wishyou.today learning

chinese hsk 3 in 36 days

The whole course on paper: all 502 new words with their meanings and examples, every grammar pattern and every dialogue.

Free, with audio, games and progress tracking, at wishyou.today/learning

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The practice exams need sound, so they live online: wishyou.today/learning/language/chinese/hsk-3/exam.html

day 1 long time no see

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.

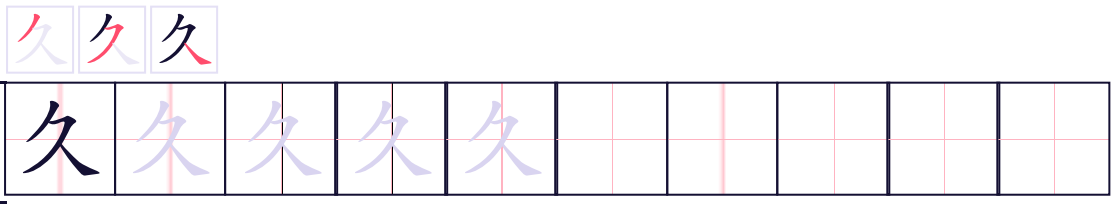
xiaoming 你的汉语更好了！咱们一起去吃饭吧？
nǐ de Hànyǔ gèng hǎo le zánmen yìqǐ qù chī fàn ba · Your Chinese is even better! Shall we go and eat together?

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

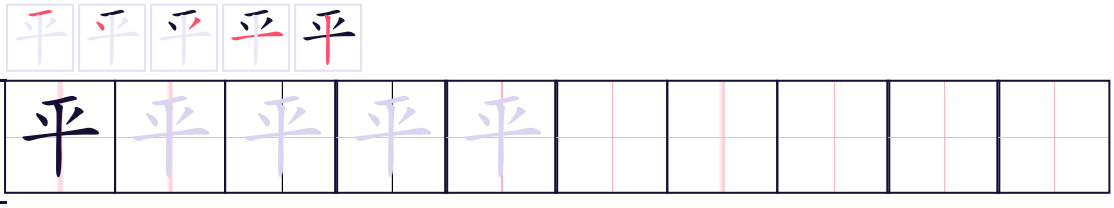
xiaoming 饺子吧。这儿的饺子比其他饭馆的好吃。
jiǎozi ba zhèr de jiǎozi bǐ qítā fànguǎn de hǎochī · Dumplings. They're tastier here than at the other restaurants.

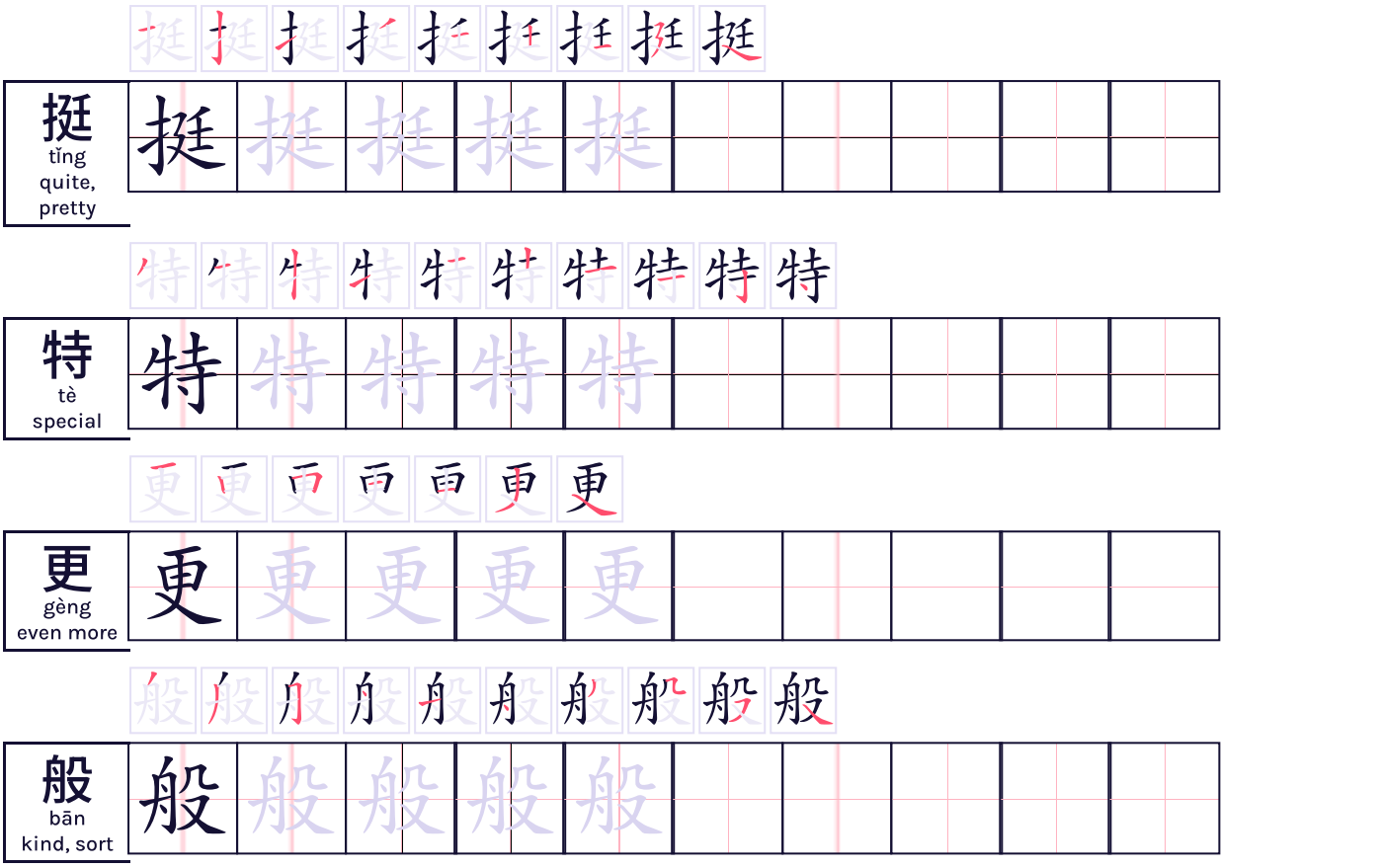
write it trace the grey, then write your own

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.

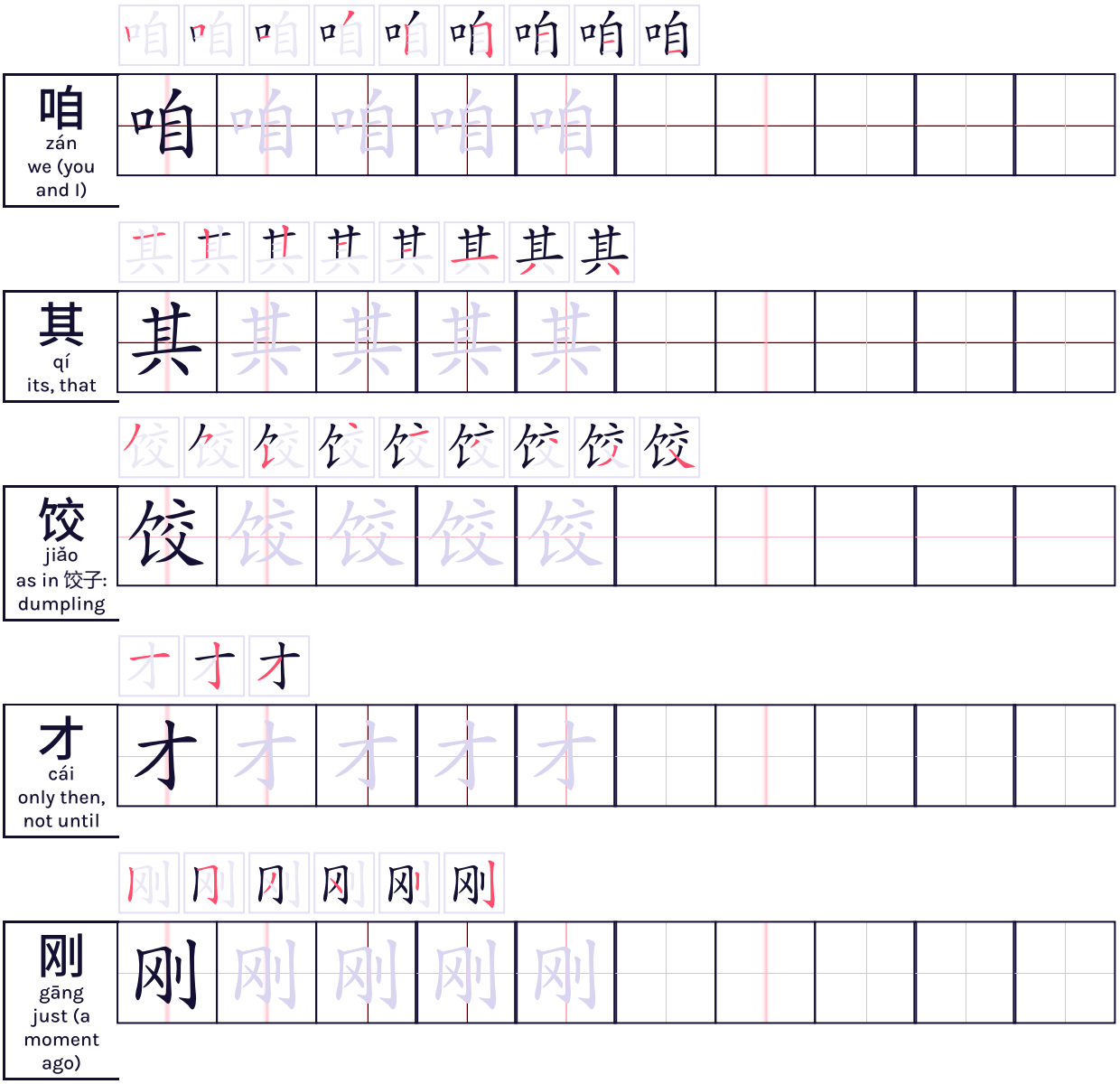
teacher wang 周末呢？你周末休息吗？
zhōumò ne nǐ zhōumò xiūxi ma · What about weekends? Do you rest?

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!

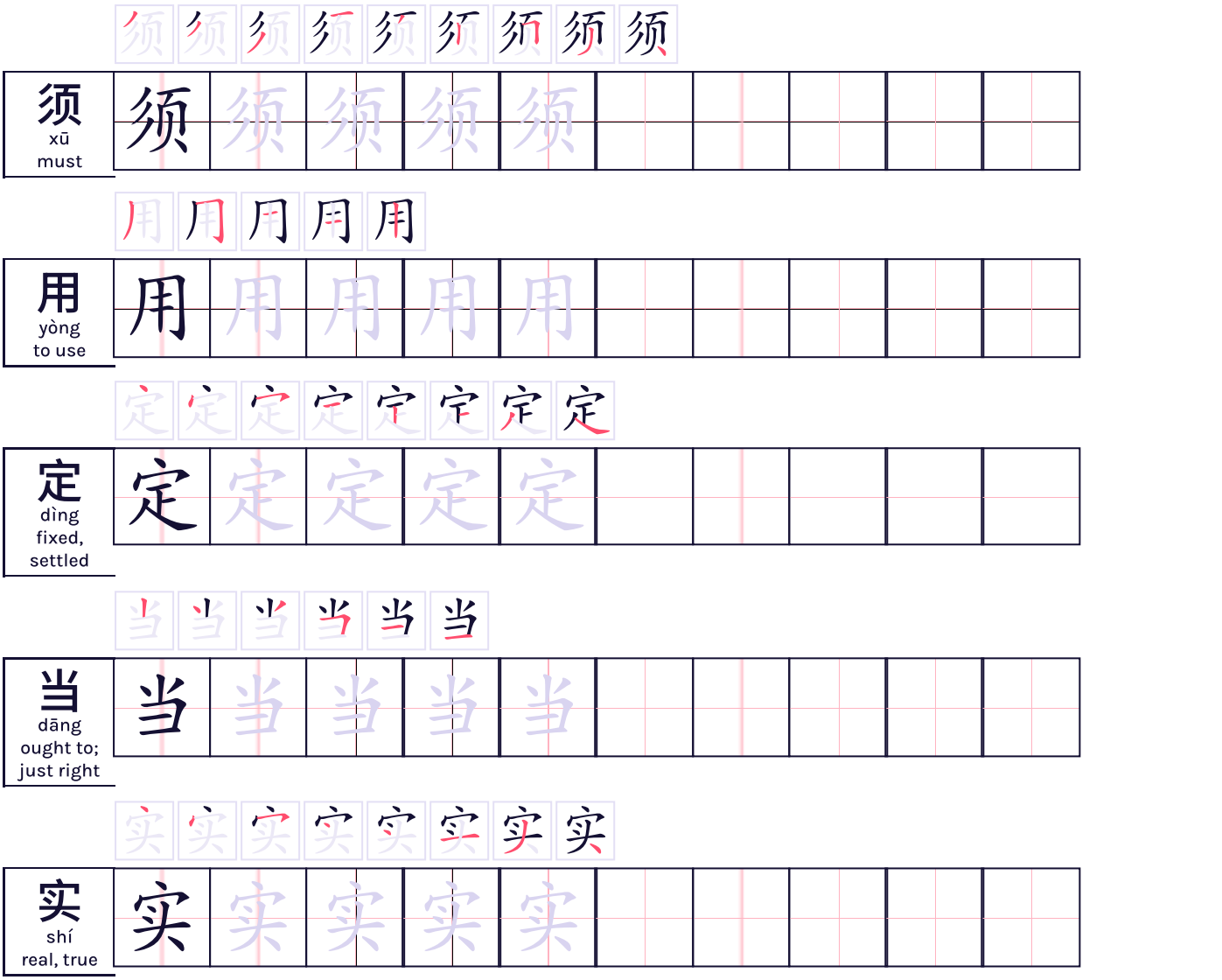
grandma 你们看，刮风了！
nǐmen kàn guā fēng le · Look, the wind's picking up!

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?

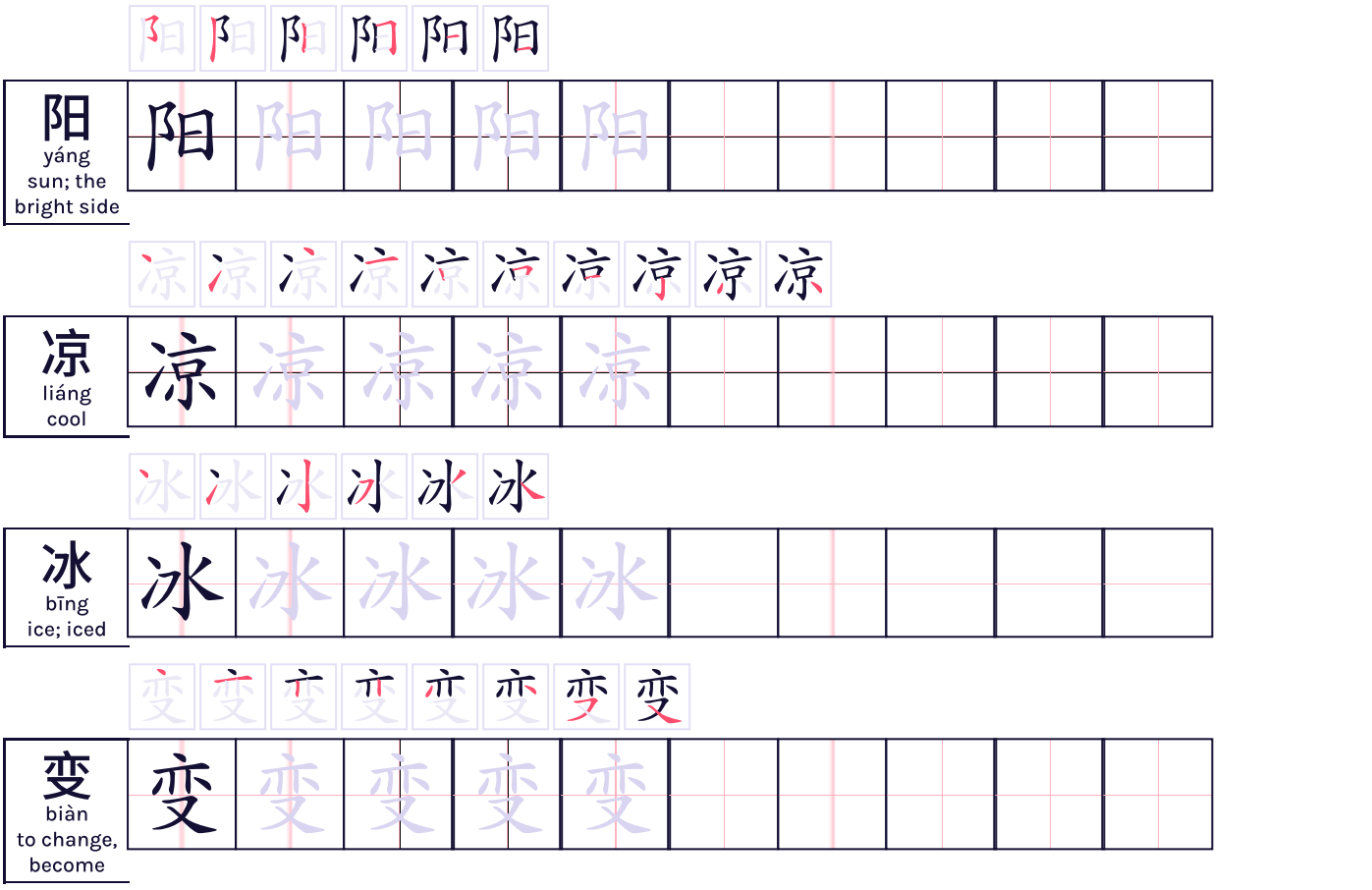
anna 虽然不大，可是很漂亮。除了超市以外，楼下还有一个饭馆！
suīrán bú dà kěshì hěn piàoliang chúle chāoshì yǐwài lóu xià hái yǒu yí gè fànguǎn · It's not big, but it's lovely. And downstairs there's a restaurant as well as a supermarket!

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.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 7 moving house

Talk about a new home, and say where to put things with 把.

Moving, tidying, “put it over there”: 把 is how Chinese gets things done around the house.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
搬	bān	to move (something heavy)	帮我搬一下桌子，好吗? Could you help me move the table?
搬家	bānjiā	to move house	我下个星期搬家。 I’m moving house next week.
房子	fángzi	house, flat	这个房子很大。 This flat is big.
屋子	wūzi	room	屋子里很热。 It’s hot in the room.
室	shì	room (in compounds)	这是我的工作室。 This is my studio.
小区	xiǎoqū	housing estate	我住在这个小区。 I live on this estate.
邻居	línjū	neighbour	刘阿姨是我的新邻居。 Auntie Liu is my new neighbour.
层	céng	floor, storey; layer	我家在十二层。 My flat is on the twelfth floor.
电梯	diàntī	lift, elevator	电梯坏了。 The lift is broken.
楼梯	lóutī	stairs	我们走楼梯吧。 Let’s take the stairs.
沙发	shāfā	sofa	这个沙发很舒服。 This sofa is very comfy.
冰箱	bīngxiāng	fridge	冰箱里有牛奶。 There’s milk in the fridge.
洗衣机	xǐyījī	washing machine	洗衣机在洗手间里。 The washing machine is in the bathroom.
空调	kōngtiáo	air conditioner	太热了，开空调吧。 It’s too hot: let’s turn on the air con.
灯	dēng	lamp, light	你开一下灯，好吗? Could you turn the light on?
欢迎	huānyíng	to welcome; welcome!	欢迎来我家! Welcome to my home!
把	bǎ	(brings the object before the verb)	把书放在桌子上吧。 Put the book on the table.
放	fàng	to put, place	沙发放在这儿吧。 Let’s put the sofa here.

pattern 把 + thing + verb + 在/到 + place

who	把	thing	放在 / 搬到	place

把 brings a definite thing (this sofa, my books) before the verb, so the verb can say where it ends up. After the verb comes 在 or 到 + the place: 把沙发放在这儿.

把沙发放在这儿吧。 **bǎ shāfā fàng zài zhèr ba** Let's put the sofa here.

我把书放在桌子上了。 **wǒ bǎ shū fàng zài zhuōzi shàng le** I put the book on the table.

请把冰箱搬到那边。 **qǐng bǎ bīngxiāng bān dào nàbiān** Please move the fridge over there.

dialogue the new flat

auntie liu 你就是安娜吧？欢迎欢迎！我是刘阿姨，王老师的朋友。
nǐ jiù shì Ānnà ba huānyíng huānyíng wǒ shì Liúāyí Wánglǎoshī de péngyou · You must be Anna! Welcome! I'm Auntie Liu, Teacher Wang's friend.

anna 刘阿姨好！谢谢您帮我找房子。
Liúāyí hǎo xièxie nín bāng wǒ zhǎo fángzi · Hello, Auntie Liu! Thank you for helping me find a flat.

auntie liu 不客气！这个小区很大，你的房子在十二层。
búkèqi zhège xiǎoqū hěn dà nǐ de fángzi zài shíèr céng · My pleasure! This estate is big; your flat is on the twelfth floor.

anna 有电梯吗？
yǒu diàntī ma · Is there a lift?

auntie liu 有，电梯在那边。走楼梯就太累了！
yǒu diàntī zài nàbiān zǒu lóutī jiù tài lèi le · Yes, over there. Taking the stairs would be far too tiring!

anna 屋子真漂亮！冰箱、洗衣机和空调都有！
wūzi zhēn piàoliang bīngxiāng xǐyījī hé kōngtiáo dōu yǒu · The rooms are lovely! There's a fridge, a washing machine and air con!

auntie liu 对，灯也是新的。你什么时候搬家？
duì dēng yě shì xīn de nǐ shénme shíhou bānjiā · Yes, and the lights are new too. When are you moving in?

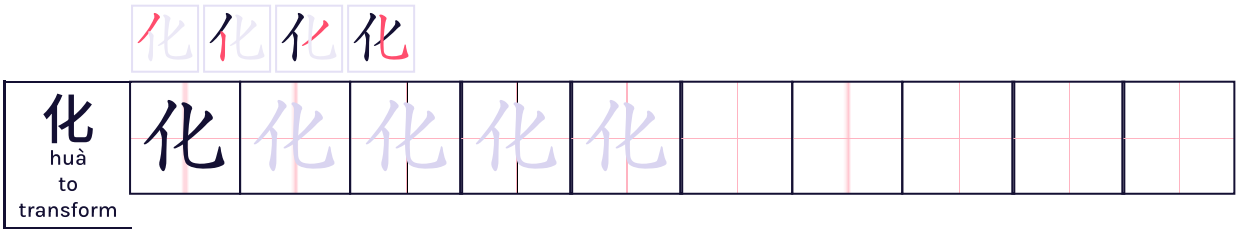
anna 星期六。我想把书都放在这个小屋子里，这儿就是我的工作室！
xīngqīliù wǒ xiǎng bǎ shū dōu fàng zài zhège xiǎo wūzi lǐ zhèr jiù shì wǒ de gōngzuò shì · Saturday. I'll put all my books in this little room: it'll be my study!

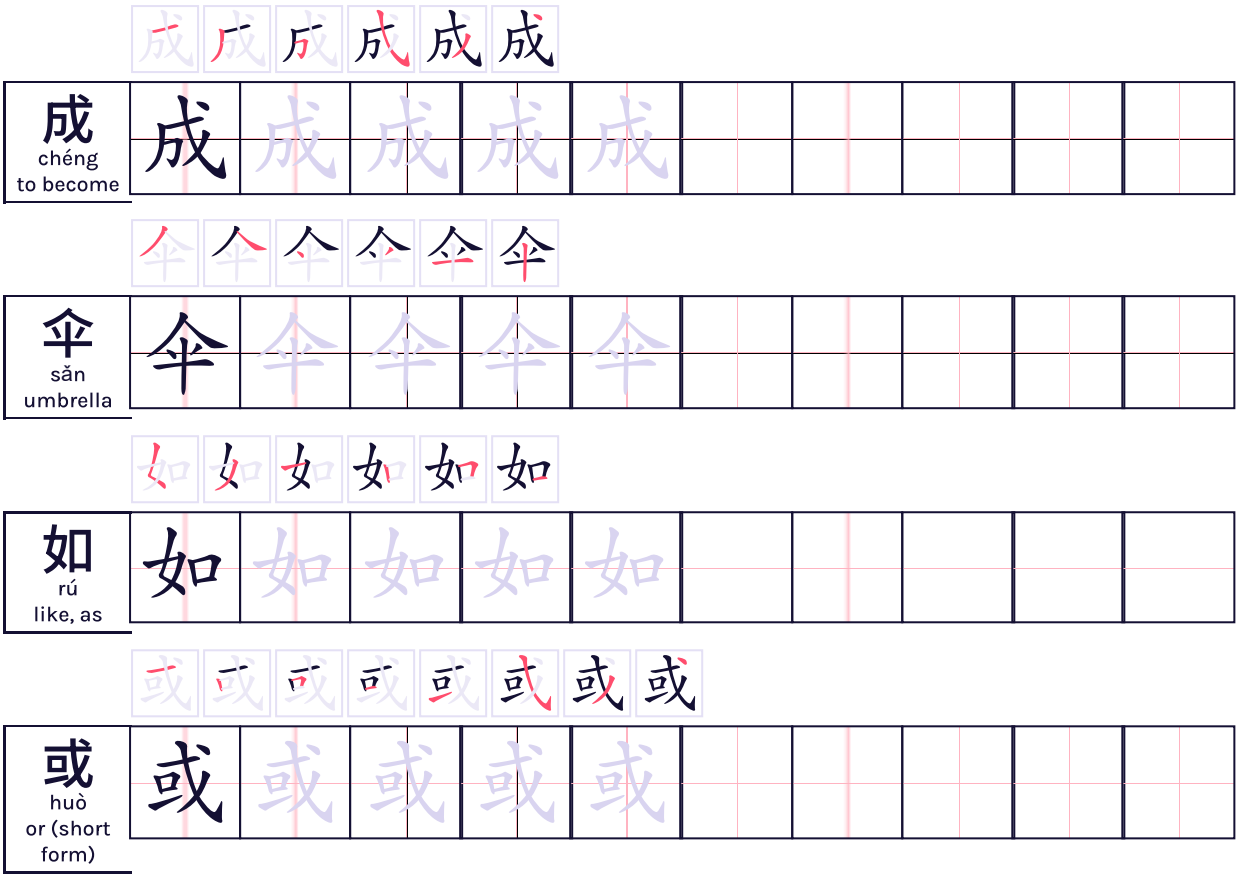
auntie liu 好！我就住在你楼下，以后我们是邻居了！
hǎo wǒ jiù zhù zài nǐ lóu xià yǐhòu wǒmen shì línjū le · Lovely! I live right below you, so we'll be neighbours!

anna 太好了！有您这个邻居真好！
tài hǎo le yǒu nín zhège línjū zhēn hǎo · Wonderful! It's so good to have you as a neighbour!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

化 huà to transform





good to know · In a 把 sentence the verb never stands alone: it needs a place (放在这儿), a result, or at least 了. In China the ground floor is 一层, floor one, so 十二层 is eleven flights up. Many buildings skip floor 4: 四 sounds like 死 (death).

With 把 you can direct a whole moving day: put this here, carry that there!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 8 cleaning day

Talk about cleaning and daily routines, say how a job ends up (clean, shut, gone), and what happened to things with 被.

“Clean it up”, “turn it off”, “someone took it”: results and 被 make your Chinese sound finished, not half-way.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
打扫	dǎsǎo	to clean (a room)	我们今天打扫房间。 We’re cleaning the room today.
扫	sǎo	to sweep	我扫，你洗，好吗? I’ll sweep, you wash. OK?
干净	gānjìng	clean	屋子很干净。 The room is clean.
脏	zāng	dirty	你的衣服脏了。 Your clothes are dirty.
刷	shuā	to brush; to swipe	我每天刷两次牙。 I brush my teeth twice a day.
牙	yá	tooth	我牙疼。 I’ve got toothache.
牙刷	yáshuā	toothbrush	我的牙刷在哪儿? Where’s my toothbrush?
洗澡	xǐzǎo	to shower, bathe	我晚上洗澡。 I shower in the evening.
卫生间	wèishēngjiān	bathroom, toilet	卫生间在哪儿? Where’s the bathroom?
关	guān	to close; turn off	请关门。 Please close the door.
开机	kāijī	to switch on (a device)	我的电脑开机很慢。 My computer is slow to start up.
关机	guānjī	to switch off (a device)	他的手机关机了。 His phone is switched off.
电	diàn	electricity, power	我的手机没电了! My phone’s battery is dead!
换	huàn	to change, swap	我想换一个房间。 I’d like to change rooms.
完成	wánchéng	to complete, finish	工作完成了。 The work is done.
丢	diū	to lose; to throw away	我的伞丢了。 I’ve lost my umbrella.
被	bèi	(passive) by	我的牙刷被大白拿走了! My toothbrush has been taken by Dabai!
安静	ānjìng	quiet	这个小区很安静。 This estate is very quiet.

pattern 把 + thing + verb + result, and 被

把 | thing | verb | result: 干净 / 上 / 走

After 把 + thing, the verb can carry its result: 打扫干净 clean until clean, 关上 shut, 拿走 take away. 把……给 hands it to someone: 把书给我. Turn it round with 被 to say what happened to the thing: 我的牙刷被大白拿走了. If who did it doesn't matter, leave them out: 我的伞被拿走了.

我们把卫生间打扫干净了。 **wǒmen bǎ wèishēngjiān dǎsǎo gānjìng le** We've cleaned the bathroom.

我的伞被拿走了。 **wǒ de sǎn bèi ná zǒu le** My umbrella has been taken.

把手机给我。 **bǎ shǒujī gěi wǒ** Give me the phone.

我的牙刷被大白拿走了！ **wǒ de yáshuā bèi Dàbái ná zǒu le** Dabai has run off with my toothbrush!

dialogue who took my toothbrush?

xiaoming 安娜，我和大白来帮你打扫了！
Ānnà wǒ hé Dàbái lái bāng nǐ dǎsǎo le · Anna, Dabai and I have come to help you clean!

anna 太好了！屋子太脏了。咱们先打扫卫生间，然后打扫屋子。
tài hǎo le wūzi tài zāng le zánmen xiān dǎsǎo wèishēngjiān ránhòu dǎsǎo wūzi · Brilliant! The place is so dirty. Let's do the bathroom first, then the rooms.

xiaoming 好，我扫，你洗。你把脏衣服放在洗衣机里吧。
hǎo wǒ sǎo nǐ xǐ nǐ bǎ zāng yīfu fàng zài xǐyījī lǐ ba · OK: I'll sweep, you wash. Put the dirty clothes in the washing machine.

anna 小明，我的牙刷丢了！我刚才放在这儿了。
Xiǎomíng wǒ de yáshuā diū le wǒ gāngcái fàng zài zhèr le · Xiaoming, my toothbrush has gone! I put it here a moment ago.

xiaoming 你看！你的牙刷被大白拿走了！
nǐ kàn nǐ de yáshuā bèi Dàbái ná zǒu le · Look! Dabai's got it!

anna 大白！没关系，我换一个新的。
Dàbái méi guānxi wǒ huàn yí gè xīn de · Dabai! Never mind, I'll get a new one.

xiaoming 卫生间打扫干净了。我的手机没电了，关机了。
wèishēngjiān dǎsǎo gānjìng le wǒ de shǒujī méi diàn le guānjī le · The bathroom's clean. My phone's battery died; it's switched off.

