

To the Reader

Taiwan is a multilingual society. Besides Mandarin Chinese, Taiwanese is one of the most widely spoken languages. This book is written for foreign visitors, migrant workers, new residents in Taiwan, and Taiwanese who want to teach Taiwanese to their foreign friends. If you can speak Mandarin in Taiwan, that is great. It is even better if you know some Taiwanese because language is one of the best ways to build connections, and knowing some Taiwanese is invaluable for gaining a deeper understanding of local culture and forming bonds with local people.

Taiwanese is interwoven with Mandarin in daily life and is an integral part of society in Taiwan. When you're shopping at night markets or watching TV shows and news, you always hear some Taiwanese. However, books designed to help foreigners learn Taiwanese are relatively scarce, and many of the books are written in Mandarin, which may be difficult for learners unfamiliar with characters. The content of this book is presented in both Mandarin and English, and Hanyu Pinyin is used to transcribe Taiwanese. It focuses on commonly-used words and phrases for daily life with practical scenarios and examples to help learners use what they've learned right away. Anyone with a basic level of Chinese language

proficiency—such as those who have attained or surpassed TOCFL Basic Level, HSK Level 4, CEFR A2, ACTFL Intermediate, or ILR Level 1+—should find this book accessible. The content covers essential everyday phrases, phrases tourists need, local foods, and sentences related to local culture. Whether you're traveling short-term or residing long-term, this book will open a window for you to connect with locals in Taiwanese. Additionally, this book introduces the phonological system, the grammatical structure, and the history of Taiwanese to provide a comprehensive understanding of the language and to lay a foundation for further learning. By comparing the differences between Taiwanese and Mandarin, you'll find that Taiwanese has its own unique charm in terms of vocabulary and pronunciation while sharing similarities with Mandarin syntax.

Learning a language is not only about communication, but it is also a way to understand a culture. I hope this book serves as your first step in knowing Taiwanese, helps you master practical phrases, and opens the door to Taiwanese culture. I also hope that it helps your understanding and interaction with locals and allows you to experience the richness and diversity of Taiwanese culture more deeply. Whether you're a short-term visitor or a long-term resident, Taiwanese will make your time in Taiwan more exciting and enjoyable.

給讀者的話

台灣是個多語社會，除了華語之外，台語一直是使用人口最多的語言之一。這本書是為了來台旅遊、工作或定居的外籍人士、移工、新住民，以及想教外國友人台語的台灣人而寫的。在台灣能說華語很好，能用一些台語更好，因為語言是拉近關係最好的辦法之一，會說一些台語對於更深入了解台灣文化和與當地人建立連結至關重要。

台語在台灣社會中與華語交織，是日常生活中不可忽略的一部分，無論是在夜市買東西，還是在電視劇、新聞中，都會接觸到台語。然而市面上針對外國人學習台語的書籍相對稀少，而且許多台語教材都以華語為教學語言，對於不熟悉漢字的學習者來說可能有困難。因此，本書以華語、英語雙語呈現，並且特別設計以漢語拼音標註台語，選擇日常生活中經常使用的台語詞彙和短語，搭配具體場景的例句，讓學習者能夠立即活用。只要具備基礎級以上的中文學習者，也就是具備台灣華語文能力測驗（TOCFL）基礎級、中國漢語水平考試（HSK）4級、歐洲共同語文參考架構（CEFR）A2級、美國外語教學委員會

（ACTFL）中級（Intermediate）程度，或美國跨部門語言圓桌量表（Interagency Language Roundtable scale）1+級，在學過一定數量的中文以後，都能輕鬆學習。書中的內容涵蓋基本日常用語、觀光常用語、在地美食以及與在地文化相關的句子，讓您無論是短期旅行還是長期居住，都能用台語打開與當地人交流的窗口。除此之外，本書還介紹了台語的語音系統、語法結構以及台語的歷史發展，這部分的內容能幫助您對台語有更完整的認識，並為未來進一步學習台語打下基礎。透過對比台語與華語的差異，您將發現台語在句法上雖與華語相似，但在詞彙和發音上具有獨特的魅力。

學習一種語言不僅僅是為了與人溝通，還是一種了解文化的方式。希望這本書能夠成為您學習台語的第一步，幫助您學會實用的台語，為您打開通向台灣文化的大門，增進您與台灣人之間的理解和互動，同時也能更深入地了解台灣文化的多樣性與豐富性。無論您是短期訪客還是長期居住者，台語都能讓您在的台灣生活變得更加精采有趣。

漢語拼音 台羅拼音 中譯 英譯

01 dēxiā to-siā 謝謝 Thank you

例句 • Example

A: 你點的菜都來了。

B: dēxiā。

A: All your dishes are here.

B: Thank you.

