wishyou.today learning

day 49 family ties

Chinese HSK 4 in 69 days
unit 8 · home, family & community

Talk about your family and relatives, and tease or reassure someone the way families do.

Family comes up in every first conversation in China, and the teasing 还X呢 is how real families talk.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
家庭	jiātíng	family, household	小明的家庭很幸福。 Xiaoming's family is very happy.
父母	fùmǔ	parents	我的父母都住在英国。 My parents both live in the UK.
父亲	fùqīn	father	李医生是一位很严格的父亲。 Dr Li is a very strict father.
母亲	mǔqīn	mother	她是我的母亲。 She is my mother.
父子	fùzǐ	father and son	李医生和小明是父子。 Dr Li and Xiaoming are father and son.
父女	fùnǚ	father and daughter	他们父女俩感情很好。 The father and daughter are very close.
母子	mǔzǐ	mother and son	张女士和小明是母子。 Ms Zhang and Xiaoming are mother and son.
母女	mǔnǚ	mother and daughter	她们母女长{zhang3}得很像。 The mother and daughter look very alike.
兄弟	xiōngdì	brothers	我有两个兄弟，没有姐妹。 I have two brothers and no sisters.
亲戚	qīnqi	relative, relation	春节的时候，很多亲戚来我家。 At Spring Festival lots of relatives come to our home.
孙子	sūnzi	grandson	爷爷最喜欢跟孙子聊天。 Grandpa loves chatting with his grandson.
孙女	sūnnǚ	granddaughter	奶奶的孙女今年十五岁。 Grandma's granddaughter is fifteen this year.
俩	liǎ	two, the two of (spoken)	我们俩是好朋友。 The two of us are good friends.
家长	jiāzhǎng	parent (of a pupil)	明天学校开家长会{hui4-3}。 There's a parents' meeting at school tomorrow.
教育	jiàoyù	education; to educate	父母都很关心孩子的教育。 Parents care a lot about their children's education.
责任	zérèn	responsibility	照顾孩子是父母的责任。 Looking after children is the parents' responsibility.
严格	yángé	strict	王老师对学生很严格。 Teacher Wang is strict with her students.
辛苦	xīnkǔ	hard, tiring; to work hard	你辛苦了，快休息一下吧。 You've worked so hard; have a rest.

pattern 还x呢: and you call yourself x! · 你x你的吧: you carry on

还 | who you are | 呢 | what you failed to do

还 + a role + 呢 teases or complains: “and you call yourself X!”. What the person failed to do comes next: 你还大学生呢，这个字都不认识？ The friendly 你X你的吧 means “you carry on with your X, don’t mind me”: 你忙你的吧.

你还大学生呢，这个字都不认识？ **nǐ hái dàxuéshēng ne zhège zì dōu bú rènshi** Call yourself a university student? You don’t even know this character?

他还队长呢，比赛都迟到。 **tā hái duìzhǎng ne bǐsài dōu chídào** Some captain he is: he’s even late for matches.

你看你的书吧，我自己做饭。 **nǐ kàn nǐ de shū ba wǒ zìjǐ zuòfàn** You go on reading your book; I’ll cook.

你们聊你们的吧，我去休息了。 **nǐmen liáo nǐmen de ba wǒ qù xiūxi le** You two carry on chatting; I’m off to rest.

dialogue who goes to the parents’ meeting?

ms zhang 小明，明天学校开家长会，我和你爸爸都要上班，你去吧。
Xiǎomíng míngtiān xuéxiào kāi jiāzhǎng huì wǒ hé nǐ bàba dōu yào shàngbān nǐ qù ba · Xiaoming, there’s a parents’ meeting at school tomorrow. Your dad and I both have work, so you go.

xiaoming 我？我又不是家长。
wǒ wǒ yòu bú shì jiāzhǎng · Me? I’m not a parent!

little sister 你还哥哥呢！连我的家长会都不想去。
nǐ hái gēge ne lián wǒ de jiāzhǎng huì dōu bù xiǎng qù · Some brother you are! You don’t even want to come to my parents’ meeting.

ms zhang 老师说，班里百分之九十的家长都会去。
lǎoshī shuō bān lǐ bǎi fēn zhī jiǔshí de jiāzhǎng dōu huì qù · The teacher says ninety per cent of the parents in the class are going.

xiaoming 好吧，我去。妈妈，你忙你的吧，别担心了。
hǎo ba wǒ qù māma nǐ máng nǐ de ba bié dānxīn le · All right, I’ll go. Mum, carry on with what you’re doing, don’t worry.

anna 你们家真有意思。你们父母教育孩子严格吗？
nǐmen jiā zhēn yǒu yìsi nǐmen fùmǔ jiàoyù háizi yángé ma · Your family is such fun. Are your parents strict with you?

xiaoming 我爸爸很严格，我妈妈还好。不过爸爸对妹妹就不那么严格，他们父女俩感情特别好。
wǒ bàba hěn yángé wǒ māma hái hǎo búguò bàba duì mèimei jiù bú nàme yángé tāmen fùnǚ liǎ gǎnqíng tèbié hǎo · My dad is strict, my mum’s fine. But Dad isn’t so strict with my sister; the two of them are really close.

anna 你们这个家庭真幸福，大家都互相关心。
nǐmen zhège jiātíng zhēn xìngfú dàjiā dōu hùxiāng guānxīn · Your family is so happy: you all look out for each other.

ms zhang 谢谢！安娜，你母亲身体好吗？
xièxie Ānnà nǐ mǔqīn shēntǐ hǎo ma · Thank you! Anna, how is your mother keeping?

anna 她很好，谢谢您。她说今年春节想来北京看我。
tā hěn hǎo xièxie nín tā shuō jīnnián Chūnjié xiǎng lái Běijīng kàn wǒ · She’s very well, thank you. She says she’d like to visit me in Beijing for Spring Festival.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

庭
tíng
courtyard, hall

父
fù
father

兄
xiōng
elder brother

俩
liǎ
two, the two of (spoken)

good to know · 父亲 and 母亲 are for writing and talking about parents in general; to your own parents, say 爸爸 and 妈妈. Add 俩 after a pair for “the two of them”: 父子俩, 母子俩, 我们俩.

