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# day 25 back to school

Chinese HSK 3 in 36 days
unit 5 · school & work

**Talk about school, classes and the things in your school bag, and say “everyone”, “nothing” and “nowhere”.**

A new term is a new start: classes, teachers, books and a lot of new faces.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 班级 | bānjí | class (a group of students) | 到了新班级，我谁都不认识。<br>In my new class I don’t know anyone. |
| 年级 | niánjí | year, grade (at school) | 你上几年级?<br>What year are you in? |
| 初中 | chūzhōng | junior high school | 我妹妹今年上初中了。<br>My little sister started junior high this year. |
| 学期 | xuéqī | term, semester | 新学期开始了。<br>The new term has started. |
| 校园 | xiàoyuán | campus, school grounds | 我们的校园很漂亮。<br>Our campus is beautiful. |
| 校长 | xiàozhǎng | head teacher, principal | 校长每天早上都在门口。<br>The head teacher is at the gate every morning. |
| 放学 | fàngxué | to finish school (for the day) | 放学以后你去哪儿?<br>Where are you going after school? |
| 迟到 | chídào | to be late | 对不起，我迟到了。<br>Sorry I’m late. |
| 黑板 | hēibǎn | blackboard | 老师在黑板上写字。<br>The teacher is writing on the blackboard. |
| 铅笔 | qiānbǐ | pencil | 你有铅笔吗?<br>Do you have a pencil? |
| 笔记 | bǐjì | notes | 能借我看看你的笔记吗?<br>Could I borrow your notes for a look? |
| 笔记本 | bǐjìběn | notebook; laptop | 我的笔记本在书包里。<br>My notebook is in my school bag. |
| 课本 | kèběn | textbook | 请打开课本。<br>Please open your textbooks. |
| 课文 | kèwén | text (of a lesson) | 今天的课文很有意思。<br>Today’s text is really interesting. |
| 字典 | zìdiǎn | character dictionary | 这个字我不认识，你有字典吗?<br>I don’t know this character. Do you have a dictionary? |
| 词典 | cídiǎn | dictionary (of words) | 我手机里有一个汉语词典。<br>I have a Chinese dictionary on my phone. |
| 纸 | zhǐ | paper | 能给我一张纸吗?<br>Could you give me a sheet of paper? |
| 页 | yè | page (measure word) | 请看第十页。<br>Please look at page 10. |

## pattern 谁都, 什么都, 哪儿也不: question words that don't ask

**谁 / 什么 / 哪儿** **都 / 也** **(不 / 没) + verb**

Put 都 or 也 after a question word and it stops asking: 谁都 is "everyone", 什么都 "everything", 哪儿都 "everywhere". Add 不 or 没 and it turns into "no one", "nothing", "nowhere". In a statement or a 吗 question, 什么 alone can mean "something". Two of the same question word can link two halves: 谁先到，谁就买票, whoever gets there first buys the tickets.

我们的校园很漂亮，谁都喜欢。 **wǒmen de xiàoyuán hěn piàoliang shéi dōu xǐhuan** Our campus is beautiful; everyone loves it.

黑板上什么也没有。 **hēibǎn shàng shénme yě méiyǒu** There's nothing on the blackboard.

我的词典里什么词都有。 **wǒ de cídiǎn lǐ shénme cí dōu yǒu** My dictionary has every word in it.

你想喝一点儿什么吗？ **nǐ xiǎng hē yìdiǎnr shénme ma** Would you like something to drink?

## dialogue the night before junior high

**little sister** 安娜姐姐，明天我就上初中了！
**Ānnà jiějie míngtiān wǒ jiù shàng chūzhōng le** · Anna, tomorrow I start junior high!

**anna** 真快！东西都准备好了吗？
**zhēn kuài dōngxi dōu zhǔnbèi hǎo le ma** · That came fast! Have you got everything ready?

**little sister** 课本、笔记本、铅笔，什么都有了。可是我有点儿担心。
**kèběn bǐjìběn qiānbǐ shénme dōu yǒu le kěshì wǒ yǒudiǎnr dānxīn** · Textbooks, notebooks, pencils: I've got everything. But I'm a bit worried.

**anna** 担心什么呢？
**dānxīn shénme ne** · What are you worried about?

**little sister** 到了新班级，我谁都不认识。我怕没有人跟我说话。
**dào le xīn bānjí wǒ shéi dōu bú rènshi wǒ pà méiyǒu rén gēn wǒ shuōhuà** · In my new class I don't know anyone. I'm scared nobody will talk to me.

**anna** 别担心。第一天，大家谁也不认识谁。
**bié dānxīn dì yī tiān dàjiā shéi yě bú rènshi shéi** · Don't worry. On the first day, nobody knows anybody.

**little sister** 我还听说，校长每天早上都在学校门口。
**wǒ hái tīngshuō xiàozhǎng měi tiān zǎoshang dōu zài xuéxiào ménkǒu** · I've also heard the head teacher is at the school gate every morning.

**anna** 那你明天早一点儿出门，不要迟到！
**nà nǐ míngtiān zǎo yìdiǎnr chūmén búyào chídào** · Then leave a bit earlier tomorrow, and don't be late!

**little sister** 放心吧！我六点半就起床。
**fàngxīn ba wǒ liù diǎn bàn jiù qǐchuáng** · Don't worry! I'm getting up at half past six.

**anna** 好！明天谁先起床，谁就去买早饭！
**hǎo míngtiān shéi xiān qǐchuáng shéi jiù qù mǎi zǎofàn** · Deal! Tomorrow, whoever gets up first goes and buys breakfast!

## write it trace the grey, then write your own

急
jí
urgent; anxious

怕
pà
to fear, be afraid of

哭
kū
to cry

受
shòu
to receive; to bear, stand

响
xiǎng
sound, echo

**good to know** · Chinese schools: 小学 primary (6 years), 初中 junior high (3 years), 高中 senior high (3 years) in most places. Question word + 都 is positive (谁都来了 everyone came); question word + 也/都 + 不/没 is negative (谁也没来 no one came).

