wishyou.today learning

day 55 exam season

Chinese HSK 4 in 69 days
unit 9 · school & work

Talk about exams: signing up, the written and speaking parts, right and wrong answers, and nerves.

Exams shape school life in China, and the gaokao is something every family talks about.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
高考	gāokǎo	the gaokao (university entrance exam)	她明年六月参加高考。 She takes the gaokao next June.
报考	bàokǎo	to apply for (an exam, a school)	他想报考北京的大学。 He wants to apply to universities in Beijing.
报名	bàomíng	to sign up, enrol	我报名了周末的汉语班。 I've signed up for the weekend Chinese class.
考生	kǎoshēng	exam candidate	每个考生都要带身份证。 Every candidate must bring their ID card.
试题	shìtí	exam questions, test paper	今年的试题不太难。 This year's exam questions weren't too hard.
笔试	bǐshì	written exam	笔试在上午，下午考口语。 The written exam is in the morning; the speaking test is in the afternoon.
听力	tīnglì	listening (skill)	我的听力比口语好。 My listening is better than my speaking.
口语	kǒuyǔ	speaking, spoken language	多说话，口语才能提高。 Only by talking a lot will your speaking improve.
答	dá	to answer	这个问题我答不上来。 I can't answer this question.
答案	dáàn	answer, solution	你的答案是什么? What's your answer?
正确	zhèngquè	correct, right	请选出正确的答案。 Please choose the correct answer.
错误	cuòwù	mistake; wrong	这里有一个小错误。 There's a small mistake here.
合格	hégé	up to standard; to pass	考到六十|分就合格了。 Score sixty and you pass.
期	qī	issue, session (measure word)	我报名了第二期汉语班。 I've signed up for the second session of the Chinese class.
期中	qīzhōng	midterm	下{=next}周有期中考试。 We have midterm exams next week.
期末	qīmò	end of term	期末考试以后就放假了。 After the end-of-term exams, the holidays start.
末	mò	end (of a period)	这个月末报名就结束了。 Registration closes at the end of this month.

紧张	jǐnzhāng	nervous; tense, tight	别紧张，慢慢说。 Don't be nervous, take your time.

pattern 谁不紧张呢？ questions that make a point · 为了……而……: in order to

谁 / 哪儿 / 什么 **question** **→ a strong statement**

A question word can turn a sentence into a point you're making. 谁不……呢？ means everybody does; 哪儿有……？ means there's none; ……什么？ means there's no reason to. The answer is so obvious that nobody gives one. Today's second pattern, 为了A而B, gives the purpose in a written way: 为了健康而运动, exercise for your health.

谁不想考个好成绩呢？ **shéi bù xiǎng kǎo gè hǎo chéngjì ne** Who doesn't want a good score? (Everyone does.)

考试快到了，他哪儿有时间玩？ **kǎoshì kuài dào le tā nǎr yǒu shíjiān wán** The exam is nearly here; he's got no time to play.

这个月末报名就结束了，你还等什么？ **zhège yuè mò bàomíng jiù jiéshù le nǐ hái děng shénme** Registration closes at the end of the month. What are you waiting for?

很多人为了健康而运动。 **hěn duō rén wèile jiànkāng ér yùndòng** Lots of people exercise for their health.

dialogue the gaokao countdown

anna 你在做什么？这么认真。
nǐ zài zuò shénme zhème rènzhēn · What are you working on? You look so focused.

little sister 做去年的高考试题。期末考试也快到了，我真紧张。
zuò qùnián de gāokǎo shìtí qīmò kǎoshì yě kuài dào le wǒ zhēn jǐnzhāng · Last year's gaokao papers. And end-of-term exams are coming up too. I'm so nervous.

anna 谁不紧张呢？我也报名了下个月的汉语考试。
shéi bù jǐnzhāng ne wǒ yě bàomíng le xià gè yuè de Hànyǔ kǎoshì · Who wouldn't be? I've signed up for a Chinese exam next month too.

little sister 你的口语那么好，还担心什么？
nǐ de kǒuyǔ nàme hǎo hái dānxīn shénme · Your spoken Chinese is so good. What is there to worry about?

anna 口语还可以，可是听力不太好。
kǒuyǔ hái kěyǐ kěshì tīnglì bú tài hǎo · My speaking's OK, but my listening isn't great.

little sister 我一方面想考上好大学，另一方面又怕考不上。
wǒ yì fāngmiàn xiǎng kǎo shàng hǎo dàxué lìng yì fāngmiàn yòu pà kǎo bu shàng · On the one hand I want to get into a good university; on the other, I'm scared I won't.

anna 别想太多。你是为了自己而学习，不是为了别人。
bié xiǎng tài duō nǐ shì wèile zìjǐ ér xuéxí bú shì wèile biérén · Don't overthink it. You're studying for yourself, not for anyone else.

little sister 你说得对。那我先休息一下，好有力气继续做题。
nǐ shuō de duì nà wǒ xiān xiūxi yíxià hǎo yǒu lìqi jìxù zuò tí · You're right. I'll take a short break, so I have the energy to keep going.

anna 好。我帮你看看答案：这道题你答对了，那道只有一个小错误。
hǎo wǒ bāng nǐ kàn kan dáàn zhè dào tí nǐ dá duì le nà dào zhǐ yǒu yí gè xiǎo cuòwù · Good. Let me check your answers: you got this question right, and that one has just one small mistake.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



案 àn table; case, file	案	案	案	案	案					

good to know · 为了……而…… sounds a little formal: good for writing and serious talk. In chat, 为了 alone is fine: 为了考试，我每天复习. 答对 / 答错 mean “answer right / wrong”; 合格 is a pass that meets a set standard, as on a driving test or a quality check.

Exams, nerves and answers: you can now chat about the biggest event of the Chinese school year and calm a nervous friend.
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day 56 in class

Talk about lessons, homework, reading and essays, and back up a point with an example.

Whether you study Chinese or teach it, classroom words come up every day, and giving examples makes you sound clear.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
课堂	kètáng	class, classroom (setting)	课堂上不要玩手机。 Don't play on your phone in class.
课程	kèchéng	course, curriculum	这个课程一共有三十节课。 This course has thirty lessons in all.
功课	gōngkè	homework, schoolwork	做完功课再看电视。 Finish your homework before you watch TV.
预习	yùxí	to prepare a lesson (before class)	上课以前，我会先预习课文。 Before class I read through the text first.
自习	zìxí	to study on your own (in a study period)	晚上我们在教室自习。 In the evening we do self-study in the classroom.
自学	zìxué	to teach yourself	他自学了三年汉语。 He taught himself Chinese for three years.
教学	jiàoxué	teaching	这所学校的教学质量很高。 The teaching at this school is very good.
教师	jiàoshī	teacher (formal)	她是一名{=(measure word for people)}中学教师。 She is a secondary school teacher.
师生	shīshēng	teachers and students	学校的师生都来了。 All the school's teachers and students came.
点名	diǎnmíng	to take the register, call the roll	老师每节课都点名。 The teacher takes the register every lesson.
词语	cíyǔ	words and phrases	这些词语你都认识吗? Do you know all these words?
语法	yǔfǎ	grammar	汉语的语法不太难。 Chinese grammar isn't that hard.
篇	piān	(measure word for articles, essays)	我写了一篇作文。 I wrote an essay.
文章	wénzhāng	article, essay	这篇文章写得很好。 This article is very well written.
作文	zuòwén	essay, composition (at school)	今天的作业是写一篇作文。 Today's homework is to write an essay.
阅读	yuèdú	to read; reading	每天阅读半个小时，对学汉语很有帮助。

			Reading half an hour a day really helps your Chinese.
例如	lìrú	for example, such as	我喜欢运动，例如跑步、游泳。 I like sport, for example running and swimming.
例子	lìzi	example	你能举个例子吗? Can you give an example?

pattern 拿……来说: take … for example

拿 **one example** 来说 **, what it shows**

Make a general point, then back it up with 拿 + one example + 来说: “take … for example”. A good partner is 就是说 (that is to say), which says the same thing again more plainly.