Parents, brothers, grandchildren and relatives: you can talk about the people who matter most.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 50 a flat to rent

Look for a flat: ask about rent, rooms and the neighbourhood, and weigh up the pros and cons.

Renting is one of the first big jobs when you move to a Chinese city, and every flat-hunt needs “it’s pretty pricey” and “far? fine then”.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
租	zū	to rent	我想在公司附近租一个房子。 I want to rent a flat near my office.
出租	chūzū	to rent out, let	这个房子要出租。 This flat is to let.
房租	fángzū	rent (money)	这里的房租一个月三千块。 The rent here is three thousand yuan a month.
房东	fángdōng	landlord, landlady	我的房东人很好。 My landlord is really nice.
客厅	kètīng	living room	我们在客厅看电视。 We watch TV in the living room.
厨房	chúfáng	kitchen	妈妈在厨房做饭。 Mum is cooking in the kitchen.
窗	chuāng	window	请把窗关上。 Please close the window.
窗户	chuānghu	window	这个房间的窗户很大。 This room has big windows.
院子	yuànzi	courtyard, yard	爷爷的院子里有很多花。 There are lots of flowers in Grandpa’s yard.
家具	jiājù	furniture	这个房子的家具都是新的。 All the furniture in this flat is new.
空	kōng	empty; in vain	冰箱是空的，我们去超市吧。 The fridge is empty; let’s go to the supermarket.
空	kòng	free time; to leave empty	周末你有空{kong4}吗? Are you free at the weekend?
条件	tiáojiàn	condition, terms	这个房子条件很好，就是有点儿贵。 This flat is in great shape; it’s just a bit expensive.
郊区	jiāoqū	suburbs, outskirts	郊区的房子比市区便宜。 Houses in the suburbs are cheaper than in the city.
市区	shìqū	city centre, urban area	我每天坐地铁去市区上班。 Every day I take the metro into the city to work.
区	qū	district, area	我家和公司在一个区。 My home and my office are in the same district.
街道	jiēdào	street; neighbourhood	这条街道很干净。 This street is very clean.

周围	zhōuwéi	around, surroundings	房子周围有超市和公园。 There are supermarkets and parks around the flat.

pattern 够……的: pretty, really · x就x吧: x it is, then

够 | adjective | 的

够 + adjective + 的 means “really quite …”, often with a sigh or a smile: 够贵的 (pretty pricey). X就X吧 accepts something you can’t change: 远就远吧 (so it’s far: fine then).

今天够冷的，你多穿一点儿。 **jīntiān gòu lěng de nǐ duō chuān yìdiǎnr** It’s pretty cold today; put on something warmer.

这个房子够大的，就是有点儿远。 **zhège fángzi gòu dà de jiùshì yǒudiǎnr yuǎn** This flat is really big; it’s just a bit far.

贵就贵吧，我喜欢这个房子。 **guì jiù guì ba wǒ xǐhuan zhège fángzi** Pricey? Fine then: I like this flat.

远就远吧，周围很安静。 **yuǎn jiù yuǎn ba zhōuwéi hěn ānjìng** So it’s far, never mind: it’s quiet round here.

dialogue a flat in the suburbs

anna 我住的房子让房东卖了，我得重新找房子。
wǒ zhù de fángzi ràng fángdōng mài le wǒ děi chóngxīn zhǎo fángzi · My landlord has sold the flat I live in, so I have to find a new place.

xiaoming 市区的房子你看了吗?
shìqū de fángzi nǐ kàn le ma · Have you looked at flats in the city centre?

anna 看了，房租够贵的，一个月要八千块。
kàn le fángzū gòu guì de yí gè yuè yào bāqiān kuài · I have. The rents are pretty steep: eight thousand yuan a month.

xiaoming 那你看看这个郊区的房子吧。客厅很大，厨房也不小。
nà nǐ kàn kan zhège jiāoqū de fángzi ba kètīng hěn dà chúfáng yě bù xiǎo · Then have a look at this one in the suburbs. The living room’s big and the kitchen’s not small either.

anna 窗户也很大，外面还有一个小院子。家具呢?
chuānghu yě hěn dà wàimiàn hái yǒu yí gè xiǎo yuànzi jiājù ne · The windows are big too, and there’s a little yard outside. What about furniture?

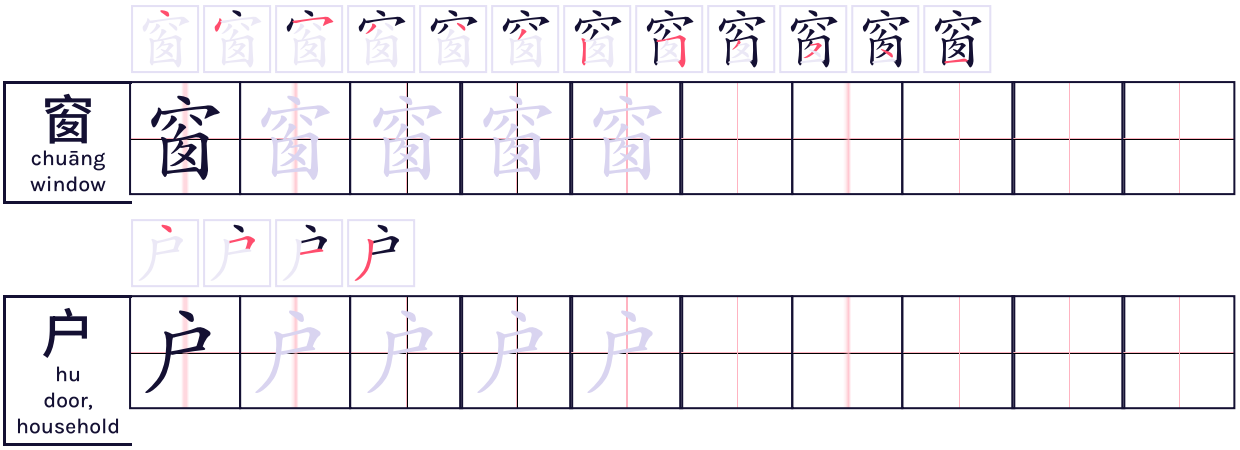
xiaoming 房东说家具都是新的，房租只要四千块。
fángdōng shuō jiājù dōu shì xīn de fángzū zhǐ yào sìqiān kuài · The landlord says the furniture is all new, and the rent is only four thousand.

