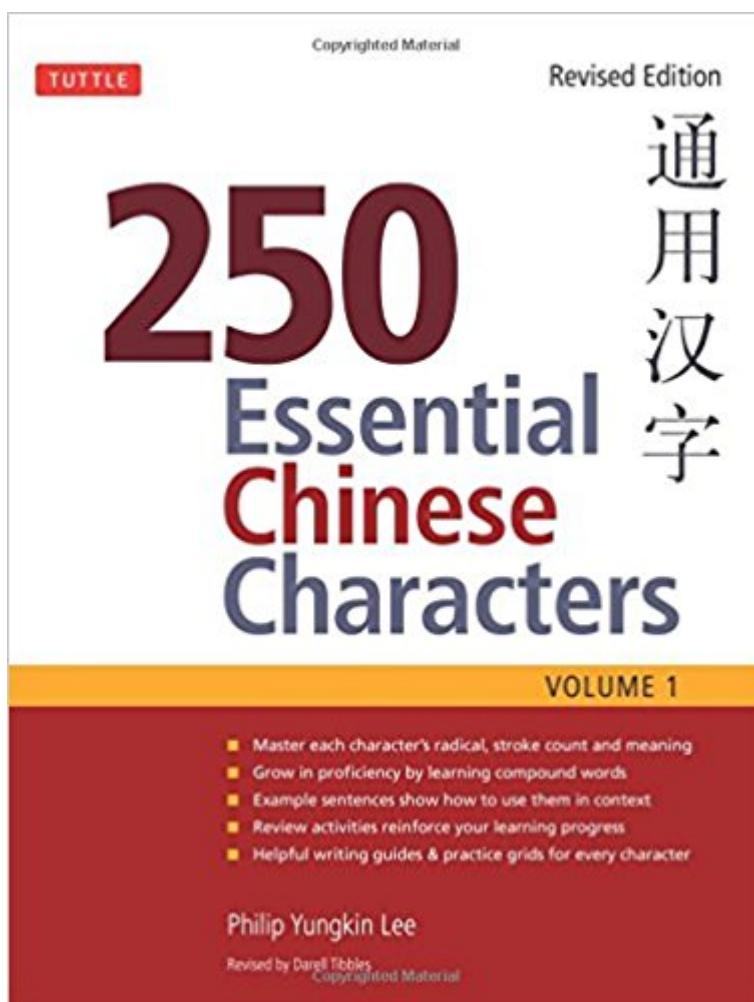


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# 250 Essential Chinese Characters Volume 1: Revised Edition (HSK Level 1)



## Synopsis

This is an invaluable study guide for learning basic Chinese characters. 250 Essential Chinese Characters Volume 1 is a second edition, completely revised and with 50 percent new material. Featuring a new design; tips for mastery throughout; exercises in AP-exam format; progressive review sections; and several indices, this volume is a crucial learning tool for anyone interested in the Chinese language and a great way to learn Chinese characters. Master each character's radical, stroke count and meaning. Grow in proficiency by learning compound words. Example sentences show how to use them in context. Review activities reinforce your learning progress. Helpful writing guides and practice grids for every character. After studying this book together with its companion, 250 Essential Chinese Characters, Volume 2, you'll have learned 500 of the most important characters in Chinese, and thousands of words in which they appear. Whether you're new to Chinese or coming back for review, each of these 250 characters offers you ways to improve your abilities to read Chinese and write Chinese.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"These two books are excellent to learn to write the characters and understand their meaning and how they were created. The books present both the simplified version used in Mainland China, and the complex version used in Taiwan and Hong Kong." —Goodreads

Philip Yungkin Lee, Ph.D. is an applied linguist with 30 years of practical experience in teaching

Chinese to foreign learners. He is the author of several books on Chinese. Darell Tibbles is the World Languages Coordinator and on the Mandarin Chinese language faculty at Vistamar School in El Segundo, CA.

I spent several months in China a few years back, and while I learned a fair amount of spoken language, the written language eluded me. I tried, but nothing I studied seemed to stick. I recently decided to give it another shot and got this book because I liked the exercises at the end of the chapters. It starts out easy, so the learner has time to get a feel for the patterns, and the words it uses are very common. The illustrated stroke order at the beginning of each section makes it easy to understand (and remember!) exactly how the character goes. It's extremely effective, and I'm finally learning how to write, yay! Update-- still an exceptionally useful book, but I have to laugh about some of the language. At the end of the first section, you're asked to write a very short essay about your family. The instructions include: "Attempt to explore the topic with vocabulary and construction that show both an ability to speak on the topic with depth and the awareness of the cultural concerns that surround the topic." I just barely learned how to write the character for 'age in years', I guarantee that whatever I write will have neither 'depth' nor 'awareness of the cultural concerns'!

I'm just starting to learn how to write Chinese characters on my own. I have a few books on writing but only this book helped clarify the right direction a stroke should go. For example, when I just started learning to write the word "wo" (I) and "zhe" (this), I wasn't sure if the dot (dian) should be written from left to right or from right to left. Also, I was not sure if the horizontal stroke (heng) in "wo" (I) and "bu" (no) should be written from left to right or from right to left. This book has arrows showing the direction of a stroke which really helped me in learning to write properly. Each character presented in this jumbo sized book is accompanied by a few example sentences. I am really happy with this book.

Excellent product.

With stroke by stroke instruction, this book has become irreplaceable for me. I borrowed it from the library and finally just bought it. You won't be disappointed!

I borrowed this book from the library and decided then and there I needed to purchase this book for

myself. I wish the pages were perforated because it would be easier to write on the pages without having the hold the book open the entire time.

I would rate it 5 but I wish it had audio and was more interactive

Native Mandarin Chinese speaker but I cannot read/write since I was raised in USA (go figure with the stupid English only policy many people in this country hold) and this is helping me improve my proficiency in Chinese. For Americans who want to learn, this is really helpful.

I know some Chinese characters already. So, the layout of this book is great for me. The book arrived some fast (within 48 hours) and perfectly packaged. Laminated with a cardboard to prevent the book from bending. No scratches at all. I wish will ship their books this way. I am looking forward to buy Volume 2 in a few weeks. Hopefully, it will arrive the same way.

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