

Chinese Graded Reader
Level 2
by Abby Chen

LOST
IN
TRANSLATION

咖啡店愛情故事

Chinese Graded Reader
Level 2: INTERMEDIATE

咖啡店爱情故事
Lost in Translation

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Author's Note

While researching learning resources for my students and audience, I realized there's a lack of graded readers that are originally written in Traditional Chinese and that use Taiwanese vocabulary. Therefore, I decided to work on graded readers that are designed for Taiwan-centric learners. The book is written in everyday language and with expressions that are both practical and easy to understand.

Level Two: Is this level right for me?

Level 2 is designed for Chinese learners who have reached an intermediate to upper-intermediate level. This series contains about 450-500 unique characters.

If you are able to read this book and comprehend it without having to look up the vocabulary list, this book is likely good for your level.

How do I study with this book?

Read at your own pace. By reading this book, you're already improving your recognition and comprehension skills.

As an added feature, clicking key words will take you to the [glossary](#), where each word's definition and pronunciation are listed. This should provide an easier reading experience.

If you're looking to push yourself, try making sentences with words from the vocabulary list. There's also a "Questions and Discussion" session at the end of the book, for extra practice, perhaps with your teacher.

About This Story

Can you date someone if you do not speak the same language?

A cross-cultural romance based on a true story: after a Japanese lady meets a Taiwanese man in his Café in Tainan, they gradually develop feelings for each other despite the language barrier and the long distance.

Contact

If you encounter any issues after purchasing this book (e.g., not able to read this book on your device), please contact the author by sending an email to talktaiwanese Mandarin@gmail.com

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人物 Characters

- 阿乔 (Āqiáo) : 台南人, 在台南开了一家咖啡店。喜欢和客人聊天、交朋友。

From Tainan, Taiwan. He runs a Café in Tainan. Friendly and sociable.

- 朋子 (Péngzi) : 日本人, 住在[东京](#)^[1]。来台湾旅行的时候, 来到阿乔的咖啡店。

From Tokyo, Japan. She comes to Āqiáo's Café when visiting Taiwan.

- 真真 (Zhēnzhēn) : 阿乔咖啡店的[常客](#)^[2], 会说日文。

A regular at Āqiáo's Café who speaks Japanese.

- 小张 (Xiǎozhāng) : 和阿乔认识很久的好朋友。

An old friend of Āqiáo's.

- 小高 (Xiǎogāo) : 真真的男朋友。

Zhēnzhēn's boyfriend.

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1. 东京 Dōngjīng *n.* Tokyo
 2. 常客 chángkè *n.* regular customer

前言 (qiányán) Preface

在某^[3]一年的十二月，我心情不好、想要去别的城市走走，所以我就坐上火车，从台北来到台南。

我用手机查^[4]了一下附近有什么咖啡店，看到一家风格^[5]很特别的店，我就想去看看。

走进去后，看到里面有很多有特色^[6]的老东西：老桌子、老照片、老电视... 等等。

老板站在吧台^[7]里忙着，跟我说：「哈啰^[8]。」

我们就这样聊起天来，他的名字叫阿乔。

到了要回台北前的最后一个晚上，我又来到这家咖啡店。

阿乔坐在吧台里，看起来好像心情不太好。

「你怎么了？心情不好？」我问他。

「没事，我只是想到一个人。」他说。

「谁？」我问。

他没有回答，过了一会，他说：「你要听故事吗？」

「好啊，如果好听的话。」我笑着说。

阿乔喝了一口水，开始说起了一个很特别的[爱情](#)^[9]故事。

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3. 某 mǒu *det.* certain; some
 4. 查 chá *v.* to look up, to check
 5. 风格 fēnggé *n.* style
 6. 有特色 yǒutèsè *adj.* has something special, unique
 7. 吧台 bātái *n.* bar, counter
 8. 哈啰 hāluō *n.* hello
 9. 爱情 àiqíng *n.* romantic love

1. 第一次见面

在某个星期一下午，阿乔在自己的咖啡店里看着电脑发呆^[10]，外面在下雨，店里一个客人都没有。

五年前，阿乔忽然^[11]不想再做饭店服务生的工作了。他在饭店工作已经十年了，虽然他对服务客人很有热情^[12]、和同事^[13]们也都很熟^[14]，但是他想试试看不一样的工作，他一直都想自己开^[15]一家咖啡店。

阿乔对咖啡有很大的热情，也非常喜欢老房子的风格，所以他决定在自己从小长大的台南开一家老房子的咖啡店。

他找了很久才找到喜欢的老房子，又花了好几个月的时间整理^[16]，才把这间很久没人住的老房子变成一家很有特色的老咖啡店。

从开店到现在已经五年了，因为店的风格很特别，再加上阿乔热情的服务、喜欢跟客人聊天，咖啡店的生意^[17]越来越好，每个周末他常常忙到没时间吃饭。

不过今天是星期一，又加上下大雨，整个早上只来了几个住在附近的常客。阿乔看着外面越下越^[18]大的雨，他心想：「今天下午应该不会有客人吧...」

就在这个时候，有两个客人走了进来。

阿乔站了起来，对他们微笑^[19]着说：「哈啰！两位吗？」

I hope you enjoyed this sample! You can purchase the book on

<https://talktaiwanese Mandarin.com/books/>

[sample]

问题 & 讨论 Questions & Discussion

[sample]

生词表 The list of key words

1. 东京 Dōngjīng *n.* Tokyo
2. 常客 chángkè *n.* regular customer
3. 某 mǒu *det.* certain; some
4. 查 chá *v.* to look up, to check
5. 风格 fēnggé *n.* style
6. 有特色 yǒutèsè *adj.* has something special, unique
7. 吧台 bātái *n.* bar, counter
8. 哈啰 hālō *n.* hello
9. 爱情 àiqíng *n.* romantic love
10. 发呆 fādāi *v.* to stare blankly, to zone out

[sample]

Parts of Speech

n. Noun

adj. Adjective

adv. Adverb

conj. Conjunction

mw. Measure word

Part. Particle

Prep. Preposition

Det. Determiner

v. Verb

vo. Verb + Object (examples: 吃饭、睡觉)

vc. Verb + complement (examples: 睡着、看到)

THANK YOU

To my editor, Sahana, who read every draft and helped with editing and proofreading. This book wouldn't exist without their patience and support.

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About the Author

Abby is an educator and writer who explores the world with curiosity. She also produces the podcast "Talk Taiwanese Mandarin with Abby" in the hope of making learning Chinese a fun experience.

For more information, please visit www.TalkTaiwaneseMandarin.com

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