

Character Builder 您好嗎？

The basic unit of the Chinese language is the *zi* (字), i.e. a Chinese word. Each *zi* has a written form (called a character, made up of strokes), a sound (made up of consonant and vowel) and a meaning (or multiple meanings). When we speak or write Chinese, we string *zi* together to form terms, phrases and sentences.

This week: Words about news reportage

播

Pronunciation: *bo* (Putonghua, 1st tone), *boh* (Cantonese, 3rd tone)
Basic meaning: spread, broadcast

播 (radical 扌 = 手 *shou* = hand) shows hands' action. Farmers 播種 (*bo zhong* = throw-spread-seeds = sow seeds). Radio stations 播音 (*bo yin* = spread-sound = audio broadcasting). The world changes as people/things 播遷 (*bo qian* = spread-move/relocate).

Radio/TV stations 播放 (*bo fang* = spread~release = broadcast) news/documentaries/shows. Live broadcasts are 即時 (*ji shi* = immediate~time = simultaneous) 現場 (*xian chang* = here-now~place = on site) 播出 (*bo chu* = spread-out = broadcasted). Joint broadcasting is 聯播 (*lian bo* = united~broadcast). Replays are 重播 (*chong bo* = repeat~broadcast).

Liars 散播謠言 (*san bo yao yan* = disperse~spread~song/lie~words = spread unclarified/false information). Christians 傳播福音 (*chuan bo fu yin* = pass-on~spread~blessed~sound = spread the gospel).

by Diana Yue