
Unit 7, Part 1: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Where do you live?
B: We live to the west of Beijing city.
A: Who all is there in your family?
B: Me and my spouse, in addition there are two children.
(switch to another group of students)
A: Boys or girls? How old are they?
B: A four-year-old boy and a one-year-old girl.
A: Where do you work?
B: I work at a kindergarten.
A: And your spouse?
B: He/she formerly worked in a factory. Because her/his health was not too good, he/she now has changed her/his line of work. He/she does a little small-scale business.
2. A: Where do you live?
B: We live to the south of Shanghai city.
A: Who all is there in your family?
B: Me and my spouse, in addition there is one child.
(switch to another group of students)
A: Boy or girl? How old?
B: A son. He's eleven years old.
A: Could I ask where you work?
B: I work at a factory.
A: And your spouse?
B: He/she formerly taught English in a high school. Because the money was too little, he/she changed jobs. Now he/she works at a computer company.
3. A: Where do you live?
B: We live in Taipei County, to the east of Taipei city.
A: Who all is there in your family?
B: There are three in our family: me, my spouse, and in addition there is one child.
(switch to another group of students)
A: Boy or girl? How old?
B: A daughter. She's sixteen years old.
A: Where do you and your spouse work?
B: I serve at the Foreign Ministry. My spouse formerly also worked at the Foreign Ministry. Because the work was too intense, therefore he/she changed jobs. Now he/she teaches English at home. He/she has about twenty students.
4. A: How many people are there in your family?
B: There are three in our family.

Unit 7, Part 2: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Hello! You can speak Chinese!
B: I don't speak it very well, but I can speak a little.
A: Oh, you speak pretty well! Where did you learn?
B: At first I studied some in England. Now I'm continuing to study it at Peking University.
A: Can you also read ("recognize") Chinese characters?
B: I recognize a couple hundred but I can write only about 100.
A: I forgot to introduce myself. My name is _____. What's your name?
B: My name is _____. I'm sorry, I have something I have to do now. In the future if there's a chance let's chat again!
2. A: I know you can speak Chinese; you speak it very well. Excuse me, can you write it, too?
B: I don't write it very well, but I can write a little.
A: Where did you learn your Chinese characters?
B: I learned some in high school. Now I'm continuing my studies of them here.
A: You know Chinese and English. Do you know any other languages?
B: I studied French in elementary school and studied German in junior high school. Before I used to be able to speak a little Japanese, but now I've completely forgotten.
3. A: There are people who say Japanese is hard to learn. Do you speak Japanese?
B: I don't know Japanese, but I can speak German.
A: Oh, you can speak German. Do you speak it very well?
B: Pretty well.
A: Where did you learn German?
B: My mom and dad speak it at home.
A: Can you write German, too?
B: Before I couldn't, but now I'm studying German in college.
4. A: Can you write Chinese?
B: Yes, I can.
A: About how many characters have you learned?
B: I've learned a few hundred characters. About 250 characters, I suppose.
A: Nice chatting with you. I have to go to class now. Bye!
5. A: Your Mandarin, you really speak it very well!
B: Not at all, not at all.
A: How many Chinese characters can you write?
B: I used to recognize several thousand, now I only recognize a couple hundred. Some I can write, some I can't write. Do you know English?
A: My English, I forgot it completely! English is very hard to learn, very easy to forget!

Unit 7, Part 3: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: When did you arrive in China?

B: I arrived in the month of March this year.

A: Did you come alone?

B: No, I came together with my older brother.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Where did you learn Chinese? Did you learn it previously in America?

B: Yes. In the beginning I studied it in America. Later I studied for a while in Singapore.

A: No wonder you speak Chinese so well!

B: Not at all. It still has a long ways to go!

2. A: When did you arrive in Taiwan?

B: I arrived in October of this year.

A: Did you come alone?

B: No, I came together with two friends.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Where did you learn Chinese? Did you learn it previously in China?

B: No. In the beginning I studied it in America. Later I studied for a while in Hong Kong.

A: No wonder you speak Chinese so well!

B: Not at all. My Chinese is not very good. It still has a long ways to go!

3. A: When did she arrive in America?

B: She arrived in the month of August this year.

