wishyou.today learning

day 7 a new flat

Chinese HSK 5 in 80 days
unit 2 · home & neighbours

Talk about a flat: rooms, rent, repairs, the agent and the property office, and say what is written or hung on something.

Finding and settling into a flat is one of the biggest jobs in a new city, and every notice on the door matters.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
房屋	fángwū	houses, buildings (formal)	这|一带{==this area, around here}的房屋都是二十年前盖的。 The buildings round here all went up twenty years ago.
公寓	gōngyù	flat, apartment (building)	我住的公寓离地铁站很近。 My apartment is very close to the underground station.
住房	zhùfáng	housing	大城市的住房问题越来越受到关注。 Housing in big cities is getting more and more attention.
住宿	zhùsù	to stay (overnight); accommodation	这次旅行的住宿我已经安排好了。 I've already sorted out where we're staying on this trip.
租金	zūjīn	rent	这个房子的租金每个月五千块。 The rent for this flat is 5,000 yuan a month.
物业	wùyè	property management (company)	电梯坏了，我已经给物业打了电话。 The lift's broken. I've already called the property office.
单元	dānyuán	unit; entrance (of a building)	我家在三号楼二单元十二层。 We live in Building 3, Entrance 2, on the 12th floor.
社区	shèqū	community, neighbourhood	我们社区周末有很多活动。 Our neighbourhood has lots of activities at the weekend.
居住	jūzhù	to live, reside (formal)	这个小区居住着两千多人。 More than two thousand people live on this estate.
居民	jūmín	residents	很多居民都参加了社区的会{hui4-3}。 Lots of residents came to the community meeting.
卧室	wòshì	bedroom	这个房子有两个卧室和一个厨房。 This flat has two bedrooms and a kitchen.
书房	shūfáng	study (room)	我想把小房间改为{wei2}书房。 I want to turn the small room into a study.
阳台	yángtái	balcony	我喜欢在阳台上喝茶看书。 I like drinking tea and reading on the balcony.
窗台	chuāngtái	windowsill	窗台上放着几个花瓶。 There are a few vases on the windowsill.

台阶	táijiē	steps (outside a building)	下雨了，台阶上都是水，小心一点儿。 It's raining and the steps are all wet. Be careful.
墙	qiáng	wall	我想给这面墙换个颜色。 I'd like to paint this wall a different colour.
装修	zhuāngxiū	to renovate, do up (a home)	楼上正在装修，每天都不安静。 The flat upstairs is being done up, and it's never quiet.
装饰	zhuāngshì	to decorate; decoration	她用很多照片装饰了自己的房间。 She decorated her room with lots of photos.
中介	zhōngjiè	agent, agency (estate agent)	我是通过中介找到这个房子的。 I found this flat through an agent.
舒适	shūshì	comfortable, cosy	房间不大，但是很舒适。 The room isn't big, but it's very comfortable.
安装	ānzhuāng	to install, fit	师傅明天上午来安装空调。 The fitter is coming tomorrow morning to install the air conditioner.
设备	shèbèi	equipment, facilities	这个健身房的设备都是新的。 All the equipment in this gym is new.
电器	diànqì	electrical appliance	出门以前，记得关好所有|的电器。 Before you go out, remember to switch off all the appliances.
家电	jiādiàn	household appliances	新房子里的家电都是房东买的。 The landlord bought all the appliances in the new flat.
维修	wéixiū	to repair, maintain	洗衣机坏了，得{dei3}找人来维修。 The washing machine's broken. We need someone to repair it.

pattern verb + 有: written on, stuck on, hung on

place + 上 | 写 · 贴 · 挂 | 有 | thing

To say what is written, stuck or hung on something, put 有 after the verb: 信封上写有地址. It means the same as 写着, but sounds more written, so you'll meet it on notices, in descriptions and in stories.

信封上写有我的住址和电话。 **xìnfēng shàng xiě yǒu wǒ de zhùzhǐ hé diànhuà** My address and phone number are written on the envelope.

这面墙上挂有很多老照片。 **zhè miàn qiáng shàng guà yǒu hěn duō lǎo zhàopiàn** There are lots of old photos hanging on this wall.

每个单元门口都贴有社区的通知。 **měi gè dānyuán ménkǒu dōu tiē yǒu shèqū de tōngzhī** There's a community notice at the door of every entrance.

dialogue anna's new flat

xiaoming 这个公寓真不错！卧室、书房都有，还有一个大阳台。
zhège gōngyù zhēn búcuò wòshì shūfáng dōu yǒu hái yǒu yí gè dà yángtái · This flat is great! A bedroom, a study and a big balcony too.

anna 是啊，我在网上看了一个月，最后是通过中介找到的。
shì a wǒ zài wǎngshang kàn le yí gè yuè zuìhòu shì tōngguò zhōngjiè zhǎo dào de · I know. I looked online for a month and found it through an agent in the end.

xiaoming 租金贵不贵?
zūjīn guì bu guì · Is the rent expensive?

anna 一个月五千，押金也交了。房子刚装修过，家电也都是新的。
yí gè yuè wǔqiān yājīn yě jiāo le fángzi gāng zhuāngxiū guo jiādiàn yě dōu shì xīn de · Five thousand a month, and I've paid the deposit. It's just been done up, and the appliances are all new.

xiaoming 那你简直太幸福了！这个社区住的大部分是年轻人吧?
nà nǐ jiǎnzhí tài xìngfú le zhège shèqū zhù de dà bùfen shì niánqīng rén ba · You're so lucky! Most people on this estate are young, right?

anna 对。你看，门上贴有物业的电话，万一设备坏了，随时可以找他们维修。
duì nǐ kàn mén shàng tiē yǒu wùyè de diànhuà wànyī shèbèi huài le suíshí kěyǐ zhǎo tāmen wéixiū · Yes. Look, the property office's number is on the door. If anything breaks, I can call them any time to fix it.

xiaoming 窗台上还放着几个花瓶，是你自己装饰的吗?
chuāngtái shàng hái fàng zhe jǐ gè huā píng shì nǐ zìjǐ zhuāngshì de ma · There are some vases on the windowsill too. Did you decorate it yourself?

anna 不是，是房东留下的。不过墙上什么都没有，我想挂几张照片。
bú shì shì fángdōng liúxia de búguò qiáng shàng shénme dōu méiyǒu wǒ xiǎng guà jǐ zhāng zhàopiàn · No, the landlord left them. But the walls are bare, so I want to hang a few photos.

xiaoming 好主意。我再帮你安装一个灯吧，书房不太亮。
hǎo zhǔyi wǒ zài bāng nǐ ānzhuāng yí gè dēng ba shūfáng bú tài liàng · Good idea. And I'll put in another light for you. The study is a bit dark.

anna 谢谢！住在这儿一定很舒适。
xièxie zhù zài zhèr yídìng hěn shūshì · Thanks! It's going to be so comfortable living here.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

宿
sù
to stay overnight

设
shè
to set up

good to know · Chinese addresses go from big to small: city, district, estate, building 楼, entrance 单元, then flat number. Many new flats are sold as bare concrete, so 装修 (doing up a flat) is a huge topic of conversation in China.

Agent, rent, deposit, repairs: you can now find a home in Chinese and make it yours.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 8 housework

Chinese HSK 5 in 80 days
unit 2 · home & neighbours

Talk about housework and things around the home, and describe one quick action and what happens next.

