

Drako's Go! Let's discuss Eyes in Chinese!

English	Pinyin	Chinese (Sim.)	Chi (Trad)	Notes
Eye	yǎn	眼		眼睛 eye(body part)
Make eye(s)	zuò yǎn	做眼		做死活题
Break eye(s)	pò yǎn	破眼		
Real eye	zhēn yǎn	真眼		真的吗? really?
Fake eye	jiǎ yǎn	假眼		
One eye	yì zhī yǎn	一只眼	一隻眼	
Two eyes	liǎng zhī yǎn	两只眼	兩隻眼	
Half an eye/semi-eye	bàn zhī yǎn	半只眼	半隻眼	
Eye space	yǎn wèi	眼位		
Abundant eye space	yǎn wèi fēng fù	眼位丰富	眼位豐富	
Don't have eye space	méi yǒu yǎn wèi	没有眼位		
Enough eye space	yǎn wèi zú gòu	眼位足够	眼位足夠	
Not enough eye space	yǎn wèi bú gòu	眼位不够	眼位不夠	不足 bù zú
Eye space very big	yǎn wèi hěn dà	眼位很大		
Eye space too small	yǎn wèi tài xiǎo	眼位太小		
Reduce eye space	suō xiǎo yǎn wèi	缩小眼位	縮小眼位	
Enlarge eye space	kuò dà yǎn wèi	扩大眼位	擴大眼位	
have-eye kills no-eye	yǒu yǎn shā wú yǎn	有眼杀无眼	有眼殺無眼	also 有眼杀瞎 (xiā)

Let's try speaking in sentences!

1. 黑棋只有一只眼。

hēi qí zhǐ yǒu yì zhī yǎn

Black only has one eye

只zhī is a counter word (一只眼)but 只zhǐ can also mean “only” (只有=only has)

2. 白棋只有两只假眼。

bái qí zhǐ yǒu liǎng zhī jiǎ yǎn

White only has 2 fake eyes

3. 黑棋有三只真眼, 肯定活了。

hēi qí yǒu sān zhī zhēn yǎn , kěn dìng huó le

Black has 3 real eyes, definitely alive

肯定 kěn dìng = definitely

了le is a common particle indicating change of state e.g. 我吃了 means “I've eaten”. But if you leave out the 了 it is unclear if you are still eating, or want to eat, etc

4. 黑棋眼位足够吗? (try to answer this question too!)

hēi qí yǎn wèi zú gòu má ?

Does black have sufficient eye space?

吗 and 呢 are both found at end of questions, but 吗 is for yes-no questions, 呢 is more open-ended.

5. 白棋可以先做眼。白棋不会死。

bái qí kě yǐ xiān zuò yǎn 。 bái qí bú huì sǐ

White can make eye(s) first. White won't die.

可以 kě yǐ = can

不可以 bù kě yǐ = cannot

不会 bú huì = won't/cannot

我不会下(xià)围棋 = I don't know how to play Go

你(nǐ)会下围棋吗? = Do you know how to play Go?

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6. 黑棋怎样破眼呢？

hēi qí zěnyàng pò yǎn ne ?

How does black break eye(s)?

怎样 = how

7. 黑棋怎样破眼杀白棋呢？

hēi qí zěnyàng pò yǎn shā bái qí ne ?

How can black break eye(s) and kill white?

8. 我觉得白棋眼位不够。

wǒ jué dé bái qí yǎn wèi bú gòu 。

I feel that white's eye space is not enough.

我 wǒ = me/I

觉得 jué dé = feel (I feel/ I think...)

我觉得围棋很有趣。

wǒ jué dé wéi qí hěn yǒu qù 。

I feel that Go is very interesting.

我觉得白棋不好。

wǒ jué dé bái qí bù hǎo 。

I feel that White is no good/isn't doing well

9. 黑棋看起来眼位很大, 可是白棋可以杀黑棋。

hēi qí kàn qǐ lái yǎn wèi hěn dà , kě shì bái qí kě yǐ shā hēi qí 。

It looks like black's eye space is very big, but white can kill black.

看起来 kàn qǐ lái = looks like

可是 kě shì = but