



ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

When should you use the structural particle 的 (de)?

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When should you use the structural particle 的 (de)?



A Put 的 (de) in the proper place as needed (or as is optional).

1. 我老师是很好老师。
Wǒ lǎoshī shì hěn hǎo lǎoshī.
My teacher is a good teacher.
2. 那是他书。
Nà shì tā shū.
That's his book.
3. 妈妈戴着一条蓝围巾。
Māma dài zhe yītiáo lán wéijīn.
Mom wears a blue scarf.
4. 他是我爸爸。
Tā shì wǒ bàba.
He is my father.

B Identify the incorrect use of 的 (de) or missing 的 (de) in the following sentences.

1. 他是我的爸爸。
Tā shì wǒ de bàba.
He is my father.
2. 那里是我可爱的家乡。
Nàlǐ shì wǒ kě'ài de jiāxiāng.
There is my lovely hometown.
3. 奶奶喜欢你红裙子。
Nǎinai xǐhuan nǐ hóng qúnzi.
Grandma likes your red skirt.
4. 他是我的法语的老师。
Tā shì wǒ de Fǎyǔ de lǎoshī.
He is my French teacher.

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C Here is Mary's shopping list. Can you describe her shopping list in Mandarin using 的 (de)?



- Green apples
- Chocolate for my little sister
- Eggs for myself

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A

1. 我(的)老师是很好的老师。
2. 那是他的书。
3. 妈妈戴着一条蓝围巾。
4. 他是我(的)爸爸。

B

1. 他是我的爸爸。 → Correct (Note that 的 here is optional because the modified word 爸爸 is a relative.)
Tā shì wǒ de bàba.
He is my father.
2. 那里是我可爱的家乡。 → Correct
Nàlǐ shì wǒ kě'ài de jiāxiāng.
There is my lovely hometown.
3. 奶奶喜欢你红裙子。 → Incorrect
Nǎinai xǐhuan nǐ hóng qúnzi.
的 should be present between 你红裙子 to express possession. It should be 你的红裙子.
Grandma likes your red skirt.
4. 他是我的法语的老师。 → Incorrect
Tā shì wǒ de Fǎyǔ de lǎoshī.
The highlighted 的 should be omitted since the modifier is the name of a language (法语)
He is my French teacher.

C

1. 绿苹果
lǜ píngguǒ
2. 我妹妹的巧克力
wǒ mèimei de qiǎokèlì
3. 我的鸡蛋
wǒ de jīdàn

