

Travel in chinese – Lesson 07 - Phone Cards

1. 雪梅：哎，咱们应该给表姐和上海的叔叔打个电话。
2. 黄人豪：我也正想着这件事儿呢。
3. 雪梅：不知到行李有没有消息。
4. 黄人豪：正好打电话问问表姐。
5. 雪梅：用咱们房间的电话就可以打市内电话。
6. 黄人豪：先拨零，然后拨电话号码。
7. 雪梅：0—45687425，通了。
8. 黄人豪：喂，我是人豪啊。
9. 表姐：人豪啊，你们怎么样？住在哪里啊？
10. 黄人豪：挺顺利的，我们住在明月大酒店。
11. 表姐：明月饭店啊，离我们家不太远。行李还是没有消息？
12. 黄人豪：还没有消息。
13. 表姐：我明天想去看看你们，你们有没有时间？
14. 黄人豪：明天下午怎么样？
15. 表姐：嗯，好。没问题，就这么定了。
16. 黄人豪：明天晚上我们一起吃晚饭，带刘勇一起来吧，我们好多年没见了。
17. 表姐：那好啊，你们住多少号房间？
18. 黄人豪：是 918 号房间，电话号码是总机转 918 房间。总机电话的号码是 96452626。
19. 表姐：好，我记住了，明天见！
20. 黄人豪：行李还是没有消息。明天表姐来。
21. 雪梅：太好了，好多年没见她了。
22. 黄人豪：给上海打电话。
23. 雪梅：咱们房间的电话不能打长途电话。
24. 黄人豪：咱们下去问问吧。
25. （在服务台）前台：您好！
26. 黄人豪：您好！我们想往上海打电话，怎么办比较好？
27. 前台：您可以开通您房间电话的国内长途电话，这样您就可以在房间内直接打长途电话了。
28. 雪梅：还有别的办法吗？
29. 前台：您也可以买一张电话卡，这样您在公共电话上都能打长途电话了。
30. 黄人豪：电话卡多少钱？
31. 前台：有 30 块、50 块、100 块三种。
32. 黄人豪：买一张 50 块的吧。
33. 前台：好的，给您。
34. 雪梅：怎么打上海长途呢？
35. 前台：先拨上海的区号，上海的区号是 021，接着拨电话号码。

36. 黄人豪：谢谢！
37. 前台：不客气。

Translation:

1. Xuemei: We should give my Cousin and uncle in Shanghai a call.
2. Huang: I was just thinking about that too.
3. Xuemei: I don't know if there's news about the luggage.
4. Huang: Just as well we could ask our Cousin.
5. Xuemei: We can make local calls from the phone in our room.
6. Huang: (reads service directory) Dial zero first, then the phone number.
7. Xuemei: (dials) 0—45687425, it's ringing.
8. (Xuemei hands the phone to Huang) Huang: Hello, it's Huang Renhao.
9. Cousin: Renhao, how are you guys? Where are you staying?
10. Huang: Everything's fine, we're staying at the Mingyue Hotel.
11. Cousin: Mingyue Hotel, that's not too far from our place. But there's no news about the luggage.
12. Huang: No news yet.
13. Cousin: I'd love to come see you tomorrow, are you free?
14. Huang: How does tomorrow afternoon sound?
15. Cousin: Sure, that's fine with me. That's settled then.
16. Huang: Let's have dinner together tomorrow night, bring Liu Yong with you. We haven't seen each other for years.
17. Cousin: Great, which room are you in?
18. Huang: Room 918, just call the switch then ask for extension 918. The hotel switchboard number is 96452626.
19. Cousin: I've got it. See you Tomorrow.
20. Huang: Still no news on the luggage. My Cousin is coming tomorrow.
21. Xuemei: That's wonderful, we haven't seen here in so many years.
22. Huang: Make a call to Shanghai.
23. Xuemei: You can't make long distance calls from the phone in our room.
24. Huang: Let's go down and ask.
25. (at Reception) Reception: Hello!
26. Huang: Hello. We'd like to call Shanghai. What's the best way to do that?
27. Reception: You can apply the long distance call service. Then you can make long distance calls in your room.
28. Xuemei: Are there any other ways?
29. Reception: You can also buy a phone card that works on all these public phones.
30. Huang: How much does a phone card cost?
31. Reception: There are three types of cards that cost 30 Yuan, 50 Yuan or 100 Yuan each.
32. Huang: I'll buy a 50 Yuan card.
33. Reception: OK. Here you are.
34. Xuemei: How do we make long distance calls to Shanghai?
35. Reception: Dial Shanghai's area code first, it's 021, then dial the number.
36. Huang: Thank you!
37. Reception: My pleasure.

Bookmarks

1) 正好 indicates a convenient coincidence

(例) 你要去邮局吗? 正好帮我寄封信。

Are you going to the post office? What a coincidence! You can help me to mail a letter.

(例) 今天我正好有时间, 咱们一块去吧。

It's just so happened that I have time today. Let's go together.

2) 怎么 How, used before a verb to make a question about how something is done

(例) 请问, 去故宫怎么走?

May I ask how to get to the Forbidden City?

(例) 你知道怎么去动物园比较快?

Do you know how to get to the zoo fairly quickly?

Signposts

Making Phone Calls in China

Making phone calls in China is much easier and cheaper than it used to be. At most hotels, you can dial directly from your room, although, as we saw in the dialogue, a deposit is often required.

Sometimes you can simply have the front desk swipe your credit card as a deposit.

Local calls are usually 7 or 8 digits, depending on the city. Large cities like Beijing switched to 8 digit numbers several years ago. The largest cities have a 2 digit area code. 10 for Beijing, 21 for Shanghai. Smaller locations have 3 digit area codes. For example, Chengde to the north of Beijing is 314. To make a domestic long distance call, you usually dial 0, then the area code followed by the local number. For long distance calls, you can also buy phone cards that give you heavily discounted rates on long distance charges.

10 digit phone numbers are also very common in China, and they usually start in 1,3. These are for cell phones. The numbers are longer because most of these phones can be used while roaming anywhere in China. Rather than have a separate area code, the area code is built into each cell phone number. Cell phones are extremely common in China. At least in the cities, it seems just about everybody has one, from high school students to retired people. Cell phones are not very expensive, so it makes sense to buy one if you are in China for more than just a few weeks. For shorter trips, you can even rent cell phones.

Substitution and Extention

1) 正.....呢 something is on going

(例) 昨天下雨的时候, 我们正爬长城呢。

We are right in the middle of climbing the Great Wall when it rained yesterday.

2) 先....., 然后..... first (something), then (something else)

(例) 我们先去颐和园, 然后再去爬长城。

Let's go to the Summer Palace first, and then we will go to the Great Wall.

3) V+ V a repeated verb like this indicates a short period of time, or brings a softer tone to the sentence

(例) 太累了, 休息休息吧。

Too tired, let's take a break.