



ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

How to use 是 (shì) (to be) in Mandarin Chinese?

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1 Translate the following sentences.

1. You want to go home, right?
2. Is he a teacher?
3. Are you a student?
4. There's no class tomorrow, right?
5. I am not a teacher.

2 Rewrite the sentences using the 是...的 (shì...de) structure.

1. 我在纽约学音乐。
Wǒ zài Niǔyuē xué yīnyuè.
I studied music in New York.
2. 他欺负我。
Tā qīfù wǒ.
He bullied me.
3. 我去年学德文。
Wǒ qùnián xué déwén.
I studied Chinese last year.
4. 你学电影吗?
Nǐ xué diànyǐng ma?
Do you study film?
5. 他跟小美学钢琴。
Tā gēn Xiǎoměi xué gāngqín.
He learned piano with Xiaomei.

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3 Identify the ungrammatical part of the sentence. Put an (E) if the sentence is grammatical.

1. (A)中文 (B)是 (C)很 (D)难。 ((A) Zhōngwén (B) shì (C) hěn (D) nán.)
Chinese is hard.
2. 我 (A)是 (B)在海边 (C)度假 (D)的。 (Wǒ (A) shì (B) zài hǎibiān (C) dù jià (D) de.)
I spent my vacation by the sea.
3. (A)这个电影 (B)是 (C)可怕 (D)的。 ((A) zhègè diànyǐng (B) shì (C) kěpà (D) de.)
The movie is scary.
4. (A)我 (B)是 (C)学计算机 (D)。 ((A) wǒ (B) shì (C) xué jìsuànjī (D).)
I study computer science.
5. 这些菜(A)是 (B)今天要 (C)煮 (D)的。 (Zhèxiē cài (A) shì (B) jīntiān yào (C) zhǔ (D) de.)
These are the veggies that we'll cook today.

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- 1**
1. 你想回家，是不是？
Nǐ xiǎng huíjiā shìbùshì?
 2. 他是不是老师？
Tā shìbùshì lǎoshī?
 3. 你是学生吗？
Nǐ shì xuéshēng ma?
 4. 明天不用上课，是吗？
Míngtiān bù yòng shàngkè, shì ma?
 5. 我不是老师。
Wǒ bùshì lǎoshī.

- 2**
1. 我是在纽约学音乐的。
Wǒ shì zài Niǔyuē xué yīnyuè de.
 2. 是他欺负我的。
Shì tā qīfù wǒ de.
 3. 我是去年学德文的。
Wǒ shì qùnián xué déwén de.
 4. 你是学电影的吗？
Nǐ shì xué diànyǐng de ma?
 5. 他是跟小美学钢琴的。
Tā shì gēn xiǎoměi xué gāngqín de.

- 3**
1. B
 2. E
 3. E
 4. D (The correct sentence would be 我是学计算机的)
 5. E

4

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AN ADVENTURE

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