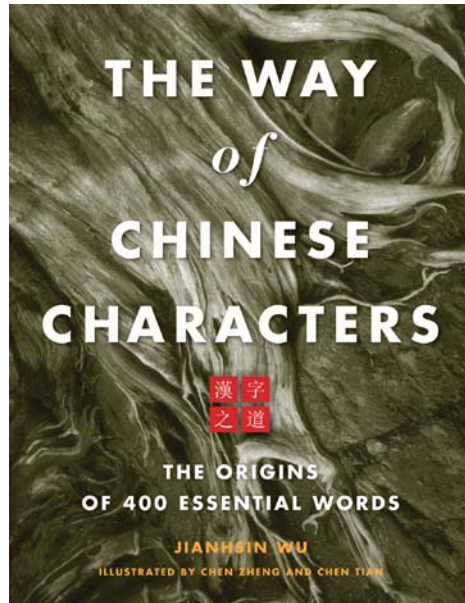


## Supplement to *The Way of Chinese Characters*



The characters in *The Way of Chinese Characters* (by Jianhsin Wu) correspond to the glossary of *Integrated Chinese, Second Edition, Level 1, Part 1 textbook* (by Tao-chung Yao, Yuehua Liu, et al.). In this supplement, the author gives explanations for all the new characters (28 in total) that appear in *Integrated Chinese, Third Edition, Level 1, Part 1 textbook*.

There are slight differences between the orders of the glossaries in the two editions of *Integrated Chinese*. For those who use the third edition of *Integrated Chinese* and cannot find the explanation of a certain character in a certain chapter of *The Way of Chinese Characters*, please check Character Index by Pinyin, or Traditional Character Index by Stroke Count, or Simplified Character Index by Stroke Count at the back of the book.

With both the printed text and this supplement, certainly you will be able to find explanations for all characters that appear in the third edition of *Integrated Chinese* in *The Way of Chinese Characters*.

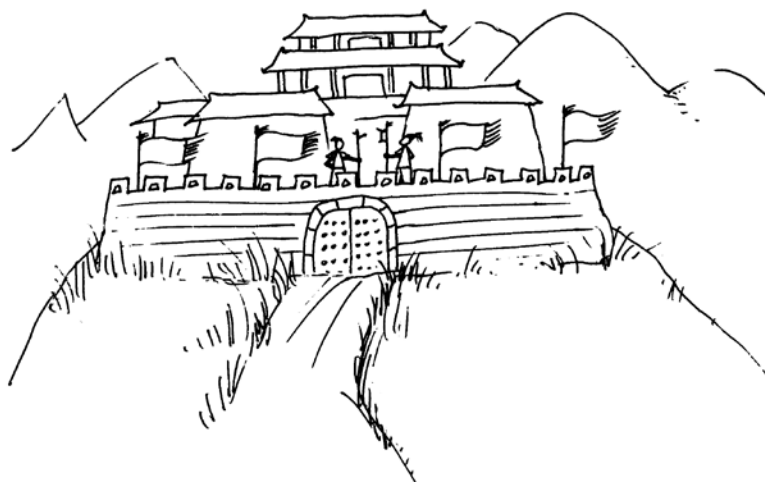
## Lesson 1

甲 金 篆 京

京 jīng (capital)

Pictograph. In the Oracle-Bone and Bronze Inscriptions, 京 (jīng, capital) resembles a large grand building at the top of a hill or mountain. “Capital” is the extended meaning of 京. You may compare 京 with 高 (see gāo, tall, in **Lesson 2**) and 亮 (see liàng, bright, in **Lesson 5**).