anna 就是离公司有点儿远，坐地铁要一个小时。
jiùshì lí gōngsī yǒudiǎnr yuǎn zuò dìtiě yào yí gè xiǎoshí · It’s just a bit far from work: an hour on the metro.

xiaoming 远就远吧，条件这么好！周围还有超市和公园。
yuǎn jiù yuǎn ba tiáojiàn zhème hǎo zhōuwéi hái yǒu chāoshì hé gōngyuán · So it’s far, never mind: it’s such a good place! And there are supermarkets and parks around.

anna 好吧，我周末有空，再来看一次。
hǎo ba wǒ zhōumò yǒu kòng zài lái kàn yí cì · All right, I’m free at the weekend; I’ll come and look again.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · 空 has two readings: kōng empty (空的), kòng free time (有空, 没空). Flats in China are often described by rooms: 两室一厅 is two bedrooms and a living room.

You can now hunt for a flat in Chinese: rent, rooms, landlord and neighbourhood.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 51 chores

Talk about chores: tidying, cleaning, carrying, fixing, and say “it’s X all right, but …”.

Housework is everyday life, and “it’s good all right, just a bit pricey” is one of the most useful ways to give an honest opinion.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
收拾	shōushi	to tidy up; to pack	房间太乱了，我们收拾一下吧。 The room is a mess; let’s tidy it up.
整理	zhěnglǐ	to sort out, put in order	我在整理我的书。 I’m sorting out my books.
擦	cā	to wipe, rub, polish	请把桌子擦干净。 Please wipe the table clean.
乱	luàn	messy; at random	我的房间有点儿乱。 My room is a bit of a mess.
卫生	wèishēng	hygiene; clean	厨房要注意卫生。 You have to keep the kitchen hygienic.
扔	rēng	to throw, throw away	这些旧杂志可以扔了。 These old magazines can go.
垃圾	lājī	rubbish, trash	请不要乱扔垃圾。 Please don’t drop litter.
桶	tǒng	bucket, bin	垃圾桶在门口。 The bin is by the door.
干活儿	gànhuór	to work, do the work (spoken)	周末我们全家一起干活儿。 At the weekend the whole family does the chores together.
弄	nòng	to do, make, handle	别把房间弄乱了。 Don’t mess up the room.
挂	guà	to hang	请把外套挂在门后面。 Please hang your coat behind the door.
抬	tái	to lift, carry (together)	这个沙发太重，我们一起抬吧。 This sofa is too heavy; let’s lift it together.
提	tí	to carry (in the hand); to raise	我帮你提这个包吧。 Let me carry this bag for you.
推	tuī	to push	门推一下就开了。 Just push the door and it opens.
装	zhuāng	to pack, load; to install	请把这些书装在箱子里。 Please pack these books into the box.
修	xiū	to repair, fix	我的自行车坏了，你会修吗？ My bike’s broken; can you fix it?
修理	xiūlǐ	to repair (formal)	洗衣机坏了，得{dei3}找人修理。 The washing machine’s broken; we need someone to repair it.
脱	tuō	to take off (clothes, shoes)	进门请脱鞋。 Please take your shoes off when you come in.

pattern x是x: it's x all right · x是x，就是……: x all right, only …

X	是	X	，就是 / 不过 / 可是	the catch

X是X admits something is true before a "but": 好是好 (it's good, granted). Then add the catch with 就是, 不过 or 可是: 好是好，就是太贵了 (it's good all right, it's just too expensive).

这件衣服好看是好看，就是太贵了。 **zhè jiàn yīfu hǎokàn shì hǎokàn jiùshì tài guì le** This top looks great, it's just too expensive.

干活儿累是累，可是心里很高兴。 **gànhuór lèi shì lèi kěshì xīnlǐ hěn gāoxìng** The work is tiring, sure, but I feel good about it.

他的房间大是大，不过很乱。 **tā de fángjiān dà shì dà búguò hěn luàn** His room is big all right, but it's a mess.

dialogue saturday chores

ms zhang 今天大家一起干活儿！小明，你把客厅收拾一下。
jīntiān dàjiā yìqǐ gànhuór Xiǎomíng nǐ bǎ kètīng shōushi yíxià · Today everyone pitches in! Xiaoming, tidy up the living room.

xiaoming 妈妈，客厅乱是乱，可是一点儿也不脏啊。
māma kètīng luàn shì luàn kěshì yìdiǎnr yě bù zāng a · Mum, the living room is messy, sure, but it isn't dirty at all.

ms zhang 不光要收拾，还要把桌子擦干净。
bùguāng yào shōushi hái yào bǎ zhuōzi cā gānjìng · Not just tidy it: wipe the table clean too.

little sister 我来整理书吧。另外，这些旧杂志要扔吗？
wǒ lái zhěnglǐ shū ba lìngwài zhèxiē jiù zázhì yào rēng ma · I'll sort out the books. And should these old magazines go?

ms zhang 要扔。你把它们装在袋子里，提到楼下去。
yào rēng nǐ bǎ tāmen zhuāng zài dàizi lǐ tí dào lóu xiàqù · Yes, throw them out. Put them in a bag and take them downstairs.