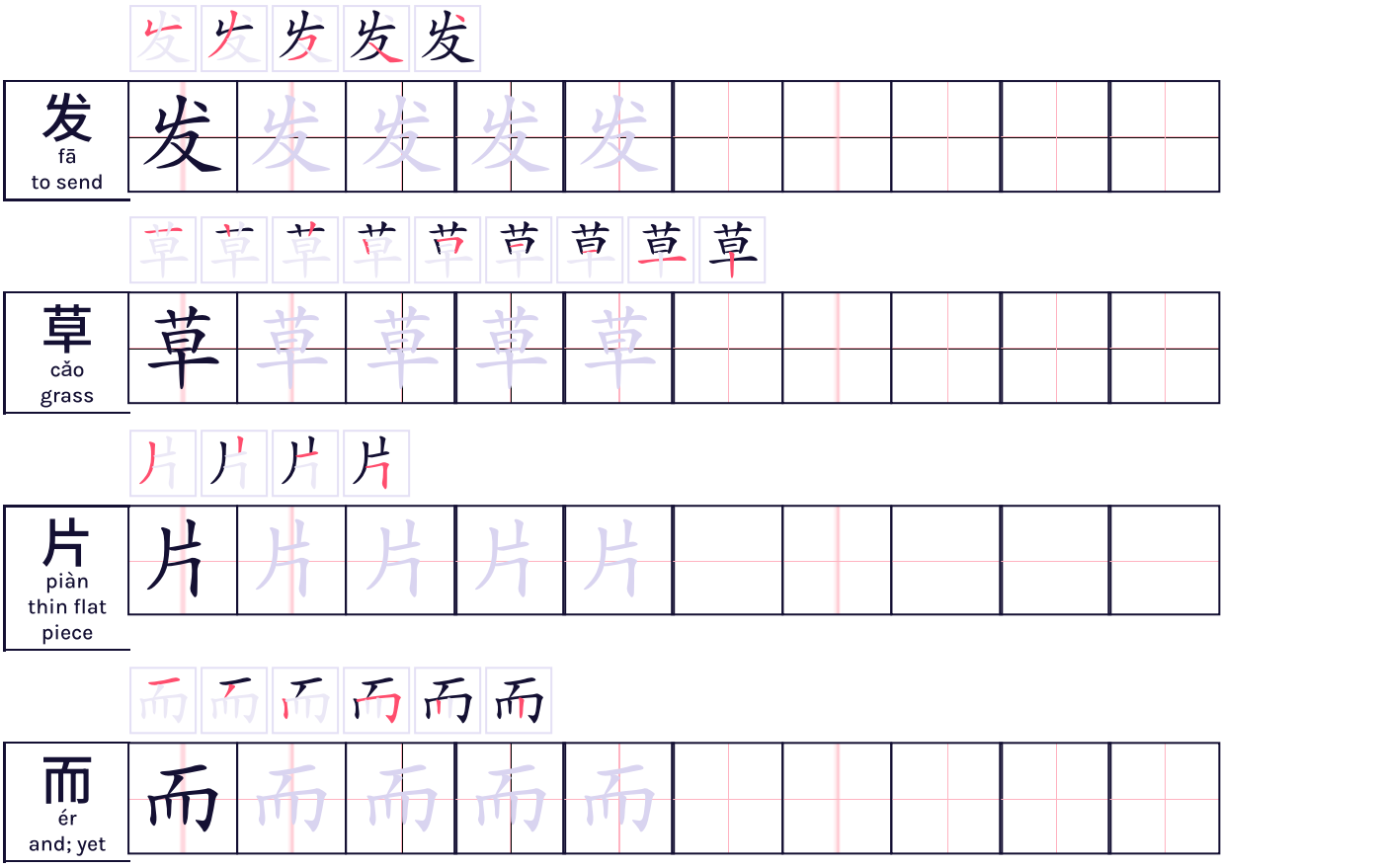
anna 没关系，我的手机还有电。我们的工作完成了！
méi guānxi wǒ de shǒujī hái yǒu diàn wǒmen de gōngzuò wánchéng le · No problem, mine still has battery. Job done!

xiaoming 屋子真干净！这个小区也很安静。
wūzi zhēn gānjìng zhège xiǎoqū yě hěn ānjìng · The flat is spotless! And this estate is so quiet.

anna 谢谢你！把灯关上，咱们去吃饭吧！
xièxie nǐ bǎ dēng guān shàng zánmen qù chī fàn ba · Thank you! Turn the lights off, and let's go and eat!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

者 zhě (an old word ending)



good to know · 被 often tells of something unlucky: lost, broken, taken. For good news, Chinese usually avoids it. Scan a QR code? In China you 扫一扫, “sweep” it, to pay for almost anything.

Clean it, shut it, take it away: now you can say how a job ends, and who did what to whom.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 9 which way is north?

Say where places are with north, south, east and west, and say what appeared or went missing.

Beijing is built on a grid, and locals give directions by the compass: 往北走, “head north”.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
东	dōng	east	我家在学校东边。 My home is to the east of the school.
南	nán	south	我家在公园南边。 My home is south of the park.
西	xī	west	超市在公园西边。 The supermarket is west of the park.
北	běi	north	小区的北门在那边。 The estate’s north gate is over there.
东北	dōngběi	northeast; Northeast China	小陈是东北人。 Xiao Chen is from the Northeast.
东南	dōngnán	southeast	上海在北京的东南边。 Shanghai is southeast of Beijing.
西北	xīběi	northwest	冬天北京常常刮西北风。 In winter Beijing often gets a northwest wind.
西南	xīnán	southwest	公园在小区的西南边。 The park is southwest of the estate.
北方	běifāng	the north; northern China	北方的冬天很冷。 Winters in the north are cold.
南方	nánfāng	the south; southern China	南方很少下雪。 It rarely snows in the south.
东方	dōngfāng	the east; the East	太阳从东方出来了。 The sun has come up in the east.
西方	xīfāng	the west; the West	很多西方人喜欢中国菜。 Lots of Westerners love Chinese food.
中间	zhōngjiān	middle, between	妹妹坐在爸爸和妈妈中间。 The little girl sits between her dad and mum.
中	zhōng	middle; among, in	在这些颜色中，我最喜欢红色。 Of all these colours, I like red best.
面前	miànqián	in front of (someone)	大白跑到我面前。 Dabai ran up to me.
身边	shēnbiān	by one’s side	大白总是在奶奶身边。 Dabai is always by Grandma’s side.
附近	fùjìn	nearby; the area around	附近有超市吗? Is there a supermarket nearby?
方向	fāngxiàng	direction	公园在哪个方向? Which way is the park?

pattern 东南西北: where is it?

thing | 在 | place | 的东边 / 西边

Compass words work like 前边 and 左边: 超市在小区的东边. Chinese names east or west first: 东北 northeast, 西南 southwest. 在……中 means "among": 在这些房子中. For something that appears or goes, start with the place: 前面来了一个人, 楼下搬走了一家人.

上海在北京的东南边。 **Shànghǎi zài Běijīng de dōngnán biān** Shanghai is southeast of Beijing.

我家在超市和公园中间。 **wǒ jiā zài chāoshì hé gōngyuán zhōngjiān** My home is between the supermarket and the park.

在这些房子中，我最喜欢这个。 **zài zhèxiē fángzi zhōng wǒ zuì xǐhuan zhège** Of all these flats, I like this one best.

dialogue which way is north?

auntie liu 安娜，咱们在小区里走走吧。
Ānnà zánmen zài xiǎoqū lǐ zǒu zou ba · Anna, let's have a walk round the estate.

anna 好啊！刘阿姨，北门在哪个方向?
hǎo a Liúāyí běi mén zài nǎge fāngxiàng · Sure! Auntie Liu, which way is the north gate?

auntie liu 在那边。北门附近有地铁站，东门旁边有超市，公园在南边。
zài nàbiān běi mén fùjìn yǒu dìtiě zhàn dōng mén pángbiān yǒu chāoshì gōngyuán zài nán biān · Over there. There's an underground station by the north gate, a supermarket next to the east gate, and the park is to the south.

anna 在北京，我总是不知道哪儿是东，哪儿是西。
zài Běijīng wǒ zǒngshì bù zhīdào nǎr shì dōng nǎr shì xī · In Beijing I never know which way is east and which is west.

auntie liu 你看太阳：太阳从东方出来，晚上在西边。
nǐ kàn tàiyáng tàiyáng cóng dōngfāng chūlái wǎnshang zài xī biān · Look at the sun: it comes up in the east, and in the evening it's in the west.

anna 啊，前面来了一只狗！它跑到我面前了！
a qiánmiàn lái le yì zhī gǒu tā pǎo dào wǒ miànqián le · Oh, a dog's appeared up ahead! It's run right up to me!

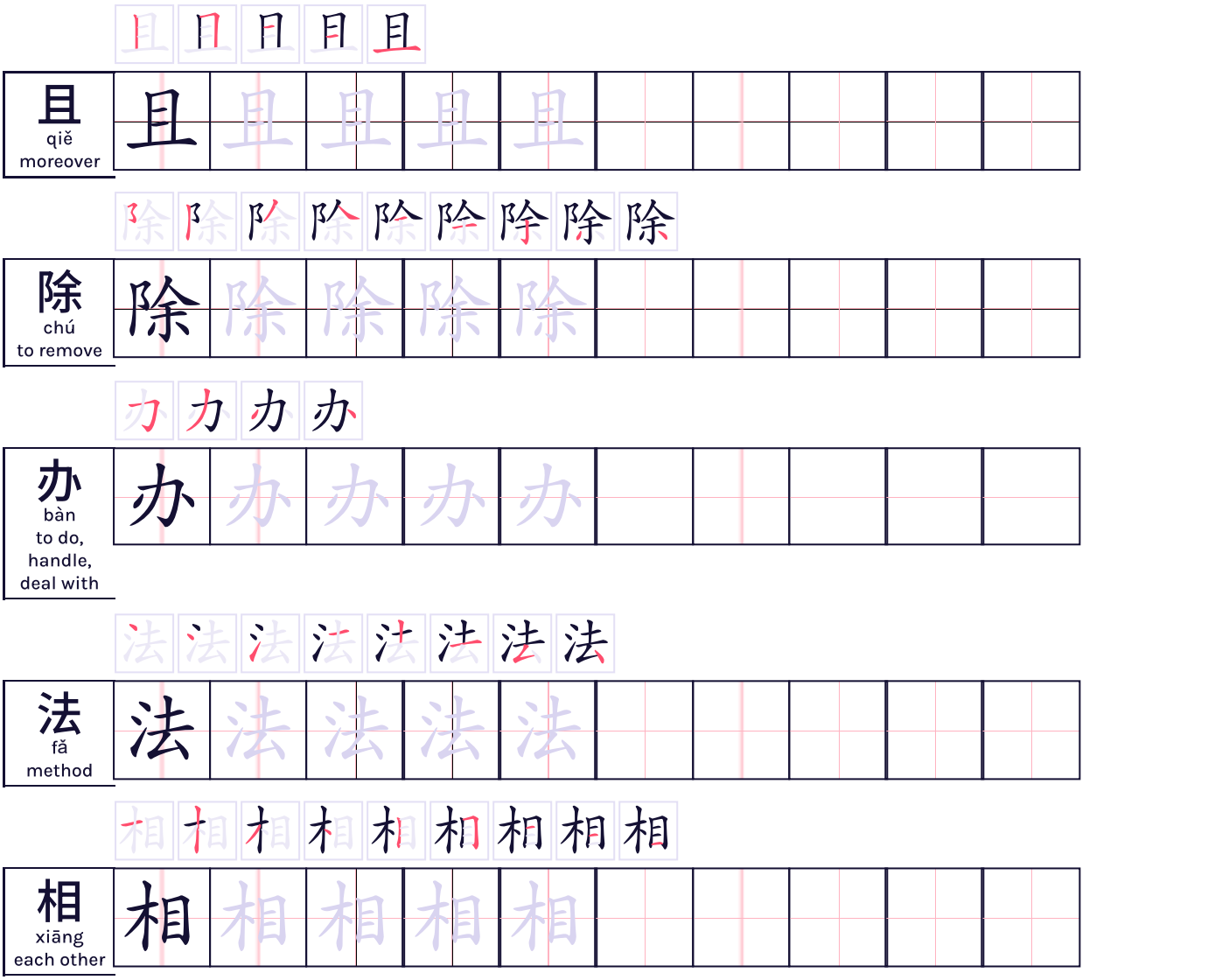
auntie liu 那是新邻居家的狗。上个月楼上搬走了一家人，又搬来了一家人。
nà shì xīn línjū jiā de gǒu shàng gè yuè lóu shàng bān zǒu le yì jiā rén yòu bān lái le yì jiā rén · That's the new neighbours' dog. Last month a family moved out upstairs, and another one moved in.

anna 刘阿姨，您是北方人吗?
Liúāyí nín shì běifāng rén ma · Auntie Liu, are you from the north?

auntie liu 我是东北人。我女儿在西南工作，她说南方的冬天不太冷。
wǒ shì dōngběi rén wǒ nǚér zài xīnán gōngzuò tā shuō nánfāng de dōngtiān bú tài lěng · I'm from the Northeast. My daughter works in the Southwest; she says winters in the south aren't too cold.

anna 我身边的朋友都说北方的冬天太冷了！
wǒ shēnbiān de péngyou dōu shuō běifāng de dōngtiān tài lěng le · All my friends say northern winters are far too cold!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · English says “north-east”; Chinese puts east or west first: 东北, 西南. Beijing’s streets mostly run north–south and east–west, so people often say 往北走 (head north) instead of left or right.

North, south, east, west: you can now find your way round a Chinese city like a local.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 10 around town

Find your way around town: ask for places, give directions with 向, and say where you got to.
Banks, hotels, libraries, junctions: this is the Chinese you need the moment you step outside.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
城市	chéngshì	city	北京是一个很大的城市。 Beijing is a very big city.
市	shì	city; market	这是市图书馆。 This is the city library.
街	jiē	street	这条街有很多饭馆。 There are lots of restaurants on this street.
马路	mǎlù	road, street	过马路的时候，要看红绿灯。 When you cross the road, watch the lights.
路边	lùbiān	roadside	路边有很多自行车。 There are lots of bikes by the road.
路口	lùkǒu	crossing, junction	在前面的路口向左走。 Turn left at the next junction.
红绿灯	hónglǜdēng	traffic lights	前面路口有红绿灯。 There are traffic lights at the junction ahead.
银行	yínháng	bank	银行几点开门? What time does the bank open?
宾馆	bīnguǎn	hotel, guesthouse	这家宾馆不贵。 This hotel isn't expensive.
图书馆	túshūguǎn	library	我常常去图书馆看书。 I often go to the library to read.
地方	dìfang	place	这个地方真漂亮! This place is so pretty!
地点	dìdiǎn	location, venue	请告诉我时间和地点。 Please tell me the time and place.
地图	dìtú	map	手机上有地图。 There's a map on your phone.
向	xiàng	towards; to (someone)	一直向前走。 Go straight ahead.
经过	jīngguò	to pass by, through	我每天都经过这家银行。 I go past this bank every day.
离开	líkāi	to leave	他已经离开公司了。 He's already left the office.
到处	dàochù	everywhere	到处都是人! There are people everywhere!
自行车	zìxíngchē	bicycle	我的自行车丢了! My bike's been lost!

pattern 向 + direction + verb: towards

向 前 / 左 / 右 / 东 走 / 看

向 means “towards”: 向前走 go forward, 向左走 turn left, 向东走 head east. A verb can also carry its result: 走到路口 walk as far as the junction, 找到 find, 叫住 call to a stop, 拿走 take away.

一直向前走。 **yìzhí xiàng qián zǒu** Go straight ahead.

在路口向右走。 **zài lùkǒu xiàng yòu zǒu** Turn right at the junction.

我们走到路口了。 **wǒmen zǒu dào lùkǒu le** We’ve got to the junction.

你找到地图了吗？ **nǐ zhǎo dào dìtú le ma** Did you find the map?

dialogue a hotel for mum

anna 小明，下个月我妈妈来北京，我想给她找一家宾馆。
Xiǎomíng xià gè yuè wǒ māma lái Běijīng wǒ xiǎng gěi tā zhǎo yì jiā bīnguǎn · Xiaoming, my mum’s coming to Beijing next month, and I want to find her a hotel.

xiaoming 这条街上就有一家，地点很好。我看一下地图……一直向前走，经过两个路口就到了。
zhè tiáo jiē shàng jiù yǒu yì jiā dìdiǎn hěn hǎo wǒ kàn yíxià dìtú yìzhí xiàng qián zǒu jīngguò liǎng gè lùkǒu jiù dào le · There’s one on this very street, in a great spot. Let me check the map… straight on, past two junctions, and we’re there.

anna 这个城市真大！到处都是人和自行车。
zhège chéngshì zhēn dà dàochù dōu shì rén hé zìxíngchē · This city is huge! There are people and bikes everywhere.

xiaoming 安娜，等一下！你看红绿灯！
Ānnà děng yíxià nǐ kàn hónglǜdēng · Anna, wait! Look at the lights!

anna 对不起！北京的马路太大了！
duìbuqǐ Běijīng de mǎlù tài dà le · Sorry! The roads in Beijing are so wide!

xiaoming 没关系。过了这个路口，向右走。你看，宾馆就在银行旁边。
méi guānxi guò le zhège lùkǒu xiàng yòu zǒu nǐ kàn bīnguǎn jiù zài yínháng pángbiān · No worries. After this junction we turn right. Look, the hotel’s right next to the bank.

anna 太好了！银行旁边那个大楼是什么？
tài hǎo le yínháng pángbiān nàge dà lóu shì shénme · Great! What’s that big building next to the bank?

xiaoming 那是市图书馆。我常常去那儿看书。
nà shì shì túshūguǎn wǒ chángcháng qù nàr kàn shū · That’s the city library. I often go there to read.

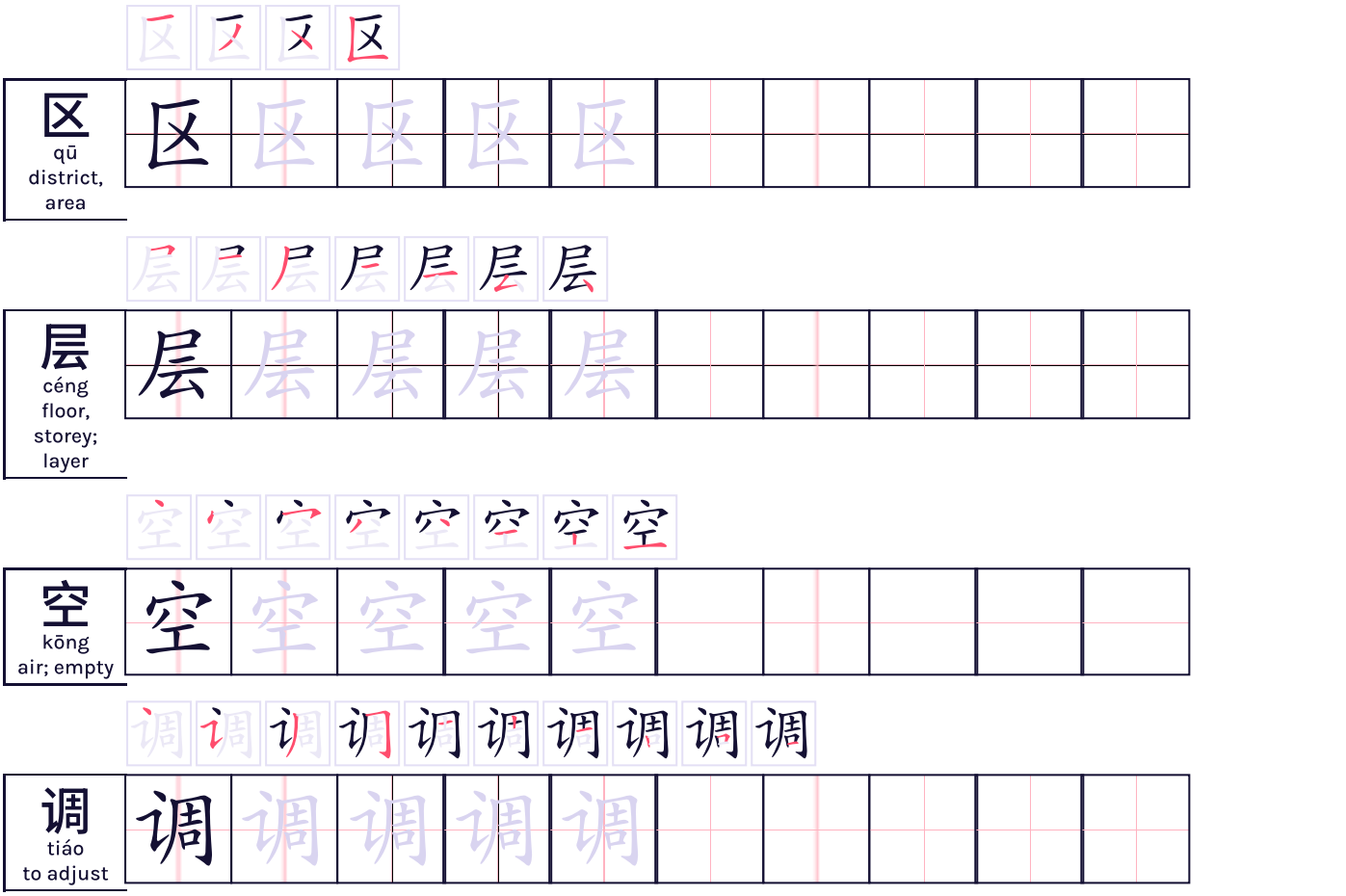
anna 离开这儿以前，我想去图书馆看看。
líkāi zhèr yǐqián wǒ xiǎng qù túshūguǎn kàn kan · Before we leave, I’d like to have a look at the library.

xiaoming 好！图书馆不远，咱们走过去吧。
hǎo túshūguǎn bù yuǎn zánmen zǒu guoqu ba · Sure! The library isn’t far; let’s walk over.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

信 信 信 信 信 信 信 信 信

信
xìn
letter; to believe



good to know · 向 and 往 both mean “towards”: 向前走 = 往前走. 向 is a little more formal, and with a person it means “to”: 向他问路, ask him the way. The bikes “everywhere” in Chinese cities are mostly shared bikes: scan the code, ride, and leave it by the road.

Straight on, turn left, found it! You can now explore a Chinese city on your own two feet.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 11 the neighbours

Introduce and describe neighbours and family: who they are, their age, who looks after whom.

On a Chinese estate everyone knows everyone, and the first thing you learn is what to call them.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
阿姨	āyí	auntie	阿姨，您好！ Hello, auntie!
叔叔	shūshu	uncle	叔叔好！ Hello, uncle!
爱人	àiren	husband or wife	这是我爱人。 This is my wife.
夫妻	fūqī	husband and wife, a couple	他们是夫妻。 They're husband and wife.
姐妹	jiěmèi	sisters	她们是姐妹。 They're sisters.
大人	dàren	adult, grown-up	大人和孩子都喜欢大白。 Grown-ups and children all love Dabai.
老人	lǎorén	old person, the elderly	公园里有很多老人。 There are lots of older people in the park.
男人	nánrén	man	那个男人是谁? Who's that man?
女人	nǚrén	woman	那个女人是新邻居。 That woman is a new neighbour.
年轻	niánqīng	young	王老师很年轻。 Teacher Wang is very young.
老	lǎo	old; Old (before a surname)	老王是我的邻居。 Old Wang is my neighbour.
结婚	jiéhūn	to marry, get married	他们结婚十年了。 They've been married for ten years.
出生	chūshēng	to be born	我是在北京出生的。 I was born in Beijing.
养	yǎng	to raise; to keep (a pet)	我想养一只猫。 I'd like to have a cat.
照顾	zhàogù	to look after	她照顾她的奶奶。 She looks after her grandma.
客人	kèrén	guest	今天家里有客人。 We have guests at home today.
做客	zuòkè	to visit (as a guest)	欢迎来我家做客！ You're welcome to visit us any time!
请客	qǐngkè	to treat (pay for others)	今天我请客！ Today it's my treat!

pattern naming twice: 我邻居刘阿姨, and 老 + surname

我 邻居 / 朋友 name

Put who someone is right before their name, no comma: 我邻居刘阿姨, 我朋友小明. For people you know well, 老 + surname is warm: 老王, 老李. Several describers can stack before a noun: 楼下的年轻夫妻.

这是我朋友小明。 **zhè shì wǒ péngyou Xiǎomíng** This is my friend Xiaoming.

老李是我们的邻居。 **lǎo Lǐ shì wǒmen de línjū** Old Li is our neighbour.

楼上那个年轻的女人是老师。 **lóu shàng nàge niánqīng de nǚrén shì lǎoshī** That young woman upstairs is a teacher.

dialogue meet the neighbours

auntie liu 安娜，来！我给你介绍一下我们的邻居。
Ānnà lái wǒ gěi nǐ jièshào yíxià wǒmen de línjū · Anna, come here! Let me introduce you to our neighbours.

anna 好啊！那位叔叔是谁？
hǎo a nà wèi shūshu shì shéi · Lovely! Who's that gentleman?

auntie liu 那是老王。他和他爱人结婚四十年了，他还养了两只鸟。
nà shì lǎo Wáng tā hé tā àiren jiéhūn sìshí nián le tā hái yǎng le liǎng zhī niǎo · That's Old Wang. He and his wife have been married forty years, and he keeps two birds.

anna 王叔叔好！阿姨好！
Wáng shūshu hǎo āyí hǎo · Hello, Uncle Wang! Hello, auntie!

auntie liu 那两个年轻的女人是姐妹，住在我们楼上。
nà liǎng gè niánqīng de nǚrén shì jiěmèi zhù zài wǒmen lóu shàng · Those two young women are sisters; they live upstairs from us.

anna 那个男人呢？他身边有一个孩子。
nàge nánrén ne tā shēnbiān yǒu yí gè háizi · And that man? There's a little one with him.

auntie liu 他是我邻居小李。他的孩子是今年出生的，他每天在家照顾孩子。
tā shì wǒ línjū xiǎo Lǐ tā de háizi shì jīnnián chūshēng de tā měi tiān zài jiā zhàogù háizi · That's my neighbour Xiao Li. His baby was born this year, and he looks after the baby at home every day.

anna 这个小区的老人和孩子真多！大人呢？
zhège xiǎoqū de lǎorén hé háizi zhēn duō dàren ne · There are so many older people and children here! Where are the grown-ups?

auntie liu 大人都去上班了！安娜，星期天来我家做客吧，我还请了别的客人。
dàren dōu qù shàngbān le Ānnà xīngqītiān lái wǒ jiā zuòkè ba wǒ hái qǐng le biéde kèrén · They're all at work! Anna, come over on Sunday; I've invited some other guests too.

anna 谢谢阿姨！我一定去！
xièxie āyí wǒ yídìng qù · Thank you, Auntie! I'll definitely come!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

灯
dēng
lamp, light



good to know · 老 + surname is for people you know well, usually 40 and up; 小 + surname for younger ones (小陈). With teachers keep the title: 王老师. Children and young people call any woman their parents' age 阿姨 and any man 叔叔, family or not.

