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day 1 long time no see

Chinese HSK 3 in 36 days
unit 1 · life lately

Catch up with a friend: say how things are lately, and how much (quite, rather, especially, even more).

“How have you been?” starts every reunion, and 挺, 比较 and 特别 make your answers sound like real speech.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
好久	hǎojiǔ	a long time	我好久没看电影了。 I haven’t seen a film in ages.
不见	bùjiàn	not see; be gone	好久不见！ Long time no see!
最近	zuìjìn	recently, lately	你最近忙吗? Have you been busy lately?
平时	píngshí	usually, normally	我平时七点起床。 I usually get up at seven.
挺	tǐng	quite, pretty	这个菜挺好吃的。 This dish is pretty tasty.
特别	tèbié	especially; special	今天特别冷。 It’s especially cold today.
比较	bǐjiào	fairly, rather; to compare	我最近比较忙。 I’ve been fairly busy lately.
更	gèng	even more	我觉得这个更好看。 I think this one looks even better.
极	jí	extremely	这儿的饺子好吃极了！ The dumplings here are amazing!
一般	yībān	ordinary, so-so; usually	这个电影很一般。 This film is pretty average.
一样	yīyàng	the same	我的手机跟你的一样。 My phone is the same as yours.
不同	bùtóng	different	我们的爱好不同。 We have different hobbies.
差不多	chàbuduō	about the same; almost	我跟他差不多高。 He and I are about the same height.
咱们	zánmen	we, us (you included)	咱们走吧！ Let’s go!
别人	biérén	other people, others	别人都说这家饭馆很好。 Other people all say this restaurant is good.
别的	biéde	other, something else	你还想吃别的吗? Would you like anything else to eat?
其他	qítā	other, the rest	其他同学都来了。 All the other classmates have come.
怎样	zěnyàng	how; in what way	这个汉字怎样写? How do you write this character?

pattern how much: 挺, 比较, 有些, 特别, 更, 极了

who / what | 挺 / 比较 / 有些 / 特别 / 更 | adjective

Like 很, these words go right before the adjective. 比较 = fairly, 挺 = quite (often with 的 at the end), 有些 = a bit, rather, 特别 = especially, 更 = even more. 极了 is the odd one out: it comes after, 好极了 great!

最近挺忙的。 **zuìjìn tǐng máng de** Things have been pretty busy.

这家饭馆比较贵。 **zhè jiā fànguǎn bǐjiào guì** This restaurant is rather expensive.

你的汉语更好了！ **nǐ de Hànyǔ gèng hǎo le** Your Chinese is even better now!

这个菜好吃极了！ **zhège cài hǎochī jí le** This dish is fantastic!

dialogue long time no see!

xiaoming 安娜！好久不见！
Ānnà hǎojiǔ bújiàn · Anna! Long time no see!

anna 小明！好久不见！你最近怎么样？
Xiǎomíng hǎojiǔ bújiàn nǐ zuìjìn zěnmeyàng · Xiaoming! Long time no see! How have you been?

xiaoming 挺好的，就是比较忙。你呢？
tǐng hǎo de jiù shì bǐjiào máng nǐ ne · Pretty good, just rather busy. And you?

anna 我也是。我现在在一家公司工作，特别忙，有些累。
wǒ yě shì wǒ xiànzài zài yì jiā gōngsī gōngzuò tèbié máng yǒuxiē lèi · Same here. I work at a company now; it's really busy, and I'm a bit tired.

xiaoming 工作怎么样？公司里的人好吗？
gōngzuò zěnmeyàng gōngsī lǐ de rén hǎo ma · How's the job? Are the people there nice?

anna 很好！我的朋友小陈跟我差不多大，我们的爱好也一样。
hěn hǎo wǒ de péngyou XiǎoChén gēn wǒ chàbuduō dà wǒmen de àihào yě yíyàng · Really nice! My friend Xiao Chen is about my age, and we like the same things too.

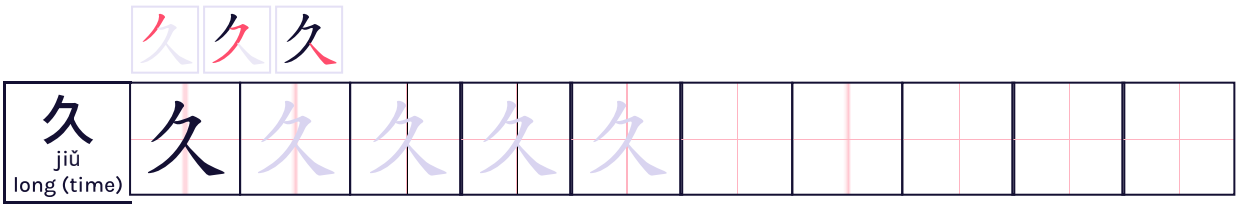
xiaoming 你的汉语更好了！咱们一起去吃饭吧？
nǐ de Hànyǔ gèng hǎo le zánmen yìqǐ qù chī fàn ba · Your Chinese is even better! Shall we go and eat together?

anna 好极了！吃饺子还是别的？
hǎo jí le chī jiǎozi háishi biéde · Great! Dumplings, or something else?