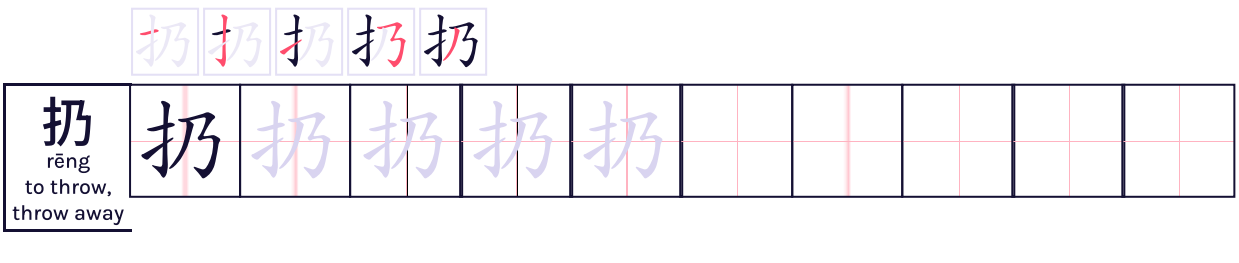
xiaoming 妈妈，洗衣机好像坏了，我来修一下。
māma xǐyījī hǎoxiàng huài le wǒ lái xiū yíxià · Mum, the washing machine seems to be broken. I'll fix it.

ms zhang 你会修吗？别弄坏了！要是修不好，就找人来修理。
nǐ huì xiū ma bié nòng huài le yàoshi xiū bu hǎo jiù zhǎo rén lái xiūlǐ · Can you fix it? Don't break it! If you can't, we'll get someone in to repair it.

xiaoming 放心吧。妹妹，帮我把洗衣机往外推一下。
fàngxīn ba mèimei bāng wǒ bǎ xǐyījī wǎng wài tuī yíxià · Don't worry. Sis, help me push the washing machine out a bit.

little sister 好！哥哥，你先把外套脱了吧，干活儿多热啊。
hǎo gēge nǐ xiān bǎ wàitào tuō le ba gànhuór duō rè a · OK! Big brother, take your coat off first: it's hot work.

write it trace the grey, then write your own





弄
nòng
to do, make, handle



挂
guà
to hang



装
zhuāng
to pack, load; to install

good to know · For carrying, Chinese is precise: 提 in your hand (a bag), 抬 lifted between people (a sofa), 搬 moved somewhere (a box), 推 pushed. Many cities now sort rubbish, and bins are labelled by kind.

Tidy, wipe, carry, push, fix: you can now share the housework, and give an honest “yes, but”.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 52 every morning

Describe your morning routine and habits, and keep two things apart: work is work, life is life.

Mornings are the same everywhere: the phone rings, you can't wake up, the toothpaste has run out. Now you can say all of it.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
早晨	zǎochen	early morning	早晨的公园很安静。 The park is quiet early in the morning.
醒	xǐng	to wake up	我今天五点就醒了。 I woke up at five today.
着	zháo	(manages to: 睡着 fall asleep)	我昨天晚上一直睡不着{zhao2}。 I couldn't get to sleep last night.
响	xiǎng	to ring, sound; loud	手机响了，你快接一下。 Your phone's ringing; answer it, quick.
亮	liàng	bright, light; to light up	早上六点，天就亮了。 It's already light at six in the morning.
日常	rìcháng	daily, everyday	运动是我日常生活的一部分。 Exercise is part of my daily life.
养成	yǎngchéng	to form (a habit)	我养成了早上跑步的习惯。 I've got into the habit of running in the morning.
牙膏	yágāo	toothpaste	牙膏用完了，我得{dei3}去买。 We're out of toothpaste; I need to buy some.
毛巾	máojīn	towel	这条毛巾是新的。 This towel is new.
镜子	jìngzi	mirror	出门前，我照了照镜子。 Before going out, I checked myself in the mirror.
理发	lǐfà	to get a haircut	我的头发太长了，想去理发。 My hair's too long; I want to get a haircut.
皮鞋	píxié	leather shoes	上班的时候，他总是穿皮鞋。 He always wears leather shoes to work.
底下	dǐxia	under, beneath	我的皮鞋在床底下。 My leather shoes are under the bed.
整	zhěng	whole, entire; exactly	我在家睡了一整天。 I slept at home all day.
整个	zhěnggè	whole, entire	整个周末我都在家待着。 I stayed at home the whole weekend.
待	dāi	to stay (spoken)	你在北京待了多久？ How long did you stay in Beijing?
公共	gōnggòng	public	我每天坐公共汽车上班。 I take the bus to work every day.

pattern x是x，y是y: keep them apart · 让你x你就x: just do as you're told

X 是 X ， Y 是 Y

X是X，Y是Y keeps two things apart: 工作是工作，生活是生活 (work is work, life is life: don't mix them). 让你X你就X (or 叫你X你就X) says "if you're told to X, just X", the voice of every parent.

工作是工作，休息是休息。 **gōngzuò shì gōngzuò xiūxi shì xiūxi** Work is work, and rest is rest.

你是你，我是我，我们不一样。 **nǐ shì nǐ wǒ shì wǒ wǒmen bù yíyàng** You're you and I'm me: we're different.

让你早睡你就早睡！ **ràng nǐ zǎo shuì nǐ jiù zǎo shuì** When you're told to go to bed early, go to bed early!