Auntie, uncle, Old Wang, my neighbour Xiao Li: you can now introduce a whole neighbourhood.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 12 mission: moving day

Follow a whole moving day in Chinese, from packing up to the first party in the new flat.
A mission puts days 1–11 to work together, the way real conversations mix everything.

chapter 1 the night before

xiaoming 安娜，好久不见！最近怎么样？
Ānnà hǎojiǔ bújiàn zuìjìn zěnmeyàng · Anna, long time no see! How have you been lately?

anna 挺好的，就是比较忙。明天我就要搬家了！
tǐng hǎo de jiù shì bǐjiào máng míngtiān wǒ jiù yào bānjiā le · Pretty good, just rather busy. I'm moving house tomorrow!

xiaoming 这么快？发生什么事了？我以为你秋天才搬。
zhème kuài fāshēng shénme shì le wǒ yǐwéi nǐ qiūtiān cái bān · So soon? What's happened? I thought you weren't moving until autumn.

anna 以前我也这样打算。可是王老师的朋友帮我在公司附近找到了一个房子，不但更大，而且更便宜，我马上就决定搬了。
yǐqián wǒ yě zhèyàng dǎsuàn kěshì Wánglǎoshī de péngyou bāng wǒ zài gōngsī fùjìn zhǎo dào le yí gè fángzi búdàn gèng dà érqiě gèng piányi wǒ mǎshàng jiù juédìng bān le · That was my plan too. But Teacher Wang's friend found me a flat near the office, not only bigger but cheaper as well, so I decided to move straight away.

xiaoming 新房子怎样？以后你怎样去上班？
xīn fángzi zěnyàng yǐhòu nǐ zěnyàng qù shàngbān · What's the new flat like? How will you get to work?

anna 在北京市的东南边，比我现在住的地方安静多了。我平时坐地铁上班，以后只要走十分钟！
zài Běijīng shì de dōngnán biān bǐ wǒ xiànzài zhù de dìfang ānjìng duō le wǒ píngshí zuò dìtiě shàngbān yǐhòu zhǐ yào zǒu shí fēnzhōng · It's in the southeast of Beijing, and much quieter than where I live now. I usually take the underground to work; soon it'll be just a ten-minute walk!

xiaoming 需要我帮忙吗？我明天不用上课。
xūyào wǒ bāngmáng ma wǒ míngtiān búyòng shàngkè · Do you need a hand? I don't have class tomorrow.

anna 我正想找别人帮忙呢！搬家公司一般都很贵。你愿意来的话，我请你吃饭。
wǒ zhèng xiǎng zhǎo biérén bāngmáng ne bānjiā gōngsī yìbān dōu hěn guì nǐ yuànyì lái dehuà wǒ qǐng nǐ chī fàn · I was just thinking of asking someone! Removal firms are usually expensive. If you're happy to come, dinner's on me.

xiaoming 当然愿意！咱们几点出发？
dāngrán yuànyì zánmen jǐ diǎn chūfā · Of course I am! What time do we set off?

anna 早上八点吧。听说明天下午会刮大风，我们最好上午搬完。
zǎoshang bā diǎn ba tīngshuō míngtiān xiàwǔ huì guā dà fēng wǒmen zuìhǎo shàngwǔ bān wán · Eight in the morning. I hear it'll be very windy tomorrow afternoon, so we'd better finish moving by midday.

xiaoming 好，那我先睡觉了。明天见！
hǎo nà wǒ xiān shuìjiào le míngtiān jiàn · OK, then I'm off to bed. See you tomorrow!

chapter 2 packing up

xiaoming 安娜，我来了！东西都准备好了吗?
Ānnà wǒ lái le dōngxi dōu zhǔnbèi hǎo le ma · Anna, I'm here! Is everything ready?

anna 差不多了。我先把衣服放好了，然后把书都放在门口了。
chàbuduō le wǒ xiān bǎ yīfu fàng hǎo le ránhòu bǎ shū dōu fàng zài ménkǒu le · Almost. I packed my clothes first, then put all the books by the door.

xiaoming 这么多书！你一个人能搬吗?
zhème duō shū nǐ yí gè rén néng bān ma · So many books! Can you carry them on your own?

anna 当然不能！所以我请你来帮忙。除了书以外，别的东西都不多。
dāngrán bù néng suǒyǐ wǒ qǐng nǐ lái bāngmáng chúle shū yǐwài biéde dōngxi dōu bù duō · No way! That's why I asked you to help. Apart from the books, there isn't much else.

xiaoming 冰箱呢？洗衣机呢？也要搬吗?
bīngxiāng ne xǐyījī ne yě yào bān ma · What about the fridge? And the washing machine? Are they coming too?

anna 不用。新房子里有冰箱，也有洗衣机和空调。我把冰箱打扫干净了，牙刷也放进包里了。
búyòng xīn fángzi lǐ yǒu bīngxiāng yě yǒu xǐyījī hé kōngtiáo wǒ bǎ bīngxiāng dǎsǎo gānjìng le yáshuā yě fàng jìn bāo lǐ le · No need. The new flat has a fridge, plus a washing machine and air conditioning. I've cleaned out the fridge, and my toothbrush is in my bag.

xiaoming 我爸爸的车在楼下，咱们把东西都搬到车上吧。
wǒ bàba de chē zài lóu xià zánmen bǎ dōngxi dōu bān dào chē shàng ba · My dad's car is downstairs. Let's carry everything to the car.

anna 太好了！如果你爸爸不来，我就只能坐出租车了。
tài hǎo le rúguǒ nǐ bàba bù lái wǒ jiù zhǐ néng zuò chūzūchē le · Brilliant! If your dad weren't coming, I'd have to take a taxi.

xiaoming 电脑呢？应该放在包里吧?
diànnǎo ne yīnggāi fàng zài bāo lǐ ba · What about your computer? It should go in your bag, right?

anna 对，我先关机，再把它放在包里。走以前别忘了关灯，关空调。
duì wǒ xiān guānjī zài bǎ tā fàng zài bāo lǐ zǒu yǐqián bié wàng le guān dēng guān kōngtiáo · Yes, I'll switch it off first, then put it in my bag. Before we go, don't forget to turn off the lights and the air conditioning.

xiaoming 好。要离开这个屋子了，你还想再看一看吗?
hǎo yào líkāi zhège wūzi le nǐ hái xiǎng zài kàn yi kan ma · OK. You're leaving this room: do you want one last look?

anna 好，再看一下。好了，最后一个：我的伞。出发！
hǎo zài kàn yíxià hǎo le zuìhòu yí gè wǒ de sǎn chūfā · Yes, one more look. Right, one last thing: my umbrella. Let's go!

chapter 3 the lift is broken!

auntie liu 安娜，欢迎！可是……电梯坏了。
Ānnà huānyíng kěshì diàntī huài le · Welcome, Anna! But… the lift is broken.

anna 啊？我家在十二层！怎么办？
a wǒ jiā zài shíèr céng zěnme bàn · What? My flat is on the twelfth floor! What do we do?

auntie liu 门口写着：“今天上午电梯要换新的，只有下午两点以后才能坐。请大家走楼梯，不要把自行车放在楼梯上。”
ménkǒu xiě zhe jīntiān shàngwǔ diàntī yào huàn xīn de zhǐyǒu xiàwǔ liǎng diǎn yǐhòu cái néng zuò qǐng dàjiā zǒu lóutī búyào bǎ zìxíngchē fàng zài lóutī shàng · The sign by the door says: “The lift is being replaced this morning and can only be used after 2 pm. Please use the stairs, and do not leave bicycles on the stairs.”

xiaoming 看来我们必须走楼梯了。
kànlái wǒmen bìxū zǒu lóutī le · Looks like we’ll have to take the stairs.

auntie liu 你们先把小东西拿上去，大的一会儿再搬。
nǐmen xiān bǎ xiǎo dōngxi ná shangqu dà de yíhuìr zài bān · Take the small things up first, and move the big ones later.

anna 这个办法好！
zhège bànfǎ hǎo · Good idea!

xiaoming 我们走到几层了？我好累！
wǒmen zǒu dào jǐ céng le wǒ hǎo lèi · What floor are we on? I’m worn out!

anna 刚刚到八层……还有四层！
gānggāng dào bā céng hái yǒu sì céng · We’ve only just reached the eighth… four more to go!

xiaoming 越走越累了！夏天搬家真热，我的衣服都脏了，一会儿得洗澡。
yuè zǒu yuè lèi le xiàtiān bānjiā zhēn rè wǒ de yīfu dōu zāng le yíhuìr děi xǐzǎo · The more we climb, the more tired I get! Moving in summer is so hot, my clothes are filthy. I’ll have to shower later.

auntie liu 累了就休息一会儿。来，喝一点儿冰水。
lèi le jiù xiūxi yíhuìr lái hē yìdiǎnr bīng shuǐ · If you’re tired, have a rest. Here, have some iced water.

anna 谢谢阿姨！啊，真凉快！现在大概几点了？
xièxie āyí a zhēn liángkuai xiànzài dàgài jǐ diǎn le · Thank you, Auntie! Ah, that’s so cool! What time is it now, roughly?

auntie liu 你们看，两点了，电梯好了！
nǐmen kàn liǎng diǎn le diàntī hǎo le · Look, it’s two o’clock: the lift is working!

anna 真的？太好了！我们终于不用走楼梯了！
zhēn de tài hǎo le wǒmen zhōngyú búyòng zǒu lóutī le · Really? Great! At last, no more stairs!

chapter 4 where’s my phone?

anna 沙发放在哪儿?

shāfā fàng zài nǎr · Where shall we put the sofa?

xiaoming 把沙发放在屋子中间吧，桌子放在冰箱旁边。其他东西呢?

bǎ shāfā fàng zài wūzi zhōngjiān ba zhuōzi fàng zài bīngxiāng pángbiān qítā dōngxi ne · Put the sofa in the middle of the room, and the table next to the fridge. What about everything else?

anna 先放在门口。这个屋子好久没人住了，有点儿脏。你扫一扫屋子，我刷卫生间。

xiān fàng zài ménkǒu zhège wūzi hǎojiǔ méi rén zhù le yǒudiǎnr zāng nǐ sǎo yi sao wūzi wǒ shuā wèishēngjiān · By the door for now. Nobody has lived here for ages; it's a bit dirty. You sweep the room, and I'll scrub the bathroom.

anna 小明，我突然发现我的手机不见了！刚才我放在桌子上了。

Xiǎomíng wǒ tūrán fāxiàn wǒ de shǒujī bújiàn le gāngcái wǒ fàng zài zhuōzi shàng le · Xiaoming, I've just noticed my phone has vanished! I put it on the table a moment ago.

xiaoming 你看，大白把手机拿到你面前了！你的手机是被它拿走的。

nǐ kàn Dàbái bǎ shǒujī ná dào nǐ miànqián le nǐ de shǒujī shì bèi tā ná zǒu de · Look, Dabai has brought your phone right to you! It was Dabai who took it.

anna 大白！你又拿我的东西！我们找了半天！

Dàbái nǐ yòu ná wǒ de dōngxi wǒmen zhǎo le bàntiān · Dabai! You've taken my things again! We've been looking for ages!

xiaoming 它总这样。你看它，一会儿跑到这儿，一会儿跑到那儿，太高兴了。

tā zǒng zhèyàng nǐ kàn tā yíhuìr pǎo dào zhèr yíhuìr pǎo dào nàr tài gāoxìng le · It always does that. Look at it, running here one minute and there the next. It's so happy.

anna 没丢就好。可是手机没电了，关机了。门口好像来了两个人。

méi diū jiù hǎo kěshì shǒujī méi diàn le guānjī le ménkǒu hǎoxiàng lái le liǎng gè rén · At least it isn't lost. But the battery's dead: it's switched off. Oh, two people seem to have turned up at the door.

auntie liu 安娜，我给你介绍一下：这是我们的邻居老王。他和他爱人结婚四十年了！我们为你买了一点儿水果。

Ānnà wǒ gěi nǐ jièshào yíxià zhè shì wǒmen de línjū lǎo Wáng tā hé tā àiren jiéhūn sìshí nián le wǒmen wèi nǐ mǎi le yìdiǎnr shuǐguǒ · Anna, let me introduce you: this is our neighbour, Lao Wang. He and his wife have been married forty years! We've bought you some fruit.

anna 谢谢王叔叔，谢谢刘阿姨！你们是我新家最早的客人！

xièxie Wáng shūshu xièxie Liúāyí nǐmen shì wǒ xīn jiā zuì zǎo de kèrén · Thank you, Uncle Wang and Auntie Liu! You're the very first guests in my new home!

auntie liu 不必说谢谢，咱们是邻居。老王年轻的时候在银行工作，现在每天在家养鸟。他是个好男人，做饭、打扫都是他!

búbì shuō xièxie zánmen shì línjū lǎo Wáng niánqīng de shíhou zài yínháng gōngzuò xiànzài měi tiān zài jiā yǎng niǎo tā shì gè hǎo nánrén zuòfàn dǎsǎo dōu shì tā · There's no need to thank us: we're neighbours. Lao Wang worked at a bank when he was young; now he's at home every day, keeping birds. He's a good man: he does the cooking and the cleaning!

xiaoming 阿姨，附近有好饭馆吗？我们一会儿想去吃饭。

āyí fùjìn yǒu hǎo fànguǎn ma wǒmen yíhuìr xiǎng qù chī fàn · Auntie, are there any good restaurants nearby? We'd like to go and eat in a while.

auntie liu 有！出了小区北门，别向西走，一直向东走，经过图书馆，到了第二个红绿灯再向南走，过了马路就是。饭馆就在路边，宾馆旁边，饺子特别好吃。

yǒu chū le xiǎoqū běi mén bié xiàng xī zǒu yìzhí xiàng dōng zǒu jīngguò túshūguǎn dào le dì èr gè hónglǜdēng zài xiàng nán zǒu guò le mǎlù jiù shì fànguǎn jiù zài lùbiān bīnguǎn pángbiān jiǎozi tèbié hǎochī · Yes! Go out of the north gate of the estate. Don't head west: keep going east past the library, turn south at the second set of traffic lights, and it's just across the road. The restaurant is right by the road, next to the hotel, and its dumplings are amazing.

anna 阿姨，我到了新地方，一般不知道哪个方向是北……
āyí wǒ dào le xīn dìfang yìbān bù zhīdào nǎge fāngxiàng shì běi · Auntie, whenever I'm somewhere new, I usually have no idea which way is north…

auntie liu 没关系，我把地图给你看。你看，咱们小区在这条街的北边，饭馆在小区的东南边。先向东，再向南，别走错了。
méi guānxi wǒ bǎ dìtú gěi nǐ kàn nǐ kàn zánmen xiǎoqū zài zhè tiáo jiē de běi biān fànguǎn zài xiǎoqū de dōngnán biān xiān xiàng dōng zài xiàng nán bié zǒu cuò le · Never mind, let me show you on the map. Look, our estate is on the north side of this street, and the restaurant is southeast of the estate. East first, then south: don't go the wrong way.

chapter 5 the first guests

xiaoming 阿姨说的地点就是这儿吧？在宾馆旁边。
āyí shuō de dìdiǎn jiù shì zhèr ba zài bīnguǎn pángbiān · This must be the place Auntie told us about: next to the hotel.

xiao chen 安娜，听说你搬家了！我来看看你！
Ānnà tīngshuō nǐ bānjiā le wǒ lái kàn kan nǐ · Anna, I hear you've moved! I've come to see you!

anna 小陈，欢迎欢迎！这是我邻居刘阿姨，这是我朋友小明。小区里的人刘阿姨都认识，大人、孩子都喜欢她。
XiǎoChén huānyíng huānyíng zhè shì wǒ línjū Liúāyí zhè shì wǒ péngyou Xiǎomíng xiǎoqū lǐ de rén Liúāyí dōu rènshi dàren háizi dōu xǐhuan tā · Xiao Chen, welcome! This is my neighbour, Auntie Liu, and this is my friend Xiaoming. Auntie Liu knows everyone on the estate; grown-ups and children all love her.

auntie liu 你们好！小陈，你觉得我们小区怎么样？
nǐmen hǎo XiǎoChén nǐ juéde wǒmen xiǎoqū zěnmeyàng · Hello! Xiao Chen, what do you think of our estate?

xiao chen 我认为比安娜以前住的地方好多了，而且离公司特别近。到处都是花和草地，真是个好地方！我也打算不久以后搬到这儿来。
wǒ rènwéi bǐ Ānnà yǐqián zhù de dìfang hǎo duō le érqiě lí gōngsī tèbié jìn dàochù dōu shì huā hé cǎodì zhēn shì gè hǎo dìfang wǒ yě dǎsuàn bùjiǔ yǐhòu bān dào zhèr lái · I think it's much better than where Anna lived before, and it's really close to work. There are flowers and lawns everywhere: it's a lovely place! I'm planning to move here myself before long.

anna 是啊！搬家的事差不多都完成了。虽然今天很累，可是我特别高兴。
shì a bānjiā de shì chàbuduō dōu wánchéng le suīrán jīntiān hěn lèi kěshì wǒ tèbié gāoxìng · Exactly! The move is pretty much done. I'm tired today, but really happy.

auntie liu 我们小区什么人都有。楼上住着一个老人，他的孩子常常来照顾他；楼下的年轻夫妻刚结婚，女儿上个月出生了。
wǒmen xiǎoqū shénme rén dōu yǒu lóu shàng zhù zhe yí gè lǎorén tā de háizi chángcháng lái zhàogù tā lóu xià de niánqīng fūqī gāng jiéhūn nǚér shàng gè yuè chūshēng le · Our estate has all kinds of people. Upstairs there's an old man whose children often come to look after him; downstairs, the young couple only married recently, and their daughter was born last month.

xiao chen 刚才在路口，我看到一个穿得很漂亮的年轻女人，她也住在这儿吗？
gāngcái zài lùkǒu wǒ kàn dào yí gè chuān de hěn piàoliang de niánqīng nǚrén tā yě zhù zài zhèr ma · Just now at the junction I saw a smartly dressed young woman. Does she live here too?

auntie liu 那是我们楼上的邻居。她和她的姐妹住在一起。
nà shì wǒmen lóu shàng de línjū tā hé tā de jiěmèi zhù zài yìqǐ · That's one of our upstairs neighbours. She lives with her sister.

chapter 6 dinner's on me

xiao chen 安娜，你来北京多久了？去过中国哪些地方？
Ānnà nǐ lái Běijīng duō jiǔ le qù guo Zhōngguó nǎxiē dìfang · Anna, how long have you been in Beijing? Where in China have you been?

anna 快两年了。东北、西北、西南我都去过，每个地方都不一样。北京的四季变化特别大：春天常常刮风，夏天热极了，冬天几乎每天都有太阳。
kuài liǎng nián le dōngběi xīběi xīnán wǒ dōu qù guo měi gè dìfang dōu bù yíyàng Běijīng de sìjì biànhuà tèbié dà chūntiān chángcháng guā fēng xiàtiān rè jí le dōngtiān jīhū měi tiān dōu yǒu tàiyáng · Almost two years. I've been to the Northeast, the Northwest and the Southwest, and every place is different. Beijing's seasons change a lot: spring is often windy, summer is extremely hot, and in winter it's sunny almost every day.

auntie liu 是啊，北方的季节跟南方很不同。我是东北人，年轻的时候来北京工作，后来就变成北京人了！
shì a běifāng de jìjié gēn nánfāng hěn bù tóng wǒ shì dōngběi rén niánqīng de shíhou lái Běijīng gōngzuò hòulái jiù biànchéng Běijīng rén le · Yes, the seasons in the north are very different from the south. I'm from the Northeast: I came to Beijing for work when I was young, and later I turned into a Beijinger!

xiao chen 其实我是南方人。周末我常去公园跑步，或者跟朋友打篮球。
qíshí wǒ shì nánfāng rén zhōumò wǒ cháng qù gōngyuán pǎobù huòzhě gēn péngyou dǎ lánqiú · Actually, I'm a southerner. At weekends I often go running in the park, or play basketball with friends.

xiaoming 以后周末咱们可以一块儿去！
yǐhòu zhōumò zánmen kěyǐ yíkuàir qù · We can go together at weekends from now on!

anna 为了谢谢大家，今天我请客！你们一定都累了吧？多吃一点儿！
wèile xièxie dàjiā jīntiān wǒ qǐngkè nǐmen yídìng dōu lèi le ba duō chī yìdiǎnr · To thank you all, today it's my treat! You must all be tired. Eat up!

xiao chen 太好了！我不会做饭，只是喜欢吃。
tài hǎo le wǒ bú huì zuòfàn zhǐshì xǐhuan chī · Great! I can't cook; I just love eating.

auntie liu 安娜，以后只要有事，你就给我打电话或来找我。
Ānnà yǐhòu zhǐyào yǒu shì nǐ jiù gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà huò lái zhǎo wǒ · Anna, from now on, whenever you need anything, just call me or come and find me.

anna 谢谢阿姨！以前我总是一个人，现在身边有这么多朋友！我真不相信，一天就把家搬完了！
xièxie āyí yǐqián wǒ zǒngshì yí gè rén xiànzài shēnbiān yǒu zhème duō péngyou wǒ zhēn bù xiāngxìn yì tiān jiù bǎ jiā bān wán le · Thank you, Auntie! I used to be on my own all the time; now I've got so many friends around me! I can't believe we moved everything in a single day!

xiao chen 在我看来，一个城市最好的地方就是朋友多。来，咱们一起拍照吧！
zài wǒ kànlái yí gè chéngshì zuìhǎo de dìfang jiù shì péngyou duō lái zánmen yìqǐ pāizhào ba · As I see it, the best thing about any city is having lots of friends. Come on, let's take a photo together!

anna 好！照片我一会儿给大家看。
hǎo zhàopiàn wǒ yíhuìr gěi dàjiā kàn · Sure! I'll show everyone the photos in a bit.

xiaoming 你们看，今天的月亮真大！
nǐmen kàn jīntiān de yuèliang zhēn dà · Look, the moon is so big tonight!

auntie liu 天不早了，咱们该回家了。
tiān bù zǎo le zánmen gāi huí jiā le · It's getting late; it's time we went home.

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day 13 i'm starving!

Say how hungry, thirsty or full you are, read a menu and order food and drinks.

Food is the heart of daily life in China, and "are you hungry?" is how people look after each other.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
饿	è	hungry	你饿不饿? Are you hungry?
饱	bǎo	full (after eating)	我吃饱了。 I'm full.
渴	kě	thirsty	我有点儿渴。 I'm a bit thirsty.
菜单	càidān	menu	请给我看一下菜单。 Could I see the menu, please?
尝	cháng	to taste, try (food)	你尝尝这个菜。 Try this dish.
甜	tián	sweet	这个西瓜很甜。 This watermelon is very sweet.
新鲜	xīnxiān	fresh	这里的鱼很新鲜。 The fish here is very fresh.
鸡	jī	chicken	我喜欢吃鸡肉。 I like chicken.
牛	niú	cow, ox; awesome (slang)	我不吃牛肉。 I don't eat beef.
羊	yáng	sheep, goat	北方人冬天喜欢吃羊肉。 In the north, people love lamb in winter.
蛋糕	dàngāo	cake	生日快乐！我们一起吃蛋糕吧。 Happy birthday! Let's have some cake.
冰激凌	bīngjīlíng	ice cream	夏天我总是想吃冰激凌。 In summer I always want ice cream.
方便面	fāngbiànmiàn	instant noodles	别总是吃方便面。 Don't live on instant noodles.
糖	táng	sugar; sweets	我喝咖啡不放糖。 I take my coffee without sugar.
西瓜	xīguā	watermelon	我买了一个大西瓜。 I bought a big watermelon.
香蕉	xiāngjiāo	banana	这些香蕉很便宜。 These bananas are cheap.
外卖	wàimài	takeaway, food delivery	今天晚上我们点外卖吧。 Let's order takeaway tonight.
饮料	yǐnliào	drink, beverage	你想喝什么饮料? What would you like to drink?

pattern 极了, 得很, 坏了: really, really

adjective 极了 得很 坏了

Put the strength after the adjective. 好吃极了 is “absolutely delicious”, and 甜得很 is “really sweet”. 坏了 is “to bits” and goes with strong feelings: 饿坏了 starving, 累坏了 worn out, 高兴坏了 over the moon.

这个冰激凌好吃极了！ **zhège bīngjīlíng hǎochī jí le** This ice cream is amazing!

外面热得很。 **wàimiàn rè de hěn** It’s really hot outside.

我累坏了。 **wǒ lèi huài le** I’m worn out.

孩子们高兴坏了。 **háizimen gāoxìng huài le** The kids were over the moon.

dialogue lunch at the office

xiao chen 安娜，十二点了，你饿不饿?
Ānnà shíèr diǎn le nǐ è bu è · Anna, it’s twelve. Are you hungry?

anna 饿极了！我早上只吃了一个香蕉。
è jí le wǒ zǎoshang zhǐ chī le yí gè xiāngjiāo · Starving! I only had a banana this morning.

xiao chen 我们点外卖吧。你看看菜单。
wǒmen diǎn wàimài ba nǐ kàn kan càidān · Let’s order takeaway. Have a look at the menu.

anna 鸡肉饭、牛肉饭、羊肉饺子……都很好吃吧?
jī ròu fàn niú ròu fàn yáng ròu jiǎozi dōu hěn hǎochī ba · Chicken rice, beef rice, lamb dumplings… all good, right?

xiao chen 羊肉饺子好吃得很！我常常点。你要饮料吗?
yáng ròu jiǎozi hǎochī de hěn wǒ chángcháng diǎn nǐ yào yǐnliào ma · The lamb dumplings are really good! I order them all the time. Do you want a drink?

anna 要一杯冰奶茶，少糖。我渴坏了。
yào yì bēi bīng nǎichá shǎo táng wǒ kě huài le · An iced milk tea, less sugar. I’m dying of thirst.

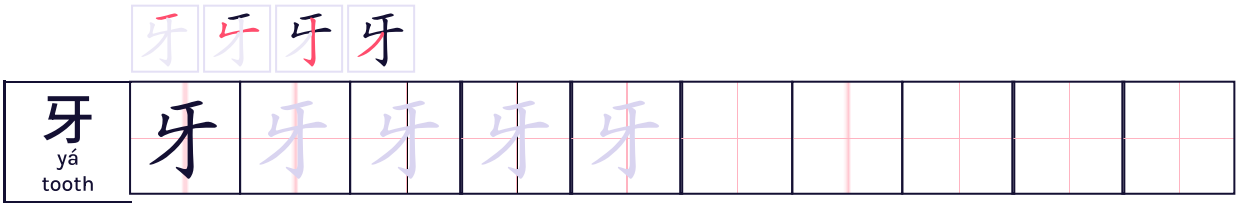
xiao chen 好。你别总是吃方便面，今天要吃饱！
hǎo nǐ bié zǒngshì chī fāngbiànmiàn jīntiān yào chī bǎo · OK. Don’t always live on instant noodles: today you eat properly!

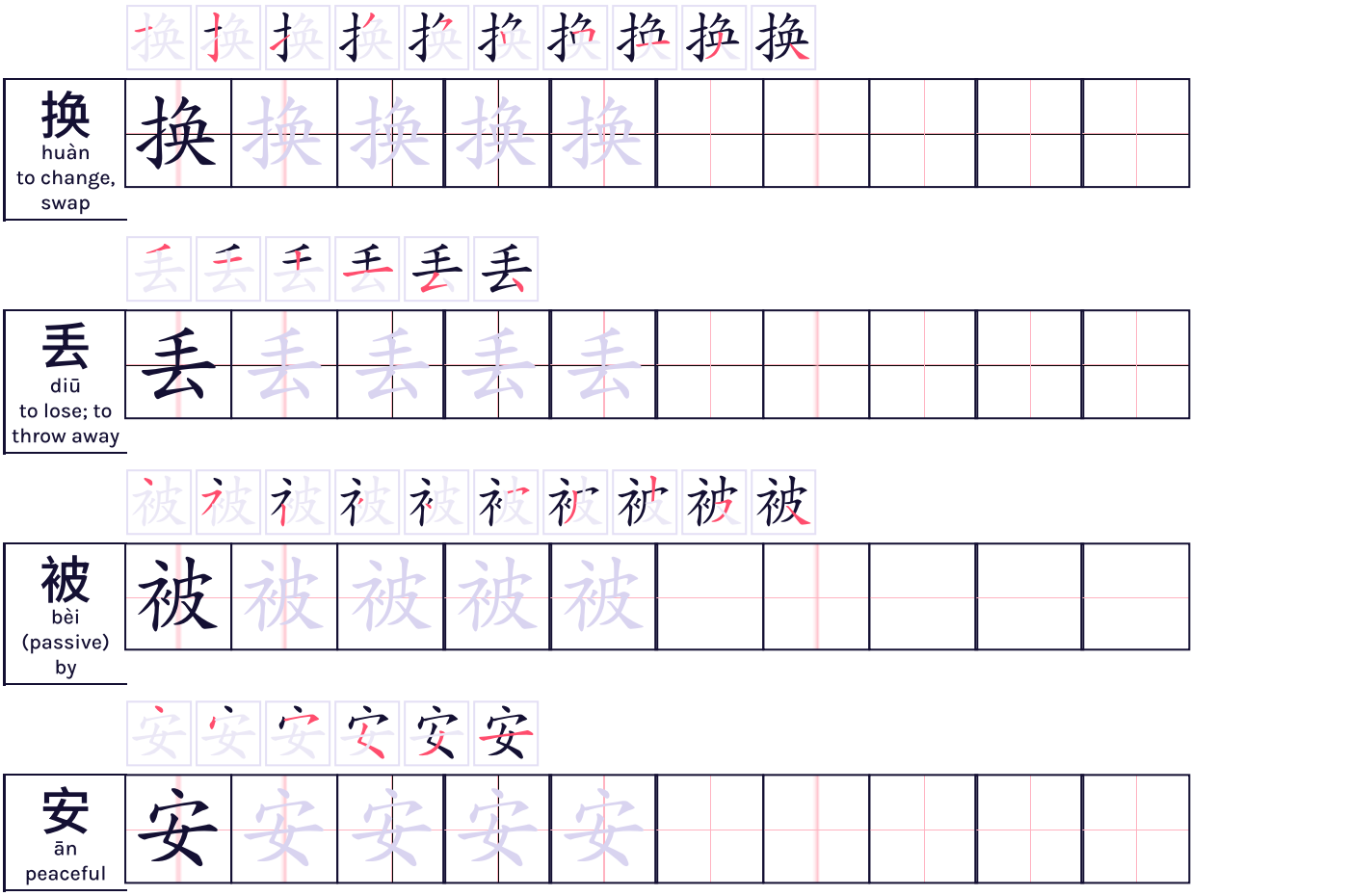
anna 你说得对。外卖到了！
nǐ shuō de duì wàimài dào le · Ha… you’re right. The food’s here!

xiao chen 怎么样?
zěnmeyàng · How is it?

anna 好吃极了！我吃饱了。
hǎochī jí le wǒ chī bǎo le · Absolutely delicious! I’m full.

write it trace the grey, then write your own





good to know · 吃了吗? "Have you eaten?" is a friendly hello in China. You can just say 吃了 or 还没呢. At milk-tea shops you choose ice and sugar: 少冰 less ice, 少糖 less sugar, 热的 hot.

Hungry, thirsty, full: now you can say exactly how you feel at the table, and order the food to fix it. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 14 eating out

Order by the bowl, plate and bottle, ask for chopsticks or a spoon, and say if you are happy with the service.

Chinese restaurants share dishes for the table, and you order them by the plate and the bowl.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
筷子	kuàizi	chopsticks	你会用筷子吗? Can you use chopsticks?
勺子	sháozi	spoon	小孩儿吃饭用勺子。 Little kids eat with a spoon.
盘子	pánzi	plate, dish	这个盘子很大。 This plate is big.
碗	wǎn	bowl	我要一碗米饭。 A bowl of rice for me, please.
瓶子	píngzi	bottle	这个瓶子里有水吗? Is there any water in this bottle?
矿泉水	kuàngquánshuǐ	mineral water	请给我们两瓶矿泉水。 Two bottles of mineral water, please.
啤酒	píjiǔ	beer	菜单上有啤酒，也有矿泉水。 The menu has beer, and mineral water too.
酒	jiǔ	alcohol, alcoholic drink	这个超市不卖酒。 This supermarket doesn't sell alcohol.
服务	fúwù	to serve; service	这家饭馆的服务很好。 The service in this restaurant is very good.
满意	mǎnyì	satisfied, pleased	你对这家饭馆满意吗? Are you happy with this restaurant?
张	zhāng	(measure word for flat things)	桌子上有一张菜单。 There's a menu on the table.
种	zhǒng	kind, type	这种水果很甜。 This kind of fruit is very sweet.
用	yòng	to use	我用手机买东西。 I buy things with my phone.
要求	yāoqiú	to require; requirement	我对吃的要求不高。 I'm not fussy about food.
方便	fāngbiàn	convenient, handy	住在这儿很方便。 Living here is very convenient.
简单	jiǎndān	simple, easy	这个菜很简单，我也会做。 This dish is simple: even I can make it.
好多	hǎoduō	lots of, a great many	今天饭馆里有好多人。 There are loads of people in the restaurant today.
收	shōu	to receive, accept; to collect	他们收了我五十块钱。 They charged me fifty yuan.

pattern 一碗, 一盘, 一瓶: containers as measure words

number | 碗 / 盘 / 瓶 / 杯 | food or drink

The container itself becomes the measure word: 一碗米饭 a bowl of rice, 一盘饺子 a plate of dumplings, 一瓶水 a bottle of water. Double a measure word and it means “every one”: 个个都好吃, 张张都好看.

我们要两碗面条儿。 **wǒmen yào liǎng wǎn miàntiáor** Two bowls of noodles, please.

桌子上有一盘水果。 **zhuōzi shàng yǒu yì pán shuǐguǒ** There’s a plate of fruit on the table.

这些照片张张都很漂亮。 **zhèxiē zhàopiàn zhāng zhang dōu hěn piàoliang** Every one of these photos is beautiful.

dialogue dinner with auntie liu

anna 刘阿姨，谢谢您帮我搬家。今天我请客！
Liúāyí xièxie nín bāng wǒ bānjiā jīntiān wǒ qǐngkè · Auntie Liu, thank you for helping me move. Dinner’s on me tonight!

auntie liu 好啊！这家饭馆我常来，菜个个都好吃。
hǎo a zhè jiā fànguǎn wǒ cháng lái cài gè gè dōu hǎochī · Lovely! I come here a lot: every dish is good.

anna 您想吃什么？您有什么要求？
nín xiǎng chī shénme nín yǒu shénme yāoqiú · What would you like? Anything you need?

auntie liu 我对吃的要求不高，简单一点儿就好。来一盘羊肉饺子，两碗米饭。
wǒ duì chī de yāoqiú bù gāo jiǎndān yìdiǎnr jiù hǎo lái yì pán yáng ròu jiǎozi liǎng wǎn mǐfàn · I’m not fussy about food: something simple is fine. A plate of lamb dumplings and two bowls of rice.

anna 喝什么？菜单后面有茶、啤酒和矿泉水。
hē shénme càidān hòumiàn yǒu chá píjiǔ hé kuàngquánshuǐ · And to drink? The back of the menu has tea, beer and mineral water.

auntie liu 两瓶矿泉水就好。
liǎng píng kuàngquánshuǐ jiù hǎo · Two bottles of mineral water will do.

auntie liu 安娜，你用筷子用得真好！
Ānnà nǐ yòng kuàizi yòng de zhēn hǎo · Anna, you’re really good with chopsticks!

