picture of hand holding brush
d	浴	bath	Yù {u is ü}	pictophonetic - water suggests meaning
ㄩ	玉	jade, (rarely) (& radical)	Yù {u is ü}	picture of string of jade pieces. Not derived from 王
ㄩ	与	and, with. to; to give	Yǔ {u is ü}	picture of a spoon holding something
B2	羽 (羽毛)	feather (& radical)	Yǔ {u is ü} (yǔmáo)	picture of 2 feathers (feather hair)
ㄣ	雨 (雨天)	rain (& radical)	Yǔ {u is ü} (yǔtiān)	drops of water falling from clouds under sky (rain sky)
ppd	原	source, origin, original	Yuán {u is ü. a pronounced e}	a spring under a cliff
ㄉ	园	garden	Yuán {u is ü. a pronounced e}	pictophonetic - enclosure suggests
D	远	distant, remote; by far (intensifier)	Yuǎn {u is ü. a pronounced e}	pictophonetic. walk suggests
o	月	moon, month (& radical)	Yuè {u is ü}	picture of moon
P	曰 or 日	to say (& radical)	Yuē {u is ü}	Picture of mouth. Mark points to source of speech. Infrequent in modern Chinese usage.
ㄩ	云	cloud (n); say, speak (v) (& radical)	Yún {u is ü}	picture of clouds (radicals two over private)
ㄟ	在	at, in [present action marker]	Zài	pictophonetic - earth suggests meaning
ㄝ	燥 (干燥)	dry, arid	Záo (gānzáo)	pictophonetic. fire suggests. (dry dry)
ㄉ	早 (早上)	morning, early; long ago (morning)	Zǎo (zǎoshang)	sun at the beginning (morning go up)
ㄩ	乍	first, suddenly (& radical)	Zhà	overlapping garments
P	站 (站立)	stand (stand, stand up)	Zhàn (zhàn lì)	pictophonetic. stand suggests
l	丈	ten feet; husband (& radical)	Zhàng	picture of a hand with a ruler
ㄩ	张	open up, stretch; (measure word for flat or rectangular objects)	Zhāng	pictophonetic. bow suggests
l	丈夫	husband	Zhàngfū	husband husband
ㄩ	照	shine, reflect, take (a photograph)	Zhào	pictophonetic. fire suggests
ㄩ	照片	photograph, photo	Zhàopiàn	shine film
π	真	true, real	Zhēn	adapted from pictograph of delicacy
i	正	straight, correct (& radical)	Zhèng	picture of feet marching into town
π	真理	truth	Zhēnlǐ	real truth
ㄩ	纸 (紙- trad.)	paper	Zhǐ	pictophonetic "in the silk family"
ㄟ	只	only, just, but	Zhǐ	air blowing out of mouth
r ㄉ	枝	branch, twig	Zhī	radicals: tree, ten, right hand

	Hanzi	Definition	Pinyin	Comments
丩	只	(Measure word for birds and some animals)	Zhī	breath blowing out of the mouth
止	止	stop; only (adv.) (& radical)	Zhǐ	picture of a foot
冫	之 (之间)	of, it (between) {modifier marker}	Zhī (zhī jiān)	foot above line
𠬞	众	crowd [as adj. - many]	Zhòng	many people
丨	中	center, middle, China (& radical)	Zhōng	Picture of circle on flagpole
Ω	钟	clock	Zhōng	pictophonetic. gold suggests
𠬞	中国	China	Zhōngguó	middle kingdom
ㄇ	中文	Chinese language	Zhōngwén	middle (China) language
舟	舟	boat (& radical)	Zhōu	picture of a boat
冫	周 (周年)	circumference, week (anniversary)	Zhōu (Zhōu Nián)	originally, planted fields in a box
B1	竹 (^* radical)	bamboo (& radical)	Zhú {u is ü}	picture of bamboo stalks
灬	主	host, master, main (& radical)	Zhǔ {u is ü}	picture of lamp with flame on top
PPP	自	self; from (prep.)	Zì	picture of a nose (to point to oneself)
亠	子 (儿字 - son)	child, son, seed (& radical)	Zǐ (ér zi) (Zi - also a noun suffix)	picture of baby with outstretched arms (son word)
f	字	character (written), word	Zì (ér zi)	radicals: child under roof. etymology unclear
Ω	紫 (紫色)	purple	Zǐ (Zǐsè)	pictophonetic: silk suggest meaning. color of immortality
PPP	自然	nature, natural	Zìrán	self & like this. We are like this by ourselves.
Ω	棕 (棕色)	brown; Palm tree	Zōng (Zōngsè)	pictophonetic. Tree suggests.
h	走 (辵 or 辵 radical)	walk, run (& radical)	Zǒu	feet on the ground
h	足	foot, leg [as adverb - enough] (& radical)	Zú	picture of foot and calf of leg
冫	昨	past, yesterday	Zuó	pictophonetic Sun suggests meaning.
lt	坐	sit	Zuò	radicals: man & ground
𠬞	左	left	Zuǒ	picture of left hand holding a tool
𠬞	ナ	left (radical)	Zuǒ	picture of left hand
冫	昨天	yesterday	Zuótiān	past sky