為了閱讀的流暢，第五單元分別以中英文完整介紹台語的歷史來源、使用現況、拼音與書寫系統與語法。發音部分對照華語，說明聲母、韻母、聲調及地方口音差異；語法部分則比較台語與華語的句子結構與助詞使用，並重點示範台語特有的語法句式。

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第一單元

基本用語篇

Basic Phrases

本篇所列的是任何語言都有，並且在人際互動中需要的基本語彙。在使用這些詞彙或短語的時候，台灣人經常會加上語氣助詞，特別是對話雙方關係較為親近的情況下。這些語氣詞有其特別意涵，也可以藉此表達說話人的某種態度。此外，謝謝、對不起之類的禮貌用語，說的時候經常重覆說兩次來表現說話人誠摯的感情。

The expressions listed in this chapter are basic and essential for interpersonal interactions in all languages. When using these words or phrases, Taiwanese often add modal particles, especially when the relationship between the speaker and the interlocutors is closer. These particles have specific connotations and can be used to convey certain attitudes of a speaker. In addition, expressions of etiquette, such as "thank you" and "sorry," are often repeated twice to show the sincerity of the speaker.

001

01 dēxiā to-siā 謝謝 Thank you

例句 • Example

A：你點的菜都來了。

B：dēxiā。

A：All your dishes are here.

B：Thank you.

gāmwēn kám-un

不說不知道 ▶▶ Good to know

這是回應別人給予幫忙、方便或是服務的時候，用來表示對別人感謝的用語。要是別人在你危急的時候救助你，或是給你的恩惠比較大的時候，一般會回應「gāmwēn kám-un（感恩）」來致謝。

This is a word used to express gratitude to someone who is giving you help, convenience, or service. If someone comes to your aid or does a favor, "gāmwēn kám-un" is the word usually said.

本篇所列的是觀光客在台灣旅遊時可能用到和經常聽到的實用短語。這些語句可以幫助旅客解決在旅行中可能遇到的情況，包括找地方、吃東西、購物、講價錢、讓路等等。此外，在「不說不知道」的部分介紹在地人才知道的生活資訊和背景知識，以及值得觀光客注意的細節。

This chapter lists practical phrases that tourists in Taiwan might need to use or might hear during their travels. These phrases can help travelers handle situations they may encounter, such as finding destinations, eating out, shopping, bargaining, asking to pass, and more. Additionally, the "Good to Know" section introduces local insights and background knowledge that only locals know, along with details worth noting for tourists.

026

26 Zēh dī dēwī? tse tī tó-uī 這在哪裡? Where is this place?

例句 + Example

A: (指著一張字條) Zēh dī dēwī?

B: 喔，我帶你去。

A: (Pointing to a note) Where is this place?

B: Oh, let me show you.

不說不知道 >> Good to know

許多觀光客都有找目的地的經驗，在台灣如果有人拿著地圖在車站或路邊一臉困惑的樣子，經常會有友善的台灣人主動上前幫忙指路，有時甚至會陪同那個旅人到他想去的目的地，因此贏得「台灣最美的風景是人」的美譽。

Many tourists have gotten lost while looking for their destination. In Taiwan, if someone is standing at a station or on the street with a map, looking confused, friendly locals often come forward to offer help with directions. Sometimes, they may even accompany the traveler to their intended destination. This kind of hospitality has earned Taiwan the reputation that "the most beautiful scenery is its people."

第三單元

美食篇

Local Foods

本篇所列的都是台灣非常普遍的小吃、菜餚、點心和水果，值得美食家們注意與學習。為了方便讀者辨識，每個項目用的漢字都是在小吃店、市場常見到的。這裡也把每一道美食的主要材料與特點陳列出來以便大家更加了解。例句的對話情境包括邀請、拒絕、詢問、爭論等等，讀者可以自行替換對話裡的食物，或是開展對話來做延伸練習。

This chapter lists Taiwan's common snacks, main and side dishes, desserts, and fruits, all of which are worth the attention of and study by foodies. For easy identification, the characters for all the food items are typically seen in snack shops and markets. The main ingredients and key features of each food item are also provided to help readers know them better. Example dialogues employ scenarios like invitations, refusals, inquiries, debates, and so on. Readers are encouraged to substitute the food items in the dialogues or to expand the conversations for further practice.

051

51 **dáng'ā mbīgē tâng-á-bi-ko** 筒仔米糕 tube rice cake

例句 • Example

A: 這家 **dáng'ā mbīgē** 超好吃的，你一定要試一試。

B: 真的嗎？那我來一碗吧。

A: The tube rice cake in this shop is so tasty. You must try.

B: Oh, yeah? Give me a bowl of that then.