A: With whom did she come together? Did she come together with her husband?

B: She hasn't married yet; she doesn't have a husband! She came alone.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Where did she learn English? Did she learn it previously in America?

B: In the beginning she studied it in China. Later she studied for a while in England.

A: No wonder she speaks English so well!

B: Sometimes she speaks so-so, sometimes she speaks not very well.

4. A: When did you arrive in Hong Kong?

B: I arrived in February of this year.

A: I suppose you didn't come alone?

B: No, I came together with my older sister.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Where did you learn Chinese? Did you learn it previously in Canada?

B: Yes. In the beginning I studied it in Canada. Later I studied for a while in Beijing.

A: No wonder you speak Chinese so well!

B: Not at all. It still has a long ways to go! I don't speak Chinese very well, Chinese characters I also don't very much know how to write.

Unit 7, Part 4: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Excuse me, did you come from Taiwan?

B: Yes. Have you ever been to Taiwan? You speak Chinese very well!

A: Not at all. Where in Taiwan is your home?

B: Tainan (**Táinán**). It's an ancient city. Have you ever heard of it?

A: I have heard of it.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Before you came to America, where did you work?

B: After I graduated from high school, I worked in a factory for several years (A: Oh.), then I applied to come to America to attend college.

A: Oh, it was like this. So, what do you plan to do after you graduate from college?

B: After I graduate from college, I plan to go back to Taiwan and look for a good job.

A: Of course!

2. A: Excuse me, are you from China?

B: Yes. Have you ever been to China? You speak Chinese very well!

A: Not at all. Where in China is your home?

B: **Luòyáng**. It's an ancient city. Have you ever heard of it?

A: **Luòyáng**, is it? Sorry, it seems I haven't heard of it.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: So, before you came to America, where did you work?

B: After I graduated from college, I taught for several years at an elementary school (A: Oh.), then I applied to come to America to study at graduate school.

A: Oh, it was like this. So, how do you feel America is like?

B: America is not bad. America is very wealthy, most people work very hard. It's just that there's quite a bit of crime.

A: Oh.

3. A: Excuse me, are you from America?

B: Yes. Have you ever been to America? You speak English very well!

A: Not at all. Where in America is your home?

B: New York City. One month ago I was still there. New York is a big city. I suppose you have heard of it before?

A: Of course I have heard of it!

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Before you came to China, what did you do in America?

B: After I graduated from high school, I worked at a company for several years, but the work wasn't very interesting. (A: Oh.) Then I applied to come to the Chinese Language Training Center at Peking University to study Chinese. I also teach a little English.

A: Oh, it's like this. So, what do you think of China?

B: I feel China is very interesting. I very much like it. Chinese food is also very delicious. It's just that sometimes the toilets here...

A: Oh... You speak correctly.

Unit 8, Part 1: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

- A: Excuse me, how do you get to the Shanghai Hotel?

B: The Shanghai Hotel, is it? Keep going straight, after you pass the library you will have arrived.

A: Is it very far from here?

B: It's not far from here.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Probably how long does it take?

B: If you walk, it probably takes half an hour more or less. Or you take a taxi and it will be even faster; in ten minutes then you will have arrived.

A: All right, thank you!

B: You're welcome.
- A: Excuse me, how do you get to Sino-American Trade Company?

B: Sino-American Trade Company, is it? Keep walking toward the north for about ten minutes. After you pass the U.S. Embassy, walk toward the south for about five minutes and then you will have arrived.

A: Is it far from here?

B: It's not far from here. It's close to here.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Probably how long does it take?

B: I already said! If you walk, it probably takes fifteen minutes more or less. Or you take a taxi and it will be even faster, in five minutes then you will have arrived.

A: All right, thank you!

B: It's nothing.
- A: How does one get to your home?

B: First drive east, and then after you pass the Great Wall Hotel, drive west.

A: Is your home far from the Great Wall Hotel?

B: My home is very close to the Great Wall Hotel. In a few minutes you'll be there.
- A: Excuse me, are you from America?

B: Yes, I'm American, a Southerner. My home is in the state of Alabama (**Ālābāmǎ zhōu**).

