

### 3 Laughing and crying

Xiào 'laugh'



The top part is zhú 'bamboo', but it is no longer clear what the connection between bamboo and laughter is!

k 'cry'



The two boxes on top are mouths and qun is 'dog'. Dogs do a lot of wailing.

qlai 'start to'

Tngdào zhè ge huài xioxi, t kqlai. 'Hearing this bad news, he started to cry.'

Tngdào zhè ge ho xioxi, t xiàoqlai. 'Hearing this good news, she started to laugh.'

Note that one does not need le in either case.

The sentences also work with le in stead of qlai and without the idea of starting:

Tngdào zhè ge huài xioxi, t k le. 'Hearing this bad news, he cried.'

Tngdào zhè ge ho xioxi, t xiào le. 'Hearing this good news, she laughed.'