



## Basic Language facts – China

- Main language spoken: Mandarin (official language), Cantonese (most common)
- Regional languages: Chinese comprises of 7 main dialects: Mandarin, Cantonese, Hakka, Wu, Min, Xiang, and Gan
- General usage of English in business: Good - Limited
- Ability to interact in English only - Capital city: Good - Limited
- Ability to interact in English only – Provinces: Limited – None
- Currency: RMB = Renminbi (primary unit = Yuan)
- Local Officials speak English: Limited – None

### The Need for

- Interpreters: Yes - or bilingual staff
- Business card in local language: Beneficial
- Company information in local language: Beneficial
- Co website with a local language page: Beneficial
- Links to website in local language: Possible but not essential

### Useful links to Information sites

- Language skills:  
<http://bhuio.com/Apps/Bhuio.html> (free Chinese language App)  
<http://www.loecsen.com/> (free online course)  
<http://www.dummies.com/how-to/education-languages/languages-cultures/chinese.html> (Chinese for Dummies)
- Cultural awareness:  
<http://www.cultural-china.com/>
- Living & travelling in the country:  
<https://www.gov.uk/living-in-china> (UK Gov. guide to China)  
<http://www.travelchinaguide.com/essential/> (travelling in China)
- Business culture:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3743zVOjkME> (YouTube video)  
<http://www.worldbusinessculture.com/Business-in-China.html> (Website)