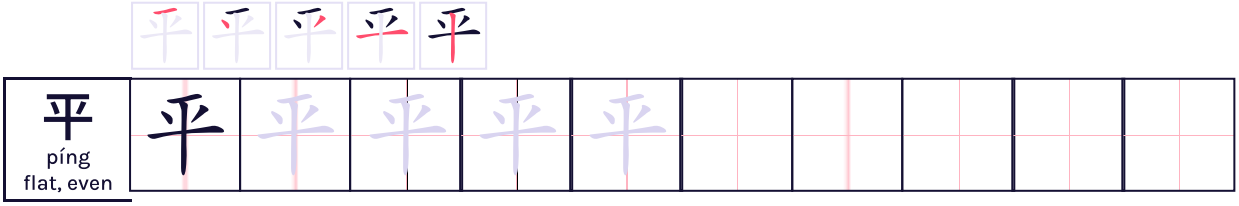
xiaoming 饺子吧。这儿的饺子比其他饭馆的好吃。
jiǎozi ba zhèr de jiǎozi bǐ qítā fànguǎn de hǎochī · Dumplings. They're tastier here than at the other restaurants.

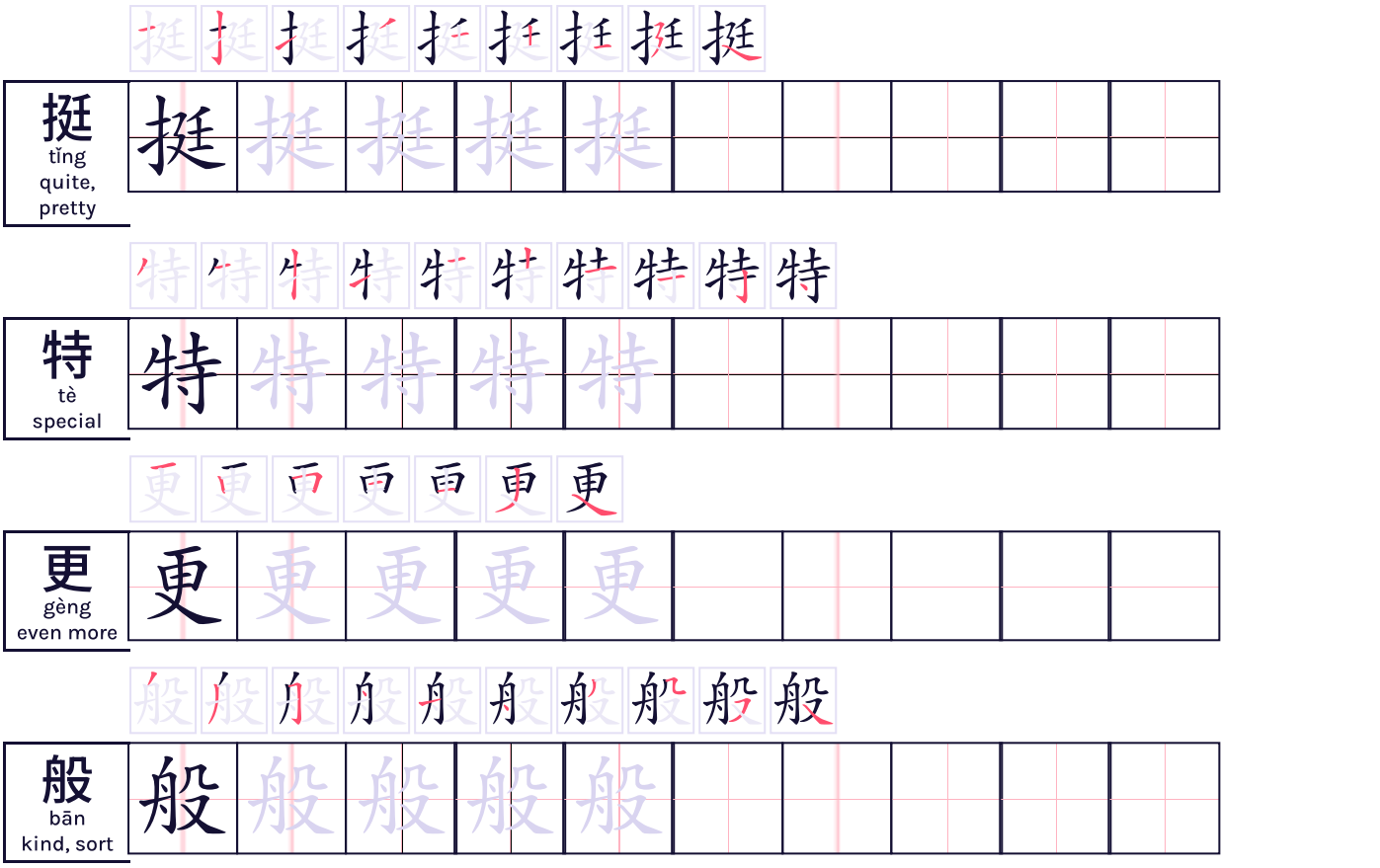
write it trace the grey, then write your own

久
jiǔ
long (time)



平
píng
flat, even





good to know · 咱们 includes the person you're talking to; 我们 may or may not. So 咱们走吧 is always "let's go", you and me. 一般 before a verb means "usually" (我一般七点起床); after 很 it means "so-so" (这个电影很一般). New at HSK 3: 有些 "some" (有些人) can also go before an adjective and mean "a bit, rather": 我有些累, I'm a bit tired.

You can now catch up with a friend the way Beijingers do: 挺好的, 比较忙, 好久不见!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 2 my week

Tell the story of your day and week in order: first, then, as soon as, in the end.