学汉语要多阅读。拿我来说，我每天读一篇文章。 **xué Hànyǔ yào duō yuèdú ná wǒ lái shuō wǒ měi tiān dú yì piān wénzhāng** Learning Chinese takes lots of reading. Take me: I read an article every day.

这个课程很有用。拿语法来说，每课都有很多例子。 **zhège kèchéng hěn yǒuyòng ná yǔfǎ lái shuō měi kè dōu yǒu hěn duō lìzi** This course is really useful. Take the grammar: every lesson has lots of examples.

王老师的学生都很努力。拿安娜来说，她每天自习三个小时。 **Wánglǎoshī de xuéshēng dōu hěn nǔlì ná Ānnà lái shuō tā měi tiān zìxí sān gè xiǎoshí** Teacher Wang’s students all work hard. Take Anna: she studies on her own three hours a day.

明天放假，就是说，不用上课。 **míngtiān fàngjià jiùshìshuō búyòng shàngkè** Tomorrow’s a holiday; that is to say, no classes.

dialogue how to get ready for the exam

teacher wang 安娜，下个月就考试了，你的功课做得怎么样？
Ānnà xià gè yuè jiù kǎoshì le nǐ de gōngkè zuò de zěnmeyàng · Anna, the exam is next month. How is your work going?

anna 语法还可以，可是作文写得太慢。
yǔfǎ hái kěyǐ kěshì zuòwén xiě de tài màn · Grammar is OK, but I write essays too slowly.

teacher wang 作文要多练。拿我以前的学生来说，他们每周写两篇。
zuòwén yào duō liàn ná wǒ yǐqián de xuéshēng lái shuō tāmen měi zhōu xiě liǎng piān · Essays take practice. Take my former students: they wrote two a week.

anna 两篇？就是说，我每三天就要写一篇？
liǎng piān jiùshìshuō wǒ měi sān tiān jiù yào xiě yì piān · Two? So I'd have to write one every three days?

teacher wang 对。写完以后把作文发给我，我帮你看。
duì xiě wán yǐhòu bǎ zuòwén fā gěi wǒ wǒ bāng nǐ kàn · Yes. Send me each essay when it's done, and I'll go through it.

anna 太好了！还有，阅读的时候，很多词语我不认识，怎么办？
tài hǎo le hái yǒu yuèdú de shíhou hěn duō cíyǔ wǒ bú rènshi zěnme bàn · Great! And when I read, there are lots of words I don't know. What should I do?

teacher wang 先猜，再查词典。多看例子，例如这本书里的句子。
xiān cāi zài chá cídiǎn duō kàn lìzi lìrú zhè běn shū lǐ de jùzi · Guess first, then look them up. Read lots of examples, such as the sentences in this book.

anna 这本书是您写的吗？
zhè běn shū shì nín xiě de ma · Did you write this book?

teacher wang 是我们学校几位教师一起写的。我们教学的时候一直用它，师生都觉得很好。
shì wǒmen xuéxiào jǐ wèi jiàoshī yìqǐ xiě de wǒmen jiàoxué de shíhou yìzhí yòng tā shīshēng dōu juéde hěn hǎo · A few teachers at our school wrote it together. We always use it in our teaching, and teachers and students both like it.

anna 那我也把它认真读一遍！
nà wǒ yě bǎ tā rènzhēn dú yí biàn · Then I'll read it through carefully too!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

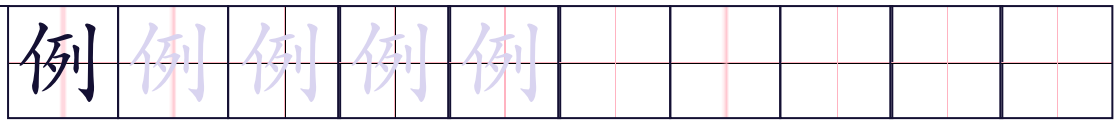
程
chéng
rule; journey

篇
piān
(measure word for articles, essays)

章
zhāng
chapter, section



例
lì
example



good to know · 预习 is studying before class; 复习 is reviewing after it. Chinese teachers expect both. Use 篇 for anything you write or read as one piece: 一篇文章, 一篇作文, 一篇新闻.

You can now talk about your lessons, ask for help with reading and essays, and make your points clear with examples.
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day 57 university life

Talk about university: majors, degrees, fees, scholarships and graduating.

University is where many friendships in China begin, and graduation plans are a favourite topic.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
入学	rùxué	to start school, enrol	大学一般九月入学。 University usually starts in September.
学院	xuéyuàn	college, school (of a university)	他在外语学院学习。 He studies at the School of Foreign Languages.
本科	běnkē	undergraduate (course)	本科一般要读四年。 An undergraduate degree usually takes four years.
研究生	yánjiūshēng	postgraduate student	毕业以后，他想读研究生。 After graduating he wants to do a postgraduate degree.
硕士	shuòshì	master's degree	她在英国读了硕士。 She did her master's in the UK.
博士	bóshì	doctorate, PhD	他是历史博士。 He has a PhD in history.
教授	jiàoshòu	professor	我们的教授很有名。 Our professor is very well known.
院长	yuànzhǎng	dean, head (of a college or hospital)	医院的院长也是一位医生。 The head of the hospital is a doctor too.
专业	zhuānyè	major, field of study; professional	你学的是什么专业? What's your major?
学费	xuéfèi	tuition fees	这所大学的学费不太贵。 This university's fees aren't too high.
奖学金	jiǎngxuéjīn	scholarship	她成绩很好，获得了奖学金。 Her grades were excellent, so she got a scholarship.
操场	cāochǎng	sports ground (at a school)	下课以后，我们去操场跑步。 After class we go running on the sports ground.
毕业	bìyè	to graduate	小明明年六月毕业。 Xiaoming graduates next June.
毕业生	bìyèshēng	graduate	今年的毕业生很多，工作不好找。 There are lots of graduates this year, so jobs are hard to find.
知识	zhīshi	knowledge	读书能让我们得到很多知识。 Reading gives us a lot of knowledge.
基础	jīchǔ	foundation, basis	他的汉语基础很好。 He has a solid foundation in Chinese.
基本	jīběn	basic; basically	这些是最基本的语法。 This is the most basic grammar.

基本上	jīběnshàng	basically, on the whole	作业我基本上做完了。 I've basically finished my homework.

pattern 不是……就是……: either … or …

不是 A | A | ，就是 | B

不是 A，就是 B says it's always one of two things: if it isn't A, it's B. It often sounds like a friendly complaint about being busy: 不是上课，就是考试.

