

Basic Spoken Chinese: An Introduction to Speaking and Listening for Beginners (Downloadable Media and MP3 Audio Included) (Basic Chinese)

By Cornelius C. Kubler

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This is a beginning-level course in spoken Chinese that employs a revolutionary new method designed to have you quickly speaking and comprehending Mandarin Chinese.

Along with its sister book *Basic Written Chinese* and their accompanying workbooks, *Basic Spoken Chinese* offers a complete introductory course to the Chinese language. As a native English speaker, working hard to learn Chinese is not enough; you have to work smart in order to learn this very different language efficiently. Downloadable audio reinforces listening comprehension and correct pronunciation. No matter why you've chosen to learn Chineseùfor business, travel, cultural studies or another goalùthe *Basic Chinese* approach of two separate but integrated tracts in spoken and written Chinese will help you learn this language most efficiently and successfully.

- Detailed explanations in English of Chinese pronunciation, grammar, usage, culture, society, and recommended learning approaches.
- Teacher's Guide is available electronically.
- A written Character Transcript (Simplified and Traditional) is available electronically.

The downloadable material includes:

- 40 videos with dozens of native speakers filmed on location in mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, Singapore, and Malaysia.
- 6 hours of nativeûspeaker audio, including all of the book's conversations.
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Editorial Review

Review
"I have been teaching Chinese to high school students for over 25 years and have used a variety of texts. I decided to try *Basic Spoken Chinese* (BSC) with one of my classes on an experimental level, and I have to say it is the best text of its kind that I have ever seen. —**Richard Ayres, St. Xavier High School, Louisville, KY**

"Professor Kubler in a detailed manner explains the structure of Mandarin sentences and does a good job comparing Mandarin sentences with the corresponding English ones, highlighting many of the pitfalls faced by the average English speakers trying to learn Chinese." —***Study More Chinese*** **blog**

"Meticulously planned, carefully prepared and patiently tested for over a decade, the Basic Chinese series represents the most comprehensive introductory materials available now. The eclectic approach, the flexibility in use, the attention to authenticity of language in its sociolinguistic context, the myriad of audio and visual aids, and the array of rigorously designed exercises makes the Basic Chinese the ideal material for any committed learner embarking on the journey of learning the Chinese language." —**Dr. Jun Yang, Senior Lecturer in Chinese, University of Chicago**

"This is one of the best elementary Chinese textbooks, I believe, ever produced in the history of teaching Chinese as a second language… A great and unique work which will benefit students and teachers for many years to come." —**Dr. Shengli Feng, Professor of Chinese Linguistics, Chinese University of Hong Kong**

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"A breath of fresh air… Its dual track for spoken and written language finally gives American students a chance to develop oral proficiency without being slowed down by the character writing… An ideal textbook for any program that seeks to advance rapidly in spoken Chinese and to fully prepare the students for their encounter with China." —**Dr. Jingqi Fu, Associate Professor of Chinese, St. Mary's College of Maryland**

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"Kubler's books distinguish themselves with natural, culturally-rooted dialogues, detailed notes (for both written and spoken language), generous practice activities and an amazing care for organization. These books will be valuable tools for both students and their teachers." —**Prof. Eric Pelzl, Wisconsin Lutheran College**

About the Author

Cornelius C. Kubler, Stanfield Professor of Asian Studies at Williams College, received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in linguistics from Cornell University. He earned a second M.A. in Chinese literature from National Taiwan University.

From 1980-1991 he was employed at the Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State, where he served as Language Training Supervisor in Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese, and Mongolian; as Principal of the advanced Chinese field school in Taiwan; and as Chair of the Department of Asian and African Languages.

Since joining Williams College in 1991, he has chaired the former Department of Chinese and Asian Studies Program as well as the Department of Asian Studies, which he was instrumental in founding. He has also served as visiting professor at Eisenhower College, Portland State University, Middlebury College, National Taiwan Normal University, Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages.

Kubler, who is author or coauthor of 20 books and over 50 articles on Chinese language pedagogy and linguistics, frequently serves as reviewer or consultant for Chinese and Asian Studies programs in the U.S. and overseas. He has served as Chair of the Test Development Committee for the SAT Subject Test in Chinese and as member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages of the Modern Language Association. He is currently serving as American Co-Director of The Johns Hopkins University-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies in Nanjing, China.

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