

Chinese Biographies

Graded Readers

人物传记

中文拼音辅助读本

Yao Ming

姚明

篮球界的巨星

Grace Wu



CHENG & TSUI COMPANY

Boston

For Tony, Andrew and James

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Foreword

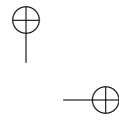
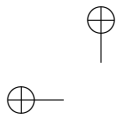
It is my distinct pleasure to write this Foreword for Grace Wu's new Chinese Graded Reader Series that is being published by Cheng & Tsui.

The format of *hanzi* (Chinese characters) with *pinyin* (spelling) annotations is one that I have long energetically advocated. To see these books now being edited by my esteemed colleague is truly a cause for joy. What is even more to be applauded is the fact that the *pinyin* annotations in these volumes are orthographically correct, with spacing for word separation and proper punctuation. It is extremely rare nowadays—whether in China or abroad—to find such careful attention being paid to *pinyin* orthography.

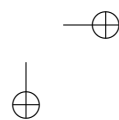
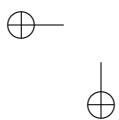
The subject matter of the first two volumes has been well chosen: the biographies of Lang Lang and Yao Ming. They will prove attractive to students from junior high school through college, and even adults who are learning Mandarin will find them valuable.

May this be the beginning of a long-lasting and flourishing series that includes not only biographies, but also the best fiction, science fiction, mysteries, and all manner of other subject matter. I am sure that the Cheng & Tsui Chinese Graded Reader Series edited by Grace Wu will be warmly welcomed by students and teachers alike, and that they will benefit greatly from these excellent, well-conceived textbooks.

Victor H. Mair
Professor of Chinese Language and Literature
University of Pennsylvania



SAMPLE




Preface

Cheng & Tsui's Chinese Biographies Graded Reader Series consists of Chinese learning materials targeted towards high school and college students. One of the most challenging aspects of learning Mandarin is mastering the skills of reading and writing. Extensive reading practice is the best way to improve Mandarin reading ability, fluency and word usage, but there is a shortage of reading materials specifically geared towards learning Mandarin. In the United States, students typically learn colloquial Mandarin (口语) and are rarely exposed to more formal written language (书面语). The goal of this series is twofold: to serve as a useful teaching resource for educators, and to provide engaging leisure reading material, accompanied by pinyin, for students. This series specially targets students at the advanced-beginner to low-intermediate level of proficiency, or knowledge of approximately 350-700 characters, whose Mandarin speaking skills are comparatively stronger than their Mandarin reading skills.

This series includes special features designed for maximum educational effectiveness, such as:

1. Chinese characters accompanied by *pinyin*

As mentioned above, improving Chinese reading skills requires considerable practice, but students may be intimidated by the absence of *pinyin* in many Chinese reading texts. Displaying Chinese characters and *pinyin* together decreases student anxiety and allows the student to overcome this challenge. In the past, most publications have paired




Chinese characters with *pinyin* equivalents at the character level (for example, 汽车 is paired to *qì chē*). But by using recently developed software, this series matches Chinese characters with *pinyin* at the word level, a more linguistically accurate practice. For example, 汽车 is paired with *qìchē*, which more precisely matches the syntax of the Chinese. This distinction is especially important for learning Mandarin, and also facilitates student interpretation of the text by aiding students to develop skills in discerning word boundaries and sentence structure.

Consistent *pinyin* annotation also has the advantage of being easily adaptable for students at different proficiency levels. By including *pinyin* throughout the book instead of glossing only selected words, we have made it easy for students to look up words they have not encountered before, customizing the reading experience to their own proficiency level. Since *pinyin* is provided together with Chinese characters, there is only minimal disruption to the experience of continuous reading. With this flexibility built in, the books are appropriate for students from many different backgrounds—heritage speakers developing their reading skills, as well as learners of Chinese as a foreign language.