小明最近不是在图书馆，就是在操场。 **Xiǎomíng zuìjìn bú shì zài túshūguǎn jiùshì zài cāochǎng** Lately Xiaoming is either in the library or on the sports ground.

周末他不是睡觉，就是玩游戏。 **zhōumò tā bú shì shuìjiào jiùshì wán yóuxì** At weekends he either sleeps or plays games.

这个月我不是上课，就是考试，太累了。 **zhège yuè wǒ bú shì shàngkè jiùshì kǎoshì tài lèi le** This month it's been classes or exams, nothing else. I'm exhausted.

dialogue a walk round campus

anna 你们学校真大！那边是什么？
nǐmen xuéxiào zhēn dà nàbiān shì shénme · Your university is huge! What's that over there?

xiaoming 那是外语学院。外语学院的院长是一位很有名的教授。
nà shì wàiyǔ xuéyuàn wàiyǔ xuéyuàn de yuànzhǎng shì yí wèi hěn yǒumíng de jiàoshòu · That's the School of Foreign Languages. Its dean is a very well-known professor.

anna 你毕业以后想做什么？读研究生吗？
nǐ bìyè yǐhòu xiǎng zuò shénme dú yánjiūshēng ma · What do you want to do after you graduate? A postgraduate degree?

xiaoming 我想先工作。读硕士要两三年，读博士更久。
wǒ xiǎng xiān gōngzuò dú shuòshì yào liǎngsān nián dú bóshì gèng jiǔ · I want to work first. A master's takes two or three years, and a PhD even longer.

anna 也对。你这几个月不是上课，就是找工作，累不累？
yě duì nǐ zhè jǐ gè yuè bú shì shàngkè jiùshì zhǎo gōngzuò lèi bu lèi · Fair enough. These past months it's been classes or job hunting. Aren't you tired?

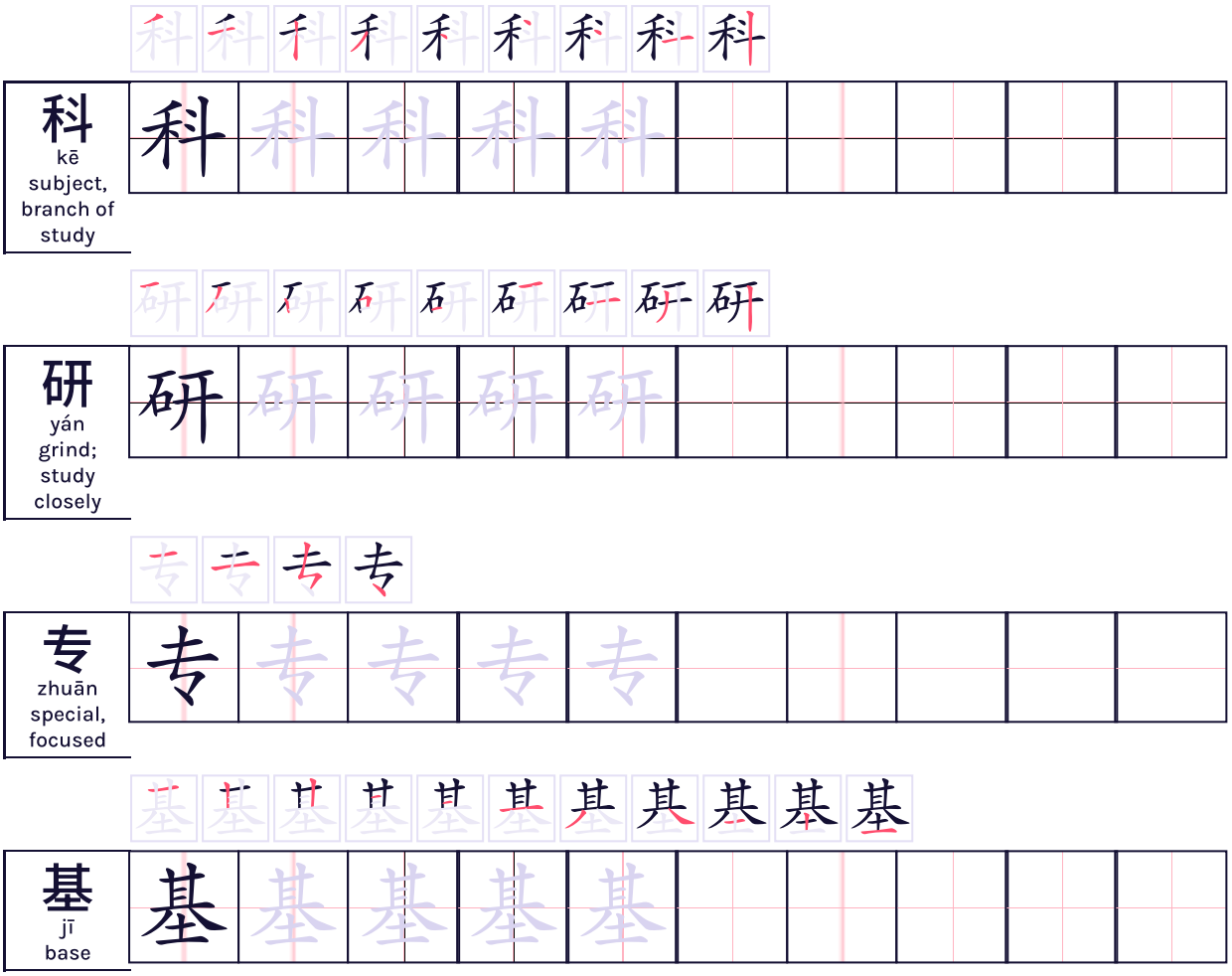
xiaoming 还好。课基本上上完了，连期末考试都考完了。
hái hǎo kè jīběnshàng shàng wán le lián qīmò kǎoshì dōu kǎo wán le · Not too bad. Classes are basically over, and I've even finished my end-of-term exams.

anna 真快！我记得你刚入学的时候，连食堂都找不到。
zhēn kuài wǒ jìde nǐ gāng rùxué de shíhou lián shítáng dōu zhǎo bu dào · That went fast! I remember when you'd just started, you couldn't even find the canteen.

xiaoming 是啊！现在我的专业基础很好，找工作也更有信心了。
shì a xiànzài wǒ de zhuānyè jīchǔ hěn hǎo zhǎo gōngzuò yě gèng yǒu xìnxīn le · True! Now I've got a solid grounding in my subject, and I feel more confident about finding a job.

anna 走，我们去食堂吃饭，我请客！
zǒu wǒmen qù shítáng chī fàn wǒ qǐngkè · Come on, let's eat at the canteen. My treat!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · Chinese degrees in order: 本科 (bachelor's), 硕士 (master's), 博士 (PhD). A 研究生 is anyone studying beyond the bachelor's. 毕业 takes no object: 大学毕业 or 从大学毕业, never "毕业大学".

Majors, degrees and graduation plans: you can now talk about university life and ask friends about their next steps.
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day 58 studying well

Talk about how you study: key points, careful reading, translating, discussing and summing up.