▶ 主要材料 • Main ingredients

糯米、豬肉、香菇、蝦米、紅蔥頭

sweet rice, pork, shiitake, dry shrimp, shallots

不說不知道 ▶▶ Good to know

米糕有很多種變化，除了鹹的以外，也有甜的。把米裝填在小鐵罐或竹筒裡的就是筒仔米糕，如果是用紅蟳一起蒸煮的就是紅蟳米糕，如果是用桂圓一起蒸煮的就是桂圓米糕，而這個就是甜的。

Rice cakes come in many varieties. In addition to savory versions, there are also sweet ones. When the rice is packed into small metal cans or bamboo tubes, it is called tube rice cake. If it's steamed together with crab, it is crab rice cake. If it's steamed with longan, it's called longan rice cake, which is sweet.

第四單元

住民篇

Resident Phrases

本篇所列的是在台灣居住一段時間，在生活中一定會經常聽到，或是在生活中需要以口頭表達的短語，例句的對話包括各種人際互動的情境，例如向熟人打招呼、邀請、稱讚、確認、反駁、批評等等。還有一些是讓語言形容更加形象生動的短語，透過這些短語的介紹也能更了解台灣的風土民情。

This chapter lists phrases that you'll frequently hear or need to use in daily conversations when living in Taiwan. The example dialogues cover various social interactions, such as greeting an acquaintance, inviting, complimenting, confirming, disagreeing, criticizing, and more. Some phrases are also used to make descriptions more vivid and colorful. Through these phrases, you'll gain a deeper understanding of Taiwan's customs and local culture.

076

.jiǎ bà mbēh? tsiáh pá bē/buē

吃飽了沒？ Have you eaten yet?

例句 • Example

A: .jiǎ bà mbēh?

B: 我吃過了，你呢？

A: Have you eaten yet?

B: Yes, I have. How about you?

不說不知道 ▶▶ Good to know

這是台灣人用在中午或傍晚用餐時間的見面招呼語。相對於招呼語「lī hē」用在第一次見面的對象，這個短語一般用在同事、鄰居或熟人之間。這並不意味問話的人要請對方吃飯，回話的人除了肯定地回覆以外，如果還沒吃可以回「等一下就去吃。」

This is a greeting commonly used by Taiwanese when meeting during lunch time or dinner time. Unlike the greeting "lī hē lī hó" said to a person you meet for the very first time, the phrase is typically used among colleagues, neighbors, or acquaintances. However, it does not mean that the person asking is inviting the interlocutor to eat. In response, people usually affirm they have eaten, or, if they haven't yet, they might say, "I'll eat soon."

第五單元

關於台語篇

Exploring Taiwanese

This chapter provides an overview of Taiwanese, including its origins and history, current situation of using the language in Taiwan, phonetic systems, writing systems, and a brief introduction of its grammar. The section on pronunciation compares Taiwanese with Mandarin, explaining the initials, finals, tones, and regional accents. The grammar section explores similarities between Taiwanese and Mandarin in sentence structure and the use of particles and highlights some unique grammatical patterns in Taiwanese.

歷史 來源 ▶ *The history of Taiwanese* ————— ...

Before Han Chinese settlers began migrating to Taiwan, the island was inhabited by indigenous peoples belonging to the Austronesian family. Starting from the 16th century, fishermen and traders from the coastal areas of Fujian, Mainland China, began venturing into the waters near Taiwan. During the Age of Discovery, the Portuguese and Spanish established some trading posts in Asia. Taiwan also came to the attention of Europeans during this time. From 1626 to 1642, the Spanish occupied northern Taiwan, while Dutch East India Company came to Asia and set up a government in what is now Tainan from 1624 to 1662. The Dutch recruited Han Chinese settlers to develop the

island. From 1662 to 1683, a larger wave of Han migrants fled to Taiwan with Koxinga (Zèng Chénggōng) to get away from war at the end of the Ming Dynasty. Most of these settlers were from southern Fujian, with a smaller number from Guangdong. The migrants from southern Fujian mostly spoke Hokkien, which is how the characters for "Fujian" are pronounced in Hokkien, while those from Guangdong spoke Hakka.

In 1895, the Qing Dynasty lost to Japan in the First Sino-Japanese War and ceded Taiwan to Japan. Since then, the island was ruled by the Japanese government for 50 years until the end of World War II in 1945. During this time, Japanese gradually became the *lingua franca* in Taiwan and led to the incorporation of many Japanese loanwords into Taiwanese Hokkien. In addition, a small number of indigenous and Dutch words also found their way into the language to make it Taiwanese today. As a result, the grammar of Taiwanese is largely the same as that of Hokkien, but there are some differences in vocabulary, and the pronunciation has slightly diverged over time. Since many of the Chinese immigrants in Singapore and Malaysia also came from coastal Fujian, Hokkien became a common language in those regions as well. Just as English has developed into different varieties—such as British and American English—with slight differences in pronunciation and usage but still remaining mutually intelligible, speakers of Hokkien from places like Fujian, Singapore, and Malaysia can also communicate with speakers of Taiwanese without much difficulty.