



ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

Affirmative-negative questions

MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

Affirmative-negative questions

How do you ask an A-not-A question in Mandarin Chinese?



Word Bank

Mandarin	Pinyin	English
中国人	Zhōngguó rén	Chinese person
工作证	gōngzuò zhèng	staff ID card
上个星期	shàng gè xīng qī	last week
买东西	mǎi dōng xī	to buy things
钱	qián	money
苹果	píng guǒ	apples
唱歌	chàng gē	to sing
工作	gōng zuò	to work
回答	huí dá	to answer
问题	wèn tí	question
面粉	miàn fěn	flour
白菜	bái cài	Chinese cabbage
小葱	xiǎo cōng	shallot

MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

Affirmative-negative questions



1 Using the words in red, turn the following statements into A-not-A questions.

- a. 他是中国人。
Tā shì Zhōngguó rén.
He is Chinese.
- b. 我有工作证。
Wǒ yǒu gōngzuò zhèng.
I have a staff ID card.
- c. 他上个星期去买东西了。
Tā shànggè xīngqī qù mǎi dōngxi le.
He went shopping last week.
- d. 小王没有钱。
Xiǎo Wáng méi yǒu qián.
Xiao Wang doesn't have money.

2 Using the words in red, make AB-不-AB/A-不-AB questions based on the following statements.

- a. 他喜欢苹果。
Tā xǐhuan píngguǒ.
He likes apples.
- b. 小王唱歌了。
Xiǎo Wáng chànggē le.
Xiao Wang sang.
- c. 明天她工作。
Míngtiān tā gōngzuò.
Tomorrow she will work.
- d. 我回答那个问题了。
Wǒ huídá nàgè wèntí le.
I have answered that question.

MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

Affirmative-negative questions



3 The dinner will be Chinese dumplings tonight. The husband is at a supermarket, on the phone with his wife to ask about the following three items. Based on the pictures and hints provided, write his questions using the A-not-A structure.

- a. Buying flour? (Hint: He doesn't know whether it is needed.)



- b. Buying Chinese cabbage? (Hint: He thinks it is needed, just wants to double check with his wife though.)



- c. Buying shallot? (Hint: He doesn't know whether it is needed.)



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

Affirmative-negative questions



1

- a. 他是不是中国人?
Tā shìbúshì Zhōngguó rén?
Is he Chinese?
- b. 你有没有工作证?
Nǐ yǒumeyǒu gōngzuòzhèng?
Do you have a staff ID card?
- c. 他上个星期去没去买东西?
Tā shànggè xīngqī qùmeiqù mǎi dōngxi.
Did he go shopping last week?
- d. 小王有没有钱?
Xiǎo Wáng yǒumeyǒu qián?
Does Xiao Wang have money?

2

- a. 他喜不喜欢/喜欢不喜欢苹果?
Tā xǐbúxǐhuan/xǐhuanbúxǐhuan píngguǒ?
Does he like apples?
- b. 小王唱没唱歌/唱歌没唱歌?
Xiǎo Wáng chàngmeichànggē/chànggēmeichànggē?
Did Xiao Wang sing?
- c. 明天她工不工作/工作不工作?
Míngtiān tā gōngbùgōngzuò/gōngzuòbùgōngzuò?
Will she work tomorrow?
- d. 你回没回答/回答没回答那个问题?
Nǐ huímeihuídá/huídámeihuídá nàgè wèntí?
Have you answered that question?

MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

Affirmative-negative questions



- 3**
- a. 买不买面粉?
Mǎibumǎi miànfěn?
Shall I buy flour?
 - b. 买大白菜, 对不对?
Mǎi dàbáicài, duìbùduì?
I should buy Chinese cabbage, right?
 - c. 买不买小葱?
Mǎibumǎi xiǎocōng?
Shall I buy shallot?