Good study habits travel well: these words help in any class, meeting or study group.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
举例	jǔlì	to give an example	老师举例说明了这个语法。 The teacher explained this grammar with examples.
积累	jīlěi	to build up, accumulate	学语言要每天积累。 Learning a language means building up a little every day.
重点	zhòngdiǎn	key point; with a focus on	这是今天的重点，大家记一下。 This is today's key point; please write it down.
重视	zhòngshì	to value, take seriously	父母都很重视孩子的教育。 Parents take their children's education very seriously.
仔细	zǐxì	careful, thorough	考试的时候要仔细看题。 In an exam, read the questions carefully.
详细	xiángxì	detailed	请把你的计划写得详细一点儿。 Please write your plan in a bit more detail.
准确	zhǔnquè	accurate, exact	他的翻译很准确。 His translation is very accurate.
流利	liúlì	fluent	她的汉语说得很流利。 She speaks Chinese fluently.
普通话	pǔtōnghuà	Mandarin, standard Chinese	电视新闻都用普通话。 The TV news is all in Mandarin.
翻译	fānyì	to translate; translator	你能帮我翻译一下吗? Can you translate this for me?
顺序	shùnxù	order, sequence	请按顺序排队。 Please queue in order.
总结	zǒngjié	to sum up; summary	最后，我们总结一下今天的内容。 Finally, let's sum up what we did today.
判断	pànduàn	to judge, decide; judgement	这个句子对不对？请你判断一下。 Is this sentence right? Please decide.
提出	tíchū	to put forward, raise	他提出了一个好问题。 He raised a good question.
提到	tídào	to mention	老师提到了明天的考试。 The teacher mentioned tomorrow's exam.
指出	zhǐchū	to point out	老师指出了我作文里的错误。 The teacher pointed out the mistakes in my essay.
讨论	tǎolùn	to discuss	我们讨论了很长时间。 We discussed it for a long time.

小组	xiǎozǔ	group, team	我们小组有五个人。 There are five people in our group.

pattern 能学一点是一点: every bit counts

(能) verb **一 + X** **是** **一 + X**

Verb + 一X是一X means: however little you manage, each one counts. X is a measure word or 点: 能记一个是一个, every word you remember is one more. It's realistic and encouraging at the same time.

时间不多了，能复习一点是一点。 **shíjiān bù duō le néng fùxí yìdiǎn shì yìdiǎn** There's not much time left; every bit of revision helps.

词语太多了，能记一个是一个。 **cíyǔ tài duō le néng jì yí gè shì yí gè** There are so many words; every one you remember counts.

这些文章，能读一篇是一篇。 **zhèxiē wénzhāng néng dú yì piān shì yì piān** As for these articles, read as many as you can; each one counts.

dialogue the study group

teacher wang 今天我们小组讨论一下怎么准备考试。
jīntiān wǒmen xiǎozǔ tǎolùn yíxià zěnme zhǔnbèi kǎoshì · Today our group is going to discuss how to prepare for the exam.

anna 王老师，词语太多了，我说什么也得把它们记住。
Wánglǎoshī cíyǔ tài duō le wǒ shuō shénme yě děi bǎ tāmen jì zhù · Teacher Wang, there are so many words. Whatever it takes, I have to get them into my head.

teacher wang 别急，能记一个是一个。重点是每天积累。
bié jí néng jì yí gè shì yí gè zhòngdiǎn shì měi tiān jīlěi · Don't rush; every word counts. The key is to build up a little every day.

anna 您上次提到，要重视阅读。您能举例说明一下吗?
nín shàng cì tídào yào zhòngshì yuèdú nín néng jǔlì shuōmíng yíxià ma · Last time you mentioned that reading really matters. Could you give an example?

teacher wang 比如读一篇文章，先判断它讲的是什么，再仔细看每一段的顺序。
bǐrú dú yì piān wénzhāng xiān pànduàn tā jiǎng de shì shénme zài zǐxì kàn měi yí duàn de shùnxù · Say you read an article: first work out what it's about, then look carefully at the order of the paragraphs.

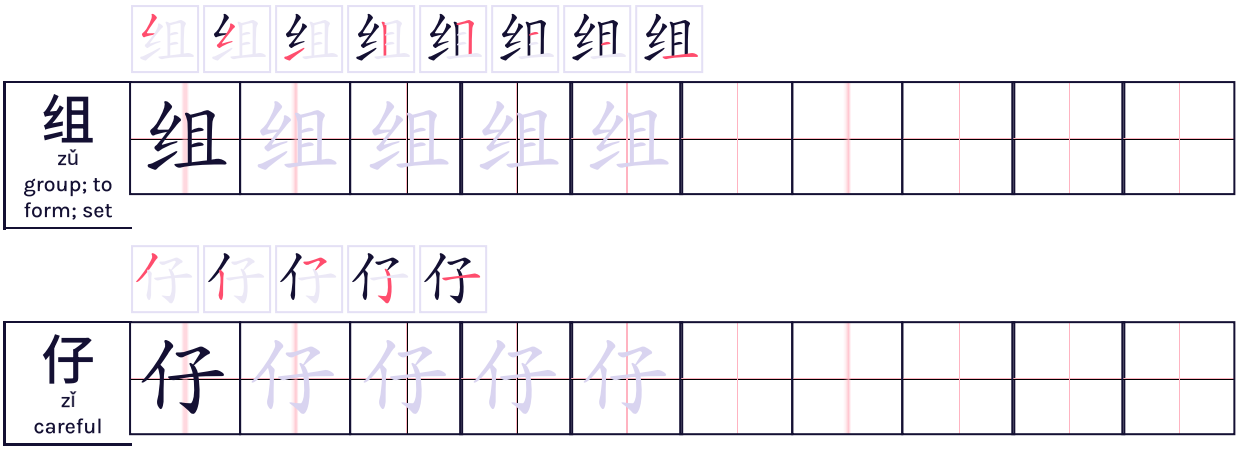
anna 我明白了。那写作文呢?
wǒ míngbai le nà xiě zuòwén ne · I see. And essays?

teacher wang 写之前，把你的计划写得详细一点儿。写完以后，自己总结一下。
xiě zhīqián bǎ nǐ de jìhuà xiě de xiángxì yìdiǎnr xiě wán yǐhòu zìjǐ zǒngjié yíxià · Before you write, make your plan a bit more detailed. When you've finished, sum it up for yourself.

anna 我还想提出一个问题：口语怎么提高?
wǒ hái xiǎng tíchū yí gè wèntí kǒuyǔ zěnme tígāo · I'd like to raise one more question: how do I improve my speaking?

teacher wang 多说！能说一句是一句。
duō shuō néng shuō yí jù shì yí jù · Speak as much as you can! Every sentence counts.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · 仔细 is how you do something (carefully); 详细 is what you give (in detail): 仔细看, 详细说明. 普通话 is the name for standard Mandarin in mainland China. People also say 中文 or 汉语 for the language in general.

Now you can talk about how you study, join a study group and encourage yourself: 能学一点是一点!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 59 job hunting

Talk about job hunting: adverts, applications, interviews, pay, bonuses and experience.