妈妈叫你穿皮鞋你就穿吧。 **māma jiào nǐ chuān píxié nǐ jiù chuān ba** If Mum says wear your leather shoes, just wear them.

dialogue an early start

reporter zhou 早！安娜，你今天怎么这么早？也坐公共汽车？
zǎo Ānnà nǐ jīntiān zěnme zhème zǎo yě zuò gōnggòng qìchē · Morning! Anna, why so early today? Taking the bus too?

anna 别说了，我昨天晚上一直睡不着，早晨五点就醒了。
bié shuō le wǒ zuótiān wǎnshang yìzhí shuì bu zháo zǎochen wǔ diǎn jiù xǐng le · Don't ask. I couldn't get to sleep last night, and I woke up at five.

reporter zhou 是不是工作太忙了？
shì bu shì gōngzuò tài máng le · Is work too busy?

anna 是啊，躺在床上还在想工作的事。
shì a tǎng zài chuáng shàng hái zài xiǎng gōngzuò de shì · Yes. Even lying in bed I was thinking about work.

reporter zhou 工作是工作，生活是生活，下班以后就别想了。
gōngzuò shì gōngzuò shēnghuó shì shēnghuó xiàbān yǐhòu jiù bié xiǎng le · Work is work and life is life: once you leave the office, stop thinking about it.

anna 你说得对。你每天几点起床？
nǐ shuō de duì nǐ měi tiān jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng · You're right. What time do you get up every day?

reporter zhou 我养成了六点起床的习惯。无论多晚睡，我都六点起。
wǒ yǎngchéng le liù diǎn qǐchuáng de xíguàn wúlùn duō wǎn shuì wǒ dōu liù diǎn qǐ · I'm in the habit of getting up at six. However late I go to bed, I'm up at six.

anna 那你一整天都不困吗？
nà nǐ yì zhěng tiān dōu bú kùn ma · So you're not sleepy all day?

reporter zhou 不困。我妈妈以前总说："让你早睡你就早睡！"我现在才明白。
bú kùn wǒ māma yǐqián zǒng shuō ràng nǐ zǎo shuì nǐ jiù zǎo shuì wǒ xiànzài cái míngbai · No. My mum always used to say: "When you're told to go to bed early, go to bed early!" Only now do I get it.

anna 好，今天晚上我也早睡。车来了！
hǎo jīntiān wǎnshang wǒ yě zǎo shuì chē lái le · OK, I'll go to bed early tonight too. Here's the bus!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

晨 晨 晨 晨 晨 晨 晨 晨 晨 晨 晨

晨
chen
dawn, morning

晨 晨 晨 晨 晨

膏
gāo
paste, cream

good to know · 着 after a verb reads zháo when it means you managed it: 睡着 fall asleep, 睡不着 can't get to sleep. Elsewhere it's zhe. 醒 is waking up; 起床 is getting out of bed. You can 醒了 and still not 起床.

From the alarm to the mirror to the bus: your whole morning now runs in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 53 back to the village

Chinese HSK 4 in 69 days
unit 8 · home, family & community

Make holiday plans, talk about town and countryside, and use short punchy sentences like 不去不行, and say "maybe, who knows" with 说不定.

School holidays, pocket money and visiting grandparents in the countryside are a big part of Chinese family life.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
寒假	hánjià	winter holiday	寒假的时候，我们去南方玩。 In the winter holiday we're going south.
暑假	shǔjià	summer holiday	暑假妹妹要去农村看爷爷奶奶。 In the summer holiday Xiaoming's sister is going to the countryside to see her grandparents.
零花钱	línghuāqián	pocket money	妈妈每个月给妹妹两百块零花钱。 Mum gives Xiaoming's sister two hundred yuan pocket money a month.
月份	yuèfèn	month (as a period)	我们七月份去农村。 We're going to the countryside in July.
计划	jìhuà	plan; to plan	你暑假有什么计划? What are your plans for the summer holiday?
定	dìng	to fix, settle, decide	时间定了吗? Is the time settled?
内	nèi	inside, within	作业要在一个月内写完。 The homework has to be done within a month.
准	zhǔn	accurate; exactly	这块手表不准，慢了五分钟。 This watch is wrong: it's five minutes slow.
举	jǔ	to lift, raise	有问题请举手。 Put your hand up if you have a question.
改	gǎi	to change, correct	我们改个时间吧。 Let's change the time.
压力	yālì	pressure, stress	最近工作压力很大。 Work has been really stressful lately.
关键	guānjiàn	key, crucial (point)	学习语言，关键是每天练习。 The key to learning a language is practising every day.
城	chéng	city; city wall	我们住在城里，爷爷住在农村。 We live in town; Grandpa lives in the countryside.
村	cūn	village	这个村有三百多人。 This village has over three hundred people.
农村	nóngcūn	the countryside, rural area	我奶奶以前住在农村。 My grandma used to live in the countryside.

pattern 不……也……: even without · 不去不行: short sentences with no linking word · 说不定: maybe, who knows

不 condition 也 result

不……也…… says the result happens even without the condition: 你不说我也知道 (I know even if you don't say). Chinese also packs "if … then …" into a few words with no linking word at all: 不去不行 (literally: not go, not OK) = I have to go; 有空就来 = come when you're free. And 说不定 (literally: can't say for sure) is a lively spoken "maybe, who knows", like 也许.

你不说我也知道。 **nǐ bù shuō wǒ yě zhīdào** I know even if you don't tell me.

这么简单的题，不看书也会做。 **zhème jiǎndān de tí bú kàn shū yě huì zuò** A question this easy, I can do it without the book.

今天的会很关键，不去不行。 **jīntiān de huì hěn guānjiàn bú qù bùxíng** Today's meeting is crucial; I have to go.

有空就来我家吃饭。 **yǒu kòng jiù lái wǒ jiā chī fàn** Come round for a meal whenever you're free.

他还没来，说不定忘了。 **tā hái méi lái shuō bu dìng wàng le** He's not here yet; maybe he forgot.

