

Post Office and Telephone Module, Unit 2

PART I

1. Qǐng ni gěi wo <u>jiē Měidàsī</u> .	Please connect me with the Department of American and Oceanic Affairs.
2. Qǐng Tán <u>Sīzhǎng</u> jiē diànhuà.	Please have Bureau Chief Tan come to the phone.
3. Tā xiànzài zài bu zai <u>bàngōngshì</u> ?	Is he in his office now?
4. Qǐng xiān <u>bié guà</u> .	Don't hang up just yet?
5. Wǒ gěi ni <u>zhǎo</u> tā.	I'll look for him for you.
6. Tán Sīzhǎng xiànzài yǒu shì.	Bureau Chief Tan is busy right now.
7. Tā bù <u>néng</u> lái jiē diànhuà.	He can't come to the phone.
8. Tā dēng <u>yìhuìr</u> gěi ni huí diànhuà.	He will call you back in a little while.
9. <i>Wàijiāobù</i>	<i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>

NOTES AFTER PART I:

jiē: This is the verb 'to connect', 'to join'. It is also the verb 'to receive a message or mail'.

bié: This is the negative imperative 'don't!'

Bié gēn ta shuō!

Don't talk with him!

Bié zài shuō ba!

Don't talk about it again.

zhǎo: This is the verb 'to look for'. It is also sometimes translated as 'to find'.

Wǒ qù zhǎo ta.

I'll go look for him. (I'll  
go find him.)

néng: 'to be able to'. Although this verb overlaps in meaning with kěyǐ, 'can, may', there are definite differences. The verb néng is more general, while kěyǐ has the narrower meaning 'be able to' the sense of 'be permitted to do so by someone'.

Peking:

F1: Wèi! Wàijiāobù.

Hello, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

M: Qǐng ní gěi wǒ jiē  
Měidàsī.

Please connect me with the Bureau of American and Pacific Affairs.

F2: Měidàsī.

Bureau of American and Pacific Affairs.

M: Qǐng Tán Sīzhǎng jiē  
diànhuà.

Please have Section Chief Tan come to the phone.

F: Tā xiànzài bú zài bàngōngshì.  
Nín shì nǎr?

He's not in the office right now. Who's calling?

M: Wǒ shì Jiānàdà Dàshìguǎnde  
Dàwèi Àndésēn.

I'm David Anderson of the Canadian Embassy.

F: Nǐ xiān bié guà. Wǒ  
gěi ní qù zhǎo tā.

Don't hang up just yet. I'll go look for him for you.

. . .

F: Àndésēn Xiānsheng. Tán  
Sīzhǎng xiànzài yǒu shì,  
bù néng lái jiē diànhuà.  
Qǐng ní gào su wǒ nǐ de  
diànhuà hào mǎr. Tán  
Sīzhǎng děng yíhuǐr gěi  
nǐ huí diànhuà.

Mr. Anderson. Bureau Chief Tan is busy right now, and can't come to the phone. Please tell me your telephone number. Bureau Chief Tan will call you back in a little while.

M: Hǎo. Wǒ de diànhuà hào mǎr  
shì sān-sì-wǔ--liù-liù-  
yāo.

Fine. My telephone number is 345-661.

PART II

10. Qǐng jiē sānshìèrhào <u>fēnjī</u> .	Please connect me with extension number 32.
11. Qǐng dà yīdiǎr shēng shuō.	Please speak a little louder.
12. Wǒ tīng bù qīngchū.	I can't hear you clearly.
13. Wǒ shì yige Měiguó <u>shāngrén</u> .	I'm an American businessman.
14. Nǐde <u>míngzì</u> wǒ <u>xiěxiàlái</u> le.	I wrote down your name.
15. <u>Wàimàobù</u>	<i>Ministry of Foreign Trade</i>

NOTES AFTER PART II:

Qǐng dà yīdiǎr shēng shuō: Notice that the phrase describing the manner of action, dà yīdiǎr shēng (with a little bit louder voice), comes before the main verb shuō, 'to speak'.

qīngchū: This is the adjectival verb 'to be clear'.

Peking:

F1: Wài, Wàimàobù.

