Vocabulary and dialogue from Pimsleur Mandarin Level 4 Track 4

This is my notes taken from Pimsleur’s Mandarin Level 4 course. It is specific to unit 4.

I am using various self-study tools to learn Mandarin. One of these is Pimsleur’s audio course on Mandarin Chinese.

I find that augmenting the course with notes of the dialogue and new words reinforces and enhances retention of what I learn audibly.

Notes:
[P] – Pinyin
[S] – Simplified Characters
[T] – Traditional Characters
[E] - English

Introductory Dialogue:

[S]: Jones 先生昨天玩儿的好吗？
[T]: Jones 先生昨天玩儿的好嗎？
[P]: Jones xiānshēng zuótiān wán’ér de hǎo ma?
[E]: Did you have fun yesterday Mr Jones?

[S]: 很好。玩儿的很好。
[T]: 很好。玩兒的很好。
[P]: hěn hǎo. wán’ér de hěn hǎo
[E]: Yes I did, very much.

[S]: Jones 先生昨天去哪儿了？
[T]: Jones 先生昨天去哪兒了？
[P]: Jones xiānshēng zuótiān qù nǎr le?
[E]: Where did you go to yesterday Mr Jones?

[S]: 去豫园了。豫园的建筑很美。
[T]: 去豫园了。豫園的建築很美。
[P]: qù yúyuàn le. yùyuàn de jiànzhù hěn měi.
[E]: I went to the Yu Gardens. The Yu Garden’s architecture is very beautiful.

[S]: 是的。豫园离市中心很近可是很传统。
[T]: 是的。豫園離史中心很近可是很傳統。
[P]: shì de. yúyuàn lí shìzhōngxīn hěn jǐn kěshǐ hěn chuányǒng.
[E]: Yes it is. The Yu Gardens are very close to the city centre. But they are very traditional.

[S]: 湖心亭也很美。我昨天在那儿喝茶了。
[T]: 湖心亭也很美。我昨天在那儿喝茶了。
[P]: húxīntíng yě hěn měi. wǒ zuótiān zài nàr hē chá le.
[E]: The pavilion in the middle of the lake is also very beautiful. I drank tea there yesterday.

New words / phrases:

[S]: 玩儿
[T]: 玩兒
[P]: wán’r
[E]: to enjoy oneself, to play
[M]: n/a

[S]: 相机 (abbreviation of 照相机)
[T]: 相機 (abbreviation of 照相機)
[P]: xiàngjī (abbreviation of zhàoxiàngjī)
[E]: camera

[S]: 照片
[T]: 照片
[P]: zhàopiàn
[E]: photograph

[S]: 金茂大厦
[T]: 金茂大廈
[P]: jīn mào dàshà
[E]: Jinmao Tower in Shanghai (To read more on this skyscraper click here)
[M]: zuò [座]

[S]: 大厦
[T]: 大廈
[P]: dàshà
[E]: Tower
[M]: zuò [座]

[S]: 过
[T]: 過
[P]: guò
[E]: to cross
[M]: n/a

[S]: 摩天大楼
[T]: 摩天大樓
[P]: mótiāndálóu
[E]: Skyscraper
[M]: zuò [座]
[S]: 像
[T]: 像
[P]: xiàng
[E]: resemble, be like, take after
[M]: n/a

[S]: 宝塔
[T]: 寶塔
[P]: bāotǎ (in speaking báotā)
[E]: Pagoda
[M]: zuò [座]

New sentence/grammar structures:
[S]: 就点既安静又舒服。
[T]: 酒店既安静又舒服。
[P]: jiǔdiàn jì ānjìng yò shūfu.
[E]: The hotel is both quiet and comfortable.
Notes: This is used to ascribe more than one quality to the subject of the sentence. In other words, it to say “… both … and…” or “as well as”. The structure is ‘subject + (jì) + adjective + (yòu) + adjective’.

[S]: 请给我拍一张照片。
[T]: 请给我拍一张照片。
[P]: qǐng gěi wǒ pāi yì zhāng zhàopiàn.
[E]: Please take a photo of me.
Notes: The structure is ‘请(qǐng) + subject (optional) + 给(gěi) + object + 拍(pāi) + 一张照片(yì zhāng zhàopiàn)’

[S]: 金茂大厦像一座宝塔。
[T]: 金茂大厦像一座寶塔。
[P]: jīnmàodáshà xiàng yí zuò bāotā.
[E]: The Jinmao tower resembles a pagoda.
Notes: The structure is ‘subject + 像(xiàng) + object’