Plans, excuses and stories all need order words, and 才, 刚 and 又 add the feeling: late, just now, again!

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
先	xiān	first, before	我先走了。 I'll be off now.
然后	ránhòu	then, after that	我先吃饭，然后去上班。 I eat first, then go to work.
才	cái	only then, not until	他十点才起床。 He didn't get up until ten.
刚	gāng	just (a moment ago)	我刚到家。 I've just got home.
刚才	gāngcái	just now, a moment ago	刚才谁给我打电话了？ Who called me just now?
刚刚	gānggāng	just, only just	电影刚刚开始。 The film has only just started.
马上	mǎshàng	right away, at once	我马上|来！ I'll be right there!
一直	yīzhí	all along; straight on	他一直在学习。 He's been studying the whole time.
总是	zǒngshì	always	他总是很忙。 He's always busy.
总	zǒng	always (spoken)	你总说没时间！ You always say you have no time!
又	yòu	again (it already happened)	你又忘了！ You forgot again!
常常	chángcháng	often	我常常去那家饭馆。 I often go to that restaurant.
常	cháng	often (short form)	我不常喝咖啡。 I don't often drink coffee.
以前	yǐqián	before; in the past	以前我不喝咖啡。 I didn't use to drink coffee.
以后	yǐhòu	after; later, in future	下班以后，我去超市。 After work I go to the supermarket.
后来	hòulái	afterwards, later on	后来他去了上海。 Later on he went to Shanghai.
最后	zuìhòu	finally, in the end; last	最后我们一起去吃饭了。 In the end we went to eat together.
周末	zhōumò	weekend	周末你做什么？ What are you doing at the weekend?

pattern 先……，然后……: first..., then...

先 first thing 然后 / 再 next thing

先 goes before the first verb, 然后 or 再 before the next one. For “as soon as”, put 了 after the first verb and 就 before the second: 下了班就回家. 以前 and 以后 after an action mean “before” and “after” it: 吃饭以前.

我先洗手，然后吃饭。 **wǒ xiān xǐ shǒu ránhòu chī fàn** I wash my hands first, then eat.

咱们先吃饭，再去看电影。 **zánmen xiān chī fàn zài qù kàn diànyǐng** Let’s eat first and then go to the cinema.

他吃了饭就走了。 **tā chī le fàn jiù zǒu le** He left as soon as he’d eaten.

dialogue late again!

anna 对不起，老师，我又来晚了！
duìbuqǐ lǎoshī wǒ yòu lái wǎn le · Sorry, Teacher Wang, I’m late again!

teacher wang 没关系。今天怎么这么晚？
méi guānxi jīntiān zěnme zhème wǎn · Never mind. Why so late today?

anna 公司今天特别忙。小陈说他马上就做完。
gōngsī jīntiān tèbié máng XiǎoChén shuō tā mǎshàng jiù zuò wán · Work was really busy today. Xiao Chen said he’d be done in a minute.

teacher wang 后来呢？
hòulái ne · And then?

anna 后来他又看手机了！最后我们八点才下班。
hòulái tā yòu kàn shǒujī le zuìhòu wǒmen bā diǎn cái xiàbān · Then he went back to his phone! In the end we didn’t finish until eight.

teacher wang 你平时也这么晚吗？
nǐ píngshí yě zhème wǎn ma · Are you usually this late?

anna 不常这样。我平时先去公司，下了班就来上课。
bù cháng zhèyàng wǒ píngshí xiān qù gōngsī xià le bān jiù lái shàngkè · Not often. Usually I go to work, then come to class as soon as I finish.