A: I'm also a Southerner, a Chinese Southerner. My home is in Guangdong province (**Guǎngdōng shěng**).

B: At home we speak Southern speech. Don't know if you understand it or not?
- A: Where is their Japanese teacher from? Is she American?

B: I know she's not a Westerner, she's Asian. However, she's not Japanese; it seems she's Chinese.

Unit 8, Part 2: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Hello? Peace Hotel Taxi Company.

B: Hello? How are you? I want a car to the Peace Hotel.

A: Where are you now?

B: I'm at Capital Airport.

A: How many people?

B: Three.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: When do you want the car?

B: Right now.

A: All right. What's your name?

B: I'm a student who has come from America. My Chinese name is ____.

A: O.K. The car will be there in five minutes. Please wait at the entrance to the airport.

B: All right, thanks!

2. A: Hello? Is this the Friendship Hotel taxi company?

B: Yes. Do you want a car?

A: I want two taxis to the U.S. Embassy.

B: You want two taxis?

A: Yes, there are seven people in all.

B: Seven people? All right. Where are you now?

A: We're at Peking University.

(switch to another pair of students)

B: When do you want the cars?

A: In fifteen minutes.

B: What's your name?

A: My name is ____.

B: Are you a foreigner? You speak Chinese very well!

A: Not at all. I'm a professor from America.

B: O.K., two taxis will be there at 2:30. Please wait at the entrance to Peking University.

A: Good, thanks!

3. A: Hello? I want a car to the Foreign Ministry. I'm now at the Great Wall Hotel.

B: How many people?

A: Just me alone.

B: The car will be there in half an hour. Please wait at the entrance to the Great Wall Hotel.

4. A: Why in Beijing are there so many foreigners?

B: Do you feel that foreigners are many?

A: Yes. I want to speak the Chinese language with Chinese people! I don't want to speak foreign languages with foreigners!

B: Your liking to speak Chinese is very good, but don't forget, you're a foreigner, too!

Unit 8, Part 3: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Hello? How are you? New Asia Taxi Company.
 B: Hello, 20 minutes ago I called and requested a cab. You said it would arrive in 15 minutes. How come up until now it still hasn't come?
 A: I'm sorry. We've already dispatched the cab. But it's rush hour now, traffic is very congested. Please be patient and wait a bit longer.
 (*switch to another pair of students*)
 B: How much longer do I have to wait?
 A: Please don't get excited. I think it's likely to arrive in about 5 minutes.
 B: Please do try to hurry, O.K.? I have to go to the airport to take a plane. Soon I'll be late.
 A: O.K. I'll immediately notify the driver to rush there as fast as he can.
2. A: Hello? How are you? Friendship Hotel Taxi Company.
 B: Hello, one hour ago I called and requested a cab. You said it would arrive in half an hour. How come up until now it still hasn't come?
 A: I'm sorry. We've already dispatched the cab. But it's rush hour now, traffic is very congested. Please be patient and wait a bit longer.
 (*switch to another pair of students*)
 B: How much longer do I have to wait?
 A: Please don't get excited. I think it's likely to arrive in a little while.
 B: Please try to hurry, O.K.? I have to take a 12:30 train. Soon I'll be late.
 A: O.K. I'll immediately notify the driver to rush there as fast as he can.
3. A: Hello? How are you! Beijing Number One Taxi Company.
 B: Hello? Three hours ago I called and requested a cab. You said it would arrive immediately. How come up until now it still hasn't come?
 A: I'm sorry, it seems we forgot. What's your name? How many people? Where are you now? What time do you want the car? Hello? Hello? Hello?
4. A: I heard yesterday Little Lin waited for a taxi for an hour, but it still didn't come! She was very excited!
 B: When the taxi still hadn't come, what did she decide to do?
 A: She decided to walk.
5. A: Old Zhang, I'm waiting for a taxi, but it hasn't come yet. What should I do?
 B: I know, it's rush hour now, traffic is very congested. Why don't you call the taxi company again?
 A: I've already called on the phone three times! Do you have a way to make them come here?
 B: I don't have a way either.