Looking for work is a big topic for young people in China, and these words come up in every job advert.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
表扬	biǎoyáng	to praise	老师表扬他作业写得好。 The teacher praised him for doing his homework well.
批评	pīpíng	to criticise, tell off	经理批评他又迟到了。 The manager told him off for being late again.
表现	biǎoxiàn	to perform, show; performance	你今天的表现很好。 You did really well today.
招聘	zhāopìn	to recruit, advertise a job	这家{=(measure word for shops, firms)}公司正在招聘司机。 This company is hiring drivers.
应聘	yìngpìn	to apply for a job	我想应聘这个工作。 I'd like to apply for this job.
面试	miànshì	(job) interview; to interview	明天上午十点面试。 The interview is at ten tomorrow morning.
职业	zhíyè	occupation, profession	医生是一个很辛苦的职业。 Being a doctor is a hard job.
经验	jīngyàn	experience	他有五年的工作经验。 He has five years of work experience.
能够	nénggòu	to be able to, can	希望我能够找到一个好工作。 I hope I can find a good job.
打工	dǎgōng	to work a (part-time) job	暑假我在一家{=(measure word for shops, firms)}咖啡店打工。 In the summer holidays I work at a coffee shop.
工资	gōngzī	pay, wages	这个工作的工资不太高。 The pay for this job isn't very high.
奖金	jiǎngjīn	bonus	这个月我拿到了奖金。 I got a bonus this month.
加强	jiāqiáng	to strengthen, step up	我要加强口语练习。 I need to step up my speaking practice.
专门	zhuānmén	specially; specialised	他专门来北京参加面试。 He came to Beijing just for the interview.
年底	niándǐ	end of the year	我们公司年底最忙。 Our company is busiest at the end of the year.
人员	rényuán	staff, personnel	工作人员会告诉你在哪儿面试。 The staff will tell you where the interview is.

单位	dānwèi	workplace, employer (organisation)	你在哪个单位工作? Where do you work?
部门	bùmén	department	她在我们公司的广告部门工作。 She works in our company's advertising department.

pattern 表扬 / 批评 someone for doing something

who | 表扬 / 批评 | someone | what they did

Put the person straight after 表扬 (praise) or 批评 (criticise), then say what they did: 经理表扬小明工作认真. Chinese needs no word for "for" here. 感谢 (thank) works the same way: 感谢你帮助我.

陈经理表扬安娜工作很认真。 **Chénjīnglǐ biǎoyáng Ānnà gōngzuò hěn rènzhēn** Manager Chen praised Anna for working so hard.

妈妈批评妹妹玩手机玩得太晚。 **māma pīpíng mèimei wán shǒujī wán de tài wǎn** Mum told my little sister off for staying up so late on her phone.

老师表扬他帮助同学。 **lǎoshī biǎoyáng tā bāngzhù tóngxué** The teacher praised him for helping his classmates.

dialogue after the interview

ms zhang 小明，今天的面试怎么样?
Xiǎomíng jīntiān de miànshì zěnmeyàng · Xiaoming, how did today's interview go?

xiaoming 还行。我专门准备了一个星期，怎么也没想到问题那么难。
hái xíng wǒ zhuānmén zhǔnbèi le yí gè xīngqī zěnme yě méi xiǎng dào wèntí nàme nán · Not bad. I spent a whole week preparing for it, and I never imagined the questions would be so hard.

ms zhang 是哪个单位?
shì nǎge dānwèi · Which company was it?

xiaoming 一家广告公司，市场部门在招聘工作人员。
yì jiā guǎnggào gōngsī shìchǎng bùmén zài zhāopìn gōngzuò rényuán · An advertising company. Their marketing department is hiring staff.

ms zhang 他们觉得你怎么样?
tāmen juéde nǐ zěnmeyàng · What did they think of you?

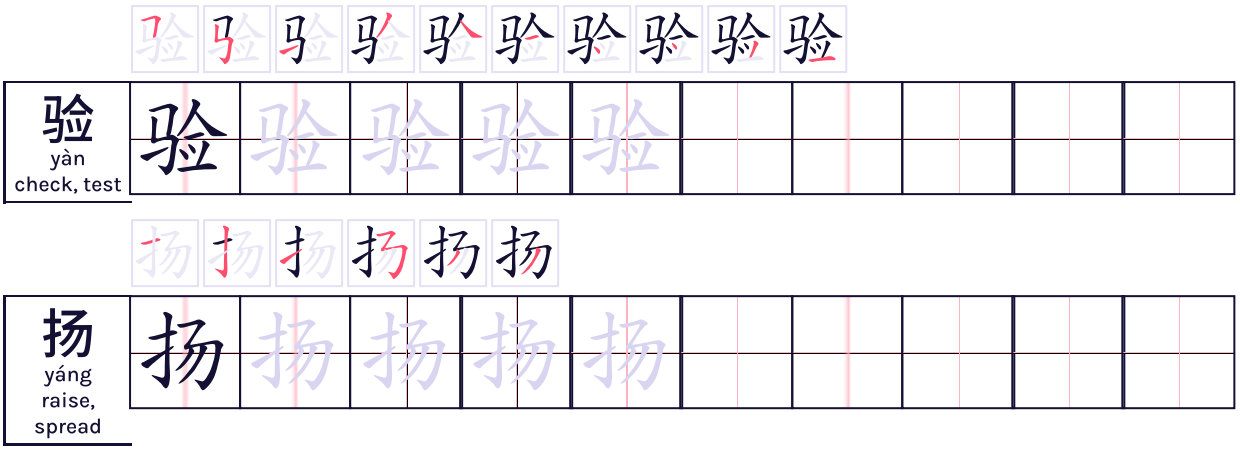
xiaoming 经理表扬我准备得很好，但是也指出我没有工作经验。
jīnglǐ biǎoyáng wǒ zhǔnbèi de hěn hǎo dànshì yě zhǐchū wǒ méiyǒu gōngzuò jīngyàn · The manager praised me for being well prepared, but also pointed out that I have no work experience.

ms zhang 没关系，经验是慢慢积累的。只要你能够认真学，他们会给你机会的。
méi guānxi jīngyàn shì màn màn jīlěi de zhǐyào nǐ nénggòu rènzhēn xué tāmen huì gěi nǐ jīhuì de · Never mind; experience comes slowly. As long as you can learn properly, they'll give you a chance.

xiaoming 就是说，我得多积累经验。我也要加强自己的能力。
jiùshìshuō wǒ děi duō jīlěi jīngyàn wǒ yě yào jiāqiáng zìjǐ de nénglì · That is to say, I need to build up more experience. I need to build up my skills too.

ms zhang 不管做什么职业，认真最重要。
bùguǎn zuò shénme zhíyè rènzhēn zuì zhòngyào · Whatever career you choose, being conscientious matters most.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · The company 招聘 (recruits) and you 应聘 (apply): the same 聘 “hire”, seen from both sides. 单位 is the everyday word for your workplace, especially a school, hospital or government office: 你在哪个单位工作?

You can now read a job advert, talk about an interview and praise someone properly for a job well done.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 60 at the office

Talk about office life: tasks, meetings, business trips, overtime, printing and who is in charge.