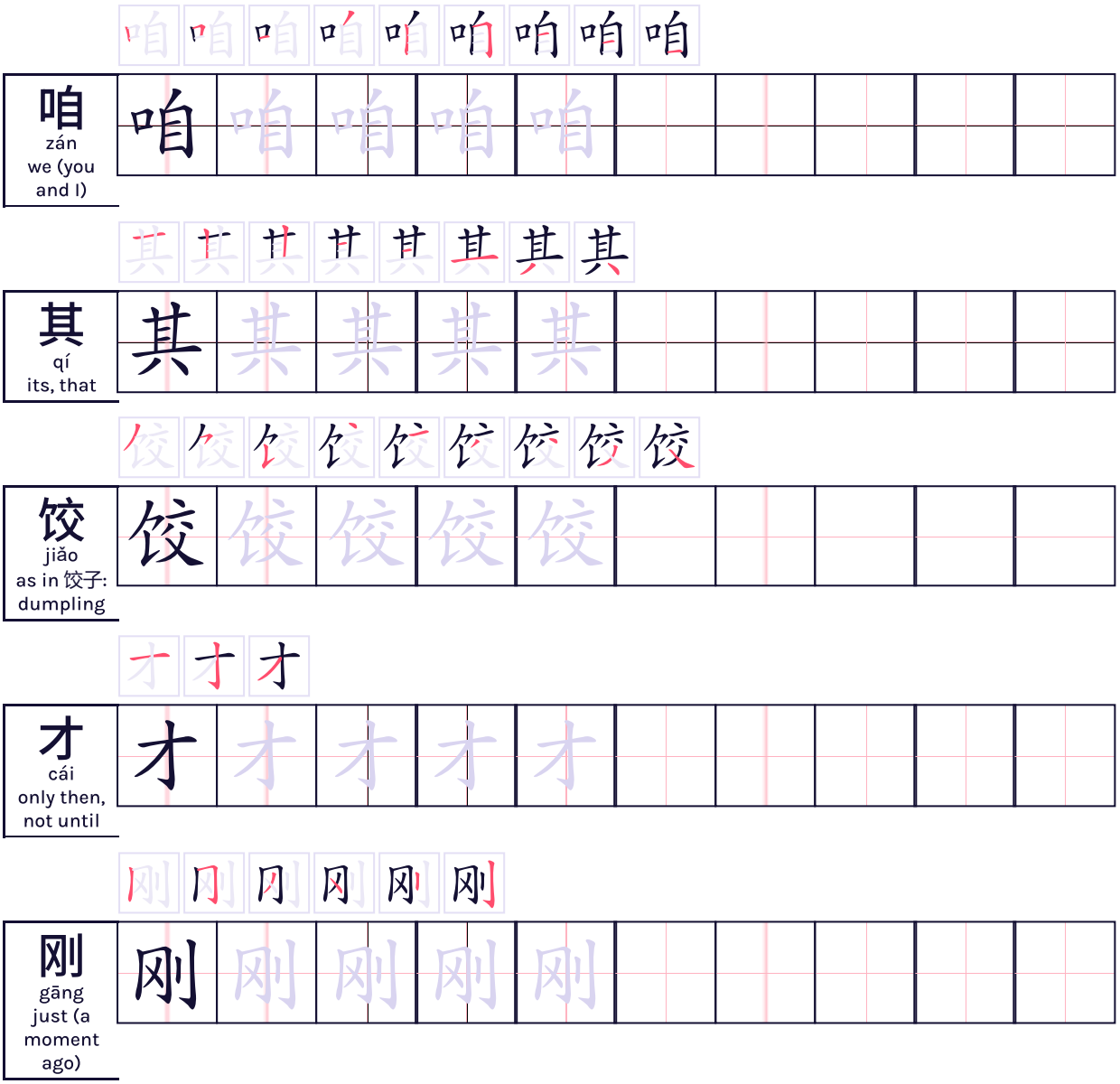
teacher wang 周末呢？你周末休息吗？
zhōumò ne nǐ zhōumò xiūxi ma · What about weekends? Do you rest?

anna 周末我才有时间。以前我常常跟小明出去玩，现在不常出去了。
zhōumò wǒ cái yǒu shíjiān yǐqián wǒ chángcháng gēn Xiǎomíng chūqù wán xiànzài bù cháng chūqù le · The weekend is my only free time. I used to go out with Xiaoming a lot; now I don’t often go out.

teacher wang 以后别总这么累。咱们先休息一下，然后上课吧。
yǐhòu bié zǒng zhème lèi zánmen xiān xiūxi yíxià ránhòu shàngkè ba · Don’t keep wearing yourself out. Let’s take a little break first, then start class.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

差
chà
to be short of; poor, bad



good to know · 又 looks back at a repeat that already happened (他又来晚了); 再 looks ahead (明天再来). 就 says “early, easily”, 才 says “late, not until”: 他八点就来了 (already at eight) / 他十点才来 (not until ten).

First, then, in the end: you can now tell a whole story about your day in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 3 what should i do?

Give and ask for advice: should, have to, must, no need, it's time to.

Advice is how friends and teachers show they care in China, and you'll hear 应该 and 得 every single day.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
应该	yīnggāi	should, ought to	你应该多休息。 You should rest more.
该	gāi	should; it's time to	十一|点了，该睡觉了。 It's eleven: time for bed.
需要	xūyào	to need; need	你需要帮忙吗? Do you need a hand?
愿意	yuànyì	to be willing, be happy to	你愿意帮我吗? Would you be willing to help me?
得	děi	must, have to (spoken)	我得{dei3}走了。 I have to go.
必须	bìxū	must	你必须去看病。 You must go and see a doctor.
不用	bùyòng	no need to	明天不用上班。 No work tomorrow.
不必	bùbì	need not	你不必今天来。 You don't need to come today.
只能	zhǐnéng	can only, have no choice but	下雨了，我们只能在家。 It's raining, so we can only stay in.
一定	yīdìng	definitely; must	你一定要来! You must come!
当然	dāngrán	of course	当然可以! Of course you can!
最好	zuìhǎo	had better; best	你最好别去。 You'd better not go.
大概	dàgài	probably; about	他大概不来了。 He probably isn't coming.
好像	hǎoxiàng	to seem, look like	他好像生病了。 He seems to be ill.
几乎	jīhū	almost, nearly	我几乎每天都喝茶。 I drink tea almost every day.
其实	qíshí	actually, in fact	其实我不喜欢咖啡。 Actually, I don't like coffee.
看来	kànlái	it seems, looks like	看来要下雨了。 Looks like it's going to rain.
终于	zhōngyú	finally, at last	我终于到家了! I'm finally home!

pattern 应该, 得, 需要, and 该……了

who | **应该 / 得 / 需要** | **verb**

These go before the verb: 应该 = should, 得 děi = have to (spoken), 必须 = must, 需要 = need to. “No need” is 不用 or 不必. 该……了 means “it’s time to…”.

你应该早一点儿睡觉。 **nǐ yīnggāi zǎo yìdiǎnr shuìjiào** You should go to bed a bit earlier.

我得走了。 **wǒ děi zǒu le** I have to go.

你不用来了。 **nǐ búyòng lái le** You don’t need to come.