说不定明天会下雨，带上伞吧。 **shuō bu dìng míngtiān huì xià yǔ dài shàng sǎn ba** It might rain tomorrow, who knows: take an umbrella.

dialogue summer plans

little sister 妈妈，暑假我想去农村看爷爷奶奶。
māma shǔjià wǒ xiǎng qù nóngcūn kàn yéye nǎinai · Mum, I want to go to the countryside to see Grandpa and Grandma in the summer holiday.

ms zhang 好啊。不过你的暑假计划呢？作业要在一个月内写完。
hǎo a búguò nǐ de shǔjià jìhuà ne zuòyè yào zài yí gè yuè nèi xiě wán · Sure. But what about your summer plan? Your homework has to be done within a month.

little sister 你不说我也知道。我每天上午写作业，下午跟爷爷去村里玩。
nǐ bù shuō wǒ yě zhīdào wǒ měi tiān shàngwǔ xiě zuòyè xiàwǔ gēn yéye qù cūn lǐ wán · I know, you don't have to tell me. I'll do homework every morning and go round the village with Grandpa in the afternoon.

xiaoming 寒假的时候你也这么说，最后作业都没写完。
hánjià de shíhou nǐ yě zhème shuō zuìhòu zuòyè dōu méi xiě wán · You said that in the winter holiday too, and in the end you didn't finish your homework.

little sister 那次是因为计划改了！这次我们七月份去，日子已经定了。
nà cì shì yīnwèi jìhuà gǎi le zhè cì wǒmen qī yuèfèn qù rìzi yǐjīng dìng le · That was because the plans changed! This time we're going in July, and the date is fixed.

xiaoming 说不定这次也一样。
shuō bu dìng zhè cì yě yíyàng · Who knows, this time might be the same.

ms zhang 对于你来说，城里的学习压力太大了，去农村放松一下也好。
duìyú nǐ lái shuō chéng lǐ de xuéxí yālì tài dà le qù nóngcūn fàngsōng yíxià yě hǎo · For you, school in town is a lot of pressure. Some time in the countryside to relax would be good.

little sister 妈妈，那零花钱呢？
māma nà línghuāqián ne · Mum, what about pocket money?

ms zhang 在爷爷奶奶家，不花钱也能过得很好。关键是要听爷爷奶奶的。
zài yéye nǎinai jiā bù huā qián yě néng guò de hěn hǎo guānjiàn shì yào tīng yéye nǎinai de · At your grandparents' you can have a great time without spending money. The key thing is to listen to them.

little sister 我举双手保证！
wǒ jǔ shuāng shǒu bǎozhèng · Hand on heart, I promise!

xiaoming 说不定你回来的时候，比我还会做饭呢！
shuō bu dìng nǐ huílái de shíhou bǐ wǒ hái huì zuòfàn ne · Who knows, by the time you're back you might cook better than me!

ms zhang 好。有事就给我打电话，不打不行！
hǎo yǒu shì jiù gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà bù dǎ bùxíng · All right. If anything comes up, call me: that's not optional!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

划
huà
to draw a line, mark out

村
cūn
village



农 nóng farming	农	农	农	农	农					

good to know · Chinese schools have two long holidays: 寒假 in January–February (around Spring Festival) and 暑假 in July–August. 城里 (in town) and 农村 (the countryside) are often compared: in town, schools and jobs; in the country, family, space and fresh food.

Holidays, plans and promises: you can now organise a summer in Chinese, and keep it short and punchy.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 54 moving house

Follow a whole story about moving house, using everything from this unit.

Moving house brings it all together: rent and landlords, packing and carrying, a first morning and the family who helps.

chapter 1 anna takes the flat

anna 小明，我又来看了一次，决定租这个房子了。
Xiǎomíng wǒ yòu lái kàn le yí cì juédìng zū zhège fángzi le · Xiaoming, I came to look again, and I've decided to rent this flat.

xiaoming 太好了！房东同意房租四千块吗?
tài hǎo le fángdōng tóngyì fángzū sìqiān kuài ma · Great! Did the landlord agree to four thousand?

anna 同意了。不过要先交三个月的房租，够贵的。
tóngyì le búguò yào xiān jiāo sān gè yuè de fángzū gòu guì de · Yes. But I have to pay three months' rent up front, which is pretty steep.

xiaoming 贵就贵吧，条件这么好。郊区跟市区不一样，这条街道很安静，周围都是树，还有一个小院子。
guì jiù guì ba tiáojiàn zhème hǎo jiāoqū gēn shìqū bù yíyàng zhè tiáo jiēdào hěn ānjìng zhōuwéi dōu shì shù hái yǒu yí gè xiǎo yuànzi · Pricey? Never mind: it's such a nice place. The suburbs aren't like the city centre: this street is quiet, there are trees all around, and there's a little yard too.

anna 房东说，这个房子出租了好几年，上一个人刚搬走，现在房间都是空的。
fángdōng shuō zhège fángzi chūzū le hǎo jǐ nián shàng yí gè rén gāng bān zǒu xiànzài fángjiān dōu shì kōng de · The landlord says he's let this flat for years. The last tenant has just moved out, so the rooms are empty now.

xiaoming 家具呢?
jiājù ne · What about furniture?

anna 家具下周就送来，都是新的。这个区的交通也方便，坐公共汽车就能到公司。
jiājù xià zhōu jiù sòng lái dōu shì xīn de zhège qū de jiāotōng yě fāngbiàn zuò gōnggòng qìchē jiù néng dào gōngsī · The furniture arrives next week, all new. The transport in this district is good too: I can get to work by bus.

xiaoming 日子定了吗?
rìzi dìng le ma · Have you fixed the date?

anna 定了，下个星期六搬家。本来想星期天搬，后来计划改了。
dìng le xià gè xīngqīliù bānjiā běnlái xiǎng xīngqītiān bān hòulái jìhuà gǎi le · Yes, I'm moving next Saturday. I meant to move on Sunday, but then the plan changed.

xiaoming 我叫上妹妹一起来帮你，我们俩有的是力气。
wǒ jiào shàng mèimei yìqǐ lái bāng nǐ wǒmen liǎ yǒudeshì lìqi · I'll bring my sister along to help. The two of us have plenty of muscle.

anna 你下个星期不是要考试吗？你忙你的吧，我自己来。
nǐ xià gè xīngqī bú shì yào kǎoshì ma nǐ máng nǐ de ba wǒ zìjǐ lái · Haven't you got an exam next week? You get on with your own things; I'll manage.

xiaoming 考试星期五就考完了。再说我妈妈说了：朋友搬家，不去不行！
kǎoshì xīngqīwǔ jiù kǎo wán le zàishuō wǒ māma shuō le péngyou bānjiā bú qù bùxíng · The exam's over by Friday. Besides, my mum says when a friend moves house, you have to go!

