

# Mandarin Corner

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## Survival Chinese - 30 Words to Describe Personalities

### Introduction:

Dàjiā hǎo, huānyíng lái dào Mándarín Corner, wǒ shì Eileen.

大家好，欢迎来到Mandarin Corner，我是Eileen。

Hello, everyone! Welcome to Mandarin Corner, I am Eileen.

Jīntiān wǒmen yào xué de shì sānshí gè yòng lái miáoshù xìnggé de cíhuì.

今天我们要学的是三十个用来描述性格的词汇。

Today we are going to learn 30 words that can be used to describe personalities.

Měigè rén de xìnggé dōu bù yīyàng,

每个人的性格都不一样,

Every one has different personality,

wǒ xīwàng nǐmen guānkàn wán zhège shìpín hòu,

我希望你们观看完这个视频后,

I hope after watching this video,

yě néng yòng zhōngwén lái miáoshù nǐ zìjǐ huò biéren de xìnggé.

也能用中文来描述你自己或别人的性格。

you can also describe other people's or your personality in Chinese.

Zhège shìpín de PDF hé yīnpín wénjiàn kě zài mandarincorner.org

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de "video learning resources" yèmiàn miǎnfèi xiàzǎi.

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Hǎo, nà jiē xiàlái wǒmen jiù yìqǐ lái kànkan jīntiān yào xué de nèiróng ba.

好, 那接下来我们就一起来看看今天要学的内容吧。

Alright, now let's take a look at today's lesson!

1.

wàixiàng

外向

extroverted

Wǒ dìdì cóngxiǎo xìnggé wàixiàng.

我弟弟从小性格外向。

My younger brother has been an extrovert since childhood.

我	wǒ	my
弟弟	dìdì	younger brother
从小	cóngxiǎo	from childhood
性格	xìnggé	character
外向	wàixiàng	extroverted (personality)

2.

nèixiàng

内向

introverted

Tā tiānshēng xìnggé nèixiàng, xǐhuan yīgèrén dāizhe.

他天生性格内向，喜欢一个人待着。

He is an introvert and likes to stay alone.

他	tā	he or him
天生	tiānshēng	nature
性格	xìnggé	character

内向	nèixiàng	introverted
喜欢	xǐhuan to	like
一个人	yīgèrén	alone (without company)
待	dāi	to stay
着	zhe	aspect particle indicating action in progress

3.

yǒnggǎn

勇敢

brave, courageous

Zhège xiǎo nǚhái zhēn yǒnggǎn, dǎzhēn de shíhou yīxià dōu méiyǒu kū.

这个小女孩真勇敢，打针的时候一下都没有哭。

This girl is very brave and she didn't even cry when getting an injection.

这个	zhège	this
小	xiǎo	young
女孩	nǚhái	girl
真	zhēn	really
勇敢	yǒnggǎn	brave / courageous
打针	dǎzhēn	to give or have an injection
的	de	used after an attribute
时候	shíhou	time (when)
一下	yīxià	once

都 dōu (used for emphasis) even

没有 méiyǒu hasn't

哭 kū to cry

4.

dǎnxiǎo

胆小

coward

Tā hěn dǎnxiǎo, bù gǎn kàn kǒngbùpiàn.

她很胆小，不敢看恐怖片。

She is such a coward that she doesn't even dare to watch horror movies.

她 tā she

很 hěn very

胆小 dǎnxiǎo coward

不 bù not

敢 gǎn to dare

看 kàn to watch

恐怖片 kǒngbùpiàn horror movie

5.

chéngshú

成熟

mature

Yī chuānshang gāogēnxié, tā xiǎnde chéngshú duō le.

一穿上高跟鞋，她显得成熟多了。

She appeared to be much more **mature** the moment she put on her high-heeled shoes.

一	yī	as soon as
穿上	chuānshang	to put on (clothes, etc.)
高跟鞋	gāogēnxié	high-heeled shoes
她	tā	she
显得	xiǎnde	to appear
成熟	chéngshú	mature
多	duō	more
了	le	used to indicate changes of states

6.

yòuzhì

幼稚

childish, naive

Nǐ tài yòuzhì le! Shuí de huà dōu xiāngxìn!