Office words help you at any Chinese workplace, and saying who was chosen for a role is something you need every week.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
为	wéi	to act as, be (written)	大家选他为{wei2}小组的负责人。 Everyone chose him to lead the group.
办公	bàngōng	to work (in an office)	我们周末不办公。 Our office is closed at weekends.
安排	ānpái	to arrange; arrangement	明天的工作我已经安排好了。 I've already arranged tomorrow's work.
任务	rènwu	task, assignment	这个任务很急，今天要完成。 This task is urgent; it has to be done today.
进行	jìnxíng	to carry out, be under way	会议正在进行。 The meeting is in progress.
过程	guòchéng	process, course	在工作的过程中，我学到了很多。 I learned a lot in the course of the work.
出差	chūchāi	to go on a business trip	经理下{=next}周去上海出差。 The manager is going to Shanghai on business next week.
加班	jiābān	to work overtime	这个星期我天天加班。 I've worked late every day this week.
打印	dǎyìn	to print	请帮我打印一下这份文件。 Could you print this document for me?
打印机	dǎyìnjī	printer	打印机又坏了。 The printer's broken again.
复印	fùyìn	to photocopy	我把材料复印了三份。 I made three copies of the materials.
项	xiàng	item (measure word for tasks, rules)	我今天有三项任务。 I have three tasks today.
组	zǔ	group; to form; set	我们组一共有六个人。 There are six of us in our group.
工厂	gōngchǎng	factory	他爸爸在一家{=(measure word for shops, firms)}工厂工作。 His dad works in a factory.
厂	chǎng	factory, plant	这个厂有两千多个工人。 This factory has over two thousand workers.
工人	gōngrén	worker	工人们每天早上八点上班。 The workers start at eight every morning.
管	guǎn	to be in charge of, look after	这件事谁管? Who's in charge of this?

管理	guǎnlǐ	to manage; management	陈经理管理我们部门。 Manager Chen runs our department.

pattern 选 / 收 someone 当 / 做 / 为 a role

who | 选 / 收 | someone | 当 / 做 / 为 | role

To say who was picked or taken on for a role: 选 (choose) or 收 (accept, take on) + person + 当 / 做 / 为 + role. 为 (wéi) is the written one; in speech say 当 or 做.

大家选安娜当小组的负责人。 **dàjiā xuǎn Ānnà dāng xiǎozǔ de fùzérén** Everyone chose Anna to lead the group.

王老师收他做学生。 **Wánglǎoshī shōu tā zuò xuéshēng** Teacher Wang took him on as a student.

这个厂收了很多年轻人当工人。 **zhège chǎng shōu le hěn duō niánqīng rén dāng gōngrén** This factory has taken on lots of young people as workers.

dialogue a new task

manager chen 安娜，下周我去上海出差，这项工作你来管吧。
Ānnà xià zhōu wǒ qù Shànghǎi chūchāi zhè xiàng gōngzuò nǐ lái guǎn ba · Anna, I'm away in Shanghai on business next week. Can you take charge of this?

anna 我？我才来一个月，能管理好吗？
wǒ wǒ cái lái yí gè yuè néng guǎnlǐ hǎo ma · Me? I've only been here a month. Can I manage it?

manager chen 没问题。上次开会，你和大家一问一答，说得很清楚，所以大家选你当负责人。
méi wèntí shàng cì kāihuì nǐ hé dàjiā yí wèn yì dá shuō de hěn qīngchu suǒyǐ dàjiā xuǎn nǐ dāng fùzérén · No problem. At the last meeting you took everyone's questions one by one and explained things clearly, so they chose you to lead it.

anna 谢谢您！那我需要做什么？
xièxie nín nà wǒ xūyào zuò shénme · Thank you! So what do I need to do?

manager chen 先去厂里看看，跟工人们聊一聊。
xiān qù chǎng lǐ kàn kan gēn gōngrénmen liáo yi liao · First go and see the factory, and have a chat with the workers.

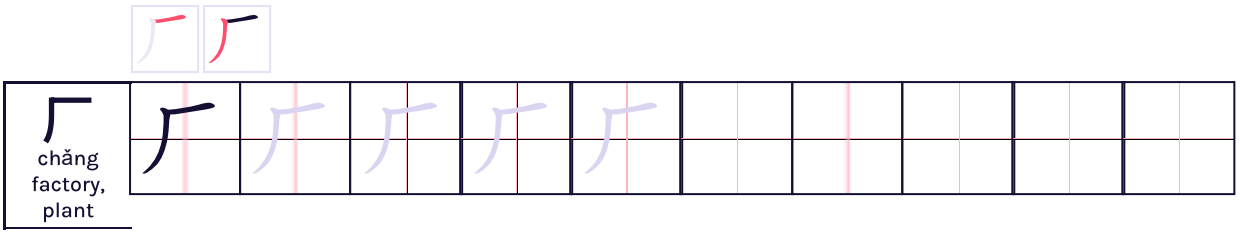
anna 好的。在这个过程中，有问题我可以给您打电话吗？
hǎo de zài zhège guòchéng zhōng yǒu wèntí wǒ kěyǐ gěi nín dǎ diànhuà ma · OK. If anything comes up along the way, can I call you?

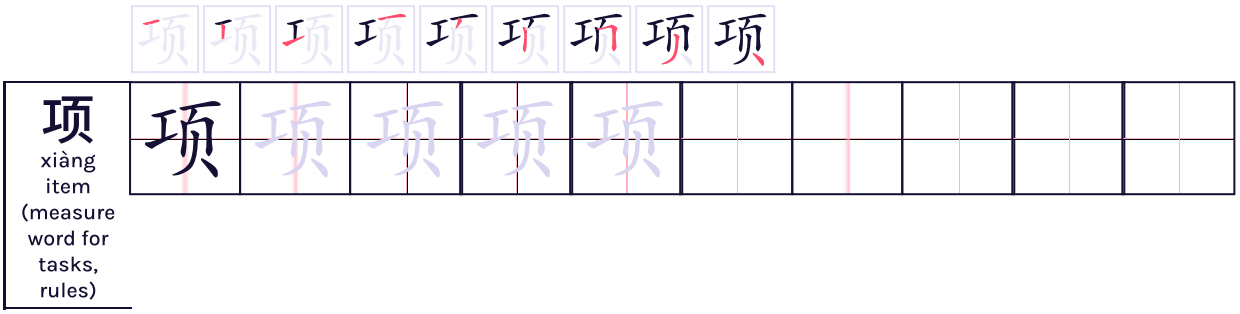
manager chen 当然。这些材料你先打印一下，每个组发一份。
dāngrán zhèxiē cáiliào nǐ xiān dǎyìn yíxià měi gè zǔ fā yí fèn · Of course. Print out these materials first and give one copy to each team.

anna 好！我们组的人每天有说有笑，工作也很认真。
hǎo wǒmen zǔ de rén měi tiān yǒu shuō yǒu xiào gōngzuò yě hěn rènzhēn · Sure! The people in our team are always chatting and laughing, and they work hard too.

manager chen 那就好。大家都表扬你工作认真。别太累了，周末不办公，好好休息。
nà jiù hǎo dàjiā dōu biǎoyáng nǐ gōngzuò rènzhēn bié tài lèi le zhōumò bú bàngōng hǎohǎo xiūxi · Good. Everyone has praised you for working so hard. Don't wear yourself out; the office is closed at the weekend, so get some rest.

write it trace the grey, then write your own





good to know · 进行 is formal and goes before a two-syllable action: 进行讨论, 进行检查. In chat, just use the verb. 加班 is overtime; 出差 is a work trip. In 出差, 差 reads chāi.

Tasks, meetings and printers: you can now find your way around a Chinese office and say who is in charge of what.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 61 anna's first month at work

Chinese HSK 4 in 69 days
unit 9 · school & work

Follow a story about a first month at work, a new job, exam nerves and a study group, using the whole unit.