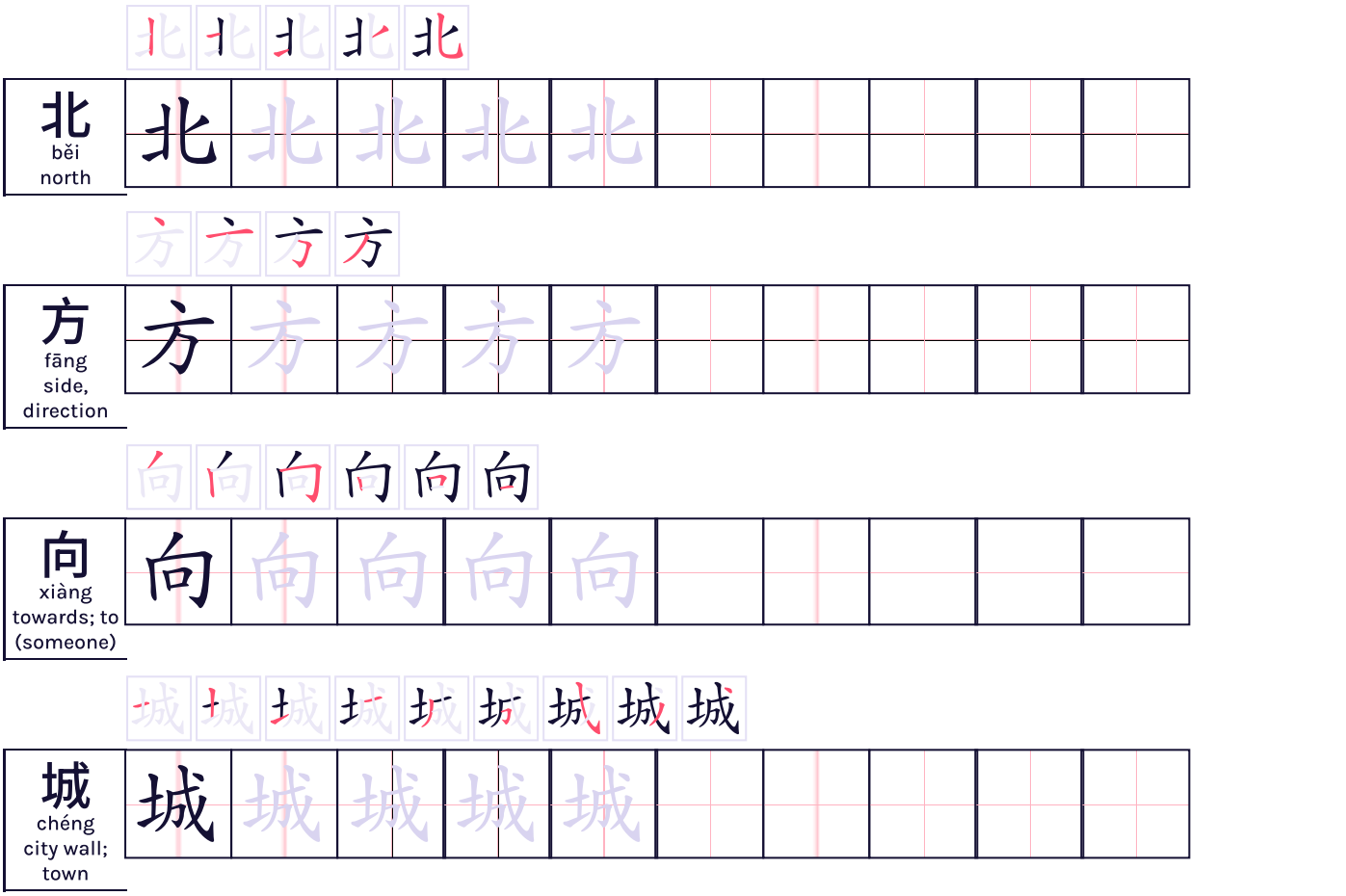
anna 以前我只会用勺子，现在我觉得筷子很方便。
yǐqián wǒ zhǐ huì yòng sháozi xiànzài wǒ juéde kuàizi hěn fāngbiàn · I used to only manage a spoon. Now I find chopsticks really handy.

auntie liu 这里的服务也很好。你满意吗？
zhèlǐ de fúwù yě hěn hǎo nǐ mǎnyì ma · The service is good here too. Are you happy?

anna 很满意！他们只收了我们八十块。
hěn mǎnyì tāmen zhǐ shōu le wǒmen bāshí kuài · Very! And they only charged us eighty yuan.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

南
nán
south



good to know · In China one person often pays for the whole table: 我请客 “it’s on me”. Next time, the other person treats. Dishes are shared in the middle of the table; each person gets their own bowl of rice.

A bowl, a plate, a bottle: you can now order for a whole table, and thank your host properly.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 15 what to wear

Compare clothes (even nicer, the same as, no more expensive than), try them on and say if the size is right.

Shopping with friends is all comparing: this one or that one, bigger or smaller, the same or different.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
衬衫	chènshān	shirt	这件衬衫很好看。 This shirt looks nice.
大衣	dàyī	overcoat, winter coat	冬天要穿大衣。 In winter you need a coat.
短裤	duǎnkù	shorts	夏天我常常穿短裤。 In summer I often wear shorts.
裙子	qúnzi	skirt, dress	这条裙子太长了。 This skirt is too long.
上衣	shàngyī	top, jacket	这件上衣不大不小。 This top is just the right size.
鞋	xié	shoe	这双鞋多少钱? How much are these shoes?
雨衣	yǔyī	raincoat	要下雨了，带雨衣吧。 It's going to rain: take a raincoat.
黄色	huángsè	yellow	我喜欢黄色的衣服。 I like yellow clothes.
蓝	lán	blue	北京秋天的天很蓝。 In autumn the sky in Beijing is very blue.
合适	héshì	suitable, the right fit	这件衣服你穿正合适。 This fits you perfectly.
大小	dàxiǎo	size	这双鞋大小合适吗? Are these shoes the right size?
短	duǎn	short (in length or time)	这条裤子有点儿短。 These trousers are a bit short.
试	shì	to try, try on	我可以试一下吗? Can I try it on?
选	xuǎn	to choose, pick	你帮我选一件吧。 Help me pick one.
选择	xuǎnzé	to choose; choice	这里有好多种，你可以自己选择。 There are lots of kinds here: you can choose for yourself.
旧	jiù	old, worn (of things)	我的鞋太旧了。 My shoes are too worn out.
双	shuāng	pair	我买了一双鞋。 I bought a pair of shoes.
带	dài	to bring, take along	出门要带伞。 Take an umbrella when you go out.

pattern 比……更 / 还, 不比, 跟……一样: comparing

A | 比 | B | 更 / 还 | adjective

A 比 B 更 + adjective: A is even more so than B. 还 instead of 更 sounds a little surprised. A 不比 B + adjective means A is no more so than B. A 跟 B 一样 (+ adjective): the same (as big, as nice).

今天比昨天还冷。 **jīntiān bǐ zuótiān hái lěng** Today is even colder than yesterday.

我的大衣跟你的大小一样。 **wǒ de dàyī gēn nǐ de dàxiǎo yíyàng** My coat is the same size as yours.

这件上衣不大不小，正合适。 **zhè jiàn shàngyī bú dà bù xiǎo zhèng héshì** This top is neither too big nor too small: just right.

蓝的不比黄色的好看。 **lán de bù bǐ huángsè de hǎokàn** The blue one doesn't look any better than the yellow one.

dialogue which skirt?

little sister 安娜姐姐，你帮我选一条裙子吧。
Ānnà jiějie nǐ bāng wǒ xuǎn yì tiáo qúnzi ba · Anna, help me pick a skirt.

anna 这条黄色的和那条蓝的，你喜欢哪条？
zhè tiáo huángsè de hé nà tiáo lán de nǐ xǐhuan nǎ tiáo · This yellow one or that blue one: which do you like?

little sister 两条我都喜欢！怎么选择啊？
liǎng tiáo wǒ dōu xǐhuan zěnme xuǎnzé a · I like them both! How do I choose?

anna 先试一下吧。
xiān shì yíxià ba · Try them on first.

little sister 怎么样？
zěnmeyàng · What do you think?

anna 蓝的不长不短，大小也合适，比黄色的更好看。
lán de bù cháng bù duǎn dàxiǎo yě héshì bǐ huángsè de gèng hǎokàn · The blue one is just the right length and the right size too: it looks even better than the yellow one.

little sister 可是蓝的比黄色的贵五十块。
kěshì lán de bǐ huángsè de guì wǔshí kuài · But the blue one is fifty yuan more than the yellow one.

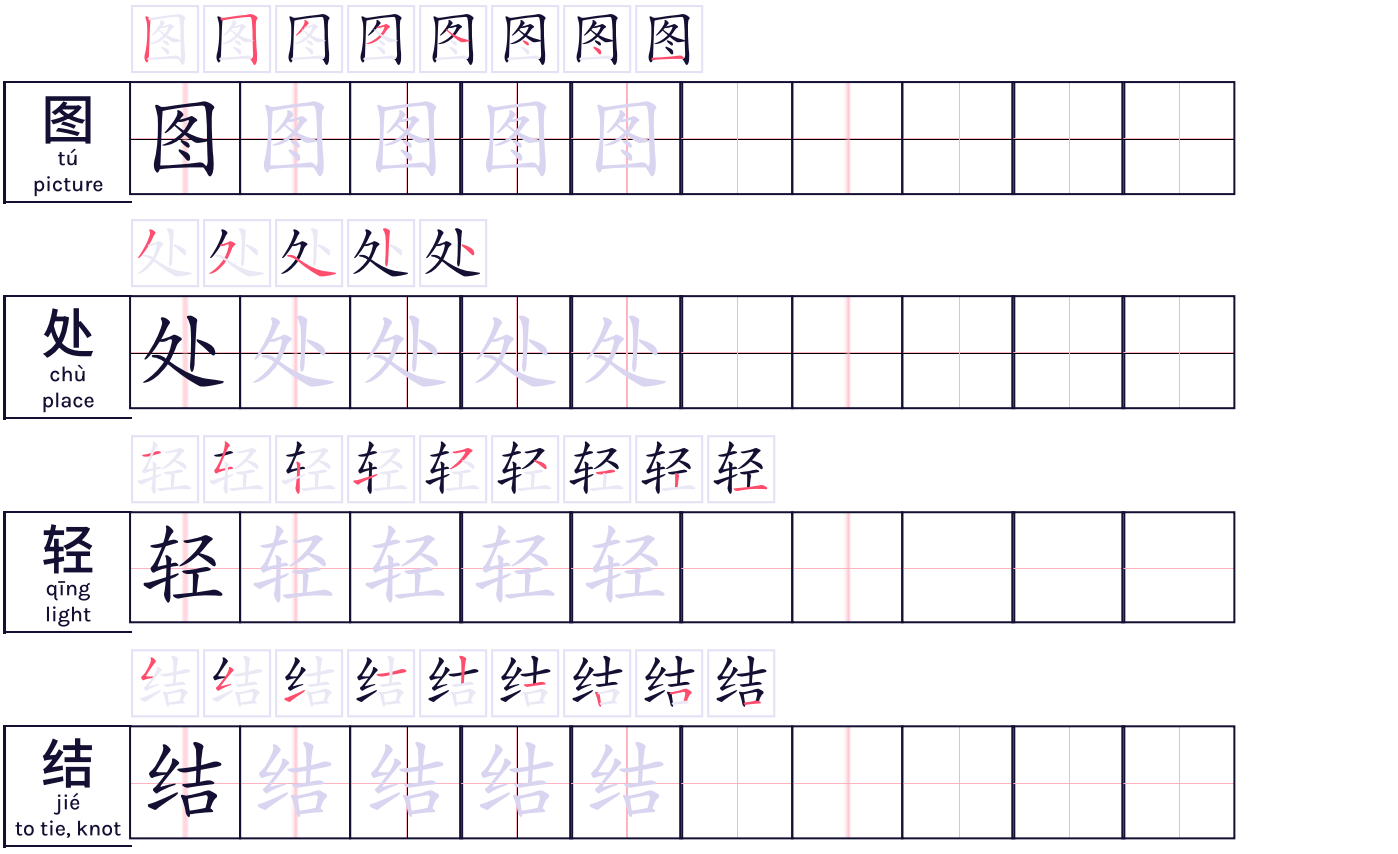
anna 你的旧裙子都是黄色的，这次选蓝的吧！
nǐ de jiù qúnzi dōu shì huángsè de zhè cì xuǎn lán de ba · All your old skirts are yellow: go for the blue one this time!

little sister 好！我还想买一双鞋，跟你的一样。
hǎo wǒ hái xiǎng mǎi yì shuāng xié gēn nǐ de yíyàng · OK! I want a pair of shoes too, the same as yours.

anna 没问题，我们去看看！
méi wèntí wǒmen qù kàn kan · No problem, let's go and look!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

行
xíng
OK, all right; capable



good to know · Never put 很 after 比: say 这件比那件好看 or 更好看, not 很好看. Clothes have their measure words: 一件衬衫 / 大衣 / 上衣, 一条裙子 / 裤子 / 短裤, 一双鞋.

Better, the same, no more expensive, just right: you can shop like a local and help a friend choose. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 16 money & numbers

Buy by the jin, count money in 块 and 毛, say “altogether”, borrow and pay back, and compare amounts.

Markets, prices, phone numbers, bus times: numbers are everywhere, and Chinese has its own ways to count them.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
斤	jīn	jin (half a kilo)	苹果五块钱一斤。 Apples are five yuan a jin.
公斤	gōngjīn	kilogram	大白有三十公斤。 Dabai weighs thirty kilos.
角	jiǎo	jiao (0.1 yuan)	一块是十角。 One yuan is ten jiao.
毛	máo	mao (0.1 yuan, spoken); hair, fur	这个三块五毛钱。 This one is three yuan fifty.
米	mǐ	metre	从这儿到银行大概五百米。 It’s about 500 metres from here to the bank.
加	jiā	to add; plus	二加三是五。 Two plus three is five.
借	jiè	to borrow; to lend	你能借我一百块吗? Could you lend me a hundred yuan?
还	huán	to give back, return	我明天还{huan2}你。 I’ll pay you back tomorrow.
银行卡	yínhángkǎ	bank card	我的银行卡在哪儿? Where’s my bank card?
信用卡	xìnyòngkǎ	credit card	这里可以用信用卡吗? Can I pay by credit card here?
卡	kǎ	card	我忘了带卡。 I forgot my card.
号码	hàomǎ	number (phone, room, seat)	你的手机号码是多少? What’s your mobile number?
一共	yīgòng	altogether, in total	一共多少钱? How much is it altogether?
以上	yǐshàng	above, more than	这里的衣服都在五百块以上。 The clothes here all cost over 500 yuan.
以下	yǐxià	below, under	六岁以下的孩子不用买票。 Children under six don’t need a ticket.
差	chà	to be short of; poor, bad	现在差一刻八点。 It’s a quarter to eight.
刻	kè	quarter (of an hour)	我们七点一刻见。 See you at a quarter past seven.

所	suǒ	(measure word for schools, hospitals)	这个城市有好多所大学。 This city has lots of universities.

pattern 比 + 多 / 少 / 早 / 晚 + verb + amount

A | 比 | B | 多 / 少 / 早 / 晚 | verb | amount

To say how much more or less someone did, put 多, 少, 早 or 晚 before the verb and the amount after it: 我比你多买了两斤, I bought two jin more than you. 早 and 晚 compare times: 他比我晚到了半个小时.

我比你多买了两斤。 **wǒ bǐ nǐ duō mǎi le liǎng jīn** I bought two jin more than you.

他比我晚到了半个小时。 **tā bǐ wǒ wǎn dào le bàn gè xiǎoshí** He got there half an hour later than me.

我比他多跑了五百米。 **wǒ bǐ tā duō pǎo le wǔbǎi mǐ** I ran 500 metres more than him.

dialogue at the morning market

grandma 安娜，这里的苹果很新鲜，五块钱一斤。
Ānnà zhèlǐ de píngguǒ hěn xīnxiān wǔ kuài qián yì jīn · Anna, the apples here are really fresh: five yuan a jin.

anna 一斤是多少?
yì jīn shì duōshao · How much is a jin?

grandma 一斤就是半公斤。
yì jīn jiù shì bàn gōngjīn · A jin is exactly half a kilo.

anna 那我买三四斤吧。还要一个西瓜。
nà wǒ mǎi sānsì jīn ba hái yào yí gè xīguā · Then I'll take three or four jin. And a watermelon.

grandma 西瓜十斤以下的十块，十斤以上的加五块。你看，这个大概有八斤。
xīguā shí jīn yǐxià de shí kuài shí jīn yǐshàng de jiā wǔ kuài nǐ kàn zhège dàgài yǒu bā jīn · Watermelons under ten jin are ten yuan; over ten jin, add five. Look, this one's about eight jin.

anna 好，要这个！奶奶，这里可以用银行卡或者信用卡吗？我的手机没电了，我就带了二十块钱。
hǎo yào zhège nǎinai zhèlǐ kěyǐ yòng yínhángkǎ huòzhě xìnyòngkǎ ma wǒ de shǒujī méi diàn le wǒ jiù dài le èrshí kuài qián · Great, this one! Grandma, can I pay by bank card or credit card here? My phone's dead, and I've only brought twenty yuan.

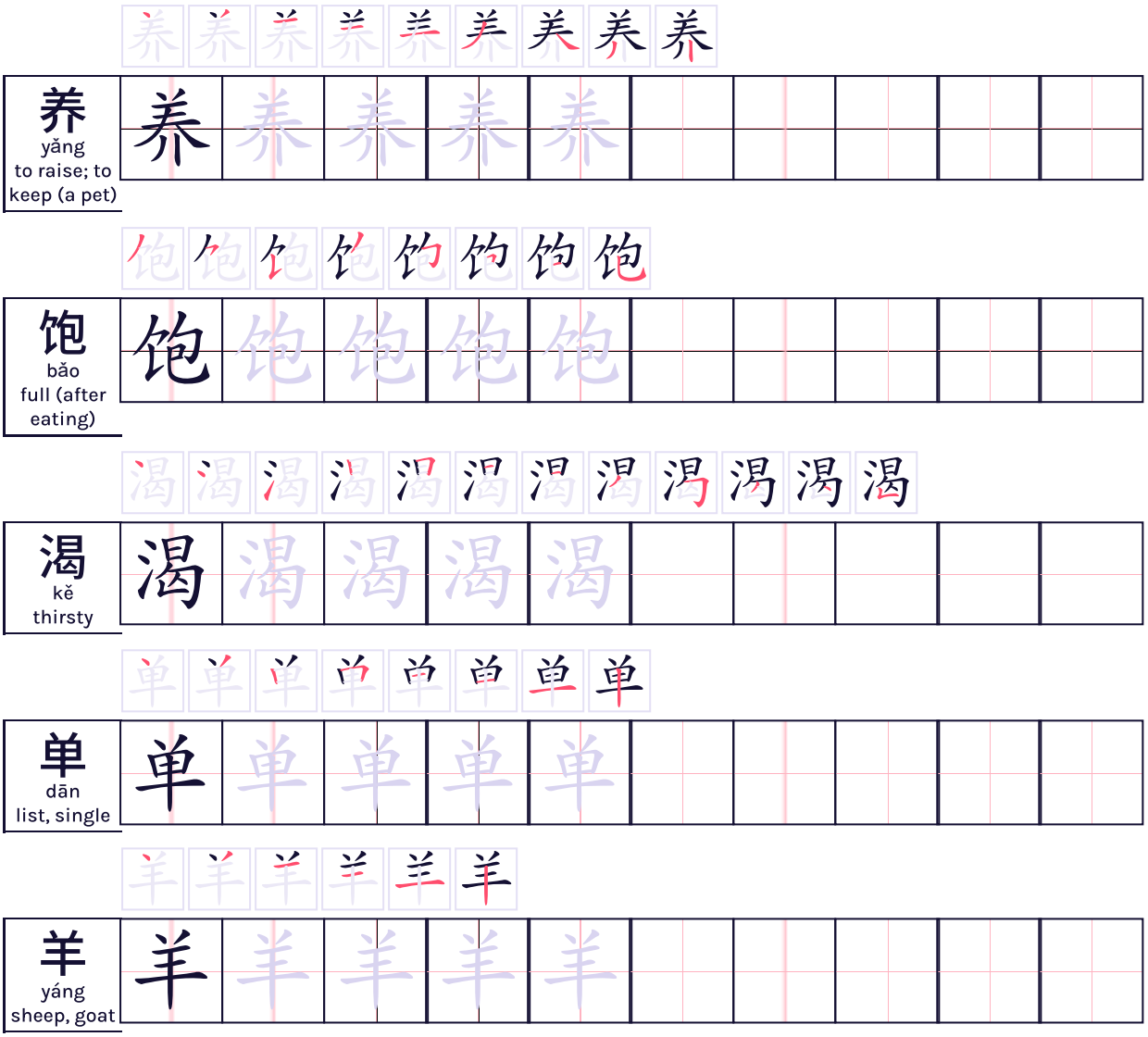
grandma 小店不收卡。没事，我借你五十块。
xiǎo diàn bù shōu kǎ méishì wǒ jiè nǐ wǔshí kuài · Little stalls don't take cards. Never mind, I'll lend you fifty yuan.

anna 谢谢奶奶！四斤苹果二十块，西瓜十块，一共三十块。我明天就还您。
xièxie nǎinai sì jīn píngguǒ èrshí kuài xīguā shí kuài yígòng sānshí kuài wǒ míngtiān jiù huán nín · Thank you, Grandma! Four jin of apples is twenty, the watermelon ten: thirty altogether. I'll pay you back tomorrow.

grandma 没事。你看，我买了六斤，比你多买了两斤！
méishì nǐ kàn wǒ mǎi le liù jīn bǐ nǐ duō mǎi le liǎng jīn · No rush. Look, I bought six jin: two more than you!

anna 下雨了！还好我带了一把伞。咱们坐下一班车回家吧！
xià yǔ le hái hǎo wǒ dài le yì bǎ sǎn zánmen zuò xià yì bān chē huí jiā ba · It's raining! Luckily I brought an umbrella. Let's take the next bus home!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · Money: written 元 and 角, spoken 块 and 毛. 三块五毛 is 3.50, and people often just say 三块五. Level 3 measure words: 一所学校, 一层楼, 一辆车, 一页书, 一句话, 一段路, 一节课, 一封信, 一把伞 (things you hold by a handle), 一班车 (one run of a bus or train), 一头牛 (big animals). New at HSK 3: 头 "head" also counts big animals: 两头牛. And 就 before an amount can mean "only": 我就带了二十块钱 = 我只带了二十块钱. 大概 + amount is "about": 大概八斤.

Prices, weights, "altogether", "about three or four": you can shop at any Chinese market and get your sums right.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 17 music & stories

Say you do two things at once, count how many times you heard or saw something, and talk about music, games and stories.

Free time is where friendships grow: music in the park, games with kids, stories you have heard a hundred times.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
音乐	yīnyuè	music	你喜欢听什么音乐? What music do you like?
游戏	yóuxì	game	孩子们在玩游戏。 The kids are playing a game.
跳	tiào	to jump	大白跳{tiao4}上了沙发。 Dabai jumped up onto the sofa.
开心	kāixīn	happy, cheerful	今天我很开心! I'm so happy today!
声音	shēngyīn	sound, voice	你的声音真好听! You have a lovely voice!
声	shēng	sound; (counts sounds)	大白叫了两声。 Dabai barked twice.
可爱	kěài	cute, lovely	这只猫真可爱! This cat is so cute!
热情	rèqíng	warm, enthusiastic	我的邻居很热情。 My neighbours are really welcoming.
有名	yǒumíng	famous	北京有很多有名的饭馆。 Beijing has lots of famous restaurants.
名人	míngrén	celebrity, famous person	很多名人来过{guo}这个饭馆。 Lots of famous people have eaten at this restaurant.
画家	huàjiā	painter, artist	她是一个有名的画家。 She's a famous painter.
故事	gùshi	story	这个故事很有意思。 This story is really interesting.
遍	biàn	time (start to finish)	这个电影我看了三遍。 I've watched this film three times.
一边	yībiān	while, at the same time	他一边吃饭，一边看手机。 He looks at his phone while he eats.

pattern 一边……，一边……: two things at once

一边 **action 1** **一边** **action 2**

Put 一边 before each of two actions done at the same time. Another way: verb + 着 + verb, where the first action is the way you do the second: 笑着说, say with a smile. To count times, 遍 is the whole thing start to finish, 声 counts sounds, 口 bites or sips, and 回 is like 次.

奶奶一边喝茶，一边看电视。 **nǎinai yìbiān hē chá yìbiān kàn diànshì** Grandma drinks tea while she watches TV.

我们一边走，一边说话。 **wǒmen yìbiān zǒu yìbiān shuōhuà** We talked as we walked.

他笑着说：“没问题！” **tā xiào zhe shuō méi wèntí** He said with a smile: “No problem!”

我只吃了一口。 **wǒ zhǐ chī le yì kǒu** I only had one bite.

dialogue music in the park

anna 小明，你听！那边有音乐。
Xiǎomíng nǐ tīng nàbiān yǒu yīnyuè · Xiaoming, listen! There’s music over there.

xiaoming 是我奶奶！她每个周末都在这儿一边听音乐，一边跳舞。
shì wǒ nǎinai tā měi gè zhōumò dōu zài zhèr yìbiān tīng yīnyuè yìbiān tiàowǔ · It’s my grandma! Every weekend she dances here to music.

anna 奶奶跳得真好，大家都很开心！
nǎinai tiào de zhēn hǎo dàjiā dōu hěn kāixīn · Grandma dances so well, and everyone looks so happy!

grandma 安娜，来！跟我们一起跳吧！
Ānnà lái gēn wǒmen yìqǐ tiào ba · Anna, come on! Dance with us!

anna 我只跳过一回……好吧，我试一下！
wǒ zhǐ tiào guo yì huí hǎo ba wǒ shì yíxià · I’ve only danced once before… oh, all right, I’ll give it a go!

xiaoming 我奶奶很热情吧？在这个公园，她是一个“名人”。
wǒ nǎinai hěn rèqíng ba zài zhège gōngyuán tā shì yí gè míngrén · My grandma’s really outgoing, isn’t she? In this park she’s a bit of a celebrity.

grandma 安娜跳得不错！再跳一遍！
Ānnà tiào de búcuò zài tiào yí biàn · Anna’s not bad at all! Once more, from the top!

anna 奶奶，我累坏了！我们一边喝茶，一边休息吧。
nǎinai wǒ lèi huài le wǒmen yìbiān hē chá yìbiān xiūxi ba · Grandma, I’m worn out! Let’s have some tea and rest.

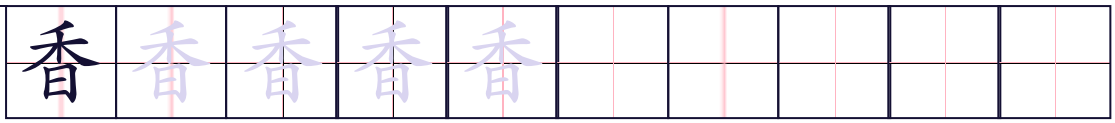
grandma 好！我有一个可爱的故事，你想听吗？
hǎo wǒ yǒu yí gè kěài de gùshi nǐ xiǎng tīng ma · All right! I’ve got a sweet story: want to hear it?

xiaoming 又是那个故事？我听了一百遍了！
yòu shì nàge gùshi wǒ tīng le yìbǎi biàn le · That story again? I’ve heard it a hundred times!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

瓜 guā melon

香
xiāng
fragrant



饮
yǐn
to drink



勺
sháo
ladle, spoon



瓶
píng
bottle, jar



good to know · 请再说一遍 “please say it again” is one of the most useful lines for a learner. Use it without shame! In Chinese parks, groups dance together most mornings and evenings to music from a portable speaker: 广场舞, “square dancing”. New at HSK 3: 回 “go back” is also a measure word for times, like 次: 我来过两回, I’ve been twice.

Two things at once, the same story for the hundredth time: you can share the fun parts of life in Chinese now.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 18 mission: dinner for friends

Chinese HSK 3 in 36 days
unit 3 · food, shopping & fun

Shop for a dinner, get ready, host your friends at the table and keep the evening going with games and stories.

Inviting people home is a big step in any friendship, and this mission uses everything from days 13 to 17.

chapter 1 1. shopping for dinner

anna 刘阿姨，晚上我请朋友来家里吃饭。我们买什么？
Liúāyí wǎnshang wǒ qǐng péngyou lái jiā lǐ chī fàn wǒmen mǎi shénme · Auntie Liu, I've invited friends over for dinner tonight. What should we buy?

auntie liu 先买鱼吧。你看，这些鱼新鲜极了！
xiān mǎi yú ba nǐ kàn zhèxiē yú xīnxiān jí le · Fish first. Look, this fish is super fresh!

anna 好。再买两斤鸡肉，一斤牛肉。小陈不吃羊肉，羊肉就不买了。
hǎo zài mǎi liǎng jīn jī ròu yì jīn niú ròu XiǎoChén bù chī yáng ròu yáng ròu jiù bù mǎi le · OK. And two jin of chicken and one jin of beef. Xiao Chen doesn't eat lamb, so we'll skip the lamb.

auntie liu 你们几个人？四个人的话，做三四个菜就可以了。我对吃的要求不高，简单一点儿就好。
nǐmen jǐ gè rén sì gè rén dehuà zuò sānsì gè cài jiù kěyǐ le wǒ duì chī de yāoqiú bù gāo jiǎndān yìdiǎnr jiù hǎo · How many of you? For four people, three or four dishes will do. I'm not fussy about food: simple is fine.

anna 我还想买一个西瓜，饭后吃。
wǒ hái xiǎng mǎi yí gè xīguā fàn hòu chī · I'd like a watermelon too, for after the meal.

auntie liu 你看那儿写着："西瓜两元五角一斤，十斤以上两元一斤。"这个大概有八斤，很甜。
nǐ kàn nàr xiě zhe xīguā liǎng yuán wǔ jiǎo yì jīn shí jīn yǐshàng liǎng yuán yì jīn zhège dàgài yǒu bā jīn hěn tián · Look, the sign there says: "Watermelon 2.50 yuan a jin; over 10 jin, 2 yuan a jin." This one is about eight jin, and very sweet.

anna 再买一些香蕉吧。一公斤多少钱？
zài mǎi yìxiē xiāngjiāo ba yì gōngjīn duōshao qián · Let's get some bananas too. How much is a kilo?

auntie liu 在这儿买东西，大家都说"斤"，不说"公斤"。香蕉三块八毛一斤，这种比那种便宜两毛。
zài zhèr mǎi dōngxi dàjiā dōu shuō jīn bù shuō gōngjīn xiāngjiāo sān kuài bā máo yì jīn zhè zhǒng bǐ nà zhǒng piányi liǎng máo · Round here everyone says "jin", not "kilo". Bananas are 3.80 a jin, and this kind is twenty cents cheaper than that one.

anna 啊，我把手机忘在家里了，只带了银行卡和信用卡。这儿能刷卡吗？
a wǒ bǎ shǒujī wàng zài jiā lǐ le zhǐ dài le yínhángkǎ hé xìnyòngkǎ zhèr néng shuā kǎ ma · Oh, I've left my phone at home and only brought my cards. Can I pay by card here?

auntie liu 小店一般不收卡。没关系，一共一百零五块。我先给吧，你回家再还我。
xiǎo diàn yìbān bù shōu kǎ méi guānxi yígòng yìbǎilíngwǔ kuài wǒ xiān gěi ba nǐ huí jiā zài huán wǒ · Little stalls don't usually take cards. Never mind: 105 yuan in all. I'll pay for now; you can pay me back at home.

chapter 2 2. what shall i wear?

anna 小明，你说我穿这件衬衫还是那条裙子?