Unit 8, Part 4: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Is it you who wants a taxi to Capital Airport?
 B: Yes, it's us.
 A: Are you American? You're very tall! How tall are you? How much do you weigh?
 B: Yes, I'm American. I'm one meter eighty-five. I weigh ninety-two kilograms.
 A: Only these three pieces of luggage?
 B: Yes, these three pieces of luggage. How long does it take from here to Capital Airport?
 A: Normally half an hour, but now it's rush hour, so probably it will take one hour give or take.
 (*switch to another pair of students*)
 A: Darn! There's a traffic jam here again. We've no choice but to change to a different road.
 B: Is the airport still far from here?
 A: It's not far, it's close to here. We'll probably arrive in about 10 minutes.
 B: I'll give you two hundred dollars. Give me fifty dollars in change and that'll be fine.

2. A: Is it you who wants a taxi to the Friendship Hotel?
 B: No, we want a taxi to Capital Airport!
 A: Oh, sorry, I got it wrong. Right, right, right, to Capital Airport. How come I forgot? Uh, how many pieces of luggage do you have? Only this one piece?
 B: No, we have five pieces.
 (*switch to another pair of students*)
 A: Two people, five pieces of luggage? Never mind, my car is big.
 B: These four pieces are all light, but that piece is too heavy. Let's the two of us move it together!
 A: O.K, we'll move it together. It's really heavy!
 B: From here to Capital Airport takes how much time?
 A: Probably an hour and a half, approximately.
 (*switch to another pair of students*)
 A: Darn! There's a traffic jam here again. We've no choice but to change to a different road.
 B: We probably shouldn't have gone on this road. What are we going to do? Is the airport still far from here? Soon I'll be too late...
 A: The airport is very close to here. In a few minutes we'll arrive.
 B: Cabbie, how much is it?
 A: 95 dollars.
 B: I'll give you a hundred dollars. You don't need to give me any change.

3. A: You said you can teach me how to drive. How come you didn't come yesterday evening?
 B: I did go! I waited for you for a long time, but you didn't come! In the end, I had no choice but to leave.
 A: Wasn't it in the evening at 7:00?
 B: No, it was at 5:00 in the afternoon!

Unit 9, Part 1: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Excuse me, how do you get to the Beijing Hotel?
B: Sorry, I'm not local, I'm not sure myself. There are two traffic cops over there, why don't you go ask them?
A: O.K., thanks!
(switch to another pair of students)
A: Pardon me, how do you get to the Beijing Hotel?
C: It's close to here. From here go straight. When you pass the third traffic light, turn right. Keep going about another ten minutes and you'll be there.
A: Thanks.
C: You don't need to thank me.
2. A: Pardon me, how do you get to the Peace Hotel?
B: The Peace Hotel? I come from Shanghai, I'm not local, I don't know either. Why don't you go ask a local person?
A: O.K., thank you.
(switch to another pair of students)
A: Excuse me, are you from here?
C: Yes, I'm from here. What are you looking for?
A: How do you get to the Peace Hotel?
C: It's not too far from here. Go straight from here. At the next intersection, turn left. Keep going about another three minutes and you'll be there.
A: Thanks!
C: Don't mention it.
3. A: Excuse me, how do you get to Tiananmen?
B: Sorry, I'm an overseas Chinese from America, I'm not from here. There's a traffic policeman over there. Why don't you go ask her?
A: Excuse me, how do you get to Tiananmen?
C: It's relatively far from here. Go straight from here. After the first traffic light, turn to the south. Keep going another half an hour and you'll be there. It's on your right.
A: Thanks.
C: You're welcome.
4. A: What colors do you like?
B: I like the color red and the color blue. How about you? What colors do you like?
A: I like the color black and the color white.
B: Do you feel yellow-colored backpacks look nice?
A: No, but I very much like green-colored shoes. At home I have many green-colored shoes. Do you want to come to my home to look at my green-colored shoes?
B: Sorry, in our Chinese class we're having a test tomorrow, I have to study...

Unit 9, Part 2: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Excuse me, what number bus do you take to get to Tiananmen?

B: Tiananmen? I have to think... First take streetcar number 478, then transfer to bus number 35, which you take to the last stop, which is Tiananmen.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: And where is the streetcar station?