2. Simple, easy-to-understand Mandarin with content suitable for American students

Beginner-level Mandarin reading materials published in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore primarily contain fairy tales, fables, historical stories, or stories about the origins of Chinese idioms. However, these stories can be less suitable for students raised outside Chinese-speaking areas, who may not be as familiar with the underlying historical and cultural background. Lang Lang and Yao Ming, the subjects of the first two biographies in this series, are two well-known figures in American society. Both were born in China but developed




their careers in the United States and are popular internationally. Students will be able to compare American and Chinese cultures through reading their life stories, and may also empathize with Lang Lang and Yao Ming regarding the challenges of being a young person in America. This connection to a familiar context is important for students, as it increases their engagement and confidence.

3. Learning resources online and in the book

This series is also accompanied by a companion website at www.chinesebiographies.com that includes vocabulary lists, interactive exercises, audio recordings, additional exercises, and teaching resources. Teachers can adapt these resources to the particular needs of their students and classrooms. This series includes both printed and online components for two reasons: to flexibly meet the different needs of diverse readers, and to keep the printed materials slim and affordable, reducing the burden on students buying class materials. Readers can even join the forums to share opinions and ideas with a community of Chinese learners and teachers all over the world.

Online materials include true-false questions, multiple choice questions, and crossword puzzles for further practice to improve grammar and vocabulary. The exercises are located online in the hope that students can be immersed in the reading experience and follow the plot of the story with minimal interruption. These exercises can also serve as a template for teachers to design classroom activities or students to engage in additional independent study.

Each chapter in the book includes pre-reading questions designed to facilitate brainstorming and discussion. The post-reading questions in each chapter are intended to delve deeper into cultural discussions; young people who grew up in the United States can articulate their



opinions and compare their experiences. As teachers, we should encourage our students' capacity for critical thinking, even though their language skills may be basic.

My hope is that these books will not only contribute enjoyment and interest to the process of learning the Chinese language, but also foster students' appreciation of contemporary Chinese figures who have contributed to world culture in many different spheres. The ability to comprehend reading materials independently is an important and exciting stage of learning a language. What better way to exercise this skill than to learn about these notable figures, who overcame so many obstacles in developing their own exceptional talents?

Grace Wu
University of Pennsylvania
June 30, 2010

前言

剑桥的“人物传记：中文拼音辅助读本系列”是针对在美国长大的青少年所设计的辅助中文学习教材。学习中文的最大难处，除了四声音调之外，就在读写。然而，要使阅读能进步的方法就是通过大量的阅读来提高阅读水平，流利程度和用词遣字。在美国，由于缺乏专门为中文学习者编写的中文泛读教材，学生在学习中文的过程中，主要以学习“口语”的教科书为主，学习“书面语”的环境则相对不足。本系列旨在设计一套老师方便使用，也能引发学生自行阅读的中文拼音读本。主要的对象是已经有普通话口语基础，而中文阅读水平不足的美国青少年学生。

本系列的特点如下：

1. 汉字和汉语拼音并列

如上述，阅读水平的提高是通过大量的阅读。然而，对非拼音文字的中文而言，如果识字不多，如何能进行阅读呢？汉字和拼音的并列提供了解决的方式，使阅读者能有效率地进行阅读。在过去，大部分汉字和拼音并列材料是汉字和拼音一对一的排列，而本系列最大的特点之一，即是利用最新开发的软件，根据汉

语拼音正词法正确地标注拼音。正确的拼音正词法对汉语学习者尤其重要。比如，以“qìchē”来代表“汽车”。如果“qì chē”两个拼音分开，对学生而言，可能有不同的理解。透过使用汉语拼音正词法学习词汇，进而到句子，段落和故事篇章是本系列一大特色。

2. 使用浅易的文字（浅语），内容适合美国青少年的心智程度

在中国、台湾、香港、新加坡所出版的“浅语”中文读物，大多数属于童话故事、动物故事、历史故事或成语故事。对美国青少年而言，一则，与其心智程度不符，再则，对其历史背景和民情风俗不了解。本系列第一册“朗朗”和第二册“姚明”都是在美国家喻户晓的人物。他们都是在中國出生，来美国发展并走向世界的佼佼者。通过他们的故事，学生能看到中美文化的不同，并从他们在美国成长奋斗的过程中产生共鸣。由于阅读除了文字以外，还需要相当成分的背景知识，因此选择美国学生熟悉、喜欢的题材必能提高学习的兴趣和阅读的信心。