**Now you can talk about school life and say “everyone”, “nothing” and “nowhere” like a native.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 26 in class

**Follow a class: ask about sentences, say you don't get it "at all", and stress a point with 不是……吗?**

In any class, the most useful words are the ones you say when you're lost.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 句 | jù | measure word for sentences, lines | 我一句也没听懂。<br>I didn't understand a single sentence. |
| 句子 | jùzi | sentence | 这个句子是什么意思?<br>What does this sentence mean? |
| 段 | duàn | section, passage (measure word) | 请读一下这段课文。<br>Please read this passage. |
| 讲 | jiǎng | to explain, tell, talk about | 王老师讲得很清楚。<br>Teacher Wang explains things very clearly. |
| 回答 | huídá | to answer | 请回答我的问题。<br>Please answer my question. |
| 对话 | duìhuà | conversation, dialogue | 我们一起练习这个对话吧。<br>Let's practise this dialogue together. |
| 练 | liàn | to practise, train | 我每天都练汉字。<br>I practise characters every day. |
| 练习 | liànxí | to practise; exercise | 我们多练习说汉语吧。<br>Let's practise speaking Chinese more. |
| 复习 | fùxí | to revise, review | 考试以前，我得{dei3}好好复习。<br>I need to revise properly before the exam. |
| 作业 | zuòyè | homework | 今天的作业一点儿也不难。<br>Today's homework isn't hard at all. |
| 记 | jì | to note down; to remember | 请把这个词记在笔记本上。<br>Please write this word down in your notebook. |
| 忘记 | wàngjì | to forget | 我忘记带作业了!<br>I forgot to bring my homework! |
| 明白 | míngbai | to understand; clear | 我明白了，谢谢您!<br>I get it now, thank you! |
| 清楚 | qīngchu | clear; to know clearly | 我没听清楚，请再说一遍。<br>I didn't hear that clearly. Please say it again. |
| 懂得 | dǒngde | to understand, know (how to) | 好老师懂得怎样帮助学生。<br>A good teacher knows how to help students. |
| 了解 | liǎojiě | to know about, understand (well) | 我想多了解中国。<br>I'd like to get to know China better. |
| 难 | nán | difficult, hard | 汉字难不难?<br>Are Chinese characters hard? |
| 难题 | nántí | difficult problem | 这个难题，我想了半天也不会。<br>I thought about this hard problem for ages |

and still couldn't do it.

## pattern 一……也不/没: not a single…; 一点儿也不: not at all

一 + measure word + thing | 也 / 都 | 不 / 没 | verb

For "not a single one", put 一 + measure word (+ thing) before 也 or 都, then 不 or 没: 一个人也没来, "not one person came". For "not at all", use 一点儿也不 + adjective: 一点儿也不难. And 不是……吗？ is a question that stresses what you think is true: 你不是知道吗？ "Don't you know?"

今天的作业一点儿也不难。 **jīntiān de zuòyè yìdiǎnr yě bù nán** Today's homework isn't hard at all.

上课的时候，他一个问题也没回答。 **shàngkè de shíhou tā yí gè wèntí yě méi huídá** He didn't answer a single question in class.

你不是记在笔记本上了吗？ **nǐ bú shì jì zài bǐjìběn shàng le ma** Didn't you write it down in your notebook?

## dialogue a hard passage

**teacher wang** 安娜，请你回答一下：这个句子是什么意思？
**Ānnà qǐng nǐ huídá yíxià zhège jùzi shì shénme yìsi** · Anna, could you answer this: what does this sentence mean?

**anna** 对不起，王老师，我一点儿也不明白。
**duìbuqǐ Wánglǎoshī wǒ yìdiǎnr yě bù míngbai** · Sorry, Teacher Wang, I don't understand it at all.

**teacher wang** 你昨天不是复习了吗？
**nǐ zuótiān bú shì fùxí le ma** · Didn't you revise yesterday?

**anna** 复习了，可是这段课文太难了，我一句也没记住。
**fùxí le kěshì zhè duàn kèwén tài nán le wǒ yí jù yě méi jì zhù** · I did, but this passage is so hard I didn't remember a single sentence.

**teacher wang** 别着急，我再讲一遍。
**bié zháojí wǒ zài jiǎng yí biàn** · Don't worry, I'll explain it again.

**teacher wang** 现在明白了吗？
**xiànzài míngbai le ma** · Do you get it now?

**anna** 明白了！您讲得真清楚。
**míngbai le nín jiǎng de zhēn qīngchu** · Yes! You explain things so clearly.

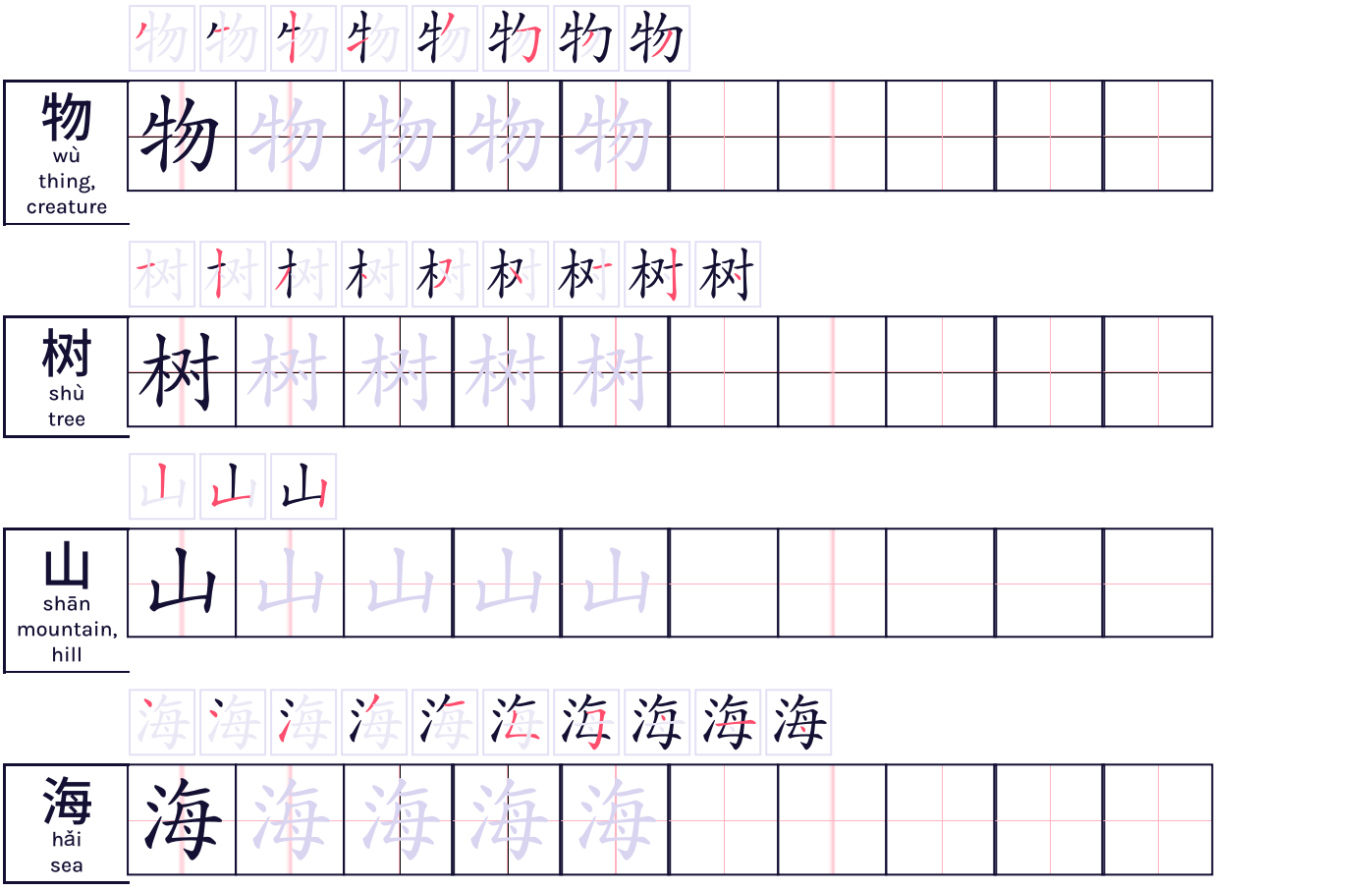
**teacher wang** 学汉语不能只看书，要多练习对话。
**xué Hànyǔ bù néng zhǐ kàn shū yào duō liànxí duìhuà** · Learning Chinese isn't just reading books: you need to practise conversations a lot.