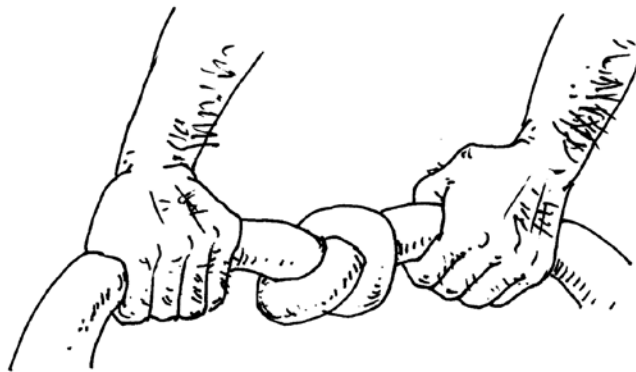
京 象形。像建于高丘之上的華屋大廈，引申為京城，首都。



篆 紐

紐 / 纽 niǚ (knob; button)

Associative and pictophonetic compound. The character 紐 consists of the silk radical 糸 and 丑 (chǒu) as both the phonetic and signifying component. Its original meaning was “to tie a knot.” In its ancient form, 丑 looks like a hand twisting an object and its original meaning was “twist” or “wrench,” but later was borrowed to mean “the second of the twelve Earthly Branches.”



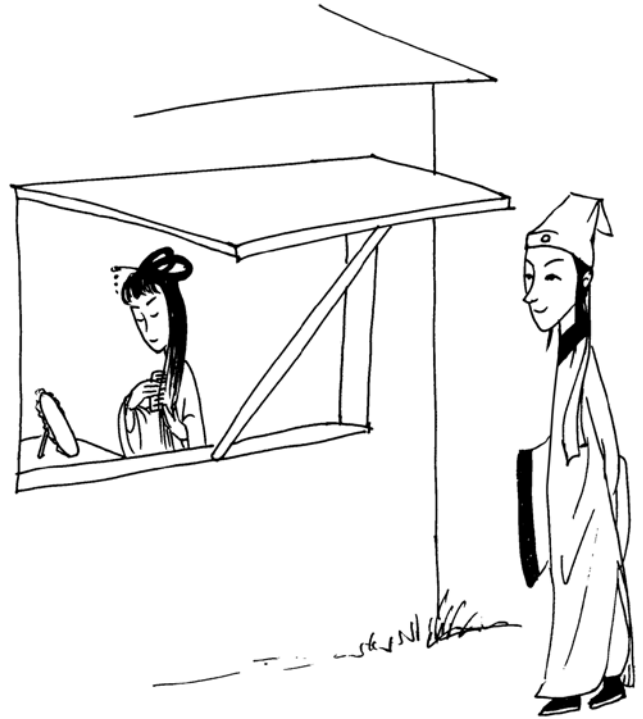
紐 會意兼形聲。從糸，丑聲。本義為打結，鈕扣為其引申義。丑，古字像以手用力扭曲一物，本意為擰扭，后借用表示地支的第二位而另造“扭”字表示擰扭之意。丑現也是繁體字醜的簡化字。

## Lesson 2

篆 草

愛/ 爱 ài (love; be fond of)

Associative and pictophonetic compound. In the Seal Script, the top part of 愛 is both the phonetic and signifying component (pronounced ài, meaning “love”) and the bottom part is the signifying element (攴 suī, walk back and forth; hover). It seems a man is deeply falling in love with a woman, hovering around her house and being reluctant to leave. The simplified character 爱 derives from the cursive style of the traditional form 愛.



愛 會意兼形聲。篆文上部標聲兼表意(ài, love),下部從攴(suī 腳),表示心有所愛而腳下徘徊不忍離去,有慈愛、情愛、喜愛等意。爱是愛字的草書楷化字,去掉愛字中間的心字而將攴字改爲友。