A mission puts the week's words back together in real conversations, so they stick.

chapter 1 one month in

manager chen 安娜，你来公司一个月了，觉得怎么样?
Ānnà nǐ lái gōngsī yí gè yuè le juéde zěnmeyàng · Anna, you've been with us a month now. How are you finding it?

anna 挺好的。就是任务比较多，有时候要加班。
tǐng hǎo de jiùshì rènwu bǐjiào duō yǒu shíhou yào jiābān · Pretty good. There's just a lot to do, and sometimes I have to work late.

manager chen 谁刚开始工作不忙呢？我第一年天天加班。
shéi gāng kāishǐ gōngzuò bù máng ne wǒ dì yī nián tiān tiān jiābān · Who isn't busy when they've just started? I worked late every day in my first year.

anna 真的吗？那您是怎么积累经验的?
zhēn de ma nà nín shì zěnme jīlěi jīngyàn de · Really? So how did you build up your experience?

manager chen 多做，多问。能学一点是一点。那时候，我的经理还常常批评我做事不仔细呢。
duō zuò duō wèn néng xué yìdiǎn shì yìdiǎn nà shíhou wǒ de jīnglǐ hái chángcháng pīpíng wǒ zuò shì bù zǐxì ne · Do a lot and ask a lot. Every bit you learn counts. Back then my manager was always telling me off for being careless.

anna 我明白了。对了，上周的材料我已经打印好了，每个组一份。打印机又坏了，有几份是复印的。
wǒ míngbai le duì le shàng zhōu de cáiliào wǒ yǐjīng dǎyìn hǎo le měi gè zǔ yí fèn dǎyìnjī yòu huài le yǒu jǐ fèn shì fùyìn de · I see. By the way, I've printed last week's materials, one copy for each team. The printer broke again, so a few are photocopies.

manager chen 没关系。下周我去上海出差，这段时间的工作我都安排好了。周末不办公，你好好休息。
méi guānxi xià zhōu wǒ qù Shànghǎi chūchāi zhè duàn shíjiān de gōngzuò wǒ dōu ānpái hǎo le zhōumò bú bàngōng nǐ hǎohǎo xiūxi · No problem. I'm off to Shanghai on a business trip next week, and I've arranged the work for while I'm away. The office is closed at the weekend, so get some rest.

anna 工厂的那项任务也是我管吗?
gōngchǎng de nà xiàng rènwu yě shì wǒ guǎn ma · Am I in charge of the factory task too?

manager chen 对。上次开会，大家选你为负责人，就是说，大家都相信你。
duì shàng cì kāihuì dàjiā xuǎn nǐ wéi fùzérén jiùshìshuō dàjiā dōu xiāngxìn nǐ · Yes. At the last meeting everyone chose you to lead it, which means they all trust you.

anna 那我明天先去厂里，跟工人们了解一下工作进行得怎么样。
nà wǒ míngtiān xiān qù chǎng lǐ gēn gōngrénmen liǎojiě yíxià gōngzuò jìnxíng de zěnmeyàng · Then tomorrow I'll go to the factory first and find out from the workers how the work is going.

manager chen 很好。在这个过程中，有什么问题就给我打电话。
hěn hǎo zài zhège guòchéng zhōng yǒu shénme wèntí jiù gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà · Good. If anything comes up along the way, just call me.

anna 好的。我会加强管理，不让您失望。
hǎo de wǒ huì jiāqiáng guǎnlǐ bú ràng nín shīwàng · OK. I'll keep a closer eye on things and won't let you down.

manager chen 你这个月表现得很好。下午开会的时候，我要表扬你工作认真。年底还有奖金呢！
nǐ zhège yuè biǎoxiàn de hěn hǎo xiàwǔ kāihuì de shíhou wǒ yào biǎoyáng nǐ gōngzuò rènzhēn niándǐ hái yǒu jiǎngjīn ne · You've done really well this month. At this afternoon's meeting I'm going to praise you for working so hard. And there's a bonus at the end of the year!

anna 谢谢经理！我会继续努力的。
xièxie jīnglǐ wǒ huì jìxù nǔlì de · Thank you! I'll keep working hard.

chapter 2 xiaoming's good news

xiaoming 安娜，告诉你一个好消息：我找到工作了！
Ānnà gàosu nǐ yí gè hǎo xiāoxi wǒ zhǎo dào gōngzuò le · Anna, I've got good news: I've found a job!

anna 太好了！是哪个单位？
tài hǎo le shì nǎge dānwèi · Brilliant! Where?

xiaoming 就是那家广告公司。他们在招聘市场部门的工作人员，我就去应聘了。
jiùshì nà jiā guǎnggào gōngsī tāmen zài zhāopìn shìchǎng bùmén de gōngzuò rényuán wǒ jiù qù yìngpìn le · That advertising company. They were recruiting staff for the marketing department, so I applied.

anna 面试难不难？
miànshì nán bu nán · Was the interview hard?

xiaoming 一共面试了两次，第一次是笔试，第二次跟经理聊天。我专门准备了一个星期。
yígòng miànshì le liǎng cì dì yī cì shì bǐshì dì èr cì gēn jīnglǐ liáotiān wǒ zhuānmén zhǔnbèi le yí gè xīngqī · There were two rounds: a written test first, then a chat with the manager. I spent a whole week preparing just for it.

anna 我就知道你能够成功！
wǒ jiù zhīdào nǐ nénggòu chénggōng · I knew you could do it!

xiaoming 经理说我的专业基础很好，就是说，没有经验也没关系。那么多毕业生，他们只选了三个。
jīnglǐ shuō wǒ de zhuānyè jīchǔ hěn hǎo jiùshìshuō méiyǒu jīngyàn yě méi guānxi nàme duō bìyèshēng tāmen zhǐ xuǎn le sān gè · The manager said I have a solid grounding in my subject; in other words, my lack of experience doesn't matter. Out of all those graduates, they only picked three.

anna 你读了四年本科，学到的知识终于有用了！
nǐ dú le sì nián běnkē xué dào de zhīshi zhōngyú yǒuyòng le · Four years of your degree, and all that knowledge is finally paying off!

xiaoming 是啊。我本来还想读研究生，可是读硕士的学费太贵了，我又拿不到奖学金。
shì a wǒ běnlái hái xiǎng dú yánjiūshēng kěshì dú shuòshì de xuéfèi tài guì le wǒ yòu ná bu dào jiǎngxuéjīn · Yes. I did think about postgraduate study, but a master's costs so much in fees, and I couldn't get a scholarship.

anna 工作几年以后再读也不晚。工资怎么样？
gōngzuò jǐ nián yǐhòu zài dú yě bù wǎn gōngzī zěnmeyàng · You can always study later, after a few years of work. What's the pay like?

xiaoming 还可以，比我以前打工的时候高多了。这么好的工作，我上哪儿找去？
hái kěyǐ bǐ wǒ yǐqián dǎgōng de shíhou gāo duō le zhème hǎo de gōngzuò wǒ shàng nǎr zhǎo qù · Not bad, much more than I got in my part-time jobs. Where else would I find a job this good?

anna 什么时候开始上班？
shénme shíhou kāishǐ shàngbān · When do you start?

xiaoming 我六月毕业，七月就去上班。我觉得这个职业很适合我。
wǒ liù yuè bìyè qī yuè jiù qù shàngbān wǒ juéde zhège zhíyè hěn shìhé wǒ · I graduate in June and start work in July. I think this line of work really suits me.

chapter 3 a family celebration

ms zhang 安娜，快坐。今天我们给小明庆祝一下！
Ānnà kuài zuò jīntiān wǒmen gěi Xiǎomíng qìngzhù yíxià · Anna, sit down! Today we're celebrating Xiaoming's news.