**anna** 好，我回家就练！
**hǎo wǒ huí jiā jiù liàn** · OK, I'll practise as soon as I get home!

**teacher wang** 对！只有每天练，才能越说越好。
**duì zhǐyǒu měi tiān liàn cái néng yuè shuō yuè hǎo** · Right! Only if you practise every day will you keep getting better.

## write it trace the grey, then write your own

助
zhù
to assist




**good to know** · 明白 and 懂: understand what's said. 了解: know a person or a situation well. 懂得: grasp a truth, know how. 不是……吗？ isn't a real question: 你不是复习了吗？ means "you revised, didn't you? (so why…?)".

**Today you learned to say "I don't get it at all" and "not a single word": honest sentences that help you learn faster.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 27 learning languages



**Talk about school subjects and learning languages, give your view with 对我来说 and 一般来说.**

Everyone in China will ask how you learn Chinese, and they love a good answer.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 数学 | shùxué | maths | 我最喜欢数学。<br>Maths is my favourite subject. |
| 历史 | lìshǐ | history | 北京的历史很长。<br>Beijing has a long history. |
| 外语 | wàiyǔ | foreign language | 学外语很有意思。<br>Learning a foreign language is really interesting. |
| 语言 | yǔyán | language | 你会说几种语言?<br>How many languages can you speak? |
| 文化 | wénhuà | culture | 我对中国文化很感兴趣。<br>I'm very interested in Chinese culture. |
| 留学 | liúxué | to study abroad | 小明打算去英国留学。<br>Xiaoming is planning to study in the UK. |
| 留学生 | liúxuéshēng | international student | 我们学校有很多留学生。<br>There are lots of international students at our school. |
| 来自 | láizì | to come from | 我来自英国。<br>I'm from the UK. |
| 努力 | nǔlì | to work hard; hard-working | 只要努力，你一定能学好。<br>As long as you work hard, you'll definitely learn it well. |
| 认真 | rènzhēn | serious, careful, conscientious | 她学习很认真。<br>She studies very conscientiously. |
| 容易 | róngyì | easy | 说汉语容易，写汉字难。<br>Speaking Chinese is easy; writing characters is hard. |
| 成绩 | chéngjì | results, grades | 这次考试，我的成绩不错。<br>My results in this exam were pretty good. |
| 水平 | shuǐpíng | level, standard | 你的汉语水平越来越高了。<br>Your Chinese is getting better and better. |
| 提高 | tígāo | to improve, raise | 我想提高我的汉语水平。<br>I want to improve my Chinese. |
| 得到 | dédào | to get, receive, gain | 我在这里得到了很多帮助。<br>I've had a lot of help here. |
| 比如 | bǐrú | for example | 我喜欢运动，比如跑步和游泳。<br>I like sport, for example running and swimming. |
| 方法 | fāngfǎ | method, way | 你学汉语的方法真好。<br>Your way of learning Chinese is really good. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 重要 | zhòngyào | important | 身体健康最重要。<br>Good health is the most important thing. |

## pattern 对……来说: for someone; 一般来说: generally speaking

对 | someone | 来说 | , your view

对 + someone + 来说 means “for someone, as far as they’re concerned”. 一般来说 means “generally speaking”. Both go at the start. An action can be the subject too (学外语很有意思), and 是……的 around an opinion makes it sound sure: 这个方法是很好的.

对留学生来说，最难的是汉字。 **duì liúxuéshēng lái shuō zuì nán de shì Hànzì** For international students, the hardest thing is the characters.

一般来说，认真的学生成绩都不错。 **yìbān lái shuō rènzhēn de xuéshēng chéngjì dōu búcuò** Generally speaking, conscientious students get good grades.

对他来说，考试成绩不是最重要的。 **duì tā lái shuō kǎoshì chéngjì bú shì zuì zhòngyào de** For him, exam results aren’t the most important thing.

## dialogue how do you learn a language?

**xiaoming** 安娜，我打算明年去英国留学。
**Ānnà wǒ dǎsuàn míngnián qù Yīngguó liúxué** · Anna, I’m planning to study in the UK next year.

**anna** 真的？太好了！你去学什么？
**zhēn de tài hǎo le nǐ qù xué shénme** · Really? That’s great! What are you going to study?

**xiaoming** 学历史。可是我的外语水平不太高。
**xué lìshǐ kěshì wǒ de wàiyǔ shuǐpíng bú tài gāo** · History. But my foreign language isn’t very good.

**anna** 别担心。对你来说，最重要的是多听多说。
**bié dānxīn duì nǐ lái shuō zuì zhòngyào de shì duō tīng duō shuō** · Don’t worry. For you, the most important thing is to listen and speak a lot.

**xiaoming** 你有什么好方法吗？你的汉语提高得特别快。
**nǐ yǒu shénme hǎo fāngfǎ ma nǐ de Hànyǔ tígāo de tèbié kuài** · Do you have any good methods? Your Chinese has improved so fast.

