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day 73 city life

Chinese HSK 5 in 80 days
unit 13 · society & culture

Talk about how a city is built and run, weigh up change, and settle a debate with 不管怎样说.

Chinese cities change fast, and everyone has a view on the new and the old.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
现代	xiàndài	modern; modern times	北京既有老胡同，也有现代的大楼。 Beijing has old hutongs and modern tower blocks.
现代化	xiàndàihuà	to modernise; modern	这座城市越来越现代化了。 This city is becoming more and more modern.
建设	jiànshè	to build, construct; construction	这里正在建设一个新的公园。 A new park is being built here.
建造	jiànzào	to build, construct	这座桥是一百年前建造的。 This bridge was built a hundred years ago.
建筑	jiànzhù	building; architecture; to build	这些老建筑很有特色。 These old buildings have a lot of character.
修建	xiūjiàn	to build (roads, railways)	村里新修建了一条公路。 A new road has been built to the village.
建	jiàn	to build; to set up	小区里新建了一个游泳池。 A new swimming pool has been built on the estate.
设施	shèshī	facilities	这个小区的设施很完善。 This estate has excellent facilities.
场所	chǎngsuǒ	place, venue	公共场所禁止吸烟。 Smoking is not allowed in public places.
市民	shìmín	city residents, citizens	很多市民周末都去公园锻炼。 Lots of residents go to the park at the weekend to exercise.
人口	rénkǒu	population	这座城市的人口超过了两千|万。 This city's population is over twenty million.
老百姓	lǎobǎixìng	ordinary people	地铁修好以后，老百姓出行方便多了。 Since the metro was built, getting about is much easier for ordinary people.
开放	kāifàng	to open (to the public); open	这个公园每天早上六点开放。 The park opens at six every morning.
公平	gōngpíng	fair, just	这样做对大家都公平。 That's fair to everyone.
规则	guīzé	rule(s)	比赛的规则很简单。 The rules of the game are simple.
提倡	tíchàng	to promote, advocate	城市提倡大家坐公交车上班。 The city encourages everyone to take the bus to work.
结构	jiégòu	structure	这个句子的结构有点儿复杂。 This sentence has a slightly complicated structure.

面向	miànxiàng	to face; aimed at	这个活动面向所有市民。 The event is open to all residents.
集合	jíhé	to gather, assemble	我们明天早上八点在门口集合。 We'll meet at the gate at eight tomorrow morning.
大事	dàshì	big event, important matter	修地铁是城市的一件大事。 Building the metro is a big event for the city.
建立	jiànlì	to set up, establish	我们跟这家公司建立了合作关系。 We've started working together with this company.
构成	gòuchéng	to make up, constitute	老人和孩子构成了这个社区的大部分人口。 Old people and children make up most of this community.

pattern 不管怎样说: whatever anyone says, in any case

不管怎样说，what still holds

不管怎样说 means "whatever anyone says, in any case": it sets the arguments aside and states what still holds. 不管怎样说，这是一件好事. In speech you'll also hear 不管怎么说; they mean the same.

有人喜欢老胡同，有人喜欢新大楼。不管怎样说，生活变好了。 **yǒu rén xǐhuan lǎo hútòng yǒu rén xǐhuan xīn dà lóu bùguǎn zěnyàng shuō shēnghuó biàn hǎo le** Some people like the old hutongs, some like the new towers. Either way, life has got better.

不管怎样说，我们明天八点在门口集合。 **bùguǎn zěnyàng shuō wǒmen míngtiān bā diǎn zài ménkǒu jíhé** Whatever happens, we meet at the gate at eight tomorrow.

不管怎样说，他是为了大家好。 **bùguǎn zěnyàng shuō tā shì wèile dàjiā hǎo** Whatever you think of it, he did it for everyone's good.

dialogue forty years on the estate

zhao yang 孙教授，这几年小区附近的建设很快，您觉得怎么样？
Sūnjiàoshòu zhè jǐ nián xiǎoqū fùjìn de jiànshè hěn kuài nín juéde zěnmeyàng · Professor Sun, there's been a lot of building round the estate in the last few years. What do you think?

professor sun 变化很大。这条路是去年修建的，那边还建造了一座新的体育馆。
biànhuà hěn dà zhè tiáo lù shì qùnián xiūjiàn de nàbiān hái jiànzào le yí zuò xīn de tǐyùguǎn · It's changed a lot. This road was built last year, and they've put up a new sports hall over there.

anna 我觉得这些设施很方便，老百姓的生活也好了很多。
wǒ juéde zhèxiē shèshī hěn fāngbiàn lǎobǎixìng de shēnghuó yě hǎo le hěn duō · I think these facilities are really handy, and life is much better for ordinary people.

professor sun 是啊。不过很多老建筑没有了，我心里有点儿舍不得。
shì a búguò hěn duō lǎo jiànzhù méiyǒu le wǒ xīnlǐ yǒudiǎnr shěbude · True. But lots of the old buildings have gone, and I do miss them.

zhao yang 现在城市在搞现代化，有人说老房子的结构不安全。
xiànzài chéngshì zài gǎo xiàndàihuà yǒu rén shuō lǎo fángzi de jiégòu bù ānquán · The city is modernising, and some people say the old houses aren't structurally safe.

professor sun 有道理。不管怎样说，城市的历史也要保留下来。
yǒu dàolǐ bùguǎn zěnyàng shuō chéngshì de lìshǐ yě yào bǎoliú xialai · That's fair. But whatever anyone says, the city's history has to be kept too.

anna 我同意。老房子和新大楼一起构成了这座城市。
wǒ tóngyì lǎo fángzi hé xīn dà lóu yìqǐ gòuchéng le zhè zuò chéngshì · I agree. The old houses and the new towers together make the city what it is.

zhao yang 说得好。对了，下周市里有一件大事：新的图书馆要开放了。
shuō de hǎo duì le xià zhōu shì lǐ yǒu yí jiàn dàshì xīn de túshūguǎn yào kāifàng le · Well put. Oh, and there's big news next week: the new city library is opening.

professor sun 听说它面向所有人，而且是免费的，很公平。
tīngshuō tā miànxiàng suǒyǒu rén érqiě shì miǎnfèi de hěn gōngpíng · I hear it's open to everyone, and free. That's fair.

anna 太好了！那我们下周六早上九点在门口集合，一起去看看吧。
tài hǎo le nà wǒmen xià zhōu liù zǎoshang jiǔ diǎn zài ménkǒu jíhé yìqǐ qù kàn kan ba · Great! Then let's meet at the gate at nine next Saturday morning and go and have a look.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

构 gòu
to construct

筑 zhù
to build, construct

good to know · The 建 family: 建设 build up (a city, a country), 建造 build (a bridge, a ship), 修建 build (roads, railways), 建立 establish (relations, a system), 建筑 a building. 不管怎样说 and 不管怎么说 mean the same; 无论如何 is the formal cousin.

Old and new, for and against: you can now talk about how a city changes, and keep the conversation fair.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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day 74 people in society

Chinese HSK 5 in 80 days
unit 13 · society & culture

Talk about people in society: groups, roles, rights and trends, and say what something shows with 从……来看.