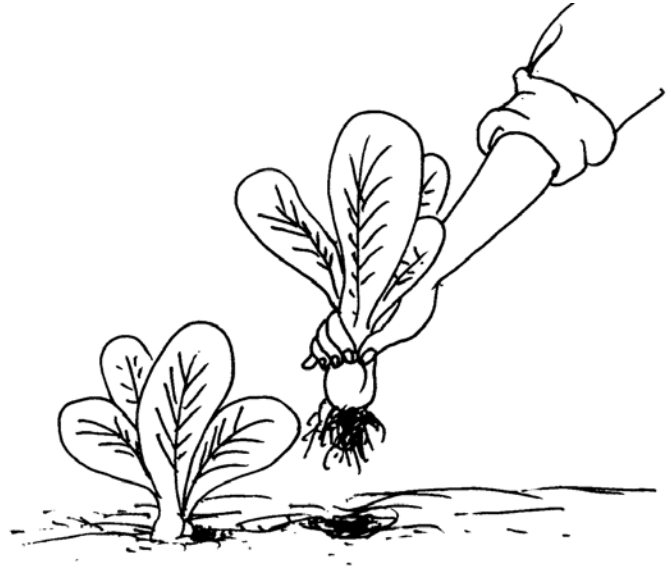
## Lesson 3

采 甲 采 金 采 篆 采

菜 篆 菜

**菜** cài (vegetable; dish; food)

Associative and pictophonetic compound. The character 菜 is composed of the grass/plant radical 艹 and phonetic and signifying component 采 (cǎi), meaning “vegetable.” In the Oracle-Bone Inscriptions, the character 采 looks like a hand picking fruits from a tree, and means “pick,” “pluck,” or “gather.” When vegetables are ripe, people will gather them.



菜 會意兼形聲。本義為蔬菜。從艸，采聲。采亦有採摘之意。采，會意。像以手採樹上果實。

## Lesson 6

隼 甲 隼 金 隼 篆

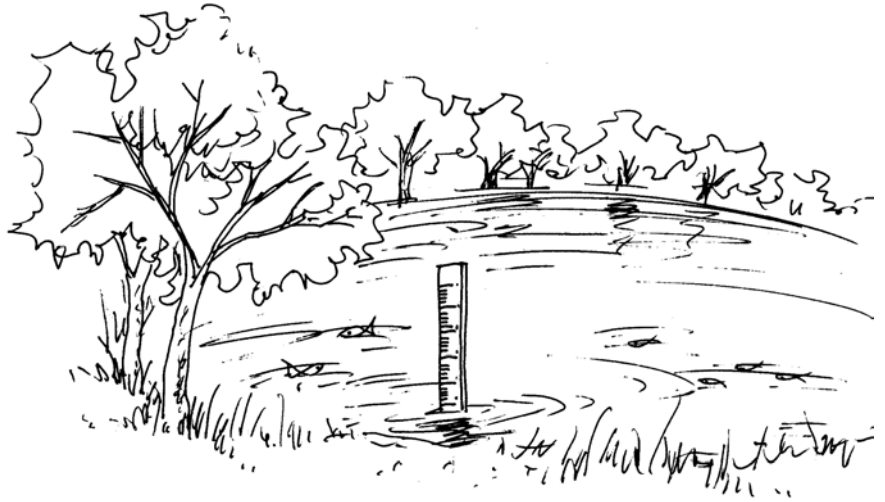
準 篆

**準/准** zhǔn (standard;  
criterion; allow; accurate)

Pictophonetic character. The character 準 consists of the water radical 冫 and the phonetic component 隼 (sǔn), meaning “standard,” “criterion,” etc. Since people used the level of a liquid in a container or the water in a lake/river as standard to judge the height of its

surroundings, the character 準 contains the water radical. In its ancient form, the character 隼 depicts a bird with a person, meaning “hunting eagle.”

準 形聲。從冫，隼(sǔn)聲。本義為水準，準則。隼，會意。金文從隹，從人。像人訓獵鷹狩獵，本意為獵鷹。簡體字准是準字的俗體字，漢代已有。

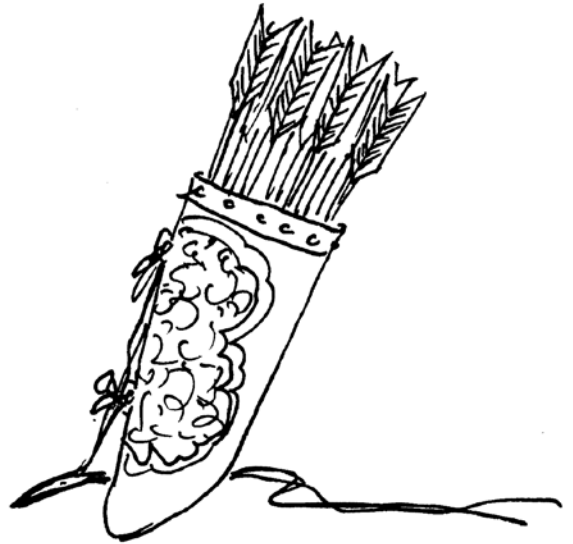


甲 金 篆

## 備/备 bèi (prepare)

Associative compound. In the Oracle-Bone inscriptions and Bronze Inscriptions, the character 備 looks like an arrow in the quiver, signaling ready for a battle. Hence, the meanings of 備 are “cautious,” “prepare,” or “ready.” 備 is a variant form of 備, and the simplified character 备 remains only the right part of 備.