**anna** 比如，我每天跟刘阿姨聊天儿，还看中国电影。
**bǐrú wǒ měi tiān gēn Liúāyí liáotiānr hái kàn Zhōngguó diànyǐng** · For example, I chat with Auntie Liu every day, and I watch Chinese films.

**xiaoming** 一般来说，留学生都在学校学，你在生活里学！
**yìbān lái shuō liúxuéshēng dōu zài xuéxiào xué nǐ zài shēnghuó lǐ xué** · Usually international students learn at school; you learn from everyday life!

**anna** 对！我觉得在生活里学语言是很有意思的。
**duì wǒ juéde zài shēnghuó lǐ xué yǔyán shì hěn yǒu yìsi de** · Right! I think learning a language from everyday life is really fun.

**xiaoming** 那我也得努力了。
**nà wǒ yě děi nǔlì le** · Then I’d better work hard too.

**anna** 在我看来，你一定能学好！
**zài wǒ kànlái nǐ yídìng néng xué hǎo** · The way I see it, you’ll do really well!

## write it trace the grey, then write your own

河
hé
river



闻
wén
to hear; what is heard



报
bào
to report



纸
zhǐ
paper



活
huó
alive; to live



**good to know** · An action can be a subject as it is: 学外语很有意思 “learning a foreign language is interesting”. No extra word needed. 是……的 around an opinion makes it firm and calm: 学语言是不容易的 “learning a language is not easy, that’s for sure”. New at HSK 3: 点 can mean a “point” in what you say: 这一点很重要, this point is important.

**Now you can say what you think about learning, and give examples: real conversation, not just answers.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 28 at the office

**Get through a day at the office: meetings, colleagues, time off, and people words ending in 家 and 员.**

Office Chinese is everywhere: emails, meetings and asking for a day off.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 办公室 | bàngōngshì | office | 经理在办公室吗?<br>Is the manager in the office? |
| 同事 | tóngshì | colleague | 小陈是我的同事。<br>Xiao Chen is my colleague. |
| 经理 | jīnglǐ | manager | 我们的经理很年轻。<br>Our manager is very young. |
| 会 | huì | meeting | 下午有一个会{hui4-3}。<br>There's a meeting this afternoon. |
| 会议 | huìyì | meeting, conference | 这个会议很重要。<br>This meeting is very important. |
| 开会 | kāihuì | to have a meeting | 经理正在开会。<br>The manager is in a meeting. |
| 工作日 | gōngzuòrì | working day, weekday | 工作日我很忙，周末才有时间。<br>I'm busy on weekdays; I only have time at weekends. |
| 请假 | qǐngjià | to ask for time off | 我明天想请假，可以吗?<br>Could I take a day off tomorrow? |
| 办 | bàn | to do, handle, deal with | 我下午得{dei3}去银行办事。<br>I have to go to the bank this afternoon to sort something out. |
| 干 | gàn | to do (casual) | 你在干什么呢?<br>What are you up to? |
| 员 | yuán | -er, person (word ending) | 饭馆里的服务员很热情。<br>The waiters in the restaurant are very friendly. |
| 子 | zi | noun ending (no tone) | 这双鞋子很舒服。<br>These shoes are very comfortable. |
| 名单 | míngdān | list of names | 你的名字在名单上。<br>Your name is on the list. |
| 参加 | cānjiā | to take part in, attend | 你参加明天的会议吗?<br>Are you coming to tomorrow's meeting? |
| 机会 | jīhuì | chance, opportunity | 这是一个很好的机会。<br>This is a great opportunity. |
| 解决 | jiějué | to solve, settle | 这个问题我来解决。<br>I'll sort this problem out. |
| 结束 | jiéshù | to end, finish | 会议几点结束?<br>What time does the meeting end? |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 根据 | gēnjù | according to; basis | 根据这个名单，一共有十个人。<br>According to this list, there are ten people in all. |

## pattern word endings: —家, —员, —子

**a skill or a thing** | **家 / 员 / 子** | **= a person or an everyday noun**

Some endings turn a word into a person or a thing. —家 is an expert or an artist (画家 painter, 音乐家 musician), —员 is a person doing a job (服务员 waiter, 运动员 athlete), and —子 ends many everyday nouns, with no tone (鞋子 shoes, 日子 days).

这家饭馆的服务员都很热情。 **zhè jiā fànguǎn de fúwù yuán dōu hěn rèqíng** The waiters at this restaurant are all very friendly.

这双鞋子穿着很舒服。 **zhè shuāng xié zi chuān zhe hěn shūfu** These shoes are comfortable to wear.

日子过得真快！ **rì zi guò de zhēn kuài** Time flies!

## dialogue a meeting and a chance

**xiao chen** 安娜，你知道吗？下午两点要开会。
**Ānnà nǐ zhīdào ma xiàwǔ liǎng diǎn yào kāihuì** · Anna, did you know? There's a meeting at two this afternoon.

**anna** 什么会？
**shénme huì** · What meeting?

**xiao chen** 经理想跟大家一起解决新网站的问题。
**jīnglǐ xiǎng gēn dàjiā yìqǐ jiějué xīn wǎngzhàn de wèntí** · The manager wants us all to solve the problem with the new website together.

**anna** 可是我下午得去银行办事。我能请假吗？
**kěshì wǒ xiàwǔ děi qù yínháng bàn shì wǒ néng qǐngjià ma** · But I have to go to the bank this afternoon. Can I take the time off?

**xiao chen** 根据名单，你一定要参加。这是一个好机会！
**gēnjù míngdān nǐ yídìng yào cānjiā zhè shì yí gè hǎo jīhuì** · According to the list, you have to be there. It's a great chance!