Xiǎomíng nǐ shuō wǒ chuān zhè jiàn chènshān háishi nà tiáo qúnzi · Xiaoming, should I wear this shirt or that skirt, do you think?

xiaoming 在家里吃饭，简单一点儿就好。

zài jiā lǐ chī fàn jiǎndān yìdiǎnr jiù hǎo · It's dinner at home: keep it simple.

anna 那我穿蓝衬衫吧，它比裙子更方便。那条裙子有点儿短。可是这件衬衫有点儿旧了。

nà wǒ chuān lán chènshān ba tā bǐ qúnzi gèng fāngbiàn nà tiáo qúnzi yǒudiǎnr duǎn kěshì zhè jiàn chènshān yǒudiǎnr jiù le · Then I'll wear the blue shirt: it's more practical than the skirt, which is a bit short. But this shirt is getting a bit worn.

anna 上个星期我买了一件黄色的上衣，大小跟这件衬衫一样，很合适，不大不小。

shàng gè xīngqī wǒ mǎi le yí jiàn huángsè de shàngyī dàxiǎo gēn zhè jiàn chènshān yíyàng hěn héshì bú dà bù xiǎo · Last week I bought a yellow top. It's the same size as this shirt and fits well: not too big, not too small.

xiaoming 那就穿黄色的吧。你试的时候，我觉得它比蓝的还好看。

nà jiù chuān huángsè de ba nǐ shì de shíhou wǒ juéde tā bǐ lán de hái hǎokàn · Then wear the yellow one. When you tried it on, I thought it looked even better than the blue.

anna 好，就选它了！今天天气怎么样？我穿哪双鞋?

hǎo jiù xuǎn tā le jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng wǒ chuān nǎ shuāng xié · OK, that's the one! What's the weather like today? Which shoes should I wear?

xiaoming 今天不比昨天热，外面还刮风。别穿短裤，我也得穿大衣。

jīntiān bù bǐ zuótiān rè wàimiàn hái guā fēng bié chuān duǎnkù wǒ yě děi chuān dàyī · It's no warmer than yesterday, and it's windy out. No shorts: I'll need my coat too.

xiaoming 我带什么？带一瓶饮料，还是一个蛋糕?

wǒ dài shénme dài yì píng yǐnliào háishi yí gè dàngāo · What shall I bring? A bottle of something to drink, or a cake?

anna 带蛋糕吧！小陈不喝酒，他说带矿泉水。

dài dàngāo ba XiǎoChén bù hē jiǔ tā shuō dài kuàngquánshuǐ · Bring a cake! Xiao Chen doesn't drink alcohol; he says he'll bring mineral water.

xiaoming 好的。要下雨了，我还要带雨衣。对了，你家是几零几？我只知道在十二层。

hǎo de yào xià yǔ le wǒ hái yào dài yǔyī duì le nǐ jiā shì jǐ líng jǐ wǒ zhǐ zhīdào zài shíèr céng · OK. It's going to rain, so I'll bring my raincoat too. By the way, what's your flat number? I only know it's on the twelfth floor.

anna 1203。七点一刻见！

qī diǎn yí kè jiàn · 1203. See you at a quarter past seven!

chapter 3 3. dinner is served

anna 欢迎欢迎！快来坐。就差小陈了。
huānyíng huānyíng kuài lái zuò jiù chà XiǎoChén le · Welcome, welcome! Come and sit down. We're only waiting for Xiao Chen.

xiao chen 我来了！路上下雨，我跑着来的。
wǒ lái le lùshang xià yǔ wǒ pǎo zhe lái de · Here I am! It was raining on the way, so I ran all the way here.

anna 这是筷子，这是盘子和碗。你们渴吗？桌子上有两瓶矿泉水，喝完的瓶子放在门口吧。
zhè shì kuàizi zhè shì pánzi hé wǎn nǐmen kě ma zhuōzi shàng yǒu liǎng píng kuàngquánshuǐ hē wán de píngzi fàng zài ménkǒu ba · Here are chopsticks, and plates and bowls. Are you thirsty? There are two bottles of mineral water on the table; just leave the empty bottles by the door.

xiao chen 这么多菜！我饿极了。今天的菜单上还有什么？
zhème duō cài wǒ è jí le jīntiān de càidān shàng hái yǒu shénme · So many dishes! I'm starving. What else is on today's menu?

anna 还有一个鸡肉菜，马上就好。没什么菜，你们慢慢吃。
hái yǒu yí gè jī ròu cài mǎshàng jiù hǎo méi shénme cài nǐmen màn màn chī · There's a chicken dish still to come. It's nothing much: take your time and enjoy it.

anna 刘阿姨，您先尝一口鱼。
Liúāyí nín xiān cháng yì kǒu yú · Auntie Liu, you have the first taste of the fish.

auntie liu 好吃得很！安娜，这个菜是我教你做的吧？
hǎochī de hěn Ānnà zhège cài shì wǒ jiāo nǐ zuò de ba · Really good! Anna, I taught you this one, didn't I?

xiaoming 菜个个都好吃，比饭馆的还好吃！
cài gè gè dōu hǎochī bǐ fànguǎn de hái hǎochī · Every dish is great: even better than a restaurant!

xiao chen 对！你家的服务也比饭馆好。我平时一个人，总是吃方便面或者点外卖，以后天天来你家！
duì nǐ jiā de fúwù yě bǐ fànguǎn hǎo wǒ píngshí yí gè rén zǒngshì chī fāngbiànmiàn huòzhě diǎn wàimài yǐhòu tiān tiān lái nǐ jiā · So true! And the service is better than a restaurant's. I'm on my own most of the time, always eating instant noodles or ordering takeaway: from now on I'm coming here every day!

xiao chen 安娜，有勺子吗？这个菜用勺子吃更方便。
Ānnà yǒu sháozi ma zhège cài yòng sháozi chī gèng fāngbiàn · Anna, is there a spoon? This dish is easier with a spoon.

anna 给你。你们满意吗？还要米饭吗？
gěi nǐ nǐmen mǎnyì ma hái yào mǐfàn ma · Here you are. Is everyone happy? More rice?

auntie liu 不要了，我吃饱了，谢谢！
búyào le wǒ chī bǎo le xièxie · No more, thanks: I'm full!

xiaoming 小陈比我多吃了两碗米饭，他一定饱得很！
XiǎoChén bǐ wǒ duō chī le liǎng wǎn mǐfàn tā yídìng bǎo de hěn · Xiao Chen has had two more bowls of rice than me: he must be stuffed!

chapter 4 4. something sweet

xiaoming 我带的蛋糕来了！大家尝尝，甜不甜?
wǒ dài de dàngāo lái le dàjiā cháng chang tián bu tián · Here's the cake I brought! Have a taste: is it sweet?

auntie liu 蛋糕里的糖不多，不太甜，我很喜欢。
dàngāo lǐ de táng bù duō bú tài tián wǒ hěn xǐhuan · There isn't much sugar in it, so it's not too sweet. I love it.

anna 冰箱里还有冰激凌和西瓜。你们喝茶吗？要加糖吗?
bīngxiāng lǐ hái yǒu bīngjīlíng hé xīguā nǐmen hē chá ma yào jiā táng ma · There's ice cream and watermelon in the fridge too. Would you like some tea? With sugar?

auntie liu 好，喝茶。我们中国人喝茶不加糖！你们坐着吃吧，我来洗碗。
hǎo hē chá wǒmen Zhōngguó rén hē chá bù jiā táng nǐmen zuò zhe chī ba wǒ lái xǐ wǎn · Tea, yes please. We Chinese don't put sugar in tea! You all stay sitting and eat; I'll do the washing-up.

anna 不用不用！阿姨，谢谢您借给我这么多盘子和碗，明天我还给您。
búyòng búyòng āyí xièxie nín jiè gěi wǒ zhème duō pánzi hé wǎn míngtiān wǒ huán gěi nín · No, no! Auntie, thank you for lending me so many plates and bowls; I'll give them back tomorrow.

auntie liu 什么时候还都可以。你的朋友个个都这么热情，我今天特别开心。
shénme shíhou huán dōu kěyǐ nǐ de péngyou gè gè dōu zhème rèqíng wǒ jīntiān tèbié kāixīn · Whenever suits you. Your friends are all so warm; I've had a lovely time today.

xiao chen 我吃了一大口冰激凌，太冷了！
wǒ chī le yí dà kǒu bīngjīlíng tài lěng le · I just ate a big mouthful of ice cream: so cold!

xiaoming 你慢一点儿！这么大的西瓜，我们只吃了一半。
nǐ màn yìdiǎnr zhème dà de xīguā wǒmen zhǐ chī le yíbàn · Slow down! A watermelon this big, and we've only eaten half.

chapter 5 5. games and stories

xiao chen 我们一边吃西瓜，一边玩游戏吧！
wǒmen yìbiān chī xīguā yìbiān wán yóuxì ba · Let's play a game while we eat the watermelon!

xiaoming 好！我先放一点儿音乐。这儿有好多张卡，每张卡上写着一个名人的名字。
hǎo wǒ xiān fàng yìdiǎnr yīnyuè zhèr yǒu hǎoduō zhāng kǎ měi zhāng kǎ shàng xiě zhe yí gè míngrén de míngzi · Great! I'll put on some music first. Here's a pile of cards, and each card has a famous person's name on it.

auntie liu 这个音乐真好听。我年轻的时候在一所学校工作，天天唱这个歌。
zhège yīnyuè zhēn hǎotīng wǒ niánqīng de shíhou zài yì suǒ xuéxiào gōngzuò tiān tiān chàng zhège gē · This music is lovely. When I was young I worked at a school, and I sang this song every day.

anna 阿姨，您唱一遍吧！
āyí nín chàng yí biàn ba · Auntie, sing it for us!

auntie liu 好吧……
hǎo ba · All right then…

xiao chen 阿姨的声音太好听了！再唱一遍！
āyí de shēngyīn tài hǎotīng le zài chàng yí biàn · Auntie, what a voice! Sing it again!

auntie liu 不唱了，不唱了！我告诉你们这个歌的故事吧。这个歌很有名。写这个歌的人以前是个画家，后来变成了名人。
bú chàng le bú chàng le wǒ gàosu nǐmen zhège gē de gùshi ba zhège gē hěn yǒumíng xiě zhège gē de rén yǐqián shì gè huàjiā hòulái biànchéng le míngrén · No more singing! Let me tell you the story of this song instead. It's a famous song. The man who wrote it used to be a painter; later he became a celebrity.

xiaoming 我只听过一回，可是很喜欢。听说阿姨在公园跳舞跳得很好，给我们跳一个吧！
wǒ zhǐ tīng guo yì huí kěshì hěn xǐhuan tīngshuō āyí zài gōngyuán tiàowǔ tiào de hěn hǎo gěi wǒmen tiào yí gè ba · I've only heard it once, but I love it. I hear you dance beautifully in the park, Auntie: give us a dance!

auntie liu 你们真可爱！太晚了，下次吧。
nǐmen zhēn kěài tài wǎn le xià cì ba · You lot are lovely! It's too late now: next time.

anna 今天大家都很开心。谢谢你们来！到家了跟我说一声！
jīntiān dàjiā dōu hěn kāixīn xièxie nǐmen lái dào jiā le gēn wǒ shuō yì shēng · Everyone's had such a happy time today. Thank you all for coming! Let me know when you get home!

Market, outfit, table, songs: you hosted a whole evening in Chinese. That is a real friendship skill.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 19 what do they look like?

Chinese HSK 3 in 36 days
unit 4 · body, nature & free time

Describe what people and animals look like, say who looks like whom, and say “it looks…” with 看起来.

Old photos, new friends, family likeness: describing people is part of every real conversation.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
耳朵	ěrduo	ear	大白的耳朵很大。 Dabai has big ears.
脸	liǎn	face	早上我先洗脸，然后刷牙。 In the morning I wash my face first, then brush my teeth.
嘴	zuǐ	mouth	请张开嘴。 Open your mouth, please.
脚	jiǎo	foot	我的脚很疼。 My feet really hurt.
腿	tuǐ	leg	跑步以后，我的腿很累。 After running my legs are tired.
头发	tóufa	hair (on the head)	她的头发很长。 She has long hair.
身高	shēngāo	height (of a person)	小明的身高是一米八。 Xiaoming is 1.8 metres tall.
矮	ǎi	short (not tall)	我比哥哥矮一点儿。 I’m a little shorter than my brother.
胖	pàng	fat, chubby	大白有点儿胖。 Dabai is a bit chubby.
瘦	shòu	thin, slim	你最近瘦了！ You’ve lost weight lately!
像	xiàng	to look like, be like	你很像你妈妈。 You look a lot like your mum.
长	zhǎng	to grow; to look (长得)	他长{zhang3}得很高。 He’s very tall.
聪明	cōngmíng	clever, smart	大白很聪明。 Dabai is very clever.
认得	rènde	to recognise, know (by sight)	你还认得我吗？ Do you still recognise me?
男生	nánshēng	boy (student), guy	我们班的男生比女生多。 Our class has more boys than girls.
女生	nǚshēng	girl (student)	那个女生是我的同学。 That girl is my classmate.
难看	nánkàn	ugly, bad-looking	这件衣服不难看，挺好看的！ This isn’t ugly at all: it looks nice!

难听	nántīng	unpleasant to hear	我唱歌很难听。 My singing sounds awful.

pattern 看起来 / 看上去: it looks...

someone / something	看起来 / 看上去	description

看起来 and 看上去 both mean “it looks..., it seems...”, judging by what you see. Put them after the person or thing and before the description. To give two qualities at once, use 又……又……: 又高又瘦, tall and slim.

你看起来很累。 **nǐ kàn qǐlai hěn lèi** You look tired.

这个蛋糕看上去很好吃。 **zhège dàngāo kàn shangqu hěn hǎochī** This cake looks delicious.

这双鞋看起来很小，可是我的脚很大！ **zhè shuāng xié kàn qǐlai hěn xiǎo kěshì wǒ de jiǎo hěn dà** These shoes look small, but my feet are big!

那个男生看上去比我矮一点儿。 **nàge nánshēng kàn shangqu bǐ wǒ ǎi yìdiǎnr** That boy looks a little shorter than me.

dialogue the family album

anna 小明，这张照片里的孩子是你吗？
Xiǎomíng zhè zhāng zhàopiàn lǐ de háizi shì nǐ ma · Xiaoming, is the child in this photo you?

xiaoming 对，那是我五岁的时候。
duì nà shì wǒ wǔ suì de shíhou · Yes, that’s me at five.

anna 你小时候又胖又可爱！耳朵也很大。
nǐ xiǎoshíhou yòu pàng yòu kěài ěrduo yě hěn dà · You were chubby and cute as a kid! And your ears were big.

xiaoming 现在我又高又瘦。
xiànzài wǒ yòu gāo yòu shòu · Now I’m tall and slim.

anna 对！你的脸瘦了，腿也长了。
duì nǐ de liǎn shòu le tuǐ yě cháng le · True! Your face is thinner, and your legs are longer.

anna 你长得像你妈妈，眼睛和嘴都像。
nǐ zhǎng de xiàng nǐ māma yǎnjing hé zuǐ dōu xiàng · You look like your mum: the eyes and the mouth.

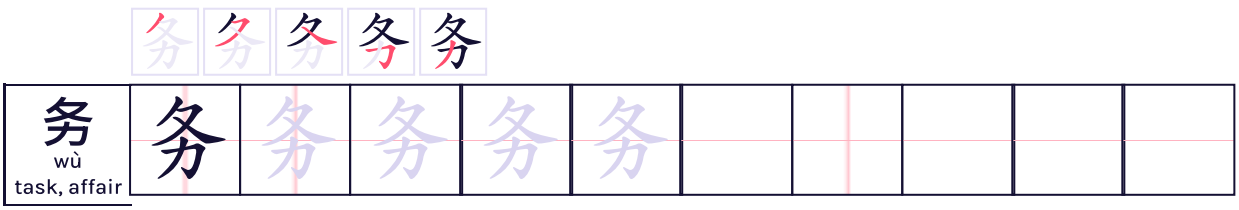
xiaoming 是吗？大家都说我像爸爸。
shì ma dàjiā dōu shuō wǒ xiàng bàba · Really? Everyone says I look like my dad.

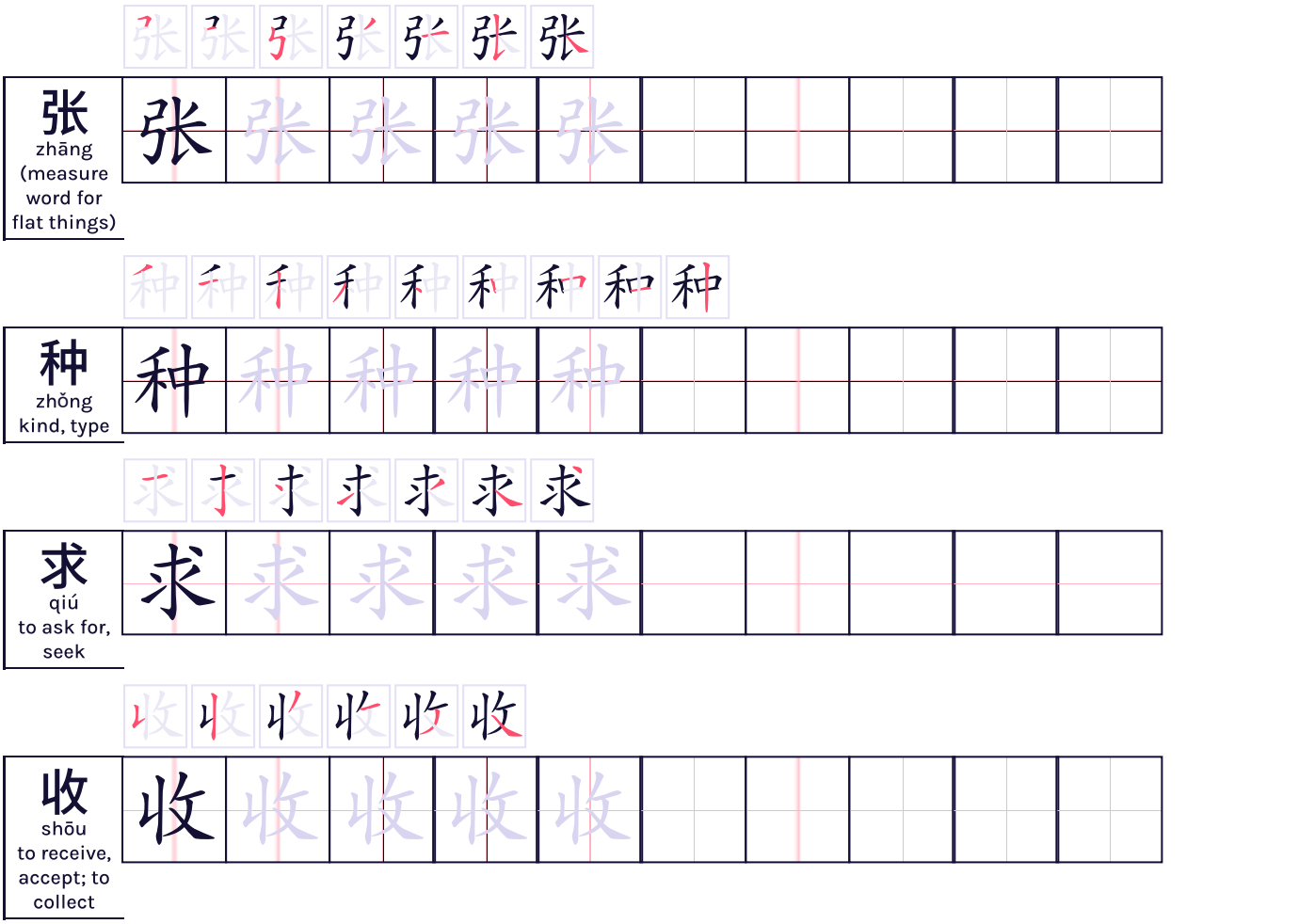
anna 这个女生是谁？看上去很聪明。
zhège nǚshēng shì shéi kàn shangqu hěn cōngmíng · Who’s this girl? She looks clever.

xiaoming 那是我妹妹！你不认得她了吗？
nà shì wǒ mèimei nǐ bú rènde tā le ma · That’s my little sister! Don’t you recognise her?

anna 真的吗？她现在的头发比以前长多了！
zhēn de ma tā xiànzài de tóufa bǐ yǐqián cháng duō le · Really? Her hair is so much longer now!

write it trace the grey, then write your own





good to know · Be kind with looks: 胖 and 矮 can hurt adults. 你瘦了 and 你看起来很年轻 are safe compliments. Height is said in metres: 一米七 is 1.7 m. 你多高？ asks how tall someone is.

Faces, hair, height, family likeness: you can talk about the people you love and the photos you share. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 20 at the doctor's

Tell a doctor what is wrong and for how long, understand simple advice, and say what you can or can't do (听得懂, 走不动).

Getting ill far from home is scary; being able to explain it calmly makes everything easier.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
发烧	fāshāo	to have a fever	我有点儿发烧。 I've got a bit of a temperature.
感冒	gǎnmào	a cold; to catch a cold	我感冒了。 I've caught a cold.
病人	bìngrén	patient (in hospital)	医院里有很多病人。 There are lots of patients in the hospital.
住院	zhùyuàn	to be in hospital	你不用住院。 You don't need to stay in hospital.
出院	chūyuàn	to leave hospital	爷爷明天出院。 Grandpa goes home from hospital tomorrow.
检查	jiǎnchá	to check, examine	医生给我检查了一下。 The doctor gave me a quick check-up.
急	jí	urgent; anxious	别急，慢慢说。 No rush: take your time.
着急	zháojí	worried, anxious; in a hurry	别着急，我们还有时间。 Don't worry, we still have time.
担心	dānxīn	to worry	别担心，我没事。 Don't worry, I'm fine.
放心	fàngxīn	to be at ease, stop worrying	你放心吧，我会注意的。 Don't worry, I'll be careful.
注意	zhùyì	to pay attention, be careful	天冷了，注意身体。 It's getting cold: look after yourself.
小心	xiǎoxīn	to be careful; careful!	小心！路上有冰。 Careful! There's ice on the road.
害怕	hàipà	to be afraid, scared	小孩儿常常害怕看医生。 Little kids are often scared of the doctor.
怕	pà	to fear, be afraid of	我很怕冷。 I really feel the cold.
得	dé	to get, catch (an illness)	我得{de2}了感冒，不能去上班。 I've caught a cold and can't go to work.
不行	bùxíng	no good, won't do; no way	不行，你发烧了，今天不能去上班。 No way: you have a fever, you can't go to work today.
健康	jiànkāng	healthy; health	爷爷八十岁了，身体很健康。 Grandpa is eighty and very healthy.
锻炼	duànliàn	to exercise, work out	我每天早上锻炼身体。 I work out every morning.

pattern verb + 得 / 不 + result: can or can't

verb | 得 / 不 | result

Put 得 between a verb and its result for "can", and 不 for "can't": 听得懂 can understand, 听不懂 can't understand, 吃不完 can't finish (eating). It is about whether the result is possible, not about permission.

你听得懂吗？——听得懂。 **nǐ tīng de dǒng ma tīng de dǒng** Can you understand? — Yes, I can.

菜太多了，我们吃不完。 **cài tài duō le wǒmen chī bu wán** There's too much food: we can't finish it.

我太累了，走不动了。 **wǒ tài lèi le zǒu bu dòng le** I'm too tired to walk any more.

他来北京三年了。 **tā lái Běijīng sān nián le** He came to Beijing three years ago.

dialogue seeing dr li

dr li 安娜，你怎么了？
Ānnà nǐ zěnme le · Anna, what's the matter?

anna 李医生，我感冒了，头很疼，还有点儿发烧。
Lǐyīshēng wǒ gǎnmào le tóu hěn téng hái yǒudiǎnr fāshāo · Dr Li, I've caught a cold: my head hurts and I have a bit of a temperature.

dr li 病了几天了？
bìng le jǐ tiān le · How long have you been ill?

anna 两天了。我有点儿害怕：我得了什么病？要住院吗？
liǎng tiān le wǒ yǒudiǎnr hàipà wǒ dé le shénme bìng yào zhùyuàn ma · Two days. I'm a bit scared: what have I got? Do I have to stay in hospital?

dr li 别着急，我先给你检查一下。
bié zháojí wǒ xiān gěi nǐ jiǎnchá yíxià · Don't worry, let me examine you first.

dr li 没事，看来只是感冒，不用住院。
méishì kànlái zhǐ shì gǎnmào búyòng zhùyuàn · It's nothing: it looks like just a cold. No need for hospital.

anna 太好了，我放心了！我最怕住院了。
tài hǎo le wǒ fàngxīn le wǒ zuì pà zhùyuàn le · Great, what a relief! Hospitals scare me most.

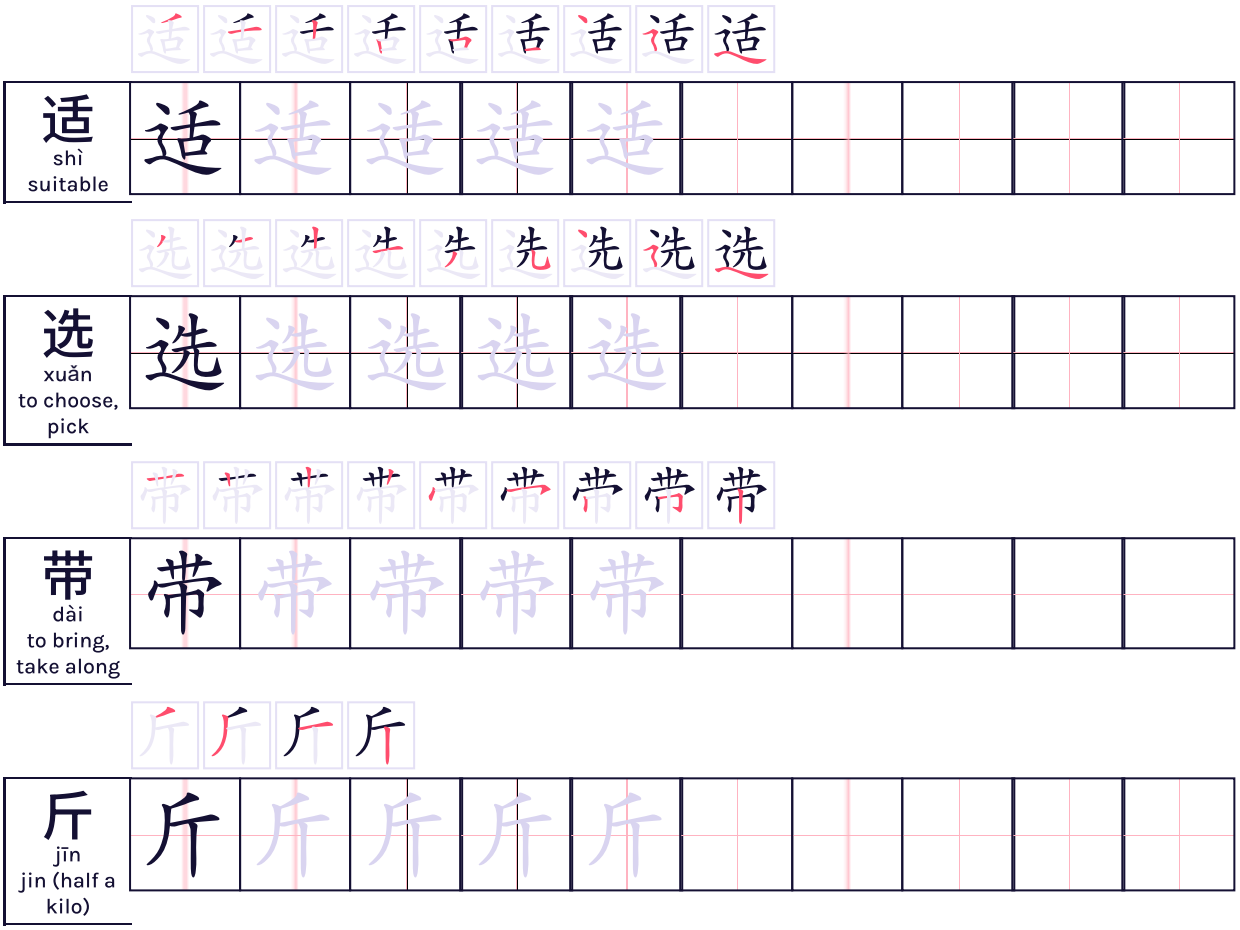
dr li 回家吃了药就睡觉，多喝水。还有，注意天冷了要多穿衣服。
huí jiā chī le yào jiù shuìjiào duō hē shuǐ hái yǒu zhùyì tiān lěng le yào duō chuān yīfu · Go home, take the medicine and go straight to bed, and drink lots of water. And remember to wrap up warm now it's cold.

anna 好的。您说得很慢，我都听得懂！我明天能去上班吗？
hǎo de nín shuō de hěn màn wǒ dōu tīng de dǒng wǒ míngtiān néng qù shàngbān ma · OK. You speak slowly, so I understand everything! Can I go to work tomorrow?

dr li 不行，你还在发烧。病人要多休息！
bùxíng nǐ hái zài fāshāo bìngrén yào duō xiūxi · No way: you still have a temperature. Patients need rest!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

合
hé
to fit, join



good to know · In China, many people go straight to a hospital (医院) for a cold: big hospitals have outpatient desks where you register first. 请说慢一点儿 and 我听不懂 are two lines every learner should have ready.

You can now explain how you feel to a doctor and understand the advice: a big step toward feeling at home anywhere.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 21 how i feel

Say how you feel inside, comfort a friend, and use a whole question as the subject: 他来不来没关系.

Feelings are hard in any language; a few kind words in Chinese can mean a lot to a friend.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
生气	shēngqì	angry; to get angry	你别生气了。 Please don't be angry.
哭	kū	to cry	别哭，没事的。 Don't cry, it's OK.
心里	xīnlǐ	in one's heart, inside	我心里很高兴。 I'm really happy inside.
感到	gǎndào	to feel	我感到很奇怪。 I find it very strange.
关心	guānxīn	to care about, look out for	谢谢你这么关心我。 Thank you for caring about me so much.
同意	tóngyì	to agree	爸爸妈妈同意了。 Mum and Dad said yes.
奇怪	qíguài	strange, odd	真奇怪，我的手机呢? That's odd: where's my phone?
难过	nánguò	sad, upset	别难过了。 Don't be sad.
坚持	jiānchí	to keep at it, persist	我坚持每天跑步。 I make a point of running every day.
受	shòu	to receive; to bear, stand	太热了，我受不了了! It's too hot, I can't stand it!
受到	shòudào	to receive, get	他受到了大家的帮助。 He got help from everyone.
影响	yǐngxiǎng	to affect; influence	睡不好会影响工作。 Not sleeping well affects your work.
关系	guānxì	relationship; connection	我和邻居的关系很好。 I get on well with my neighbours.
遇到	yùdào	to run into, come across	遇到问题，就来问我吧。 If you run into a problem, just come and ask me.
遇见	yùjiàn	to meet (by chance)	昨天我在超市遇见了王老师。 Yesterday I bumped into Teacher Wang at the supermarket.
见面	jiànmiàn	to meet (up)	我们明天见面吧。 Let's meet up tomorrow.
分开	fēnkāi	to separate, part	把大的和小的分开。 Separate the big ones from the small ones.

帮助	bāngzhù	to help; help	谢谢你的帮助！ Thank you for your help!

pattern 离开, 分开: 得 / 不 goes inside

离 / 分 | 得 / 不 | 开

离开 “leave” and 分开 “separate” are verb + result, so 得 or 不 can go in the middle: 离不开 can’t do without, 分不开 can’t be separated. 完成 works the same way: 完不成, can’t finish. And a whole little question can be a subject: 他去不去没关系, whether he goes doesn’t matter.

大白离不开小明。 **Dàbái lí bu kāi Xiǎomíng** Dabai can’t bear to be away from Xiaoming.

