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day 1 at the service counter

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 1 · life admin

Sort out a bill, a receipt or a repair at a service counter, and say “although …” in a written style.

Life in China still runs through counters, hotlines and official receipts, and 虽……但…… makes you sound like the news.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
虽	suī	although (written)	他虽年轻，但做事很认真。 He is young, but he works very carefully.
窗口	chuāngkǒu	service window, counter	请到三号窗口办理。 Please go to window 3.
查询	cháxún	to look up, check (information)	你可以在网上查询航班信息。 You can check flight information online.
热线	rèxiàn	hotline	有问题可以打这个热线电话。 If you have a problem, you can call this hotline.
求助	qiúzhù	to ask for help	遇到困难的时候，不要害怕向别人求助。 When you run into trouble, don’t be afraid to ask others for help.
提示	tíshì	to alert, prompt; a hint	手机提示我密码错了。 My phone told me the password was wrong.
余额	yúé	balance (money left)	我卡里的余额不多了。 There isn’t much left on my card.
账单	zhàngdān	bill	这个月的电话账单怎么这么贵? Why is this month’s phone bill so high?
发票	fāpiào	official receipt, invoice	麻烦给我开一张发票。 Could you give me an official receipt, please?
投诉	tóusù	to complain (officially)	如果服务太差，你可以打电话投诉。 If the service is bad, you can phone and complain.
撤回	chèhuí	to withdraw, take back; unsend	我发错了消息，马上撤回了。 I sent the wrong message and unsent it straight away.
撤销	chèxiāo	to cancel, revoke	银行撤销了那笔{=(measure word: sums of money, deals)}错误的费用。 The bank cancelled the wrong charge.
保修	bǎoxiū	to be under warranty	这台洗衣机保修三年。 This washing machine has a three-year warranty.
损坏	sǔnhuài	to damage	快递到的时候，盒子已经损坏了。 When the parcel arrived, the box was already damaged.
归还	guīhuán	to return (something borrowed)	借的书要按时归还。 Borrowed books must be returned on time.
保管	bǎoguǎn	to keep safe, look after	你的护照我先帮你保管。 I’ll keep your passport safe for you for now.

财物	cáiwù	belongings, property	酒店可以帮客人保管财物。 The hotel can keep guests' belongings safe.
贵重	guìzhòng	valuable, precious	贵重的东西不要放在车里。 Don't leave valuable things in the car.
转交	zhuǎnjiāo	to pass on (to someone)	这封信请你转交给王老师。 Please pass this letter on to Teacher Wang.
通话	tōnghuà	to talk on the phone; a call	我和妈妈每周视频通话一次。 I video-call my mum once a week.
耽误	dānwu	to delay, hold up	对不起，耽误你的时间了。 Sorry for taking up your time.
当天	dàngtiān	that same day	在这家{=(measure word)}店买东西，当天就能送{=to deliver}到。 If you buy from this shop, it arrives the same day.
当场	dāngchǎng	on the spot, there and then	他当场就答应了。 He agreed there and then.
只得	zhǐdé	have no choice but to	最后一班车已经走了，我只得打车回家。 The last bus had gone, so I had no choice but to take a taxi home.

pattern 虽……，但……: although (written style)

虽 | a fact | ，但 / 可 / 却 / 也 | what is still true

虽 is the short, written form of 虽然. It goes after the subject (or at the very start), and the second half answers with 但、可、却 or 也. 却 and 也 sit after the subject of the second half, never before it.

我们虽只通话了五分钟，问题却解决了。 **wǒmen suī zhǐ tōnghuà le wǔ fēnzhōng wèntí què jiějué le** We only spoke for five minutes, yet the problem was solved.

虽耽误了一点时间，但我们当天就办完了。 **suī dānwu le yìdiǎn shíjiān dàn wǒmen dàngtiān jiù bàn wán le** Although it took a little longer, we got it all done the same day.

他虽很生气，也没有当场发脾气。 **tā suī hěn shēngqì yě méiyǒu dāngchǎng fā píqi** Angry as he was, he didn't lose his temper there and then.

dialogue a long wait at the service window

xiaoming 安娜，你也在这儿排队？
Ānnà nǐ yě zài zhèr páiduì · Anna, you're queuing here too?

anna 是啊，我这个月的账单多了两百块，打热线求助也没用。
shì a wǒ zhège yuè de zhàngdān duō le liǎngbǎi kuài dǎ rèxiàn qiúzhù yě méi yòng · Yes. My bill this month is two hundred yuan too high, and calling the hotline for help got me nowhere.

xiaoming 我也打过，通话半个小时，最后只得自己跑一趟。
wǒ yě dǎ guo tōnghuà bàn gè xiǎoshí zuìhòu zhǐdé zìjǐ pǎo yí tàng · I called too: I was on the phone for half an hour, and in the end I had to come in person.

anna 我本来已经投诉了，后来又把投诉撤回了，觉得还是来窗口说清楚比较好。
wǒ běnlái yǐjīng tóusù le hòulái yòu bǎ tóusù chèhuí le juéde háishi lái chuāngkǒu shuō qīngchu bǐjiào hǎo · I'd already filed a complaint, then I withdrew it: I thought it was better to come to the counter and explain.

xiaoming 对，有问题当场问清楚，不会耽误太多时间。
duì yǒu wèntí dāngchǎng wèn qīngchu bú huì dānwu tài duō shíjiān · Right. If you ask on the spot, it doesn't take so long.

anna 希望他们当天就能撤销那笔费用。
xīwàng tāmen dàngtiān jiù néng chèxiāo nà bǐ fèiyong · I hope they can cancel that charge today.

xiaoming 记得让他们开一张发票。我还要归还他们借给我的旧手机。
jìde ràng tāmen kāi yì zhāng fāpiào wǒ hái yào guīhuán tāmen jiè gěi wǒ de jiù shǒujī · Remember to ask them for an official receipt. I also have to return the old phone they lent me.

anna 那我们一起等吧。虽人多，但大家都很有耐心。
nà wǒmen yìqǐ děng ba suī rén duō dàn dàjiā dōu hěn yǒu nàixīn · Then let's wait together. There are lots of people, but everyone's being patient.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

归
guī
to belong to; to return

财
cái
wealth, money

good to know · A 发票 (fāpiào) is China's official tax receipt. If your company pays you back, ask for one: 我要开发票. On WeChat you can 撤回 (unsend) a message within two minutes of sending it.

You can now sort out a wrong bill in Chinese, calmly, at the counter. That's grown-up fluency.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 2 shopping smart

Compare prices, styles and sizes, and say “even if …”.

Shopping in China is half online, half in the mall, and full of vouchers and lucky draws.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
就算	jiùsuàn	even if	就算下雨，我们也要去。 Even if it rains, we’re going.
昂贵	ángguì	expensive, costly (formal)	这种手表价格昂贵。 This kind of watch is very expensive.
百货	bǎihuò	general goods	我妈妈喜欢逛百货商店。 My mum likes wandering round department stores.
店铺	diànpù	shop, store	这条街上的店铺都很有特色。 The shops on this street all have their own character.
实惠	shíhuì	good value, affordable	这家{=(measure word)}饭馆的菜又好吃又实惠。 The food at this restaurant is tasty and good value.
性价比	xìngjiàbǐ	value for money	这台电脑的性价比很高。 This computer is great value for money.
齐全	qíquán	complete, having everything	这家{=(measure word)}超市的东西很齐全。 This supermarket has everything.
款式	kuǎnshì	style, design	这件衣服的款式很新。 This piece of clothing has a very new style.
新款	xīnkuǎn	new model, latest style	新款手机下{=next}个月就能买到了。 The new phone goes on sale next month.
尺寸	chǐcùn	size, measurements	这双鞋的尺寸|有点{==a bit, rather}小。 These shoes are a little small.
看中	kànzhòng	to take a fancy to, pick out	她看中了一条红裙子。 She fell for a red skirt.
下单	xiàdān	to place an order	我昨天晚上在网上下单了。 I placed the order online last night.
便捷	biànjié	convenient and quick	用手机付钱非常便捷。 Paying by phone is very convenient.
快捷	kuàijié	fast, quick	这种付钱方式又快捷又安全。 This way of paying is fast and safe.
抽奖	chōujiǎng	to hold a lucky draw; a lucky draw	买东西满两百块就可以抽奖。 Spend two hundred yuan and you can enter the lucky draw.
中奖	zhòngjiǎng	to win a prize	你中奖了！ You’ve won a prize!
奖品	jiǎngpǐn	prize	这次的奖品是一台电脑。 This time the prize is a computer.