備 會意。甲骨文、金文皆像箭在箭匣中，意指準備，防備，預備，裝備等。備是備字的異體字，簡體字备去掉了備字的部首彳。



甲 篆

## 面 miàn (face)

Pictograph. In the Oracle-Bone Inscription, the character 面 delineates the contour of a face with an exaggerated huge eye, since eyes are the most striking part on one's face. The meanings of 面 include: “face,” “to face,” “said,” “aspect,” “surface,” etc.

面 象形。甲骨文像是臉形。外似面部輪廓，中是一誇大了的眼睛，因眼睛為臉部最為醒目、最為傳神之處。本義為面孔，引申為面向、方面、表面、臉面、等。



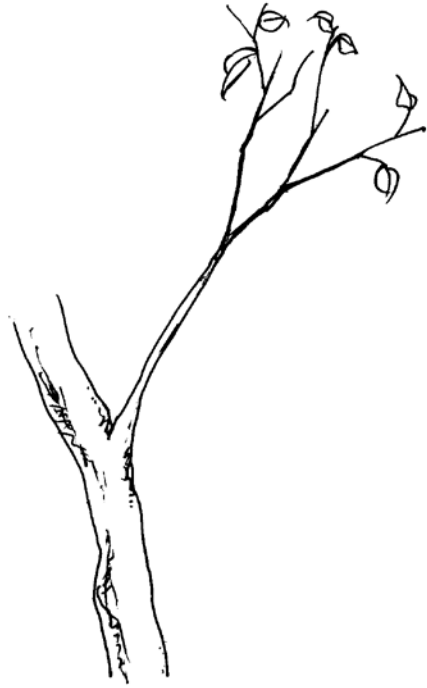
## Lesson 7

篆 枝

**枝** zhī (twig; branch; measure word for long, thin objects)

Pictophonetic character. The character 枝 consists of the wood/tree radical 木 and the phonetic element 支 (zhī). The primary meaning of 枝 is “branch,” or “twig.” It is also used as a measure word for something long and narrow, such as a pen, candle, rifle, etc.

枝 形聲。從木，支聲。本義為樹枝，引申為一些狹長條形物體的量詞。支，古字像手持折斷的竹枝，本義為枝條，引申為分支、支撐、支援等。



篆 紙

**紙** zhǐ (paper)

Pictophonetic character. The character 紙 is comprised of the silk radical 糸 and the phonetic element 氏 (shì), meaning “paper.” Before paper was invented, rich people sometimes wrote on silk. Therefore, 紙 contains the silk radical.

紙 形聲。從糸，氏聲。本義為紙張。古時未造紙之前寫文于絲竹上，固有糸做部首。氏，古文像根在地下形，本義為根本，根柢，引申為古代貴族的分支、傳說中的人物、已婚婦女等。



篆 酷

酷 kù (cruel; extremely)

Pictophonetic character. The character 酷 consists of the radical 酉 (wine jar) and the phonetic 告 (gào, tell). 酷 originally referred to the smell of strong alcoholic drinks and extends to mean “cruel,” “extremely,” etc. Since the pronunciation of 酷 is similar to “cool,” it was used to translate the English word in recent years. In the Oracle-Bone Inscriptions, 告 is comprised of 牛 (niú, ox) and 口 (kǒu, mouth), originally referring to the sound an ox makes and extending to mean “inform,” “tell,” etc.