这两个孩子总是在一起，分不开。 **zhè liǎng gè háizi zǒngshì zài yìqǐ fēn bù kāi** Those two kids are always together: you can’t separate them.

我们几点见面还没决定。 **wǒmen jǐ diǎn jiànmiàn hái méi juédìng** We haven’t decided what time to meet yet.

太热了，我受不了了！ **tài rè le wǒ shòu bù le le** It’s too hot, I can’t stand it!

dialogue a friend is leaving

auntie liu 安娜，你今天怎么了？真奇怪，你都不说话。
Ānnà nǐ jīntiān zěnme le zhēn qíguài nǐ dōu bù shuōhuà · Anna, what’s up today? It’s odd: you’re not saying a word.

anna 阿姨，我感到有点儿难过。我的好朋友要离开北京了。
āyí wǒ gǎndào yǒudiǎnr nánguò wǒ de hǎo péngyou yào líkāi Běijīng le · Auntie, I feel a bit sad. My best friend is leaving Beijing.

auntie liu 是那个英国女孩儿吗？你们关系很好吧？
shì nàge Yīngguó nǚháir ma nǐmen guānxì hěn hǎo ba · The British girl? You two are really close, aren’t you?

anna 对，我们每个周末都见面。我真不想跟她分开。
duì wǒmen měi gè zhōumò dōu jiànmiàn wǒ zhēn bù xiǎng gēn tā fēnkāi · Yes, we meet every weekend. I really don’t want us to be apart.

auntie liu 你们在不在一个城市都没关系。好朋友是分不开的！
nǐmen zài bu zài yí gè chéngshì dōu méi guānxi hǎo péngyou shì fēn bù kāi de · Whether you’re in the same city doesn’t matter. Real friends can’t be separated!

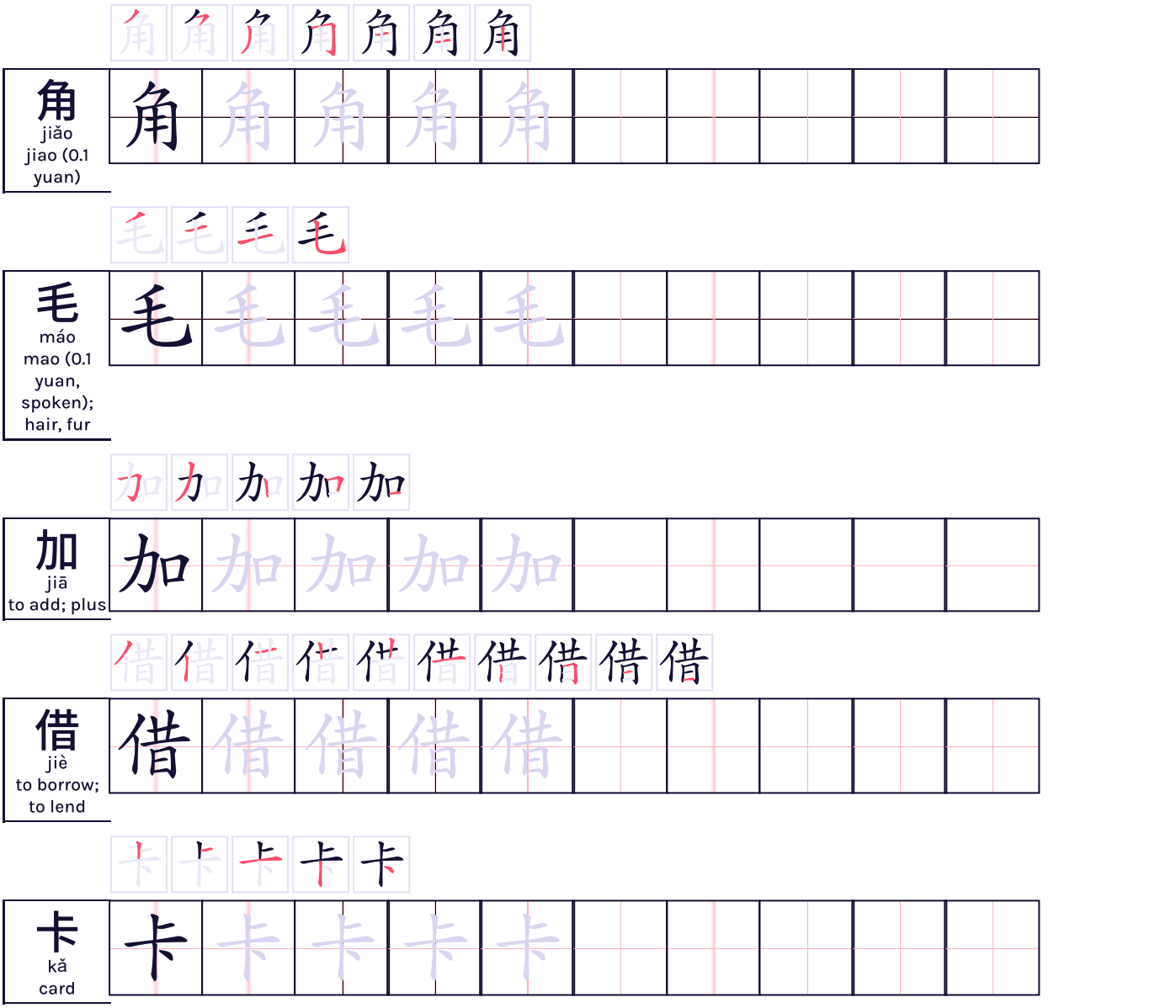
anna 您说得对。我同意。
nín shuō de duì wǒ tóngyì · You’re right. I agree.

auntie liu 以后遇到什么问题，就来找我，或者找老王。
yǐhòu yùdào shénme wèntí jiù lái zhǎo wǒ huòzhě zhǎo lǎo Wáng · Whenever you run into a problem, come and find me, or Old Wang.

anna 谢谢您这么关心我，阿姨！我在这儿受到了很多人的帮助。
xièxie nín zhème guānxīn wǒ āyí wǒ zài zhèr shòudào le hěn duō rén de bāngzhù · Thank you for caring about me so much, Auntie! So many people here have helped me.

auntie liu 别哭了！走，我们去吃冰激凌吧！
bié kū le zǒu wǒmen qù chī bīngjīlíng ba · No more tears! Come on, let’s go and get an ice cream!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · To comfort someone: 别难过, 别生气, 没事的. A hand on the shoulder and 有我呢 “I’m here” go a long way. 受不了 “I can’t stand it!” is very common: 太热了，我受不了了!

Sad, angry, strange, cared for: you can now share what is in your heart, and help a friend through theirs.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 22 into the wild

Talk about animals and nature, and say that something starts (笑起来, 爱上) or goes on (说下去, 坚持下来).

Zoos, parks, hills and rivers: weekends in China are often spent outdoors, and pandas are everyone's favourite.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
动物	dòngwù	animal	你喜欢什么动物? What animals do you like?
动物园	dòngwùyuán	zoo	周末我们去动物园吧。 Let's go to the zoo at the weekend.
大熊猫	dàxióngmāo	giant panda	大熊猫真可爱! Giant pandas are so cute!
马	mǎ	horse	你骑过{guo}马吗? Have you ever ridden a horse?
草	cǎo	grass	马在吃草。 The horses are eating grass.
树	shù	tree	这里的树很高。 The trees here are very tall.
山	shān	mountain, hill	我们去爬山吧。 Let's go hiking in the hills.
海	hǎi	sea	夏天我想去海边。 In summer I want to go to the seaside.
河	hé	river	这条河很长。 This river is very long.
开花	kāihuā	to bloom, flower	春天，山上的树都开花了。 In spring all the trees on the hill are in flower.
花园	huāyuán	garden	我们小区有一个小花园。 Our estate has a little garden.
环境	huánjìng	environment, surroundings	这里的环境很好。 It's a lovely place here.
世界	shìjiè	world	我想去看看世界。 I want to go and see the world.
国家	guójiā	country, nation	你去过{guo}几个国家? How many countries have you been to?
爬	pá	to climb; to crawl	大熊猫在爬树。 The panda is climbing a tree.
骑	qí	to ride	我每天骑自行车上班。 I ride my bike to work every day.
园	yuán	garden, park	奶奶家有一个小菜园。 Grandma has a little vegetable garden.

地	dì	ground, floor; land	下雨了，地{di4-3}上有很多水。 It rained, and there's lots of water on the ground.

pattern 起来 / 上 to start, 下去 / 下来 to go on

verb | 起来 / 上 | 下去 / 下来

After a verb, 起来 says something starts: 笑起来 burst out laughing. 上 can mean you start and carry on: 爱上 fall in love with. 下去 is "keep on (from now)": 说下去 go on talking. 下来 is "kept on (until now)": 坚持下来 kept it up.

大家一听到音乐，就唱了起来。 **dàjiā yì tīng dào yīnyuè jiù chàng le qǐlai** As soon as they heard the music, everyone started singing.

这个故事很好听，你说下去吧。 **zhège gùshi hěn hǎotīng nǐ shuō xiaqu ba** This story is great: go on.

每天跑步很累，可是他坚持下来了。 **měi tiān pǎobù hěn lèi kěshì tā jiānchí xialai le** Running every day is tiring, but he kept it up.

dialogue a day at the zoo

little sister 哥哥，快看，大熊猫！它在爬树！
gēge kuài kàn dàxióngmāo tā zài pá shù · Look, quick! A panda! It's climbing a tree!

anna 太可爱了！我在英国没看见过大熊猫。
tài kěài le wǒ zài Yīngguó méi kànjiàn guo dàxióngmāo · So cute! I never saw a panda in the UK.

xiaoming 大熊猫的家在中国西南的山里。
dàxióngmāo de jiā zài Zhōngguó xīnán de shān lǐ · Pandas come from the mountains of south-west China.

little sister 你们看，它下来了，在地上睡觉呢！
nǐmen kàn tā xiàlái le zài dì shàng shuìjiào ne · Look, it's come down and it's sleeping on the ground!

anna 大家都笑起来了！这个动物园的环境真好。
dàjiā dōu xiào qǐlai le zhège dòngwùyuán de huánjìng zhēn hǎo · Everyone's started laughing! This zoo is such a nice place.

little sister 你们看，不一会儿，它又爬上去了！
nǐmen kàn bù yíhuìr tā yòu pá shangqu le · Look, a moment later it's climbed back up again!

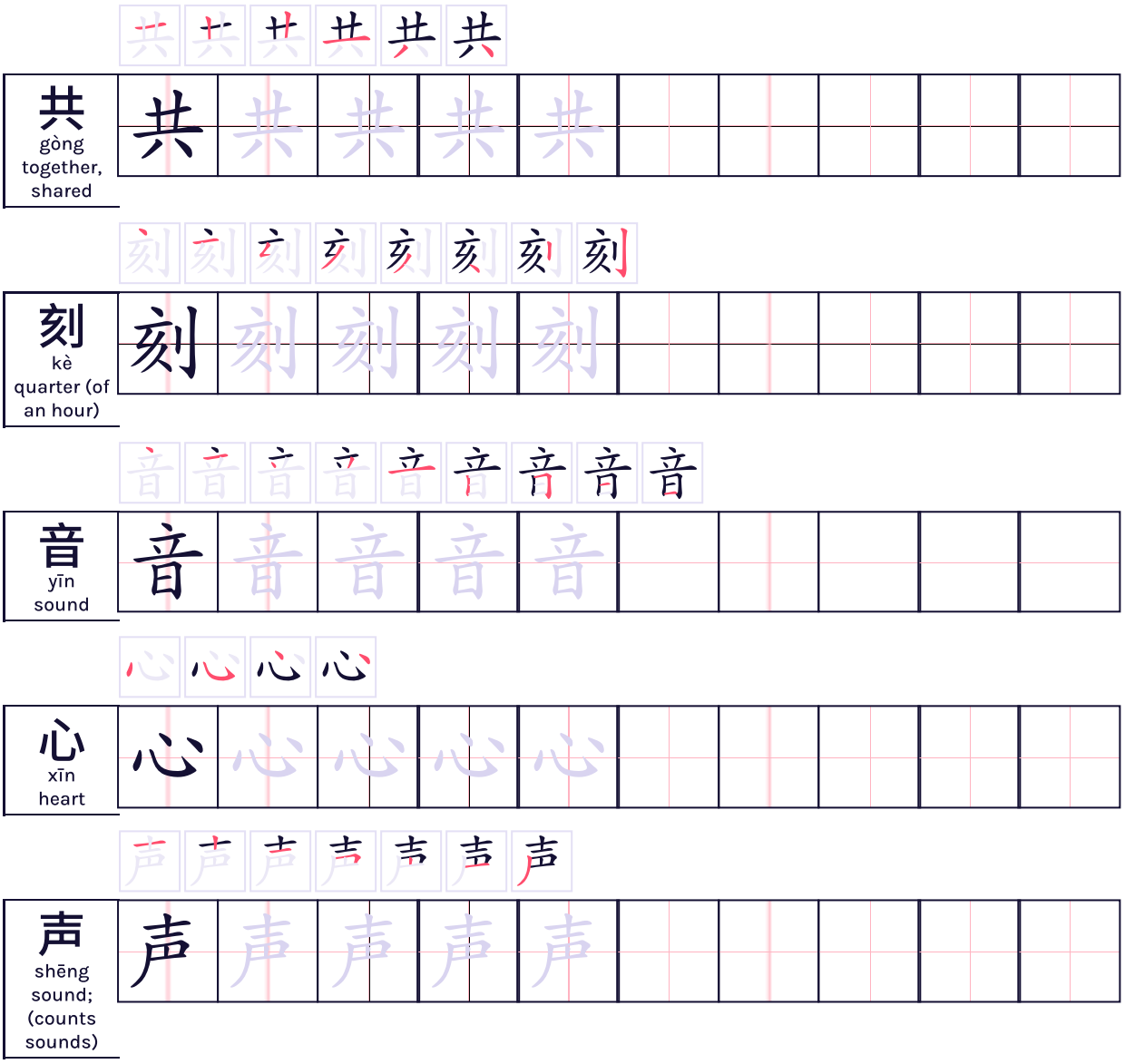
xiaoming 园里有世界上很多国家的动物，还有河和花园。
yuán lǐ yǒu shìjiè shàng hěn duō guójiā de dòngwù hái yǒu hé hé huāyuán · The zoo has animals from lots of countries around the world, and a river and gardens too.

anna 那边有马！马在吃草呢。下次我们去山里骑马吧！
nàbiān yǒu mǎ mǎ zài chī cǎo ne xià cì wǒmen qù shān lǐ qí mǎ ba · There are horses over there! They're eating grass. Next time let's go riding in the hills!

xiaoming 好啊！妹妹，我们走吧。
hǎo a mèimei wǒmen zǒu ba · Good idea! Come on, sis, let's go.

little sister 我不走！我想看下去！
wǒ bù zǒu wǒ xiǎng kàn xiaqu · I'm not going! I want to keep watching!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · Wild giant pandas live only in the mountains of Sichuan, Shaanxi and Gansu; Beijing Zoo has had pandas since the 1950s. 爬山 “climb a mountain” is the normal word for a weekend hike, even on a small hill.

Pandas, horses, hills and rivers: you can plan a day outdoors in Chinese and enjoy every minute of it. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 23 my free time

Talk about your interests and habits, say what something is about (关于), and brush off a compliment with "好什么啊！".

"What are you into?" is how friendships start, and every chat in Chinese is full of news, phones and websites.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
兴趣	xìngqù	interest	我对音乐很有兴趣。 I'm very interested in music.
感兴趣	gǎnxìngqù	to be interested (in)	你对什么感兴趣? What are you interested in?
喜爱	xǐài	to love, be fond of	这是孩子们最喜爱的游戏。 This is the kids' favourite game.
聊	liáo	to chat	有时间我们聊一聊。 Let's have a chat when you have time.
聊天儿	liáotiānr	to chat	晚上我常常跟朋友聊天儿。 In the evenings I often chat with friends.
耳机	ěrjī	earphones, headphones	我用耳机听音乐。 I listen to music on my earphones.
电子书	diànzǐshū	e-book	我在手机上看电子书。 I read e-books on my phone.
新闻	xīnwén	news	你看今天的新闻了吗? Have you seen today's news?
报纸	bàozhǐ	newspaper	爷爷每天早上看报纸。 Grandpa reads the paper every morning.
关注	guānzhù	to follow (closely)	很多人关注这个新闻。 Lots of people are following this story.
网站	wǎngzhàn	website	这个网站很有用。 This website is really useful.
有关	yǒuguān	to be related (to), about	我喜欢看和动物有关的书。 I like reading books about animals.
关于	guānyú	about, on (a topic)	这是一本关于中国的书。 This is a book about China.
常见	chángjiàn	common, often seen	这是一个常见的问题。 This is a common question.
常用	chángyòng	in common use	这个字很常用。 This character is used a lot.
有用	yǒuyòng	useful	这本书很有用。 This book is very useful.
习惯	xíguàn	habit; to be used to	你习惯北京的生活了吗? Have you got used to life in Beijing?
生活	shēnghuó	life; to live	我很喜欢北京的生活。 I really like life in Beijing.

pattern 关于, 为, 向: about, for, to

关于 / 为 / 向	topic or person	the rest

关于 + topic: about. 一本关于中国的书, a book about China. 为 + someone: for them. 妈妈为我做了蛋糕. 向 + someone: to them, when you ask, learn or say something: 向老师问问题.

我看了一本关于大熊猫的书。 **wǒ kàn le yì běn guānyú dàxióngmāo de shū** I read a book about pandas.

我想向你介绍一个网站。 **wǒ xiǎng xiàng nǐ jièshào yí gè wǎngzhàn** I'd like to tell you about a website.

妈妈为我做了一个蛋糕。 **māma wèi wǒ zuò le yí gè dàngāo** Mum made a cake for me.

这本关于北京生活的书很受大家喜爱。 **zhè běn guānyú Běijīng shēnghuó de shū hěn shòu dàjiā xǐài** This book about life in Beijing is loved by everyone.

dialogue lunch break

anna 小陈，你在用耳机听什么？
XiǎoChén nǐ zài yòng ěrjī tīng shénme · Xiao Chen, what are you listening to on your earphones?

xiao chen 关于足球的新闻。我每天都关注足球。
guānyú zúqiú de xīnwén wǒ měi tiān dōu guānzhù zúqiú · News about football. I follow football every day.

anna 你对足球真感兴趣！
nǐ duì zúqiú zhēn gǎn xìngqù · You're really into football!

xiao chen 当然！足球是我最大的兴趣。你呢？下班以后你喜欢做什么？
dāngrán zúqiú shì wǒ zuì dà de xìngqù nǐ ne xiàbān yǐhòu nǐ xǐhuan zuò shénme · Of course! Football is my biggest passion. What about you? What do you like doing after work?

anna 我喜欢看电子书，也看中文网站。
wǒ xǐhuan kàn diànzǐshū yě kàn Zhōngwén wǎngzhàn · I like reading e-books, and Chinese websites too.

xiao chen 看中文网站？你的中文好极了！
kàn Zhōngwén wǎngzhàn nǐ de Zhōngwén hǎo jí le · Chinese websites? Your Chinese is amazing!

anna 好什么啊！很多常用的字我还不认识。
hǎo shénme a hěn duō cháng yòng de zì wǒ hái bú rènshi · Amazing? Hardly! There are still lots of everyday characters I don't know.

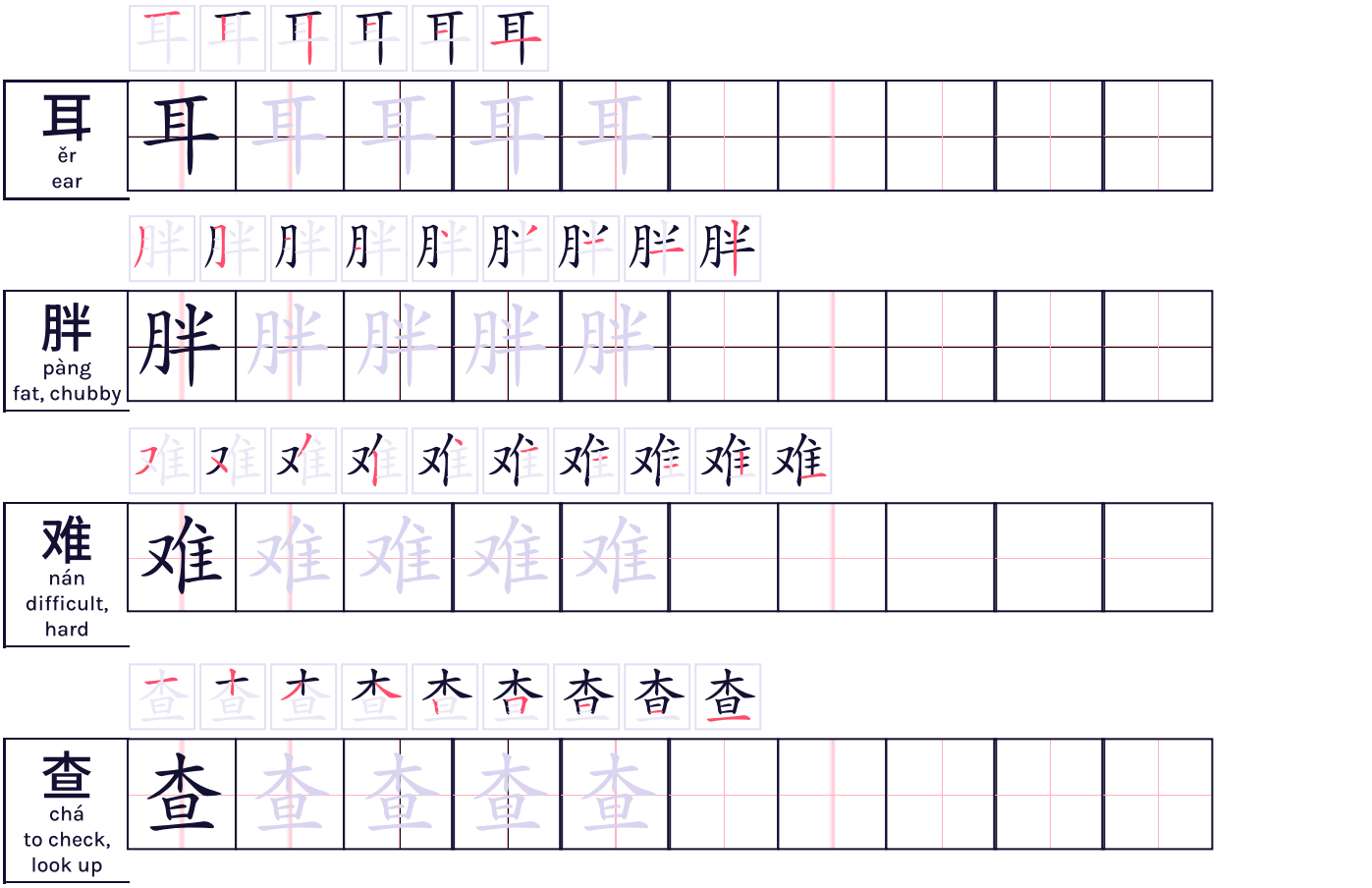
xiao chen 对了，我们聊聊电影吧。昨天我看了一个电影，不怎么样。
duì le wǒmen liáo liao diànyǐng ba zuótiān wǒ kàn le yí gè diànyǐng bù zěnmeyàng · Oh, let's talk films. I saw one yesterday: not up to much.

anna 我想起来了！我知道一个很有用的网站，有很多和电影有关的新闻。
wǒ xiǎng qǐlai le wǒ zhīdào yí gè hěn yǒuyòng de wǎngzhàn yǒu hěn duō hé diànyǐng yǒuguān de xīnwén · That reminds me! I know a really useful website with lots of film news.

xiao chen 太好了，你告诉我吧！
tài hǎo le nǐ gàosu wǒ ba · Great, tell me what it is!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

故 gù
old; reason



good to know · When someone praises your Chinese, a modest 哪里哪里 or 好什么啊 sounds natural; a simple 谢谢 is fine too. 想起来 “remember (suddenly)”, 想出来 “come up with”, 留下 “leave behind, stay”: the second verb tells you the result.

Your hobbies, your habits, the news you follow: now you can share them over lunch, and play down a compliment like a local.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 24 mission: a weekend in the hills

Chinese HSK 3 in 36 days
unit 4 · body, nature & free time

Plan a day out, keep a friend going on a hard climb, look after someone who gets hurt, and talk about how the day felt.

This mission brings together days 19 to 23: looks, health, feelings, nature and free time, in one weekend story.

chapter 1 1. setting off

xiaoming 安娜，你看起来没睡好！
Ānnà nǐ kàn qǐlai méi shuì hǎo · Anna, you look like you didn't get much sleep!

anna 我昨天晚上一直在看电子书，看到两点才睡。
wǒ zuótiān wǎnshang yìzhí zài kàn diànzǐshū kàn dào liǎng diǎn cái shuì · I was reading an e-book all night and didn't go to sleep until two.

xiaoming 什么书这么有意思？
shénme shū zhème yǒu yìsi · What book is that interesting?

anna 一本关于大熊猫的书。我对动物特别感兴趣，书里说大熊猫很聪明！
yì běn guānyú dàxióngmāo de shū wǒ duì dòngwù tèbié gǎn xìngqù shū lǐ shuō dàxióngmāo hěn cōngmíng · A book about pandas. I'm really into animals, and it says pandas are very clever!

xiaoming 你的兴趣真多！这种书有用吗？
nǐ de xìngqù zhēn duō zhè zhǒng shū yǒuyòng ma · You've got so many interests! Are books like that useful?

anna 当然有用！看了这本书，我才知道大熊猫一天要吃十几个小时。
dāngrán yǒuyòng kàn le zhè běn shū wǒ cái zhīdào dàxióngmāo yì tiān yào chī shí jǐ gè xiǎoshí · Of course! It's only from this book that I learned pandas spend over ten hours a day eating.

xiao chen 我来了！对不起，我在路上遇见了王老师，跟她聊了一会儿。
wǒ lái le duìbuqǐ wǒ zài lùshang yùjiàn le Wánglǎoshī gēn tā liáo le yíhuìr · Here I am! Sorry, I bumped into Teacher Wang on the way and chatted with her for a bit.

xiaoming 你耳机里又是足球新闻吧？骑车的时候别听了，要注意路上的车！
nǐ ěrjī lǐ yòu shì zúqiú xīnwén ba qí chē de shíhou bié tīng le yào zhùyì lùshang de chē · Football news in your earphones again? Don't listen while you ride: watch the traffic!

xiao chen 好好好。我每天都关注足球，这已经是我的习惯了。
hǎo hǎo hǎo wǒ měi tiān dōu guānzhù zúqiú zhè yǐjīng shì wǒ de xíguàn le · OK, OK. I follow football every day: it's a habit now.

anna 小陈，你的头发短了！看上去像一个大学生，我都快不认得你了！
XiǎoChén nǐ de tóufa duǎn le kàn shangqu xiàng yí gè dàxuéshēng wǒ dōu kuài bú rènde nǐ le · Xiao Chen, your hair's shorter! You look like a university student: I hardly recognise you!

xiaoming 他长得很高，身高一米八。头发短了，看上去更高了。
tā zhǎng de hěn gāo shēngāo yì mǐ bā tóufa duǎn le kàn shangqu gèng gāo le · He's tall anyway, 1.8 metres, and with short hair he looks even taller.

anna 我比你们矮多了，所以我骑的是小自行车。
wǒ bǐ nǐmen ǎi duō le suǒyǐ wǒ qí de shì xiǎo zìxíngchē · I'm much shorter than you two, so I ride a small bike.

xiaoming 好了，我们出发吧！骑一个多小时就到了。
hǎo le wǒmen chūfā ba qí yí gè duō xiǎoshí jiù dào le · Right, let's go! It's just over an hour by bike.

chapter 2 2. the long climb

anna 我的腿好疼，脚也疼，我爬不动了！
wǒ de tuǐ hǎo téng jiǎo yě téng wǒ pá bu dòng le · My legs hurt so much, my feet too: I can't climb any more!

xiao chen 坚持一下！上面看起来不远了。
jiānchí yíxià shàngmiàn kàn qǐlai bù yuǎn le · Hang in there! The top doesn't look far now.

anna 你说“不远”说了一个小时了！我有点儿生气了！
nǐ shuō bù yuǎn shuō le yí gè xiǎoshí le wǒ yǒudiǎnr shēngqì le · You've been saying “not far” for an hour! I'm getting a bit cross!

xiaoming 小陈嘴上说“不远”，心里也觉得累吧?
XiǎoChén zuǐ shàng shuō bù yuǎn xīnlǐ yě juéde lèi ba · Xiao Chen says “not far”, but inside he's tired too, isn't he?

xiao chen 其实我有点儿怕高……我们唱个歌吧！
qíshí wǒ yǒudiǎnr pà gāo wǒmen chàng gè gē ba · Actually, I'm a bit scared of heights… Let's sing a song!

anna 小陈，别唱了，太难听了！我的耳朵都疼了！
XiǎoChén bié chàng le tài nántīng le wǒ de ěrduo dōu téng le · Xiao Chen, stop singing, it's awful! My ears hurt!

xiaoming 别着急，也别生气。我们先坐在地上休息一下，喝一点儿水。
bié zháojí yě bié shēngqì wǒmen xiān zuò zài dì shàng xiūxi yíxià hē yìdiǎnr shuǐ · Don't rush, and don't be cross. Let's sit on the ground and rest a little first, and have some water.

anna 好。休息一下，我还能走下去。
hǎo xiūxi yíxià wǒ hái néng zǒu xiaqu · OK. After a little rest I can keep going.

xiao chen 你们看，那么多老人都爬得上去，前面那几个大学生，男生女生都上去了，我们当然也爬得上去！
nǐmen kàn nàme duō lǎorén dōu pá de shangqu qiánmiàn nà jǐ gè dàxuéshēng nánshēng nǚshēng dōu shàngqù le wǒmen dāngrán yě pá de shangqu · Look, so many older people can make it up, and those students ahead of us, boys and girls, made it too: of course we can!

anna 那个爷爷看上去七十多岁了，又高又瘦，爬得比我还快！真奇怪！
nàge yéye kàn shangqu qīshí duō suì le yòu gāo yòu shòu pá de bǐ wǒ hái kuài zhēn qíguài · That grandpa looks over seventy, tall and thin, and he climbs faster than me! How strange!

xiaoming 不奇怪。他天天锻炼，身体很健康。锻炼对身体的影响很大。
bù qíguài tā tiān tiān duànliàn shēntǐ hěn jiànkāng duànliàn duì shēntǐ de yǐngxiǎng hěn dà · Not strange at all. He exercises every day, so he's very healthy. Exercise makes a big difference.

anna 我同意。好，我们走！
wǒ tóngyì hǎo wǒmen zǒu · I agree. Right, let's go!

chapter 3 3. at the top

xiao chen 我们终于到了！你们看下面的河，还有那么多树！
wǒmen zhōngyú dào le nǐmen kàn xiàmiàn de hé hái yǒu nàme duō shù · We made it at last! Look at the river down there, and all those trees!

anna 太漂亮了！这里的环境真好。在英国，我家离海很近，可是我更喜欢山。
tài piàoliang le zhèlǐ de huánjìng zhēn hǎo zài Yīngguó wǒ jiā lí hǎi hěn jìn kěshì wǒ gèng xǐhuan shān · So beautiful! What a lovely place. In the UK I live near the sea, but I like mountains better.

