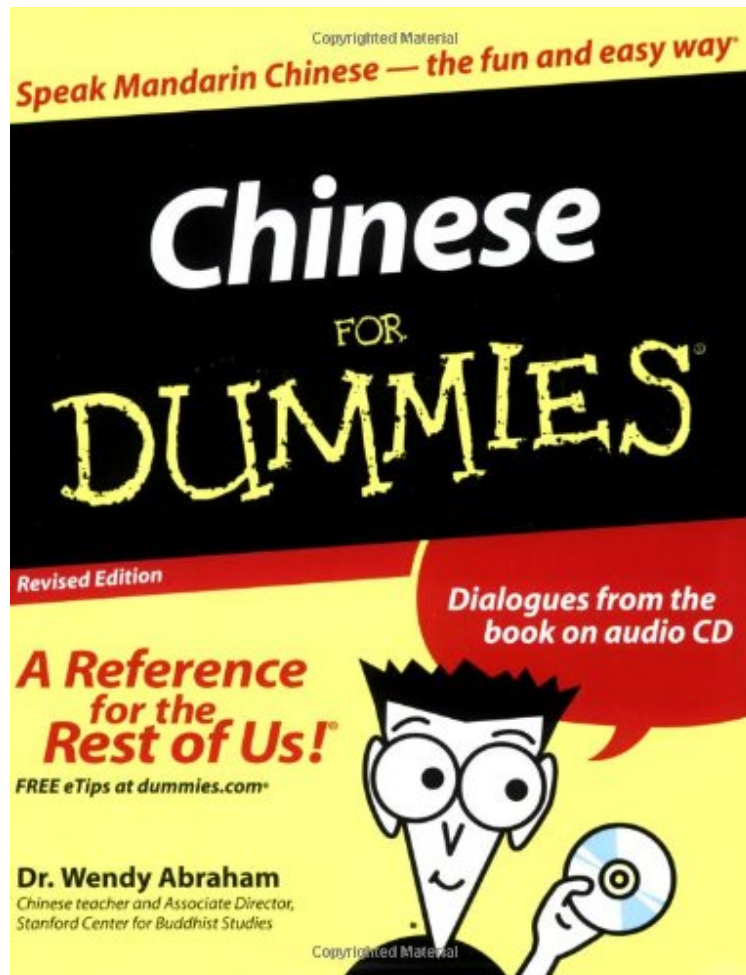


Chinese For Dummies

Wendy Abraham

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Wendy Abraham : Chinese For Dummies before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chinese For Dummies:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Not for just dummies By The Penguin This is a very good reference book for learning spoken Mandarin. As stated in the Introduction, this is not a book intended to be read from cover to cover. Instead, it's written for browsing. I agree with some other reviewers that this book isn't exactly a basic Dummies book. Some previous Chinese language experience before reading this book makes more sense. The information in this book is still very useful though. One problem I have with this book is that the type is small. Sometimes it's hard to see the tone marks without wearing reading glasses. A larger font would make the transliterated text easier to read. Also, this book does not have any information about reading Chinese characters. I think this book is worth the low price as a reference book, but you'll still need other references. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Chinese for dummies. By Customer The book and disc content are slightly out-dated insofar as the disc begins by telling you his to

pronounce consonants and asks you to repeat conversations between two people but does not tell you what the people are saying. If you listen to the disc while driving you may well be speaking Chinese but you do not know what you are saying. Although it is explained in the book you would need to have the book alongside you to understand. Later versions might correct this, and I was aware that the version I bought was probably obsolete. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book is a real blessing. By DEREK ELLISON I am totally satisfied with this purchase in every aspect. The material quality of the book is better than I expected it to be. I thought Chinese was going to be very difficult to learn but once you get the consonant vowel sounds down, it's a piece of cake. This takes a little work and time and I would advise anybody targeting this language to commit to this section of the book until they have it reasonably memorized. After that, it's a breeze thanks to the transliteration by which you can check yourself. Also, there are some really good Chinese movies with subtitles and when you start to realize you are starting to understand what's being said, you'll be giggling like a kid in a candy factory. Good luck with it.

China has become a major influence in the world today. Not only is China full of opportunities in business and politics, but Chinese culture, such as movies and literature, are also making their way into the western world. And with Chinese as the second most widely-spoken foreign language in America, more and more Americans are exposed to its language and culture. This revised edition of Chinese for Dummies shows you the basics of Mandarin Chinese and culture points that will make great impressions while communicating. Many Americans are taking time to learn Chinese, especially since it is becoming one of the most widely used languages in the world. Currently, there are: Over 1 billion people speak some form of Chinese More Chinese speakers in the United States than French or German speakers 102.6 million internet users who obtain access using Chinese At least 25 million people worldwide who are learning Chinese Chinese For Dummies will show you how to communicate effectively in Chinese as well as inform you on Chinese culture. Some of the topics this book covers include: Basic vocabulary Everyday conversations, including phone dialogue and small talk Speaking in perfect pitch and tone Easy-to-understand grammar rules Getting around in a Chinese-speaking country Cultural references like maintaining face, dining etiquette, and social mores Also included is an audio CD that features actual Chinese conversations by native Chinese speakers, which allows you to hear how Chinese is really spoken. Written by a leading Chinese language teacher in the United States, Chinese for Dummies will introduce an often daunting language to you in a fun-and-easy For Dummies manner.

From the Back Cover Features real-world examples and a mini-dictionary Your friendly guide to understanding Chinese quickly and easily! Curious about Chinese? Whether you're a student, a traveler, doing international business, or you just want to pick up basic Chinese, this clear, easy-to-follow guide will have you pronouncing words in standard Mandarin like a native speaker. From grammar, numbers, and vocabulary to greetings, popular expressions, and proper etiquette, you'll make yourself understood in no time! Discover how to: Have everyday conversations Speak in perfect pitch Construct sentences Understand cultural rules and taboos Get around in Chinese-speaking country All This on the Audio CD Pick up Chinese the easy way through actual conversation Features dialogues by native Chinese speakers Allows you to hear Chinese as it's really spoken Reinforces lessons from the book Get smart! @www.dummies.com Find listings of all our books Choose from many different subject categories Sign up for eTips at etips.dummies.com About the Author Wendy Abraham is the Associate Director of the Stanford Center for Buddhist Studies and the Asian Religions Cultures Initiative. She has taught courses on Chinese language, Chinese literature, and Asian cultures at Hunter College, Georgetown University, New York University, and Stanford University, where she's currently pursuing her second doctorate in modern Chinese literature. She spent a year researching Shang Dynasty oracle bones in Taiwan, which sparked her deep interest in the development of China's written language. Wendy has directed Chinese language programs for American students in Beijing and Shanghai and has interpreted for high-level arts delegations from China. Her first doctoral dissertation from Teachers College (Columbia University) was on the Chinese Jews of Kaifeng, a subject about which she has written widely and continues to lecture frequently throughout the United States. She also created Jewish Historical Tours of China, bringing people to visit Shanghai and Kaifeng on educational trips. Her interest in all things Chinese continues unabated.