

**READING 4** Read about Jamar's and Derry's families. Note down in English the details of each family.

1

你好! 我叫 Derry, 我十一岁,  
我有一个哥哥和两个姐姐,  
我没有弟弟和妹妹。

2

早上好! 他叫 Jamar, 他二十岁。  
他有一个姐姐和一个弟弟。

LISTENING

**5** Listen and answer the questions in English.

- 1 How many people are in the family?
- 2 Does this person have an older sister?
- 3 How old is the older brother?
- 4 Who is 14 years old?

SPEAKING

**6** Work in groups of three or four and take turns to introduce your family. You can make up the details if you want to.

- Give your name and age.
- Say how many people are in your family.
- Say how many brothers and sisters you have.
- Give their names and ages.
- Say what you don't have in your family.
- Don't forget to include measure words!

WRITING

**7** Practise writing the following key characters for this unit. Remember: left to right and top to bottom. Look at page 35 for more help with stroke order.

有 个 口 人

## Language

## The use of 二 èr and 两 liǎng

Both these words mean 'two'. Use 二 in counting or saying a number by itself, such as 二十. To talk about an amount of something, use 两:

两个妹妹 liǎng ge mèi mei = two younger sisters

家 jiā home/family

我家 wǒ jiā my home/family

□ kǒu measure word for total number of people in a family

人 rén person

## Grammar

## The use of □ kǒu

□ kǒu is a measure word which is used to describe the total number of people in a family.

□ literally means 'mouth', so here it means the number of mouths to feed. For example:

他家有三口人。 tā jiā yǒu sān kǒu rén =  
His family has three people. (There are three people in his family.)

## ② 我的小猫 wǒ de xiǎo māo My little cat

Talking about your pets

**LISTENING 1** Listen and note down the letter of the correct picture. (1-6)



**LISTENING 2** Listen and note down the pet and number in English next to the correct measure word in pinyin. (1-6)

Example: zhī: cat 1

tiáo:

**SPEAKING 3** In pairs, take it in turns to describe the pictures.

Example: A: 三只狗 B: 1



**READING 4** Read the sentences, then copy and complete the grid with the details of who has which pets.

Who						
Kyle						

- 1 有一只狗。
- 2 妈妈有三只兔子。
- 3 弟弟有一只狗, 四条鱼。
- 4 老师有一只鸟。
- 5 哥哥有一条蛇, 一只狗。
- 6 姐姐有狗吗?  
姐姐有两只猫, 她没有狗。

### Measure words 只 zhī and 条 tiáo

Different measure words are used for different categories of things. The most common measure word used for animals and birds is 只, as in 一只鸟 yì zhī niǎo = one bird, 三只狗 sān zhī gǒu = three dogs. 条 is used for animals with a long thin body, for example 一条蛇 yì tiáo shé = one snake.

Try to learn the right measure word whenever you learn a new noun.

### Grammar

### The use of 吗 ma

When you ask a yes/no question (questions that normally need a 'yes' or 'no' when you answer them in English), you just need to add 吗 ma at the end of the sentence to turn it into a yes/no question.

Statement	Yes/no question
你有狗。	你有狗吗?
她有弟弟。	她有弟弟吗?

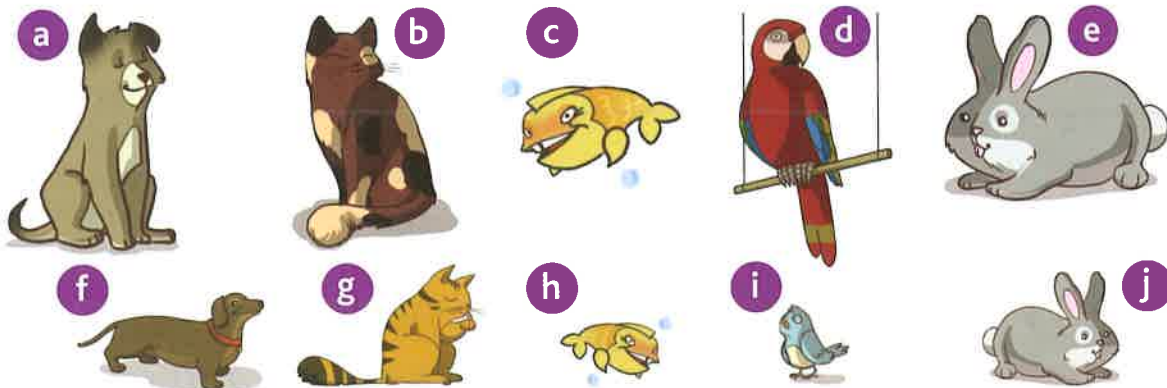
## LISTENING 5

Listen to the conversations and choose the correct picture and label for each one. (1-5)

Example: 1 g n

大 dà big

小 xiǎo small



k 大兔子

l 小兔子

m 大猫

n 小猫

o 大鱼

p 小鱼

q 大鸟

r 小鸟

s 大狗

t 小狗

## SPEAKING 6

In pairs, ask and answer questions pretending to have the pets below.