xiaoming 世界上很多国家都有漂亮的山，可是我最喜爱北京的山。山下还有一个大花园，春天到处都开花。
shìjiè shàng hěn duō guójiā dōu yǒu piàoliang de shān kěshì wǒ zuì xǐài Běijīng de shān shān xià hái yǒu yí gè dà huāyuán chūntiān dàochù dōu kāihuā · Lots of countries in the world have beautiful mountains, but Beijing's hills are my favourite. There's a big garden at the foot of the hill too, full of flowers in spring.

anna 这儿的山里有大熊猫吗？
zhèr de shān lǐ yǒu dàxióngmāo ma · Are there pandas in these hills?

xiaoming 没有！在北京，大熊猫可不常见，只有动物园里才有。你看，那边有马在吃草。
méiyǒu zài Běijīng dàxióngmāo kě bù cháng jiàn zhǐyǒu dòngwùyuán lǐ cái yǒu nǐ kàn nàbiān yǒu mǎ zài chī cǎo · No! Pandas aren't something you see every day in Beijing: only the zoo has them. But look, there are horses eating grass over there.

anna 我想去骑马！啊，我的脚！
wǒ xiǎng qù qí mǎ a wǒ de jiǎo · I want to go riding! Ow, my foot!

xiao chen 怎么了？别急，别急！
zěnme le bié jí bié jí · What happened? Stay calm, stay calm!

xiaoming 别哭，也别担心，我检查一下……没什么问题，只是有点儿疼，不用去医院。
bié kū yě bié dānxīn wǒ jiǎnchá yíxià méi shénme wèntí zhǐ shì yǒudiǎnr téng búyòng qù yīyuàn · Don't cry, and don't worry, let me check... it's nothing serious, it just hurts a bit. No need for hospital.

anna 我刚才有点儿害怕，还以为要住院呢！现在放心了。谢谢你的帮助！
wǒ gāngcái yǒudiǎnr hàipà hái yǐwéi yào zhùyuàn ne xiànzài fàngxīn le xièxie nǐ de bāngzhù · I was a bit scared just now: I thought I'd end up in hospital! Now I feel better. Thanks for your help!

xiao chen 如果你住院了，我们天天去看你，一直到你出院！
rúguǒ nǐ zhùyuàn le wǒmen tiān tiān qù kàn nǐ yìzhí dào nǐ chūyuàn · If you ended up in hospital, we'd visit you every day until you came out!

xiao chen 我爸爸是医生……不对，小明的爸爸是医生！
wǒ bàba shì yīshēng bú duì Xiǎomíng de bàba shì yīshēng · My dad's a doctor... no wait, Xiaoming's dad is a doctor!

xiaoming 安娜，你还能走吗？还想骑马吗？
Ānnà nǐ hái néng zǒu ma hái xiǎng qí mǎ ma · Anna, can you still walk? Still want to ride a horse?

anna 能走。骑马？不行不行，今天我不骑马了！
néng zǒu qí mǎ bùxíng bùxíng jīntiān wǒ bù qí mǎ le · I can walk. A horse? No way: no horse riding for me today!

chapter 4 4. dinner at the foot of the hill

xiaoming 今天大家觉得怎么样?
jīntiān dàjiā juéde zěnmeyàng · So how did everyone find today?

anna 我累坏了，可是心里感到很开心。我爱上了爬山!
wǒ lèi huài le kěshì xīnlǐ gǎndào hěn kāixīn wǒ ài shàng le pá shān · I'm worn out, but I feel really happy inside. I've fallen in love with hiking!

xiao chen 以前我对爬山不感兴趣，受到了你们的影响，现在也喜欢上了。你们看我的照片，我看起来又胖又累，脸也太难看了……
yǐqián wǒ duì pá shān bù gǎn xìngqù shòudào le nǐmen de yǐngxiǎng xiànzài yě xǐhuan shàng le nǐmen kàn wǒ de zhàopiàn wǒ kàn qǐlai yòu pàng yòu lèi liǎn yě tài nánkàn le · I wasn't into hiking before, but you two have rubbed off on me and now I like it too. Look at my photo: I look chubby and tired, and my face looks awful…

anna 胖什么啊！你看上去很开心。
pàng shénme a nǐ kàn shangqu hěn kāixīn · Chubby? Not at all! You look happy.

xiaoming 对了，我想起来了！我常用的天气网站上说，明天开始下大雨。
duì le wǒ xiǎng qǐlai le wǒ cháng yòng de tiānqì wǎngzhàn shàng shuō míngtiān kāishǐ xià dà yǔ · Oh, now I remember! The weather website I use says it's going to pour from tomorrow.

xiao chen 明天下不下雨都没关系。在家看看电子书，跟朋友聊天儿，生活也很有意思!
míngtiān xià bu xià yǔ dōu méi guānxi zài jiā kàn kan diànzǐshū gēn péngyou liáotiānr shēnghuó yě hěn yǒu yìsi · Whether it rains tomorrow or not doesn't matter. Read an e-book at home, chat with friends: life's still fun!

xiaoming 我爷爷不看网站，每天看报纸。他说现在爬山在年轻人里很受欢迎，报纸上常常有跟爬山有关的新闻。
wǒ yéye bú kàn wǎngzhàn měi tiān kàn bàozhǐ tā shuō xiànzài pá shān zài niánqīng rén lǐ hěn shòu huānyíng bàozhǐ shàng chángcháng yǒu gēn pá shān yǒuguān de xīnwén · My grandpa doesn't read websites; he reads the paper every day. He says hiking is really popular with young people now, and the paper often has news about it.

anna 可是别感冒了！上次我得了感冒，还发烧，去医院一看，病人特别多，等了两个小时。
kěshì bié gǎnmào le shàng cì wǒ dé le gǎnmào hái fāshāo qù yīyuàn yí kàn bìngrén tèbié duō děng le liǎng gè xiǎoshí · But don't catch a cold! Last time I caught a cold and had a fever too; at the hospital there were so many patients I waited two hours.

xiao chen 谢谢你这么关心我们!
xièxie nǐ zhème guānxīn wǒmen · Thanks for looking out for us!

xiao chen 我们三个人的关系真好，以后遇到什么问题，都一起想办法。
wǒmen sān gè rén de guānxì zhēn hǎo yǐhòu yùdào shénme wèntí dōu yìqǐ xiǎng bànfǎ · We three get on so well; from now on, whatever problems we run into, we'll sort them out together.

xiaoming 以后我们每个月都在这儿见面吧，这样身体会更健康。
yǐhòu wǒmen měi gè yuè dōu zài zhèr jiànmiàn ba zhèyàng shēntǐ huì gèng jiànkāng · Let's meet up here once a month from now on: we'll be even healthier.

anna 好！下个月我一定不比你们慢！下次我们也去动物园吧!
hǎo xià gè yuè wǒ yídìng bù bǐ nǐmen màn xià cì wǒmen yě qù dòngwùyuán ba · Deal! Next month I won't be any slower than you! And next time let's go to the zoo too!

xiao chen 好！今天要分开了，真有点儿难过。
hǎo jīntiān yào fēnkāi le zhēn yǒudiǎnr nánguò · Great! Time to say goodbye for today; I'm a bit sad.

A climb, a little accident, a big view and a happy dinner: you lived a whole weekend in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 25 back to school

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

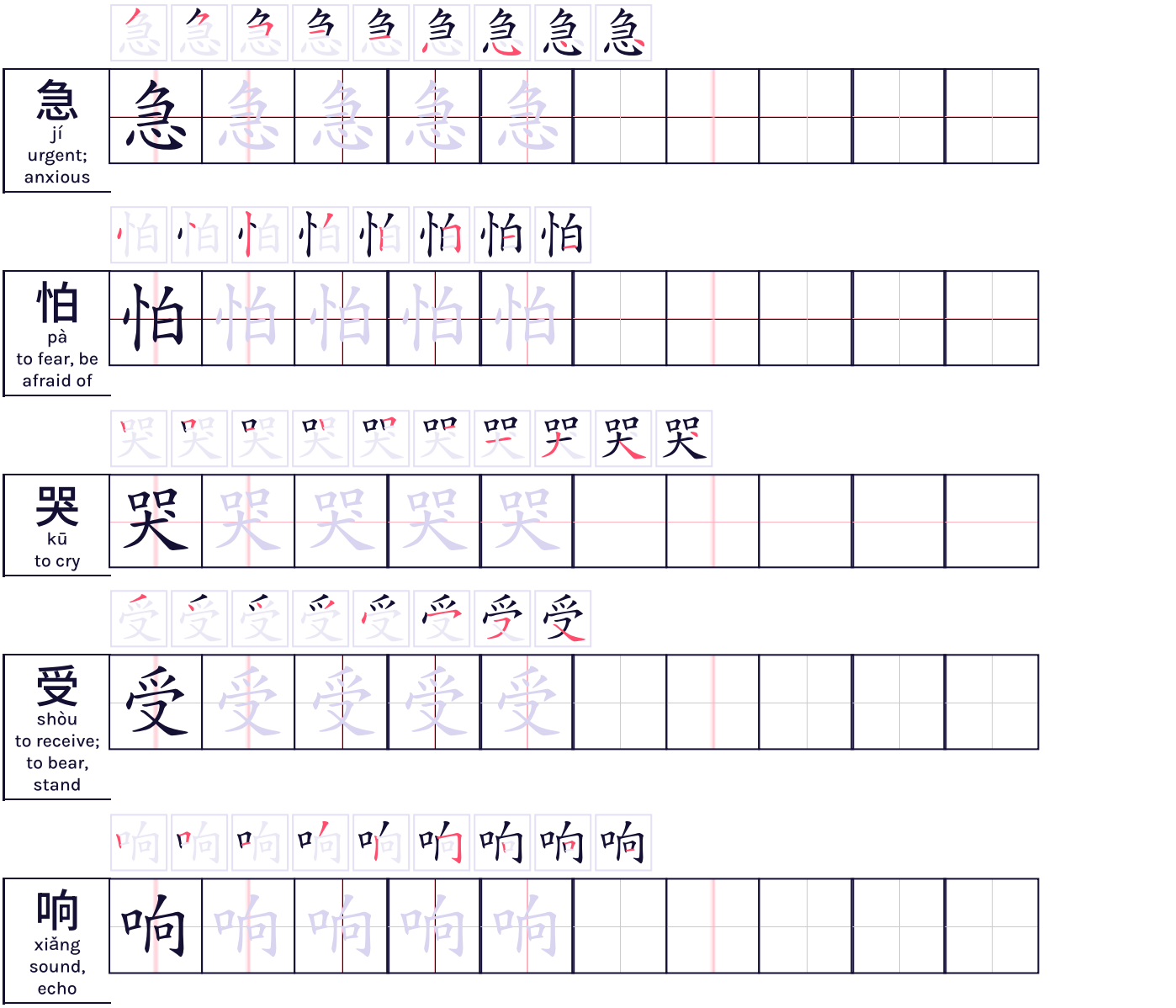
little sister 我还听说，校长每天早上都在学校门口。
wǒ hái tīngshuō xiàozhǎng měi tiān zǎoshang dōu zài xuéxiào ménkǒu · I've also heard the head teacher is at the school gate every morning.

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



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

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.

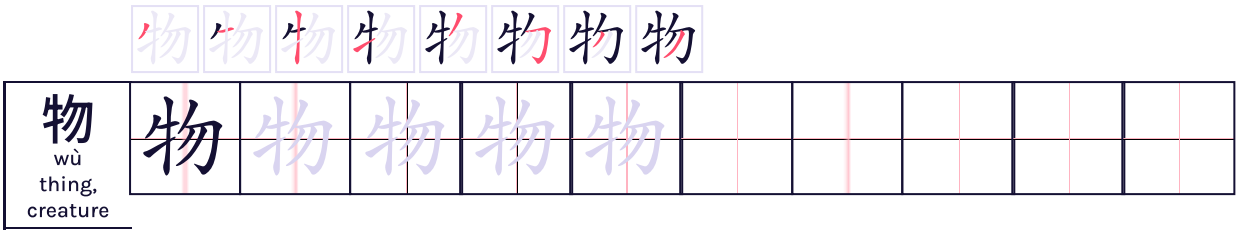
teacher wang 学汉语不能只看书，要多练习对话。
xué Hànyǔ bù néng zhǐ kàn shū yào duō liànxí duìhuà · Learning Chinese isn't just reading books: you need to practise conversations a lot.

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



物
wù
thing, creature



树
shù
tree



山
shān
mountain, hill



海
hǎi
sea

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

重要	zhòngyào	important	身体健康最重要。 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



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

根据	gēnjù	according to; basis	根据这个名单，一共有十个人。 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?

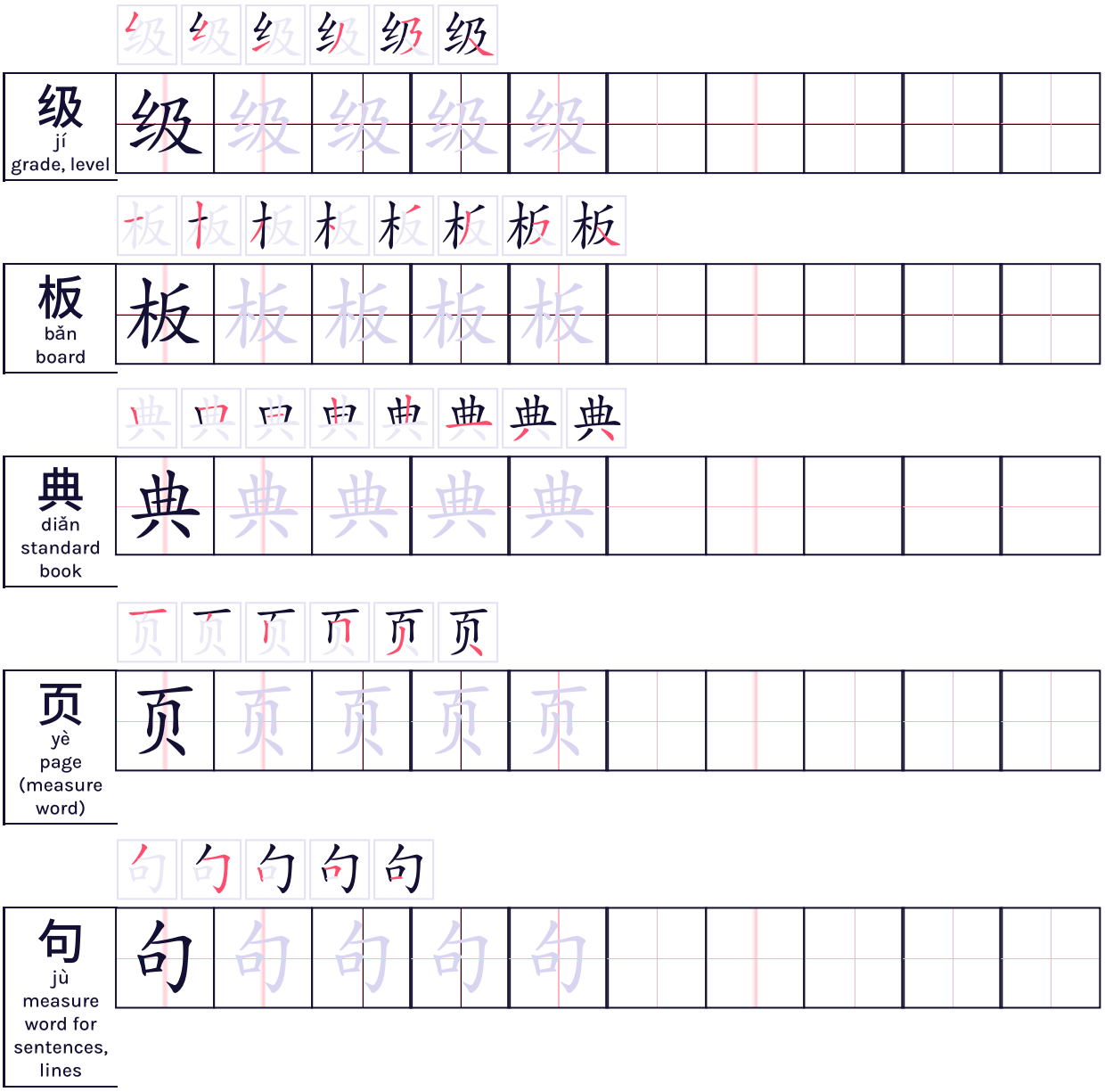
xiao chen 经理说，谁的办法好，谁就去上海工作一个月。
jīnglǐ shuō shéi de bànfǎ hǎo shéi jiù qù Shànghǎi gōngzuò yí gè yuè · The manager says whoever has the best idea gets to work in Shanghai for a month.

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

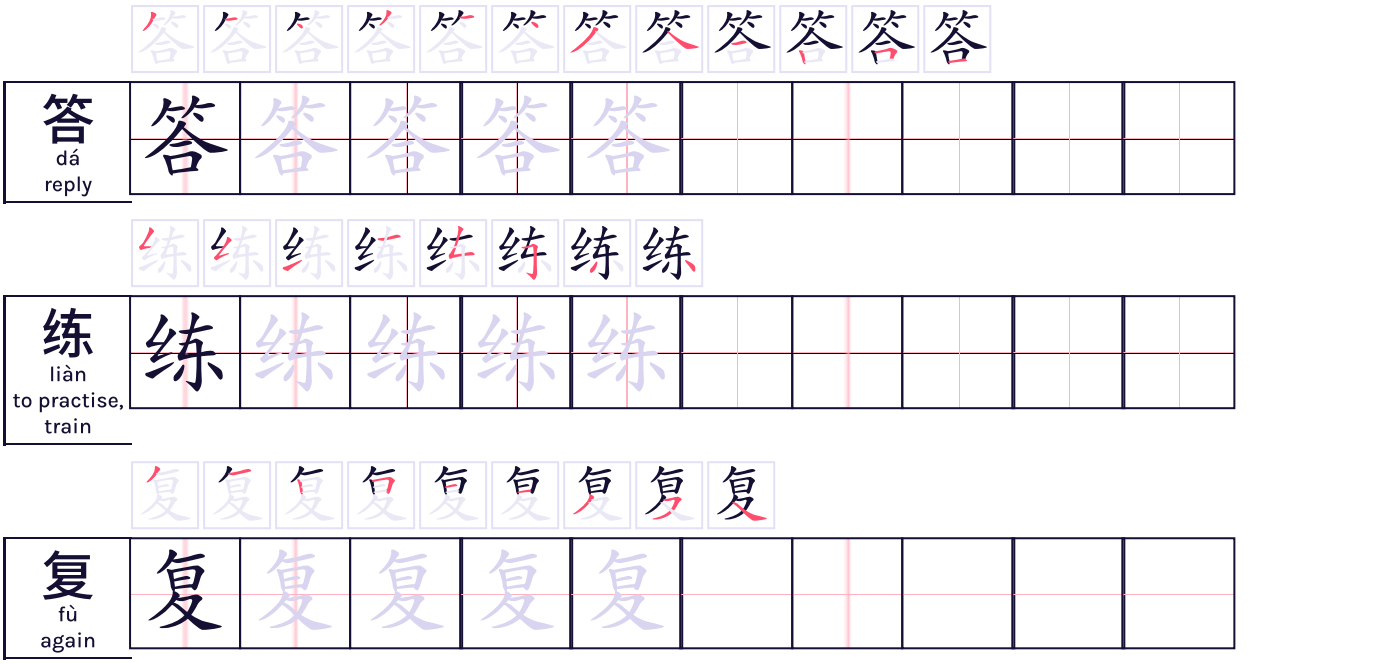
xiao chen 现在谁还写信啊？
xiànzài shéi hái xiě xìn a · Who still writes letters these days?

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.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 31 on the road

Travel by train, plane, car and boat, talk about luggage and delays, and use two-part verbs like 见面.

Holidays in China mean stations, crowds and delays, and the words to handle them.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
高铁	gāotiě	high-speed rail, bullet train	坐高铁去上海很方便。 Taking the high-speed train to Shanghai is really convenient.
检票	jiǎnpiào	to check tickets	高铁开始检票了。 They've started checking tickets for the train.
晚点	wǎndiǎn	to be delayed (trains, planes)	飞机晚点了。 The plane is delayed.
起飞	qǐfēi	to take off	飞机几点起飞? What time does the plane take off?
护照	hùzhào	passport	别忘了带护照! Don't forget your passport!
行李	xíngli	luggage	你的行李太多了! You've got far too much luggage!
箱子	xiāngzi	suitcase, box	这个箱子太大了。 This suitcase is too big.
游客	yóukè	tourist, visitor	长城上游客很多。 There are lots of tourists on the Great Wall.
外地	wàidì	other places (not your home town)	我的同事很多是外地人。 Lots of my colleagues are from out of town.
船	chuán	boat, ship	我们坐船去吧! Let's go by boat!
汽车	qìchē	car, motor vehicle	这辆汽车是新的。 This car is new.
司机	sījī	driver	我叔叔是出租车司机。 My uncle is a taxi driver.
辆	liàng	measure word for vehicles	门口来了一辆汽车。 A car pulled up at the door.
站	zhàn	to stand	车上人太多，我站{zhan4-3}了两个小时。 The train was so full that I stood for two hours.
休假	xiūjià	to take time off, be on leave	我很久没休假了。 I haven't had time off for ages.
假期	jiàqī	holiday, vacation (the period)	假期你打算去哪儿? Where are you planning to go for the holidays?

放假	fàngjià	to be off (school, work), have a holiday	明天放假，我们去公园吧！ We're off tomorrow: let's go to the park!

pattern two-part verbs: 见面 → 见了一面, 见个面

见 | 了 / 过 / 个 / 一 | 面

Some verbs are really a verb + its object: 见面 "see + face", 放假 "let go + holiday", 洗澡 "wash + bath". So 了, 过, 个 or a time go in the middle: 见了一面, 放了三天假, 洗了个澡. They don't take another object: say 跟他见面, not 见面他.

你跟他见过面吗？ **nǐ gēn tā jiàn guo miàn ma** Have you met him?

放假以后，咱们见个面吧！ **fàngjià yǐhòu zánmen jiàn gè miàn ba** Let's meet up once the holiday starts!

我们上个月在上海见了一面。 **wǒmen shàng gè yuè zài Shànghǎi jiàn le yí miàn** We met up briefly in Shanghai last month.

dialogue the train is late

xiaoming 安娜，快走！马上就要检票了。
Ānnà kuài zǒu mǎshàng jiù yào jiǎnpiào le · Anna, come on! They're about to start checking tickets.

anna 等一下，我的箱子太大了，走不快。
děng yíxià wǒ de xiāngzi tài dà le zǒu bú kuài · Wait, my suitcase is too big; I can't walk fast.

xiaoming 你带了这么多行李？我们只去三天！
nǐ dài le zhème duō xíngli wǒmen zhǐ qù sān tiān · You brought all this luggage? We're only going for three days!

anna 我很久没休假了，当然要多带一点儿东西。
wǒ hěn jiǔ méi xiūjià le dāngrán yào duō dài yìdiǎnr dōngxi · I haven't had time off for ages, so of course I'm bringing a few extra things.

xiaoming 你看，高铁晚点了，还要等二十分钟。
nǐ kàn gāotiě wǎndiǎn le hái yào děng èrshí fēnzhōng · Look, the train is delayed: another twenty minutes.

anna 太好了，那我们去买一点儿吃的。
tài hǎo le nà wǒmen qù mǎi yìdiǎnr chī de · Great, then let's go and buy something to eat.

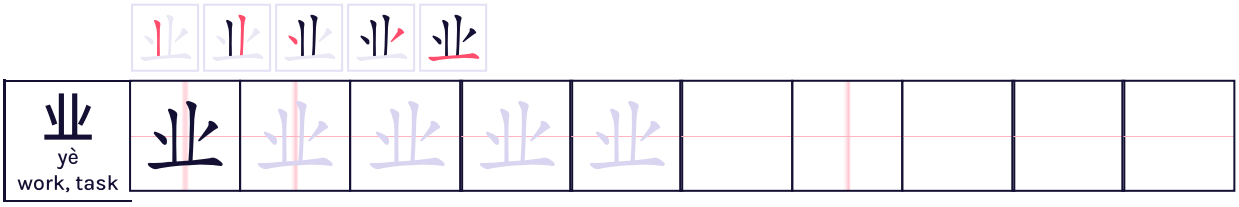
xiaoming 到处都是游客。你在这儿站着，我去买。
dàochù dōu shì yóukè nǐ zài zhèr zhàn zhe wǒ qù mǎi · There are tourists everywhere. You stand here, and I'll go and buy it.

anna 好。到了上海，我还想坐船！
hǎo dào le Shànghǎi wǒ hái xiǎng zuò chuán · OK. When we get to Shanghai, I want to take a boat ride too!

xiaoming 没问题。我叔叔是司机，他会开车来接我们。
méi wèntí wǒ shūshu shì sījī tā huì kāichē lái jiē wǒmen · No problem. My uncle is a driver; he'll come and pick us up in the car.

anna 太好了，我还没跟你叔叔见过面呢！
tài hǎo le wǒ hái méi gēn nǐ shūshu jiàn guo miàn ne · Great, I've never met your uncle!

write it trace the grey, then write your own





good to know · 晚点 is for trains, planes and buses; a person who is late is 迟到. You'll meet more two-part verbs: 请假 → 请了两天假, 洗澡 → 洗个澡, 结婚 → 结了婚.

Stations, delays, luggage and meeting up: you're ready for a holiday trip in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 32 sports day

Talk about sports and matches, and say how well someone does something (他打网球打得很好).

Sport is the easiest way to make friends, and to compliment someone.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
比赛	bǐsài	match, competition; to compete	明天我有网球比赛。 I have a tennis match tomorrow.
得分	défēn	to score; score	这次比赛，他得分最多。 He scored the most points in this match.
网球	wǎngqiú	tennis	小陈每个周末都打网球。 Xiao Chen plays tennis every weekend.
羽毛球	yǔmáoqiú	badminton	我们去体育馆打羽毛球吧！ Let's go and play badminton at the sports hall!
运动会	yùndònghuì	sports day, sports meeting	下个星期学校开运动会。 The school is holding its sports day next week.
运动员	yùndòngyuán	athlete	她是一个网球运动员。 She's a tennis player.
体育	tǐyù	sport, PE	我最喜欢上体育课。 PE is my favourite lesson.
体育馆	tǐyùguǎn	sports hall, gym	体育馆就在学校旁边。 The sports hall is right next to the school.
球场	qiúchǎng	court, pitch (for ball games)	球场上有很多人。 There are lots of people on the court.
相机	xiàngjī	camera	我的相机是新买的。 I've just bought my camera.
照相	zhàoxiàng	to take photos	这里不能照相。 You can't take photos here.
照	zhào	to take (a photo); to shine on	我给你照一张吧！ Let me take one of you!

pattern verb + thing + verb again + 得: 他打网球打得很好

who | verb + thing | verb again | 得 + how

To say how well someone does an activity that has an object, say the verb twice: 他打网球打得很好. The first verb takes the object, the second takes 得 and the comment. You can also drop the first verb: 他网球打得很好.

她唱歌唱得很好听。 **tā chàng gē chàng de hěn hǎotīng** She sings beautifully.

我照相照得不太好。 **wǒ zhàoxiàng zhào de bú tài hǎo** I'm not very good at taking photos.

他说汉语说得越来越好了。 **tā shuō Hànyǔ shuō de yuè lái yuè hǎo le** His Chinese is getting better and better.

dialogue sports day

anna 小陈，听说你要参加网球比赛？
XiǎoChén tīngshuō nǐ yào cānjiā wǎngqiú bǐsài · Xiao Chen, I hear you're in the tennis match?

xiao chen 对！还有羽毛球。我从小就喜欢体育。
duì hái yǒu yǔmáoqiú wǒ cóngxiǎo jiù xǐhuan tǐyù · Yes! And badminton. I've loved sport since I was little.

anna 同事们说，你打网球打得跟运动员一样好。
tóngshìmen shuō nǐ dǎ wǎngqiú dǎ de gēn yùndòngyuán yíyàng hǎo · Our colleagues say you play tennis as well as a pro.

xiao chen 哪里哪里！你呢？你参加什么？
nǎlǐ nǎlǐ nǐ ne nǐ cānjiā shénme · Oh, not really! What about you? What are you doing?

anna 我跑步跑得太慢了，所以我来照相。
wǒ pǎobù pǎo de tài màn le suǒyǐ wǒ lái zhàoxiàng · I run far too slowly, so I'm here to take photos.

xiao chen 你带相机了吗？
nǐ dài xiàngjī le ma · Did you bring a camera?

anna 带了。你站在球场中间，我给你照一张！
dài le nǐ zhàn zài qiúchǎng zhōngjiān wǒ gěi nǐ zhào yì zhāng · I did. Stand in the middle of the court and I'll take one of you!

xiao chen 好！把我照得好看一点儿！
hǎo bǎ wǒ zhào de hǎokàn yìdiǎnr · Great! Make me look good!

anna 放心吧。比赛的时候，你得分，我照相！
fàngxīn ba bǐsài de shíhou nǐ défēn wǒ zhàoxiàng · Don't worry. In the match, you score and I'll take the pictures!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

假
jià
leave, holiday

参
cān
join

主
zhǔ
main, host

全
quán
whole, complete



护 hù protect											

good to know · When someone praises you, 哪里哪里 (“oh, where?”) is a modest, friendly reply. 谢谢 is fine too. Ball games use 打 (打网球, 打羽毛球, 打篮球), but football uses 踢 “kick”. New at HSK 3: 分 is also a mark or a point: 考了九十分, 得了三分. As a verb it means “divide”: 分开, 分给大家.

Now you can cheer, compliment and talk sport: a fast way into any group of friends.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 33 festivals

Talk about festivals, parties, presents and shows, and say “one by one”, “day by day”.

Festivals are when you meet everyone, and they love to see you join in.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
节日	jiérì	festival, holiday	中国的节日真多! China has so many festivals!
过节	guòjié	to celebrate a festival	你们怎么过节? How do you celebrate?
新年	xīnnián	New Year	新年快乐! Happy New Year!
节	jié	festival; measure word for classes	今天下午我有两节课。 I have two classes this afternoon.
礼物	lǐwù	gift, present	这是给你的礼物。 This is a present for you.
晚会	wǎnhuì	evening party, gala	后天晚上公司有新年晚会。 There’s a New Year party at the company the evening after next.
表演	biǎoyǎn	to perform; performance	妹妹在晚会上表演了一个节目。 My little sister did an act at the party.
节目	jiémù	programme, show, act	今天晚上有什么好节目? What’s good on tonight?
前天	qiántiān	the day before yesterday	前天我去了图书馆。 I went to the library the day before yesterday.
前年	qiánnián	the year before last	前年我还在英国。 The year before last I was still in the UK.
后天	hòutiān	the day after tomorrow	后天见! See you the day after tomorrow!
后年	hòunián	the year after next	我打算后年去上海工作。 I’m planning to go and work in Shanghai the year after next.
过去	guòqù	the past; in the past	过去{guo4qu4-3}，这里没有高铁。 In the past there was no high-speed rail here.

pattern 一个一个, 一天一天: one by one, day by day

一 + measure word **一 + measure word** **verb**

Say 一 + measure word twice to mean “one by one” or “bit by bit”: 一个一个来 (come one at a time), 一天一天 (day by day). It describes how something happens: step by step, in order.

请大家一个一个进来。 **qǐng dàjiā yí gè yí gè jìnlái** Please come in one at a time.

孩子们一年一年长大了。 **háizimen yì nián yì nián zhǎng dà le** The children grew up year by year.

