Exchanging Greetings

Dialogue 1

At school, Wang Peng and Li You meet each other for the first time.

你好[a]！

你好！

请问[b]，你[c]贵姓？

我姓[1]*李。你呢[2]？

我姓王。李小姐[d]，你叫[3]什么名字？

我叫李友。王先生，你叫什么名字？

我叫王朋[4]。

Pinyin Dialogue

Nǐ hǎo[a]!

Nǐ hǎo!

Qǐng wèn[b], nǐ[c] guì xìng?

Wǒ xìng[1] Lǐ. Nǐ ne[2]?

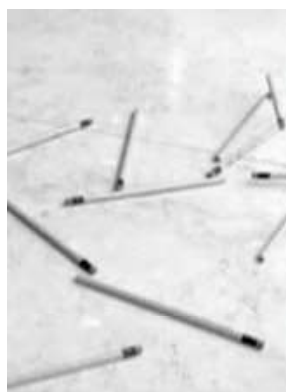*Wǒ xìng Wáng. Lǐ xiǎojiě[d], nǐ jiào[3] shénme míngzi?*

Wǒ jiào Lǐ Yǒu. Wáng xiānsheng, nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?

Wǒ jiào Wáng Péng[4].

* Here and throughout the book, the blue lesson text and numbers correspond to explanations in the **Grammar section.**

a 你好! *(Nǐ hǎo!)*

This common greeting is used to address strangers as well as old acquaintances. To respond, simply repeat the same greeting.

b 请问 *(qǐng wèn)*

This is a polite phrase used to get someone's attention before asking a question or making an inquiry, similar to "excuse me, may I ask" in English.

c 你 *(nǐ)* vs. 您 *(nín)*

To be more polite and respectful, replace 你 *(nǐ)* with its honorific form, 您 *(nín)*. [See Language Note A, Dialogue 1, Lesson 6.]

d 小姐 *(xiǎojiě)*

This is a word with two third-tone syllables. The tone sandhi rule applies, thus making the first third tone, 小 *(xiǎo)*, a second tone. The second syllable, 姐 *(jiě)*, can also be pronounced in the neutral tone.

Vocabulary

No.	Word	Pinyin	Part of Speech	Definition
1	你	*nǐ*	pr	you
2	好	*hǎo*	adj	fine, good, nice, OK, it's settled
3	请	*qǐng*	v	please (polite form of request), to treat or to invite (somebody)
4	问	*wèn*	v	to ask (a question)
5	贵	*guì*	adj	honorable, expensive
6	姓	*xìng*	v/n	(one's) family name is . . . ; family name [See Grammar 1.]
7	我	*wǒ*	pr	I, me
8	呢	*ne*	qp	(question particle) [See Grammar 2.]
9	小姐	*xiǎojiě*	n	Miss, young lady
10	叫	*jiào*	v	to be called, to call [See Grammar 3.]
11	什么	*shénme*	qpr	what
12	名字	*míngzi*	n	name
13	先生	*xiānsheng*	n	Mr., husband, teacher
14	李友	*Lǐ Yǒu*	pn	(a personal name)
	李	*lǐ*	pn/n	(a family name); plum
15	王朋	*Wáng Péng*	pn	(a personal name)
	王	*wáng*	pn/n	(a family name); king

你叫什么名字？

Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?

What is your name?

我叫 ＿＿＿＿＿＿＿＿。

Wǒ jiào ＿＿＿＿＿＿＿＿.

How About You?