B: Turn to the east at the intersection in front and there it is.

A: Thanks very much.

B: Don't mention it.

2. A: Where's the bus station?

B: You first go straight, and then when you arrive at the next intersection, turn right.

A: Thanks.

B: You're welcome.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: Excuse me, does this bus go to the airport?

C: No, but you can first take it and then change to streetcar number 113.

A: To where do I take it and change to the streetcar?

C: Let me think... You change at Zoo.

A: Oh, it seems the bus has arrived.

C: Yes, the bus has come. Get on the bus quick!

3. A: Excuse me, how do you get to the Great Wall Hotel? Do you know?

B: I haven't been there in a long time. Let me think... First go straight. When you get to the 3rd traffic light, turn left. Walk for about 10 minutes and you'll be there. It's on your right.

A: It seems very far. Can one take the bus?

B: No, but you can take a streetcar.

(switch to another pair of students)

A: To where do you take the streetcar?

B: Take it to the **Měishùguǎn** Station and get off.

A: Oh, the streetcar has arrived.

B: Yes, get on quick!

A: Thanks.

B: You're welcome.

4. A: I very much like animals. Do you keep small animals at home?

B: Yes, at our home we keep a dog and two cats. What about you? Do you also keep small animals at home?

A: Yes, we keep three birds and several fish. The birds can talk! They often say **Nǐ hǎo! Nǐ hǎo!** and **Zāogāo, zāogāo!**

B: So, what about the fish? What do they say?

Unit 9, Part 3: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Is anyone buying a ticket? Those who don't have a ticket, buy one!
B: Two tickets to Tiananmen.
A: Where did you get on?
B: We just got on.
A: Two dollars.
B: Here's the money. When we get to Tiananmen, could you call me?
A: All right.
2. A: Anybody buying a ticket? Those who don't have one, buy one!
B: Three tickets to Beijing Hotel.
A: Where did you get on?
B: We got on at Zoo.
A: Six dollars.
B: Here's the money. When we get to Beijing Hotel, could you call me?
A: All right.
3. A: Anybody buying a ticket? Those who don't have one, buy one!
B: One ticket to Capital Airport.
A: Where did you get on?
B: We just got on.
A: \$1.50.
B: Here's the money. When we get to Capital Airport, could you call me?
A: All right.
4. A: My roommate is not very smart. What's your roommate like?
B: My roommate is not stupid, but s/he's very lazy. S/he doesn't work very hard.
5. A: My room is not only dirty, it's also a mess. What's your room like?
B: My room is not only clean, it's also neat. Welcome! Please come in! Please sit down!
6. A: Why are you so angry? All of us hope you will be happy. Don't be angry, all right?
B: I am happy. I didn't get angry. I'm joking with you!
7. A: You really are too lazy; in the future, you'll have to study harder!
B: O.K., in the future I'll study harder.
A: And your room is too disorderly. Why is it that only your room is so dirty?
B: I'm sorry, in the future my room will not only be in good order but also clean!

Unit 9, Part 4: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Soon we'll arrive, I suppose?
 B: It's still early, there are still two stations. When the time comes I'll call you all... Hey, the next station is Tiananmen, you all should prepare to get off the bus.
 A: O.K., thanks!
(switch to another pair of students)
 B: Comrades getting off the bus should show their tickets!
 A: Oh, sorry, my ticket, I can't find it!
 B: If you can't find your ticket, you must buy a new one.
 A: But my money, I can't find it either!
 B: O.K., O.K. Never mind. But in the future, you really should be more careful!
2. A: Soon we'll arrive, I suppose?
 B: It's still early, there are still eight stations. When the time comes I'll call you... Hey, the next station is Summer Palace, you should prepare to get off the bus.
 A: O.K., thanks!
(switch to another pair of students)
 B: Comrades getting off the bus should show their tickets!
 A: Oh, sorry, my ticket, I can't find it! I bought one, but now I can't find it!
 B: You'll have to buy one again. Two dollars and fifty cents.
 A: Today taking the bus really was too expensive!
3. A: Comrades getting off the bus should show their tickets!
 B: Excuse me, I can't find my ticket, what should I do?
 A: Because you're a foreigner, this time it doesn't matter; I remember that you bought a ticket. In the future, you really must be more careful!
4. A: Those several Chinese characters, can you read them or can you not read them?
 B: Those several characters, is it? I can't read them.
 A: And how about these three characters? Can you read them?
 B: These three characters I can read. It's **yī, èr, sān!**
5. A: Little Li, can you fall asleep?
 B: Because I'm very tired, I think I can probably fall asleep.
 A: I'm also very tired, but I don't know why, I can't fall asleep.
6. A: The Chinese that she speaks, can you understand it or not?
 B: She's a Southerner, but I can understand it. You can't understand it?
 A: Sometimes I can understand it, but sometimes I can't understand it!

