



发音练习 PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE

The Neutral Tone

A syllable with no tone mark is pronounced in the neutral tone. The neutral tone usually occurs: 1) as the last syllable in a multi-syllable word, or 2) as a question or mood particle at the end of a sentence. You can produce a neutral tone by slightly prolonging the sound of the syllable prior to it.

1. Read the following syllables after your teacher and pay attention to the neutral tones.

wǒ de	nǚ de	gēge	jiějie	mèimei
wǎnshang	xiàlai	zǒuzhe	shàngqu	fàngxia
màn mǎn de	hóng hóng de	kào biān qu	lái wǎn le	chī fàn le

2. Read the following sentences after your teacher and pay attention to the syllables with neutral tones.

- A. Jiějie de míngzi jiào Lìli.
(My elder sister is called Lili.)
- B. Wǒ de yì jiā zhù zài Běijīng.
(My family lives in Beijing.)
- C. Tā de dìdi hěn cōngmíng.
(His younger brother is very smart.)
- D. Wǒmen jiā yǒu sān ge rén: bàba, māma, hé wǒ.
(There are three people in my family: dad, mom and I.)
- E. Nǐmen rènshi ma?
(Do you know each other?)
- F. Máomao yě zhù zài Jiùjīnshān ba?
(Maomao also lives in San Francisco, right?)