Social trends are what the news, your colleagues and your Chinese friends discuss over dinner.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
现象	xiànxiàng	phenomenon, trend	年轻人晚结婚，是一个普遍的现象。 Young people marrying later is a common trend.
现实	xiànshí	reality; realistic	理想很美好，现实很困难。 Dreams are lovely; reality is hard.
现状	xiànzhuàng	current situation	我们要了解农村教育的现状。 We need to understand the current state of rural education.
形势	xíngshì	situation, circumstances	现在的就业形势比较紧张。 The job market is quite tough at the moment.
行为	xíngwéi	behaviour, act	在公共场所大声说话是不礼貌的行为。 Talking loudly in public places is impolite.
威胁	wēixié	to threaten; threat	污染威胁着很多动物的生存。 Pollution is threatening the survival of many animals.
穷	qióng	poor	他小时候家里很穷，可是他学习很努力。 His family was poor when he was a child, but he studied very hard.
妇女	fùnǚ	women	三月八日是国际妇女节。 8 March is International Women's Day.
群体	qúntǐ	group (of people)	老年人是一个需要关心的群体。 Older people are a group that needs looking after.
身份	shēnfèn	identity, status	他以记者的身份参加了这次会议。 He attended the meeting as a journalist.
地位	dìwèi	position, status	这一百年来，妇女的地位提高了很多。 Over the last hundred years, women's status has risen a great deal.
个人	gèrén	individual; personal	这只是我的个人看法。 That's just my personal opinion.
集体	jítǐ	collective, group	我们是一个集体，要互相帮助。 We're a team, so we should help each other.
人类	rénlèi	humankind, humanity	保护地球是全人类的责任。 Protecting the Earth is the responsibility of all humanity.
人民	rénmín	the people	我们周末在人民公园见面吧。 Let's meet in People's Park at the weekend.
自由	zìyóu	free; freedom	周末的时间很自由，我想做什么就做什么。 My weekends are free: I do whatever I like.

权	quán	right; power	你有权知道真实的情况。 You have the right to know what really happened.
权利	quánlì	right(s)	每个孩子都有受教育的权利。 Every child has the right to an education.
义务	yìwù	duty; voluntary	权利和义务是分不开的。 Rights and duties go hand in hand.
代	dài	to stand in for; generation	请代我向你父母问好。 Please say hello to your parents for me.
派	pài	to send (someone); school, group	公司派他去南方工作一年。 The company is sending him to work in the south for a year.
改革	gǎigé	to reform; reform	学校改革了考试的方法。 The school has reformed the way it sets exams.

pattern 从……来看: judging by …, seen from …

从 **evidence / point of view** 来看 , **conclusion**

从……来看 means "judging by …, seen from …": the evidence or point of view goes in the middle, the conclusion after the comma. 从数据来看 judging by the figures; 从我个人来看 as I see it. 从……看 without 来 means the same.

从现状来看，这个问题还要很长时间才能解决。 **cóng xiànzhuàng lái kàn zhège wèntí hái yào hěn cháng shíjiān cái néng jiějué** Judging by the current situation, this problem will take a long time to solve.

从整体来看，今年的就业形势还不错。 **cóng zhěngtǐ lái kàn jīnnián de jiùyè xíngshì hái búcuò** Overall, the job market isn't bad this year.

从他的行为来看，他是一个很有责任心的人。 **cóng tā de xíngwéi lái kàn tā shì yí gè hěn yǒu zérèn xīn de rén** Judging by the way he acts, he's a very responsible person.

dialogue starting out on your own

zhao yang 张阿姨，我们在做一个关于创业妇女的节目。从您的经历来看，开店难吗？
zhāng āyí wǒmen zài zuò yí gè guānyú chuàngyè fùnǚ de jiémù cóng nín de jīnglì lái kàn kāi diàn nán ma · Auntie Zhang, we're making a programme about women who start businesses. From your experience, is it hard to open a shop?

ms zhang 难是难，可是我很开心。以前我在公司上班，现在我的身份是这家店的所有人，自由多了。
nán shì nán kěshì wǒ hěn kāixīn yǐqián wǒ zài gōngsī shàngbān xiànzài wǒ de shēnfèn shì zhè jiā diàn de suǒyǒurén zìyóu duō le · Hard, yes, but I'm happy. I used to work for a company; now I'm the owner of this shop, and I'm much freer.

anna 现在像张阿姨这样的群体越来越多了，这是一个新的社会现象。
xiànzài xiàng zhāng āyí zhèyàng de qúntǐ yuè lái yuè duō le zhè shì yí gè xīn de shèhuì xiànxiàng · There are more and more people like Auntie Zhang now. It's a new social trend.

zhao yang 您觉得妇女在社会上的地位有变化吗？
nín juéde fùnǚ zài shèhuì shàng de dìwèi yǒu biànhuà ma · Do you think women's position in society has changed?

ms zhang 变化很大。我母亲那代人小时候，家里都很穷，很多女孩子没有机会上学。现在大家都有受教育的权利。
biànhuà hěn dà wǒ mǔqīn nà dài rén xiǎoshíhou jiā lǐ dōu hěn qióng hěn duō nǚ háizi méiyǒu jīhuì shàngxué xiànzài dàjiā dōu yǒu shòu jiàoyù de quánlì · Very much. When my mother's generation were young, families were poor, and lots of girls never got the chance to go to school. Now everyone has the right to an education.

zhao yang 那您觉得现在的形势怎么样？
nà nín juéde xiànzài de xíngshì zěnmeyàng · And how do you see things now?

ms zhang 机会很多，可是竞争也很激烈。网上的商店对小店是一种威胁。
jīhuì hěn duō kěshì jìngzhēng yě hěn jīliè wǎngshang de shāngdiàn duì xiǎo diàn shì yì zhǒng wēixié · There are lots of opportunities, but the competition is fierce. Online shops are a threat to small ones.

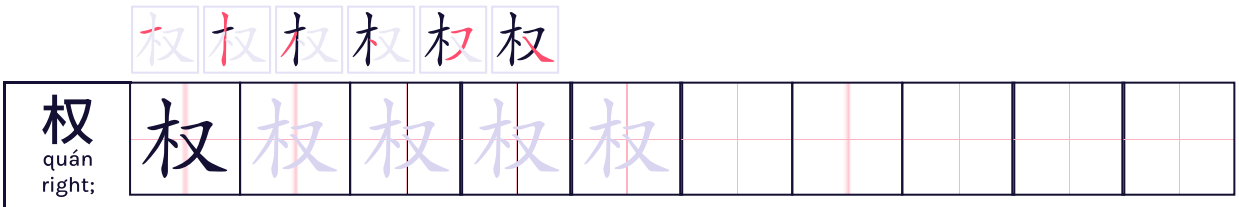
anna 不过张阿姨的茶叶店很有特色，老客人都很支持。
búguò zhāng āyí de cháyè diàn hěn yǒu tèsè lǎo kèrén dōu hěn zhīchí · But Auntie Zhang's tea shop is special, and the regulars really support it.

ms zhang 是啊。开店不只是我个人的事，大家一起帮忙，就像一个集体。
shì a kāi diàn bù zhǐshì wǒ gèrén de shì dàjiā yìqǐ bāngmáng jiù xiàng yí gè jítǐ · Yes. Running a shop isn't just about me; everyone pitches in, like one big team.