Unit 10, Part 1: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Good morning! What does the weather forecast today say?
B: Let me see... This morning is cloudy, in the afternoon it's possible it might change to clear weather.
A: Right. Now in the sky there are lots of clouds...
B: Starting from the day after tomorrow, it will get hotter and hotter.
(switch to another pair of students)
A: What will be the highest temperature today?
B: Let me see... Today the highest temperature is 72 degrees.
A: Huh? It seems that lightning struck! And it's thundering, too! Is it going to rain?
B: Man! It's already raining, and it's raining pretty hard, too.
A: So, weather forecasts are only forecasts and are not necessarily accurate.
B: That's right!
2. A: Hi! What does today's weather forecast say?
B: Let me see... This morning is clear, in the afternoon it's possible it might change to cloudy weather. In the evening it's possible it might rain.
A: Oh. In that case, it wouldn't be very good. In the evening I originally wanted to go see a friend.
B: However, starting from tomorrow, the weather will get better and better.
(switch to another pair of students)
A: What will be the low temperature this evening?
B: Let me see... This evening the low temperature will be 55 degrees.
A: Huh? It seems that there is thunder! Is it going to rain now?
B: Shoot! It's already raining, and it's raining pretty hard.
A: And that's why weather forecasts are only forecasts and are not necessarily accurate.
B: That's right!
3. A: Good morning, how are you? What does tomorrow's weather forecast say?
B: Let me see... Tomorrow morning is cloudy, in the afternoon it's possible it might change to clear weather.
A: In that case, the weather next week should also be quite good, I suppose?
B: No! Starting from next week, the weather will get worse and worse.
(switch to another pair of students)
A: What will be the high and low temperatures today?
B: Let me see... Today the high temperature is 83 degrees and the low temperature is 46 degrees.
A: That's impossible! Huh? It seems that lightning struck! The little cat we keep in our family is afraid of lightning. And there's also thunder. Is it going to rain?
B: Gosh! It's already raining, and it's raining very hard.
A: Therefore weather forecasts are only forecasts and are not necessarily accurate.
B: That's right! Recently weather forecasts have been getting more and more inaccurate!

Unit 10, Part 2: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

1. A: Hey, the weather here is not bad! It's neither cold nor hot, quite comfortable.
B: Summers are O.K. Winters are incredibly cold, both dry and cold, and it often snows.
A: Well, what about spring and fall?
B: In the spring it often rains. The fall is very nice. If you want to come here to have a good time, the fall is the most appropriate.
A: Saying it like that, I've come at just the right time!
2. A: Hey, the weather here is not bad! It's neither dry nor cold, quite comfortable.
B: Winters are O.K. Summers are incredibly hot, both dry and hot, and the wind is strong.
A: Well, what about the spring?
B: If it weren't that the blowing sand is too strong, it would be O.K. In the spring it often rains. The fall is relatively good. If you want to come here to have fun, the fall and winter are the most appropriate.
A: Saying it like that, I've come at just the right time!
3. A: The weather there is pretty good, you know! Neither cold nor hot, very comfortable!
B: The spring is O.K., but the winters are incredibly cold, both dry and cold, and the wind is very strong.
A: In winter, does it often snow?
B: No, it seldom snows. However, it is often overcast.
4. A: What are the summers here like?
B: If it didn't often rain, then it would be all right. If you want to come here to have a good time, then fall is the most appropriate.
A: If you say it that way, I've come at just the right time!
B: Yes. Look, the sun just came out!
5. A: The season you like most is which season?
B: The season I like most is winter. And you? Which season do you like best?
A: The season I like most is fall.
6. A: The season you like most is which season?
B: The season I like most is spring. And you? Which season do you like best?
A: The season I like most is summer. Look, the sun just came out!
7. A: The season you like most is which season?
B: I don't have any season that I like best. I like every season!

