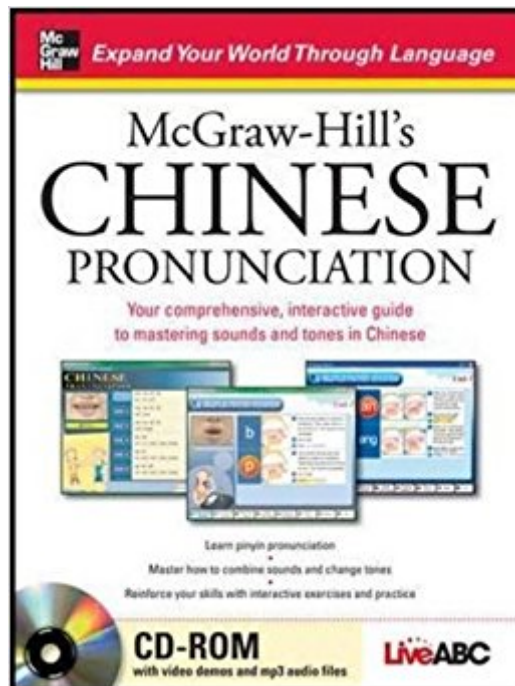


The book was found

McGraw-Hill's Chinese Pronunciation With CD-ROM



Synopsis

The key to correct Chinese pronunciation-- through sight and sound In Mandarin Chinese, the word 妈 mā can mean four different things depending on the tone (the pitch)-- 妈 mā "mother, 麻 má "hemp, 马 mǎ "horse, 骂 mǎ "to scold--even though the pronunciation is the same. If you are not a native speaker of Chinese, you may find this aspect of learning the language daunting. McGraw-Hill's Chinese Pronunciation makes it easier for you to pronounce Chinese words correctly. You are first introduced to the simple sounds; you then learn their combinations and correct tones. Vibrant illustrations in the book and video demonstrations on the CD-ROM even show tongue placement and mouth shapes to help you get the words right.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Live ABC is an experienced developer of Chinese language-learning materials, focusing on multimedia. Their goal is to create learning materials that balance practicality and pure learning fun. They are a recipient of the 2007 New Leading Product Development Project Award from Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs. Chinese Pronunciation won a Bronze award at the 2008 Horizon Interactive Awards, a leading international interactive media awards competition. LiveABC produces 5 Chinese-learning magazines and their interactive programs have been adopted at a number of U.S. and Korean schools and universities.

One of the biggest challenges in speaking Chinese is pronunciation. You may read the pinyin (romanized Chinese) words in a book but when you say them, people misunderstand because Chinese has such a different way of phonetics. Every consonant and vowel sound is covered along with tones. The book has nice diagrams of how to position your tongue, mouth, and air flow for producing each sound. Then includes various exercises to perfect your sound. Now I have a Mac and heard complaints that the cd does not support Mac. Not exactly. I managed to pull out the mp3 files into iTunes. To distinguish the tracks, I selected them and hit command I to edit artist album genre education etc. this helps group the tracks as one. Now you don't get all the bells and whistles but it's all the important parts of the book like actual pronunciation and exercises. You can even play the little song exercises. Now the songs are really much too fast for English speakers to keep up and incorporate a lot more different sounds that were not taught in each chapter. so don't sweat the songs. This is like watching foreign tv and getting a taste of how the language works. I think areas of improvement for the book would be better execution for multimedia support for iPhone (this is how most of us take our media) not old pcs. Songs need to be slow and incorporate just the sounds for each section and then later, once all the sounds are mastered, include actual word songs that are again slow enough for English speakers. For this I deduct a star in the hope this book will be updated.

Wow--the layout of this book with CD is so well detailed and thought out. Just pick a small group of initials (consonants) and finals (vowels) and follow the CD to get the correct pronunciation. As with any language on this planet earth, one must repeat after the native speaker quite often and associate the words with all the different sounds to comprehend the meaning. Without expenditure of energy, without passion and without heart, there will be no success. You must desire to learn with all of your heart. It will work only if you work it. I love learning languages--but it starts with liking/loving the people one wants to communicate with. Good luck, good fortune to those who desire to learn Mandarin Chinese or any other language.

I'm still new to the Chinese language and got my start using the Rosetta Stone software, like many other people I'm sure. This book and CD-Rom blew me away. I have a handful of other books that I use in conjunction with Rosetta Stone, but I haven't seen anything else that comes close to all the benefits of this one. The book itself is fairly easy to follow and understand. They've thought of everything and answered questions I didn't even know I had. The CD-Rom is what really pushes it over the edge for me. Having real time video and illustrations with easy to follow audio really helped

me improve my pronunciation a lot. I wish I would have purchased this months ago.

I do like the book and the CD. The only draw back is the lack of Chinese characters which is understandable since it is geared towards just pronunciation. But it would have been nice if there were characters present for the words along with the pinyin. The information is thorough for what I wanted. Because it progresses from easy sounds to more challenging, one is able to enjoy it and look for a challenge when it comes to mastery. I would definitely recommend this book to those looking to start studying Chinese and want a good foundation for proper pronunciation. It is fun, nice illustrations and informative.

If I had this book when I started studying Chinese, I would probably already be fluent by now. Screwing up the tones meant that I had to re-memorize every word that I ever learned!! I did not use this book as it was intended. I made my own play list of all of the tonal exercises. I would then practice these about 2-3 times a day (about 15 minutes to go through all of them.) That helped to greatly improve my tones. I did not use the rest of the book, as it seemed to be overkill to me. In a short period of time (about a month or so), people began to finally understand me when I talked.

I purchased it for my son. he is able to use to book with the CD independent of me which is great.

I speak fluent Cantonese and know how to write Chinese. The book has no Chinese characters compared to the Mandarin pronounciations. The book itself is a waste, and the CD does not provide me with much assistance as to improving my spoken Mandarin neither.

least helpful of all things I am using ... no opportunity to repeat, lots of naming of pages, sections, etc that have no bearing on anything. waste of money.

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