



ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

How to use nominal predicates in Mandarin?

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1 Rearrange the word order below to form sentences with nominal predicates.

1. 六点 liùdiǎn	早饭 zǎofàn	时间 shíjiān			
Breakfast is at 6 o'clock.					
2. 妹妹 mèimei	三个 sāngè	了 le	我 wǒ	已经 yǐjīng	孩子 háizi
My younger sister has already had three children.					
3. 考试 kǎoshì	两个 liǎnggè	了 le	快 kuài	小时 xiǎoshí	
The exam has been going on for almost two hours now.					
4. 七十 qīshí	了 le	都 dōu	教授 jiàoshòu	岁 suì	
The professor is already seventy years old.					

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2 Turn the following sentences into sentences with nominal predicates.

1. 现在是冬天。
Xiànzài shì dōngtiān.
It is winter now.
2. 苹果要十块钱。
Píngguǒ yào shí kuài qián.
Apples cost ten dollars.
3. 她有三个孩子。
Tā yǒu sān gè hái zi.
She has three children.
4. 我朋已经是校长了。
Wǒ péngyou yǐjīng shì xiào zhǎng le.
My friend is already the principal.

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- 3** You have just learned how to introduce yourself using nominal predicates and you are excited to practice in your Chinese class. The following is what you want to say in Mandarin. Some of the words have hints in parentheses for how to translate them into Mandarin Chinese.



1. I am Japanese (日本人, Riběn rén, “Japanese (person)”).
2. My family is from Tokyo (东京, Dōngjīng, “Tokyo”).
3. I have two children (孩子, háizi, “child”).
4. I’m almost (快, kuài) 20 years old.
5. I’m a student.

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1

1. 早饭时间六点。
Zǎofàn shíjiān liùdiǎn.
Breakfast is at 6 o'clock.
2. 我妹妹已经三个孩子了。
Wǒ mèimei yǐjīng sāngè hái zi le.
My younger sister has already had three children.
3. 考试快两个小时了。
Kǎoshì kuài liǎnggè xiǎoshí le.
The exam has been going on for almost two hours now.
4. 教授都七十岁了。
Jiàoshòu dōu qīshí suì le.
The professor is already seventy years old.

2

1. 现在冬天。
Xiànzài dōngtiān.
It is winter now.
2. 苹果十块钱。
Píngguǒ shí kuài qián.
Apples cost ten dollars.
3. 她三个孩子。
Tā sān gè hái zi.
She has three children.
4. 我朋已经是校长了。
Wǒ péngyou yǐjīng xiàozhǎng le.
My friend is already the principal.

3

1. 我日本人。
Wǒ Rìběn rén.
I am Japanese.
2. 我祖籍东京。
Wǒ zǔjí Dōngjīng.
My family is from Tokyo.
3. 我两个孩子。
Wǒ liǎnggè hái zi.
I have two children.
4. 我快20岁了。
Wǒ kuài èrshí suì le.
I'm almost twenty years old.
5. 我学生。
Wǒ xuésheng.
I'm a student.