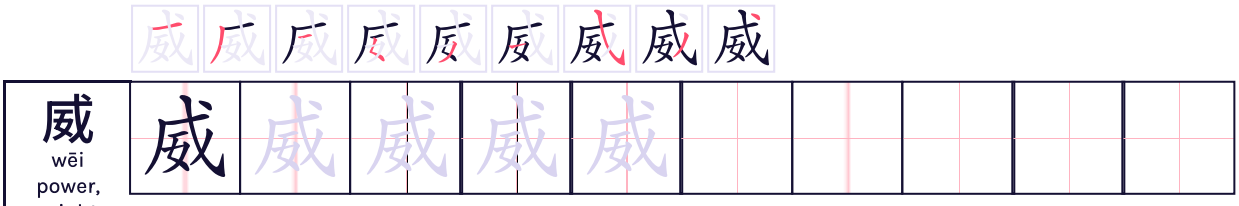
zhao yang 谢谢您！台里派我来做这个节目，就是想让大家了解普通人的现状。
xièxie nín tái lǐ pài wǒ lái zuò zhège jiémù jiùshì xiǎng ràng dàjiā liǎojiě pǔtōng rén de xiànzhuàng · Thank you! The station sent me to make this programme so people can see how ordinary people are doing today.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

权 quán right; power



威 wēi power, might



good to know · 妇女 is formal (国际妇女节 International Women's Day). In daily speech, say 女性 or 女的. 代 is "generation" in 那一代人 (that generation), and "for, on behalf of" in 代我问好 (say hello for me). 所有 "all" also hides in 所有人 suǒyǒurén, "the owner" (这家店的所有人), and in written Chinese it is a verb, "to own": 这些书归学校所有 these books belong to the school.

Trends, rights, roles: you can now join a real conversation about society, and back it up with 从……来看.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 75 organisations

Talk about organisations, rules and volunteering, and say what something is based on with 依据.

From the news to your office handbook, rules and organisations come with their own formal words.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
政府	zhèngfǔ	government	市政府决定在这里修一个公园。 The city government has decided to build a park here.
政治	zhèngzhì	politics	他在大学学的是政治和经济。 He studied politics and economics at university.
主席	zhǔxí	chairman, chairperson	她被选为{wei2-5b}大会主席。 She was elected chair of the conference.
总统	zǒngtǒng	president (of a country)	新闻里说，两国总统明天见面。 The news says the two presidents will meet tomorrow.
制度	zhìdù	system (of rules)	公司有很完善的请假制度。 The company has a very clear system for taking leave.
措施	cuòshī	measure, step	为了减少污染，城市采取了很多措施。 The city has taken many measures to cut pollution.
实施	shíshī	to implement, put into effect	新规定从下个月开始实施。 The new rules come into effect next month.
实行	shíxíng	to put into practice	我们公司实行每周工作五天。 Our company has a five-day working week.
统一	tǒngyī	to unify; unified	学校要求学生穿统一的衣服。 The school asks students to wear the same uniform.
限制	xiànzhì	to limit, restrict; limit	这条路限制车速，最高六十公里。 There's a speed limit on this road: sixty kilometres an hour.
机构	jīgòu	organisation, institution	她在一家研究机构工作。 She works at a research institute.
组织	zǔzhī	to organise; organisation	公司组织大家周末去爬山。 The company is organising a hike for everyone at the weekend.
成立	chénglì	to set up, found	这家公司是2010年成立的。 This company was founded in 2010.
设立	shèlì	to set up, establish	学校设立了一个奖学金。 The school has set up a scholarship.
成员	chéngyuán	member	我们小组有五个成员。 Our group has five members.

代表	dàibiǎo	representative; to represent	我代表公司欢迎大家。 On behalf of the company, I'd like to welcome you all.
大会	dàhuì	conference, general meeting	明天学校要开运动大会。 The school is holding its big sports day tomorrow.
联合	liánhé	to unite; joint	两家公司联合举办了这次活动。 The two companies jointly organised the event.
发起	fāqǐ	to launch, start (an initiative)	这次活动是几个大学生发起的。 This campaign was started by a few university students.
参与	cānyù	to take part in	欢迎大家积极参与。 Everyone is welcome to get involved.
志愿者	zhìyuànzhě	volunteer	周末我在图书馆当志愿者。 At weekends I volunteer at the library.
捐	juān	to donate	我把旧衣服捐给了需要的人。 I gave my old clothes to people who need them.
贡献	gòngxiàn	to contribute; contribution	他为社区作出了很大的贡献。 He has made a big contribution to the community.
依据	yījù	basis; according to	依据公司的规定，每个人每年有十天假。 Under company rules, everyone gets ten days' holiday a year.
为	wéi	as (written)	大家选他为{wei2-5b}代表。 Everyone chose him as their representative.

pattern 依据: on the basis of, in line with

依据 + a rule / fact / result + , what is done

依据 + a rule, law or fact means "on the basis of, in line with": 依据规定 under the rules, 依据调查的结果 based on the survey results. It's formal, the written cousin of 根据 and 按照. It's also a noun: 有依据 well-founded.

依据调查的结果，我们调整了计划。 **yījù diàochá de jiéguǒ wǒmen tiáozhěng le jìhuà** Based on the survey results, we adjusted the plan.

依据新的制度，公司设立了一个新的机构。 **yījù xīn de zhìdù gōngsī shèlì le yí gè xīn de jīgòu** Under the new system, the company has set up a new department.

你这么说有什么依据？ **nǐ zhème shuō yǒu shénme yījù** What are you basing that on?

dialogue books for the mountains

little sister 安娜，我们学校跟一个组织联合发起了一个活动：给山区的孩子捐书。
Ānnà wǒmen xuéxiào gēn yí gè zǔzhī liánhé fāqǐ le yí gè huódòng gěi shānqū de háizi juān shū · Anna, my school and an organisation have started a campaign together: donating books to children in the mountains.

anna 太好了！我能参与吗？
tài hǎo le wǒ néng cānyù ma · Brilliant! Can I join in?

little sister 当然！我们需要很多志愿者。这个组织由几百个成员组成。
dāngrán wǒmen xūyào hěn duō zhìyuànzhě zhège zǔzhī yóu jǐ bǎi gè chéngyuán zǔchéng · Of course! We need lots of volunteers. The organisation has several hundred members.

anna 它是政府的机构吗？
tā shì zhèngfǔ de jīgòu ma · Is it a government body?

professor sun 不是，是一些老师自己成立的。我也是这里的志愿者。
bú shì shì yìxiē lǎoshī zìjǐ chénglì de wǒ yě shì zhèlǐ de zhìyuànzhě · No, some teachers set it up themselves. I volunteer here too.

anna 孙教授，您也在这儿！那捐书有什么限制吗？
Sūnjiàoshòu nín yě zài zhèr nà juān shū yǒu shénme xiànzhì ma · Professor Sun, you're here too! Are there any rules on what books we can give?

professor sun 有。依据组织的规定，书要干净，适合孩子看。
yǒu yījù zǔzhī de guīdìng shū yào gānjìng shìhé háizi kàn · Yes. Under the organisation's rules, the books must be clean and suitable for children.

little sister 我们还要把书统一放在箱子里，写上书名。
wǒmen hái yào bǎ shū tǒngyī fàng zài xiāngzi lǐ xiě shàng shū míng · And we all have to pack the books in boxes the same way, with the titles written on.

professor sun 这些孩子以后可能会成为科学家、作家。你们的贡献很大。
zhèxiē háizi yǐhòu kěnéng huì chéngwéi kēxué jiā zuòjiā nǐmen de gòngxiàn hěn dà · These children might become scientists or writers one day. You're making a big contribution.