酷 形聲。從酉，告聲。本義為酒味濃烈，引申義有酷烈殘暴與表程度很深的意。因音與英文 cool 相似，所以用來直譯 cool 在俚語中表達時興並有吸引力的意思。告在甲骨文從口，從牛。本義為牛叫，引申為上報、告訴、佈告等。



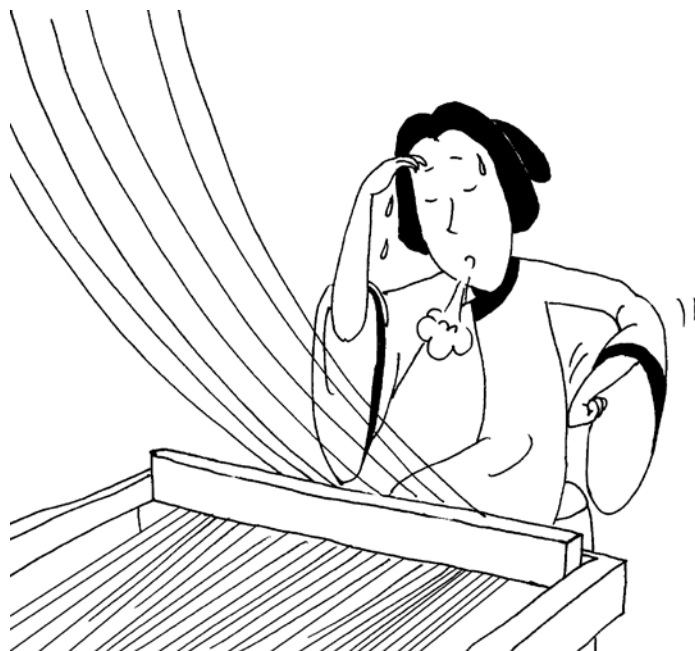


## Lesson 8



### 累 lèi (tired; fatigued)

Pictophonetic character. In the Seal Script, the character 累 is comprised of the semantic component 糸 (mì, silk thread) and the phonetic element 晶 (léi), originally meaning “rope.” The extended meanings of 累 include “tie up,” “bind,” “detain,” “get somebody into trouble,” “toil,” “tired,” etc. In the Regular Script, the character 累 is made up of 田 (tián, field) and 糸 (mì, silk string). In the past men worked in the field and women made silk. Both jobs were laborious and made people exhausted.

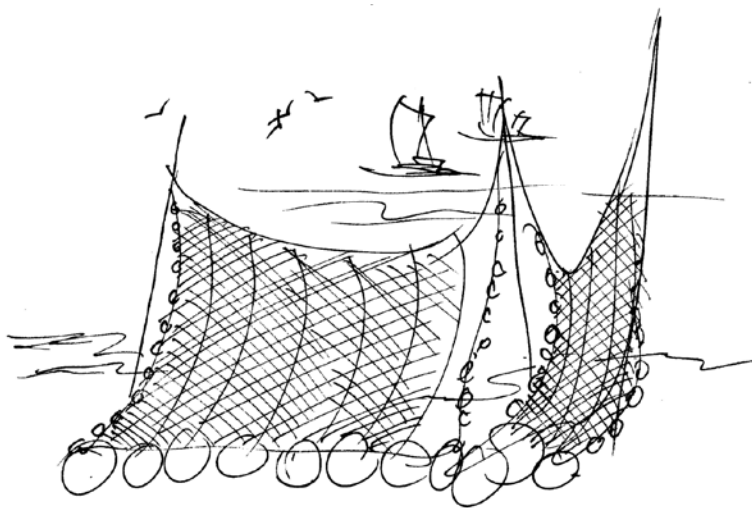


累 會意兼形聲。篆文從糸，晶聲，有纏繞、捆綁、牽連、拖累、勞累等意。正體字上為田，下為糸(束絲)，可想為男耕女織都是使人勞累之事。



### 網/网 wǎng (net)

Pictograph. In its ancient form, the character 網 resembles the contour of a net. In the Regular Script, the silk radical 糸 is added to indicate a net is made from ropes and 亡 (wáng) suggests the pronunciation. The simplified character 网 restores the original form.