Sharing a home, helping friends move, staying with a host family: housework words come up every single day.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
家务	jiāwù	housework	我们家的家务是大家一起做的。 In our family, we all do the housework together.
被子	bèizi	quilt, duvet	天冷了，晚上睡觉要盖厚被子。 It's got cold. You need a thick duvet at night.
床单	chuángdān	(bed) sheet	我每个星期洗一次床单。 I wash the sheets once a week.
柜子	guìzi	cupboard, cabinet	冬天的衣服都放在柜子里了。 All the winter clothes are in the cupboard.
书架	shūjià	bookshelf	书架上的书太多了，都放不下了。 There are so many books on the shelf that there's no room left.
台灯	táidēng	desk lamp	晚上看书最好开着台灯。 When you read at night, it's best to have the desk lamp on.
拖鞋	tuōxié	slippers	进门请换拖鞋。 Please change into slippers when you come in.
玩具	wánjù	toy	孩子的玩具放得到处都是。 The kids' toys are all over the place.
盆	pén	basin, bowl; pot (for plants)	我在阳台上种{zhong4}了几盆花。 I've planted a few pots of flowers on the balcony.
剪刀	jiǎndāo	scissors	你有剪刀吗？我想打开这个包裹。 Have you got some scissors? I want to open this parcel.
扇子	shànzi	(hand) fan	夏天太热了，奶奶总是拿着一把{=(measure word: things with a handle)}扇子。 Summer's so hot that Grandma always carries a fan.
洒	sǎ	to spill; to sprinkle	小心，别把水洒在电脑上！ Careful, don't spill water on the computer!
晒	shài	to dry in the sun; to sunbathe	今天太阳很好，我们把被子拿出去晒晒吧。 It's sunny today. Let's put the duvets out to air.
浇	jiāo	to water (plants); to pour on	我出差的时候，请你帮我浇浇花。 While I'm away on business, could you water my plants?
堆	duī	to pile up; a pile, a heap	桌子上堆着很多没看完的书。 There's a pile of half-read books on the desk.
翻	fān	to turn over; to search through	我把包翻了一遍，也没找到钥匙。 I turned my bag inside out and still couldn't

			find my keys.
藏	cáng	to hide	孩子们把礼物藏在了床下面。 The children hid the present under the bed.
摔	shuāi	to fall; to drop and break	他不小心把手机摔坏了。 He accidentally dropped his phone and broke it.
碎	suì	to break into pieces; broken	杯子掉在地{di4-3}上，碎了。 The cup fell on the floor and smashed.
扇	shān	to fan	她一边走一边用手扇风。 She fanned herself with her hand as she walked.
关闭	guānbì	to close, shut down	离开以前，请关闭所有|的电器。 Please switch off all appliances before you leave.
工具	gōngjù	tool	手机已经变成了我们生活中最重要的工具。 The phone has become the most important tool in our lives.
一次性	yīcìxìng	disposable; one-off	为了保护环境，我很少用一次性的筷子。 To protect the environment, I rarely use disposable chopsticks.
整齐	zhěngqí	neat, tidy, in order	他的房间总是很整齐。 His room is always very tidy.
保存	bǎocún	to keep, preserve; to save (a file)	这些老照片我一直保存得很好。 I've always kept these old photos very carefully.

pattern 把 + thing + 一 + verb: one quick action

who | 把 + thing | 一 + verb | (就) what happens next

把 + thing + 一 + verb tells one quick, simple action, and then what happens straight after, usually with 就: 他把门一关，就走了. The 一 makes it sudden, like "one push of the door, and...". It's great for telling stories.

她把被子一盖，很快就睡着了。 **tā bǎ bèizi yí gài hěn kuài jiù shuì zháo le** She pulled the duvet over herself and was asleep in no time.

我把包一翻，就找到了钥匙。 **wǒ bǎ bāo yì fān jiù zhǎo dào le yàoshi** One look through my bag and I found the keys.

他把台灯一关，立刻睡着了。 **tā bǎ táidēng yì guān lìkè shuì zháo le** He switched off the lamp and fell asleep at once.

dialogue unpacking

little sister 安娜，你的东西怎么堆得到处都是？
Ānnà nǐ de dōngxi zěnme duī de dàochù dōu shì · Anna, why is your stuff piled up everywhere?

anna 我刚搬家，还没收拾好。你来得刚好，帮我一下吧！
wǒ gāng bānjiā hái méi shōushi hǎo nǐ lái de gānghǎo bāng wǒ yíxià ba · I've only just moved in and haven't sorted it out yet. You've come at just the right time. Give me a hand!

little sister 没问题。这些书放在书架上吗？
méi wèntí zhèxiē shū fàng zài shūjià shàng ma · Sure. Do these books go on the bookshelf?

anna 对。剪刀和工具都在那个盆里，你先把箱子拆开。
duì jiǎndāo hé gōngjù dōu zài nàge pén lǐ nǐ xiān bǎ xiāngzi chāi kāi · Yes. The scissors and tools are in that basin. Open up the boxes first.

little sister 哈，箱子里居然藏着一个旧玩具！
hā xiāngzi lǐ jūrán cáng zhe yí gè jiù wánjù · Ha, there's an old toy hiding in this box!

anna 那是我小时候的，我一直保存着。它已经陪了我二十年了。
nà shì wǒ xiǎoshíhou de wǒ yìzhí bǎocún zhe tā yǐjīng péi le wǒ èrshí nián le · That's from when I was little. I've always kept it. It's been with me for twenty years.

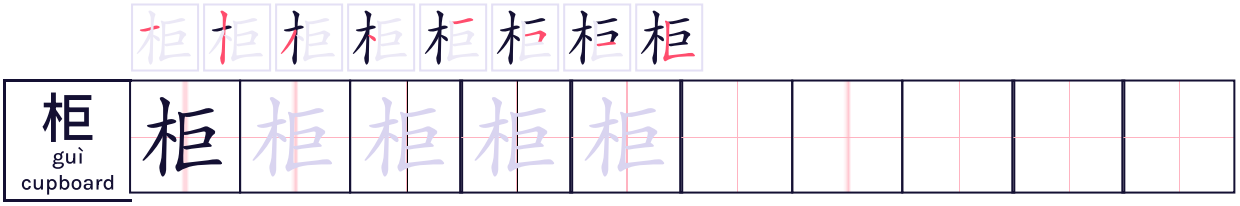
little sister 好可爱！哎呀，我不小心把水洒了。
hǎo kěài āiyā wǒ bù xiǎoxīn bǎ shuǐ sǎ le · So cute! Oops, I've spilt the water.

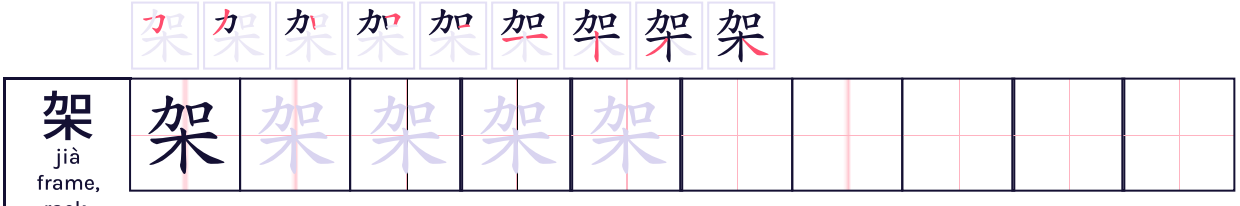
anna 不要紧，我把地一擦就好了。你穿上拖鞋，小心别摔了。
búyàojǐn wǒ bǎ dì yì cā jiù hǎo le nǐ chuān shàng tuōxié xiǎoxīn bié shuāi le · Never mind, one wipe and it's done. Put some slippers on so you don't slip.

