

**Level: Elementary**

### **Lesson 3 Pronunciation Part 3**

#### **The Rest of the Finals:**

**i line :**

**ia ie iao ian iang iou iong**

**Since you have learnt the basic finals and double finals, it is easier for you to pronounce those combined pinyin now. But be careful, some might sound different when in combination, such as:**

ie the “e” in “ie” is not the “e” we have learnt, but similar to the “e” in “bed”.

ian the “an” in “ian” is not pronounced as the “an” we have learnt, but sounds similarly like the Japanese money “yen”.

#### **Spelling rule 1:**

We know you hate rules. So do we. But there is a certain reason why it’s necessary. In Chinese, some pronunciation might be confusing .For example, “da i “, can be regarded as “da i” the noun “coat”, or “dai” the verb “to wear ( glasses or hat )” . In the first word, “y” is added to make “i” independent as one syllable. This rule can be applied to all the i line finals. Thus, when they are not spelt with an initial:

**i is replaced by y : ia ie iao ian iang iou iong**  
**ya ye yao yan yang you yong**

yā	duck	鸭
yě	also	也
yào	want	要
yān	smoke	烟
yáng	goat, sheep	羊
yǒu	have	有
yòng	use	用

**y is added in those three : i in ing**  
**yi yin ying**

yī	one	一
yīn	sound	音
yīng	England	英

Of course when they are spelt with an initial, they remain what they originally are... Except **iou**. Hence the rule 2:

#### **Spelling rule 2 :**

**iou = iu when spelt with an initial**

jiǔ	nine	九
liù	six	六

Don’t be cheated by the appearance of iu, remember it actually sounds iou !

### u line :

**ua uai uan uang uei uen ueng uo**

This group is very simple for there are no exceptions. Just combine the basic final and double final, and pronounce them together.

#### Spelling rule 1 :

**u is replaced by w : ua uai uan uang uei uen ueng uo**  
**wa wai wan wang wei wen weng wo**

wá	child (colloquial)	娃
wài	foreign	外
wǎn	late	晚
wàng	forget	忘
wèi	hello ( on the phone )	喂
wèn	ask	问
wēng	old men ( literature )	翁
wǒ	I, me	我

#### w is added when u is an independent syllable

**u = wu**

wǔ	five	五
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#### Spelling rule 2 :

**uei = ui when spelt with an initial**

duì	right , yes	对
huì	can	会

**uen = un when spelt with an initial**

tūn	swallow	吞
shùn	smooth( go well )	顺

### ü line

**üe üan ün**

Note “e” in “üe” sounds like the “e” in “bed”, and “an” in “üan” sounds like the “yen” again.

#### Spelling rule 1 :

**ü is replaced by yu : üe üan ün**  
**yue yuan yun**

yuè	moon, month	月
yuán	RMB unit	元
yún	cloud	云

**ü is spelt as yu when it's an independent syllable**

yú	fish	鱼
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#### Spelling rule 3:

when ü and ü line finals “üe , üan and ün” are pronounced with the initials “ j, q, x”, it would be written as “u” , but still pronounced as “ü” ! (crazy rule huh ? )

jú	tangerine	桔
qù	go	去
xué	study	学