基础六 · Type a sentence and choose a study routine

Chinese Foundations

Send a message you can read back

You want to type **我是学生。Wǒ shì xuésheng.** I am a student. A pinyin keyboard suggests characters; you still choose the intended words. A first candidate is a prediction, not an answer key.

Type sounds, check characters

Enable a Simplified Chinese pinyin input method. Type **wo shi xuesheng** or the whole sequence **woshixuesheng**, then select 我是学生. Candidate order depends on the keyboard, context and previous choices. Read the complete message before sending it.

Most ordinary pinyin keyboards take letters without tone marks: shi can suggest 是, 时, 十 or 市. Choose by the message, not by a fixed candidate number. The fact that typing does not require tone marks does not make tones optional when speaking.

Enter ü and separate syllables

Many full-pinyin keyboards accept **v** for ü: **nv** for 女 nǚ and **lv** for 绿 lǜ. Keyboard layouts differ, so check your input method if that shortcut is unavailable. After j, q and x, use normal pinyin spelling, such as **qu** for 去 qù.

To distinguish **西安 Xī'ān**, Xi'an, from **先 xiān**, first, an apostrophe is often useful: **xi'an**. Some keyboards also accept spaces or resolve the city from context. Always check that the output has the intended two characters. Pinyin word divisions are not English spelling rules.

Work through a wrong candidate

You intend **明天见。Míngtiān jiàn.** See you tomorrow, but the screen shows a different word for jian. Do not keep the first candidate merely because the letters match. Reselect 见, read 明天见, then say it aloud. The checking step joins typing to meaning.

Make the daily loop specific

Stage	Small task
Recall	Say two words from yesterday before opening the models.
Learn	Listen to one new phrase, read its characters and explain its meaning.
Use	Type a short message, then say it with one detail changed.
Check	Compare the characters and ask for feedback on a recording when possible.
Return	Recall the phrase tomorrow and again a few days later.

Five or ten minutes is a practical starting point, not a guaranteed learning rate. If you miss a day, resume with a small recall task. Keep separate notes on what you recognised, understood by ear, typed and wrote by hand.

A fresh situation

R1. Interpret and repair. You type shi and choose the first candidate without reading the message. Why is that unreliable?

R2. Use it yourself. Describe how to enter 西安 and 女 on a full-pinyin keyboard, then check the displayed characters.

Write your responses before opening the key. Compare meaning as well as form; a different valid answer need not copy the model.

Answers and explanations

Check after your attempt. For open tasks, compare the message and the stated criteria, then revise one detail.

■ Fresh-situation answers

R1. Shi can produce many characters, and candidate order varies by keyboard and context. Read the intended word and the full message before selecting or sending it.

R2. One possible response. Try xi'an for 西安 and nv for 女 on keyboards supporting v for ü. Input methods vary. Confirm the two-character city name and the intended 女 rather than memorising candidate numbers.

Recall later. Tomorrow, type a new short message, read it aloud and repair any wrong candidate.