十一点了，该睡觉了。 **shíyī diǎn le gāi shuìjiào le** It’s eleven: time for bed.

dialogue what should i do?

teacher wang 安娜，你好像很累。
Ānnà nǐ hǎoxiàng hěn lèi · Anna, you look tired.

anna 是啊。我住的房间离公司特别远，每天都得六点起床。
shì a wǒ zhù de fángjiān lí gōngsī tèbié yuǎn měi tiān dōu děi liù diǎn qǐchuáng · I am. My room is really far from the office, so I have to get up at six every day.

teacher wang 路上要多长时间?
lùshang yào duō cháng shíjiān · How long does the journey take?

anna 大概一个半小时。我几乎每天都很累。
dàgài yí gè bàn xiǎoshí wǒ jīhū měi tiān dōu hěn lèi · About an hour and a half. I’m tired almost every day.

teacher wang 在我看来，你应该找一个离公司近的房间。
zài wǒ kànlái nǐ yīnggāi zhǎo yí gè lí gōngsī jìn de fángjiān · In my view, you should find a room closer to work.

anna 其实我也想过，但是好房间都很贵，我只能住在那儿。
qíshí wǒ yě xiǎng guo dànshì hǎo fángjiān dōu hěn guì wǒ zhǐ néng zhù zài nàr · Actually I’ve thought about it, but good rooms are all expensive, so I’m stuck there.

teacher wang 你不必一个人找。我有一个朋友，她大概能帮你。
nǐ búbì yí gè rén zhǎo wǒ yǒu yí gè péngyou tā dàgài néng bāng nǐ · You don’t have to look on your own. I have a friend who can probably help.

anna 真的吗？她愿意帮我吗?
zhēn de ma tā yuànyì bāng wǒ ma · Really? Would she be willing to help me?

teacher wang 当然愿意！你最好先告诉我你想要怎样的房间。
dāngrán yuànyì nǐ zuìhǎo xiān gàosu wǒ nǐ xiǎng yào zěnyàng de fángjiān · Of course! You’d better tell me first what kind of room you want.

anna 太好了！谢谢老师！
tài hǎo le xièxie lǎoshī · Brilliant! Thank you!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

马

马 mǎ horse	马	马	马	马	马					



good to know · 不用 is the everyday “no need”; 不必 is a touch more formal. For “must not”, say 不能 or 别, never 不必. 得 děi is spoken. In writing people prefer 必须 or 需要.

Should, must, no need: you can now give a friend real advice, and take some too.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 4 four seasons

Talk about the seasons and the weather, and say how things change: more and more, the more... the more...

Weather is the safest small talk there is, and Beijing's four seasons give you plenty to say.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
春天	chūntiān	spring	北京的春天风很大。 Spring in Beijing is very windy.
夏天	xiàtiān	summer	夏天特别热。 Summer is really hot.
秋天	qiūtiān	autumn	我最喜欢秋天。 Autumn is my favourite.
冬天	dōngtiān	winter	冬天常常下雪。 It often snows in winter.
季节	jìjié	season	你最喜欢哪个季节? Which season do you like best?
季	jì	season (in compounds)	七月是北京的雨季。 July is Beijing's rainy season.
四季	sìjì	the four seasons	北京的四季很不一样。 Beijing's four seasons are very different.
风	fēng	wind	今天风很大。 It's very windy today.
刮	guā	to blow (wind); to scrape	外面刮风了。 The wind's picked up outside.
太阳	tàiyáng	the sun	今天太阳很大。 The sun's really strong today.
月亮	yuèliang	the moon	今天的月亮特别大。 The moon looks especially big tonight.
凉快	liángkuai	pleasantly cool	秋天很凉快。 Autumn is nice and cool.
冰	bīng	ice; iced	我要一杯冰咖啡。 I'd like an iced coffee.
越	yuè	the more... (越……越……)	天气越来越冷了。 It's getting colder and colder.
变	biàn	to change, become	天气变冷了。 The weather has turned cold.
变化	biànhuà	change; to change	北京的变化很大。 Beijing has changed a lot.
变成	biànchéng	to turn into	雨变成了雪。 The rain turned to snow.
伞	sǎn	umbrella	下雨了，别忘了伞! It's raining: don't forget your umbrella!

pattern 越来越 and 越……越……: more and more

thing	越来越	adjective	了

越来越 + adjective = more and more, often with 了 at the end. 越 A 越 B = the more A, the more B: 越看越喜欢 the more I look, the more I like it. Don't add 很: 越来越冷, not 越来越很冷.

天气越来越热了。 **tiānqì yuè lái yuè rè le** It's getting hotter and hotter.

你的汉语越来越好了！ **nǐ de Hànyǔ yuè lái yuè hǎo le** Your Chinese keeps getting better!

我越看越喜欢。 **wǒ yuè kàn yuè xǐhuan** The more I look at it, the more I like it.