他把礼物一个一个打开了。 **tā bǎ lǐwù yí gè yí gè dǎkāi le** He opened the presents one by one.

dialogue the new year party

xiao chen 安娜，后天的新年晚会，你表演什么节目？
Ānnà hòutiān de xīnnián wǎnhuì nǐ biǎoyǎn shénme jiémù · Anna, what are you doing at the New Year party the day after tomorrow?

anna 我想唱中国歌。
wǒ xiǎng chàng Zhōngguó gē · I want to sing a Chinese song.

xiao chen 真的？前天你不是说你唱歌唱得不好吗？
zhēn de qiántiān nǐ bú shì shuō nǐ chàng gē chàng de bù hǎo ma · Really? Didn’t you say the day before yesterday that you’re no good at singing?

anna 是啊，所以我每天都练，一句一句地练。
shì a suǒyǐ wǒ měi tiān dōu liàn yí jù yí jù de liàn · Yes, so I practise every day, line by line.

xiao chen 晚会以后，每个人都有一个新年礼物。
wǎnhuì yǐhòu měi gè rén dōu yǒu yí gè xīnnián lǐwù · After the party, everyone gets a New Year present.

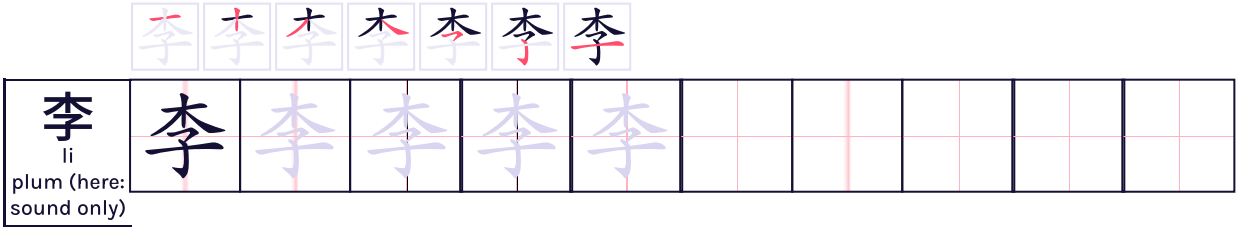
anna 过去在英国，新年我只是跟家人一起吃饭。
guòqù zài Yīngguó xīnnián wǒ zhǐshì gēn jiārén yìqǐ chī fàn · Back in the UK, at New Year I just had dinner with my family.

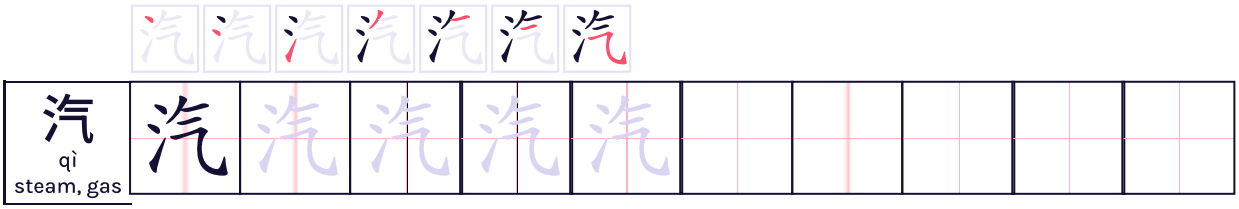
xiao chen 在中国，过节的时候，大家都喜欢一起看晚会。
zài Zhōngguó guòjié de shíhou dàjiā dōu xǐhuan yìqǐ kàn wǎnhuì · In China, at festival time, everyone loves watching the gala together.

anna 那我得好好练了！
nà wǒ děi hǎo hǎo liàn le · Then I’d better practise properly!

xiao chen 唱得好的话，明年、后年都让你唱！
chàng de hǎo dehuà míngnián hòunián dōu ràng nǐ chàng · If you sing well, we’ll have you sing next year and the year after too!

write it trace the grey, then write your own





育
yù
raise, educate



礼
lǐ
courtesy, gift



目
mù
item



good to know · 前 and 后 make a whole calendar: 前天, 昨天, 今天, 明天, 后天 and 前年, 去年, 今年, 明年, 后年. 新年 is New Year: 1 January, though people say it at Chinese New New Year too. Chinese New Year is 春节; to celebrate it is 过年.

Presents, parties and “day by day”: you can now join in the festivals, one by one.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 34 mission: new year on the high-speed train

Follow a whole New Year trip in Chinese: the station, the train, a delay and the party, with the main points of the course.

Going home for New Year is the biggest trip of the Chinese year, and the best story to end on.

chapter 1 at the station

ms zhang 安娜，这儿！我们在这儿！好久不见，最近怎么样？
Ānnà zhèr wǒmen zài zhèr hǎojiǔ bújiàn zuìjìn zěnmeyàng · Anna, over here! We're here! Long time no see: how have you been?

anna 阿姨好！挺好的，就是比较忙。对不起，我来晚了。路上汽车太多了，出租车一会儿快，一会儿慢。
āyí hǎo tǐng hǎo de jiù shì bǐjiào máng duìbuqǐ wǒ lái wǎn le lùshang qìchē tài duō le chūzūchē yíhuìr kuài yíhuìr màn · Hello! Pretty good, just rather busy. Sorry I'm late. There were so many cars: the taxi went fast one minute and crawled the next.

xiaoming 没关系，高铁还没开始检票。你的护照带了吗？
méi guānxi gāotiě hái méi kāishǐ jiǎnpiào nǐ de hùzhào dài le ma · No problem, they haven't started checking tickets yet. Did you bring your passport?

anna 带了，在我的包里。放假了，火车站里到处都是游客！
dài le zài wǒ de bāo lǐ fàngjià le huǒchēzhàn lǐ dàochù dōu shì yóukè · Yes, it's in my bag. The holidays have started: the station is full of travellers!

dr li 是啊，过节的时候，大家都去外地。安娜，你的行李我来拿吧。
shì a guòjié de shíhou dàjiā dōu qù wàidì Ānnà nǐ de xíngli wǒ lái ná ba · Yes, at festival time everyone goes out of town. Anna, let me take your luggage.

anna 谢谢叔叔！我的箱子里都是礼物。大白呢？它不跟我们去吗？
xièxie shūshu wǒ de xiāngzi lǐ dōu shì lǐwù Dàbái ne tā bù gēn wǒmen qù ma · Thank you! My suitcase is full of presents. Where's Dabai? Isn't he coming with us?

little sister 大白在刘阿姨家。她说她会好好照顾它。你看，刘阿姨刚发来一张照片：大白在她家的沙发上睡觉呢！
Dàbái zài Liúāyí jiā tā shuō tā huì hǎo hǎo zhàogù tā nǐ kàn Liúāyí gāng fā lái yì zhāng zhàopiàn Dàbái zài tā jiā de shāfā shàng shuìjiào ne · Dabai is at Auntie Liu's. She said she'll take good care of him. Look, Auntie Liu has just sent a photo: Dabai is asleep on her sofa!

anna 它看起来比我们还舒服！
tā kàn qǐlai bǐ wǒmen hái shūfu · He looks even comfier than us!

little sister 安娜姐姐，你跟以前不一样了，越来越像北京人了！
Ānnà jiějie nǐ gēn yǐqián bù yíyàng le yuè lái yuè xiàng Běijīng rén le · Anna, you're not the same as before: you're more and more like a Beijinger!

anna 走以前，我把屋子打扫干净了，空调和灯也都关了。
zǒu yǐqián wǒ bǎ wūzi dǎsǎo gānjìng le kōngtiáo hé dēng yě dōu guān le · Before I left, I cleaned the flat and turned off the air conditioning and all the lights.

little sister 啊，妈妈，我忘了带牙刷！
a māma wǒ wàng le dài yáshuā · Oh no, Mum, I forgot my toothbrush!

ms zhang 没关系，叔叔家有新的。
méi guānxi shūshu jiā yǒu xīn de · Never mind, Uncle has new ones at his place.

chapter 2 boarding

grandma 我们站了半天了，我的腿都有点儿累了。
wǒmen zhàn le bàntiān le wǒ de tuǐ dōu yǒudiǎnr lèi le · We've been standing for ages; my legs are getting a bit tired.

xiaoming 我们的车是十点一刻的，还差二十分钟。
wǒmen de chē shì shí diǎn yí kè de hái chà èrshí fēnzhōng · Our train is at a quarter past ten: twenty minutes to go.

ms zhang 六个人的票一共三千多块，我用信用卡买的。
liù gè rén de piào yígòng sānqiān duō kuài wǒ yòng xìnyòngkǎ mǎi de · Tickets for six came to over three thousand yuan altogether; I paid by credit card.

dr li 您听：“去上海的高铁马上开始检票，请大家拿好行李，注意安全，小心脚下。”
nín tīng qù Shànghǎi de gāotiě mǎshàng kāishǐ jiǎnpiào qǐng dàjiā ná hǎo xíngli zhùyì ānquán xiǎoxīn jiǎo xià · Listen, Mum: “The high-speed train to Shanghai will begin boarding shortly. Please keep your luggage with you, take care, and mind your step.”

grandma 好了，开始检票了。大家一个一个走，别把东西丢了！
hǎo le kāishǐ jiǎnpiào le dàjiā yí gè yí gè zǒu bié bǎ dōngxi diū le · Right, they're checking tickets. Everyone go one at a time, and don't lose anything!

chapter 3 on the train

grandma 这高铁真快！过去从北京到上海，坐火车得坐差不多二十个小时。
zhè gāotiě zhēn kuài guòqù cóng Běijīng dào Shànghǎi zuò huǒchē děi zuò chàbuduō èrshí gè xiǎoshí · This train is so fast! In the old days, Beijing to Shanghai by train took almost twenty hours.

anna 现在只要四个多小时，比坐飞机还方便：飞机起飞以前，得等很长时间。
xiànzài zhǐ yào sì gè duō xiǎoshí bǐ zuò fēijī hái fāngbiàn fēijī qǐfēi yǐqián děi děng hěn cháng shíjiān · Now it's only a bit over four hours: even easier than flying, because before a plane takes off you wait for ages.

xiaoming 安娜，你这次休假几天？
Ānnà nǐ zhè cì xiūjià jǐ tiān · Anna, how many days off do you have this time?

anna 公司从昨天起放七天假。我前天就把工作都做完了！
gōngsī cóng zuótiān qǐ fàng qī tiān jià wǒ qiántiān jiù bǎ gōngzuò dōu zuò wán le · The company's been off since yesterday, for seven days. I finished all my work the day before yesterday!

anna 你们看外面！有山，有河，还有好多树。越往南走，河越多。
nǐmen kàn wàimiàn yǒu shān yǒu hé hái yǒu hǎoduō shù yuè wǎng nán zǒu hé yuè duō · Look outside! Hills, rivers and lots of trees. The further south we go, the more rivers there are.

little sister 上海离海近吗？我想去海边！
Shànghǎi lí hǎi jìn ma wǒ xiǎng qù hǎi biān · Is Shanghai near the sea? I want to go to the seaside!

ms zhang 不远。北方和南方的冬天很不同，到了上海你就知道了。妹妹，你的作业做完了吗？
bù yuǎn běifāng hé nánfāng de dōngtiān hěn bù tóng dào le Shànghǎi nǐ jiù zhīdào le mèimei nǐ de zuòyè zuò wán le ma · Not far. Winter in the north and the south are very different: you'll see when we get to Shanghai. And you, have you finished your homework?

little sister 做完了！我还复习了课文，写了十页笔记。这个学期我考了班级第一，下个学期我还要考第一！
zuò wán le wǒ hái fùxí le kèwén xiě le shí yè bǐjì zhège xuéqī wǒ kǎo le bānjí dì yī xià gè xuéqī wǒ hái yào kǎo dì yī · Yes! I revised my texts too and wrote ten pages of notes. This term I came top of my class, and next term I'm going to come top again!

chapter 4 stories on the train

little sister 安娜姐姐，英国人怎样过新年？你给我讲讲吧！
Ānnà jiějie Yīngguó rén zěnyàng guò xīnnián nǐ gěi wǒ jiǎng jiang ba · Anna, how do people in the UK celebrate New Year? Tell me about it!

anna 很多人在外面等十二点。冷极了，可是大家都很开心。
hěn duō rén zài wàimiàn děng shíèr diǎn lěng jí le kěshì dàjiā dōu hěn kāixīn · Lots of people wait outside for midnight. It's freezing, but everyone's really happy.

ms zhang 我们过年就在家里，一边吃饺子，一边看晚会。
wǒmen guònián jiù zài jiā lǐ yìbiān chī jiǎozi yìbiān kàn wǎnhuì · At New Year we just stay at home, eating dumplings and watching the gala.

dr li 前年过年，我们在上海跟小明的叔叔见了一面。他是司机，这次也会开车来接我们。
qiánnián guònián wǒmen zài Shànghǎi gēn Xiǎomíng de shūshu jiàn le yí miàn tā shì sījī zhè cì yě huì kāichē lái jiē wǒmen · Two years ago at New Year we met up with Xiaoming's uncle in Shanghai. He's a driver, and he's picking us up by car this time too.

xiaoming 叔叔打羽毛球打得特别好，还在运动会上得过第一呢！
shūshu dǎ yǔmáoqiú dǎ de tèbié hǎo hái zài yùndònghuì shàng dé guo dì yī ne · My uncle plays badminton really well. He even came first at a sports day!

little sister 哥哥一上车就用耳机听音乐，还看电子书，一句也不说！
gēge yí shàng chē jiù yòng ěrjī tīng yīnyuè hái kàn diànzǐshū yí jù yě bù shuō · My brother put his earphones in as soon as we got on, listening to music and reading an e-book, and he hasn't said a word!

xiaoming 我在看一个关于高铁历史的网站，很有意思。
wǒ zài kàn yí gè guānyú gāotiě lìshǐ de wǎngzhàn hěn yǒu yìsi · I'm reading a website about the history of high-speed rail. It's really interesting.

grandma 我不习惯用手机看书，我还是喜欢看报纸。
wǒ bù xíguàn yòng shǒujī kàn shū wǒ háishi xǐhuan kàn bàozhǐ · I'm not used to reading on a phone; I still prefer the newspaper.

chapter 5 a delay

xiaoming 怎么了？高铁怎么不走了？
zěnme le gāotiě zěnme bù zǒu le · What's happening? Why has the train stopped?

dr li 根据新闻，前面下大雪，看来高铁大概要晚点一个小时。
gēnjù xīnwén qiánmiàn xià dà xuě kànlái gāotiě dàgài yào wǎndiǎn yí gè xiǎoshí · According to the news, there's heavy snow ahead; it looks like the train will be about an hour late.

little sister 啊？我又饿又渴，饿坏了！
a wǒ yòu è yòu kě è huài le · What? I'm hungry and thirsty: I'm starving!

ms zhang 别着急，晚点多长时间都没关系，我带了很多吃的。除了面包和香蕉以外，还有蛋糕和矿泉水。
bié zháojí wǎndiǎn duō cháng shíjiān dōu méi guānxi wǒ dài le hěn duō chī de chúle miànbāo hé xiāngjiāo yǐwài hái yǒu dàngāo hé kuàngquánshuǐ · Don't panic: however late it is doesn't matter, I've brought lots of food. As well as bread and bananas, there's cake and mineral water.

xiaoming 如果晚点两个小时的话，叔叔就只能在车站等我们了。车上也卖方便面和饮料，饿了可以买。
rúguǒ wǎndiǎn liǎng gè xiǎoshí dehuà shūshu jiù zhǐ néng zài chēzhàn děng wǒmen le chē shàng yě mài fāngbiànmiàn hé yǐnliào è le kěyǐ mǎi · If we're two hours late, Uncle will just have to wait for us at the station. They sell instant noodles and drinks on board too, if you get hungry.

dr li 别担心，新闻上说雪不久就会变小。高铁很安全。
bié dānxīn xīnwén shàng shuō xuě bùjiǔ jiù huì biàn xiǎo gāotiě hěn ānquán · Don't worry: the news says the snow will ease off soon. The train is very safe.

little sister 太好了！妈妈什么都想到了！
tài hǎo le māma shénme dōu xiǎng dào le · Brilliant! Mum thinks of everything!

anna 小陈刚发来邮件：“经理说，假期以后的第一个工作日要开会，八点半在办公室，别迟到！”
XiǎoChén gāng fā lái yóujiàn jīnglǐ shuō jiàqī yǐhòu de dì yī gè gōngzuòrì yào kāihuì bā diǎn bàn zài bàngōngshì bié chídào · Xiao Chen has just emailed: “The manager says there's a meeting on the first working day after the holiday, half past eight in the office. Don't be late!”

little sister 刘阿姨刚才也打电话来说：“大白很好，吃得很饱，昨天我还给它洗了个澡。你们放心吧！”
Liúāyí gāngcái yě dǎ diànhuà lái shuō Dàbái hěn hǎo chī de hěn bǎo zuótiān wǒ hái gěi tā xǐ le gè zǎo nǐmen fàngxīn ba · Auntie Liu just phoned too: “Dabai is fine and eating well; yesterday I even gave him a bath. Don't worry!”

dr li 妈妈，您累不累？想休息一下吗？
māma nín lèi bu lèi xiǎng xiūxi yíxià ma · Mum, are you tired? Would you like a rest?

grandma 我身体健康得很！我平时天天在公园跳舞，比你们年轻人锻炼得还多。
wǒ shēntǐ jiànkāng de hěn wǒ píngshí tiān tiān zài gōngyuán tiào wǔ bǐ nǐmen niánqīng rén duànliàn de hái duō · I'm perfectly healthy! I dance in the park every day: I get more exercise than you young people.

anna 咱们一起玩游戏吧！谁先笑，谁就表演节目！
zánmen yìqǐ wán yóuxì ba shéi xiān xiào shéi jiù biǎoyǎn jiémù · Let's play a game! Whoever laughs first has to put on a show!

grandma 好！我先来。
hǎo wǒ xiān lái · Great! I'll go first.

little sister 奶奶，您太可爱了，我笑了！
nǎinai nín tài kěài le wǒ xiào le · Grandma, you're too cute: I laughed!

xiaoming 妹妹先笑了，快表演吧！我用相机给你照一张。
mèimei xiān xiào le kuài biǎoyǎn ba wǒ yòng xiàngjī gěi nǐ zhào yì zhāng · You laughed first, so go on, perform! I'll take a picture of you with the camera.

chapter 6 arriving in shanghai

xiaoming 终于到上海站了！你们看，那辆红色的车就是叔叔的！
zhōngyú dào Shànghǎi zhàn le nǐmen kàn nà liàng hóngsè de chē jiù shì shūshu de · Shanghai station at last! Look, that red car is my uncle's!

anna 上海这个城市真大！街上到处都是灯，太漂亮了！
Shànghǎi zhège chéngshì zhēn dà jiē shàng dàochù dōu shì dēng tài piàoliang le · Shanghai is such a big city! There are lights all along the streets: it's beautiful!

xiaoming 叔叔家在城市的东南边，离车站不远。这是我叔叔，他和他爱人去年刚结婚。
shūshu jiā zài chéngshì de dōngnán biān lí chēzhàn bù yuǎn zhè shì wǒ shūshu tā hé tā àiren qùnián gāng jiéhūn · My uncle lives in the southeast of the city, not far from the station. This is my uncle; he and his wife only got married last year.

ms zhang 到家了！安娜，你是我们的客人，快坐。大家先休息一下，饺子马上就好。
dào jiā le Ānnà nǐ shì wǒmen de kèrén kuài zuò dàjiā xiān xiūxi yíxià jiǎozi mǎshàng jiù hǎo · We're home! Anna, you're our guest: sit down. Everyone have a rest; the dumplings are nearly ready.

anna 我以为上海的冬天不冷，可是也挺冷的！
wǒ yǐwéi Shànghǎi de dōngtiān bù lěng kěshì yě tǐng lěng de · I thought winter in Shanghai wasn't cold, but it's quite chilly too!

anna 这是我给大家准备的新年礼物。
zhè shì wǒ gěi dàjiā zhǔnbèi de xīnnián lǐwù · These are the New Year presents I got for everyone.

grandma 谢谢安娜！过年是中国最重要的节日。来，我们一起照相吧！
xièxie Ānnà guònián shì Zhōngguó zuì zhòngyào de jiérì lái wǒmen yìqǐ zhàoxiàng ba · Thank you, Anna! New Year is the most important festival in China. Come on, let's all have a photo together!

little sister 安娜姐姐，你看我的新裙子！是黄色的，大小也合适。
Ānnà jiějie nǐ kàn wǒ de xīn qúnzi shì huángsè de dàxiǎo yě héshì · Anna, look at my new dress! It's yellow, and it's just the right size.

chapter 7 new year's eve dinner

ms zhang 安娜，尝尝这个鸡，很新鲜，是叔叔今天早上买的。
Ānnà cháng chang zhège jī hěn xīnxiān shì shūshu jīntiān zǎoshang mǎi de · Anna, try the chicken: it's really fresh, Uncle bought it this morning.

anna 太好吃了！我已经吃了两碗米饭了，饱得很！
tài hǎochī le wǒ yǐjīng chī le liǎng wǎn mǐfàn le bǎo de hěn · Delicious! I've already had two bowls of rice: I'm stuffed!

anna 离开英国以后，这是我第一次在别人家过年，心里感到特别开心。
líkāi Yīngguó yǐhòu zhè shì wǒ dì yī cì zài biérén jiā guònián xīnlǐ gǎndào tèbié kāixīn · Since I left the UK, this is my first New Year in someone else's home, and I feel so happy inside.

grandma 你不是别人，你是我们家的人！
nǐ bú shì biérén nǐ shì wǒmen jiā de rén · You're not someone else: you're family!

little sister 奶奶每年过年都讲一样的故事，我都听了十遍了！
nǎinai měi nián guònián dōu jiǎng yíyàng de gùshi wǒ dōu tīng le shí biàn le · Grandma tells the same story every New Year: I've heard it ten times!

little sister 晚会开始了！第一个节目是唱歌，第二个是运动员的体育表演！
wǎnhuì kāishǐ le dì yī gè jiémù shì chàng gē dì èr gè shì yùndòngyuán de tǐyù biǎoyǎn · The gala's starting! The first act is a song, the second is a sports show by athletes!

dr li 安娜，你来中国快两年了吧？你觉得怎么样？
Ānnà nǐ lái Zhōngguó kuài liǎng nián le ba nǐ juéde zěnmeyàng · Anna, you've been in China almost two years now, haven't you? How do you feel?

anna 时间过得真快！以前我一句也听不懂，现在晚会的节目我都看得懂了！
shíjiān guò de zhēn kuài yǐqián wǒ yí jù yě tīng bu dǒng xiànzài wǎnhuì de jiémù wǒ dōu kàn de dǒng le · Time flies! I used to understand not a single sentence; now I can follow the whole gala!

xiaoming 你不是说想去体育馆看网球比赛吗？过了节，咱们一块儿去吧！
nǐ bú shì shuō xiǎng qù tǐyùguǎn kàn wǎngqiú bǐsài ma guò le jié zánmen yíkuàir qù ba · Didn't you say you wanted to see a tennis match at the sports hall? After the holiday, let's go together!

chapter 8 my year

dr li 今年最让你们开心的事是什么？咱们一个一个说。

jīnnián zuì ràng nǐmen kāixīn de shì shì shénme zánmen yí gè yí gè shuō · What made you happiest this year? Let's go round one by one.

anna 今年发生了好多事！先是搬家，搬到了一个安静的小区，邻居刘阿姨特别热情。刚搬家的时候电梯坏了，我们只能走楼梯，累极了！后来我请朋友来家里吃饭，第一次自己做了一条鱼。

jīnnián fāshēng le hǎoduō shì xiān shì bānjiā bān dào le yí gè ānjìng de xiǎoqū línjū Liúāyí tèbié rèqíng gāng bānjiā de shíhou diàntī huài le wǒmen zhǐ néng zǒu lóutī lèi jí le hòulái wǒ qǐng péngyou lái jiā lǐ chī fàn dì yī cì zìjǐ zuò le yì tiáo yú · So much happened to me this year! First I moved house, to a quiet estate, and my neighbour Auntie Liu is so kind. Just after I moved in, the lift broke and we had to take the stairs: I was exhausted! Then I had friends over for dinner and cooked a whole fish myself for the first time.

anna 秋天我们骑车去山上，我的腿和脚都很疼，可是我坚持爬到了最上面。最后是汉语考试，我考了九十二分！

qiūtiān wǒmen qí chē qù shān shàng wǒ de tuǐ hé jiǎo dōu hěn téng kěshì wǒ jiānchí pá dào le zuì shàngmiàn zuìhòu shì Hànyǔ kǎoshì wǒ kǎo le jiǔshíèr fēn · In the autumn we cycled to the hills; my legs and feet really hurt, but I kept going right to the top. And last of all the Chinese exam: I got 92!

grandma 你又聪明又努力！

nǐ yòu cōngmíng yòu nǔlì · You're clever and hard-working!

dr li 你最近习惯北京的生活了吗？

nǐ zuìjìn xíguàn Běijīng de shēnghuó le ma · And are you used to life in Beijing now?

anna 习惯了。一开始我觉得什么都很奇怪，后来就越来越喜欢了。

xíguàn le yì kāishǐ wǒ juéde shénme dōu hěn qíguài hòulái jiù yuè lái yuè xǐhuan le · Yes. At first everything seemed strange, but then I liked it more and more.

ms zhang 我今年参加了公司一个重要的会议，还得到了一个去英国的机会。同事们都很关心我。

wǒ jīnnián cānjiā le gōngsī yí gè zhòngyào de huìyì hái dédào le yí gè qù Yīngguó de jīhuì tóngshìmen dōu hěn guānxīn wǒ · This year I went to an important meeting at work, and I got the chance to go to the UK. My colleagues were all so supportive.

xiaoming 我今年的数学成绩提高了很多。其实是安娜教了我很好的学习方法！

wǒ jīnnián de shùxué chéngjì tígāo le hěn duō qíshí shì Ānnà jiāo le wǒ hěn hǎo de xuéxí fāngfǎ · My maths results went up a lot this year. Actually, it was Anna who taught me a good way to study!

little sister 我今年长高了，身高一米四了！我还认得了五百个新汉字。

wǒ jīnnián zhǎng gāo le shēngāo yì mǐ sì le wǒ hái rènde le wǔbǎi gè xīn Hànzì · I grew this year: I'm 1.4 metres tall now! And I learned to read five hundred new characters.

dr li 我最高兴的是，医院里很多病人都出院了，可以回家过年。

wǒ zuì gāoxìng de shì yīyuàn lǐ hěn duō bìngrén dōu chūyuàn le kěyǐ huí jiā guònián · What makes me happiest is that lots of patients at the hospital have gone home and can spend New Year with their families.

grandma 一年一年过得真快。只要一家人在一起，我就很开心了。

yì nián yì nián guò de zhēn kuài zhǐyào yì jiā rén zài yìqǐ wǒ jiù hěn kāixīn le · The years go by so fast. As long as the family is together, I'm happy.

anna 对了，我刚收到王老师的邮件，我读给大家听：

duì le wǒ gāng shōudào Wánglǎoshī de yóujiàn wǒ dú gěi dàjiā tīng · Oh, I've just had an email from Teacher Wang. Let me read it to you:

anna “安娜：新年快乐！这个学期你非常认真，汉语水平提高得很快。学语言最重要的是坚持，别忘记多听、多说、多练。新的一年，我们一起学更多的汉语！”

Ānnà xīnnián kuàilè zhège xuéqī nǐ fēicháng rènzhēn Hànyǔ shuǐpíng tígāo de hěn kuài xué yǔyán zuì zhòngyào de shì jiānchí bié wàngjì duō tīng duō shuō duō liàn xīn de yì nián wǒmen yìqǐ xué gèng duō de Hànyǔ · “Anna, Happy New Year! You worked really hard this term, and your Chinese improved quickly. The most

important thing in learning a language is to keep at it: don't forget to listen, speak and practise a lot. In the new year, let's learn even more Chinese together!"

xiaoming 十二点了！新年快乐！
shíèr diǎn le xīnnián kuàilè · It's midnight! Happy New Year!

anna 新年快乐！我认为，这是我在中国最好的一年！明年、后年，我都跟你们一起过年！
xīnnián kuàilè wǒ rènwéi zhè shì wǒ zài Zhōngguó zuìhǎo de yì nián míngnián hòunián wǒ dōu gēn nǐmen yìqǐ guònián · Happy New Year! I think this has been my best year in China! Next year and the year after, I'll spend New Year with you!

chapter 9 new year's day

xiaoming 今天天气真好，有太阳，风也不大。我们去河边走走吧！
jīntiān tiānqì zhēn hǎo yǒu tàiyáng fēng yě bú dà wǒmen qù hé biān zǒu zou ba · What lovely weather today: sunshine, and hardly any wind. Let's go for a walk by the river!

anna 好！冬天能看到这么好的太阳，真舒服。
hǎo dōngtiān néng kàn dào zhème hǎo de tàiyáng zhēn shūfu · Great! Sunshine this lovely in winter feels wonderful.

little sister 河上有好多船！我们能坐船吗？
hé shàng yǒu hǎoduō chuán wǒmen néng zuò chuán ma · There are so many boats on the river! Can we go on a boat?

dr li 当然可以。坐船以前，我们先去附近的公园。那儿有一个大花园，冬天也开花。
dāngrán kěyǐ zuò chuán yǐqián wǒmen xiān qù fùjìn de gōngyuán nàr yǒu yí gè dà huāyuán dōngtiān yě kāihuā · Of course. Before the boat, let's go to the park nearby. There's a big garden there with flowers even in winter.

grandma 我年轻的时候来过这儿。过去这个地方跟现在很不一样，变化真大！
wǒ niánqīng de shíhou lái guo zhèr guòqù zhège dìfang gēn xiànzài hěn bù yíyàng biànhuà zhēn dà · I came here when I was young. Back then this place was very different: it's changed so much!

anna 奶奶，以前这儿怎么样？
nǎinai yǐqián zhèr zěnmeyàng · Grandma, what was it like here before?

grandma 以前路边都是旧房子，马路也很小。现在这儿变成了世界上有名的地方。
yǐqián lùbiān dōu shì jiù fángzi mǎlù yě hěn xiǎo xiànzài zhèr biànchéng le shìjiè shàng yǒumíng de dìfang · The roadsides were all old houses, and the roads were narrow. Now it's become a world-famous place.

dr li 坐船一个人五十块，一米二以下的孩子不用买票。
zuò chuán yí gè rén wǔshí kuài yì mǐ èr yǐxià de háizi búyòng mǎi piào · The boat is fifty yuan each; children under 1.2 metres go free.

little sister 我身高一米四，在一米二以上，得买票了！
wǒ shēngāo yì mǐ sì zài yì mǐ èr yǐshàng děi mǎi piào le · I'm 1.4 metres, over 1.2, so I need a ticket!

little sister 明天我想去动物园看大熊猫！
míngtiān wǒ xiǎng qù dòngwùyuán kàn dàxióngmāo · Tomorrow I want to go to the zoo to see the pandas!

xiaoming 地图上说，动物园在这儿的西南边，坐地铁要四十分钟。
dìtú shàng shuō dòngwùyuán zài zhèr de xīnán biān zuò dìtiě yào sìshí fēnzhōng · The map says the zoo is southwest of here: forty minutes on the underground.

ms zhang 好，明天我们一起去动物园，后天去海边。今天先在河边拍照吧！
hǎo míngtiān wǒmen yìqǐ qù dòngwùyuán hòutiān qù hǎi biān jīntiān xiān zài hé biān pāizhào ba · OK, tomorrow we'll all go to the zoo, and the day after, the seaside. Today let's take some photos by the river!

anna 你们站在中间，我来照！一、二、三，新年快乐！
nǐmen zhàn zài zhōngjiān wǒ lái zhào yī èr sān xīnnián kuàilè · You all stand in the middle and I'll take it! One, two, three: Happy New Year!

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