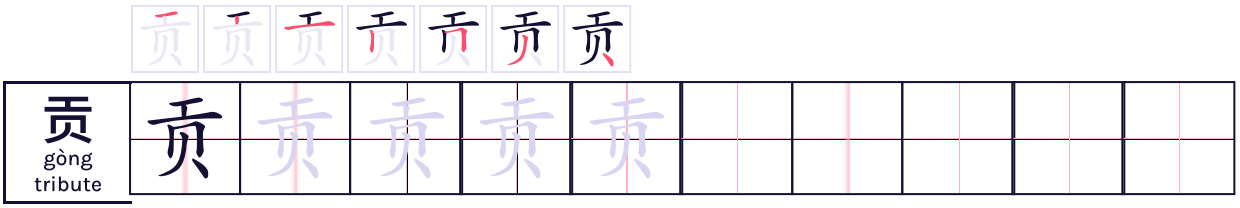
anna 说来说去，教育才是最重要的。
shuō lái shuō qù jiàoyù cái shì zuì zhòngyào de · When all's said and done, education is what matters most.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

政
zhèng
politics, government

府
fǔ
office, residence

织
zhī
to weave



good to know · 根据, 按照 and 依据 overlap: 根据 is the everyday “according to”, 按照 is “following (a rule or plan)”, and 依据 is the most formal. News words come in fixed pairs: 实施措施 introduce measures, 成立组织 found an organisation, 参与活动 take part. 主席 is also simply the chair of a meeting or a club.

Rules, measures, members and volunteers: you can now follow the formal side of Chinese, and take part.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 76 festivals & customs

Chinese HSK 5 in 80 days
unit 13 · society & culture

Talk about Chinese festivals and customs, and say “not B unless A” with 不A不B.

Festivals are when you see Chinese family life at its warmest, and when you’re most likely to be invited in.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
传统	chuántǒng	tradition; traditional	过年是中国人最重要的传统节日。 Chinese New Year is the most important traditional festival for Chinese people.
风俗	fēngsú	custom(s)	每个地方过年的风俗都不太一样。 Every region has its own New Year customs.
除夕	chúxī	New Year’s Eve (lunar)	除夕晚上，一家人在一起吃年夜饭。 On New Year’s Eve the whole family has dinner together.
年夜饭	niányèfàn	New Year’s Eve dinner	我们家的年夜饭一定有饺子。 There are always dumplings at our New Year’s Eve dinner.
压岁钱	yāsuìqián	New Year money (for children)	孩子们最喜欢过年，因为可以拿压岁钱。 Children love New Year best, because they get New Year money.
元旦	Yuándàn	New Year’s Day (1 January)	元旦我们放三天假。 We get three days off for New Year’s Day.
国庆	guóqìng	National Day	国庆节的时候，很多人出去旅游。 Lots of people go travelling at National Day.
纪念	jìniàn	to commemorate; souvenir	这张照片很有纪念意义。 This photo means a lot to us.
纪念日	jìniànrì	anniversary, memorial day	今天是爸爸妈妈的结婚纪念日。 Today is Mum and Dad’s wedding anniversary.
周年	zhōunián	anniversary (… years)	明天是我们公司成立十周年。 Tomorrow is our company’s tenth anniversary.
福	fú	good fortune, blessing	过年的时候，很多人家的门上都贴着“福”字。 At New Year, lots of homes have the character 福 (good fortune) on the door.
龙	lóng	dragon	在中国文化里，龙是好运的象征。 In Chinese culture, the dragon is a symbol of good luck.
生肖	shēngxiào	Chinese zodiac animal	中国有十二个生肖，每年一个。 China has twelve zodiac animals, one for each year.
象征	xiàngzhēng	to symbolise; symbol	红色象征着快乐和好运。 Red symbolises happiness and good luck.
甲	jiǎ	A, first (in a list)	合同上写着：甲方是我们公司。 The contract says: Party A is our company.
乙	yǐ	B, second (in a list)	甲队和乙队的比分是2比2。 The score between Team A and Team B is 2–2.

中华	Zhōnghuá	China (formal, cultural)	龙是中华文化的象征。 The dragon is a symbol of Chinese culture.
中华民族	ZhōnghuáMínzú	the Chinese nation	中华民族有很多传统节日。 The Chinese nation has many traditional festivals.
族	zú	group, “-ers” (suffix)	很多上班族中午都吃外卖。 Lots of office workers get takeaway for lunch.
中外	zhōngwài	China and abroad	这次活动有很多中外游客参加。 Lots of Chinese and foreign tourists took part.
式	shì	style, -style (suffix)	他们的婚礼是中式的，新娘穿红色的衣服。 Their wedding was Chinese-style, and the bride wore red.

pattern 不a不b: not b unless a

不+A 不+B

不A不B ties two negatives into one condition: if A doesn’t happen, B won’t either, so “not B unless A”. 不吃饺子不算过年 it’s not New Year without dumplings; 不到十二点不睡觉 we won’t go to bed until midnight. It’s short, strong and spoken.

这么重要的纪念日，不去不行。 **zhème zhòngyào de jìniànrì bú qù bùxíng** Such an important anniversary: we have to go.

我们说好了，不见到你不走。 **wǒmen shuō hǎo le bú jiàn dào nǐ bù zǒu** We agreed: we won’t leave until we’ve seen you.

作业不写完不能看电视。 **zuòyè bù xiě wán bù néng kàn diànshì** No TV until your homework is done.

dialogue new year’s eve

ms zhang 安娜，今天是除夕，欢迎你来我们家吃年夜饭！
Ānnà jīntiān shì chúxī huānyíng nǐ lái wǒmen jiā chī niányèfàn · Anna, it's New Year's Eve. Welcome to our New Year's Eve dinner!

anna 谢谢张阿姨！这是我第一次在中国家庭过年。茶叶店今天也关门了吗?
xièxie zhāng āyí zhè shì wǒ dì yī cì zài Zhōngguó jiātíng guònián cháyè diàn jīntiān yě guān mén le ma · Thank you, Auntie Zhang! It's my first New Year with a Chinese family. Is the tea shop closed today too?

ms zhang 关了。过年是中国人最重要的传统节日，不回家不行。
guān le guònián shì Zhōngguó rén zuì zhòngyào de chuántǒng jiérì bù huí jiā bùxíng · It is. New Year is the most important traditional festival for Chinese people: you have to be home.

dr li 我们北方的风俗是，不吃饺子不算过年。来，尝尝。
wǒmen běifāng de fēngsú shì bù chī jiǎozi bú suàn guònián lái cháng chang · Up here in the north, it's not New Year without dumplings. Here, try some.

little sister 我们学校的新年晚会分甲、乙两组，我在甲组，表演中式舞蹈。
wǒmen xuéxiào de xīnnián wǎnhuì fēn jiǎ yǐ liǎng zǔ wǒ zài jiǎ zǔ biǎoyǎn zhōng shì wǔdǎo · Our school's New Year show is split into groups A and B. I'm in group A, doing a Chinese dance.

dr li 你好好表演，十二点以后给你压岁钱！今年是龙年，我还给你准备了一个小礼物。
nǐ hǎohǎo biǎoyǎn shíèr diǎn yǐhòu gěi nǐ yāsuìqián jīnnián shì lóng nián wǒ hái gěi nǐ zhǔnbèi le yí gè xiǎo lǐwù · Dance well, and you get your New Year money after midnight! And as it's the year of the dragon, I've got you a little present too.

anna 龙在中华文化里象征着什么?
lóng zài Zhōnghuá wénhuà lǐ xiàngzhēng zhe shénme · What does the dragon stand for in Chinese culture?

xiaoming 好运和力量。龙是中华民族的象征之一。
hǎoyùn hé lìliàng lóng shì Zhōnghuá Mínzú de xiàngzhēng zhī yī · Good luck and strength. The dragon is one of the symbols of the Chinese nation.

anna 那我的生肖是什么？我是2000年出生的。
nà wǒ de shēngxiào shì shénme wǒ shì nián chūshēng de · So what's my zodiac animal? I was born in 2000.

little sister 2000年也是龙年，所以你的生肖也是龙！
nián yě shì lóng nián suǒyǐ nǐ de shēngxiào yě shì lóng · 2000 was a dragon year too, so you're a dragon as well!

