



# DL JIN Educational Resources Company

## Tones in Chinese Language

**mā**  
妈  
mother

Frist tone  
(flat)

**má**  
麻  
numb

second tone  
(going up)

**mǎ**  
马  
horse

third tone  
(down and up)

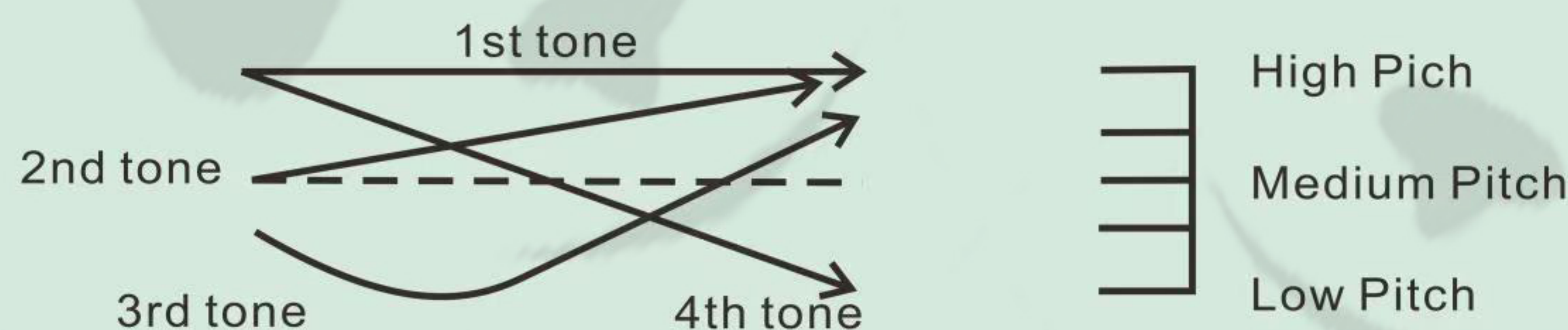
**mà**  
骂  
scold

fourth tone  
(going down)

**ma**  
吗  
question word

neutral tone  
(light)

Tone:	Tone Mark:	Description:	Example:
Frist tone		High,Level Pitch	tī =kick
Second tone		Starting High and Rising	tí =lift
Third tone		Falling,first,then Rising	tǐ =body
Fourth tone		Starting High and Falling	tì =replace



- 1st tone
- 2nd tone
- 3rd tone
- 4th tone
- A high and level tone marking corresponds to a flat. Yet high pitch sound. It is spoken at the top of your vocal range.
- A rising tone begins at the middle of your voice and rises quickly to the top of your vocal range.
- A falling then–rising tone begins at the middle of your voice, dips down to the bottom of your vocal range and then at the end.
- A falling tone begins at the top of your vocal range and ends at its bottom in a forceful or scolding manner.

1st	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
	shāng xīn (sad)	jīn qián (money)	hēi bǎn(blackboard)	yī yuàn (hospital)
	kāi xīn (happy)	fēi cháng (very)	qīng chǔ(clear)	guāng xiàn (light)
	qiū tiān (autumn)	fēi xiáng (fly)	biāo zhǔn (standard)	jī qì (machine)
	zhōng qiū (mid-autumn)	zhī chí (support)	jīng měi(delicate)	zī shì (posture)
	wēi jī (crisis)	zī yuán (resource)	suō jiǎn (decrease)	fān yì (translate)
	xiāng guān (relative)	pī píng (criticize)	yīng yǔ (English)	qī yuè (July)
	chūn tiān (spring)	zī xún (consult)	shāng chǎng (mall)	kōng qì (air)
	dōng tiān (winter)	jiān chí (insist)	gāng bǐ (pen)	tiān qì (weather)
	guān xīn (concern)	zhōng xué (middle school)	qiān bǐ (pencil)	bāng zhù (help)
	dān yōu (worry)	zhōng guó (China)	shū běn(book)	dēng pào (light bulb)