3. 网络辅助资源

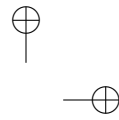
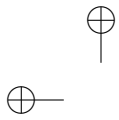
本系列阅读教材搭配免费辅助网络（www.chinesebiographies.com），提供学生生词表，录音，练习题和课堂建议活动等教学资源。教师可以根

据学生不同的需要和课堂活动做调整。本系列辅助读本之所以分两大部分：书面和网络的目的是 1) 适合不同需求的读者，2) 降低出版成本，进而降低书费，减轻学生负担。

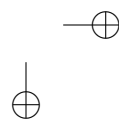
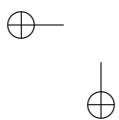
读本的每一章有阅读前讨论问题，老师可以和学生进行脑力激荡，阅读后的理解问题老师可以和学生进行更深层次的文化讨论。在美国长大的青少年，善于表达自己的见解和判断。我们不可因为学生的语言水平不足而低估了他们思辨能力。除此之外，我们将是非，选择和字谜等练习题放在网路上，是希望学生在阅读时能持续不中断，随着故事的情节享受阅读的乐趣。同时，这些美国学生喜欢的练习形式可以帮助老师设计课堂活动或学生自行练习。

我期望这系列的辅助教不但可以增进学生阅读中文的乐趣，也可以从这些当代人物身上看到他们对世界不同文化的贡献。对学生来说，独立地阅读和理解是学习语言非常重要和令人兴奋的阶段。藉着阅读名人传记看到他们克服困难，迈向成功的同时，学生可以进一步提升中文的阅读程度。

Grace Wu
University of Pennsylvania
June 30, 2010

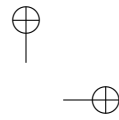
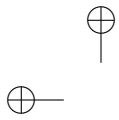


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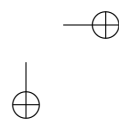
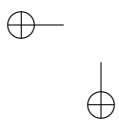


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SAMPLE



Dì-yī zhāng
第一章

1

Zhōngguó lánqiú yùndòng de fāzhǎn
中国篮球运动的发展

The History of Basketball in China



Yuèdú qián tāolùntí
阅读前讨论题:

- Nǐ zuì xǐhuan de yùndòng shì shénme Wèishénme
1. 你最喜欢的运动是什么? 为什么?

What is your favorite sport? Why do you like it?

- Nǐ zhīdao lánqiú de qǐyuán ma Shéi fā míng le lánqiú Nǐ
2. 你知道篮球的起源吗? 谁发明了篮球? 你
xǐhuan dǎ lánqiú ma
喜欢打篮球吗?

Do you know anything about the history of basketball? Who invented it? Do you like playing basketball?

- Nǐ xǐhuan kàn lánqiú bǐsài ma Wèishénme?
3. 你喜欢看篮球比赛吗? 为什么?

Do you like watching basketball games? Why or why not?

- Nǐ zhīdao Yáo Míng shì shéi ma Nǐ zhīdao tā duō gāo ma
4. 你知道姚明是谁吗? 你知道他多高吗?

zui gāo de qiúyuán shì shéi
NBA最高的球员是谁?

Do you know who Yao Ming is? How tall is he? Who is the tallest player in the NBA?

2 | 中国篮球运动的发展

5. ■■ Wàimian tiānqì hěn lěng de shíhòu nǐ huì zuò yīxiē shénmeyàng
de shìnèi yùndòng
的室内运动?

When it's cold outside, what sorts of indoor exercise do you do to stay active?