網 象形。甲骨文、金文、篆文皆像一張網形。楷書加糸字旁表意，加亡字表聲。簡體字网恢復了古體字的本來形狀。

## Lesson 9

甲 商 金 商 篆 商

商 shāng (commerce; business)

Pictograph. In its ancient form, the character 商 looks like a wine container, which was its original meaning. The wine container had a measuring function, so 商 extended to mean “measurement,” “consult,” “discuss,” “negotiate.” Since business involves a lot of negotiation, 商 came to mean “commerce,” “business,” and “trade.”



商 象形。甲骨文、金文像古代盛酒的容器。酒器有量度，故引申為估量、商量。做生意重在雙方商議，因此又引申為經商、做買賣。

篆 店

店 diàn (shop; store)

Pictophonetic character. In the Seal Script, the character 店 consists of the soil/earth radical 土 and the phonetic element 占(zhàn), originally referring to a clay stand designed for storing things in the main room of a house. Later it extended to mean “store,” “shop,” “inn,” etc. In Regular Script, the shed/shelter radical 广 is used to replace the soil/earth radical 土. It shows the progress of selling things inside a shed instead of on a stage made of soil.



店 形聲。篆文從土，占聲。本義為置放物品的土臺子。后改土字旁為广（敞屋），有商店、旅店等意。店字展示了由在土臺上售貨到在大房內售貨的演變過程。

甲 𠃉 金 𠃉 篆 𠃉

## 如 rú (as; if)

Associative compound. The character 如 consist of 女 (nǚ, female) and 口 (kǒu, mouth), meaning “obey,” or “in compliance with” because women should listen to men’s words according to the traditional concept. One of the Confucian classics lists the three rules women must obey: obeying her father before marriage, her husband after marriage, and her son if her husband dies. The extended meaning of 如 includes “according to,” “as if,” “as,” “if,” etc.

如 會意。從女，從口。按照傳統的價值觀念，女人應該柔順，聽從男人的話。《儀禮 喪服 子夏傳》道“未嫁從父，既嫁從夫，夫死從子”。如本義為順從、遵照。引申為如同、例如、假如等。



甲 𠃉 金 𠃉 篆 𠃉

## 果 guǒ (fruit; result)

Pictograph. In the Oracle-Bone Inscriptions, 果 is a pictograph of a tree with three fruits. In the Bronze Inscriptions, these three fruits become one large one. In Seal Script, this large fruit is replaced with the character 田 (tián, field), which deviates somewhat from the original meaning.

果 象形。像樹上結出的果實。甲骨文樹上有三個果子，金文變成一個大果子。在楷書中方形化則變成了田字。



甲 金 篆 草 長

長/长 cháng (long)

Pictograph. In its ancient form, the character 長 looks like an old man with long hair and a walking stick. The original meaning of 長 was “long hair,” and the extended meanings include “long,” “length,” “strong point,” “be good at,” etc.

長 象形。古字像一長髮拄杖之老人。本義為髮長，引申義有長度、長久、長處、擅長等。

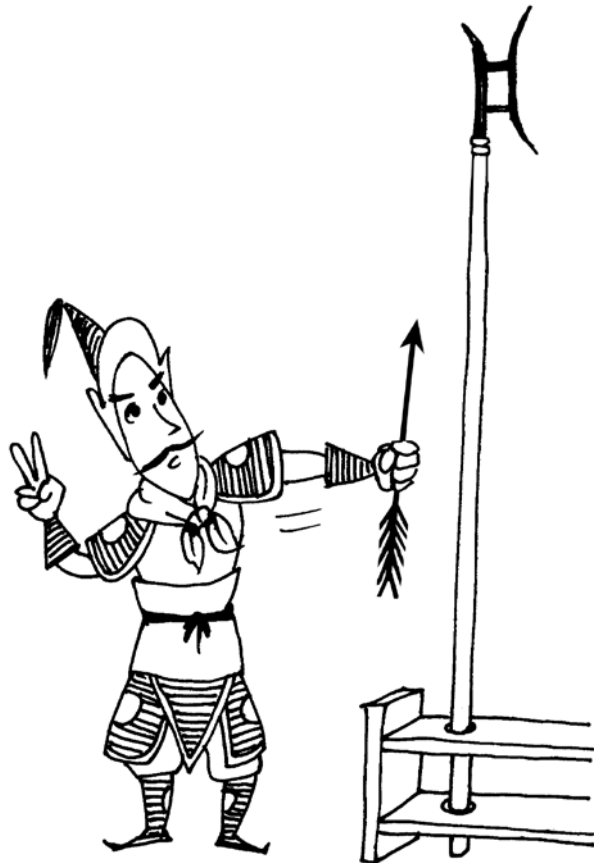


篆 短

短 duǎn (short; brief)