**anna** 什么机会？
**shénme jīhuì** · What chance?

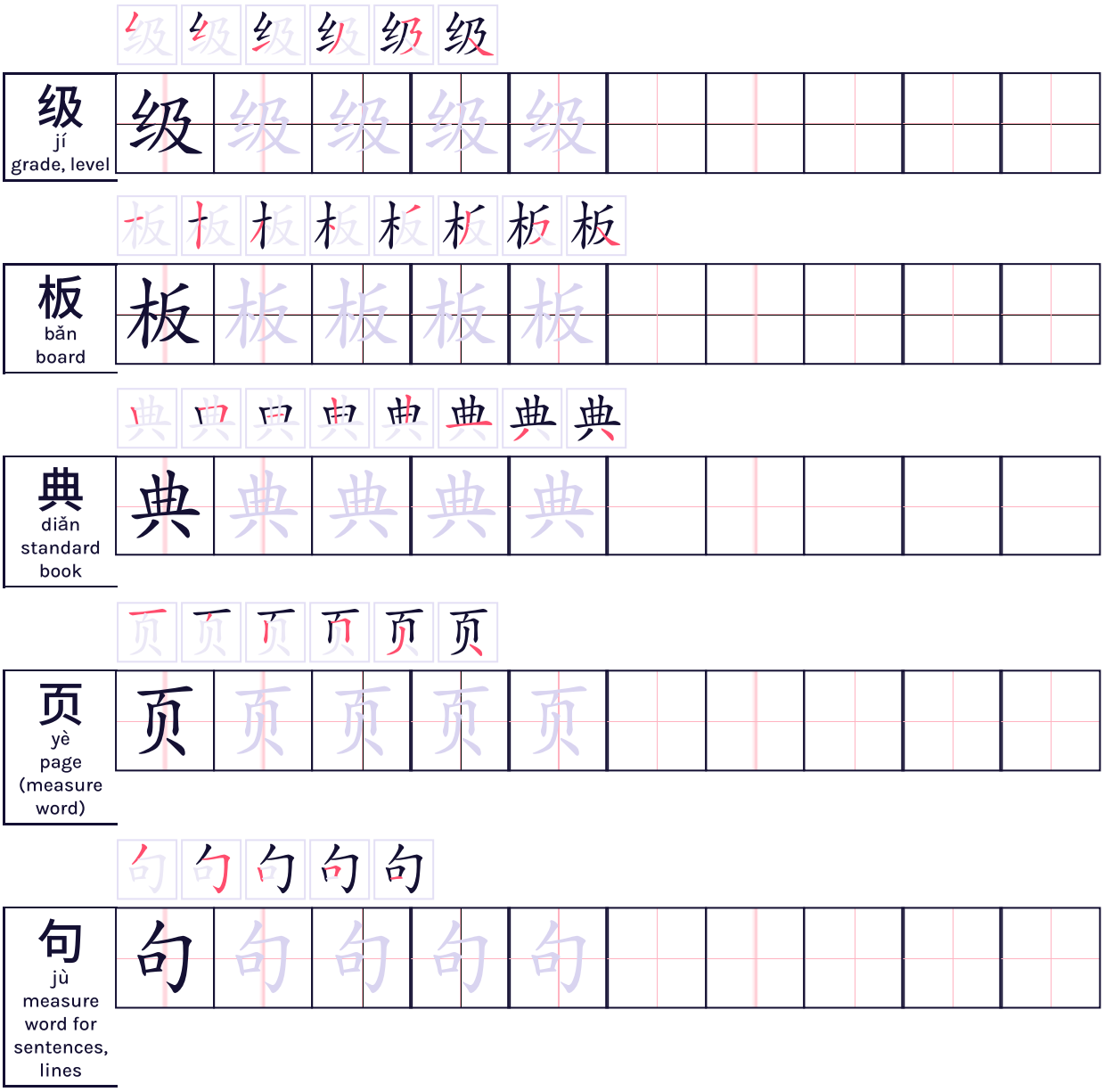
**xiao chen** 经理说，谁的办法好，谁就去上海工作一个月。
**jīnglǐ shuō shéi de bànfǎ hǎo shéi jiù qù Shànghǎi gōngzuò yí gè yuè** · The manager says whoever has the best idea gets to work in Shanghai for a month.

**anna** 真的吗？那我今天在办公室好好干！
**zhēn de ma nà wǒ jīntiān zài bàngōngshì hǎo hǎo gàn** · Really? Then I'm going to work really hard in the office today!

**xiao chen** 会议四点结束，你还有时间去银行。
**huìyì sì diǎn jiéshù nǐ hái yǒu shíjiān qù yínháng** · The meeting ends at four, so you'll still have time for the bank.

**anna** 太好了！去上海的日子一定很有意思！
**tài hǎo le qù Shànghǎi de rì zi yídìng hěn yǒu yìsi** · Great! Those days in Shanghai would be so much fun!

## write it trace the grey, then write your own




**good to know** · 根据 + information: 根据天气 “depending on the weather”, 根据名单 “according to the list”. It is a little formal, great for work. 干 is the casual “do”: 你在干什么？ With your manager, 做 is safer. New at HSK 3: 家 “home” also ends words for experts and artists: 画家, 音乐家. 子 does the same for everyday things: 鞋子, 日子.

**Meetings, colleagues and a day off: you can now get through a real working day in Chinese.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 29 mail & messages



**Send and receive emails and letters, take a call, and say “from … on” and “until”.**

Messages are half of modern life, at work and at home.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 邮件 | yóujiàn | email; mail | 你收到我的邮件了吗?<br>Did you get my email? |
| 邮箱 | yóuxiāng | inbox, email address; mailbox | 我的邮箱里有很多邮件。<br>There are lots of emails in my inbox. |
| 信 | xìn | letter; to believe | 我给奶奶写了一封信。<br>I wrote Grandma a letter. |
| 封 | fēng | measure word for letters | 我收到了一封信。<br>I got a letter. |
| 发 | fā | to send | 我马上给你发邮件。<br>I’ll email you right away. |
| 收到 | shōudào | to receive | 收到，谢谢!<br>Got it, thanks! |
| 接 | jiē | to answer (a call); to pick up | 我去机场接你。<br>I’ll pick you up at the airport. |
| 查 | chá | to check, look up | 我查一下邮箱。<br>Let me check my inbox. |
| 主要 | zhǔyào | main, chief | 这封邮件主要讲什么?<br>What is this email mainly about? |
| 发展 | fāzhǎn | to develop, grow | 这个城市发展得很快。<br>This city is developing very fast. |
| 行 | xíng | OK, all right; capable | 明天见面，行吗?<br>Shall we meet tomorrow, OK? |
| 直到 | zhídào | until | 我一直等，直到他回来。<br>I kept waiting until he came back. |
| 安全 | ānquán | safe | 晚上回家，注意安全!<br>Get home safely tonight! |
| 起 | qǐ | to rise; from (with 从) | 从今天起，我每天跑步。<br>From today on, I’m going running every day. |

## pattern 从……起: from … on

从 a time 起 , what starts

从……起 means “from … on”: it marks the moment something starts and keeps going. 从明天起 is “from tomorrow on”. 从……开始 means the same and is a little more spoken.

从今天起，我不喝咖啡了。 **cóng jīntiān qǐ wǒ bù hē kāfēi le** From today on, I’m giving up coffee.