券	quàn	voucher, coupon	用这张券可以便宜二十块。 This voucher takes twenty yuan off.
卡片	kǎpiàn	card	她给我写了一张生日卡片。 She wrote me a birthday card.
定时	dìngshí	at a fixed time; timed	我每天定时吃药。 I take my medicine at the same time every day.
备用	bèiyòng	spare, for emergencies	出门最好带一个备用电池。 It's best to take a spare battery when you go out.
多亏	duōkuī	thanks to	多亏你提醒我，不然我就忘了。 Thanks to your reminder; otherwise I'd have forgotten.
一口气	yīkǒuqì	in one go	她一口气买了五件衣服。 She bought five pieces of clothing in one go.

pattern 就算……，也……: even if

就算 | a condition, even an extreme one | ，(subject) 也 | the result does not change

就算 opens a condition, often an extreme or unlikely one, and 也 in the second half says the result stays the same. It is the everyday spoken form; 即使 is the written one.

就算打折，这件大衣也不算实惠。 **jiùsuàn dǎzhé zhè jiàn dàyī yě bú suàn shíhuì** Even with the discount, this coat isn't good value.

就算没中奖，抽奖也很好玩。 **jiùsuàn méi zhòngjiǎng chōujiǎng yě hěn hǎowán** Even if you don't win, the lucky draw is fun.

就算是新款，性价比也不一定高。 **jiùsuàn shì xīnkuǎn xìngjiàbǐ yě bù yídìng gāo** Even if it's the new model, it isn't necessarily good value.

dialogue the perfect coat

little sister 安娜，你看这件外套，款式多好看！
Ānnà nǐ kàn zhè jiàn wàitào kuǎnshì duō hǎokàn · Anna, look at this coat. What a gorgeous style!

anna 好看是好看，可是太贵了。网上的店铺更实惠。
hǎokàn shì hǎokàn kěshì tài guì le wǎngshang de diànpù gèng shíhuì · It's lovely, but it's too expensive. The shops online are better value.

little sister 就算网上便宜，也不知道尺寸合不合适啊。
jiùsuàn wǎngshang piányi yě bù zhīdào chǐcùn hé bu héshì a · Even if it's cheaper online, I won't know if the size is right.

anna 不合适可以退。你看看这家的评价，性价比很高。
bù héshì kěyǐ tuì nǐ kàn kan zhè jiā de píngjià xìngjiàbǐ hěn gāo · If it doesn't fit, you can send it back. Look at this shop's reviews: great value for money.

little sister 我看中了这件！现在下单还可以抽奖呢。
wǒ kànzhòng le zhè jiàn xiànzài xiàdān hái kěyǐ chōujiǎng ne · I love this one! And if you order now, you get a lucky draw.

anna 奖品是什么？
jiǎngpǐn shì shénme · What are the prizes?

little sister 一等奖是新手机，二等奖是一张两百块的券和一个备用电池。
yī děng jiǎng shì xīn shǒujī èr děng jiǎng shì yì zhāng liǎngbǎi kuài de quàn hé yí gè bèiyòng diànchí · First prize is a new phone; second prize is a two-hundred-yuan voucher and a spare battery.

anna 活动晚上八点开始，我让手机定时提醒我们。
huódòng wǎnshang bā diǎn kāishǐ wǒ ràng shǒujī dìngshí tíxǐng wǒmen · It starts at eight tonight. I'll set my phone to remind us.

little sister 要是中奖了，我送你一张生日卡片！
yàoshi zhòngjiǎng le wǒ sòng nǐ yì zhāng shēngrì kǎpiàn · If I win, I'll give you a birthday card!

anna 就算不中奖，也谢谢你陪我逛街。
jiùsuàn bú zhòngjiǎng yě xièxie nǐ péi wǒ guàng jiē · Even if you don't win, thanks for shopping with me.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

昂
áng
high, raised

寸
cùn
cun (about 3.3 cm), inch

券
quàn
voucher, coupon

good to know · 性价比 (value for money) is one of the most-used words in Chinese online shopping: 性价比很高 is high praise. 中奖 is “hit the prize”: 中 is read zhòng here, as in 看中 “pick out” (the eye hits the target).

Next time you shop in Chinese, you can ask for your size, use a voucher and weigh up value for money.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 3 what to wear

Talk about clothes, fabrics, colours and jewellery, and say "so that …".

Choosing what to wear is daily life, and 以便 is the neat written way to say why you do something.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
以便	yǐbiàn	so that, in order to	请留下电话号码，以便我们联系你。 Please leave your number so that we can contact you.
背心	bèixīn	vest, tank top	夏天他总是穿一件白{=white}背心。 In summer he always wears a white vest.
内衣	nèiyī	underwear	内衣最好用冷水洗。 Underwear is best washed in cold water.
羽绒服	yǔróngfú	down jacket	北京的冬天很冷，一定要穿羽绒服。 Winters in Beijing are cold: you really need a down jacket.
袖子	xiùzi	sleeve	这件衬衫的袖子太长了。 The sleeves of this shirt are too long.
棉	mián	cotton	这条裤子是棉的，穿着很舒服。 These trousers are cotton and very comfortable.
布	bù	cloth, fabric	她用一块旧布做了一个包。 She made a bag out of an old piece of cloth.
皮	pí	leather; skin, peel	这个包是真皮的。 This bag is real leather.
柔软	róuruǎn	soft	这条围巾又柔软又暖和。 This scarf is soft and warm.
扣	kòu	to button, fasten; a button	外面风大，把衣服扣好。 It's windy outside: button up your coat.
披	pī	to drape over the shoulders	她披着一件外套出去了。 She went out with a jacket over her shoulders.
化妆	huàzhuāng	to put on make-up	她每天早上化妆要半个小时。 She spends half an hour on her make-up every morning.
香水	xiāngshuǐ	perfume	这瓶香水的味道很淡。 This perfume has a very light scent.
耳环	ěrhuán	earring	这对{=pair (measure word)}耳环是她自己做的。 She made this pair of earrings herself.
戒指	jièzhi	ring (for a finger)	他手上戴着一个戒指。 He's wearing a ring.
项链	xiàngliàn	necklace	这条项链是奶奶留给我的。 My grandma left me this necklace.
珍珠	zhēnzhū	pearl	她戴了一条珍珠项链。 She wore a pearl necklace.

珠宝	zhūbǎo	jewellery	商场一楼是珠宝店。 The ground floor of the mall is jewellery shops.
黄	huáng	to turn yellow; yellow	秋天到了，草都黄了。 Autumn is here and the grass has all turned yellow.
棕色	zōngsè	brown	我想买一双棕色的皮鞋。 I want to buy a pair of brown leather shoes.
染	rǎn	to dye	她把头发染红了。 She dyed her hair red.
搭配	dāpèi	to match, combine; go together	白{=white}衬衫搭配什么颜色的裤子都好看。 A white shirt goes with trousers of any colour.
眼看	yǎnkàn	any moment now; watch as	眼看就要下雨了，快回家吧。 It's about to rain: let's hurry home.
当下	dāngxià	right now, at present	这种颜色是当下最流行的。 This colour is the most fashionable right now.

pattern ……，以便……: so that, in order to

what you do **，以便** **what it makes possible**

以便 starts the second half of a sentence and gives the purpose: you do the first thing so that the second becomes easier. It is written, slightly formal Chinese; in speech people often say 好让 or just 为了.