Pictophonetic character. The character 短 is comprised of the arrow radical 矢 and the phonetic 豆 (dòu, beans) meaning “short”. In the Oracle-Bone Inscriptions and Bronze Inscriptions, 矢 is the pictograph of an arrow. In ancient times people could use an arrow to measure the length of other things, therefore the character 短 has the arrow radical.

短 形聲。從矢，豆聲。意為不長。矢即是箭，古人可用矢量長度，故短從矢部。豆，象形。像一種古代食器。豆本義為食器，后借用為豆類植物。



篆 種 種

種/种 zhǒng (species; kind; sort; )  
zhòng (grow; plant)

Pictophonetic character. The character 種 consists of the growing grain radical 禾 and the phonetic element 重 (zhòng, heavy), meaning “plant,” or “grow.” The extended meanings of 種 are “seed,” “breed,” “species,” “kind,” “type,” etc. In the Bronze Inscriptions, 重 is the sketch of a man carrying a heavy sack on his back, meaning “heavy,” or “serious.” In the simplified character 种, the right part of 種 is replaced by 中 because the pronunciation of 中 (zhōng) is similar to 重 (zhòng).



種 形聲。從禾，重聲。本義指種植，引申為種子、種族、種類等。重，象形。像人身負重物。簡體字种把種字的聲旁重用中替代。

篆 挺

挺 tǐng (erect; straighten up; very; rather)

Pictophonetic character. The character 挺 consists of the hand radical 扌 and the phonetic element 廷, and it originally meant “pull out,” “pull up,” or “draw.” Its extended meanings include “straight,” “erect,” “stick out,” “straighten up,” “quite,” “very,” etc. In the Bronze Inscriptions, the character 廷 looks like a man standing in front of the steps of a court, and means “royal court.”



挺 形聲。從扌，廷聲。本義為拔出，引申為挺立、挺拔、筆挺、突出、相當等。  
 廷，象形。金文像一人立於宮廷臺階前，本意為朝廷。

甲 金 篆



它 tā (it)

Pictograph. In its ancient form, the character 它 looks like a snake moving in a zigzag way, and its original meaning was “snake.” Later 它 was borrowed to mean “other,” or “it,” and a worm radical 虫 was added the left of 它 to make a new character 蛇 (snake).



它 象形。古字像一頭部突出、身體彎曲的蛇形。本義為蛇，后借為別的、另外等意。近代用它來指代事物、動物。而蛇的意思則由它字左邊加部首虫來表示。

篆 刷

刷 shuā (scrub; brush; swipe)

Pictophonetic character. The character 刷 consists of the phonetic element shuā on the left and the knife radical 刂 on the right. Its original meaning was “scrape,” extended to mean “scrub,” “brush,” “daub,” “remove,” etc.

刷 形聲。左半邊為聲，右從 刂。本義為用刀刮，引申為用刷子清洗，梳理、塗抹、划過、刷子等。



卡 qiǎ (wedge; get stuck; be jammed)  
kǎ (card)

Associative compound. The character 卡 is the combination of 上 (up) and 下 (down), signifying something is stuck in a particular position and cannot move upward or downward. The meanings of 卡 include “wedge,” “block,” “clip,” “outpost,” etc. 卡 is also used to transliterate some English words because of the similar pronunciation, such as “card,” (卡 kǎ), “calorie” (卡路里 kǎlùlǐ), “cartoon” (卡通 kǎtōng), etc.