你太幼稚了！谁的话都相信！

You are so **naive**! You believe anybody!

你	nǐ	you
---	----	-----

太	tài	very
---	-----	------

幼稚	yòuzhì	childish, naive
了	le	used to form a 太/tài...了/le sentence pattern
谁	shuí	who
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
话	huà	talk / words
都	dōu	all
相信	xiāngxìn	to believe

7.

hàixiū

害羞

shy

Hé jiějie xiāngbǐ, tā bǐjiào **hàixiū**.

和姐姐相比，她比较**害羞**。

She is **shy** compared with her sister.

和	hé	with
姐姐	jiějie	older sister
相比	xiāngbǐ	to compare
她	tā	she
比较	bǐjiào	relatively
害羞	hàixiū	shy

8.

jiàntán

健谈

talkative (in a positive way- a good talker)

Wǒ cóngméi jiàn guò xiàng tā zhème jiàntán de rén.

我从没见过像他这么健谈的人。

I have never met such a good talker!

我	wǒ	I
从没	cóngméi	never (in the past)
见	jiàn	to see / to meet
过	guò	experienced action marker
像	xiàng	to be like
他	tā	he or him
这么	zhème	so much
健谈	jiàntán	talkative (in a positive way- a good talker)
的	de	used after an attribute
人	rén	person

9.

shànláng

善良

kindhearted



Tā shuōhuà suīrán nántīng, nèixīn què hěn shànlíáng.

他说话虽然难听，内心却很善良。

His remarks are rude, but he is kind at heart.

他	tā	he or him
说话	shuōhuà	to talk
虽然	suīrán	even though
难听	nántīng	unpleasant to hear
内心	nèixīn	heart
却	què	yet
很	hěn	very
善良	shànlíáng	kindhearted

10.

huópō

活泼

lively

Zài wǒ yǎn lǐ tā shì gè hěn huópō de nǚhái.

在我眼里她是个很活泼的女孩。

To me, she feels like a very lively girl.

在	zài	(to be) in
我	wǒ	my
眼	yǎn	eye

里	lǐ	inside
她	tā	she
是	shì	is
个	gè	classifier for people
很	hěn	very
活泼	huópō	lively
的	de	used after an attribute
女孩	nǚhái	girl

11.

yōumò

幽默

humorous

Wǒ de lǎoshī hěn yōumò, zǒngshì bǎ xuésheng dòuxiào.

我的老师很幽默，总是把学生逗笑。

My teacher is very humorous and he is always making students laugh.

我	wǒ	my
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
老师	lǎoshī	teacher
很	hěn	very
幽默	yōumò	humorous
总是	zǒngshì	always

把	bǎ	particle marking the following noun as a direct object
学生	xuésheng	student
逗笑	dòuxiào	to amuse / to cause to smile

12.

yánsù

严肃

Serious (in character and appearance)

Tā zhè rén tài yánsù le, shuí jiàn le tā dōu hàipà.

他这人太严肃了，谁见了他都害怕。

He looks so serious that everyone fears him.

他	tā	he or him
这	zhè	this
人	rén	person
太	tài	very
严肃	yánsù	solemn / serious
了	le	used to form a 太/tài...了/le sentence pattern
谁	shuí	who
见	jiàn	to see
了	le	modal particle intensifying preceding clause
他	tā	he or him
都	dōu	all

害怕            hàipà            to be scared

13.

qínkuài

勤快

hardworking, diligent

Tā shì gè qínkuài de xiǎohuǒzi, dàjiā dōu hěn xǐhuan tā.

他是个勤快的小伙子，大家都很喜欢他。

He is a hardworking young man and everybody likes him.

他            tā            he or him

是            shì            is

个            gè            classifier for people

勤快            qínkuài            diligent / hardworking

的            de            used after an attribute

小伙子            xiǎohuǒzi            young man

大家            dàjiā            everyone

都            dōu            all

很            hěn            very

喜欢            xǐhuan            to like

他            tā            he or him

14.

lǎnduò

懒惰

lazy

Nǐ shuō tā **lǎnduò**, zhēnshì yīdiǎn yě bùcuò.

你说他**懒惰**，真是一点也不错。

You're right when you said that he was **lazy**!

