

5 Myths To Chinese Learners

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1. Tone Language

► Four tones : qī qí qǐ qì

► qī: 七 (7)
Qī

► qí: 星期 (week) , 騎單車 (ride a bike) , 升旗 (raise a flag)
Xīng Qī Qí Dān Chē Shēng Qí

► qǐ: 起床 (get up)
Qǐ Chuáng

► qì: 生氣 (angry) 氣球 (balloon)
Shēng Qì Qì Qiú



2. Different Tones Give Different Meanings

- ▶ 睡覺shuìjiào (sleep) 水餃shuǐjiǎo (dumplings)
- ▶ 請問qǐngwèn (Excuse me!) 親吻qīng wěn (kiss)
- ▶ 眼睛yǎnjīng (eyes) 眼鏡yǎnjìng (glasses)
- ▶ 文字wénzì (words) 蚊子wénzi (mosquitoes)
- ▶ 聯繫liánxì (contact) 練習liànxí (practice)



3. Number Games

▶ 四 (4) 死 (die)
Sì Sǐ

▶ 444-4444 (電話號碼)
Diàn Huà Hào Mǎ

▶ 六六大順 (double 6 brings good luck)
Liù Liù Dà Shùn

▶ 爸爸 -- 八八 (88)
Bà Bà Bā Bā

▶ 長長久久 (9)
Cháng Cháng Jiǔ Jiǔ

▶ 紅包 (red envelope)
Hóng Bāo



4. 敬老尊賢 長幼有序

Jìng Lǎo Zūn Xián

Cháng Yòu Yǒu Xù

- ▶ Chinese people respect older people and loyal people.
- ▶ Chinese people follow the order based on the ages; the older, the wiser.
- ▶ 不聽老人言吃虧在眼前
Bú Tīng Lǎo Rén Yán Chī Kuī Zài Yǎn Qián
- ▶ 姜是老的辣 (Ginger gets spicier as it gets older.)
Jiāng Shì Lǎo De Lā



5. 常識 (common sense)

Cháng Shì

- ▶ Don't pick clock as a gift.
- ▶ 送鐘 (give a **clock** as a gift)
Sòng Zhōng
- 送終 (attend a funeral)
Sòng Zhōng
- ▶ Don't say 再見 in the funeral.
Zài Jiàn