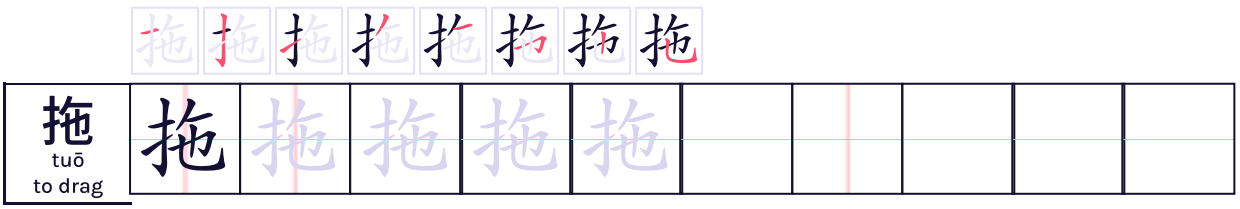
little sister 好。窗台上的花要浇水吗？
hǎo chuāngtái shàng de huā yào jiāo shuǐ ma · OK. Do the flowers on the windowsill need watering?

anna 要。浇完我们把被子拿到阳台上晒晒。
yào jiāo wán wǒmen bǎ bèizi ná dào yángtái shàng shài shai · Yes. After that, let's put the duvet out on the balcony to air.

write it trace the grey, then write your own









盆 pén basin, bowl; pot (for plants)										
	盆	盆	盆	盆	盆					

good to know · 扇 has two readings: shàn is the fan itself (扇子), shān is the action, to fan (扇一扇). Hosts in China usually offer guests 拖鞋 at the door. Taking your shoes off is the polite thing to do.

Duvets, cupboards, spills and slippers: you can now run a home in Chinese, and tell the story of a busy Saturday.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 9 all the family

Talk about the whole family, from grandparents to grown-up children, and sort a group with 老的老，小的小.

Family is at the heart of Chinese life. Knowing who is 姥姥 and who is 奶奶 shows real respect.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
姥姥	lǎolao	grandma (mum's mum, northern)	我姥姥今年八十岁了，身体还很好。 My grandma is eighty this year and still very healthy.
姥爷	lǎoye	grandpa (mum's dad, northern)	姥爷每天早上都去公园锻炼。 Grandpa goes to the park to exercise every morning.
外公	wàigōng	grandpa (mum's dad)	我外公以前是一名老师。 My grandpa used to be a teacher.
外婆	wàipó	grandma (mum's mum)	小时候，外婆常常给我讲故事。 When I was little, Grandma often told me stories.
老公	lǎogōng	husband (casual)	我老公做饭比我做得好吃。 My husband cooks better than I do.
老婆	lǎopo	wife (casual)	我老婆今天加班，我去接孩子。 My wife is working late today, so I'm picking up the kids.
太太	tàitai	wife; Mrs	王先生和他太太都是医生。 Mr Wang and his wife are both doctors.
夫妇	fūfù	married couple, husband and wife	楼下住着一对老夫妇，人很好。 A lovely elderly couple lives downstairs.
儿女	érnǚ	sons and daughters, children	他们的儿女都在外地工作。 Their children all work in other cities.
子女	zǐnǚ	children (formal)	父母都希望子女过得好。 All parents want their children to do well.
亲人	qīnrén	family members, loved ones	过年的时候，大家都想跟亲人在一起。 At Spring Festival, everyone wants to be with their family.
亲	qīn	related by blood; close, dear; to kiss	她不是我的亲妹妹，可是我们比亲姐妹还亲。 She's not my real sister, but we're closer than real sisters.
亲情	qīnqíng	family love, family ties	这部电影讲的是一个关于亲情的故事。 This film tells a story about family love.
亲朋好友	qīnpénghǎoyǒu	family and friends	过生日那天，亲朋好友都来了。 On my birthday, all my family and friends came.
亲爱	qīnài	dear, beloved	亲爱的妈妈，祝您生日快乐！ Dear Mum, happy birthday!
宝贝	bǎobèi	treasure; darling, baby	宝贝，该睡觉了。 Time for bed, sweetheart.

宝	bǎo	treasure; precious	对姥姥来说，这些老照片就是宝。 To Grandma, these old photos are treasure.
年纪	niánjì	age (of a person)	我姥爷年纪大了，耳朵不太好。 My grandpa is getting on, and his hearing isn't good.
成年	chéngnián	to come of age, be adult	孩子成年以后，就要自己做决定了。 Once children are grown up, they make their own decisions.
成人	chéngrén	adult; to grow up	这个游戏孩子和成人都喜欢玩。 Children and adults both love this game.
去世	qùshì	to pass away	我外公三年前去世了，我们都很想他。 My grandpa passed away three years ago. We all miss him.
一代	yīdài	a generation	我们这一代人从小就用手机。 Our generation has used phones since childhood.
看望	kànwàng	to visit, call on	周末我们去医院看望了姥姥。 At the weekend we went to visit Grandma in hospital.
陪伴	péibàn	to keep (someone) company	老人最需要的是儿女的陪伴。 What older people need most is their children's company.
看	kān	to look after, mind	我今天要在家看{kan1}孩子，不能出去。 I'm minding the kids at home today, so I can't go out.

pattern a的a，b的b: some are a, some are b

A的A , B的B

Say a word twice around 的 to sort a group into kinds: 老的老，小的小, "some are old, the rest are little". It works with verbs too: 坐的坐，站的站, some sitting, some standing. Often it hints that nobody is free to help.

我老婆说，家里老的老，小的小，只有我们能帮忙。 **wǒ lǎopo shuō jiā lǐ lǎo de lǎo xiǎo de xiǎo zhǐyǒu wǒmen néng bāngmáng** My wife says that at home they're either old or little, so we're the only ones who can help.

过年的时候，亲朋好友来的来，走的走，家里热闹极了。 **guònián de shíhou qīnpéng hǎoyǒu lái de lái zǒu de zǒu jiā lǐ rènao jí le** At New Year, family and friends come and go, and the house is so lively.

客人们坐的坐，站的站，房间里都是人。 **kèrénmen zuò de zuò zhàn de zhàn fángjiān lǐ dōu shì rén** Some guests were sitting, some standing, and the room was packed.

dialogue grandma's birthday

xiaoming 安娜，这是我姥姥。姥姥，这是我的好朋友安娜。
Ānnà zhè shì wǒ lǎolao lǎolao zhè shì wǒ de hǎo péngyou Ānnà · Anna, this is my grandma. Grandma, this is my good friend Anna.

anna 姥姥好！祝您生日快乐！您多大年纪了？
lǎolao hǎo zhù nín shēngrì kuàilè nín duō dà niánjì le · Hello, Grandma! Happy birthday! May I ask how old you are?

ms zhang 我妈妈今年八十五了。她一听说你要来，便准备了很多好吃的。
wǒ māma jīnnián bāshíwǔ le tā yì tīngshuō nǐ yào lái biàn zhǔnbèi le hěn duō hǎochī de · My mum is eighty-five this year. The moment she heard you were coming, she made lots of food.

anna 姥姥身体真好！我外婆也八十多了，她是我最亲的人。
lǎolao shēntǐ zhēn hǎo wǒ wàipó yě bāshí duō le tā shì wǒ zuì qīn de rén · Grandma looks so well! My grandma is in her eighties too. She's the person I'm closest to.

xiaoming 我姥爷三年前去世了，姥姥一个人住。我们一有空，就来看望她。
wǒ lǎoye sān nián qián qùshì le lǎolao yí gè rén zhù wǒmen yì yǒu kòng jiù lái kànwàng tā · My grandpa passed away three years ago, and Grandma lives alone. Whenever we have time, we come to see her.

ms zhang 我老公今天在医院上班，来不了。我们这一代人工作忙，可是老人最需要的是亲人的陪伴。
wǒ lǎogōng jīntiān zài yīyuàn shàngbān lái bu liǎo wǒmen zhè yídài rén gōngzuò máng kěshì lǎorén zuì xūyào de shì qīnrén de péibàn · My husband is working at the hospital today, so he couldn't come. Our generation is so busy, but what older people need most is their family around them.

anna 过年的时候，我外婆家也是来的来，走的走，可热闹了。
guònián de shíhou wǒ wàipó jiā yě shì lái de lái zǒu de zǒu kě rènao le · At New Year my grandma's house is the same: people coming and going, so lively.

anna 您说得对。对我来说，亲人就是宝，亲情比什么都重要。
nín shuō de duì duì wǒ lái shuō qīnrén jiùshì bǎo qīnqíng bǐ shénme dōu zhòngyào · You're right. To me, family is treasure. Nothing matters more than family love.