Wǒ duì Yáo Míng zuì xīnshǎng de dìfāng jiùshì tā duìdài bǐsài de nà
“我对姚明最欣赏的地方就是他对待比赛的那
zhǒng qiānxū hé rèqíng de tàidu zài rújīn de zhōng yǒu
种谦虚和热情的态度，在如今的NBA中，有
zhèxiē yōudiǎn de qiúyuán yǐjīng kàn bùdào le
这些优点的球员已经看不到了。”

Jiéfū Fàn Gāndí qián Huǒjiàn duì jiàoliàn
-杰夫·范·甘迪 (Jeff Van Gundy), 前火箭队教练

Dàtǐshàng wǒ zhǐ xiǎng gàosu Yáo Míng wǒmen wéi tā gǎndào
“大体上，我只想告诉姚明我们为他感到
jiāo'ào Tā yǐ yī zhǒng zhuāngzhòng yōuyǎ hé yōumò de fāngshì
骄傲。他以一种庄重、优雅和幽默的方式
huídá le shùqiān gè wǒmen tīngguò duō cì de wèntí wǒmen néng
回答了数千个我们听过多次的问题，我们能
kàndào tā jiān shàng de dànzi Tā hěn xiàng Zhōng-Měi liǎngguó zhījiān
看到他肩上的担子。他很像中美两国之间
de dàshǐ Tōngguò Yáo Míng Měiguó zhèngzài zhújiàn liǎojiě Zhōngguó
的大使。通过姚明，美国正在逐渐了解中国，

xǔduō Zhōngguó rén yě zài rènshi Měiguó
许多 中国人 也在 认识 美国……”

zhǔxí Dàwèi Sītè'ēn zài Niúyuē de
-NBA 主席 大卫·斯特恩 (David Stern) 在 纽约 的
zōngbùhuì jiàn Yáo Míng hòu shuō
总部 会见 姚明 后 说

nián de yuè yī wèi Mǎshěng de tǐyù
1891 年 的 12 月， 一位 麻省 (Massachusetts) 的 体育
jiàoliàn Zhānmǔsī Nàshīmì jiàoshòu fā míng le
教练 詹姆斯·那史密 (James Naismith) 教授 发明 了
lánqiú zhè xiàng yùndòng Nà jiàoshòu xīwàng zhè xiàng yùndòng kěyǐ ràng
篮球 这 项 运动。 那 教授 希望 这 项 运动 可以 让
tā de xuésheng zài màncháng de dōngtiān bǎochí tǐxíng cóngcǐ lánqiú
他 的 学生 在 漫长 的 冬天 保持 体形， 从此 篮球
yùndòng jiànjiàn de chuándào le dìqiú shàng de měi yī gè jiǎoluò chéngwéi
运动 渐渐 地 传 到 了 地球 上 的 每 一个 角落， 成为
le shìjiè shàng zuì liúxíng de yùndòng zhīyī Láizi bùtóng wénhuà
了 世界 上 最 流行 的 运动 之一。 来自 不同 文化
bèijīng shuō bùtóng yǔyán de rén dōu kěyǐ tòuguò dǎ lánqiú jùjí zài
背景 说 不同 语言 的 人 都 可以 透过 打 篮球 聚集 在
yìqǐ
一起。

Jìnnián lái xīyǐn le shìjiè shàng zuì yōuxiù de qiúyuán
近年来 NBA 吸引 了 世界 上 最 优秀 的 球员。
Shìjiè gè dì de lánqiúmí dōu kěyǐ zài diànshì shàng guānkàn tāmen
世界 各 地 的 篮 球 迷 都 可 以 在 电 视 上 观 看 他 们

