

Supplemental Material S4. Grammatical structures examined in the Mandarin Receptive Grammar Test (MRGT), with English as a comparison.

Grammatical structure examined in Mandarin		English equivalent	Form-similarity score ^a	Relevant observations
Simple transitive	Subject-Verb-Object	Subject-Verb-Object	2	Grammatical forms match.
Ditransitive	Verb-recipient-theme (e.g., <i>gei3 ta1 qian2</i> 给他钱) Verb-theme- <i>gei3</i> -recipient (e.g., <i>song4 qian2 gei3 ta1</i> 送钱给他)	Verb-recipient-theme (e.g., <i>give him money</i>) Verb-theme- <i>to</i> -recipient (e.g., <i>send money to him</i>)	2	Grammatical forms match.
Locative	Using a <u>localizer</u> after a noun to specify the location relative to the noun, often with the <u>coverb</u> <i>zai4</i> 在 (e.g., <i>zai4 zhuo1 zi shang4</i> 在桌子上)	Prepositional phrase (e.g., <i>on the desk</i>)	1	Different forms.
Classifier	Numeral/Demonstrative-Classifier-Noun (e.g., <i>yi1/zhe4-tiao2-sheng2</i> 一/这条绳 ‘a/this rope’)	N/A	0	No equivalent structure.
Pronoun	1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd person pronouns without gender and case distinctions	1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd person pronouns with gender and case distinctions	1	Different forms.
Bare reflexive	<i>Zi4ji3</i> 自己 ‘self’	N/A	0	No equivalent structure.
Negation	Negative marker (e.g., <i>mei2</i> 没, <i>bu4</i> 不) placed before the verb	Adding “not” after an auxiliary or modal verb (e.g., <i>do not</i>)	1	Different forms.
Resultative verb compound	Combining a verb with a resultative complement to indicate the result or	N/A	0	No equivalent structure.

	outcome of an action (e.g., <i>tui1dao3</i> 推倒, literally ‘push-fall’)			
Aspect marking	Optional aspect marking through adding a particle to the verb (e.g., <i>chi1 le</i> 吃了 ‘have eaten’, <i>zai4 chi1</i> 在吃 ‘is eating’)	Aspect marked through the use of auxiliary verbs and verb tense	1	Different forms.
Comparative	Subject- <i>bi3</i> 比-Compared Object-(<i>geng4</i> 更 ‘more’) Adjective; Subject-Verb- <i>de</i> 得- <i>bi3</i> 比-Compared Object-(<i>geng4</i> 更) Adverb	Subject-Copula/Verb-(more) Adjective/Adverb (-er)- <i>than</i> -Compared Object	1	Different forms.
Coordinating conjunction	Using words such as <i>he2</i> 和 ‘and’ to link elements of equal grammatical status (e.g., <i>nai3nai na2zhe tao2zi he2 ju2zi</i> 奶奶拿着桃子和桔子)	Using words such as <i>and</i> to link elements of equal grammatical status (e.g., <i>the granny is holding a peach and a tangerine</i>)	2	Grammatical forms match.
Possessive	Placing the particle <i>de</i> 的 after the processor (e.g., <i>nan2hai2 de</i> 男孩的)	Adding an apostrophe followed by the affix -s to the processor (e.g., <i>the boy’s</i>)	1	Different forms.
BA-construction	NP _{Agent} -BA-NP _{Patient} -XP	N/A	0	No equivalent structure.
BEI-passive	NP _{Patient} -BEI (-NP _{Agent})-XP	NP _{Patient} -BE-Verb (past participle) (- <i>by</i> -NP _{Agent})	1	Different forms.
Relative clause	Head-final with the particle <i>de</i> 的 linking the relative clause and the head noun (e.g., <i>xiong2mao1-bao4-zhe-de-tu4zi</i> 熊猫抱着的兔子)	Head-initial, usually introduced by a relative pronoun (e.g., <i>the rabbit that the panda is holding</i>)	1	Different forms.

^a 2: equivalent structures and similar forms and word order, 1: equivalent structures but differing forms, 0: no equivalent structure.