今天一会儿刮风，一会儿下雨。 **jīntiān yíhuìr guā fēng yíhuìr xià yǔ** Today it's windy one minute and raining the next.

dialogue which season do you like?

grandma 安娜，你看，天气越来越冷了。
Ānnà nǐ kàn tiānqì yuè lái yuè lěng le · Look, Anna, it's getting colder and colder.

anna 是啊，天变冷了。上个月还特别热呢！
shì a tiān biàn lěng le shàng gè yuè hái tèbié rè ne · It has turned cold. Last month it was still really hot!

xiaoming 北京就是这样，四季变化特别大。七月是雨季，常常下雨。
Běijīng jiù shì zhèyàng sìjì biànhuà tèbié dà qī yuè shì yǔ jì chángcháng xià yǔ · That's Beijing: the seasons change a lot. July is the rainy season; it rains all the time.

anna 奶奶，您最喜欢哪个季节？
nǎinai nín zuì xǐhuan nǎge jìjié · Grandma, which season do you like best?

grandma 秋天！不冷不热，特别凉快。秋天的月亮也最漂亮。
qiūtiān bù lěng bú rè tèbié liángkuai qiūtiān de yuèliang yě zuì piàoliang · Autumn! Not cold, not hot, lovely and cool. And the autumn moon is the most beautiful.

xiaoming 我喜欢冬天。冬天下雪，我们可以出去玩雪。
wǒ xǐhuan dōngtiān dōngtiān xià xuě wǒmen kěyǐ chūqù wán xuě · I like winter. It snows, and we can go out and play in it.

anna 我最喜欢春天！
wǒ zuì xǐhuan chūntiān · Spring's my favourite!

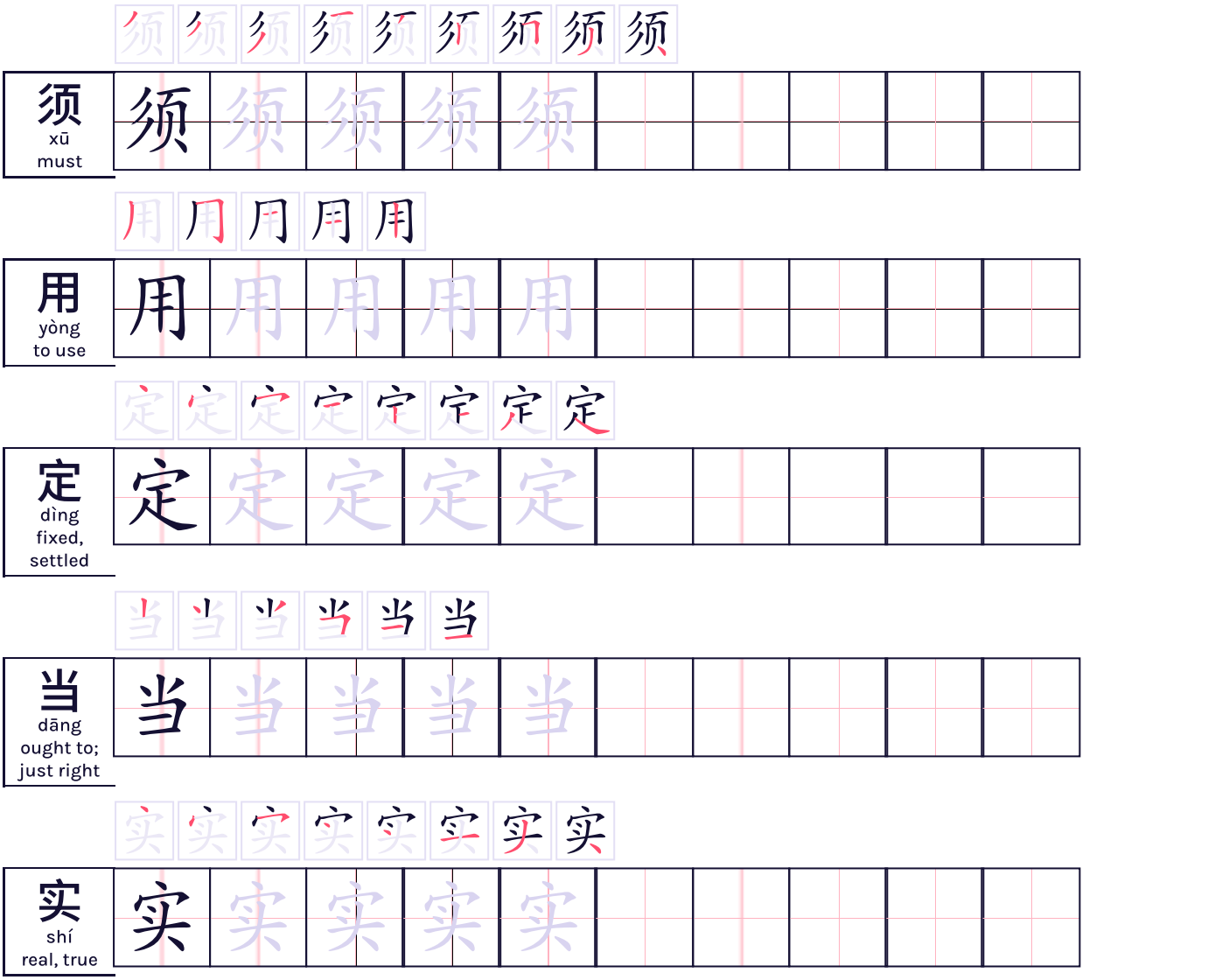
grandma 你们看，刮风了！
nǐmen kàn guā fēng le · Look, the wind's picking up!

xiaoming 今天一会儿刮风，一会儿下雨。奶奶，咱们回家吧。
jīntiān yíhuìr guā fēng yíhuìr xià yǔ nǎinai zánmen huí jiā ba · Windy one minute, rainy the next. Grandma, let's go home.

anna 下雨了！我有伞，咱们走吧！
xià yǔ le wǒ yǒu sǎn zánmen zǒu ba · It's raining! I've got an umbrella, let's go!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

必 bì certainly



good to know · In Chinese the wind “scrapes” (刮风) while rain and snow “come down” (下雨, 下雪). 凉快 is a happy word: pleasantly cool. For unpleasant cold, say 冷. New at HSK 3: 一会儿 before a verb means “in a moment”: 我一会儿就来, I’ll be there in a minute.

