wishyou.today learning

day 9 work & school

Chinese HSK 1 in 30 days
unit 2 · family & people

Say where people work, study and go, and ask “what do you do?”

“What do you do?” comes right after “how many in your family?” in almost every first chat in China.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	how it’s built
医生	yīshēng	doctor	医 medicine; to heal + 生 to be born; life
工作	gōngzuò	to work; job	工 work; labour + 作 to do; to make
公司	gōngsī	company	公 public + 司 to manage; to run
做	zuò	to do; to make	做 starts with a person: people are the ones who do things.
在	zài	at; to be at	在 zài: “I’m right here!”
医院	yīyuàn	hospital	医 medicine; to heal + 院 courtyard; institution
学校	xuéxiào	school	学 to study + 校 school
大学	dàxué	university	大 big + 学 to study; learning
大学生	dàxuéshēng	university student	大 big + 学 to study; learning + 生 to be born; student
中学	zhōngxué	secondary school	中 middle + 学 to study; learning
中学生	zhōngxuéshēng	secondary school student	中 middle + 学 to study; learning + 生 to be born; student
小学	xiǎoxué	primary school	小 small + 学 to study; learning
小学生	xiǎoxuéshēng	primary school pupil	小 small + 学 to study; learning + 生 to be born; student
去	qù	to go	“Chew” your snack and go!

pattern 在 + place: where you are, where you do things

who | 在 | place | action

在 + place says where someone is: 小明在家. Add an action after the place to say where you do it: 我在家学习. For most actions the place comes before the verb, not at the end like English.

小明在大学学习。 **Xiǎomíng zài dàxué xuéxí.** Xiaoming studies at university.

李先生在医院工作。 **Lǐ xiānsheng zài yīyuàn gōngzuò.** Mr Li works at a hospital.

她在小学工作。 **Tā zài xiǎoxué gōngzuò.** She works at a primary school.

我在家学习汉语。 **Wǒ zài jiā xuéxí Hànyǔ.** I study Chinese at home.

dialogue who does what?

anna 李先生，您做什么工作?
Lǐ xiānsheng, nín zuò shénme gōngzuò? · Mr Li, what do you do?

mr li (dr li) 我是医生，在医院工作。
Wǒ shì yīshēng, zài yīyuàn gōngzuò. · I'm a doctor. I work at a hospital.

anna 张女士，您呢?
Zhāng nǚshì, nín ne? · And you, Ms Zhang?

ms zhang 我不是医生。我在公司工作。
Wǒ bú shì yīshēng. Wǒ zài gōngsī gōngzuò. · I'm not a doctor. I work at a company.

anna 妹妹，你是小学生吗?
Mèimei, nǐ shì xiǎoxuéshēng ma? · And you, little one, are you at primary school?

little sister 我不是小学生！我是中学生！
Wǒ bú shì xiǎoxuéshēng! Wǒ shì zhōngxuéshēng! · I'm not at primary school! I'm at secondary school!

mr li (dr li) 安娜，你在中国做什么?
Ānnà, nǐ zài Zhōngguó zuò shénme? · Anna, what do you do in China?

anna 我是学生！我去学校学习汉语。
Wǒ shì xuéshēng! Wǒ qù xuéxiào xuéxí Hànyǔ. · I'm a student! I go to school to study Chinese.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

工
gōng
work; labour

作
zuò
to do; to make

去
qù
to go



在 zài at; to be at											

good to know · 去 + place + action says why you go: 我去学校学习汉语, I go to school to study Chinese. Go first, then the reason, in the order it happens. In China, 小学 is roughly ages 6 to 12 and 中学 roughly 12 to 18. Add 生, student: 小学生, 中学生, 大学生.

Now you can ask “what do you do?”, answer it, and say where you study: the heart of every first chat. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**