PRONUNCIATION MASTERY

TONE PAIRS

Practicing tone pairs are a fantastic way of improving your tones and overall pronunciation. Why? Well any Chinese phrase or sentence is essentially a bunch of tone pairs and tone combinations put together. **If you practice the 20 possible tone pair combinations once or twice a day, over a few weeks or months it'll make a *huge* difference to your pronunciation and fluency**.

TONES	1st Tone	2nd Tone	3rd Tone	4th Tone	5th Tone
1st Tone	jīntiān Today	zhōngguó China	bīngshuǐ Ice water	zhīdào To know	zhēnde Really
2nd Tone	míngtiān Tomorrow	xuéxí To study	méiyǒu Don't have	róngyì Easy	shénme What?
3rd Tone	huǒguō Hot Pot	qǐchuáng To get up	níhǎo Hello	chǎofàn Fried rice	xǐhuan To like
4th Tone	kànshū To read	wèntí Problem	diànyǐng Movie	zàijiàn Goodbye	xièxie Thank you

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TONE DRILLS

This is an idea we first saw on www.sinosplice.com. The original idea is essentially to start from saying individual tones, then tone pairs and then progress onto multiple tones. It's a great way to improve your tones and overall fluency from a beginner level. If you follow our Pronunciation Mastery course and review the anki flashcards we provide for you every day, you are actually doing tone drills as well as practicing all of the other pronunciation principles at the same time!

Here are some top reasons why the tone pairs and tone drills inherent in our course content are great for your pronunciation:

THEY GET YOU USED TO SPEAKING "REAL CHINESE"

Tones are almost never said in isolation, and nor should you practice like that. Our videos and flashcards include a huge variety of real phrases varying in length so you can practice Chinese the right way.

YOU GET EXPOSED TO TONE CHANGES RIGHT AWAY

Because we show you the tones in combination and completely based on how Chinese people *really* speak, you're going to pick up on all of the 3 major tone change rules, and more subtle tone changes too!

THEY EXPOSE WEAKNESSES

You'll be able to figure out which tones or tone pairs you have trouble with as you try to repeat our content. This way you can focus less on what you're good at and more on what you're not so good at. This way you can improve your tones much quicker.

Keep on reviewing those anki cards and watching those videos and you'll have great tones in no time!

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