A: 你有宠物吗? nǐ yǒu chǒng wù ma

B: 我有一只大鸟。wǒ yǒu yī zhī dà niǎo

- 1 one big bird
- 2 two small cats
- 3 one big dog
- 4 one snake
- 5 one small rabbit and five fish

宠物 chǒng wù pet

## Grammar

## Adjectives (describing words)

For a simple adjective that is one syllable/ character (such as 大 dà = big, 小 xiǎo = small), you just need to add it before the noun you're describing:

一只大猫 = one big cat

三只小狗 = three small dogs

Don't forget that you still need the correct measure word.

## WRITING 7

Practise writing the following key characters 大 and 小 for this unit.

大 小

## WRITING 8

Pretend you are Daniel or Bibi and complete the passage about your family. Use the text to help you.

我叫方林(fāng lín), 我十三岁。我家有四口人。我有爸爸、妈妈、一个姐姐。我有一只狗, 姐姐有一只猫, 爸爸妈妈有三条鱼。

我 1 Bibi/Daniel, 我家 2 五 3 人, 爸爸、妈妈, 一 4 姐姐, 5 个哥哥 / 妹妹。我家 6 一只猫, 三 7 鸟, 8 条鱼。



Daniel, 13 years old

Grace, 17 years old

Bibi, 9 years old



### ③ 我的生日 wǒ de shēng rì My birthday

Learning to say dates and months

**READING 1** Match the English and Chinese.

Example: 1 h

- |            |          |             |
|------------|----------|-------------|
| 1 January  | 5 May    | 9 September |
| 2 February | 6 June   | 10 October  |
| 3 March    | 7 July   | 11 November |
| 4 April    | 8 August | 12 December |

a 三月	d 五月	g 八月	j 四月
b 十一月	e 六月	h 一月	k 七月
c 二月	f 九月	i 十二月	l 十月

日 rì date 月 yuè month

#### Months of the year

月 yuè is the Chinese word for 'month'. You just need to add the right number before 月 to make a month: for example, 一月 for January, 二月 for February, etc.

To say the date, use 日 after the number, for example, 二十三日 = 23rd. The month **always** goes before the day in Chinese, so 5 October would be 十月五日.

**LISTENING 2** Listen and choose the correct answer. (1-6)

Example: 1a

- |                |           |                  |                |
|----------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|
| ① a 3 January  | b 1 March | ④ a 12 September | b 20 August    |
| ② a 13 June    | b 13 May  | ⑤ a 9 November   | b 11 September |
| ③ a 6 February | b 2 June  | ⑥ a 17 October   | b 17 April     |

**SPEAKING 3** In pairs, say the following dates in Chinese.

- 5 January  
8 February  
11 July  
16 October  
25 December  
Your birthday

#### The use of 的 de

In Chinese, the possessive is made by adding 的 de after the pronoun (I, you, he, etc.) or noun.

我 I	我的 my (我的生日 my birthday)
你 you	你的 your
他 he	他的 his
她 she	她的 her
妈妈 mum	妈妈的 mum's (妈妈的生日 mum's birthday)

的 is often omitted where there is a close relationship, such as 我(的)家 = my family/home; 他(的)哥哥 = his older brother.

**READING 4** True or false? If false, write down the correct translation in English.

- 1 今天是十二月六日。 Today is 6 December.
- 2 我的生日是九月三日。 My birthday is 3 July.
- 3 我的生日是八月五日。 My birthday is 8 May.
- 4 我爸爸的生日是一月二日。 My mum's birthday is 1 February.
- 5 他的生日是十一月二十四日。 Her birthday is 24 November.

生日 shēng rì birthday

今天 jīn tiān today

是 shì to be

**LISTENING 5** Listen, then copy and complete the grid with the correct age and birthday. (1-6)

Name	Age	Birthday
Chen Sheng	8	5 March
Josie		

**WRITING 6** Practise writing the following key characters 日 月 生 是 for this unit. Remember: finish what is inside the box before you close it.