出门前看一下天气，以便决定穿什么。 **chūmén qián kàn yíxià tiānqì yǐbiàn juédìng chuān shénme**
Check the weather before you go out, so you can decide what to wear.

我把戒指放在盒子里，以便保管。 **wǒ bǎ jièzhi fàng zài hézi lǐ yǐbiàn bǎoguǎn** I put the ring in a box to keep it safe.

店员把棕色的皮包放在门口，以便顾客一进门就能看到。 **diàn yuán bǎ zōngsè de pí bāo fàng zài ménkǒu yǐbiàn gùkè yí jìn mén jiù néng kàn dào** The staff put the brown leather bags by the door so customers see them as soon as they walk in.

dialogue what to wear to the party

little sister 安娜，明天我要去参加朋友的生日会，你帮我看看穿什么。
Ānnà míngtiān wǒ yào qù cānjiā péngyou de shēngrì huì nǐ bāng wǒ kàn kan chuān shénme · Anna, I'm going to a friend's birthday party tomorrow. Help me pick something to wear.

anna 这件棕色的皮外套怎么样？是当下最流行的颜色。
zhè jiàn zōngsè de pí wàitào zěnmeyàng shì dāngxià zuì liúxíng de yánsè · How about this brown leather jacket? It's the colour of the moment.

little sister 好看，可是袖子有点长。
hǎokàn kěshì xiùzi yǒudiǎn cháng · It's nice, but the sleeves are a bit long.

anna 袖子长一点没关系，扣上以后很好看。
xiùzi cháng yìdiǎn méi guānxi kòu shàng yǐhòu hěn hǎokàn · Slightly long sleeves are fine; it looks great buttoned up.

little sister 那下面穿什么？这条裙子很柔软，那条有点短。
nà xiàmiàn chuān shénme zhè tiáo qúnzi hěn róuruǎn nà tiáo yǒudiǎn duǎn · What should I wear with it? This skirt is really soft; that one's a bit short.

anna 穿黑色那条吧，和棕色很搭配。
chuān hēisè nà tiáo ba hé zōngsè hěn dāpèi · Wear the black one: it goes well with brown.

little sister 我要不要戴点珠宝？我只有一个戒指。
wǒ yào búyào dài diǎn zhūbǎo wǒ zhǐyǒu yí gè jièzhi · Should I wear some jewellery? I've only got one ring.

anna 戴戒指就够了。简单就好，不用化妆也很漂亮。
dài jièzhi jiù gòu le jiǎndān jiù hǎo búyòng huàzhuāng yě hěn piàoliang · The ring is enough. Keep it simple: you look lovely without make-up.

little sister 好！我现在就去试试，这样明天早上就不用着急了。
hǎo wǒ xiànzài jiù qù shì shi zhèyàng míngtiān zǎoshang jiù búyòng zháojí le · Great! I'll try it on now so I won't be rushing tomorrow morning.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

披
pī
to drape over the shoulders

妆
zhuāng
make-up

戒
jiè
to guard against

good to know · 黄 on its own also works as a verb: 树叶黄了 "the leaves have turned yellow", 头发染黄了 "dyed blonde". 以便 belongs in emails, notices and essays. Chatting with friends, 好让 or 为了 sounds more natural.

You can now describe an outfit, from the fabric to the jewellery, and explain why you chose it.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 4 fix it yourself

Describe a repair job: sticking, drilling, hanging and propping things up. Say “only if …”.

Fixing things together is how friends help each other, and 除非……才…… is how you set conditions.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
除非	chúfēi	only if; unless	除非你亲自去，他才会答应。 He’ll only agree if you go in person.
补	bǔ	to patch, mend; make up for	妈妈帮我把裤子补好了。 Mum patched my trousers for me.
粘	zhān	to stick, glue	我把破了的照片粘好了。 I glued the torn photo back together.
胶带	jiāodài	sticky tape	用胶带把盒子粘上。 Tape the box shut.
胶水	jiāoshuǐ	glue	杯子摔坏了，用胶水也粘不好。 The cup is smashed; even glue won’t fix it.
钻	zuān	to drill; squeeze into, burrow	大白钻到床下面去了。 Dabai squeezed under the bed.
棍	gùn	stick, rod	他用一根长棍把球弄了出来。 He got the ball out with a long stick.
线	xiàn	thread, wire, line	电脑的线太短了。 The computer’s cable is too short.
环	huán	ring, hoop; link	这是整个计划中最重要的一环。 This is the most important link in the whole plan.
尖	jiān	pointed, sharp; tip	这把刀很尖，小心点{=a little, some}。 This knife is very sharp: be careful.
料	liào	material, stuff	这件大衣的料很好。 This coat is made of good material.
印	yìn	to print; a mark, print	请把这份材料印十份。 Please print ten copies of this document.
端	duān	to carry (level, in both hands)	服务员端来了一碗汤。 The waiter brought over a bowl of soup.
顶	dǐng	top; to hold up; (for hats)	他头上戴着一顶帽子。 He’s wearing a hat.
吊	diào	to hang, suspend	房间中间吊着一个灯。 A lamp hangs in the middle of the room.
撑	chēng	to prop up; hold open (an umbrella)	外面下雨了，她撑着伞走了出去。 It was raining, so she went out under an umbrella.
支	zhī	to prop up, support	他用手支{zhi1-6}着头，听得很认真。 Head propped on his hand, he listened closely.
支撑	zhīchēng	to support, hold up	中间这根木头支撑着整个书架。 This piece of wood in the middle holds up

			the whole bookshelf.
搭	dā	to put up (quickly); hang over	他把外套搭在椅子上。 He hung his jacket over the chair.
摆	bǎi	to put, arrange; to sway	桌子上摆着几本书。 There are a few books laid out on the table.
立	lì	to stand (something) up	请把这块牌子立在门口。 Please stand this sign by the door.
侧	cè	side; to lean to one side	我习惯侧着睡。 I usually sleep on my side.
歪	wāi	crooked, askew	墙上的画挂歪了。 The picture on the wall is hanging crooked.
弯曲	wānqū	bent, winding	这条小路很弯曲，开车要小心。 This lane is very winding, so drive carefully.

pattern 除非……，才……: only if

除非 | the one condition | ，(subject) 才 | the result

除非 names the one condition that has to be met, and 才 in the second half means “only then”. 除非你帮我，我才能修好 = I can only fix it if you help me. Tomorrow we meet its partner, 除非……否则……

除非有专业工具，我们才能在这面墙上钻洞。 **chúfēi yǒu zhuānyè gōngjù wǒmen cái néng zài zhè miàn qiáng shàng zuān dòng** We can only drill into this wall if we have proper tools.

除非下面再加一根棍子支撑，这个架子才不会倒。 **chúfēi xiàmiàn zài jiā yì gēn gùn zi zhīchēng zhège jià zi cái bú huì dǎo** This shelf will only stay up if we add another stick underneath to support it.

除非把线接好，灯才会亮。 **chúfēi bǎ xiàn jiē hǎo dēng cái huì liàng** The light will only come on if the wire is connected properly.

dialogue the bookshelf that fell down

anna 小明，我的书架倒了！你能来帮我看看吗?