你	nǐ	you
说	shuō	to say
他	tā	he or him
懒惰	lǎnduò	lazy
真是	zhēnshì	indeed / truly
一点	yīdiǎn	a bit
也	yě	also
不错	bùcuò	right

15.

làngmàn

浪漫

romantic

Tā hěn kāixīn yǒu zhème yī gè **làngmàn** de nán péngyou.

她很开心有这么一个**浪漫**的男朋友。

She is very happy that she has such a **romantic** boyfriend.

她	tā	she
很	hěn	very
开心	kāixīn	to feel happy
有	yǒu	to have
这么	zhème	so much
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for people
浪漫	lànmàn	romantic
的	de	used after an attribute
男朋友	nán péngyou	boyfriend

16.

gùzhí

固执

obstinate, stubborn

Tā tài gùzhí le, shuí de yìjiàn yě tīngbùjìnqu.

她太固执了，谁的意见也听不进去。

She is so **stubborn** that she doesn't want to listen to anybody.

她	tā	she
太	tài	very
固执	gùzhí	obstinate / stubborn
了	le	used to form a 太/tài...了/le sentence pattern

谁	shuí	who
的	de	of
意见	yìjiàn	suggestion
也	yě	also
听不进去	tīngbùjìnqu	not to listen / to be deaf to

17.

chōngdòng

冲动

impulsive, impulse

Tā yīshí **chōngdòng** mǎi le zhè liàng chē.

他一时**冲动**买了这辆车。

He bought his car on **impulse**.

他	tā	he or him
一时	yīshí	temporary / momentary
冲动	chōngdòng	impulsive, impulse
买	mǎi	to buy
了	le	completed action marker
这	zhè	this
辆	liàng	classifier for vehicles
车	chē	car

18.

lèguān

乐观

optimistic

Wúlùn fāshēng shénme shì, tā zǒngshì nàme **lèguān**.

无论发生什么事，他总是那么**乐观**。

No matter what happens, he always has an **optimistic** outlook.

无论	wúlùn	no matter what or how
----	-------	-----------------------

发生	fāshēng	to happen
----	---------	-----------

什么	shénme	what
----	--------	------

事	shì	thing
---	-----	-------

他	tā	he or him
---	----	-----------

总是	zǒngshì	always
----	---------	--------

那么	nàme	so
----	------	----

乐观	lèguān	optimistic
----	--------	------------

19.

bēiguān

悲观

pessimistic

Bùyào zhème **bēiguān**, yào kàn dào shìqing jījí de yīmiàn.

不要这么**悲观**，要看到事情积极的一面。



Don't be so **pessimistic**. Try to look at the bright side.

不要	bùyào	don't!
这么	zhème	so much
悲观	bēiguān	pessimistic
要	yào	must
看	kàn	to look at
到	dào	verb complement denoting completion or result of an action
事情	shìqing	thing
积极	jījí	positive (outlook)
的	de	used after an attribute
一面	yīmiàn	one side

20.

tǐtiē

体贴

considerate (of other people's needs)

Tā duì tā de zhàngfu hěn tǐtiē.

她对她的丈夫很体贴。

She is very **considerate** towards her husband.

她	tā	she
---	----	-----

对	duì	towards
---	-----	---------

她	tā	she
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
丈夫	zhàngfu	husband
很	hěn	very
体贴	tǐtiē	considerate (of other people's needs)

21.

xūwěi

虚伪

hypocritical

Tā zhège rén hěn xūwěi, bùzhídé xìnren.

他这个人很虚伪，不值得信任。

He is a hypocrite and should not be trusted.

他	tā	he or him
这个	zhège	this
人	rén	person
很	hěn	very
虚伪	xūwěi	hypocritical
不值得	bùzhídé	unworthy
信任	xìnren	to trust

22.

bàoziào

暴躁

irritable by nature, short-tempered

Bié rě tā, tā de píqi hěn **bàozào**.

别惹他，他的脾气很**暴躁**。

Don't mess with him, he's got a **bad temper**.

别	bié	do not
惹	rě	to provoke / to irritate
他	tā	he or him
他	tā	he or him
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
脾气	píqi	temperament
很	hěn	very
暴躁	bàozào	irritable / violent

23.

yǒushàn

友善

friendly

Tā wàixiàng ér **yǒushàn**, gēn rén xiāngchǔ de hěn hǎo.