Small talk unlocked: you can chat about the weather with anyone, from a neighbour to a taxi driver. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 5 weekend plans

Make weekend plans with “if”, “as long as”, “only if” and “or”.

Every plan in China comes with a 如果: if it rains, if you’re free, if the queue is too long.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
如果	rúguǒ	if	如果下雨，我们就不去了。 If it rains, we won’t go.
的话	dehuà	if (at the end of a clause)	有时间的话，来我家吧。 If you have time, come round to mine.
可是	kěshì	but	我想去，可是我没时间。 I’d like to go, but I don’t have time.
可	kě	but (spoken)	他想来，可他太忙了。 He wants to come, but he’s too busy.
只要	zhǐyào	as long as	只要天气好，我们就去。 As long as the weather’s good, we’ll go.
只有	zhǐyǒu	only if; only	只有周末我才有时间。 I only have time at the weekend.
只	zhǐ	only, just	我只{zhi3}有十块钱。 I’ve only got ten yuan.
只是	zhǐshì	just, merely; it’s just that	我只是问问。 I’m just asking.
或者	huòzhě	or	喝茶或者咖啡都可以。 Tea or coffee, either is fine.
或	huò	or (short form)	星期六或星期天都可以。 Saturday or Sunday are both fine.
打算	dǎsuàn	to plan; plan	周末你打算做什么? What are you planning to do at the weekend?
决定	juédìng	to decide; decision	我决定明天去。 I’ve decided to go tomorrow.
一块儿	yīkuàir	together	咱们一块儿去吧! Let’s go together!
出发	chūfā	to set off	我们八点出发。 We set off at eight.
公园	gōngyuán	park	奶奶每天都去公园。 Grandma goes to the park every day.
草地	cǎodì	lawn, grass	孩子们在草地上玩。 The children are playing on the grass.
拍照	pāizhào	to take photos	这里不能拍照。 You can’t take photos here.
照片	zhàopiàn	photo	这是我家人的照片。 This is a photo of my family.

pattern 如果……，就…… and ……的话: if…, then…

如果 **condition** **，(subject) 就** **result**

如果 starts the “if” part, and 就 goes before the verb of the result. ……的话 at the end of the “if” part means the same, and the two often team up: 如果下雨的话. Close cousins: 只要……就…… (as long as) and 只有……才…… (only if). For “either…, or…”, put 或者 before both choices: 或者你来，或者我去.

如果下雨，我们就在家看电影。 **rúguǒ xià yǔ wǒmen jiù zài jiā kàn diànyǐng** If it rains, we’ll watch a film at home.

明天天气好的话，咱们去公园。 **míngtiān tiānqì hǎo dehuà zánmen qù gōngyuán** If the weather’s nice tomorrow, let’s go to the park.

只要你来，我就高兴。 **zhǐyào nǐ lái wǒ jiù gāoxìng** As long as you come, I’m happy.

只有周末我才有时间。 **zhǐyǒu zhōumò wǒ cái yǒu shíjiān** I only have time at the weekend.

dialogue park or cinema?

xiaoming 安娜，周末你打算做什么？
Ānnà zhōumò nǐ dǎsuàn zuò shénme · Anna, what are your plans for the weekend?

anna 还没决定。你呢？
hái méi juédìng nǐ ne · I haven’t decided yet. You?

xiaoming 我想跟妹妹去公园拍照。你想去的话，咱们一块儿去吧！
wǒ xiǎng gēn mèimei qù gōngyuán pāizhào nǐ xiǎng qù dehuà zánmen yíkuàir qù ba · I want to take my sister to the park to take photos. If you’d like to come, let’s go together!

anna 好啊！可是如果下雨呢？
hǎo a kěshì rúguǒ xià yǔ ne · Sure! But what if it rains?

xiaoming 如果下雨，我们就去看电影。
rúguǒ xià yǔ wǒmen jiù qù kàn diànyǐng · If it rains, we’ll go to the cinema.

little sister 只要不下雨，我们就去公园！我想在草地上玩。
zhǐyào bú xià yǔ wǒmen jiù qù gōngyuán wǒ xiǎng zài cǎodì shàng wán · As long as it doesn’t rain, we’re going to the park! I want to play on the grass.

anna 我们星期六去还是星期天去？
wǒmen xīngqīliù qù háishi xīngqītiān qù · Shall we go on Saturday or Sunday?

xiaoming 星期六或者星期天都可以。可我星期天下午有课。
xīngqīliù huòzhě xīngqītiān dōu kěyǐ kě wǒ xīngqītiān xiàwǔ yǒu kè · Either is fine. But I’ve got class on Sunday afternoon.

anna 那就星期六吧！只是我早上有点儿事，咱们十点出发，好吗？
nà jiù xīngqīliù ba zhǐshì wǒ zǎoshang yǒudiǎnr shì zánmen shí diǎn chūfā hǎo ma · Saturday, then! It’s just that I’ve got something on in the morning. Shall we set off at ten?

little sister 好！咱们在公园拍照，照片给奶奶看！
hǎo zánmen zài gōngyuán pāizhào zhàopiàn gěi nǎinai kàn · Yay! Let’s take photos in the park and show them to Grandma!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

于
yú
at



good to know · 就 goes after the subject in the result: 我们就去, not 就我们去. In statements “or” is 或者; in either-or questions it’s 还是: 星期六还是星期天?