4 | 中国篮球运动的发展

xǐ'ài de qiúyuán bǐsài Dànshì yǒu yī wèi de wàijí qiúyuán
喜爱的球员比赛。但是有一位NBA的外籍球员
zuìwéi chūzhòng Xiūsīdùn Huǒjiàn duì zhōng
最为出众。休斯顿火箭队（Houston Rockets）中
láizì Zhōngguó de Yáo Míng yěxǔ shì shìjiè shàng zuì shòu huānyíng de
来自中国的姚明也许是世界上最受欢迎的
lánqiú duìyuán le Qī yīngchǐ wǔ yīngcùn de tā shì qiúyuán zhōng zuì
篮球队员了。七英尺五英寸的他是球员中最
gāo de Qiú mímen bèi tā de qiújì hé qīnqiè kāilǎng de xìnggé suǒ
高的。球迷们被他的球技和亲切开朗的性格所
xīyǐn Tā bùjǐn nénggòu zài lánkuāng zhī shàng fēnggài duìshǒu huòzhě
吸引。他不仅能够 在篮筐之上封盖对手，或者
lái yī gè měngliè de guànlán tā hái kěyǐ kuàisù tōngguò chǎngdì
来一个猛烈的灌篮，他还可以快速通过场地，
shēngdōng-jīxī de chuánqiú dào wàixiàn lái yī gè qīng tiào tóulán Jiànjiàn
声东击西地传球到外线来一个轻跳投篮。渐渐
de Yáo Míng kāishǐ zǒuxiàng le lánqiú jùxīng zhī lù Yī wèi tǐyù
地，姚明开始走向了篮球巨星之路。一位体育
jìzhě céng xiědào Yáo Míng bù zhǐ shì lánqiúchǎng shàng de míngì
记者曾写道：“姚明不只是篮球场上的明日
zhī xīng érqǐè shì zuì jiā zhī xīng Hěn duō rén dōu rènwéi Yáo
之星，而且是最佳之星。”很多人都认为，姚
Míng de qiújì hé gè rén mèilì kěyǐ bāngzhù Zhōngguó lánqiú yùndòng de
明的球技和个人魅力可以帮助中国篮球运动的
fāzhǎn
发展。

Jǐshí nián yǐqián Zhōngguó qiúyuán zài zhōng chūxiàn huòshì
几十年以前，中国球员在NBA中出现或是

chéngwéi shìjiè hǎo de qiúyuán hái bèi rènwéi shì yī jiàn fēicháng huāngtāng
成为世界好的球员还被认为是一件非常荒唐
de shìqing Dāngshí lánqiú zhè xiàng yùndòng zài Zhōngguó hěn shǎo yǒu rén
的事情。当时篮球这项运动在中国很少有人
zhīdao Zhōngguó de lánqiú yùndòngyuán yě hěn nán dá dào NBA de
知道，中国的篮球运动员也很难达到NBA的
shuǐpíng
水平。

nián Zhōnghuá Rénmín Gònghéguó chénglì le Zhōngguó shèhuìzhǔyì
1949年中华人民共和国成立了。中国社会主义
zhèngfǔ rènwéi zhèngfǔ yīnggāi jǐnliàng kòngzhì rénmin shēnghuó de měi yī
政府认为，政府应该尽量控制人民生活的每一
gè fāngmiàn bāokuò tǐyù shìyè
个方面，包括体育事业。

Yīzhí dào niándài Zhōngguó zhèngfǔ bù shì hěn zhòngshì quán tǐyù
一直到80年代，中国政府不是很重视全体育
yùndòng Suīrán dāngshí Zhōngguó de rénkǒu chāoguò yī dànshì huì
运动。虽然当时中国的人口超过13亿，但是会
dǎ lánqiú de fēicháng shǎo Zhèngfǔ zhǐ tèbié péiyǎng le yìxiē lánqiú
打篮球的非常少。政府只特别培养了一些篮球
yùndòngyuán lái dàibiǎo Zhōngguó guójiāduì cānjiā Àolínpìkè Yùndònghuì
运动员来代表中国国家队参加奥林匹克运动会
zhīlèi de guóji bǐsài Guójiā huì tiāoxuǎn
(Olympic Games) 之类的国际比赛。国家会挑选
yǒu qiánlì de yùndòngyuán bǎ tāmen sòngdào tèshū de tǐyù xuéxiào
有潜力的运动员，把他们送到特殊的体育学校
cānjiā xùnliàn jiānglái wéi guójiā xiàoli Hěn shǎo de Zhōngguórén zhǐ
参加训练，将来为国家效力。很少的中国人只

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wèile yúlè ér dǎ lánqiú bìngqiě dāngshí Zhōngguó gōnggòng de lánqiúchǎng
为了娱乐而打篮球，并且当时中国公共的篮球场
yě hěn shǎo
也很少。

