

# COMMUNICATIVE EXCHANGES



## Mǎi Dōngxì - Shopping

### FRAME 1

(Two DLI CM students are shopping for gifts in Chinatown.)

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|---|--|--|
| 1 | A: Wǒ hěn xǐhuan zhèizhāng zhōngguó huà. Yǒu shān, yǒu shuǐ, hěn hǎokàn. | I like this Chinese painting very much. It has mountains and streams and is very pretty. |
| 2 | B: Nǐ xǐhuan huàhuà ma?  | Do you like to paint (pictures)?   |
| 3 | A: Wǒ hěn xǐhuan huàhuà, yě xǐhuan kàn huà. Nǐ ne?                       | I like to paint (pictures) very much; I also like to look at pictures. How about you?    |
| 4 | B: Wǒ ài kàn huà, kěshì búhuì huàhuà.                                    | I am fond of looking at pictures but I cannot paint (pictures).                          |

#### Notes:

1. Measure for Flat Surfaces. Previously -zhāng was presented as the specific measure for dìtú, "map." Here it is the specific measure for huà, "picture." It is usually used with things having flat, extended surfaces, such as newspapers, tables, etc.

2. Auxiliary Verbs Used with Verb-Object Compounds. The sentence Nǐ xǐhuan huàhuà ma? "Do you like to paint pictures?" is a good example of the S-AV-VO pattern. Other examples:

S   AV   VO

Wǒ ài   kàn Zhōngguó bào.

I am fond of reading Chinese newspapers.

Tā xǐhuan zuò mǎimai.

He likes to do business.

3. Modifying Auxiliary Verbs. An auxiliary verb can be modified by an adverb:

S   ADV   AV   VO

Nǐ hěn ài   kànbào.

You like to read newspapers very much.

4 Special use of ài. When using the Verb/AV ài "to love, be fond of/love to," it must be remembered that you can be fond of doing something and love someone but not love something.

## FRAME 2

(In a gift shop, they speak to the proprietor.)

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|---|---|--|
| 5 | A: Nǐmen zhèlǐ yǒu méiyǒu Zhōngguó cài de <u>shípǔ</u> ?  | Do you have Chinese cookbooks (here)?  |
| 6 | C: Yǒu. Yǒu Zhōngwén de, yě yǒu Yīngwén de. Dōu shì sānkuài bāmáo yìběn.                        | Yes, we do. We have cookbooks in the Chinese language and also in English. They are all \$3.80 a copy. |
| 7 | A: Wǒ yào yìběn Yīngwén de <u>sònggei</u> wǒ mǔqīn, <u>yīnwei</u> tā hěn xǐhuan <u>zuòfàn</u> . | I want an English (language) copy to give to my mother, because she likes to cook very much.           |
| 8 | B: Wǒ yě mǎi yìběn sònggei wǒ tàitai. Tā yě hěn ài <u>zuòfàn</u> .                              | I'll also buy a copy to give to my wife. She is also very fond of cooking.                             |

Notes:

6 Modified Nouns Understood. In the phrase yǒu Zhōngwén de, the modified noun shípǔ, "cookbook," is understood. The same is true in the phrase yǒu Yīngwén de.

Bound Form -wén. The bound form -wén following a country's name denotes its language: Zhōngwén, "Chinese language," and Yīngwén, "English language."

## FRAME 3

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|----|---|--|
| 9  | A: Zhèjiā <u>shāngdiàn</u> (pùzi) yǒu hěn <u>duō</u> Zhōngguó <u>fú-zhuāng</u> gēn Zhōngguó <u>bùxié</u> .  | This store has a lot of Chinese clothing and Chinese cotton shoes.   |
| 10 | B: Wǒ xiǎng mǎi <u>yìshuāng</u> bùxié sònggei wǒ àiren. Bùxiǎng mǎi <u>yīfu</u> . Yīnwei tài <u>máfan</u> . | I intend to buy a pair of cotton shoes to give to my wife. I don't intend to buy clothes because that is too much trouble. |

Notes:

9 Duō and shǎo, "many" and "few." When these two stative verbs function as adjectives, they must be modified either by bù or by an adverb, such as hěn. As adjectives they may or may not use de.

Acceptable: hěn duō(de) shū very many books  
 hěn shǎo(de) rén very few people  
 bùshǎo(de) rén quite a few people

Unacceptable: duō(de) shū  
 shǎo(de) rén

10 Negating xiǎng. Wǒ bùxiǎng mǎi yīfu, "I don't intend to buy clothes." Since, in the context of this conversation, xiǎng means "intend" and not "to think," it is permissible to negate xiǎng.

Uses of máfan. The three main functions of this word are as follows:

- |    |     |              |                   |
|----|-----|--------------|-------------------|
| a. | SV: | hěn máfan    | very troublesome  |
| b. | N:  | Yǒu máfan.   | There is trouble. |
| c. | V:  | Tā máfan wǒ. | He bothers me.    |

## FRAME 4

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|----|--|---|
| 11 | A: Wǒ fùqin hěn néng hējiǔ, wǒ yào mǎi jǐpíng zhōngguó jiǔ sònggei tā.                     | My father can really drink (hold his liquor well). I want to buy several bottles of Chinese alcoholic drink to give to him. |
| 12 | B: Nǐ xiǎng mǎi shénme jiǔ?  | What kind of alcoholic drinks do you intend to buy?   |
| 13 | A: Píjiǔ.  | Beer.   |
| 14 | B: Tīngshuō Zhōngguó píjiǔ hěn yǒumíng. Wǒ mǎi qīpíng. Wǔpíng gěi wǒ fùmǔ, zìjǐ liǎngpíng. | I have heard (it said) that Chinese beer is very famous. I'll buy seven bottles: five for my parents and two for myself.    |

Notes

11 Hěn néng (hējiǔ), "be very capable of drinking." This is a good example of the special meaning that can be applied to the combination of hěn néng. It is not simply "he can drink." It

means that he really can drink long and hard without significant effect. Similarly, tā hěn néng zuò mǎimai is not simply "he can really do business," but "he is very accomplished in conducting business."

14 Tīngshuō, "I have heard (it said)," is a common introductory clause for an indirect quote.

Wǒ tīngshuō tā hěn yǒuqián.      I have heard (it said) that he  
is very rich.