xiaoming 你看，墙上挂有我们全家的照片，中间那个小宝贝就是我！
nǐ kàn qiáng shàng guà yǒu wǒmen quán jiā de zhàopiàn zhōngjiān nàge xiǎo bǎobèi jiùshì wǒ · Look, there are photos of the whole family on the wall. That little darling in the middle is me!

anna 哈哈，太可爱了！对了，你妹妹呢？
hā hā tài kěài le duì le nǐ mèimei ne · Ha ha, so cute! By the way, where's your sister?

xiaoming 她在楼下看邻居家的孩子。她说自己快成人了，要多帮大人做事。
tā zài lóu xià kān línjū jiā de háizi tā shuō zìjǐ kuài chéngrén le yào duō bāng dàren zuò shì · She's downstairs minding the neighbours' child. She says she's nearly an adult, so she should help the grown-ups more.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

晒
shài
to dry in the sun; to sunbathe

闭
bì
to shut



齐
qí
neat, even; all present



妇
fù
woman; wife

good to know · Your dad's parents are 爷爷 and 奶奶; your mum's are 姥姥 and 姥爷 in the north, 外婆 and 外公 in much of the south. To ask an older person's age, say 您多大年纪了？ 你几岁？ is only for children.

From 姥姥 to 小宝贝, you can now talk about three generations, and wish a grandma happy birthday the right way.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 10 the neighbours

Talk about neighbours, noise and getting along, and say how often: 通常, 时常, and the grumbling 老是.

Good neighbours make a city feel like home. In China, the older neighbours often know everything and everyone.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
大妈	dàmā	auntie (an older woman)	楼下的王大妈每天晚上都去公园跳舞。 Auntie Wang downstairs goes dancing in the park every evening.
大爷	dàye	uncle (an older man)	大爷，请问地铁站怎么走? Excuse me, sir, how do I get to the underground station?
熟人	shúrén	acquaintance, someone you know	在这个小区，我到处都能遇到熟人。 On this estate I run into people I know everywhere.
陌生	mòshēng	unfamiliar, strange	别给陌生人开门。 Don't open the door to strangers.
他人	tārén	other people, others	在图书馆里，要注意不影响他人。 In the library, be careful not to disturb others.
主人	zhǔrén	host; owner	这只小狗的主人是谁? Who does this little dog belong to?
热心	rèxīn	warm-hearted, eager to help	邻居们都很热心，常常帮我拿包裹。 The neighbours are all so kind. They often take in my parcels.
亲切	qīnqiè	kind, warm, friendly	王老师说话总是很亲切。 Teacher Wang always speaks so warmly.
吵	chǎo	noisy; to quarrel, make a noise	外面太吵了，我睡不着{zhao2}。 It's too noisy outside. I can't sleep.
闹	nào	noisy; to make a fuss	孩子们在楼下闹了一个下午。 The kids were making a racket downstairs all afternoon.
骂	mà	to scold, tell off; to swear at	他回家太晚，被妈妈骂了一顿。 He got home too late and got a telling-off from his mum.
劝	quàn	to persuade, advise	我劝了他很久，他终于同意去看医生了。 I spent ages persuading him, and he finally agreed to see a doctor.
矛盾	máodùn	conflict; contradiction	邻居之间有点儿小矛盾很正常。 It's normal for neighbours to have the odd disagreement.
相处	xiāngchǔ	to get along (with)	她性格很好，跟谁都相处得很好。 She has a lovely nature and gets on with everyone.

交往	jiāowǎng	to associate with, have contact	他很少跟邻居交往。 He rarely has anything to do with the neighbours.
打听	dǎting	to ask around, find out	我跟邻居打听了一下，附近有一家{=(measure word)}好医院。 I asked a neighbour, and there's a good hospital nearby.
迎	yíng	to welcome, greet; to face	我们笑着迎了上去。 We went up to meet them with smiles.
迎接	yíngjiē	to welcome, meet (a guest)	我们去火车站迎接新同事。 We went to the station to meet our new colleague.
通常	tōngcháng	usually, normally; usual	我通常七点起床，周末起得晚一些。 I usually get up at seven, a bit later at weekends.
时常	shícháng	often, frequently	我时常想起小时候住过{guo}的地方。 I often think of the place I lived as a child.
尊敬	zūnjìng	to respect; respected	我们都很尊敬这位老教授。 We all respect this old professor very much.
忍	rěn	to bear, put up with	楼上太吵了，我真的忍不了{liao3-4}了。 It's so noisy upstairs. I really can't stand it any more.
抱怨	bàoyuàn	to complain, grumble	他老是抱怨工作太多。 He's always complaining about having too much work.
安慰	ānwèi	to comfort; comforted	她心情不好，我们去安慰安慰她吧。 She's feeling down. Let's go and cheer her up.
同情	tóngqíng	to sympathise with; sympathy	听了他的故事，大家都很同情他。 When they heard his story, everyone felt for him.

pattern how often: 通常, 时常, 老是

who | 通常 · 时常 · 老是 | verb phrase

通常 is "usually, as a rule": a neutral habit. 时常 is "often", a little more written. 老是 is "always, keeps on", and it nearly always sounds like a complaint: 他老是迟到.

我们通常七点吃晚饭，周末晚一些。 **wǒmen tōngcháng qī diǎn chī wǎnfàn zhōumò wǎn yìxiē** We usually have dinner at seven, a bit later at weekends.

他老是迟到，被经理骂了好几次。 **tā lǎoshì chídào bèi jīnglǐ mà le hǎo jǐ cì** He's always late and has been told off by the manager several times.

我时常想起小时候的邻居。 **wǒ shícháng xiǎng qǐ xiǎoshíhou de línjū** I often think of the neighbours I had as a child.

dialogue noise upstairs

teacher wang 安娜，你今天看起来很累，昨天没睡好吗？
Ānnà nǐ jīntiān kàn qǐlai hěn lèi zuótiān méi shuì hǎo ma · Anna, you look tired today. Didn't you sleep well last night?

anna 楼上的孩子老是闹，晚上11点还很吵。
lóu shàng de háizi lǎoshì nào wǎnshang diǎn hái hěn chǎo · The kids upstairs never stop. It was still noisy at 11 last night.

teacher wang 你跟他们说过吗？
nǐ gēn tāmen shuō guo ma · Have you spoken to them?

anna 还没有。我刚搬来，我们彼此还很陌生，不好意思说。我只是跟朋友抱怨了几句。
hái méiyǒu wǒ gāng bān lái wǒmen bǐcǐ hái hěn mòshēng bù hǎoyìsi shuō wǒ zhǐshì gēn péngyou bàoyuàn le jǐ jù · Not yet. I've only just moved in and don't know them, so I feel awkward. I've only grumbled to friends.

teacher wang 我理解，也很同情你。不过邻居之间有矛盾，忍着不说也不是办法。
wǒ lǐjiě yě hěn tóngqíng nǐ búguò línjū zhījiān yǒu máodùn rěn zhe bù shuō yě bú shì bànfǎ · I understand, and I feel for you. But when neighbours have a problem, putting up with it in silence isn't the answer.

anna 那我该怎么办？
nà wǒ gāi zěnme bàn · So what should I do?

teacher wang 你可以先跟楼下的大妈打听一下，请她帮忙劝一劝。大妈们通常认识每家的主人。
nǐ kěyǐ xiān gēn lóu xià de dàmā dǎting yíxià qǐng tā bāngmáng quàn yi quan dàmāmen tōngcháng rènshi měi jiā de zhǔrén · You could start by asking the older lady downstairs, and get her to have a gentle word. Those aunties usually know every family in the building.

anna 对，楼下的王大妈很热心，说话也很亲切。我明天就带一些水果去找她。
duì lóu xià de Wáng dàmā hěn rèxīn shuōhuà yě hěn qīnqiè wǒ míngtiān jiù dài yìxiē shuǐguǒ qù zhǎo tā · Yes, Auntie Wang downstairs is so kind, and she's lovely to talk to. I'll take her some fruit tomorrow.

teacher wang 好主意。她看到你，一定会笑着迎上来。邻居就像亲人，好好相处最重要。
hǎo zhǔyi tā kàn dào nǐ yídìng huì xiào zhe yíng shanglai línjū jiù xiàng qīnrén hǎohǎo xiāngchǔ zuì zhòngyào · Good idea. She'll greet you with a big smile. Neighbours are like family: getting along well is what matters.

anna 谢谢您安慰我，我现在心情好多了。
xièxie nín ānwèi wǒ wǒ xiànzài xīnqíng hǎo duō le · Thank you for cheering me up. I feel much better now.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

宝
bǎo
treasure; precious

贝
bèi
shell (once money)

代
dài
to stand in for; generation



伴 bàn companion										

good to know · 大妈 (auntie) and 大爷 (uncle, said dàye) are warm, northern ways to address older neighbours or strangers. A Chinese saying: 远亲不如近邻, “a relative far away is not as good as a neighbour nearby”.