If… then…, as long as…, only if…: your plans in Chinese can now bend with the weather.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 6 guess what happened

Tell news and surprises: not only... but also, although..., in order to, apart from.

Good news is better shared, and these linking words turn short sentences into a real story.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
不但	bùdàn	not only	他不但会说汉语，而且会写汉字。 He can not only speak Chinese, he can write characters too.
而且	érqiě	and also, what's more	这个房间很大，而且很便宜。 This room is big, and cheap too.
为了	wèile	in order to; for	为了学好汉语，她每天都听中文歌。 To get good at Chinese, she listens to Chinese songs every day.
为	wèi	for (someone)	我为你高兴！ I'm happy for you!
除了	chúle	apart from, except	除了小陈，大家都来了。 Everyone came except Xiao Chen.
以外	yǐwài	besides, other than	除了茶以外，奶奶也喜欢咖啡。 Besides tea, Grandma likes coffee too.
怎么办	zěnmebàn	what can we do?	我的手机坏了，怎么办? My phone's broken. What do I do?
办法	bànfǎ	way, method, solution	我有一个好办法！ I've got a good idea!
突然	tūrán	suddenly; sudden	突然下雨了。 Suddenly it started to rain.
发生	fāshēng	to happen	发生了什么事? What happened?
发现	fāxiàn	to discover, notice	我发现我的手机不见了！ I noticed my phone was gone!
相信	xiāngxìn	to believe, trust	我相信你！ I believe you!
认为	rènwéi	to think, be of the view	我认为这个办法不错。 I think this is a good way to do it.
以为	yǐwéi	to think (wrongly)	我以为你不来了！ I thought you weren't coming!
听说	tīngshuō	to hear (that)	听说你要去上海? I hear you're going to Shanghai?
半天	bàntiān	half a day; ages	我等了你半天！ I've been waiting for ages!
不久	bùjiǔ	soon, not long after	他不久就回来了。 He came back soon after.
久	jiǔ	long (time)	你等了多久? How long did you wait?

pattern 不但……，而且……: not only..., but also...

不但 | one thing | ，而且 | one more

不但 opens the first half, 而且 the second. With one subject, 不但 goes after it: 他不但会唱歌. For a contrast, use the pair 虽然……，可是……; unlike English, Chinese keeps both words.

这个房间不但大，而且便宜。 **zhège fángjiān búdàn dà érqiě piányi** This room is not only big but cheap too.

她不但会说汉语，而且会写汉字。 **tā búdàn huì shuō Hànyǔ érqiě huì xiě Hànzì** She can speak Chinese, and write characters too.

虽然很累，可是我很高兴。 **suīrán hěn lèi kěshì wǒ hěn gāoxìng** I'm tired, but I'm happy.

dialogue guess what happened!

xiao chen 安娜，你终于来了！我等了你很久。
Ānnà nǐ zhōngyú lái le wǒ děng le nǐ hěn jiǔ · Anna, at last! I've been waiting for ages.

anna 对不起！今天早上发生了一件特别好的事。
duìbuqǐ jīntiān zǎoshang fāshēng le yí jiàn tèbié hǎo de shì · Sorry! Something really good happened this morning.

xiao chen 什么事？你快说！
shénme shì nǐ kuài shuō · What? Tell me!

anna 我找到房间了！不但离公司近，而且很便宜。
wǒ zhǎo dào fángjiān le búdàn lí gōngsī jìn érqiě hěn piányi · I've found a room! It's not only close to work, it's cheap too.

xiao chen 真的？我以为北京的房间都很贵！
zhēn de wǒ yǐwéi Běijīng de fángjiān dōu hěn guì · Really? I thought every room in Beijing was expensive!

anna 我也是这么想的。为了帮我，王老师找了半天。
wǒ yě shì zhème xiǎng de wèile bāng wǒ Wánglǎoshī zhǎo le bàntiān · So did I. Teacher Wang spent ages looking, just to help me.

xiao chen 王老师真好！房间怎么样？
Wánglǎoshī zhēn hǎo fángjiān zěnmeyàng · How kind! What's the room like?

anna 虽然不大，可是很漂亮。除了超市以外，楼下还有一个饭馆！
suīrán bú dà kěshì hěn piàoliang chúle chāoshì yǐwài lóu xià hái yǒu yí gè fànguǎn · It's not big, but it's lovely. And downstairs there's a restaurant as well as a supermarket!

xiao chen 太好了，我为你高兴！我认为你应该马上决定。
tài hǎo le wǒ wèi nǐ gāoxìng wǒ rènwéi nǐ yīnggāi mǎshàng juédìng · Great, I'm happy for you! I think you should decide right away.

anna 我已经决定了！不久我就有新家了！
wǒ yǐjīng juédìng le bùjiǔ wǒ jiù yǒu xīn jiā le · I already have! Soon I'll have a new home!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

风 fēng wind



good to know · 我以为…… nearly always means “I thought…, but I was wrong”. For a plain opinion, use 我觉得 or 我认为. 除了……都…… means “except”; 除了……还/也…… means “as well as”.

Not only… but also…: your Chinese can now carry news, surprises and a little drama.
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