从那天起，我们就是好朋友了。 **cóng nà tiān qǐ wǒmen jiù shì hǎo péngyou le** From that day on, we were good friends.

## dialogue the missing email

**xiao chen** 安娜，经理让我问你，你收到他的邮件了吗？
**Ānnà jīnglǐ ràng wǒ wèn nǐ nǐ shōudào tā de yóujiàn le ma** · Anna, the manager asked me to check: did you get his email?

**anna** 没有啊。我刚才查了邮箱，什么也没有。
**méiyǒu a wǒ gāngcái chá le yóuxiāng shénme yě méiyǒu** · No. I checked my inbox just now and there’s nothing.

**xiao chen** 那我再给你发一次。
**nà wǒ zài gěi nǐ fā yí cì** · Then I’ll send it to you again.

**anna** 行。邮件主要讲什么？
**xíng yóujiàn zhǔyào jiǎng shénme** · OK. What’s the email mainly about?

**xiao chen** 从下个月起，公司要在上海发展，需要人去那边工作。
**cóng xià gè yuè qǐ gōngsī yào zài Shànghǎi fāzhǎn xūyào rén qù nàbiān gōngzuò** · From next month the company is expanding into Shanghai, and it needs people to work there.

**anna** 等一下，我先接个电话。
**děng yíxià wǒ xiān jiē gè diànhuà** · Hang on, let me take this call first.

**anna** 是刘阿姨。她说楼下有我的一封信。
**shì Liúāyí tā shuō lóu xià yǒu wǒ de yì fēng xìn** · It was Auntie Liu. She says there’s a letter for me downstairs.

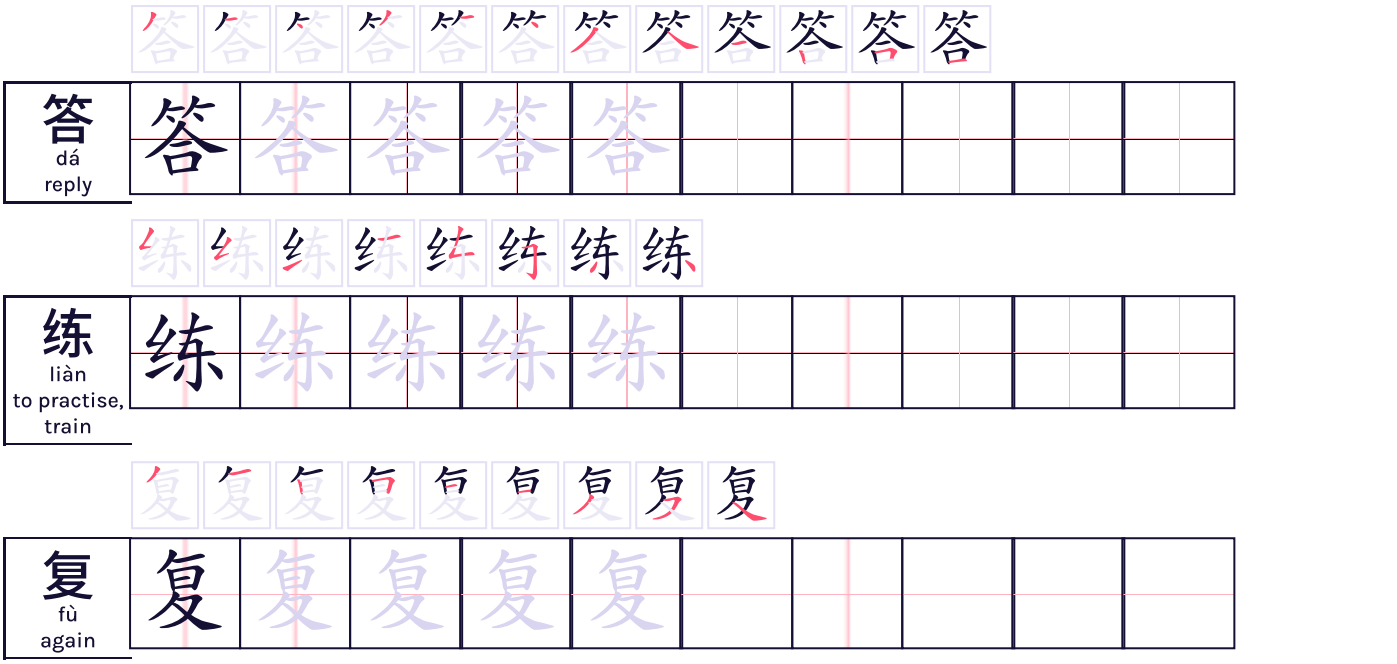
**xiao chen** 现在谁还写信啊？
**xiànzài shéi hái xiě xìn a** · Who still writes letters these days?

**anna** 我妈妈！她觉得信比邮件有意思。
**wǒ māma tā juéde xìn bǐ yóujiàn yǒu yìsi** · My mum! She thinks letters are nicer than emails.

## write it trace the grey, then write your own

段
duàn
section, passage (measure word)

讲
jiǎng
to explain, tell, talk about




**good to know** · 收到！ on its own is the standard reply to a work message: “Got it!” 直到……才…… is “not until”: 直到十点他才来 “he didn’t come until ten”.

**Emails, calls and letters: you can now keep in touch in Chinese, from today on.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 30 mission: exam week



**Get through an exam week in Chinese: revise, ask for time off, sit the exam and celebrate the results.**

One busy week brings together everything from school and work.

## chapter 1 revising together

**xiaoming** 安娜，你的考试是星期几?
**Ānnà nǐ de kǎoshì shì xīngqī jǐ** · Anna, what day is your exam?

**anna** 星期五。可是我什么都没复习，课文一段也记不住。
**xīngqīwǔ kěshì wǒ shénme dōu méi fùxí kèwén yí duàn yě jì bu zhù** · Friday. But I haven't revised anything, and I can't remember a single passage.

**xiaoming** 别着急。一般来说，先看笔记，再做练习。
**bié zháojí yìbān lái shuō xiān kàn bǐjì zài zuò liànxí** · Don't panic. Generally, you look at your notes first, then do exercises.

**anna** 我的笔记本里都是王老师讲的句子，可是很多字我都忘记了。
**wǒ de bǐjìběn lǐ dōu shì Wánglǎoshī jiǎng de jùzi kěshì hěn duō zì wǒ dōu wàngjì le** · My notebook is full of sentences Teacher Wang explained, but I've forgotten lots of the characters.

**xiaoming** 不明白的字可以查词典。你带字典了吗?
**bù míngbai de zì kěyǐ chá cídiǎn nǐ dài zìdiǎn le ma** · You can look up the ones you don't understand. Did you bring your character dictionary?

