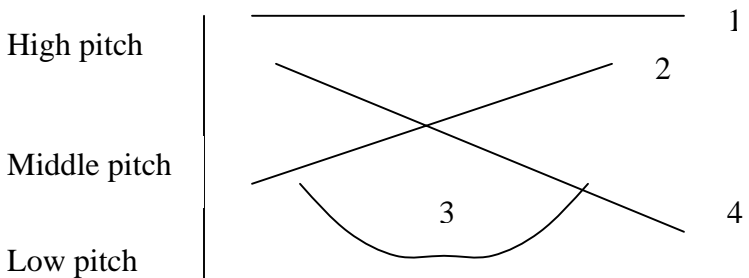


## <Pīn-Yīn>

“Pīn Yīn” is a system in a series of phonetic symbols (sound symbols), which are used to help you pronounce each word (every word represents one Chinese character) in Chinese. Although “Pīn Yīn” is conducted by Roman alphabets, it sounds totally different from the alphabets we used in English. (Note: it is unnecessary to know how to write “Pīn Yīn” because nobody writes it instead people write Chinese characters, which is called “hànzì.” The function of “Pīn Yīn” is enable you to read it and know how to pronounce each sound.)

## <Tones>

Tones mean the pitch aspect of a syllable; rise, fall, etc. In Chinese, there are four tones + neutral tone. We put each symbol of a tone on the top of a last sound of every syllable. There is no meaning of using first, second, third or fourth. They are just a number system. However, the symbol of each tone will indicate the movement of the pitch.



➤ First tone (—): High and level.  
For example, shǐ(surname), tā(he)

➤ Second tone ( / ): Rises from a low to a high pitch.

For example, fān(annoyed), māng(busy), bú(negative marker mean no or don't; when “bu” has a following fourth tone syllable, it will change from a fourth tone to a second tone like “bú e” or “bú lei”)

➤ Third tone ( ∨ ): Low.

For example, xiǎo(we put it in front of a surname), lǎo(old, if it forms like “lǎoshī” means a teacher), nǐ(you, singular), hǎo(good, if it forms like “nǐhǎo” it means hello.)  
wǒ(I), zǎo(good morning)

➤ Fourth tone ( \ ): Falls from a high to a low pitch.

For example, zài(again; if it forms like “zàijiàn,” it means good-bye or see you again), jiàn(see; if it forms like “zàijiàn,” it means good-bye or see you again), bù(negative marker means no or don't;)

- Neutral tone ( ): We do not put a tone mark on the top of syllables, which have neutral tone. Because these syllables which have neutral tone do not have any syllable stress. For example, ma (the question marker). Lacks tone. We call it an atonic syllable.

**<Consonants>**

**B P M F D T N L**

**G K H J Q X**

**ZH CH SH R**

**Z C S**

**<Vowel>**

*These are the basic, you will see more forms in the combination of two vowels>*

**YI/Y/I**

**WU/W/U**

**YU/U**

**A O E IE/YE**

**AI EI AO OU**

**AN EN ANG ENG ER**

**<Special situation>**

**ZHI/CHI/CHI/RI/ZI/CI/SI**

(You will not need to pronounce vowel “i” in these situation)