Dàn zài guòqù de jǐshínián lǐ qíngkuàng yǒule gǎibiàn Zhèngfǔ
但在过去的几十年里，情况有了改变。政府
yìshì dào yùndòng yǒuzhùyú qiángshēn jiàntǐ suǒyǐ kāishǐ gǔlì rénmen
意识到运动有助于强身健体，所以开始鼓励人们
cānyù tǐyù yùndòng Yóuyú lánqiú yāoqiú de chǎngdì hé shèbèi hěn
参与体育运动。由于篮球要求的场地和设备很
shǎo suǒyǐ tā chéngle bǐjiào shòu huānyíng de yùndòng zhīyī
少，所以它成了比较受欢迎的运动之一。

Cóng nián kāishǐ Zhōngguó kāishǐ duìwài kāifàng Zhèxiē
从1970年开始，中国开始对外开放。这些
wàilái wénhuà tōngguò diànshì jìnrù Zhōngguó tǐyù huódòng jiùshì nàshí
外来文化通过电视进入中国，体育活动就是那时
Zhōngguó diànshìtái bōfàng de yī zhǒng jiémù Dāng Zhōngguó rénmin kāishǐ
中国电视台播放的一种节目。当中国人民开始
guānkàn Měiguó lánqiú bǐsài de shíhòu tāmen duì zhè xiàng yùndòng yě
观看美国篮球比赛的时候，他们对这项运动也
gèng yǒu xìngqù le
更有兴趣了。

Rújīn Zhōngguó rénmin yǒule wǎngluò érqiě kěyǐ zài wǎngluò
如今，中国人民有了网络，而且可以在网络
shàng kàn shìjiè gè dì de diànshì jiémù bāokuò lánqiúsài
上看世界各地的电视节目，包括NBA篮球赛。
Lánqiú biàn de fēicháng liúxíng tèbié shì zài dà chéngshì de niánqīng rén
篮球变得非常流行，特别是在大城市的年轻人



zhōng xiànzài kěnéng yǒu yì Zhōngguó rén dōu dǎ lánqiú Zhōngguó
 中。现在可能有 2 亿中国人都打篮球。中国
 shènzhì yǒu zìjǐ de zhíyè lánqiúduì Zhōngguó Nánzǐ Lánqiú Zhíyè
 甚至有自己的职业篮球队，中国男子篮球职业
 Liánsài Pǔtōng sàiji de
 联赛（Chinese Basketball Association）。普通赛季的
 bǐsài yǒu yì de qiú mí bǐ Měiguó guānkàn Chāojí
 CBA 比赛有 1.3 亿的球迷，比美国观看超级
 Wǎn de rén hái duō
 碗（Super Bowl）的人还多！

Yuèdú hòu lǐjiě tāolùntí
 阅读后理解讨论题：

Wénzhāng zhōng tí dào Yáo Míng de qiújì hé gè rén mèilì
 I. ■ 文章中提到：“姚明的球技和个人魅力
 kěyǐ bāngzhù Zhōngguó lánqiú yùndòng de fāzhǎn Nǐ rènwéi ne?
 可以帮助中国篮球运动的发展。”你认为呢？

The chapter says: “Yao Ming’s basketball skills and personal charisma could help popularize basketball in China.” What do you think?

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- Jìn jǐshí nián Zhōngguó zhèngfǔ duì tǐyù yùndòng de tàidu
2. ■■ 近 几 十 年 ， 中 国 政 府 对 体 育 运 动 的 态 度
shì rúhé zhuǎnbiàn de
是 如 何 转 变 的 ？

In recent decades, how has the Chinese government's attitude towards sports changed?

- Nǐ kànguò Zhōngguó de bǐsài ma Nǐ juéde
3. ■■ 你 看 过 中 国 的 CBA 比 赛 吗 ？ 你 觉 得 CBA
hé yǒu shénme bùtóng
和 NBA 有 什 么 不 同 ？

Have you ever watched a CBA game? Do you notice any differences between the CBA and the NBA?

- Wèishénme lánqiú xiànzài zài Zhōngguó hěn liúxíng
4. ■■ 为 什 么 篮 球 现 在 在 中 国 很 流 行 ？

Why is basketball so popular in China today?

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