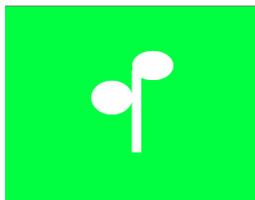


# RENREN CHINESE 人人中文



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## A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CHINESE LEARNERS

### - CHINESE LEARNING TIPS

Your success in learning Chinese depends on finding materials and methods that suit your particular learning style. There are several ways to approach learning Chinese. Finding the most effective method depends on analyzing your learning style and choosing appropriate materials for your particular style. There are three basic learning styles:

- Visual
- Auditory
- Kinesthetic

Visual learners benefit from flashcards, note-taking, videos, and diagrams. Auditory learners like word associations, group discussions, and recorded materials. Kinesthetic learners prefer physical activities like role-playing, using interactive software, and memory games. Everyone has his own unique way to study, so you may not fit neatly into one of the three learning style categories. That's OK – a mixture of methods can often help to reinforce newly learned material. Here are a few tips divided into the three learning style categories.

#### Visual Methods for Learning Chinese

- Use textbooks, flashcards
- Make notes, lists and diagrams
- Watch Mandarin-language videos
- Use colored highlighters for various language functions like verbs, nouns, measure words etc.

#### Auditory Methods for Learning Chinese

- Use audio materials like CDs and MP3 files
- For classroom study, ask if you can record the lessons
- Watch Chinese videos and listen to Chinese songs
- Record all your written notes

#### Kinesthetic Methods for Learning Chinese

- Use flashcards and interactive software
- Play role-playing games and practice dialogs with a partner
- Study in the language class and with other students
- Find a language-exchange partner

每月一字

Word of the Month

# What's in a Chinese Character

shǒu

手 hand 4 strokes

手臂: arm

The earliest pictograph for hand placed undue emphasis on the palm lines as basis. Practical experience, however, put man on the right lines – fingers. Finally, reinforced with straight lines the character assumed the modern form with fingers of unequal length. For as the proverb goes, “of the ten fingers, some are long and some are short.” “手” proved handy as radical for numerous characters with its variants.



*Practice Chinese Characters here:*

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## RCS Calendar and Holidays

### October 2013

日	一	二	三	四	五	六
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### November 2013

日	一	二	三	四	五	六
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30 No School

## The Double Ninth Festival 重阳节 (chóng yáng jié)



The “Chong Yang Festival” is celebrated on the ninth day of the ninth lunar month, and it is known as the Double Ninth Festival.

### Origins:

The festival began as early as the Warring States Period (475 – 221 BC). According to the yin/yang dichotomy that forms a basis to the Chinese world view, yin represents the elements of darkness and yang represents life and brightness. The number nine is regarded as yang. The ninth day of the ninth month is a double yang day, hence the name “Chong Yang Festival”. (Chong means “repeat” in Chinese.) The ninth month also heralds the approach of winter. It is a time when the living need warm clothing, and the Chinese sons and daughters extended this to make the festival a time for providing winter clothes for their ancestors. The Double Ninth Festival, therefore, also became an occasion to visit the graves of dead family members. Clothes made of paper would then be burnt as offerings.

### Climbing Mountains:

Climbing mountain as well as appreciating chrysanthemums, drinking chrysanthemum wine and eating Double Ninth cake is another custom of the festival.



### Family Get-Togethers:

The Double Ninth Festival is also a time for family get-togethers. Often, family outings are organized during which people search to renew their appreciation of nature and to reaffirm their love and care for family members and close friends.

**Editor's Desk** We would like to recommend the attached on-line dictionary for learning Chinese Pinyin and Characters. Your child can type the Pinyin and search for the Chinese words, Pinyin Tone Marks and English Translations.

<http://www.words-chinese.com/chinese-learning-dictionary?q=nin+hao&lang=english&cr=4>