Unit 10, Part 3: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

- A: How come there's fog again this afternoon? It seems like it floated in through the window screen.
B: Yes, this place is often like this in the spring. The air is humid and it often rains. Every day is cloudy.
A: Actually, it's drizzling right now, but because of the fog, you can't tell.
B: My luck is really bad. Last time when I came here it rained every day, and I couldn't go out at all!
- A: How come there is fog this evening? It seems it floated in from the outside.
B: This place is often like this in the winter. The air is very humid and it is often overcast.
A: And it often drizzles. Actually, it's drizzling right now, but because there is the fog, you can't see it.
B: Recently the weather has not been very good. Our luck is really bad!
- A: The last time I came to Hong Kong I encountered a big typhoon. I hope this time there is none.
B: Actually, I heard that, after a few days, there is a typhoon that is going to come.
A: There is a typhoon that's going to come? Where is the typhoon now?
B: Now it's still very far from us here. Now it's close to Japan.
A: Dang it! When the typhoon comes, it will rain every day. The wind will also be strong. There won't be any way at all to go outside...
- A: How come it's drizzling again this morning? There is also fog. It seems it floated in from the window screen.
B: Yes. Taiwan is often like this in the wintertime. The air is very humid, and it often rains. On the mountains sometimes it even snows!
A: Actually, it's snowing right now, but because the sun is not yet out, you can't see it.
B: We really are unlucky! The weather is so bad, there's no way at all that we can go out...
- A: Little Lin, please go in and look for some things to eat, O.K.?
B: All right, but how do you open the door? I don't know how to open it.
A: In that case, please go in through the screen window.
B: What? You want me to go in through the screen window?!
A: Don't look at me that way! Of course I want you to go in through the screen window!
- A: Little Li, how do you get out of this place?
B: Old Bai, how did you get in?
A: I don't remember how I got in!
B: Bye! I'm out of here. You're really unlucky!

Unit 10, Part 4: Role Play Exercises

Practice these role plays in Chinese to improve your spoken fluency.

- A: Where in the U.S. do you live?

B: On the U.S. east coast. Newark, New Jersey. It's not far from New York.

A: That's interesting! I live on the west coast. So, what's the climate like in New Jersey?

B: Not very good. In the winter it's colder than Shanghai, and it's also drier than Shanghai. In the summer, it's even hotter than Shanghai. So the climate is not so good as Shanghai!
- A: Where in China is your home?

B: On the Chinese east coast, **Qīngdǎo**.

A: I heard the scenery there is very beautiful. What's the climate there like?

B: Really you can say it's "warm in winter, cool in summer."

A: Why do you speak in that way?

B: The weather in **Qīngdǎo** is fantastic. In winter it's warm, drier than here, not as humid as here. But in the summer it is cool, not as hot as here.

A: In that case, let's all move to **Qīngdǎo**!
- A: How long have you been in America?

B: I've been here about half a year.

A: Well, you've been in America so long, by now I suppose you've already gotten used to the culture here?

B: Yes, when I first came, I had a hard time adapting. Now I'm just about accustomed to it.
- A: How long have you been in Macao?

B: I've been here more than two years.

A: Well, you've been in Macao so long, by now I suppose you've already gotten used to eating Chinese food?

B: Yeah, when I first came, I had a hard time adapting to it. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner—I had to eat Chinese food for them all. But now, I'm just about accustomed to it. Now I like eating Chinese food; it's delicious. Have you eaten yet? Come, let's go eat together!
- A: I most dislike people who arrive late.

B: Today I arrived 10 minutes earlier than you!

A: Correct, but yesterday you arrived 20 minutes later than I did!

B: Really? How come I don't remember?
- A: My dog died yesterday.

B: How old was it?

A: Fourteen. I'm very sad.

B: Don't be sad, there's nothing that can be done about this.