Xiǎomíng wǒ de shūjià dǎo le nǐ néng lái bāng wǒ kàn kan ma · Xiaoming, my bookshelf has fallen down! Can you come and have a look?

xiaoming 我看看……这块木头太薄了，中间没有东西支撑。

wǒ kàn kan zhè kuài mùtou tài báo le zhōngjiān méiyǒu dōngxi zhīchēng · Let me see... this board is too thin, and there's nothing supporting the middle.

anna 那怎么办？要重新买吗?

nà zěnme bàn yào chóngxīn mǎi ma · So what do we do? Do I need a new one?

xiaoming 不用。除非整个书架都坏了，才需要买新的。我们在下面加一根棍子，把它支起来。

búyòng chúfēi zhěnggè shūjià dōu huài le cái xūyào mǎi xīn de wǒmen zài xiàmiàn jiā yì gēn gùn zi bǎ tā zhī qǐlai · No. You'd only need a new one if the whole thing were broken. We'll add a stick underneath and prop it up.

anna 好主意！我这儿有一些剩下的料，你看能用吗?

hǎo zhǔyi wǒ zhèr yǒu yìxiē shèng xià de liào nǐ kàn néng yòng ma · Good idea! I've got some leftover material here. Can you use it?

xiaoming 可以。小心，这块木头的一端很尖。

kěyǐ xiǎoxīn zhè kuài mùtou de yì duān hěn jiān · Yes. Careful, one end of this piece is sharp.

anna 说明书上印着一张图，你看是不是这样搭的?

shuōmíngshū shàng yìn zhe yì zhāng tú nǐ kàn shì bu shì zhèyàng dā de · There's a picture printed in the instructions. Is this how it goes together?

xiaoming 对。最上面那层不要摆太重的东西，顶上可以放几本小书。

duì zuì shàngmiàn nà céng búyào bǎi tài zhòng de dōngxi dǐng shàng kěyǐ fàng jǐ běn xiǎo shū · Yes. Don't put anything heavy on the top shelf; you can put a few small books on top.

anna 那个小环是干什么用的?

nàge xiǎo huán shì gàn shénme yòng de · What's that little ring for?

xiaoming 用来把书架固定在墙上，不然容易倒。

yònglái bǎ shūjià gùdìng zài qiáng shàng bùrán róngyì dǎo · It fixes the bookshelf to the wall; otherwise it falls over easily.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

尖
jiān
pointed, sharp; tip

顶
dǐng
top; to hold up; (for hats)

吊
diào
to hang, suspend



摆												
bǎi to put, arrange; to sway	摆	摆	摆	摆	摆							

good to know · 钻 is zuān as a verb (to drill, to squeeze into) and zuàn as a noun (a drill, a diamond: 钻石). 顶 is also the measure word for hats: 一顶帽子 “a hat”.

You can now talk your way through a repair job in Chinese, and set conditions like a pro: only if …
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 5 hands and feet

Describe what hands, feet and bodies do, and say “unless …, otherwise …”.

Action verbs bring stories to life, and 除非……否则…… is how Chinese speakers warn and bargain.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
掏	tāo	to take out (from a pocket)	他从口袋里掏出一张纸。 He took a piece of paper out of his pocket.
捧	pěng	to hold in both hands	她捧着一束花走了进来。 She came in holding a bunch of flowers.
抛	pāo	to throw, toss	他把球抛给了我。 He tossed the ball to me.
扑	pū	to pounce, throw oneself at	大白一看到我就扑了过来。 As soon as Dabai saw me, he jumped up at me.
拾	shí	to pick up (from the ground)	他把地{di4-3}上的垃圾拾了起来。 He picked the rubbish up off the ground.
捉	zhuō	to catch	孩子们在草地上捉蝴蝶。 The children are catching butterflies on the grass.
牵	qiān	to lead (by the hand or a lead)	她牵着大白在公园里散步。 She’s walking Dabai in the park.
扭	niǔ	to twist, sprain	我打球的时候扭到了脚。 I twisted my ankle playing ball.
折	zhé	to break, snap; to fold	他不小心把铅笔折断了。 He snapped his pencil by accident.
挖	wā	to dig	大白在院子里挖了一个洞。 Dabai dug a hole in the yard.
喷	pēn	to spray	出门前她喷了一点香水。 She put on a little perfume before going out.
泼	pō	to splash, throw (liquid)	他不小心把咖啡泼在了我身上。 He accidentally splashed coffee on me.
撒	sǎ	to sprinkle, scatter	最后在汤上撒一点儿盐。 Finally, sprinkle a little salt over the soup.
塞	sāi	to stuff, squeeze in	她把衣服都塞进了箱子里。 She stuffed all the clothes into the suitcase.
吞	tūn	to swallow (whole)	这个药太大了，我吞不下去。 This pill is too big: I can’t swallow it.
踩	cǎi	to step on	对不起，我踩到你的脚了。 Sorry, I stepped on your foot.
蹲	dūn	to squat, crouch	他蹲下来和小朋友说话。 He crouched down to talk to the child.

迈	mài	to stride, take a step	他迈出了人生的第一步{=step}。 He took the first step of his life.
仰	yǎng	to face upward, tilt the head back	她仰着头看天上的星星。 She tilted her head back to look at the stars.
睁	zhēng	to open (the eyes)	我睁开眼睛，天已经亮了。 I opened my eyes, and it was already light.
闭	bì	to close (eyes, mouth)	请闭上眼睛，慢慢呼吸。 Please close your eyes and breathe slowly.
转身	zhuǎnshēn	to turn around	他说完就转身走了。 He said his piece, turned and left.
后退	hòutuì	to step back, retreat	看到那只大狗，孩子后退了两步{=step}。 Seeing the big dog, the child took two steps back.
使劲	shǐjìn	to use force, push hard	门太紧了，我使劲推也推不开。 The door is stuck; even pushing hard I can't open it.

pattern 除非……，否则……: unless …, otherwise …

除非 **the condition** ，否则 / 不然 **what happens if it isn't met**

除非 names the condition, and 否则 (or spoken 不然) says what happens if it isn't met. 除非下雨，否则我们去爬山 = we'll go hiking unless it rains. 否则 starts the second half, before the subject.

除非你使劲推，否则门打不开。 **chúfēi nǐ shǐjìn tuī fǒuzé mén dǎ bu kāi** Unless you push hard, the door won't open.

除非先挖一个深一点的洞，否则这棵树种不好。 **chúfēi xiān wā yí gè shēn yìdiǎn de dòng fǒuzé zhè kē shù zhòng bu hǎo** Unless you dig a deeper hole first, the tree won't take.

除非动作很快，否则捉不到这只小鸟。 **chúfēi dòngzuò hěn kuài fǒuzé zhuō bu dào zhè zhī xiǎo niǎo** Unless you're really quick, you won't catch this little bird.

dialogue dabai in the park

anna 小明，快看，大白在草地上挖洞呢！
Xiǎomíng kuài kàn Dàbái zài cǎodì shàng wā dòng ne · Xiaoming, look! Dabai's digging a hole in the grass!

xiaoming 大白，过来！……它不听我的。除非手里有吃的，否则它不会回来。
Dàbái guòlái tā bù tīng wǒ de chúfēi shǒu lǐ yǒu chī de fǒuzé tā bú huì huílái · Dabai, come here! … He won't listen. Unless I've got food in my hand, he won't come back.

anna 我出门的时候在口袋里塞了几块饼干，我把饼干抛给它吧。
wǒ chūmén de shíhou zài kǒudai lǐ sāi le jǐ kuài bǐnggān wǒ bǎ bǐnggān pāo gěi tā ba · I stuffed a few biscuits in my pocket before I left. I'll throw him one.