dr li 小明这几个月不是面试，就是写材料，真辛苦。
Xiǎomíng zhè jǐ gè yuè bú shì miànshì jiùshì xiě cáiliào zhēn xīnkǔ · These past few months Xiaoming has done nothing but interviews and applications. It's been hard work.

anna 妹妹，你的高考准备得怎么样了？
mèimei nǐ de gāokǎo zhǔnbèi de zěnmeyàng le · And how's your gaokao preparation going?

little sister 期中考试的成绩出来了，比上次好！数学的试题特别难，可是每道题我都答了，答案基本上都正确。
qīzhōng kǎoshì de chéngjì chūlái le bǐ shàng cì hǎo shùxué de shìtí tèbié nán kěshì měi dào tí wǒ dōu dá le dáàn jīběnshàng dōu zhèngquè · My midterm results are out. Better than last time! The maths paper was really hard, but I answered every question, and nearly all my answers were right.

ms zhang 老师还表扬她作文写得好呢。
lǎoshī hái biǎoyáng tā zuòwén xiě de hǎo ne · Her teacher even praised her for writing such a good essay.

little sister 可是听力还是不合格，口语也有几个错误。
kěshì tīnglì háishi bù hégé kǒuyǔ yě yǒu jǐ gè cuòwù · But my listening still didn't pass, and I made a few mistakes in speaking.

anna 别着急。拿我来说，我刚学汉语的时候，听力也很差。
bié zháojí ná wǒ lái shuō wǒ gāng xué Hànyǔ de shíhou tīnglì yě hěn chà · Don't worry. Take me: when I first started learning Chinese, my listening was terrible too.

little sister 为了这次考试，我每天阅读一篇文章。期末以前，我还要每天去学校自习。
wèile zhè cì kǎoshì wǒ měi tiān yuèdú yì piān wénzhāng qīmò yǐqián wǒ hái yào měi tiān qù xuéxiào zìxí · To get ready for this exam, I read an article every day. And before the end of term I'll be doing self-study at school every day.

dr li 别太累了。你是为了自己的将来而努力，不是为了我们。
bié tài lèi le nǐ shì wèile zìjǐ de jiānglái ér nǔlì bú shì wèile wǒmen · Don't wear yourself out. You're working hard for your own future, not for us.

little sister 我知道。我明年要报考北京的大学，下个月就要报名了。考生那么多，我真紧张。
wǒ zhīdào wǒ míngnián yào bàokǎo Běijīng de dàxué xià gè yuè jiù yào bàomíng le kǎoshēng nàme duō wǒ zhēn jǐnzhāng · I know. Next year I'm applying to universities in Beijing, and registration is next month. There are so many candidates, I'm really nervous.

anna 你每天先预习，再认真上课，功课也都做完了，谁比你准备得更好呢？
nǐ měi tiān xiān yùxí zài rènzhēn shàngkè gōngkè yě dōu zuò wán le shéi bǐ nǐ zhǔnbèi de gèng hǎo ne · You prepare before every lesson, pay attention in class and finish all your homework. Who could be better prepared than you?

dr li 大家都有好消息，谁不高兴呢？来，我们用果汁干杯！
dàjiā dōu yǒu hǎo xiāoxi shéi bù gāoxìng ne lái wǒmen yòng guǒzhī gānbēi · Everyone has good news. Who wouldn't be happy? Come on, let's raise our juice glasses!

chapter 4 every sentence counts

teacher wang 我先点名……安娜？
wǒ xiān diǎnmíng Ānnà · Let me take the register first... Anna?

anna 到！王老师，下周就考试了，我们今天讨论什么？
dào Wánglǎoshī xià zhōu jiù kǎoshì le wǒmen jīntiān tǎolùn shénme · Here! Teacher Wang, the exam is next week. What are we discussing today?

teacher wang 今天我们小组讨论一下考试的重点。首先，大家要重视语法和词语。
jīntiān wǒmen xiǎozǔ tǎolùn yíxià kǎoshì de zhòngdiǎn shǒuxiān dàjiā yào zhòngshì yǔfǎ hé cíyǔ · Today our group will go over the key points of the exam. First of all, take grammar and vocabulary seriously.

anna 您上次提到，阅读的时候要先判断文章讲的是什么，再看每段的顺序。
nín shàng cì tídào yuèdú de shíhou yào xiān pànduàn wénzhāng jiǎng de shì shénme zài kàn měi duàn de shùnxù · Last time you mentioned that when reading, you should first work out what the text is about, then look at the order of the paragraphs.

teacher wang 对。我来举例说明。例如这篇文章，第一段提出问题，第二段指出原因，最后一段总结。
duì wǒ lái jǔlì shuōmíng lìrú zhè piān wénzhāng dì yī duàn tíchū wèntí dì èr duàn zhǐchū yuányīn zuìhòu yí duàn zǒngjié · Right. Let me give an example. Take this text: the first paragraph raises a question, the second points out the cause, and the last one sums up.

anna 我明白了。那翻译题呢？我总是翻译得不准确。
wǒ míngbai le nà fānyì tí ne wǒ zǒngshì fānyì de bù zhǔnquè · I see. What about the translation questions? My translations are never accurate.

teacher wang 翻译的时候要仔细，别着急。能翻译对一句是一句。
fānyì de shíhou yào zǐxì bié zháojí néng fānyì duì yí jù shì yí jù · Take your time and be careful when you translate. Every sentence you get right counts.

anna 还有，我的普通话还不够流利。
hái yǒu wǒ de pǔtōnghuà hái búgòu liúlì · Also, my Mandarin still isn't fluent enough.

teacher wang 你还记得吗？我收你做学生的时候，你连“你好”都说不清楚。现在你说得多流利啊！
nǐ hái jìde ma wǒ shōu nǐ zuò xuéshēng de shíhou nǐ lián nǐhǎo dōu shuō bu qīngchu xiànzài nǐ shuō de duō liúlì a · Do you remember? When I took you on as my student, you couldn't even say “nǐ hǎo” clearly. Look how fluent you are now!

anna 那是因为您的课程安排得好。课堂上，师生之间也常常交流。
nà shì yīnwèi nín de kèchéng ānpái de hǎo kètáng shàng shīshēng zhījiān yě chángcháng jiāoliú · That's because your course is so well planned. And in class, teacher and students talk with each other all the time.

teacher wang 我做教师这么多年，最重要的经验就是：教学不是老师一个人的事。你们自学的时候，也要多总结。
wǒ zuò jiàoshī zhème duō nián zuì zhòngyào de jīngyàn jiùshì jiàoxué bú shì lǎoshī yí gè rén de shì nǐmen zìxué de shíhou yě yào duō zǒngjié · In all my years as a teacher, the most important thing I've learnt is that teaching isn't just the teacher's job. When you study on your own, keep summing up what you've learnt.

teacher wang 下周开始，我们选安娜当小组负责人，带大家一起预习，好不好？
xià zhōu kāishǐ wǒmen xuǎn Ānnà dāng xiǎozǔ fùzérén dài dàjiā yìqǐ yùxí hǎo bu hǎo · From next week, let's choose Anna as group leader to lead everyone's preparation. What do you say?

anna 我？好吧，我一定不让大家失望！
wǒ hǎo ba wǒ yídìng bú ràng dàjiā shīwàng · Me? All right, I won't let you all down!

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