anna 那就麻烦你们了！
nà jiù máfan nǐmen le · Then I'll take you up on it. Thank you!

chapter 2 boxes everywhere

little sister 安娜姐姐，你的东西够多的！我先把这些书装在箱子里。
Ānnà jiějie nǐ de dōngxi gòu duō de wǒ xiān bǎ zhèxiē shū zhuāng zài xiāngzi lǐ · Anna, you've got loads of stuff! I'll pack these books into a box first.

anna 谢谢！房间太乱了，我还没整理完。这些旧杂志不要了，你帮我扔到垃圾桶里吧。
xièxie fángjiān tài luàn le wǒ hái méi zhěnglǐ wán zhèxiē jiù zázhì búyào le nǐ bāng wǒ rēng dào lājī tǒng lǐ ba · Thanks! The room's a mess, I haven't finished sorting it out. I don't need these old magazines; could you throw them in the bin?

little sister 床底下还有一双皮鞋，还有一面镜子！
chuáng dǐxia hái yǒu yì shuāng píxié hái yǒu yí miàn jìngzi · There's a pair of leather shoes under the bed, and a mirror!

anna 镜子我自己拿，别弄坏了。牙膏和毛巾在卫生间，也装进这个袋子里吧。
jìngzi wǒ zìjǐ ná bié nòng huài le yágāo hé máojīn zài wèishēngjiān yě zhuāng jìn zhège dàizi lǐ ba · I'll carry the mirror myself, so it doesn't get broken. The toothpaste and towels are in the bathroom: put them in this bag too.

xiaoming 这个箱子重是重，不过我一个人提得动。
zhège xiāngzi zhòng shì zhòng búguò wǒ yí gè rén tí de dòng · This box is heavy all right, but I can carry it on my own.

anna 沙发太重了，你们俩一起抬吧。
shāfā tài zhòng le nǐmen liǎ yìqǐ tái ba · The sofa is too heavy; you two lift it together.

little sister 哥哥，你还队长呢，连一个沙发都抬不动？
gēge nǐ hái duìzhǎng ne lián yí gè shāfā dōu tái bu dòng · Call yourself a captain? You can't even lift a sofa?

xiaoming 你别说了，你提你的书吧！
nǐ bié shuō le nǐ tí nǐ de shū ba · That's enough from you: you carry your books!

ms zhang 小明，少说两句，让你抬你就抬！
Xiǎomíng shǎo shuō liǎng jù ràng nǐ tái nǐ jiù tái · Xiaoming, less talk: if you're asked to lift it, lift it!

xiaoming 好吧，好吧。妹妹，帮我把沙发往门口推一下。
hǎo ba hǎo ba mèimei bāng wǒ bǎ shāfā wǎng ménkǒu tuī yíxià · All right, all right. Sis, help me push the sofa towards the door.

ms zhang 你们先干活儿，我把厨房擦干净。搬走以前得把房子打扫干净，这是租房子的人的责任。
nǐmen xiān gànhuór wǒ bǎ chúfáng cā gānjìng bān zǒu yǐqián děi bǎ fángzi dǎsǎo gānjìng zhè shì zū fángzi de rén de zérèn · You get on with the work, and I'll wipe the kitchen clean. Before you move out you have to leave the place clean: that's the tenant's job.

anna 门后面还挂着我的外套呢，差点儿忘了！
mén hòumiàn hái guà zhe wǒ de wàitào ne chàdiǎnr wàng le · My coat is still hanging behind the door. I nearly forgot it!

xiaoming 洗衣机的门坏了，要不要修一下？
xǐyījī de mén huài le yào búyào xiū yíxià · The washing machine door is broken. Shall I fix it?

anna 不用，洗衣机是房东的，他会找人来修理。
búyòng xǐyījī shì fángdōng de tā huì zhǎo rén lái xiūlǐ · No need. The washing machine is the landlord's; he'll get someone in to repair it.

chapter 3 a call at dawn

reporter zhou 喂，安娜？我是周记者。你搬到新家了吗？
wèi Ānnà wǒ shì Zhōujìzhě nǐ bān dào xīn jiā le ma · Hello, Anna? It's Reporter Zhou. Have you moved into your new place?

anna 搬了！可是昨天晚上我一直睡不着，早晨手机一响我就醒了。
bān le kěshì zuótiān wǎnshang wǒ yìzhí shuì bu zháo zǎochen shǒujī yì xiǎng wǒ jiù xǐng le · I have! But I couldn't sleep last night, and I woke up the moment my phone rang this morning.

reporter zhou 新家都这样，说不定过几天就习惯了。离公司远吗？
xīn jiā dōu zhèyàng shuō bu dìng guò jǐ tiān jiù xíguàn le lí gōngsī yuǎn ma · New homes are always like that. Who knows, in a few days you'll be used to it. Is it far from work?

anna 坐公共汽车要一个小时，不过窗户很大，天一亮，整个房间都很亮。
zuò gōnggòng qìchē yào yí gè xiǎoshí búguò chuānghu hěn dà tiān yí liàng zhěnggè fángjiān dōu hěn liàng · An hour by bus, but the windows are big: as soon as it's light, the whole room is bright.

reporter zhou 远是远，不过房间好就行。窗户那么大，天一亮，你不想起也得起！
yuǎn shì yuǎn búguò fángjiān hǎo jiù xíng chuānghu nàme dà tiān yí liàng nǐ bù xiǎng qǐ yě děi qǐ · It's far, sure, but as long as the place is nice, that's fine. With windows that big, once it's light you'll have to get up, like it or not!

anna 是啊，我得养成早起的习惯了。以后每天早晨六点起床，七点出门。
shì a wǒ děi yǎngchéng zǎo qǐ de xíguàn le yǐhòu měi tiān zǎochen liù diǎn qǐchuáng qī diǎn chūmén · True, I'll have to get into the habit of getting up early. From now on: up at six every morning, out of the door at seven.