他外向而**友善**，跟人相处得很好。

He is outgoing and **friendly**, and gets along well with people.

他	tā	he or him
外向	wàixiàng	extroverted (personality)
而	ér	and
友善	yǒushàn	friendly
跟	gēn	with
人	rén	people
相处	xiāngchǔ	to get along (with one another)
得	de	linking a verb or an adjective to a coplement which describes the manner or degree
很	hěn	very
好	hǎo	well

24.

dàfang

大方

generous

Tā hěn **dàfang**, zǒngshì qǐng péngyou hējiǔ.

他很大方，总是请朋友喝酒。

He is very **generous** and always pays for his friends' drinks.

他	tā	he or him
很	hěn	very
大方	dàfang	generous
总是	zǒngshì	always

请	qǐng	to treat (to a meal, etc.)
朋友	péngyou	friend
喝酒	hējiǔ	to drink (alcohol)

25.

xiǎoqì

小气

stingy

Tā hěn xiǎoqì, shěbude huāqián.

他很**小气**，舍不得花钱。

He is very **stingy** and can't bear to spend money.

他	tā	he or him
很	hěn	very
小气	xiǎoqì	stingy
舍不得	shěbude	to hate to do sth
花钱	huāqián	to spend money

26.

qiānxū

谦虚

modest

Tā hěn qiānxū, cóngláibù xuànyào tā de chénggōng.

他很谦虚，从来不炫耀他的成功。

He is very **modest** and never shows off his success.

他	tā	he or him
很	hěn	very
谦虚	qiānxū	modest
从来不	cóngláibù	never
炫耀	xuànyào	to show off
他	tā	he or him
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
成功	chénggōng	success

27.

zìsī

自私

selfish

Tā fēicháng **zìsī**, zǒngshì zhǐ guānxīn zìjǐ.

他非常**自私**，总是只关心自己。

He is very **selfish**. He only cares about himself.

他	tā	he or him
非常	fēicháng	very
自私	zìsī	selfish

总是	zǒngshì	always
只	zhǐ	only
关心	guānxīn	to be concerned about / to care about
自己	zìjǐ	oneself

28.

rèqíng

热情

warm-hearted

Tā duì rén rèqíng chéngkěn, dàjiā dōu yuànyì gēn tā zuò péngyou.

他对人热情诚恳，大家都愿意跟他做朋友。

He is warm-hearted and sincere. Everyone wants to be his friend.

他	tā	he or him
对	duì	towards
人	rén	people
热情	rèqíng	warm-hearted
诚恳	chéngkěn	sincere
大家	dàjiā	everyone
都	dōu	all
愿意	yuànyì	to want
跟	gēn	with
他	tā	he or him

做 zuò to make

朋友 péngyou friend

29.

jiānqiáng

坚强

strong

Tā yīxiàng shì gè jiānqiáng de rén, rènhe kùnnan dōu dǎbudǎo tā.

她一向是个坚强的人，任何困难都打不倒她。

She has always been a strong person and will not be defeated by any difficulties.

她 tā she

一向 yīxiàng always (previously)

是 shì is

个 gè classifier for people

坚强 jiānqiáng strong

的 de used after an attribute

人 rén person

任何 rènhe any

困难 kùnnan difficult situation

都 dōu all

打不倒 dǎbudǎo be unconquerable



她 tā she

30.

tānxīn

贪心

greedy

Zhège tānxīn de nánhái yīgèrén bǎ bīngqílín quán chī le.

这个贪心的男孩一个人把冰淇淋全吃了。

The greedy boy ate all the ice-cream himself.

这个 zhège this

贪心 tānxīn greedy

的 de used after an attribute

男孩 nánhái boy

一个人 yīgèrén by oneself (without assistance)

把 bǎ particle marking the following noun as a direct object

冰淇淋 bīngqílín ice cream

全 quán all

吃 chī to eat

了 le completed action marker

**Conclusion:**

Hǎo le, jīntiān de kèchéng jiù dào cǐ wéizhǐ!

好了，今天的课程就到此为止！

Okay! That's it for today!

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wǒmen xià cì jiàn!

我们下次见!

I will see you next time!