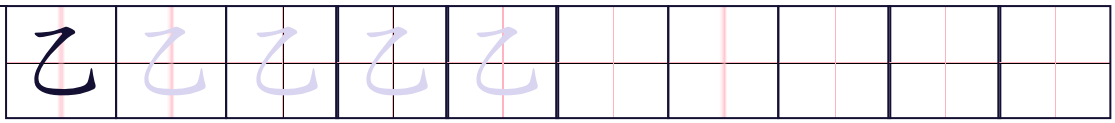
write it trace the grey, then write your own

夕
xī
evening

龙
lóng
dragon

甲
jiǎ
A, first (in a list)

乙

乙 yǐ B, second (in a list)	

good to know · 干 gān is “dry”, and as a noun it’s dried food: 饼干 biscuits, 豆腐干 dried tofu. Chinese New Year is also called the Spring Festival (春节). 元旦 is 1 January, and 国庆 (National Day) is 1 October.

Dumplings, red envelopes, a dragon on the door: you’re ready for your first Chinese New Year.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 77 history & heritage

Talk about history, legends and traditional arts at a museum, with 依据 and X什么X back for review.

History is everywhere in China: in the streets, in sayings, and in the stories everyone grows up with.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
古	gǔ	ancient, old	这座古城有两千多年的历史。 This ancient city is over two thousand years old.
古代	gǔdài	ancient times	中国古代有很多伟大的发明。 Ancient China produced many great inventions.
古老	gǔlǎo	ancient, age-old	这是一个古老的传说。 This is an age-old legend.
近代	jìndài	modern times (c. 1840–1919)	这本书讲的是中国近代的历史。 This book is about China's modern history.
时代	shídài	era, times	我们生活在一个网络时代。 We live in the internet age.
时期	shíqī	period (of time)	大学时期是我最快乐的时候。 My university years were the happiest time of my life.
悠久	yōujiǔ	long-standing, age-old	中国有着悠久的历史。 China has a long history.
经典	jīngdiǎn	classic	这部电影是一部经典作品。 This film is a classic.
流传	liúchuán	to spread, be handed down	这个故事已经流传了几千年。 This story has been handed down for thousands of years.
传说	chuánshuō	legend; it is said	传说月亮上住着一位美丽的姑娘。 Legend has it that a beautiful young woman lives on the moon.
神话	shénhuà	myth	孩子们都喜欢听神话故事。 Children all love listening to myths.
奇迹	qíjì	miracle, wonder	长城是人类历史上的一个奇迹。 The Great Wall is one of the wonders of human history.
人物	rénwù	figure, character	他是中国历史上一位重要的人物。 He is an important figure in Chinese history.
敌人	dírén	enemy	古代的人修长城，是为了防止敌人进来。 People in ancient times built the Great Wall to keep enemies out.
博物馆	bówùguǎn	museum	周末我们去博物馆参观吧。 Let's go to the museum at the weekend.
工艺	gōngyì	craft, craftsmanship	这个杯子的工艺非常讲究。 This cup is very finely crafted.

国画	guóhuà	traditional Chinese painting	爷爷退休以后开始学国画。 Grandpa started learning Chinese painting after he retired.
书法	shūfǎ	calligraphy	她的书法写得非常漂亮。 Her calligraphy is beautiful.
治	zhì	to govern; to treat, cure	这种病能治好吗? Can this illness be cured?

pattern review: 依据 and x什么x

依据 **a source** **·X什么X**

No new pattern today: two from this unit come back. 依据 + a source says what something is based on: 依据古书的记载 according to ancient records. X什么X tells someone not to fuss: 急什么急 what's the rush?

依据古书的记载，这座桥已经有一千多年了。 **yījù gǔ shū de jìzǎi zhè zuò qiáo yǐjīng yǒu yìqiān duō nián le** According to ancient records, this bridge is over a thousand years old.

急什么急？博物馆五点才关门。 **jí shénme jí bówùguǎn wǔ diǎn cái guān mén** What's the rush? The museum doesn't close until five.

依据这些文字记载，我们可以了解古代人的生活。 **yījù zhèxiē wénzì jìzǎi wǒmen kěyǐ liǎojiě gǔdài rén de shēnghuó** Based on these written records, we can learn how people lived in ancient times.

dialogue a tour of the museum

professor sun 欢迎来博物馆！今天我给大家讲讲中国古代的历史。
huānyíng lái bówùguǎn jīntiān wǒ gěi dàjiā jiǎng jiang Zhōngguó gǔdài de lìshǐ · Welcome to the museum! Today I'll tell you about ancient Chinese history.

anna 孙教授，这幅画好美啊！是国画吗？
Sūnjiàoshòu zhè fú huà hǎo měi a shì guóhuà ma · Professor Sun, this painting is beautiful! Is it a traditional Chinese painting?

professor sun 对，这是一千年前的经典作品。旁边的是书法。
duì zhè shì yìqiān nián qián de jīngdiǎn zuòpǐn pángbiān de shì shūfǎ · Yes, it's a classic from a thousand years ago. Next to it is some calligraphy.

zhao yang 这些字写得真漂亮。上面写的是什么？
zhèxiē zì xiě de zhēn piàoliang shàngmiàn xiě de shì shénme · The characters are beautifully written. What do they say?

professor sun 是一个古老的传说：一位古代的人物带着大家治水，用了十三年才成功。
shì yí gè gǔlǎo de chuánshuō yí wèi gǔdài de rénwù dài zhe dàjiā zhì shuǐ yòng le shísān nián cái chénggōng · It's an ancient legend: a hero of old led the people in taming the floods, and it took him thirteen years.

anna 这是神话，还是真的历史？
zhè shì shénhuà háishi zhēn de lìshǐ · Is that a myth or real history?

professor sun 很难说。这个故事流传了几千年，不同的时期有不同的说法。
hěn nán shuō zhège gùshi liúchuán le jǐ qiān nián bù tóng de shíqī yǒu bù tóng de shuōfǎ · It's hard to say. The story has been handed down for thousands of years, and each period told it differently.

zhao yang 这边是近代的东西吗？这些工艺品真讲究。
zhèbiān shì jìndài de dōngxi ma zhèxiē gōngyì pǐn zhēn jiǎngjiu · Is this section modern history? These crafts are so finely made.

professor sun 对。从古代到近代，每个时代都有自己的特色。
duì cóng gǔdài dào jìndài měi gè shídài dōu yǒu zìjǐ de tèsè · Yes. From ancient to modern times, every era has its own character.

anna 我觉得长城真是人类的奇迹。古代的人为了防止敌人进来，修了这么长的墙。
wǒ juéde Chángchéng zhēn shì rénlèi de qíjì gǔdài de rén wèile fángzhǐ dírén jìnlái xiū le zhème cháng de qiáng · I think the Great Wall really is one of humanity's wonders. People long ago built such a long wall to keep enemies out.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

华
huá
splendid; China

古
gǔ
ancient, old

敌
dí
enemy

good to know · 古 vs 老: 古 is ancient (古代, 古书, 古城); 老 is old in everyday life (老房子, 老朋友). 近代 in Chinese history usually means 1840 to 1919; 现代 is after that; 当代 is today. 刻 is a measure word (一刻钟 a quarter of an hour), and also a verb, “to carve, engrave”: 石头上刻着字 characters carved in stone.