Hello, Ministry of Foreign Trade.

M: Qǐng jiē sānshíèrhào fēnjī.

Please connect me with extension number 32.

F1: Hǎo.

All right.

(The receptionist puts the call through.)

F2: Wài.

Hello.

M: Qǐng Lǐ Dàmíng Xiānsheng jiē diànhuà.

Please have Mr. Li Daming come to the phone.

F2: Wài. Qǐng dà yīdiǎr shēng shuō. Wǒ tīng bù qīngchū.

Hello. Please speak a little louder. I can't hear you clearly.

(He speaks a little louder.)

M: Qǐng Lǐ Dàmíng, Lǐ Xiānsheng jiē diànhuà.

Please have Lǐ Dàmíng, Mr. Lǐ come to the phone.

F2: Ōu, nǐ zhǎo Lǐ Dàmíng jiē diànhuà. Hǎo, qǐng nǐ děng-yīdēng.

Oh, you want Li Daming-to come to the phone. Okay, please wait a moment.

M: Hǎo.

All right.

F2: Ōu, tā qù chī fàn qù le. Nín shì něiwèi?

Oh, he went out to eat. Who is calling?

M: Wǒ shì Qiáozhì Dàfēi. Wǒ shì yige Měiguó shāngrén. Wǒ zhùzai Běijīng Fàndiàn 504 hào.

I'm George Duffy. I'm an American businessman. I'm staying at the Peking Hotel, room 504.

F2: Hǎo, nǐde míngzi wǒ xiě-xialai le. Děng Lǐ Dàmíng huílai wǒ gào su ta gěi nǐ huí diànhuà.

Okay, I wrote down your name. When Li Daming returns, I'll tell him to call you back.

M: Xièxie nǐ.

Thank you.

PART III

16. Sānshíèrhào fēnjī <u>zhānzhe</u> <u>xiàn</u> ne.	Extension 32 is busy.
17. Wǒ méi <u>tīngdǒng</u> .	I didn't understand.
18. Nǐ yào děngyíděng hái shì <u>guò</u> yíhuǐ zài dǎlai?	Do you want to wait or call back in a little while?
19. Nǐ yào <u>liú</u> ge <u>huà</u> ma?	Do you want to leave a message?
20. Bú <u>yòng</u> le.	No need to.
21. Wǒ gěi nǐ <u>jiēquòqu</u> .	I'll connect you.

NOTES ON PART III:

... zhānzhe xiàn ne: -Zhe is the marker of DURATION of actions and states. It indicates that an action or state lasted (or lasts) for an amount of time. The marker ne marks ONGOING actions and states. In this expression the marker -zhe tells us that at some time the line CONTINUES to be occupied, and the marker ne tells us that this is GOING ON now. -Zhe is used in sentences to describe activities which last over a period of time, whether that time is past, present or future. A verb plus -zhe in Chinese often corresponds to the '-ing' form of the verb in English.

Zǒuzhe qù keyi ma?

Can you get there by walking?

Tā hái bìngzhe ne.

He is still sick.

tīngdǒng: This is a compound verb meaning 'to understand (by listening)'.

guò: This is the verb 'to pass, cross, go through.' It can be used when talking about time or space.

Guò liǎngtiáo jiē, wàng zuǒ  
zǒu.

Go past two streets and go to  
the left.

Guò liǎngfēn zhōng, wǒ zài  
lái.

I'll be back in two minutes.

Taipei:

F1: Wài, Táiwān Yínháng.

Hello, Bank of Taiwan.

M: Qǐng nǐ jiē sānshìèrhào  
fēnjī.

Please connect me with  
extension number 32.

F1: Hǎo. ... Duìbuqǐ, zhànzhe  
xiàn ne.

All right. ... I'm sorry  
that line is busy.

M: Nǐ shuō shénme? Wǒ méi  
tīngdǒng. Qǐng nǐ zài  
shuō yíci.

What did you say? I  
didn't understand.  
Please say it again.

F1: Sānshìèrhào fēnjī zhànzhe  
xiàn ne. Jiù shì shuō  
yǒu rén zài shuō huà ne.

Extension number 32 is  
busy. That's to say  
there is someone talking.

