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# Living Language Mandarin Chinese, Complete Edition: Beginner Through Advanced Course, Including 3 Coursebooks, 9 Audio CDs, Chinese Character Guide, And Free Online Learning



## Synopsis

Complete Chinese is a unique multimedia program that takes you beginner to advanced level in one convenient package. At the core of Complete Chinese is the Living Language Method, based on linguistic science, proven techniques, and over 65 years of experience. Our method teaches you the whole language, so you can express yourself, not just recite memorized words or scripts. Millions have learned with Living Language. Now it's your turn. 4 Books: 46 lessons, additional review exercises, culture notes, an extensive glossary, and a grammar summary plus a complete guide to Chinese characters 9 Audio CDs: Vocabulary, dialogues, audio exercises, and more listen while using the books or use for review on the go Free Online Learning: Flashcards, games, and interactive quizzes for each lesson at [www.livinglanguage.com/languagelab](http://www.livinglanguage.com/languagelab) To learn more visit [livinglanguage.com](http://livinglanguage.com). The Living Language Method Build a Foundation Start speaking Chinese immediately using essential words and phrases. Progress with Confidence Build on each lesson as you advance to full sentences, then actual conversations. Retain what You've Learned Special recall exercises move your new language from short-term to long-term memory. Achieve Your Goals Don't just mimic or memorize. Develop practical language skills to speak in any situation.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

At 33 dollars, they are virtually giving this course away! So, what's the catch? There is none - it's truly a real deal. The first thing you notice when you get this box is that it's heavy, about 4 or 5 lbs. The four books are very well produced and the mp3 recordings are high quality. They are self-instructional, so you can listen as you drive, walk or run, without needing to read at the same time. One complaint: Lesson One has various sections that are announced on the mp3... Vocabulary Builder 1, Vocabulary Practice 1, Take It Further 1, Grammar Builder 1, Vocabulary Builder 2, Vocabulary Practice 2, Take It Further 2, Grammar Builder 2, Work Out 1, Work Out 2, etc. Now, go to any other lesson, take for instance Lesson 9; You hear the same thing repeated over and over... Vocabulary Builder 1, Vocabulary Practice 1, Take It Further 1, Grammar Builder 1, Vocabulary Builder 2, Vocabulary Practice 2, Take It Further 2, Grammar Builder 2, Work Out 1, Work Out 2, etc. No matter which lesson you are listening to, each and every lesson has exactly the same section numbering, namely, either "1" or "2". So, you constantly hear "Vocabulary Builder 1" even if it's Chapter 9 and it's actually Vocabulary Builder 18 (using sequential numbering). In the middle of any mp3, you can't tell what lesson you're listening to from the section announcements. It's infuriating. All they needed to do was use a number system like 1.1, 1.2, 2.1,... 9.1, 9.2 or even straight sequential numbering 1,2,3,4... 30,31,32, etc.. That's my only complaint and I really hope they fix it in future. Even so, this course is phenomenal value! Learning Mandarin? Don't even think about it... HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!!!!

These are top of the line, professional, well packaged, and informative books and cds on how to learn Mandarin. I would give it a five, except that you don't get any simple travel-like words until near the end of the beginning section. I don't need to know all members of the family, but I do need to know how to get directions, a taxi, or the name of a good restaurant or exchange rate. There are three sections, beg/inter/adv. It also includes a character book, which is indispensable to learning the Chinese alphabet.

Instead of merely drilling you with a seemingly endless amount of vocabulary words, living language focuses on integrating the new language in easy to handle, but still useful portions. Another feature that I am most appreciative of is that Living Language actually TEACHES you to form sentences based on comprehension. It does not spoon feed you the meaning of every word in a sentence as if you were a baby, but it lets you use context clues to gain understanding yourself. Now you are not stuck using the same useless sentence such as "Where is the postcard?" Now when you show off

to your friends you can show your true understanding of the language as if it was your first! The cds and online learning lets your hear native speakers at their normal pace so you can learn not only what the words mean, but how to understand them which is crucial if you plan on being fluent. With consistent use I have seen a large increase in my ability and am actually excited to learn from these books. The price is almost too low for how much you get to learn! Get it while it lasts. You will not regret it. (:

Living Language is good at teaching the Language like grammar and constructs. This gives a good understanding of the language, not just how to say certain phrases. The many drills is beneficial to getting a handle on such a different/difficult language like Chinese. The written character part is learned along side, which most other language companies do not deal with at all. The textbook facilitates learning the language using sound teaching methods and uses audio CD's to continue learning through listening/translation skills. And their web site helps to reinforce this learning with many drills. It would have been good to go this learning route first, before pursuing other tools.

Learning Mandarin Chinese; an asset for business finance and traveling. Great Value for the price. Very difficult language; comes with books and CDs for audio not visual learning.

I have been long waiting to learn Chinese but finally decided to do something about it. I was hesitant to buy this book at first given I have never heard of this brand. But it was under \$40 so I thought why not? This package contains well written books, audio CDs (not MP3 so it's a must have for those who only has regular CD player in your car), even a book on writing/reading. CDs are the most valuable part of this package. I mostly skim thru the book but listen a lot to the audio CDs in the car while I commute. It is very easy to follow and well organized. Excellent practice in pronunciation and vocabulary building. There are conversations with English translations to follow easily. I am almost done with my first book and already feel I am making a big progress. Don't look any further, just buy it. This is well worth the money. Forget the expensive Rosetta Stone!

This is an amazing product for the price and a great start to learning. I love the fact there are a few different books instead of one large one so that each family member can work at their own speed and not have to share one book.

The lessons are simple, straightforward and very useful. The accompanying audio CDs are clear

and well paced covering vocabulary and grammar for each lessons to reinforce the concepts step by step. Also the online LanguageLab flashcards, games and quizzes makes it all the more interesting. Found the course more simple and thorough than the Michel Thomas Mandarin course. Editors might want to expand on the Character guide book that comes with the course for the next edition to cover more of the basic to radical brushstrokes. If you are looking for one comprehensive book on Mandarin Chinese, this is it!

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