

nín guìxìng
C017: 您 貴姓 (Your Honorable Family Name)

(Picture obtained through the Internet)

(To find article: go to MATHisacommonLANGUAGE.com → Traditional → lower right)

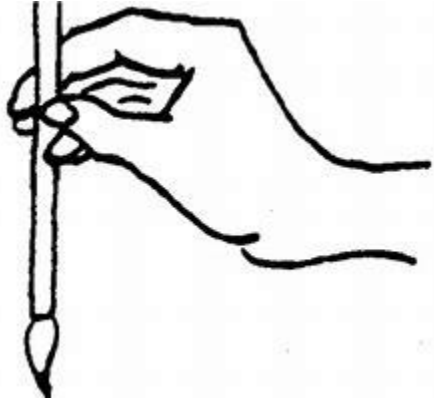
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To prepare oneself in advance in asking or answering questions about names is a practical and wise move. We will go from the most casual to the most formal in the following:

nǐ jiào shénmó 你 叫 什麼? How are you called? What do you go by? [you] [are called] [what]	bì xìng 敝姓: my humble family name is _____
nǐ jiào shénmó míng zì 你 叫 什麼 名字? By what name are you called? What name do you go by? [you] [are called] [what] [name]	xiǎomíng 小名: my small given name is _____
nǐ de míng zì shì shénmó 你的 名字 是 什麼? What is your name? [your] [name][is] [what]	wǒ de yīngwén míng zì jiào 我的 英文 名字 叫: my English name is _____
nǐ de míng zì jiào shénmó 你的 名字 叫 什麼? What is your name? [your] [name] [is called] [what]	wǒ de zhōngwén míng zì jiào 我的 中文 名字 叫: my Chinese name is _____
nín guìxìng 您 貴姓? What is your honorable family name? [you – respectful usage] [honorable family name]	
qǐng wèn guìxìng 請 問 貴姓? May I ask what your honorable family name is? [may I] [ask] [honorable family name]	
qǐng wèn zūnxìng dà míng 請 問 尊姓 大名? May I ask what your respected family name and your big given name are? [may I] [ask] [respected family name] [big given name]	

Now, we will take a look at the correct way to hold a Chinese writing brush:



- 1) Thumb in the front;
- 2) Index and middle fingers in the back;
- 3) The fourth finger and the little finger on the thumb side (with nails against the brush handle);
- 4) Therefore, the brush is held vertically.
- 5) In the beginning, you can hold the brush with fingers closer to the tip of the brush than you see in the picture. (Meaning, the palm will be closer to the writing desk than you see in the picture.)
- 6) When you are more confident and advanced, you can start to hold at a higher position.