Legends, calligraphy, the Great Wall: you can now walk through a museum in Chinese and tell the stories yourself.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 78 mission: a trip through time

Chinese HSK 5 in 80 days
unit 13 · society & culture

Follow a journey through Beijing's past, present and future, and look back on everything you've learnt in this course.

This is the last learning day: city, society, culture and history meet the whole course in one story.

chapter 1 the old city

zhao yang 各位观众，今天我们跟安娜一起来一次“时间旅行”。第一站是一条古老的胡同。
gèwèi guānzhòng jīntiān wǒmen gēn Ānnà yìqǐ lái yí cì shíjiān lǚxíng dì yī zhàn shì yì tiáo gǔlǎo de hútòng · Good evening, viewers. Today we’re taking a “trip through time” with Anna. First stop: an ancient hutong.

professor sun 这条胡同有着六百多年的历史，很多老建筑都保留了下来。
zhè tiáo hútòng yǒuzhe liùbǎi duō nián de lìshǐ hěn duō lǎo jiànzhù dōu bǎoliú le xialai · This hutong has more than six hundred years of history, and many of the old buildings have survived.

professor sun 这几年城市在搞现代化，建设得很快，修建了很多路，也建造了很多新的建筑。
zhè jǐ nián chéngshì zài gǎo xiàndàihuà jiànshè de hěn kuài xiūjiàn le hěn duō lù yě jiànzào le hěn duō xīn de jiànzhù · In recent years the city has been modernising fast: lots of roads have been built, and lots of new buildings too.

zhao yang 不过政府提倡保留老胡同。这条胡同去年还建了一个小博物馆，面向所有市民开放。
búguò zhèngfǔ tíchàng bǎoliú lǎo hútòng zhè tiáo hútòng qùnián hái jiàn le yí gè xiǎo bówùguǎn miànxiàng suǒyǒu shìmín kāifàng · But the government encourages keeping the old hutongs. Last year this one even got a little museum, open to all residents.

anna 我刚来北京的时候，就住在这样的胡同里。没想到这么多年过去了，它几乎没变。
wǒ gāng lái Běijīng de shíhou jiù zhù zài zhèyàng de hútòng lǐ méi xiǎng dào zhème duō nián guòqù le tā jīhū méi biàn · When I first came to Beijing, I lived in a hutong like this. I never thought it would barely change after all these years.

professor sun 从这些墙来看，这里在近代也修过好几次。
cóng zhèxiē qiáng lái kàn zhèlǐ zài jìndài yě xiū guo hǎo jǐ cì · Judging by these walls, it was repaired several times in modern times too.

anna 胡同虽然窄，可是邻居之间特别亲切。
hútòng suīrán zhǎi kěshì línjū zhījiān tèbié qīnqiè · The hutongs may be narrow, but neighbours are especially close.

professor sun 胡同里住着不同的群体，有老人，也有年轻人。改革以后，人民的生活好了很多，以前很多人家里很穷。
hútòng lǐ zhù zhe bù tóng de qúntǐ yǒu lǎorén yě yǒu niánqīng rén gǎigé yǐhòu rénmín de shēnghuó hǎo le hěn duō yǐqián hěn duō rén jiā lǐ hěn qióng · All kinds of people live in the hutongs, old and young. Since the reforms, people’s lives have got much better: many families used to be poor.

anna 我觉得这是一个很好的现象：大家把胡同当成一个集体，一起照顾老人。这里的规则也很有意思：不打招呼不进门。
wǒ juéde zhè shì yí gè hěn hǎo de xiànxiàng dàjiā bǎ hútòng dàngchéng yí gè jítǐ yìqǐ zhàogù lǎorén zhèlǐ de guīzé yě hěn yǒu yìsi bù dǎ zhāohu bú jìn mén · I think it’s a lovely thing: people treat the hutong as one community and look after the old folk together. The rules here are fun too: you don’t go in without saying hello.

professor sun 老房子的结构很特别，跟现代的大楼一起构成了这座城市。可是这里人口很多，设施不够，老百姓也希望有更多休闲的场所。
lǎo fángzi de jiégòu hěn tèbié gēn xiàndài de dà lóu yìqǐ gòuchéng le zhè zuò chéngshì kěshì zhèlǐ rénkǒu hěn duō shèshī búgòu lǎobǎixìng yě xīwàng yǒu gèng duō xiūxián de chǎngsuǒ · The old houses are built in a special way, and together with the modern towers they make up the city. But there are a lot of people here and not enough facilities, and ordinary people want more places to relax too.

zhao yang 从现实来看，新和旧都要有，这样对大家才公平。每个人都有选择自己生活的自由和权利。
cóng xiànshí lái kàn xīn hé jiù dōu yào yǒu zhèyàng duì dàjiā cái gōngpíng měi gè rén dōu yǒu xuǎnzé zìjǐ shēnghuó de zìyóu hé quánlì · Looking at reality, we need both new and old: that’s the only fair way for everyone. Everyone has the freedom and the right to choose how they live.

zhao yang 电视台派我来拍胡同的现状，为的是让大家了解老百姓的生活。
diànshìtái pài wǒ lái pāi hútòng de xiànzhuàng wèi de shì ràng dàjiā liǎojiě lǎobǎixìng de shēnghuó · The station sent me to film how the hutongs are now, so people can see how ordinary folk live.

professor sun 你看那个小店，它的所有人是一位阿姨，在这儿开了三十年店。她说保护胡同是每个人的义务，不只是个人的事。

nǐ kàn nàge xiǎo diàn tā de suǒyǒurén shì yí wèi āyí zài zhèr kāi le sānshí nián diàn tā shuō bǎohù hútòng shì měi gè rén de yìwù bù zhǐshì gèrén de shì · Look at that little shop: its owner is a woman who has run it here for thirty years. She says protecting the hutong is everyone's duty, not just a personal matter.

anna 她不只开店，也是这里的志愿者，在大家心里地位很高。孙教授，请代我向她问好！

tā bù zhǐ kāi diàn yě shì zhèlǐ de zhìyuànzhě zài dàjiā xīnlǐ dìwèi hěn gāo Sūnjiàoshòu qǐng dài wǒ xiàng tā wèn hǎo · She doesn't just run the shop: she volunteers here too, and everyone looks up to her. Professor Sun, please say hello to her for me!

zhao yang 现在的形势不一样了，大商场对小店是一种威胁。不过乱扔垃圾这样的行为，在这里很少见。

xiànzài de xíngshì bù yíyàng le dà shāngchǎng duì xiǎo diàn shì yì zhǒng wēixié búguò luàn rēng lājī zhèyàng de xíngwéi zài zhèlǐ hěn shǎojiàn · Things are different now: big shopping centres are a threat to small shops. But behaviour like dropping litter is rare here.

zhao yang 不管怎样说，这是老北京最宝贵的东西。

bùguǎn zěnyàng shuō zhè shì lǎo Běijīng zuì bǎoguì de dōngxi · Whatever anyone says, this is old Beijing's greatest treasure.

zhao yang 好，我们下午两点在博物馆门口集合。今天是我们节目的一件大事！

hǎo wǒmen xiàwǔ liǎng diǎn zài bówùguǎn ménkǒu jíhé jīntiān shì wǒmen jiémù de yí jiàn dàshì · Right, we meet at the museum entrance at two this afternoon. Today is a big day for our programme!