M: Ōu, wǒ dǒng le.

Oh, I understand now.

F1: Nǐ yào děngyíděng ne,  
háishì guò yíhuǐr zài  
dǎlai ne?

Do you want to wait or  
call back in a little  
while.

M: Wǒ děngyíděng.

I'll wait.

F1: Wài, sānshìèrhào fēnjī  
méiyǒu rén shuō huà le.  
Wǒ gěi nǐ jiēguoqu.

Hello, there's no one  
talking on extension  
number 32 now. I'll  
connect you.

M: Xièxie.

Thank you.

...

F2: Wéi!

Hello.

M: Qǐng Fāng Mínglǐ, Fāng  
Xiǎojié jiē diànhuà.

I'd like to speak with  
Fang Mingli, Miss Fang.

F2: Ōu, duìbuqǐ tā bú zài.  
Nǐ yào liú ge huà ma?

Oh, I'm sorry, she's not  
here. Do you want to  
leave a message?

M: Bú yòng le. Wǒ xiànzài  
yào chūqu, wǒ xiàwǔ zài  
dǎlai.

No need to. I'm going  
out now. I'll call back  
this afternoon.

PART IV

22. Qǐngwèn, zhè fùjīn yǒu gōngyòng diànhuà ma?	May I ask, is there a public telephone in the area?
23. Wǒ wàngle dài tāde diànhuà hàomǎr.	I forgot to bring his telephone number.
24. Wǒ bú huì chá Zhōngguó diànhuàbù.	I don't know how to look things up in a Chinese phone book.
25. gōngguǎn	<i>residence, home (a polite reference to another's residence)</i>

Taipei:

M: Qǐngwèn, zhè fùjīn yǒu gōngyòng diànhuà ma?	May I ask, is there a public telephone in the area?
F1: Zhèige gōngsī ménkǒu jiù yǒu.	There's one at the doorway of this company.
M: Ōu, jiù zài zhèlǐ. ... Duìbuqǐ, wǒ xiǎng gěi wǒde péngyou Wáng Dànián dǎ diànhuà, kěshì wǒ wàngle dài tāde diànhuà hàomǎr.	Oh, it's right here. Excuse me, I want to call my friend Wang Danian, but I forgot to bring his telephone number with me.
F1: Gōngyòng diànhuà nǎlǐ yǒu diànhuàbù.	The public telephone has telephone book.
M: Wǒ bú huì chá Zhōngguó diànhuàbù. Qǐng nǐ tī wǒ cháchícha, hǎo bù hao?	I don't know how to look things up in a Chinese phone book. Please look it up for me, all right?

F1: Hǎo.

Okay.

(After the young lady finds the number, he dials it. A servant picks up the phone.)

F2: Wài, Wáng gōngguǎn.

Hello, the Wang residence.

M: Qǐng Wáng Dànián, Wáng  
Xiānsheng shuō huà.

I'd like to speak with Mr.  
Wang, Mr. Wang Dalian.

(He hears the servant say...)

F2: Xiānsheng, yǒu nǐde diànhuà.

There's a call for you,  
Sir.



# PST/TEL, Unit 2

## Vocabulary

bàngōngshì	office
bié	don't
bú yòng	no need to
chá	to look up (information)
dài	to bring with one, to carry along
diànhuàbù	phone directory
fēnjī	telephone extension
gōngguǎn	residence, home (a polite reference to another's residence)
gōngyòng	public, for public use
guàshang	to hang up (telephone)
guò	to pass(some time)
huí diànhuà	to return a phone call
jiē	to connect, to join
jiēguòqu	to connect, to put through (phone call)
liú ge huà	to leave a message
Měidàsī	Bureau of American and Pacific Affairs
míngzi	name
néng	can, to be able
qīngchu	to be clear
shāngrén	businessman
shēng	sound, voice
tīng	to listen to, to hear
tīngdong	to understand (by listening)
Wàijiāobù	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Wàimàobù	Ministry of Foreign Trade
wàng	to forget
xiàn	telephone line, wire
xiěxiālai	to write down

yīhuǐr

a short while, a moment

zhàn

to occupy a space

zhǎo

to look for, to find