**READING 7** Read the text and answer the questions in English.

我叫小月, 我十三岁, 我的生日是五月十一日。  
我家有三口人, 爸爸、妈妈和我。我爸爸  
四十六岁, 我妈妈四十三岁。我有一只猫。

- 1 What is this person's name?  
What does her name mean literally?
- 2 How old is she?
- 3 When is her birthday?
- 4 How many people are there in her family?
- 5 Who is 43 years old?
- 6 Does she have any pets?

**WRITING 8** Complete the sentences according to the pictures.

我 1 Li Ming。我 2 3 岁。

我 4 Ding Jie, 我 5 6 岁, 我有 7 8 狗。



## 4 中国人的家 zhōng guó rén de jiā Chinese homes

Finding out about Chinese homes and families

### Family structure

In Chinese families there are specific titles for each family member. For example, as you have already learned, there are different titles for older brother and younger brother, for older sister and younger sister. For the extended family, there are more complicated titles. It depends not only on whether the relative is older or younger than you, male or female, but also depends on whether they are from your mother's side or father's side. 'Cousin' in English can be expressed by 8 different words in Chinese! Below are some examples:

	Father's side	Mother's side
Grandmother	奶奶 (nǎi nai)	姥姥 (lǎo lao)
Grandfather	爷爷 (yé ye)	姥爷 (lǎo ye)

	Father's side (older than you)	Father's side (younger than you)	Mother's side (older than you)	Mother's side (younger than you)
Cousin (male)	堂哥 (táng gē)	堂弟 (táng dì)	表哥 (biǎo gē)	表弟 (biǎo dì)
Cousin (female)	堂姐 (táng jiě)	堂妹 (táng mèi)	表姐 (biǎo jiě)	表妹 (biǎo mèi)

When you address people in your family, particularly those who are older than you, you always use their family title. So, for example, when someone speaks to their older brother/sister, they would call them 哥哥 gē ge/ 姐姐 jiě jie instead of calling them by their name.

### READING 1

Can you work out what you would call these people in Chinese?

- 1 Your mum's mum
- 2 Your dad's mum
- 3 Your male cousin (on your father's side and younger than you)
- 4 Your female cousin (on your mother's side and older than you)

### Three generations living together

In China it is still common for three generations to live under the same roof, both in rural areas and cities. Grandparents look after their grandchildren while the parents go to work. There are not many part-time jobs available in China, so many working parents have to rely on the grandparents to take and collect their children to and from nursery/school, as well as to help with housework.





### A flat or a sì hé yuàn courtyard?

Most people in Beijing, and many other Chinese cities, live in high-rise flats. However, some people still live in a sì hé yuàn courtyard; the name literally means 'a courtyard surrounded by four buildings' – one-storey houses traditionally lived in by people from the same extended family. The courtyards are built in areas known as hú tong (little alleys).



### READING 2

In groups, do some research on sì hé yuàn courtyard/hú tong and have a discussion on the advantages/disadvantages of living in a sì hé yuàn. Try answering the following questions:

- 1 What does a typical sì hé yuàn look like?
- 2 What is a hú tong?
- 3 Many hú tong have been demolished in the last 30 years. Why?
- 4 Why are some hú tong kept as protected areas nowadays?

### Birthdays

Traditionally, old people's birthdays are very important in China and are usually celebrated by the extended family getting together and having a big meal. In recent years, birthdays have become a more important occasion for the young too. Children get presents or money on their birthdays. They have parties or go out with friends for a meal. No matter whether old or young, the person whose birthday it is usually eats noodles because long noodles symbolise long life. Candles and cakes are becoming more popular as well.





# 汉字 hàn zì Investigating characters

Learning more about Chinese characters

WRITING 1

Copy the grid and choose one or two new characters from this chapter to fill in as the examples for each stroke.

Stroke	English name	Example character
一	Horizontal	有
丨	Vertical line	
丶	The dot	
㇏	The sweeping left stroke	
㇚	The sweeping right stroke	
㇔	Turning stroke	

是 口 生 月 日 有 小 大 个

WRITING 2

Using characters from Activity 1, write them and their English translation next to the correct number of strokes.

Example: 2 strokes: 人 person

3 strokes

4 strokes

5 strokes

6 strokes

9 strokes

WRITING 3

Write an appropriate character for each gap.