xiaoming 它跑回来了！哎，别扑我，我的新裤子！
tā pǎo huilai le āi bié pū wǒ wǒ de xīn kùzi · He's coming back! Hey, don't jump on me, my new trousers!

anna 哈哈，它好像把饼干整个吞下去了。
hā hā tā hǎoxiàng bǎ bǐnggān zhěnggè tūn xiaqu le · Ha ha, I think he swallowed the biscuit whole.

xiaoming 小心！草地上的水管喷水了，快后退！
xiǎoxīn cǎodì shàng de shuǐ guǎn pēn shuǐ le kuài hòutuì · Watch out! The sprinkler's come on, step back!

anna 来不及了，我全身都湿了。哎呀，我还踩到了大白挖的洞，脚扭了！
láibují le wǒ quánshēn dōu shī le āiyā wǒ hái cǎi dào le Dàbái wā de dòng jiǎo niǔ le · Too late, I'm soaked. Ouch, and I've stepped in Dabai's hole and twisted my foot!

xiaoming 快坐下来，别使劲。……还好，问题不大。
kuài zuò xialai bié shǐjìn hái hǎo wèntí bú dà · Sit down, don't put weight on it. … Phew, it's not too bad.

anna 刚才我步子迈得太大了，下次要小心一点。
gāngcái wǒ bù zi mài de tài dà le xià cì yào xiǎoxīn yìdiǎn · I was taking steps that were too big. I'll be more careful next time.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

侧
cè
side; to lean to one side

抛
pāo
to throw, toss

扑
pū
to pounce, throw oneself at



扭
niǔ
to twist, sprain

good to know · 否则 is the written word; in speech 不然 or 要不然 means the same. 拾 (to pick up) is the written word; in everyday speech people usually say 捡 jiǎn.

With today's verbs you can tell any little drama of a day, blow by blow, the way people really talk.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 6 oops!

Tell the story of things going wrong, and let it go with 算了.

Every friendship has a dinner that went wrong, and 算了 is the word that saves the evening.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
算了	suànle	forget it, never mind	算了，别生气了。 Forget it, don't be angry.
落	là	to leave behind, forget to bring	我把钥匙落{la4-6}在家里了。 I left my keys at home.
露	lòu	to show, reveal	他一笑就露{lou4-6}出了牙齿。 When he smiles, he shows his teeth.
害	hài	to cause trouble for; harm	你迟到了，害得我们等了半个小时。 You were late and made us wait half an hour.
避	bì	to avoid, keep away from	大家在商店门口避雨。 Everyone is sheltering from the rain in the shop doorway.
躲避	duǒbì	to dodge, hide from	他总是躲避这个问题。 He always dodges this question.
闪	shǎn	to dodge (quickly); to flash	一辆车开过来，他赶快往旁边一闪。 A car came towards him, and he quickly jumped aside.
逃	táo	to escape, flee	小猫从窗户逃了出去。 The kitten escaped through the window.
逃跑	táopǎo	to run away	那个人想逃跑，被警察抓住了。 The man tried to run away and was caught by the police.
扎	zhā	to prick, stab	小心，别让玻璃扎了手。 Careful, don't cut your hand on the glass.
点燃	diǎnrán	to light, ignite	他用一张旧报纸点燃了火。 He lit the fire with an old newspaper.
火柴	huǒchái	match (for lighting)	现在很少有人用火柴了。 Hardly anyone uses matches now.
混	hùn	to mix (up)	我把盐和糖混在一起了！ I've mixed up the salt and the sugar!
清	qīng	clear; to clear up, settle	我们把钱算清了。 We've settled up.
散	sǎn	to come loose, fall apart	包没拉好，书散{san3-6}了一地{di4-3}。 The bag wasn't zipped and the books spilled everywhere.
散	sàn	to break up, scatter	会议散{san4}了以后，大家一起去吃饭。 After the meeting broke up, everyone went for a meal.
散发	sànfā	to give off, send out	花园里的花散发着香味。 The flowers in the garden give off a lovely scent.

添	tiān	to add	不好意思，给你添麻烦了。 Sorry to put you to so much trouble.
转	zhuàn	to go around, spin	我们在附近转{zhuan4-6}了半天，|还是{==still, nevertheless}没找到。 We went round the area for ages and still couldn't find it.
中	zhòng	to hit (a target); be hit by	他一下就猜中{zhong4-6}了答案。 He guessed the answer straight away.
拖	tuō	to drag; to put off	这件事不能再拖了。 This can't be put off any longer.
招手	zhāoshǒu	to wave (to someone)	她在远处向我招手。 She's waving to me from far away.
片刻	piànkè	a moment	我们休息片刻再出发。 Let's rest a moment before we set off.
瞬间	shùnjiān	an instant	灯一关，房间瞬间暗了下来。 The light went off and the room was dark in an instant.

pattern 算了: forget it, let it go

what went wrong ，算了 what you'll do instead

算了 means "forget it, never mind, let it go". Say it alone, or before what you'll do instead: 算了，我们打车吧. After a condition, 就算了 is gentle: 你不想去就算了 "if you don't want to go, never mind".

你不想去就算了，我自己出去转一下。 **nǐ bù xiǎng qù jiù suànle wǒ zìjǐ chūqù zhuàn yíxià** If you don't want to go, never mind: I'll go for a wander on my own.

算了，电话里说不清，我们见面再谈吧。 **suànle diànhuà lǐ shuō bù qīng wǒmen jiànmiàn zài tán ba** Forget it, I can't explain this on the phone. Let's talk when we meet.

算了，别再躲避这个问题了，我们好好谈谈吧。 **suànle bié zài duǒbì zhège wèntí le wǒmen hǎohǎo tán tan ba** Come on, stop dodging the question. Let's talk it through.

dialogue the dinner that went wrong

anna 哎呀，汤怎么这么甜？我把盐和糖混在一起了！
āiyā tāng zěnme zhème tián wǒ bǎ yán hé táng hùn zài yìqǐ le · Oh no, why is the soup so sweet? I've mixed up the salt and the sugar!

little sister 没关系，再添一点盐就行了。
méi guānxi zài tiān yìdiǎn yán jiù xíng le · Don't worry, just add a bit more salt.

anna 算了，这锅汤别喝了。厨房里还散发着怪味呢。
suànle zhè guō tāng bié hē le chúfáng lǐ hái sànfā zhe guài wèi ne · Forget it, let's not drink this soup. The kitchen still smells funny.

xiaoming 哎，怎么突然停电了？
āi zěnme tūrán tíng diàn le · Hey, why has the power suddenly gone off?

little sister 大家别动！我刚才打破了一个杯子，小心玻璃扎脚。
dàjiā bié dòng wǒ gāngcái dǎpò le yí gè bēizi xiǎoxīn bōli zhā jiǎo · Nobody move! I just broke a glass: careful you don't cut your feet.

xiaoming 我去找火柴……找到了！我先点燃一根，请大家稍等片刻。
wǒ qù zhǎo huǒchái zhǎo dào le wǒ xiān diǎnrán yì gēn qǐng dàjiā shāo děng piànkè · I'll find the matches... got them! I'll light one: give me a moment, everyone.

anna 大白呢？它最怕黑了，肯定躲到床下面去了。
Dàbái ne tā zuì pà hēi le kěndìng duǒ dào chuáng xiàmiàn qù le · Where's Dabai? He hates the dark: he'll be hiding under the bed.

little sister 我看到它了！它只露出了一条尾巴，我向它招手，它也不出来。
wǒ kàn dào tā le tā zhǐ lòu chū le yì tiáo wěiba wǒ xiàng tā zhāoshǒu tā yě bù chūlái · I can see him! Only his tail is sticking out. I'm waving to him, but he won't come out.

xiaoming 灯亮了！大白一下就从床下逃了出来。
dēng liàng le Dàbái yíxià jiù cóng chuáng xià táo le chulai · The lights are back! Dabai has shot out from under the bed.

anna 今天的晚饭虽有点乱，但大家都很开心。
jīntiān de wǎnfàn suī yǒudiǎn luàn dàn dàjiā dōu hěn kāixīn · Dinner was a bit of a mess, but everyone had fun.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

吞
tūn
to swallow (whole)

迈
mài
to stride, take a step

仰
yǎng
to face upward, tilt the head back



劲 jìn strength											

good to know · Several of today's characters have two readings: 落 là "leave behind" (luò "fall"), 露 lòu "show" (lù "dew"), 散 sǎn "come loose" and sàn "break up". 算了 is soft and kind; 得了 (tomorrow) is sharper. Use 算了 to calm a friend down.