卡 會意。無古字。由上下二字合併而成，意指不上不下，卡在中間。也用作關卡，卡子等。因聲音近似，還用來音譯一些英文詞彙，如卡片(card)，卡路里(calorie)，卡通(kǎtōng)等。

篆

收 shōu (receive; accept)

Pictophonetic character. In the Seal Script, the character 收 consists of the signifying element 攴 (pō, hit with stick) on the right and the phonetic element 丩 (jiū) on the left, originally meaning “arrest.” The extended meanings are “take in,” “collect,” “receive,” “gather in,” “harvest,” etc. In Regular Script, in the character 收, 攴 is replaced by the tap/rap radical 攵, for the meaning of 攵 is the same as 攴. You have seen 攵 in the character 教 (jiāo, to teach) in **Lesson 7**.

收 形聲。篆文從攴(pō 手持杖擊打)，丩聲。本義為逮捕，收監，引申為收容、收集、收到、收復、收獲等。部首攵與攴意思相同。



## Lesson 10

篆

郵/邮 yóu (post; mail; postal)

Associative compound. In the Seal Script, the character 郵 is the combination of 垂 (chuí, hang down; border area; frontier) and 邑 (yì, living area; town; city), originally referring to the inns for couriers who carried mail on horseback and extending to mean “post,” “mail,” “postal,” “postman,” etc.



郵 會意。從卩（卩指邑，即居住區域），從垂（義為邊陲）。郵本義指古代供信差食宿的驛站。引申義為郵遞、郵差等。

金 篆

城 chéng (wall; city wall; city)

Pictophonetic character. The character 城 is comprised of the soil/earth radical 土 and the phonetic element 成 (chéng; succeed), originally meaning “wall.” Since all cities had walls in ancient times, 城 extended to mean “city.” The character 成 originally meant “cease-fire”, and extended to mean “succeed,” “accomplish,” “achievement,” “become,” etc. The right part of 成 is 戈 (ge, dagger-ax), which you have learned in the **Radicals** section.



城 形聲。從土，成聲。本義指城牆。古代城市皆有牆，因而引申為城市。成，形聲。從戊（古代一種斧型兵器），丁聲，本義為休兵言和結盟，引申成功，完成、成爲、成全、成就等。



甲 市 篆 市

市 shì (market; city)

Associative and pictophonetic compound. In its ancient form, the character 市 has 之 (zhī; go) on the top and 冂 (jiǒng, designed market area) at the bottom, meaning “go to the market”. Since every city had a market, 市 extended to mean “city.” In the ancient form of character 市, 之 also functions as the phonetic element.

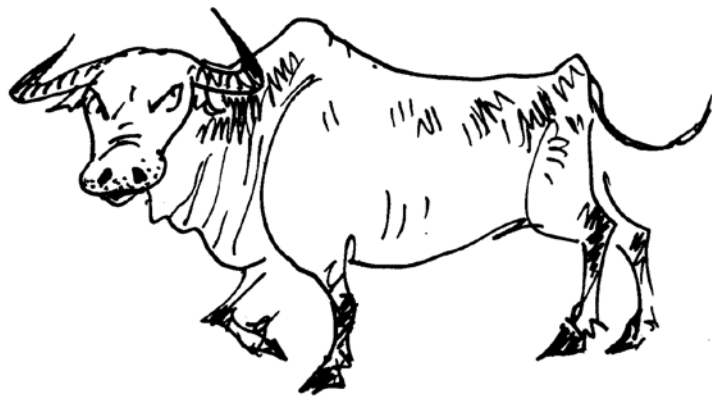


市 會意兼形聲。甲骨文從之（去，前往），從冂（jiǒng，劃出的集市範圍），之亦表聲。本義指集市，市場。因有城即有市場，引申為城市。

古 特 篆 特

特 tè (special; unusual)

Pictophonetic characters. The character 特 consists of the ox radical 牛 and the phonetic element 寺 (sì, temple), and it originally meant “bull,” “ox,” “calf” or “small livestock.” Since ox horns are striking, 特 extended to mean “outstanding,” “special,” “unusual,” “exceptional,” etc. In its ancient form, 牛 is the front view of an ox head. You have seen 寺 in the character 時 in **Lesson 4**.



特 形聲。從牛，寺聲。本義指公牛。因牛角突出醒目，引申為獨特、特別、特點、特色等。