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FACTS ABOUT THE CHINESE LANGUAGE YOU'VE ALWAYS WONDERED ABOUT

We have compiled some of the most fascinating facts about the Chinese language that will help you better understand its origins and nature:

1



Mandarin is only one of the Chinese dialects

There are other versions of the language – Wu, Xiang, Yue, Min, Hakka, to name a few. Many of the hundreds of local language varieties have nothing in common, differing in phonology, vocabulary, and syntax.

2



It can change your brain

A research demonstrated that Mandarin speakers need both sides of the brain to distinguish the different intonation and meaning of words.

3



Fastest growing language

China's enormous markets across various industries, such as trade, finance, etc. are a sufficient incentive for the West to adopt a difficult language.

4



To be considered a native speaker, you need at least 3000 symbols

For instance, in order to denote the quantity of a noun, you would need to use one of the 240 measure words that exist within the language. One of the most difficult parts of learning Chinese is mastering the art of writing its tens of thousands of characters.

5



Chinese is a tonal language

Mandarin Chinese consists of a flat, rising, falling then rising, and falling tones, in addition to a fifth, neutral tone. The fact that the whole meaning of a word can change based on the way it's pronounced can be really confusing for non-native speakers.

6



There are multiple different Calligraphy Styles

There are many categories like Xing (semi-cursive), Cao (cursive), Zhuan (seal), Li (clerical), and Kai (regular). It's important to use the appropriate size, stretch, and type of brush and the right quantity of ink and water, to achieve the desired result in the chosen genre.