You can now turn a disaster into a funny story in Chinese, and end it with a relaxed 算了.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 7 a day off

Talk about your free time, then and now, and brush things off with 得了.

A day off is when the best conversations happen, and time words let you tell how life has changed.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
得了	déle	OK, enough; come off it	得了，别再说了。 OK, that's enough.
空闲	kòngxián	free, spare (time)	空闲的时候，我喜欢去公园走走。 In my free time I like a walk in the park.
歇	xiē	to rest, take a break	走累了，我们歇一会儿吧。 We're tired from walking: let's have a rest.
放飞	fàngfēi	to let fly; let go	周末到了，放飞一下心情吧！ It's the weekend: let your mood fly free!
望	wàng	to look into the distance	他站{zhan4-3}在窗前望着远处的山。 He stood at the window gazing at the far-off mountains.
划	huà	to mark, draw (a line)	我在重要的地方划{hua4-6}了一条线。 I underlined the important parts.
出入	chūrù	coming and going; discrepancy	这两份材料的数字有些出入。 The figures in these two documents don't quite match.
栏	lán	column, box (on a form); railing	请在这一栏写上你的名字。 Please write your name in this box.
此刻	cǐkè	this moment, right now	此刻我只{zhi3}想好好休息。 Right now all I want is a good rest.
当初	dāngchū	at the time, originally	早知道这样，当初就不该来。 If I'd known, I wouldn't have come in the first place.
起初	qǐchū	at first	起初我不太习惯，后来就好了。 At first I wasn't used to it, but later it was fine.
原本	yuánběn	originally	我原本打算去爬山，后来下雨了。 I'd meant to go hiking, but then it rained.
原先	yuánxiān	formerly, before	这里原先是一家{=(measure word)}书店。 This used to be a bookshop.
先前	xiānqián	before, previously	他比先前瘦多了。 He is much thinner than before.
过后	guòhòu	afterwards, later	这件事过后再说吧。 Let's talk about it afterwards.
事后	shìhòu	after the event	事后他才知道自己错了。 Only afterwards did he realise he was wrong.
日后	rìhòu	in the future, some day	日后有机会，我一定去看你。 If I get the chance some day, I'll definitely come and see you.

日前	rìqián	a few days ago (written)	日前，这家{=(measure word)}博物馆开始免费开放。 A few days ago, the museum began opening free of charge.
往后	wǎnghòu	from now on, in future	往后我每天都要早起。 From now on I'll get up early every day.
回头	huítóu	later; to turn the head	我现在|有点{==a bit, rather}忙，回头再给你打电话。 I'm a bit busy right now: I'll call you later.
匆匆	cōngcōng	hurriedly, in a rush	他匆匆吃了几口饭就走了。 He grabbed a few mouthfuls and rushed off.
趁	chèn	while, taking the chance	趁天气好，我们出去走走吧。 Let's go out while the weather is good.
嘿	hēi	hey!	嘿，你也在这儿啊！ Hey, you're here too!
哇	wā	wow!	哇，这里的风景太美了！ Wow, the view here is stunning!

pattern 得了: ok, enough; come off it

得了 (吧)，what you say next

得了 (déle) ends a discussion: "OK, enough". It can also brush something aside: "come off it". 得了吧 is stronger and a bit teasing. Like 算了, it belongs to speech, not to essays.

得了，别说了，我们走吧。 **déle bié shuō le wǒmen zǒu ba** OK, enough talking: let's go.

得了吧，你哪儿有空闲时间？ **déle ba nǐ nǎr yǒu kòngxián shíjiān** Come off it, when do you ever have free time?

得了，事后再说吧，先吃饭。 **déle shìhòu zàishuō ba xiān chī fàn** OK, we'll talk about it afterwards. Let's eat first.

dialogue a day by the lake

little sister 嘿，安娜，你今天怎么没上班？
hēi Ānnà nǐ jīntiān zěnme méi shàngbān · Hey, Anna, why aren't you at work today?

anna 我请了一天假。此刻我只想坐在湖边，什么也不做。
wǒ qǐng le yì tiān jià cǐkè wǒ zhǐ xiǎng zuò zài hú biān shénme yě bú zuò · I took a day off. Right now all I want is to sit by the lake and do nothing.

little sister 哇，你也会休息啊！先前你周末都在加班。
wā nǐ yě huì xiūxi a xiānqián nǐ zhōumò dōu zài jiābān · Wow, so you do take breaks! You used to work every weekend.

anna 得了，别笑我了。当初我刚来北京的时候，每天早上都匆匆吃一口饭就去上班。
déle bié xiào wǒ le dāngchū wǒ gāng lái Běijīng de shíhou měi tiān zǎoshang dōu cōngcōng chī yì kǒu fàn jiù qù shàngbān · Oh, stop teasing. When I first came to Beijing, I'd grab a bite every morning and rush off to work.

little sister 那往后你每个月都要休息一天。
nà wǎnghòu nǐ měi gè yuè dōu yào xiūxi yì tiān · Then from now on, take a day off every month.

anna 好。回头我们一起去看看那家新开的书店吧，原先那里是一家咖啡店。
hǎo huítóu wǒmen yìqǐ qù kàn kan nà jiā xīn kāi de shūdiàn ba yuánxiān nàlǐ shì yì jiā kāfēi diàn · Deal. Let's go and see that new bookshop sometime; it used to be a café.

little sister 好啊！不过你说的跟小明说的有些出入。他说你上周末也在加班！
hǎo a búguò nǐ shuō de gēn Xiǎomíng shuō de yǒuxiē chūrù tā shuō nǐ shàng zhōumò yě zài jiābān · Sure! But your story doesn't quite match Xiaoming's. He says you worked last weekend too!

anna 得了得了，那是一件急事。过后我请你吃饭，好吗？
déle déle nà shì yí jiàn jí shì guòhòu wǒ qǐng nǐ chī fàn hǎo ma · All right, all right, that was urgent. I'll buy you dinner afterwards, OK?

write it trace the grey, then write your own

闪
shǎn
to dodge (quickly); to flash

扎
zhā
to prick, stab

匆
cōng
hurried

good to know · 日前 and 日后 are written words, common in news reports; in speech say 前几天 and 以后. 回头 means "turn your head", but in speech it often means "later": 回头见 "see you later".

You can now talk about how things were at first, how they are now, and what comes next. That's a life story in Chinese.
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day 8 mission: a busy saturday

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 1 · life admin

Follow a whole busy Saturday in Chinese: a bank counter and its notice, a sale with clothes and jewellery, a repair, a dog in the park and a rest by the lake.