reporter zhou 别太累了。工作是工作，休息是休息，周末就别想工作了。你周末有空吗？我带你在周围走走。
bié tài lèi le gōngzuò shì gōngzuò xiūxi shì xiūxi zhōumò jiù bié xiǎng gōngzuò le nǐ zhōumò yǒu kòng ma wǒ dài nǐ zài zhōuwéi zǒu zou · Don't wear yourself out. Work is work and rest is rest: at weekends, forget about work. Are you free this weekend? I'll show you around the neighbourhood.

anna 太好了，我正想去理发。不过你那么忙，你忙你的吧，我自己去找也行。
tài hǎo le wǒ zhèng xiǎng qù lǐfà búguò nǐ nàme máng nǐ máng nǐ de ba wǒ zìjǐ qù zhǎo yě xíng · Great, I was just thinking of getting a haircut. But you're so busy: you get on with your work, I can find a place myself.

reporter zhou 不忙。你不问我也会告诉你：附近有一家理发店又便宜又好。
bù máng nǐ bú wèn wǒ yě huì gàosu nǐ fùjìn yǒu yì jiā lǐfà diàn yòu piányi yòu hǎo · I'm not busy. And I'd have told you even if you hadn't asked: there's a hairdresser nearby that's cheap and good.

anna 谢谢！新家离超市也不远，日常生活很方便。
xièxie xīn jiā lí chāoshì yě bù yuǎn rìcháng shēnghuó hěn fāngbiàn · Thanks! The new place isn't far from the supermarket either, so everyday life is easy.

chapter 4 the li family comes to dinner

anna 欢迎欢迎！快进来，不用脱鞋。
huānyíng huānyíng kuài jinlai búyòng tuō xié · Welcome! Come in, no need to take your shoes off.

ms zhang 安娜，你的新家真不错！客厅大，厨房也很干净。
Ānnà nǐ de xīn jiā zhēn búcuò kètīng dà chúfáng yě hěn gānjìng · Anna, your new home is lovely! A big living room, and the kitchen is spotless.

anna 谢谢！快请坐。今天我做饭，你们聊你们的吧。
xièxie kuài qǐng zuò jīntiān wǒ zuòfàn nǐmen liáo nǐmen de ba · Thank you! Please sit down. I'm cooking today, so you all just relax and chat.

dr li 你搬家辛苦了。孩子们帮上忙了吗?
nǐ bānjiā xīnkǔ le háizimen bāng shàng máng le ma · Moving house is hard work. Were the kids any help?

anna 帮了很多！没有他们，我一个人搬三天也搬不完。你们把孩子教育得真好。
bāng le hěn duō méiyǒu tāmen wǒ yí gè rén bān sān tiān yě bān bu wán nǐmen bǎ háizi jiàoyù de zhēn hǎo · A lot! Without them, I couldn't have finished in three days on my own. You've brought them up so well.

dr li 我们做家长的，责任就是教育孩子。我是一个很严格的父亲，可是他们帮朋友干活儿，比在家里还认真。
wǒmen zuò jiāzhǎng de zérèn jiùshì jiàoyù háizi wǒ shì yí gè hěn yángé de fùqīn kěshì tāmen bāng péngyou gànhuór bǐ zài jiā lǐ hái rènzhēn · As parents, bringing up the children is our job. I'm a strict father, but when they help a friend they work even harder than at home.

ms zhang 你还说他们呢！你们父子俩都一样，在家里什么都不干！
nǐ hái shuō tāmen ne nǐmen fùzǐ liǎ dōu yíyàng zài jiā lǐ shénme dōu bú gàn · Listen to you! You and your son are just the same: you do nothing at home!

anna 你们这个家庭真有意思。我父母也很严格。我母亲说春节要来北京看我，现在我终于有地方让她住了。
nǐmen zhège jiātíng zhēn yǒu yìsi wǒ fùmǔ yě hěn yángé wǒ mǔqīn shuō Chūnjié yào lái Běijīng kàn wǒ xiànzài wǒ zhōngyú yǒu dìfang ràng tā zhù le · Your family is such fun. My parents are strict too. My mother says she's coming to Beijing to see me at Spring Festival, and now I finally have somewhere for her to stay.

ms zhang 太好了！你们母女俩可以好好聊聊。对了，这个暑假，妹妹七月份去农村看爷爷奶奶。你有空也去看看吧，村里的亲戚都很热情。
tài hǎo le nǐmen mǔnǚ liǎ kěyǐ hǎohǎo liáo liao duì le zhège shǔjià mèimei qī yuèfèn qù nóngcūn kàn yéye nǎinai nǐ yǒu kòng yě qù kàn kan ba cūn lǐ de qīnqi dōu hěn rèqíng · Wonderful! You and your mum can have a good long talk. Oh, and this summer holiday our daughter is going to the countryside in July to see her grandparents. Come along if you're free: our relatives in the village are very welcoming.

xiaoming 爷爷最喜欢孙女了。上次寒假，他给了妹妹很多零花钱。
yéye zuì xǐhuan sūnnǚ le shàng cì hánjià tā gěi le mèimei hěn duō línghuāqián · Grandpa loves his granddaughter best. Last winter holiday he gave her loads of pocket money.

dr li 对于她来说，城里的学习压力太大了，去农村放松一下也好。不过关键是，作业要在一个月内写完。
duìyú tā lái shuō chéng lǐ de xuéxí yālì tài dà le qù nóngcūn fàngsōng yíxià yě hǎo búguò guānjiàn shì zuòyè yào zài yí gè yuè nèi xiě wán · For her, school in town is a lot of pressure, so a break in the countryside will do her good. But the key thing is to finish her homework within a month.

little sister 我举双手保证！安娜姐姐，你也来吧！
wǒ jǔ shuāng shǒu bǎozhèng Ānnà jiějie nǐ yě lái ba · Hand on heart, I promise! Anna, you come too!

anna 好啊！那就说定了。来，大家吃饭吧！
hǎo a nà jiù shuō dìng le lái dàjiā chī fàn ba · I'd love to! It's a deal, then. Come on, everyone, let's eat!

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