我叫 Mingming, 我家有三 1 人。

Christine 有一 2 弟弟。

Nila 家 3 五口 4 。

我十 5 岁。

我家有 6 口 7 , 爸爸、妈妈和我。

我没 8 哥哥、姐姐、弟弟、妹妹。



# 部首 bù shǒu Radicals

Radicals: 犳

Most characters with this radical are animals that live on land. For example, you have learned 猫 cat, and 狗 dog.

More examples are:

狼 láng = wolf

狮 shī = lion

猴 hóu = monkey

狐狸 hú li = fox



**READING 4** Find the characters. How many are there of each animal?

狮 猫 狮 狮 猴 狼 狐狸 狗 狮  
狗 狼 狼 狗 狮 狼 狐狸 猫

**READING 5** Can you find these radicals in the characters which follow? Then match the characters to their meaning with the help of the radicals.

Example: 1 石 rock

1 石 stone

2 火 fire

3 舌 tongue

4 讠 speech

5 车 vehicle

6 飠 meal

a 饿

b 辆

c 甜

d 炒

e 岩

f 讲

rock

sweet

hungry

to talk/speak

to stir fry

measure word for  
bicycles/cars/coaches etc.

**READING 6** Count the strokes of the radicals and put them in the correct order from the least to the most strokes.

1 石 stone

2 火 fire

3 舌 tongue

4 讠 speech

5 车 vehicle

6 飠 meal



## Extension

### LISTENING 1

Listen and write down what each person says about their pet and other information about their family or themselves. (1–6)

*Example:* 1 Liu Yihao: five fish. The family consists of Liu Yihao and his mum and dad.

- 1 Liu Yihao
- 2 Meko
- 3 Nadia
- 4 Zhao Yueming
- 5 Niu Huan
- 6 Katharine

### SPEAKING 2

Work in groups of 2–3 people to describe the people and pets from your answers to Activity 1.

### READING 3

Whose birthday is it?

- |                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 's birthday is 25 March.    | a 妈妈的生日是六月三十日。  |
| 2 's birthday is 7 April.     | b 爸爸的生日是四月七日。   |
| 3 's birthday is 3 September. | c 弟弟的生日是九月三日。   |
| 4 's birthday is 8 December.  | d 姐姐的生日是一月十九日。  |
| 5 's birthday is 30 June.     | e 哥哥的生日是十二月八日。  |
| 6 's birthday is 19 January.  | f 妹妹的生日是三月二十五日。 |

### READING 4

Choose the correct measure word to fill in the gap.  
Then translate the phrase or sentence into English.

*Example:* 一 只 猫 one cat

三 1 鱼

五 2 蛇

我有四 3 小狗。

哥哥有一 4 大鸟。

我家有三 5 人。

她有一 6 弟弟。

- a 个  
b 只  
c 条  
d 口



## READING 5

Spot the mistakes in the pictures according to the sentences.

1 我有四条蛇。



2 Anthony 有一条蛇, 他没有猫和狗。



3 我家有四口人, 我有爸爸、妈妈、一个姐姐。我有一只大狗。



4 我叫 Michael, 我家有五口人, 我有爸爸、妈妈、一个姐姐、一个妹妹。我家有一只猫、三只鸟。



## SPEAKING 6

In pairs, introduce yourselves to each other. You can use the framework to help you.

我叫 \_\_\_\_。

我 \_\_\_\_ 岁。

我家有 \_\_\_\_ 口人。

我有 \_\_\_\_ (family member)。

我没有 \_\_\_\_ (family member)。

我有 \_\_\_\_ 只 / 条 \_\_\_\_。

我的生日是 \_\_\_\_。

## WRITING 7

Write down the missing words.

我 1 Naomi, 我 2 四岁。我 3 一只大猫。我的生日是三 4 十 5。我家有四 6 人, 我有爸爸、妈妈和一 7 弟弟。我爸爸的生日 8 九月十三日, 我妈妈的 9 是六月二十五日。



## Review

### I can:

1

- say who is in my family

爸爸 bà ba, 妈妈 mā ma, 哥哥 gē ge,  
姐姐 jiě jie, 弟弟 dì di, 妹妹 mèi mei

- use measure words 个 and 口

他有一个妹妹。 tā yǒu yí ge mèi mei  
我家有四口人。 wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén

- write key characters

有、个、口、人

2

- say what pet I have/don't have

我有一只猫。 wǒ yǒu yí zhī māo

我没有狗。 wǒ méi yǒu gǒu

- use question word 吗

你有狗吗? nǐ yǒu gǒu ma

- use measure words 只 and 条

他有两只猫。 tā yǒu liǎng zhī māo

她有四条鱼。 tā yǒu sì tiáo yú

- describe pets with adjectives 大 and 小

大狗 dà gǒu, 一只小猫 yí zhī xiǎo māo

- write key characters

大、小

3

- say the date

六月十七日 liù yuè shí qī rì

十二月二十五日 shí èr yuè èr shí wǔ rì

- say when my birthday is

我的生日是九月八日。

wǒ de shēng rì shì jiǔ yuè bā rì

- use the possessive adjective 的

我的生日 wǒ de shēng rì

她的猫 tā de māo

他的老师 tā de lǎo shī

- understand the date in characters

六月十一日, 我的生日是二月八日。

- write key characters

日、月、是、生、日

### Investigating characters

- count the number of strokes in a character

人, 2 strokes

- recognise simple radicals

丿

## LISTENING 1

Listen and say whether the statements are true or false.

- 1 There are five people in the family.
- 2 Mum is 38 years old.
- 3 Rachel's birthday is 5 March.
- 4 The family has a dog.

## SPEAKING 2

Pretend you are one of the children of the family in the picture. Introduce your family using the information provided.

You can use these phrases to help you:

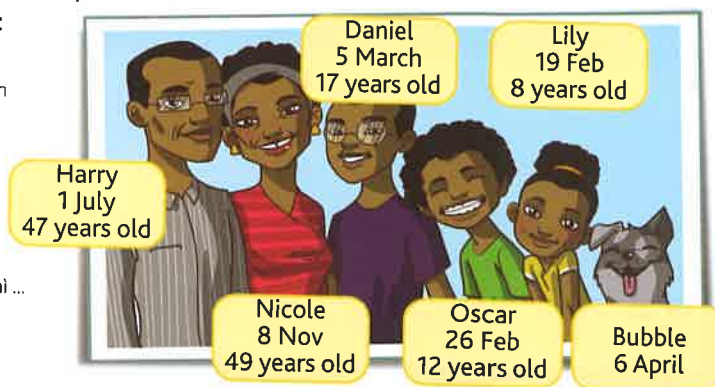
我家有 \_\_\_ 口人。 wǒ jiā yǒu ... kǒu rén

我有 \_\_\_。 wǒ yǒu ...

我 \_\_\_ 岁。 wǒ ... suì

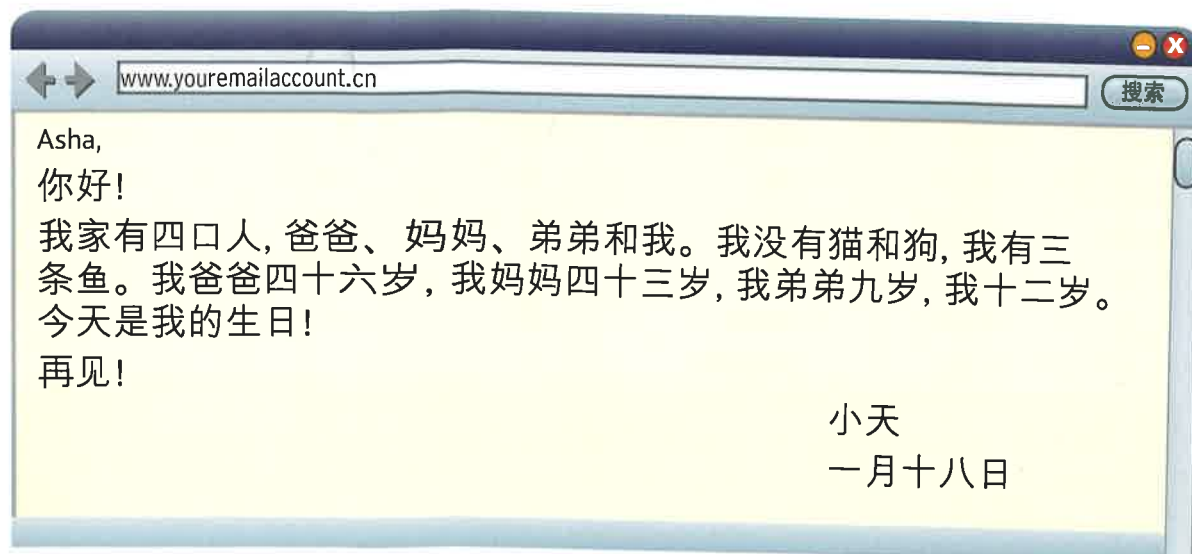
\_\_\_ 的生日是 \_\_\_。 ... de shēng rì shì ...

