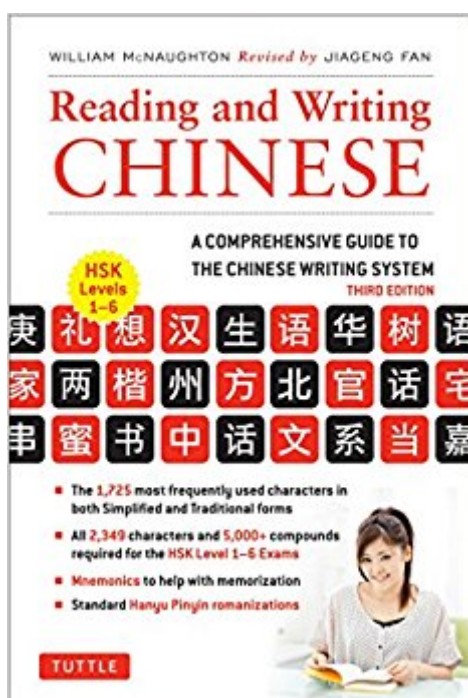


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# Reading And Writing Chinese: Third Edition, HSK All Levels (2,349 Chinese Characters And 5,000+ Compounds)



## Synopsis

This is a complete and easy-to-use guide for reading and writing Chinese characters. Learning written Chinese is an essential part of mastering the Chinese language. Used as a standard by students and teachers learning to read Chinese and write Chinese for more than three decades, the bestselling *Reading & Writing Chinese* has been completely revised and updated. *Reading & Writing Chinese* places at your fingertips the essential 1,725 Chinese characters' up-to-date definitions, derivations, pronunciations, and examples of correct usage by means of cleverly condensed grids. This guide also focuses on Pinyin, which is the official system to transcribe Hanzi, Chinese characters, into Latin script, now universally used in mainland China and Singapore. Traditional characters (still used in Taiwan and Hong Kong) are also included, making this a complete reference. Newly updated and revised, these characters are the ones officially prescribed by the Chinese government for the internationally recognized test of proficiency in Chinese, the Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK). The student's ability to read Chinese and write Chinese are reinforced throughout. Key features of this newly-expanded edition include: The 1,725 most frequently used characters in both Simplified and Traditional forms. All 2,633 characters and 5,000+ compounds required for the HSK Exam. Standard Hanyu Pinyin romanizations. More mnemonic phrases and etymologies to help you remember the characters. An extensive introduction, alphabetical index, and index according to stroke count and stroke order. Completely updated/expanded English definitions. Convenient quick-reference tables of radicals. Updated and revised compounds, plus 25% more vocabulary now offered. Codes to assist those who are preparing for the AP exam or the HSK exam.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"I wish we'd all been given a copy of this in first year of university. Even now I can find gems of information about Chinese characters in this book that I didn't know before. It's a nice book to have around."          Hugh Grigg, East Asia Student blog"       learning how to write Chinese characters will provide a more thorough understanding of their structure and composition, as well as open the door to the world of Chinese calligraphy. William McNaughton's Reading and Writing Chinese is an excellent introduction to this knowledge."          Qiu Gui Su, About.com Mandarin Language"       this book can be the best choice for Chinese beginners who want to learn Chinese characters. With exact pronunciation, lively definition and derivation, it will make the process of characters learning more interesting and easier."

         Yes       Chinese.com"Excellent reference book for beginning and Intermediate-level Chinese. Well laid out with several ways to look up characters. Common phrases are also listed with each character."          GoodreadsI really love how this book puts an emphasis on mnemonics, bringing this Chinese character learning method to the mainstream. It's really nice seeing more books embracing this method. The bottom line: this book effectively combines the mnemonics of Heisig and Remember the Hanzi with the practicality of HSK and character frequency studies. It makes a great reference book for any student.          En Route to Fluency blog"My mom is from Okinawa and we lived on Okinawa several times. I even took Japanese at a local community college, but none of my textbooks were ever as good as 600 Basic Japanese Verbs! From the very beginning, in the introduction, the verbs are broken down into easy to understand categories: u          dropping conjugation, ru          dropping conjugation, and irregular conjugation. Never has anyone taken the time to explain this to me before and now I am finally starting to understand Japanese when I watch anime with my kids, watch J-drama, or listen to my mom speaking Japanese."          Goodreads