You can now talk about the neighbours, kindly or not, and solve a problem the friendly way.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 11 since we moved here

Tell how things have changed over time, with 自从 (ever since) and ……以来 (since … up to now).

Talking about change is a big part of real conversation in China: cities, neighbourhoods and lives have changed so fast.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
从前	cóngqián	in the past; once upon a time	从前这里只有几家{=(measure word)}小商店。 There used to be just a few little shops here.
当年	dāngnián	in those days, back then	当年我来北京的时候，一句汉语都不会说。 When I first came to Beijing back then, I couldn't say a word of Chinese.
如今	rújīn	nowadays, now	如今，人们出门都不用带钱包了。 Nowadays people don't need to take a wallet when they go out.
至今	zhìjīn	up to now, to this day	那次旅行我至今还记得。 I still remember that trip to this day.
年代	niándài	a decade; an era	我父母是八十年代结婚的。 My parents got married in the eighties.
年初	niánchū	the beginning of the year	我们是今年年初搬到这儿的。 We moved here at the start of this year.
此后	cǐhòu	after this, from then on	他第一次来中国是2015年，此后每年都来。 He first came to China in 2015, and he's come every year since.
此前	cǐqián	before this, previously	此前，我从来没有一个|人住过{guo}。 Before that, I'd never lived on my own.
此时	cǐshí	at this moment, now	此时，外面下起了大雨。 Just then, it started pouring outside.
近年来	jìnniánlái	in recent years	近年来，学汉语的人越来越多。 In recent years, more and more people have been learning Chinese.
近期	jìnqī	in the near future; recently	这家{=(measure word)}店近期不开门，请大家注意。 Please note: this shop is closed for the time being.
近日	jìnrì	recently, in the last few days	近日，北京的天气一直很好。 The weather in Beijing has been lovely these last few days.
今日	jīnrì	today (written)	本{ben3-5}店今日休息。 This shop is closed today.
最初	zuìchū	at first, initially	最初我很不习惯，后来就好了。 At first I found it hard to get used to, but then it was fine.
早期	zǎoqī	early period, early stage	这是这位画家早期的作品。 This is one of the painter's early works.
曾	céng	once, formerly (written 曾经)	他曾在这家{=(measure word)}医院工作了十年。 He once worked at this hospital for ten years.

逐渐	zhújiàn	gradually	我逐渐习惯了这里的生活。 I gradually got used to life here.
逐步	zhúbù	step by step	我们的汉语水平在逐步提高。 Our Chinese is improving step by step.
先后	xiānhòu	one after another; order	他先后在三个城市工作过{guo}。 He has worked in three cities, one after another.
陆续	lùxù	one after another, in succession	八点以后，客人陆续到了。 After eight, the guests started arriving one after another.
依然	yīrán	still, as before	十年过去了，这条街依然很热闹。 Ten years on, this street is as lively as ever.
自从	zìcóng	ever since	自从搬到这儿，我每天都走路上班。 Ever since I moved here, I've walked to work every day.
以来	yǐlái	since (a time)	今年以来，我们社区多了很多新居民。 Since the start of this year, our neighbourhood has gained lots of new residents.
久远	jiǔyuǎn	ancient, long ago	这个故事有着久远的历史。 This story goes back a very long way.
长久	chángjiǔ	long-lasting, long-term	这不是长久的办法，我们得{dei3}再想想。 That's not a long-term solution. We need to think again.

pattern 自从 and （自）……以来: ever since

自从 + event **or** **（自）+ time + 以来** **, situation up to now**

自从 + an event or a time is "ever since": 自从搬到这儿，…. Its partner is （自）……以来, "since … up to now": 今年以来, 自2020年以来. Both look back from today, so what follows is a situation that has lasted until now. You can even use both: 自从来北京以来.

自从有了手机，人们很少写信了。 **zìcóng yǒu le shǒujī rénmen hěn shǎo xiě xìn le** Ever since we've had mobile phones, people hardly write letters.

自2020年以来，这个社区先后开了三家超市。 **zì nián yǐlái zhège shèqū xiānhòu kāi le sān jiā chāoshì** Since 2020, three supermarkets have opened in this neighbourhood, one after another.

自从认识了王老师，我对汉语越来越有兴趣。 **zìcóng rènshi le Wánglǎoshī wǒ duì Hànyǔ yuè lái yuè yǒu xìngqù** Ever since I met Teacher Wang, I've been more and more interested in Chinese.

此前我从来没有一个人住过，自从来北京以来，什么都得自己做。 **cǐqián wǒ cónglái méiyǒu yí gè rén zhù guo zìcóng lái Běijīng yǐlái shénme dōu děi zìjǐ zuò** I'd never lived alone before. Since coming to Beijing, I've had to do everything myself.

dialogue forty years on the estate

professor sun 你就是新搬来的安娜吧？我也住在这个楼，二单元，姓孙。
nǐ jiùshì xīn bān lái de Ānnà ba wǒ yě zhù zài zhège lóu èr dānyuán xìng Sūn · You must be Anna, who's just moved in? I live in this building too, Entrance 2. My name's Sun.

anna 孙教授好！听说您是教历史的？
Sūnjiàoshòu hǎo tīngshuō nín shì jiāo lìshǐ de · Hello, Professor Sun! I hear you teach history?

professor sun 我曾在大学教了三十年历史。现在不上课了，常常给大家讲北京早期的历史。
wǒ céng zài dàxué jiāo le sānshí nián lìshǐ xiànzài bú shàngkè le chángcháng gěi dàjiā jiǎng Běijīng zǎoqī de lìshǐ · I taught history at a university for thirty years. I don't teach classes now, but I often give talks on Beijing's early history.

anna 这个社区的历史一定很久远吧？
zhège shèqū de lìshǐ yídìng hěn jiǔyuǎn ba · This neighbourhood must go back a long way?

professor sun 也不算太久远。最初这里只有一些老房子，八十年代以后，逐步盖起了高楼，居民也逐渐多了。
yě bú suàn tài jiǔyuǎn zuìchū zhèlǐ zhǐyǒu yìxiē lǎo fángzi bāshí niándài yǐhòu zhúbù gài qǐ le gāo lóu jūmín yě zhújiàn duō le · Not that far, really. At first there were just some old houses. From the eighties, tower blocks went up bit by bit, and more and more people came to live here.

anna 您在这儿住了多久了？
nín zài zhèr zhù le duō jiǔ le · How long have you lived here?

professor sun 我当年在上海工作。自从1988年搬来，就一直住在这儿，至今快四十年了。
wǒ dāngnián zài Shànghǎi gōngzuò zìcóng nián bān lái jiù yìzhí zhù zài zhèr zhìjīn kuài sìshí nián le · Back then I was working in Shanghai. Ever since I moved here in 1988, I've lived here: nearly forty years now.

anna 我自从来北京以来，已经搬了三次家了。
wǒ zìcóng lái Běijīng yǐlái yǐjīng bān le sān cì jiā le · Since I came to Beijing, I've moved house three times already.

anna 那您一定看到了很多变化。
nà nín yídìng kàn dào le hěn duō biànhuà · Then you must have seen a lot of changes.