**anna** 带了，还有课本和铅笔。你的方法总是很有用。
**dài le hái yǒu kèběn hé qiānbǐ nǐ de fāngfǎ zǒngshì hěn yǒuyòng** · Yes, and my textbook and a pencil. Your methods are always useful.

**xiaoming** 对我来说，最难的是数学。你的汉语水平已经很高了!
**duì wǒ lái shuō zuì nán de shì shùxué nǐ de Hànyǔ shuǐpíng yǐjīng hěn gāo le** · For me, the hardest thing is maths. Your Chinese is already really good!

**anna** 不是吧? 你不是说我的汉字写得很难看吗?
**bú shì ba nǐ bú shì shuō wǒ de Hànzì xiě de hěn nánkàn ma** · Come on. Didn't you say my characters look terrible?

**xiaoming** 那是去年! 现在你写得越来越好了。
**nà shì qùnián xiànzài nǐ xiě de yuè lái yuè hǎo le** · That was last year! Now you're writing better and better.

**anna** 好，从今天起，我每天复习三个小时，直到考试那天。
**hǎo cóng jīntiān qǐ wǒ měi tiān fùxí sān gè xiǎoshí zhídào kǎoshì nà tiān** · OK, from today on I'll revise for three hours a day, right up to the exam.

**xiaoming** 这个练习一共有十页，我们先做第一页吧。
**zhège liànxí yígòng yǒu shí yè wǒmen xiān zuò dì yī yè ba** · This exercise is ten pages long. Let's start with page one.

## chapter 2 the last class

**teacher wang** 下课以前，我讲一下考试的事。大家听清楚：
**xiàkè yǐqián wǒ jiǎng yíxià kǎoshì de shì dàjiā tīng qīngchu** · Before we finish, a word about the exam. Listen carefully, everyone:

**teacher wang** “这个学期的汉语考试在星期五上午九点。考试的时候不能用词典，手机必须关机。考试主要考课文和对话，也有几个关于中国历史和文化的问题。”
**zhège xuéqī de Hànyǔ kǎoshì zài xīngqīwǔ shàngwǔ jiǔ diǎn kǎoshì de shíhou bù néng yòng cídiǎn shǒujī bìxū guānjī kǎoshì zhǔyào kǎo kèwén hé duìhuà yě yǒu jǐ gè guānyú Zhōngguó lìshǐ hé wénhuà de wèntí** · “This term’s Chinese exam is on Friday at 9 am. No dictionaries in the exam, and phones must be switched off. It mainly tests the texts and dialogues, and there are also a few questions on Chinese history and culture.”

**teacher wang** 时间和地点我写在黑板上了，大家记一下。
**shíjiān hé dìdiǎn wǒ xiě zài hēibǎn shàng le dàjiā jì yíxià** · I’ve written the time and place on the blackboard: note them down.

**anna** 王老师，我们要回答多少个问题？作业也要复习吗？
**Wánglǎoshī wǒmen yào huídá duōshao gè wèntí zuòyè yě yào fùxí ma** · Teacher Wang, how many questions do we have to answer? Should we revise the homework too?

**teacher wang** 一共五十个。作业里的难题，考试的时候也会有。
**yígòng wǔshí gè zuòyè lǐ de nántí kǎoshì de shíhou yě huì yǒu** · Fifty in all. The hard questions in the homework will come up in the exam too.

**anna** 对留学生来说，最难的是汉字。
**duì liúxuéshēng lái shuō zuì nán de shì Hànzì** · For international students, the hardest part is the characters.

**teacher wang** 我们班级的十个留学生来自八个国家，大家都很努力。最后说一句：别担心，只要多练，一点儿也不难。
**wǒmen bānjí de shí gè liúxuéshēng láizì bā gè guójiā dàjiā dōu hěn nǔlì zuìhòu shuō yí jù bié dānxīn zhǐyào duō liàn yìdiǎnr yě bù nán** · The ten international students in our class come from eight countries, and you all work hard. One last thing: don’t worry, as long as you practise, it isn’t hard at all.

**anna** 王老师，您教了很多年书吧？
**Wánglǎoshī nín jiāo le hěn duō nián shū ba** · Teacher Wang, you’ve been teaching for many years, haven’t you?

**teacher wang** 是啊。以前我在一所初中教三年级，孩子们一放学就来问我问题。现在那所学校的校长就是我以前的学生！
**shì a yǐqián wǒ zài yì suǒ chūzhōng jiāo sān niánjí háizimen yí fàngxué jiù lái wèn wǒ wèntí xiànzài nà suǒ xuéxiào de xiàozhǎng jiù shì wǒ yǐqián de xuéshēng** · Yes. I used to teach the third year at a junior high school, and the children came to ask me questions the moment school finished. The head teacher there now is one of my old pupils!

**anna** 太有意思了！我们的校园也很漂亮，我会想这儿的。
**tài yǒu yìsi le wǒmen de xiàoyuán yě hěn piàoliang wǒ huì xiǎng zhèr de** · How lovely! Our campus is beautiful too; I’ll miss this place.

## chapter 3 a day off

**anna** 小陈，经理在办公室吗？我想请假。
**XiǎoChén jīnglǐ zài bàngōngshì ma wǒ xiǎng qǐngjià** · Xiao Chen, is the manager in his office? I'd like to ask for a day off.

**xiao chen** 他在开会，会议十一点结束。你为什么请假？星期五是工作日啊。
**tā zài kāihuì huìyì shíyī diǎn jiéshù nǐ wèi shénme qǐngjià xīngqīwǔ shì gōngzuòrì a** · He's in a meeting; it ends at eleven. Why do you need a day off? Friday's a working day.

**anna** 星期五我有汉语考试。
**xīngqīwǔ wǒ yǒu Hànyǔ kǎoshì** · I have a Chinese exam on Friday.

**xiao chen** 那你给经理发一封邮件吧。根据公司的要求，请假得先发邮件。
**nà nǐ gěi jīnglǐ fā yì fēng yóujiàn ba gēnjù gōngsī de yāoqiú qǐngjià děi xiān fā yóujiàn** · Then email the manager. Company rules say you have to email first to ask for time off.

**anna** 好，我马上发。经理的邮箱是什么？
**hǎo wǒ mǎshàng fā jīnglǐ de yóuxiāng shì shénme** · OK, I'll send it right away. What's the manager's email address?