Jiageng Fan specializes in the linguistic relationship between the Chinese and Japanese languages and scripts, focusing on the etymology of characters. He has lived, studied and taught Chinese, Japanese and/or English in China and Australia and has traveled extensively. After obtaining a B.A. at Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, then working as a magazine editor, he moved to Christchurch, New Zealand, where he earned a First Class Honours Degree from the University of

Canterbury. William McNaughton was the founding teacher of Chinese at Oberlin College. From 1986 he taught at Hong Kong's City University, where he was the founding program leader of the BA (Honours) program in Translation and Interpretation.

SO useful. I've started learning Mandarin and this has been an excellent reference; my tutor also flipped through it and pronounced it a good purchase. Especially helpful: it includes diagrams with the order of operations for strokes used in each character, and since I want to know how to properly write rather than just "drawing" characters, that's been great. You may or may not need something more extensive if you're already solid in writing skills, I have no idea; but if you're just starting out, it's perfect.

The first time I read it. I thought it is a pocket dictionary. The organization of the book seems very confused, however, if you read it carefully, you will realize that it is useful. The author's idea is very interesting. One character + another character = a new character. Three of them are the most common characters.

Favorite features:- Shows "most likely" characters first so you learn what you need early on rather than esoteric ones you don't- Shows simplified characters as well as traditional. It's not as hard or important to learn the radicals (and butchered etymology) for simplified characters as it is for traditional, so including smaller simplified characters where appropriate offers the best of both worlds. Better than buying the Simplified version w/tiny traditional characters & less explanation. If you know stroke order for traditional, you can figure out simplified - not as easy the other way around.- Explains constituent parts/radicals just prior to more complex characters so you see how they're built.- Includes most common definitions & multiple pronunciations, plus helpful examples that tie to previous entries for reinforced learning.- It's \$5-\$10 cheaper here on than at local bookstores (if they even have it). Problem areas:- I have found some index errors & incorrect references between character entries, probably left over from the previous edition. They're minimal though.\*\*\*\*\*I've essentially been going through the book & copying down each entry for practice. I learned many of the characters through years of studying Japanese, but I've already learned more about the structure & logic behind the radicals, sound-loans, etc than I did w/Japanese. This is a great companion study guide to actual "reading" material and spoken language practice that reinforce each other. No single book will teach you a language by itself. Combine w/ChinesePod (awesome!), PlecoDict software or formal classes.

Book arrived in about 5 days with free shipping. Book was new and published in Japan. Smaller than the current book we have at home. Quality of the paper was not as good as the copy we have at home. The paper was not stark white as our existing copy. Paper was the color of newspaper print. Since the page is smaller, the font is smaller as well. Otherwise book is identical.

Great quality materials excellent study materials

My son is learning writing from this book and good for a starter .

For those of us learning traditional/complex characters, there are a limited number of resources out there. This book advertises itself as "a comprehensive guide" but is really more of a dictionary. To that end, it is fairly useful because it is relatively small and easy to use. I agree with a previous reviewer that "Chinese Characters: A Genealogy and Dictionary" is superior, but the text in the McNaughton and Li is larger and I find this book to be easier for quick reference. "Chinese Characters" also has a pretty steep learning curve if you haven't used a radical or stroke count index before, whereas the McNaughton and Li is a little easier to use for beginner-elementary learners. Still, if you already own "Chinese Characters: A Genealogy and Dictionary" or another dictionary you are satisfied with, this book might not be worth your time and money.

I learned spoken mandarin first, so this book is really helpful. I would advise to learn some pinyin and spoken language prior to using this book otherwise you will have too much to learn and not enough grammar skill.

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