



牛津初级中文  
Oxford Elementary  
Chinese

OXFORD

Starter Book

# 中国文化入门

## My First Chinese Culture Book



# 1

## Learn about China 中国知多少

### Country profile 国家概况

China is a country in Asia. Here are some facts about China.



**Country:** China, 中国 (Zhongguo)  
China is officially called the People's Republic of China (PRC).

**Capital:** Beijing

Located in northern China, Beijing is the political and cultural centre of China.



**Size:** Around 9,600,000 km<sup>2</sup>  
China looks like a huge rooster on the map. There are many rivers, lakes, mountains and forests in China.



the Himalayas



the Yellow River



**Population:** Over 1.3 billion  
China has the largest population in the world.

**Ethnic groups:** 56  
Besides the largest ethnic group, Han, which makes up over 90% of the population, there are also 55 ethnic minorities.



**Language:** There is only one writing system in China, but people speak different dialects.

Written	Spoken	
Official	Official	Main dialects
Standardized Chinese characters	Putonghua (Standardized form of the spoken Chinese based on Mandarin)	Mandarin, Wu, Xiang, Gan, Hakka, Min, Cantonese

## Symbols of China 中国象征

Is there anything that reminds you of China? Look at some symbols of China.



**The Chinese dragon:** It is regarded as a divine creature and a symbol of good luck and power. Chinese people call themselves Descendants of the Dragon.



**The giant panda:** It is China's national treasure and the symbol of WWF. It is listed as one of the vulnerable species in the world.



Brain teaser

What is a panda's biggest wish?

(To take a colour photo.)







**The Great Wall:** In ancient times, it was built for protection against invasions. Today, it is a World Heritage site.

**Chinese kungfu:** It is not only about fighting and self-defense, it can also strengthen the body and mind.



Can you do these kungfu stances?

