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 horticulture

Pronunciation: yuan (Putonghua, 2\textsuperscript{nd} tone), yuen (Cantonese 4\textsuperscript{th} tone)  
Basic meaning: garden, park, plantation