chapter 2 the museum

professor sun 这个博物馆里有很多古代的国画和工艺品，有的已经有一千年了。你看，这块石头上刻着几个古字。依据古书的记载，它是三千年前的。
zhège bówùguǎn lǐ yǒu hěn duō gǔdài de guóhuà hé gōngyì pǐn yǒude yǐjīng yǒu yìqiān nián le nǐ kàn zhè kuài shítou shàng kè zhe jǐ gè gǔ zì yījù gǔ shū de jìzǎi tā shì sānqiān nián qián de · This museum has lots of ancient Chinese paintings and crafts, some a thousand years old. Look, there are some ancient characters carved on this stone. According to old records, it's three thousand years old.

zhao yang 这幅画上画的是一条龙，是一个神话吗?
zhè fú huà shàng huà de shì yì tiáo lóng shì yí gè shénhuà ma · This painting shows a dragon. Is it a myth?

professor sun 是一个传说，流传了很久。在古代的一个时期，人们相信龙能治水。中国的历史真悠久。
shì yí gè chuánshuō liúchuán le hěn jiǔ zài gǔdài de yí gè shíqī rénmen xiāngxìn lóng néng zhì shuǐ Zhōngguó de lìshǐ zhēn yōujiǔ · It's a legend that has been handed down for a very long time. At one time in ancient history, people believed dragons could tame floods. China's history is so long.

anna 长城也是人类的奇迹。古代的人修长城，是为了防止敌人进来。这些经典作品里的每个人物都画得清清楚楚。
Chángchéng yě shì rénlèi de qíjì gǔdài de rén xiū Chángchéng shì wèile fángzhǐ dírén jìnlái zhèxiē jīngdiǎn zuòpǐn lǐ de měi gè rénwù dōu huà de qīngqīngchuchu · The Great Wall is one of humanity's wonders too. The people of old built it to keep enemies out. And every figure in these classic works is painted so clearly.

professor sun 安娜，你试试写一个“福”字吧。书法急不得，慢慢来。
Ānnà nǐ shì shi xiě yí gè fú zì ba shūfǎ jí bu de màn màn lái · Anna, have a go at writing the character 福. You can't rush calligraphy; take your time.

anna 我写得不太好，像一条弯弯的蛇!
wǒ xiě de bú tài hǎo xiàng yì tiáo wān wān de shé · It's not very good. It looks like a wiggly snake!

zhao yang 怕什么怕？我觉得很有特色。
pà shénme pà wǒ juéde hěn yǒu tèsè · Don't worry! I think it's got real character.

professor sun 写来写去，最重要的还是心里的感觉。
xiě lái xiě qù zuì zhòngyào de háishi xīnlǐ de gǎnjué · However much you practise, what matters most is the feeling behind it.

anna 这个字象征着好运，我要把它送给王老师。
zhège zì xiàngzhēng zhe hǎoyùn wǒ yào bǎ tā sòng gěi Wánglǎoshī · This character stands for good luck. I'm going to give it to Teacher Wang.

professor sun 按照传统，“福”字有时候要倒着贴，意思是“福到了”。
ànzhào chuántǒng fú zì yǒu shíhou yào dǎo zhe tiē yìsi shì fú dào le · By tradition, 福 is sometimes hung upside down: “upside down” sounds like “arrived”, so it means “good fortune has arrived”.

chapter 3 the future

xiaoming 欢迎来到“未来”！这是我们公司研发的机器人。
huānyíng lái dào wèilái zhè shì wǒmen gōngsī yánfā de jīqìrén · Welcome to “the future”! This is a robot our company has developed.

xiaoming 我们公司跟一个志愿者组织联合发起了一个活动：给老人送机器人。这个组织是几个工程师成立的，现在有两百多个成员，我也参与了。
wǒmen gōngsī gēn yí gè zhìyuànzhě zǔzhī liánhé fāqǐ le yí gè huódòng gěi lǎorén sòng jīqìrén zhège zǔzhī shì jǐ gè gōngchéngshī chénglì de xiànzài yǒu liǎngbǎi duō gè chéngyuán wǒ yě cānyù le · Our company and a volunteer organisation have launched a campaign together: robots for older people. The organisation was set up by a few engineers and now has over two hundred members. I’ve joined in too.

anna 这是很大的贡献！我也想捐一点儿钱。你们的机构有什么制度吗？
zhè shì hěn dà de gòngxiàn wǒ yě xiǎng juān yìdiǎnr qián nǐmen de jīgòu yǒu shénme zhìdù ma · That’s a big contribution! I’d like to donate a little money too. Does your organisation have rules?

xiaoming 有。依据规定，每个机器人都要先测试，统一管理。我们还实施了很多安全措施，比如限制它的速度，每个月实行一次检查。
yǒu yījù guīdìng měi gè jīqìrén dōu yào xiān cèshì tǒngyī guǎnlǐ wǒmen hái shíshī le hěn duō ānquán cuòshī bǐrú xiànzhì tā de sùdù měi gè yuè shíxíng yí cì jiǎnchá · Yes. Under the rules, every robot has to be tested first, and they’re all managed the same way. We’ve also brought in lots of safety measures, like limiting its speed and doing a check every month.

zhao yang 下个月的志愿者大会上，你会发言吗？
xià gè yuè de zhìyuànzhě dàhuì shàng nǐ huì fāyán ma · Will you speak at next month’s volunteers’ conference?

xiaoming 会。我被选为代表了，还要把这个活动介绍给大会的主席。
huì wǒ bèi xuǎn wéi dàibiǎo le hái yào bǎ zhège huódòng jièshào gěi dàhuì de zhǔxí · Yes: I’ve been chosen as a representative, and I’ll present the campaign to the chair of the conference.

zhao yang 它能做什么？
tā néng zuò shénme · What can it do?

xiaoming 它能听懂中文，还能帮老人买菜，提醒他们按时吃药。
tā néng tīng dǒng Zhōngwén hái néng bāng lǎorén mǎi cài tíxǐng tāmen ànshí chī yào · It understands Chinese, and it can shop for older people and remind them to take their medicine on time.

anna 从古代的书法到今天的人工智能，这座城市的变化简直让人不敢相信。
cóng gǔdài de shūfǎ dào jīntiān de réngōng zhìnéng zhè zuò chéngshì de biànhuà jiǎnzhí ràng rén bù gǎn xiāngxìn · From ancient calligraphy to today’s AI: the way this city has changed is just unbelievable.

xiaoming 毕竟我们生活在一个变化很快的时代。
bìjìng wǒmen shēnghuó zài yí gè biànhuà hěn kuài de shídài · After all, we live in an age of rapid change.

zhao yang 用不着担心老传统会消失，新的东西和老的东西可以一起存在。
yòngbuzháo dānxīn lǎo chuántǒng huì xiāoshī xīn de dōngxi hé lǎo de dōngxi kěyǐ yìqǐ cúnzài · There’s no need to worry that old traditions will disappear. The new and the old can exist side by side.

chapter 4 the last class

teacher wang 安娜，今天是我们这个学期的最后一节课。
Ānnà jīntiān shì wǒmen zhège xuéqī de zuìhòu yì jié kè · Anna, today is the last lesson of our term.

anna 时间过得真快！刚开始我连新闻都看不懂，现在居然能聊书法、聊历史了。
shíjiān guò de zhēn kuài gāng kāishǐ wǒ lián xīnwén dōu kàn bu dǒng xiànzài jūrán néng liáo shūfǎ liáo lìshǐ le · Time has flown! At the start I couldn't even understand the news, and now I can actually talk about calligraphy and history.