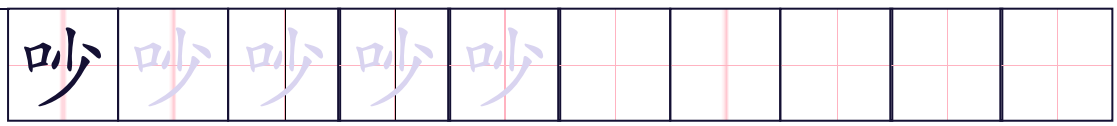
professor sun 当然。从前夏天的晚上，大家都在院子里，坐的坐，站的站，一聊就是几个小时。
dāngrán cóngqián xiàtiān de wǎnshang dàjiā dōu zài yuànzi lǐ zuò de zuò zhàn de zhàn yì liáo jiùshì jǐ gè xiǎoshí · Of course. On summer evenings, everyone used to be out in the yard, some sitting, some standing, chatting for hours.

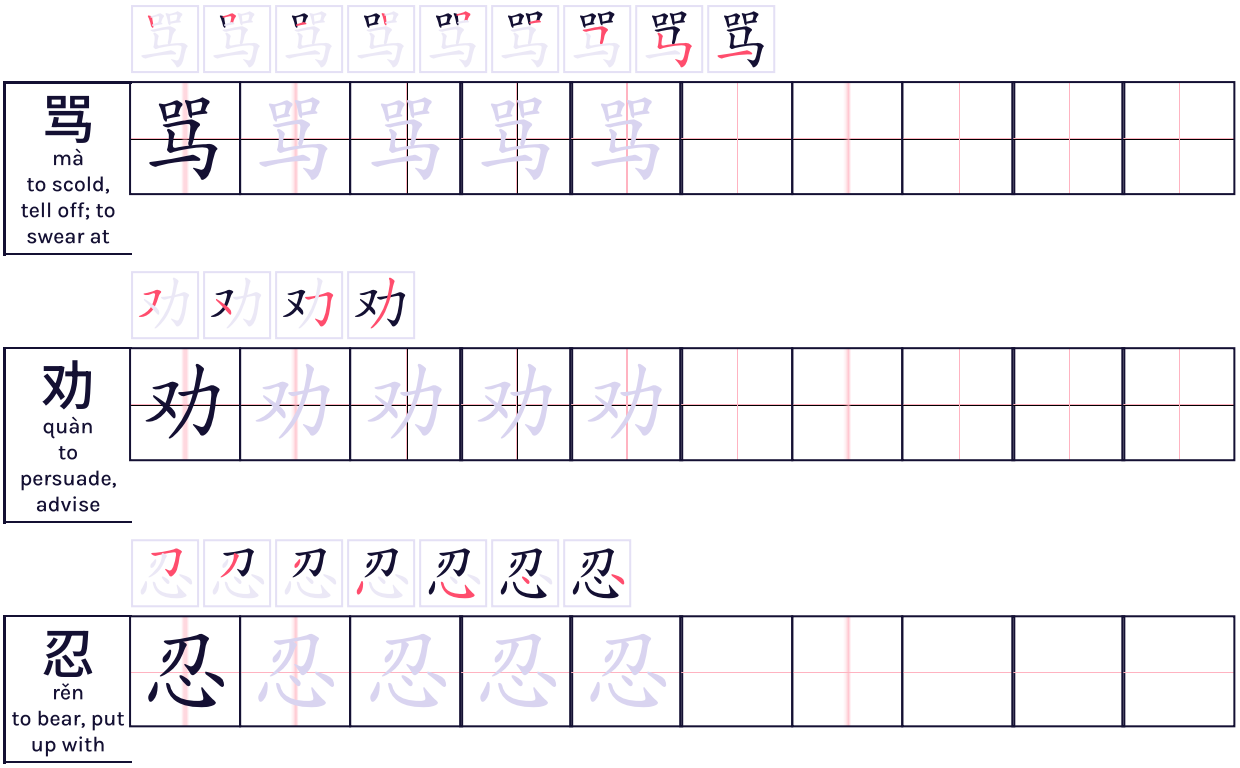
anna 如今大家工作忙，见面少了。不过社区的活动依然很多，下个周末就有一个邻居晚会。
rújīn dàjiā gōngzuò máng jiànmiàn shǎo le búguò shèqū de huódòng yīrán hěn duō xià gè zhōumò jiù yǒu yí gè línjū wǎnhuì · These days everyone's busy and people meet less. But there are still lots of community events: there's a neighbours' party next weekend.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



吵
chǎo
noisy; to quarrel, make a noise





good to know · Notices and news love 今日, 近日 and 近期. In conversation, say 今天, 最近 and 最近一段时间. 自从 always looks back from now. For the future, use 从……起 or 以后: 从明天起, 毕业以后.

You can now tell how a place and a life have changed, and listen to a good storyteller, in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 12 mission: the neighbourhood party

Chinese HSK 5 in 80 days
unit 2 · home & neighbours

Follow a neighbourhood party from the notice on the door to the last goodbye: homes, family, neighbours and how things have changed.

A community party is where a new flat becomes a home. Everything from this unit comes together here.

chapter 1 the notice on the door

anna 孙教授，您看，门上贴有一张通知。单元门口的墙上也贴有一张。

Sūnjiàoshòu nín kàn mén shàng tiē yǒu yì zhāng tōngzhī dānyuán ménkǒu de qiáng shàng yě tiē yǒu yì zhāng · Professor Sun, look, there's a notice on the door. There's one on the wall by the entrance too.

professor sun 是物业贴的。我给你读一读：

shì wùyè tiē de wǒ gěi nǐ dú yi du · The property office put them up. Let me read it to you:

professor sun “亲爱的居民：为了迎接新年，本社区将在本周六晚上六点在花园里举办邻居晚会。自从年初以来，社区里陆续搬来了很多新居民，希望大家借这个机会彼此认识。请每家带一个菜，不要用一次性的盘子和筷子。那天下午，花园的大门将关闭，请大家从二单元旁边的台阶进去。”

qīnài de jūmín wèile yíngjiē xīnnián běn shèqū jiāng zài běn zhōu liù wǎnshang liù diǎn zài huāyuán lǐ jǔbàn línjū wǎnhuì zìcóng niánchū yǐlái shèqū lǐ lùxù bān lái le hěn duō xīn jūmín xīwàng dàjiā jiè zhège jīhuì bǐcǐ rènshi qǐng měi jiā dài yí gè cài búyào yòng yícìxìng de pánzi hé kuàizi nà tiān xiàwǔ huāyuán de dà mén jiāng guānbì qǐng dàjiā cóng èr dānyuán pángbiān de táijiē jìnqù · “Dear residents: to welcome the New Year, the neighbourhood is holding a party in the garden at six this Saturday evening. Since the start of the year, many new residents have moved in, one after another, and we hope everyone takes the chance to get to know each other. Please bring one dish per family, and no disposable plates or chopsticks. That afternoon the main garden gate will be closed: please come in by the steps next to Entrance 2.”

anna 太好了！我刚搬来，正想多认识一些邻居。我住的单元离花园很近，从阳台上就能看到。

tài hǎo le wǒ gāng bān lái zhèng xiǎng duō rènshi yìxiē línjū wǒ zhù de dānyuán lí huāyuán hěn jìn cóng yángtái shàng jiù néng kàn dào · Great! I've only just moved in, and I really want to get to know more neighbours. My entrance is right by the garden: I can see it from my balcony.

professor sun 这一带的房屋很多是八十年代盖的。你住的那个楼，最初是一家工厂的住房。

zhè yídài de fángwū hěn duō shì bāshí niándài gài de nǐ zhù de nàge lóu zuìchū shì yì jiā gōngchǎng de zhùfáng · Many of the buildings round here went up in the eighties. Your block was first built as housing for a factory.

