

Names and Self-Introduction

自我介绍

01 Intro

Learn how to **ask for and give a name**. Use the casual "你叫什么名字?" and the polite "您贵姓?" appropriately, and be able to say "Nice to meet you."

02 Words

1 **请问** (v.)
qǐngwèn
may I ask

2 **贵姓** (n.)
guìxìng
your name (polite, asking the surname)

3 **姓** (v.)
xìng
to have the surname ...

4 **叫** (v.)
jiào
to be called (by name)

5 **名字** (n.)
míngzi
name

6 **什么** (pron.)
shénme
what

7 **认识** (v.)
rènshi
to get to know, to be
acquainted with

8 **很** (adv.)
hěn
very

9 **高兴** (adj.)
gāoxìng
happy, glad

03 Patterns

1 **你叫什么名字?**
nǐ jiào shénme míngzi

What is your name?

2 **我叫田中。**
wǒ jiào Tiánzhōng

My name is Tanaka.

3 **您贵姓?**
nín guìxìng

May I have your name?
(polite)

4 **我姓田中。**
wǒ xìng Tiánzhōng

My surname is Tanaka.

5 **认识你很高兴。**
rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng

Nice to meet you.

04 Dialog

SCENE Greeting someone for the first time

Tiánzhōng
田中

Tanaka

nín hǎo qǐngwèn nín guìxìng
您好！请问您贵姓？

Wáng Míng
王明

Wang Ming

wǒ xìng Wáng jiào Wáng Míng
我姓王，叫王明。

Tiánzhōng
田中

Tanaka

rènshi nín hěn gāoxìng wǒ jiào Tiánzhōng
认识您很高兴。我叫田中。

Wáng Míng
王明

Wang Ming

rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng
认识你很高兴。

05 Grammar

Grammar Point

How to ask someone's name / the question word
"什么"

There are two ways to ask for a name, depending on the person and the level of politeness.

① Asking and giving a name

Casually, **你叫什么名字？** (What's your name?). Politely, **您贵姓？** (May I have your name?). Answer with "我叫…" (full name) or "我姓…" (surname only).

① ^{nín guìxìng} 您贵姓？ — ^{wǒ xìng Wáng} 我姓王。

May I have your name? — My surname is Wang.

② ^{nǐ jiào shénme míngzi} 你叫什么名字？ — ^{wǒ jiào Wáng Míng} 我叫王明。

What's your name? — My name is Wang Ming.

Note: To "您贵姓?" answer with the surname only (not ×我贵姓...). "贵" is a word of respect for the other person, so never use it about yourself.

② The question word "什么 (what)"

Put "什么" right where the information you want goes. The word order is the same as the answer sentence — don't rearrange it.

① ^{zhè shì shénme} 这是什么？

What is this?

Service tip: With guests, ^{nín guìxìng} 您贵姓? is polite. It comes in handy when confirming reservations.

06 Practice

1 Answer ^{nín guìxìng} "您贵姓?" with ^{wǒ xìng} "我姓OO."

2 Answer "你叫什么名字?" with your own name.

nǐ jiào shénme míngzì

3 Introduce yourselves in pairs.

您好 → 您贵姓? → 认识您很高兴

07 Translation

Dialog — Reference Translation

Tanaka Hello. Excuse me, may I have your name?

Wang Ming My surname is Wang. My name is Wang Ming.

Tanaka Nice to meet you. My name is Tanaka.

Wang Ming Nice to meet you.