Missions put the whole unit to work in one story, the way real life mixes everything together.

chapter 1 at the bank

xiaoming 嘿，安娜，你这么早就来银行了？
hēi Ānnà nǐ zhème zǎo jiù lái yínháng le · Hey, Anna, you're at the bank this early?

anna 是啊，我早上匆匆吃了口饭就来了。卡里的余额不对，少了五百块。
shì a wǒ zǎoshang cōngcōng chī le kǒu fàn jiù lái le kǎ lǐ de yú é bú duì shǎo le wǔbǎi kuài · Yes, I just grabbed a quick bite this morning and came. My card balance is wrong: five hundred yuan is missing.

anna 打热线也问不清楚，通话半个小时都没用。
dǎ rèxiàn yě wèn bu qīngchu tōnghuà bàn gè xiǎoshí dōu méi yòng · The hotline couldn't work it out either. Half an hour on the phone, and nothing.

xiaoming 你在手机上查询过账单吗？
nǐ zài shǒujī shàng cháxún guo zhàngdān ma · Have you checked your statement on your phone?

anna 查过了，跟我记的有出入。我只得来窗口求助。
chá guo le gēn wǒ jì de yǒu chūrù wǒ zhǐdé lái chuāngkǒu qiúzhù · I have, and it doesn't match what I wrote down. So I had no choice but to come to the counter for help.

xiaoming 你看墙上的提示：“请保管好您的贵重财物。办理业务前请准备好身份证，以便当场处理。”
nǐ kàn qiáng shàng de tíshì qǐng bǎoguǎn hǎo nín de guìzhòng cáiwù bànlǐ yèwù qián qǐng zhǔnbèi hǎo shēnfènzhèng yǐbiàn dāngchǎng chǔlǐ · Look at the notice on the wall: "Please look after your valuables. Have your ID card ready before your appointment so that we can deal with it on the spot."

anna 窗口的人说当天就能撤销那笔费用，让我在这一栏签名。
chuāngkǒu de rén shuō dàngtiān jiù néng chèxiāo nà bǐ fèiyong ràng wǒ zài zhè yì lán qiānmíng · The person at the counter said they can cancel that charge the same day, and asked me to sign in this box.

xiaoming 你先前不是说要投诉吗？
nǐ xiānqián bú shì shuō yào tóusù ma · Didn't you say before that you were going to make a complaint?

anna 投诉了，后来又撤回了。在窗口说清楚比较快，不会耽误太多时间。
tóusù le hòulái yòu chèhuí le zài chuāngkǒu shuō qīngchu bǐjiào kuài bú huì dānwu tài duō shíjiān · I did, and then I withdrew it. Sorting it out at the counter is quicker and doesn't waste much time.

xiaoming 那就好。虽麻烦了一点，但钱能退回来。
nà jiù hǎo suī máfan le yìdiǎn dàn qián néng tuì huilai · That's good. It's a bit of a hassle, but you'll get the money back.

anna 多亏你上次提醒我，我把所有的发票都保管好了。
duōkuī nǐ shàng cì tíxǐng wǒ wǒ bǎ suǒyǒu de fāpiào dōu bǎoguǎn hǎo le · Thanks to your reminder last time, I kept all my receipts safe.

chapter 2 the big sale

little sister 安娜，小明，这边！今天百货商店打折。
Ānnà Xiǎomíng zhèbiān jīntiān bǎihuò shāngdiàn dǎzhé · Anna, Xiaoming, over here! The department store has a sale today.

little sister 你们看这个广告：“全场商品打折，珠宝不再昂贵！买满三百元就可以抽奖，奖品是新款电脑。”
nǐmen kàn zhège guǎnggào quánchǎng shāngpǐn dǎzhé zhūbǎo bú zài ángguì mǎi mǎn sānbǎi yuán jiù kěyǐ chōujiǎng jiǎngpǐn shì xīnkuǎn diànnǎo · Look at this ad: “Everything on sale: jewellery is no longer expensive! Spend 300 yuan and enter the lucky draw. The prize is a brand-new computer.”

anna 就算没中奖，我手里也还有一张一百块的券呢。
jiùsuàn méi zhòngjiǎng wǒ shǒu lǐ yě hái yǒu yì zhāng yìbǎi kuài de quàn ne · Even if we don’t win, I’ve still got a hundred-yuan voucher.

anna 我原本只想买一件棉背心，没想到这里的款式这么齐全。
wǒ yuánběn zhǐ xiǎng mǎi yí jiàn mián bèixīn méi xiǎng dào zhèlǐ de kuǎnshì zhème qíquán · I only meant to buy a cotton vest, but I didn’t expect them to have every style.

little sister 你试试这件棕色的皮外套，是当下最流行的。
nǐ shì shi zhè jiàn zōngsè de pí wàitào shì dāngxià zuì liúxíng de · Try this brown leather jacket. It’s the most fashionable thing right now.

anna 皮的太贵了。这件布的很柔软，性价比也高，就是袖子有点长。
pí de tài guì le zhè jiàn bù de hěn róuruǎn xìngjiàbǐ yě gāo jiùshì xiùzi yǒudiǎn cháng · Leather’s too pricey. This cloth one is soft and good value too, only the sleeves are a bit long.

little sister 扣上以后很好看，和你的珍珠项链也很搭配。
kòu shàng yǐhòu hěn hǎokàn hé nǐ de zhēnzhū xiàngliàn yě hěn dāpèi · Buttoned up it looks great, and it goes well with your pearl necklace.

xiaoming 我看中了一件羽绒服，可是没有我的尺寸。
wǒ kànzhòng le yí jiàn yǔróngfú kěshì méiyǒu wǒ de chǐcùn · I’ve found a down jacket I like, but they don’t have my size.

little sister 你可以在网上的店铺下单，当天就能送到，很便捷。
nǐ kěyǐ zài wǎngshang de diànpù xiàdān dàngtiān jiù néng sòng dào hěn biànjié · You can order it from their online shop: it arrives the same day. Very handy.

xiaoming 好，我让手机定时提醒我，晚上八点下单。
hǎo wǒ ràng shǒujī dìngshí tíxǐng wǒ wǎnshang bā diǎn xiàdān · OK, I’ll set my phone to remind me, and order at eight tonight.

anna 快走吧，眼看就要十二点了，抽奖快开始了！
kuài zǒu ba yǎnkàn jiù yào shíèr diǎn le chōujiǎng kuài kāishǐ le · Come on, it’s almost twelve: the lucky draw is about to start!

chapter 3 the bookshelf, again

xiaoming 你的书架又歪了！还在保修期内吗?
nǐ de shūjià yòu wāi le hái zài bǎoxiū qī nèi ma · Your bookshelf is crooked again! Is it still under warranty?

anna 别提了，早过了。再说是大白钻到后面弄坏的，这种损坏不保修。
bié tí le zǎo guò le zàishuō shì Dàbái zuān dào hòumiàn nòng huài de zhè zhǒng sǔnhuài bù bǎoxiū · Don't ask, it ran out ages ago. Besides, Dabai squeezed behind it and broke it: the warranty doesn't cover that kind of damage.

xiaoming 你看，这根棍子都弯曲了，中间没有东西支撑，书架就侧向一边了。
nǐ kàn zhè gēn gùn zi dōu wānqū le zhōngjiān méiyǒu dōngxi zhīchēng shūjià jiù cè xiàng yìbiān le · Look, this rod is bent, and with nothing holding up the middle, the shelf leans to one side.

xiaoming 除非把它固定在墙上，否则它还会倒。我得在墙上钻两个洞。
chúfēi bǎ tā gùdìng zài qiáng shàng fǒuzé tā hái huì dǎo wǒ děi zài qiáng shàng zuān liǎng gè dòng · Unless we fix it to the wall, it'll fall again. I need to drill two holes.

anna 上次剩下的料还在，这块木头能用吗?
shàng cì shèng xià de liào hái zài zhè kuài mùtou néng yòng ma · The leftover material from last time is still here. Can you use this piece of wood?