anna 所以租金不太贵。中介说房子刚装修过，卧室和书房都很大。

suǒyǐ zūjīn bú tài guì zhōngjiè shuō fángzi gāng zhuāngxiū guo wòshì hé shūfáng dōu hěn dà · So that's why the rent isn't too high. The agent said the flat had just been done up, and the bedroom and study are both big.

professor sun 物业对居民也很热心，设备坏了，随时可以找他们维修。上个月他们还帮我安装了新的家电。

wùyè duì jūmín yě hěn rèxīn shèbèi huài le suíshí kěyǐ zhǎo tāmen wéixiū shàng gè yuè tāmen hái bāng wǒ ānzhuāng le xīn de jiādiàn · The property office looks after residents well too: if anything breaks, you can call them any time. Last month they even fitted my new appliances.

anna 那我放心了。我英国的朋友下个月来北京，就住在我的书房里。这个晚会能请朋友一起来吗？

nà wǒ fàngxīn le wǒ Yīngguó de péngyou xià gè yuè lái Běijīng jiù zhù zài wǒ de shūfáng lǐ zhège wǎnhuì néng qǐng péngyou yìqǐ lái ma · That's a relief. A friend from the UK is coming to Beijing next month and will stay in my study. Can I bring friends to the party?

professor sun 当然可以，居住在这儿的人和亲朋好友都欢迎。居民通常每家带一个菜，人越多越热闹。

dāngrán kěyǐ jūzhù zài zhèr de rén hé qīnpéng hǎoyǒu dōu huānyíng jūmín tōngcháng měi jiā dài yí gè cài rén yuè duō yuè rènao · Of course. Everyone who lives here is welcome, and family and friends too. Residents usually bring a dish per family: the more, the merrier.

chapter 2 getting ready

little sister 安娜，我哥哥让我先来帮你。他和爸爸妈妈晚一点儿到。
Ānnà wǒ gēge ràng wǒ xiān lái bāng nǐ tā hé bàba māma wǎn yìdiǎnr dào · Anna, my brother sent me ahead to help. He and my parents will be a bit later.

anna 谢谢你！你来得刚好。我们用这些花装饰一下桌子吧。
xièxie nǐ nǐ lái de gānghǎo wǒmen yòng zhèxiē huā zhuāngshì yíxià zhuōzi ba · Thank you! Perfect timing. Let's decorate the table with these flowers.

little sister 剪刀在哪儿？我翻了半天也没找到，想用纸做几个小装饰。
jiǎndāo zài nǎr wǒ fān le bàntiān yě méi zhǎo dào xiǎng yòng zhǐ zuò jǐ gè xiǎo zhuāngshì · Where are the scissors? I've been searching for ages. I want to make some little paper decorations.

anna 在书架上，跟工具放在一起。哎呀，糟糕，我的菜还在火上！
zài shūjià shàng gēn gōngjù fàng zài yìqǐ āiyā zāogāo wǒ de cài hái zài huǒ shàng · On the bookshelf, with the tools. Oh no, my food is still on the stove!

little sister 别急，我帮你看着。你先把盘子拿出来，小心别摔了。
bié jí wǒ bāng nǐ kān zhe nǐ xiān bǎ pánzi ná chulai xiǎoxīn bié shuāi le · Don't panic, I'll keep an eye on it. Get the plates out first, and careful not to drop them.

anna 对，上次我就摔碎了一个。
duì shàng cì wǒ jiù shuāi suì le yí gè · Right: last time I smashed one.

little sister 你的东西又堆在窗台上了。我把柜子一打开，里面的玩具全掉出来了！
nǐ de dōngxi yòu duī zài chuāngtái shàng le wǒ bǎ guìzi yì dǎkāi lǐmiàn de wánjù quán diào chulai le · Your things are piled on the windowsill again. The moment I opened the cupboard, all the toys fell out!

anna 哈哈，那是我小时候的玩具，我一直保存着。你先把它们藏到床下吧。
hā hā nà shì wǒ xiǎoshíhou de wánjù wǒ yìzhí bǎocún zhe nǐ xiān bǎ tāmen cáng dào chuáng xià ba · Ha ha, those are my toys from when I was little: I've kept them all this time. Hide them under the bed for now.

little sister 阳台上还晒着被子和床单，要收进来吗？
yángtái shàng hái shài zhe bèizi hé chuángdān yào shōu jinlai ma · The duvet and sheets are still airing on the balcony. Shall I bring them in?

anna 要，太阳快下山了。顺便帮我给那盆花浇一点儿水。
yào tàiyáng kuài xià shān le shùnbiàn bāng wǒ gěi nà pén huā jiāo yìdiǎnr shuǐ · Yes, the sun's nearly down. And could you water that pot of flowers while you're at it?

little sister 哎呀，水洒了，洒在你的拖鞋上了！今天真热，我先用扇子扇一扇。
āiyā shuǐ sǎ le sǎ zài nǐ de tuōxié shàng le jīntiān zhēn rè wǒ xiān yòng shànzi shān yi shan · Oops, I've spilt the water all over your slippers! It's so hot today: let me fan myself first.

anna 不要紧。你把东西放得真整齐，比我强多了！
búyàojǐn nǐ bǎ dōngxi fàng de zhēn zhěngqí bǐ wǒ qiáng duō le · Never mind. You've put everything away so neatly. Much better than me!

little sister 我妈妈老是让我做家务，所以我早就习惯了。好了，你关闭所有的电器，我们就走吧。
wǒ māma lǎoshì ràng wǒ zuò jiāwù suǒyǐ wǒ zǎo jiù xíguàn le hǎo le nǐ guānbì suǒyǒu de diànqì wǒmen jiù zǒu ba · My mum always has me doing housework, so I'm used to it. Right: switch off all the appliances and let's go.

anna 好！我把台灯一关，我们就出发！
hǎo wǒ bǎ táidēng yì guān wǒmen jiù chūfā · OK! One flick of the desk lamp and we're off!

chapter 3 at the party

ms zhang 安娜，这个社区真热闹！老的老，小的小，大家都来了。
Ānnà zhège shèqū zhēn rènao lǎo de lǎo xiǎo de xiǎo dàjiā dōu lái le · Anna, this neighbourhood is so lively! Old and young, everyone's here.

anna 是啊。您看，王大爷一看到我们，就笑着迎了上来。
shì a nín kàn Wáng dàye yí kàn dào wǒmen jiù xiào zhe yíng le shanglai · It is. Look, Mr Wang came over to greet us the moment he saw us.

ms zhang 王大爷是这次晚会的主人，大家都很尊敬他。
Wáng dàye shì zhè cì wǎnhuì de zhǔrén dàjiā dōu hěn zūnjìng tā · Mr Wang is hosting the party, and everyone really respects him.

anna 张阿姨，这是孙教授，他在这儿住了快四十年了。
zhāng āyí zhè shì Sūnjiàoshòu tā zài zhèr zhù le kuài sìshí nián le · Auntie Zhang, this is Professor Sun. He's lived here for nearly forty years.

professor sun 您好！自从1988年搬来，这儿的变化真大。我们那一代人，从前住的都是老房子。
nín hǎo zìcóng nián bān lái zhèr de biànhuà zhēn dà wǒmen nà yídài rén cóngqián zhù de dōu shì lǎo fángzi · Hello! Ever since I moved here in 1988, the place has changed so much. People of my generation all used to live in old houses.

ms zhang 我当年也住过那样的房子。如今的公寓舒适多了。孙教授，您的子女也住在这儿吗？
wǒ dāngnián yě zhù guo nàyàng de fángzi rújīn de gōngyù shūshì duō le Sūnjiàoshòu nín de zǐnǚ yě zhù zài zhèr ma · I lived in a house like that back then too. Today's flats are much more comfortable. Professor Sun, do your children live here too?