**xiao chen** 公司的名单上都有。对了，下个星期一的会你参加吗？
**gōngsī de míngdān shàng dōu yǒu duì le xià gè xīngqīyī de huì nǐ cānjiā ma** · It's on the company list. Oh, and are you coming to next Monday's meeting?

**anna** 参加。公司发展得这么快，对我来说，这是一个学习的好机会。
**cānjiā gōngsī fāzhǎn de zhème kuài duì wǒ lái shuō zhè shì yí gè xuéxí de hǎo jīhuì** · Yes. The company's growing so fast; for me it's a great chance to learn.

**xiao chen** 收到回信了吗？
**shōudào huí xìn le ma** · Have you had a reply?

**anna** 收到了！经理说："没问题，考试更重要。请假的事我来办。"
**shōudào le jīnglǐ shuō méi wèntí kǎoshì gèng zhòngyào qǐngjià de shì wǒ lái bàn** · Yes! The manager says: "No problem, the exam matters more. I'll sort out the leave."

**xiao chen** 太好了。你的工作，我来帮你干！
**tài hǎo le nǐ de gōngzuò wǒ lái bāng nǐ gàn** · Great. I'll help you with your work!

**anna** 谢谢！你真是个好同事。工作上有什么问题，你就给我打电话，我一定接。我们星期一再一起解决。
**xièxie nǐ zhēn shì gè hǎo tóngshì gōngzuò shàng yǒu shénme wèntí nǐ jiù gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà wǒ yídìng jiē wǒmen xīngqīyī zài yìqǐ jiějué** · Thanks! You're a great colleague. If anything comes up at work, just call me and I'll definitely answer. We'll sort it out together on Monday.

**xiao chen** 行！放心考试吧。我上大学的时候在书店做过店员，那些日子我也天天考试！
**xíng fàngxīn kǎoshì ba wǒ shàng dàxué de shíhou zài shūdiàn zuò guo diàn yuán nàxiē rì zi wǒ yě tiān tiān kǎoshì** · Deal! Don't worry, just do your exam. When I was at university I worked in a bookshop, and back then I had exams every day too!

## chapter 4 exam morning

**teacher wang** 安娜，快来！考试九点开始。
**Ānnà kuài lái kǎoshì jiǔ diǎn kāishǐ** · Anna, hurry! The exam starts at nine.

**anna** 对不起，王老师！路上车太多了，我差一点儿迟到。
**duìbuqǐ Wánglǎoshī lùshang chē tài duō le wǒ chà yìdiǎnr chídào** · Sorry, Teacher Wang! The traffic was terrible; I was nearly late.

**teacher wang** 没关系，还有五分钟。下次早一点儿出发，骑车太快不安全。
**méi guānxi hái yǒu wǔ fēnzhōng xià cì zǎo yìdiǎnr chūfā qí chē tài kuài bù ānquán** · It's fine, there are still five minutes. Next time set off a bit earlier: riding too fast isn't safe.

**teacher wang** 铅笔和纸都带了吗？
**qiānbǐ hé zhǐ dōu dài le ma** · Have you got your pencil and paper?

**anna** 带了。可是我现在一个字也想不起来了！
**dài le kěshì wǒ xiànzài yí gè zì yě xiǎng bu qǐlai le** · Yes. But now I can't remember a single character!

**teacher wang** 别担心，你不是复习了一个星期吗？
**bié dānxīn nǐ bú shì fùxí le yí gè xīngqī ma** · Don't worry. Didn't you revise for a whole week?

**anna** 是啊，每天都复习到晚上十二点。
**shì a měi tiān dōu fùxí dào wǎnshang shíèr diǎn** · Yes, every day until midnight.

**teacher wang** 那就放心吧。只要认真看题，你一定没问题。
**nà jiù fàngxīn ba zhǐyào rènzhēn kàn tí nǐ yídìng méi wèntí** · Then relax. As long as you read the questions carefully, you'll be fine.

**anna** 好！我相信，努力是有用的。
**hǎo wǒ xiāngxìn nǔlì shì yǒuyòng de** · OK! I believe hard work pays off.

## chapter 5 the results

**anna** 刘阿姨！我的考试成绩出来了！
**Liúāyí wǒ de kǎoshì chéngjì chūlái le** · Auntie Liu! My exam results are out!

**auntie liu** 真的？怎么样？快告诉我！
**zhēn de zěnmeyàng kuài gàosu wǒ** · Really? How did you do? Tell me, quick!

**anna** 我刚收到邮件：九十二分！
**wǒ gāng shōudào yóujiàn jiǔshíèr fēn** · I've just had the email: 92 points!

**auntie liu** 太好了！我早就知道你很努力。
**tài hǎo le wǒ zǎo jiù zhīdào nǐ hěn nǔlì** · Wonderful! I always knew you worked hard.

**anna** 王老师说，这个学期我提高得最快。我得到了大家的很多帮助。
**Wánglǎoshī shuō zhège xuéqī wǒ tígāo de zuì kuài wǒ dédào le dàjiā de hěn duō bāngzhù** · Teacher Wang says I've improved the most this term. I've had so much help from everyone.

**auntie liu** 我儿子以前在英国留学，他说学外语最难的是开口说话。
**wǒ érzi yǐqián zài Yīngguó liúxué tā shuō xué wàiyǔ zuì nán de shì kāi kǒu shuōhuà** · My son studied in the UK, and he says the hardest thing about a foreign language is opening your mouth and speaking.

**anna** 对，多说是最重要的。比如每天跟您聊天儿，就是很好的练习！
**duì duō shuō shì zuì zhòngyào de bǐrú měi tiān gēn nín liáotiānr jiù shì hěn hǎo de liànxí** · Yes, speaking a lot matters most. Chatting with you every day, for example, is great practice!

**auntie liu** 你不但会说汉语，而且越来越了解中国了，还懂得我们的文化。
**nǐ búdàn huì shuō Hànyǔ érqiě yuè lái yuè liǎojiě Zhōngguó le hái dǒngde wǒmen de wénhuà** · You don't just speak Chinese: you understand China better and better, and you know our culture too.

**auntie liu** 学语言是很不容易的。走，阿姨请你吃饺子！
**xué yǔyán shì hěn bù róngyì de zǒu āyí qǐng nǐ chī jiǎozi** · Learning a language is no easy thing. Come on, I'm treating you to dumplings!

**anna** 谢谢刘阿姨！下次我请客！
**xièxie Liúāyí xià cì wǒ qǐngkè** · Thank you, Auntie Liu! Next time it's on me!

**A whole week of school and work in Chinese: revising, asking for leave, sitting an exam. You did it with Anna.**
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