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day 15 how much is it?

Chinese HSK 1 in 30 days
unit 3 · time, meals & money

Ask how much something costs, understand the price, say “too expensive!” and buy it.

Markets, supermarkets, street food: prices are everywhere, and now you can ask, react and answer.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	how it’s built
买	mǎi	to buy	Buy is mǎi (dips low, like your wallet). Sell is mài.
卖	mài	to sell	Extra 十 on top of “buy”? Then you sell!
钱	qián	money	Little pieces of metal 钅 : coins, money!
块	kuài	yuan (spoken); piece	Kwhy? Because everyone says 块 for money, not 元.
元	yuán	yuan (written)	元 is the price tag word. 块 is what you say at the till.
贵	guì	expensive	贝, a shell, sits at the bottom: shells were early money, so 贵 is about value.
便宜	piányi	cheap	便 convenient + 宜 suitable
商店	shāngdiàn	shop, store	商 trade, business + 店 shop
店	diàn	shop, store	A roof 广 and a spot under it: your little shop.
超市	chāoshì	supermarket	超 to exceed, super + 市 market, city
东西	dōngxi	thing, stuff	东 east + 西 west
太	tài	too; very	Big 大 plus a dot: bigger than big. Too much!
了	le	(done; now changed)	了 looks like a little hook: hang your finished job on it. Done!

pattern 多少钱? and 太...了!

thing | 多少钱? | 太 | adjective | 了!

Ask 多少钱? and answer with a number + 块: 十块钱, ten yuan. React with 太 + adjective + 了: 太贵了! “too expensive!” And 了 straight after a verb means it’s done: 我买了, “I bought it”.

苹果多少钱? **Píngguǒ duōshao qián?** How much are the apples?

面包八块五。 **Miànbāo bā kuài wǔ.** The bread is 8.50 yuan.

这个太贵了! **Zhège tài guì le!** This is far too expensive!

我买了一个面包。 **Wǒ mǎi le yí gè miànbāo.** I bought a bread roll.

dialogue shopping at the supermarket

xiaoming 安娜，你想买什么东西?
Ānnà, nǐ xiǎng mǎi shénme dōngxi? · Anna, what do you want to buy?

anna 我想买水果。苹果多少钱?
Wǒ xiǎng mǎi shuǐguǒ. Píngguǒ duōshao qián? · I'd like some fruit. How much are the apples?

xiaoming 三块钱一个。
Sān kuài qián yí gè. · Three yuan each.

anna 三块？很便宜！那个商店的苹果太贵了。我要五个。
Sān kuài? Hěn piányi! Nàge shāngdiàn de píngguǒ tài guì le. Wǒ yào wǔ gè. · Three? That's cheap! The apples in that shop are far too expensive. I'll take five.

xiaoming 你要牛奶吗？这个牛奶十二块。
Nǐ yào niúnǎi ma? Zhège niúnǎi shí'èr kuài. · Do you want milk? This milk is twelve yuan.

anna 十二块？不太贵。我要！
Shí'èr kuài? Bú tài guì. Wǒ yào! · Twelve? Not too expensive. I'll take it!

xiaoming 苹果十五块，牛奶十二块，多少钱?
Píngguǒ shíwǔ kuài, niúnǎi shí'èr kuài, duōshao qián? · Apples fifteen, milk twelve. How much is that?

anna 二十七块！我的汉语很好吧?
Èrshíqī kuài! Wǒ de Hànyǔ hěn hǎo ba? · Twenty-seven yuan! My Chinese is pretty good, right?

write it trace the grey, then write your own

了
le
(done; now changed)

超
chāo
to exceed, super

good to know · "Too expensive!" is 太贵了: 太 + adjective + 了. Without 了 it sounds cut off. 不太贵 means "not too expensive". Prices drop the last word: 八块五 is 8.50 yuan, "eight yuan five". Most people in China pay by scanning a code with their phone.

Read a price, ask 多少钱, say 太贵了 and pay: you can shop in a Chinese market today.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**