professor sun 不，我的儿女都在外地工作。我太太去世以后，邻居们时常来看望我，陪伴我。
bù wǒ de érnǚ dōu zài wàidì gōngzuò wǒ tàitai qùshì yǐhòu línjūmen shícháng lái kànwàng wǒ péibàn wǒ · No, my sons and daughters all work in other cities. Since my wife passed away, the neighbours often come to visit and keep me company.

dr li 老婆，你看，那对年轻夫妇带着他们的小宝贝来了！
lǎopo nǐ kàn nà duì niánqīng fūfù dài zhe tāmen de xiǎo bǎobèi lái le · Look, love: that young couple has brought their little baby!

anna 孩子真可爱！我外婆常说，孩子是一家人的宝。我外婆和外公都在英国，我每年都回去看望他们。
háizi zhēn kěài wǒ wàipó cháng shuō háizi shì yì jiā rén de bǎo wǒ wàipó hé wàigōng dōu zài Yīngguó wǒ měi nián dōu huíqù kànwàng tāmen · What a sweet child! My grandma always says children are a family's treasure. My grandma and grandpa are both in the UK, and I go back to see them every year.

little sister 我姥姥是我最亲的人。她年纪大了，可是说下次也要来！我明年就成年了，以后也要帮社区做事。
wǒ lǎolao shì wǒ zuì qīn de rén tā niánjì dà le kěshì shuō xià cì yě yào lái wǒ míngnián jiù chéngnián le yǐhòu yě yào bāng shèqū zuò shì · My grandma is the person I'm closest to. She's getting on, but she says she'll come next time! I come of age next year, and then I want to help out in the neighbourhood too.

ms zhang 好啊。对老人来说，亲情和陪伴比什么都重要。
hǎo a duì lǎorén lái shuō qīnqíng hé péibàn bǐ shénme dōu zhòngyào · Good for you. For older people, family love and company matter more than anything.

anna 亲爱的邻居们，谢谢大家这么热情地迎接我！刚搬来的时候，这里的一切都很陌生，现在我已经有了很多熟人。
qīnài de línjūmen xièxie dàjiā zhème rèqíng de yíngjiē wǒ gāng bān lái de shíhou zhèlǐ de yíqiè dōu hěn mòshēng xiànzài wǒ yǐjīng yǒu le hěn duō shúrén · Dear neighbours, thank you for giving me such a warm welcome! When I first moved in, everything here was strange to me, and now I know lots of people.

professor sun 你看，唱的唱，跳的跳，大家都很开心。
nǐ kàn chàng de chàng tiào de tiào dàjiā dōu hěn kāixīn · Look: some singing, some dancing, and everyone happy.

chapter 4 the noise upstairs, solved

xiaoming 安娜，楼上那家人的问题解决了吗?
Ānnà lóu shàng nà jiā rén de wèntí jiějué le ma · Anna, did you sort things out with the family upstairs?

anna 解决了！我先向王大妈打听了一下，原来他们刚搬来，跟他人交往很少。
jiějué le wǒ xiān xiàng Wáng dàmā dǎting le yíxià yuánlái tāmen gāng bān lái gēn tārén jiāowǎng hěn shǎo · Yes! I asked Auntie Wang about them first: it turns out they've just moved in and hardly know anyone.

anna 王大妈帮我劝了劝，他们今天还向我道歉了。
Wáng dàmā bāng wǒ quàn le quan tāmen jīntiān hái xiàng wǒ dàoqiàn le · Auntie Wang had a word for me, and they even apologised to me today.

xiaoming 我还以为你会去跟他们大吵呢。
wǒ hái yǐwéi nǐ huì qù gēn tāmen dà chǎo ne · I thought you'd go and have a row with them.

anna 不会的。他们的妈妈说，她已经骂过孩子了。我反而有点儿同情她，就安慰了她几句。
bú huì de tāmen de māma shuō tā yǐjīng mà guo háizi le wǒ fǎnér yǒudiǎnr tóngqíng tā jiù ānwèi le tā jǐ jù · Of course not. Their mum said she'd already told the kids off. If anything I felt sorry for her, so I said a few kind words.

xiaoming 你一开始只会抱怨，现在居然去安慰别人了！有矛盾说出来，比一个人忍着好多了。
nǐ yì kāishǐ zhǐ huì bàoyuàn xiànzài jūrán qù ānwèi biérén le yǒu máodùn shuō chulai bǐ yí gè rén rěn zhe hǎo duō le · At first all you did was grumble, and now you're comforting other people! Talking about a problem is much better than putting up with it alone.

anna 对。他们的孩子还说，晚上九点以后不再闹了。
duì tāmen de háizi hái shuō wǎnshang jiǔ diǎn yǐhòu bú zài nào le · Yes. Their kids even said they won't make a racket after nine at night any more.

xiaoming 哈哈，说不定你们早晚会变成好朋友。
hā hā shuōbudìng nǐmen zǎowǎn huì biànchéng hǎo péngyou · Ha ha, you might even end up as good friends sooner or later.

anna 我希望是这样。自从搬到这儿，我越来越喜欢这个社区了。
wǒ xīwàng shì zhèyàng zìcóng bān dào zhèr wǒ yuè lái yuè xǐhuan zhège shèqū le · I hope so. Ever since I moved here, I've liked this neighbourhood more and more.

chapter 5 professor sun's little history talk

professor sun 今日我给大家简单讲讲我们社区的历史。
jīnrì wǒ gěi dàjiā jiǎndān jiǎng jiang wǒmen shèqū de lìshǐ · Today I'll tell you a little about the history of our neighbourhood.

professor sun 这一带的历史很久远。早期这里是农村，八十年代以来，这里逐步盖起了工厂和住房。
zhè yídài de lìshǐ hěn jiǔyuǎn zǎoqī zhèlǐ shì nóngcūn bāshí niándài yǐlái zhèlǐ zhúbù gài qǐ le gōngchǎng hé zhùfáng · This area goes back a long way. In the early days it was countryside; since the eighties, factories and housing have gone up step by step.

professor sun 此前大家住的都是老房子，此后才先后有了高楼。我曾在这儿拍了很多照片，至今都保存着。
cǐqián dàjiā zhù de dōu shì lǎo fángzi cǐhòu cái xiānhòu yǒu le gāo lóu wǒ céng zài zhèr pāi le hěn duō zhàopiàn zhìjīn dōu bǎocún zhe · Before that everyone lived in old houses; only afterwards did the tower blocks go up, one after another. I once took lots of photos here, and I still have them all.

little sister 近日我在网上看到一张老照片，最初这里还有一条小河呢！
jìnrì wǒ zài wǎngshang kàn dào yì zhāng lǎo zhàopiàn zuìchū zhèlǐ hái yǒu yì tiáo xiǎo hé ne · The other day I saw an old photo online: at first there was even a little river here!

professor sun 对，那条河后来逐渐没有了。近年来社区变化更大，近期还要开一个新公园。
duì nà tiáo hé hòulái zhújiàn méiyǒu le jìnnián lái shèqū biànhuà gèng dà jìnqī hái yào kāi yí gè xīn gōngyuán · Yes, the river slowly disappeared. In recent years the changes have been even bigger, and soon we're getting a new park.

anna 变化这么大，有什么是没变的吗？
biànhuà zhème dà yǒu shénme shì méi biàn de ma · With so many changes, is there anything that hasn't changed?

professor sun 有。邻居之间的感情依然没变，这是最长久的东西。
yǒu línjū zhījiān de gǎnqíng yīrán méi biàn zhè shì zuì chángjiǔ de dōngxi · Yes. The feeling between neighbours is still the same: that is what lasts longest.

xiaoming 说得太好了！此时花园里这么热闹，我真希望每年都有这样的晚会。
shuō de tài hǎo le cǐshí huāyuán lǐ zhème rènao wǒ zhēn xīwàng měi nián dōu yǒu zhèyàng de wǎnhuì · Well said! The garden is so lively right now: I wish we had a party like this every year.

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