teacher wang 凭你的努力，考试一定没问题。
píng nǐ de nǔlì kǎoshì yídìng méi wèntí · With all the work you've put in, the exam will be no problem.

ms zhang 来，大家喝茶！这是我店里最好的茶。
lái dàjiā hē chá zhè shì wǒ diàn lǐ zuìhǎo de chá · Come on, everyone, have some tea! It's the best in my shop.

ms zhang 今天我做了中式点心，也有西式的蛋糕，还有我自己做的豆腐干。
jīntiān wǒ zuò le zhōng shì diǎnxin yě yǒu xī shì de dàngāo hái yǒu wǒ zìjǐ zuò de dòufu gān · Today I've made Chinese pastries, a Western-style cake too, and some dried tofu of my own.

ms zhang 安娜，还记得你第一次在我们家吃年夜饭吗？除夕那天你拿到了压岁钱，高兴得不得了。
Ānnà hái jìde nǐ dì yī cì zài wǒmen jiā chī niányèfàn ma chúxī nà tiān nǐ ná dào le yāsuìqián gāoxìng de bùdéliǎo · Anna, do you remember your first New Year's Eve dinner with us? You got New Year money that night and were over the moon.

anna 当然记得！我的生肖是龙，李医生说龙是中华民族的象征之一。明年元旦是我来北京十周年的纪念日！
dāngrán jìde wǒ de shēngxiào shì lóng Lǐyīshēng shuō lóng shì Zhōnghuá Mínzú de xiàngzhēng zhī yī míngnián Yuándàn shì wǒ lái Běijīng shí zhōunián de jìniànrì · Of course! My zodiac animal is the dragon, and Dr Li said the dragon is one of the symbols of the Chinese nation. Next New Year's Day is the tenth anniversary of my coming to Beijing!

teacher wang 我们这个班也是中外学生在一起，甲班、乙班的同学今天都来了。下个月国庆，我们还要开一个纪念晚会。
wǒmen zhège bān yě shì zhōngwài xuéshēng zài yìqǐ jiǎ bān yǐ bān de tóngxué jīntiān dōu lái le xià gè yuè guóqìng wǒmen hái yào kāi yí gè jìniàn wǎnhuì · Our class mixes Chinese and foreign students too: people from class A and class B are all here today. Next month, for National Day, we're having a party to celebrate.

xiaoming 我们这些上班族也要参加！
wǒmen zhèxiē shàngbān zú yě yào cānjiā · We office workers are coming too!

xiaoming 闲着也是闲着，我们来说说下一个计划吧！
xián zhe yě shì xián zhe wǒmen lái shuō shuo xià yí gè jìhuà ba · Well, since we're all here, let's talk about what's next!

anna 我的计划是继续学下去！不学不行啊。
wǒ de jìhuà shì jìxù xué xiaqu bù xué bùxíng a · My plan is to keep on learning! I can't stop now.

teacher wang 说得好！学习就是这样：没有坚持，就没有进步。
shuō de hǎo xuéxí jiùshì zhèyàng méiyǒu jiānchí jiù méiyǒu jìnbù · Well said! That's what learning is: without perseverance, there's no progress.

chapter 5 looking back

anna 王老师，我写了一篇小作文，我读给大家听：
Wánglǎoshī wǒ xiě le yì piān xiǎo zuòwén wǒ dú gěi dàjiā tīng · Teacher Wang, I've written a little essay. Let me read it to everyone:

anna “我来中国已经很多年了。刚开始，我连银行的手续都办不好，闹钟一响便关了，还常常迷路。后来，我有了邻居、朋友和同事，在夜市吃过臭豆腐，在山区躲过暴雨，还看着小明的妹妹一天天成长。不管怎样说，学汉语改变了我的生活。从我的经历来看，学语言不是学会了词汇就完了，还要学一种新的思维。没有大家的帮助，就没有今天的我。”
wǒ lái Zhōngguó yǐjīng hěn duō nián le gāng kāishǐ wǒ lián yínháng de shǒuxù dōu bàn bu hǎo nàozhōng yì xiǎng biàn guān le hái chángcháng mílù hòulái wǒ yǒu le línjū péngyou hé tóngshì zài yèshì chī guo chòu dòufu zài shānqū duǒ guo bàoyǔ hái kàn zhe Xiǎomíng de mèimei yì tiān tiān chéngzhǎng bùguǎn zěnyàng shuō xué Hànyǔ gǎibiàn le wǒ de shēnghuó cóng wǒ de jīnglì lái kàn xué yǔyán bú shì xuéhuì le cíhuì jiù wán le hái yào xué yì zhǒng xīn de sīwéi méiyǒu dàjiā de bāngzhù jiù méiyǒu jīntiān de wǒ · “I've been in China for many years now. At first I couldn't even manage the paperwork at the bank, I switched my alarm off the moment it rang, and I was always getting lost. Then I found neighbours, friends and colleagues; I ate stinky tofu at the night market, sheltered from a storm in the mountains, and watched Xiaoming's sister grow up day by day. Whatever anyone says, learning Chinese has changed my life. From my experience, learning a language isn't over once you've learnt the words: you also learn a new way of thinking. Without all of you, I wouldn't be who I am today.”

teacher wang 写得真好！你把这么多年的事讲得清清楚楚。
xiě de zhēn hǎo nǐ bǎ zhème duō nián de shì jiǎng de qīngqīngchuchu · Beautifully written! You've told the story of all these years crystal-clear.

professor sun 你曾经说过，汉语极其难学。现在呢？
nǐ céngjīng shuō guo Hànyǔ jíqí nán xué xiànzài ne · You once said Chinese was extremely hard to learn. And now?

anna 毕竟学了这么多年，现在我觉得它很有意思！
bìjìng xué le zhème duō nián xiànzài wǒ juéde tā hěn yǒu yìsi · After all these years of learning, now I find it really interesting!

zhao yang 我要把这篇作文放进我的节目，标题就叫《一个外国人的中国生活》。
wǒ yào bǎ zhè piān zuòwén fàng jìn wǒ de jiémù biāotí jiù jiào yí gè wàiguó rén de Zhōngguó shēnghuó · I'm putting this essay in my programme, with the title “A foreigner's life in China”.

xiaoming 安娜，你还记得我们的第一个周一吗？你的闹钟居然没响！那天我们还捡到了一个钱包。
Ānnà nǐ hái jìde wǒmen de dì yī gè zhōu yī ma nǐ de nàozhōng jūrán méi xiǎng nà tiān wǒmen hái jiǎn dào le yí gè qián bāo · Anna, do you remember our first Monday? Your alarm didn't go off! And we found a wallet that day.

little sister 你第一次来我们小区的晚会，还给大家做了英国菜！
nǐ dì yī cì lái wǒmen xiǎoqū de wǎnhuì hái gěi dàjiā zuò le Yīngguó cài · And at your first party on the estate, you made everyone a British dish!

teacher wang 学习就是这样：再难也要坚持。哪怕只有一点儿进步，也值得高兴。
xuéxí jiùshì zhèyàng zài nán yě yào jiānchí nǎpà zhǐyǒu yìdiǎnr jìnbù yě zhídé gāoxìng · That's what learning is: however hard it gets, keep going. Even a little progress is worth celebrating.

anna 谢谢大家！我们约定好：明年还在这儿喝茶，不来不行！
xièxie dàjiā wǒmen yuēdìng hǎo míngnián hái zài zhèr hē chá bù lái bùxíng · Thank you, everyone! It's a deal: next year we drink tea here again, and nobody gets out of it!

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