xiaoming 能，就是这一头太尖了，别扎到手。我先用胶带包一下。
néng jiùshì zhè yì tóu tài jiān le bié zhā dào shǒu wǒ xiān yòng jiāodài bāo yíxià · Yes, but this end is too sharp, so don't prick your hand. I'll wrap it in tape first.

anna 你先坐一会儿，我给你端杯水来。
nǐ xiān zuò yíhuìr wǒ gěi nǐ duān bēi shuǐ lái · Sit down for a minute. I'll bring you a glass of water.

xiaoming 谢谢。你使劲撑住书架，我蹲下来钻洞。
xièxie nǐ shǐjìn chēng zhù shūjià wǒ dūn xialai zuān dòng · Thanks. Hold the bookshelf up firmly, and I'll crouch down and drill.

anna 小心，别踩到地上的胶水，它还散发着怪味呢。
xiǎoxīn bié cǎi dào dì shàng de jiāoshuǐ tā hái sànfā zhe guài wèi ne · Careful, don't step in the glue on the floor. It still smells funny, too.

xiaoming 哎呀，已经踩到了！我的鞋粘在地上了！
āiyā yǐjīng cǎi dào le wǒ de xié zhān zài dì shàng le · Oh no, too late! My shoe is stuck to the floor!

anna 哈哈！算了，你先把鞋脱下来，我来擦。又给你添麻烦了。
hā hā suànle nǐ xiān bǎ xié tuō xialai wǒ lái cā yòu gěi nǐ tiān máfan le · Ha ha! Never mind, take your shoe off and I'll wipe it. Sorry to cause you more trouble.

xiaoming 好了，书架立起来了，书也摆回去了。除非大白再钻到后面去，它才会倒。
hǎo le shūjià lì qǐlai le shū yě bǎi huiqu le chúfēi Dàbái zài zuān dào hòumiàn qù tā cái huì dǎo · There: the bookshelf is standing and the books are back on it. It will only fall if Dabai squeezes behind it again.

chapter 4 dabai in the park

little sister 我牵着大白在楼下等你们呢！它一直拖着我往外走。
wǒ qiān zhe Dàbái zài lóu xià děng nǐmen ne tā yìzhí tuō zhe wǒ wǎng wài zǒu · I'm downstairs with Dabai on his lead! He keeps dragging me towards the door.

little sister 糟了，我把它的球落在家里了！
zāo le wǒ bǎ tā de qiú là zài jiā lǐ le · Oh no, I left his ball at home!

xiaoming 别急，我口袋里有一个。我来抛，大白，接住！
bié jí wǒ kǒudai lǐ yǒu yí gè wǒ lái pāo Dàbái jiē zhù · Don't worry, I've got one in my pocket. I'll throw it. Dabai, catch!

little sister 哇，它扑过去，瞬间就接住了！
wā tā pū guoqu shùnjiān jiù jiē zhù le · Wow, he leapt at it and caught it in a flash!

xiaoming 糟了，它又在草地上挖洞，把土撒得到处都是。
zāo le tā yòu zài cǎodì shàng wā dòng bǎ tǔ sǎ de dàochù dōu shì · Oh no, he's digging holes in the grass again, scattering soil everywhere.

anna 小心，水管在喷水！快后退！
xiǎoxīn shuǐ guǎn zài pēn shuǐ kuài hòutuì · Careful, the hose is spraying water! Step back, quick!

xiaoming 我想闪开，可是来不及了，全身都湿了！都是大白害的。
wǒ xiǎng shǎn kāi kěshì láibují le quánshēn dōu shī le dōu shì Dàbái hài de · I tried to jump out of the way, but too late: I'm soaked! It's all Dabai's fault.

little sister 大白，别跑！……它把我的手套塞在嘴里逃跑了！
Dàbái bié pǎo tā bǎ wǒ de shǒutào sāi zài zuǐ lǐ táopǎo le · Dabai, stop! … He's stuffed my glove in his mouth and run off!

anna 别追，你越追它跑得越快。蹲下来，向它招手。
bié zhuī nǐ yuè zhuī tā pǎo de yuè kuài dūn xialai xiàng tā zhāoshǒu · Don't chase him: the more you chase, the faster he runs. Crouch down and wave to him.

little sister 大白，过来！……它转身跑回来了。还好，手套没被吞下去。
Dàbái guòlái tā zhuǎnshēn pǎo huilai le háihǎo shǒutào méi bèi tūn xiaqu · Dabai, come here! … He's turned round and come back. Phew, he didn't swallow the glove.

xiaoming 我刚才跑得太急，把脚扭了。你掏块饼干给大白吧。
wǒ gāngcái pǎo de tài jí bǎ jiǎo niǔ le nǐ tāo kuài bǐnggān gěi Dàbái ba · I ran too fast just now and twisted my ankle. Get a biscuit out for Dabai.

chapter 5 evening by the lake

anna 得了，今天干的活够多了。我们趁天还亮，去湖边歇一会儿吧。
déle jīntiān gàn de huó gòu duō le wǒmen chèn tiān hái liàng qù hú biān xiē yíhuìr ba · OK, that's enough work for today. Let's rest by the lake while it's still light.

little sister 哇，湖水真清！你们看，那边有个小朋友在放飞气球。
wā hú shuǐ zhēn qīng nǐmen kàn nàbiān yǒu gè xiǎopéngyǒu zài fàngfēi qìqiú · Wow, the water is so clear! Look, there's a child over there letting a balloon fly away.

xiaoming 太阳太晒了，我们去树下避一避吧。
tàiyáng tài shài le wǒmen qù shù xià bì yi bi ba · The sun is too strong. Let's get out of it under the trees.

anna 此刻我只想坐在这儿望着湖，什么也不想。
cǐkè wǒ zhǐ xiǎng zuò zài zhèr wàng zhe hú shénme yě bù xiǎng · Right now all I want is to sit here, gaze at the lake and think about nothing.

little sister 起初我以为今天会很无聊，没想到这么忙。
qǐchū wǒ yǐwéi jīntiān huì hěn wúliáo méi xiǎng dào zhème máng · At first I thought today would be boring. I never expected it to be so busy.

anna 当初刚来北京的时候，我空闲的时间都在加班。现在完全不一样了。
dāngchū gāng lái Běijīng de shíhou wǒ kòngxián de shíjiān dōu zài jiābān xiànzài wánquán bù yíyàng le · When I first came to Beijing, I spent all my free time working overtime. Now it's totally different.

xiaoming 太阳快下山了，湖水都被染红了，草也黄了。
tàiyáng kuài xià shān le hú shuǐ dōu bèi rǎn hóng le cǎo yě huáng le · The sun is about to set and the lake has turned red. The grass has gone yellow, too.

little sister 风好大，我的头发都散了！哎呀，耳环也掉了！
fēng hǎo dà wǒ de tóufa dōu sǎn le āiyā ěrhuán yě diào le · It's so windy, my hair's come loose! Oh no, and my earring has fallen off!

xiaoming 别动……拾到了，就在你脚边。我们再转一会儿就回家吧。
bié dòng shí dào le jiù zài nǐ jiǎo biān wǒmen zài zhuàn yíhuìr jiù huí jiā ba · Don't move … got it, it was right by your foot. Let's wander around a bit more and then go home.

little sister 好！往后每个周六我们都这样过吧！
hǎo wǎnghòu měi gè zhōu liù wǒmen dōu zhèyàng guò ba · OK! From now on, let's spend every Saturday like this!

xiaoming 好啊，不过下次别再让我修书架了。
hǎo a búguò xià cì bié zài ràng wǒ xiū shūjià le · Sure, but don't make me fix a bookshelf next time.

anna 回头再说吧！
huítóu zàishuō ba · We'll see!

A whole Saturday in Chinese, from the bank to the lake. Unit 1 is done: life admin, sorted.
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