我没有 \_\_\_。 wǒ méi yǒu ...



## READING 3

You have received an email from your Chinese penpal talking about her family. Read it and answer the questions in English.



- 1 How many people are there in Xiaotian's family?
- 2 How old are Xiaotian's mum and dad?
- 3 What pets does Xiaotian have?
- 4 What is the day special for?
- 5 When is Xiaotian's birthday?

## WRITING 4

Write the characters for the English text.

- |         |           |              |            |
|---------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| 1 month | 2 date    | 3 18 January | 4 birthday |
| 5 to be | 6 to have | 7 big        | 8 small    |

## Key language

### Family

爸爸	bà ba	dad	妹妹	mèi mei	younger sister
妈妈	mā ma	mum	家	jiā	home/family
哥哥	gē ge	older brother	有	yǒu	to have
姐姐	jiě jie	older sister	人	rén	person/people
弟弟	dì di	younger brother	口	kǒu	measure word for total number of family

### Pets

狗	gǒu	dog	大	dà	big
猫	māo	cat	小	xiǎo	small
鸟	niǎo	bird	只	zhī	measure word for most animals and birds (cat, dog, bird, rabbit etc.)
鱼	yú	fish			
蛇	shé	snake	条	tiáo	measure word for long thin animals (snake, fish)
兔子	tù zi	rabbit			

### Birthdays

一月	yī yuè	January	十月	shí yuè	October
二月	èr yuè	February	十一月	shí yī yuè	November
三月	sān yuè	March	十二月	shí èr yuè	December
四月	sì yuè	April	日	rì	date
五月	wǔ yuè	May	月	yuè	month
六月	liù yuè	June	生日	shēng rì	birthday
七月	qī yuè	July	今天	jīn tiān	today
八月	bā yuè	August	是	shì	to be
九月	jiǔ yuè	September			



## Stroke order

有	一	ナ	ナ	有	有	有
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

个	个	人	个
---	---	---	---

口	口	口	口
---	---	---	---

人	人	人
---	---	---

大	一	ナ	大
---	---	---	---

小	小	小	小
---	---	---	---

日	日	日	日	日
---	---	---	---	---

月	月	月	月	月
---	---	---	---	---

生	生	生	生	生
---	---	---	---	---

是	是	是	是	是	是	是	是	是	是
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

### 3 爱好 ài hào Hobbies

#### ① 我们玩儿游戏吧! wǒ men wánr yóu xì ba Let's play games!

🗨️ Talking about what you do in your free time

#### LISTENING 1

26

Listen to Li Yue talking about her family's hobbies. Match the family member with the correct hobby. (1-4)



**a** 看书 kàn shū  
read books



**b** 听音乐 tīng yīn yuè  
listen to music



**c** 买东西 mǎi dōng xi  
go shopping



**d** 上网 shàng wǎng  
surf the Internet

Example: 1b

1 妈妈

2 爸爸

3 妹妹

4 哥哥

#### LISTENING 2

27

Xiaoming is asking his new classmates about their hobbies. Listen and note down the letter of the correct picture from Activity 1. (1-4)

- 1 Zhang Xiaoli
- 2 Li Ying
- 3 Wang Tingting
- 4 Liu Xiaoyan

#### SPEAKING 3

In pairs, ask each other about hobbies and find the correct picture from Activity 1, then swap.

**A: 你的爱好是什么?**

nǐ de ài hào shì shén me

**B: 我的爱好是上网。**

wǒ de ài hào shì shàng wǎng

#### Chinese names

Chinese names are the other way round to English, with the surname first. For example, a man called Zhang Long has the surname Zhang and given name Long. The given name usually contains one or two Chinese characters. Chinese given names have particular meanings, which may express the parents' wishes for the newborn. Girls are often called 美 (měi, beautiful), 花 (huā, flower), 月 (yuè, moon); common names for boys include 明 (míng, bright), 强 (qiáng, strong), 龙 (lóng, dragon).

#### Grammar

##### The use of negatives

The negative of most verbs is made by adding 不 (bù) in front of the verb. For example:

我不上网。 I don't surf the Internet.

他不看书。 He doesn't read books.

(Remember, the verb is the same whether 'I' or 'he' is the subject of the sentence.)