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day 17 the whole family

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 3 · family, home & travel

Name your whole family, from aunts to nephews, talk about marriage and old age, and use 人家.

Chinese has a word for every relative, and family gatherings are where you'll need them all.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
人家	rénjia	others; he, she, they; (playful) I	人家都下班了，你怎么还在忙? Everyone else has gone home: why are you still working?
姑姑	gūgu	aunt (father's sister)	我姑姑在北京当老师。 My aunt (Dad's sister) is a teacher in Beijing.
姨	yí	aunt (mother's sister)	我姨就住在我们家旁边。 My aunt (Mum's sister) lives right next to us.
舅舅	jiùjiu	uncle (mother's brother)	舅舅每年过年都来我们家。 My uncle (Mum's brother) comes to us every Chinese New Year.
外甥	wàisheng	nephew (sister's son)	我的外甥今年上小学了。 My nephew (my sister's son) started primary school this year.
侄子	zhízi	nephew (brother's son)	我侄子特别喜欢踢足球。 My nephew (my brother's son) loves football.
亲属	qīnshǔ	relatives (formal)	请填写一位亲属的电话号码。 Please give the phone number of a relative.
家属	jiāshǔ	family members (of a patient, an employee)	医院只{zhi3}允许一位家属陪病人。 The hospital only lets one family member stay with a patient.
长辈	zhǎngbèi	elders, the older generation	和长辈说话要有礼貌。 Be polite when you speak to your elders.
老太太	lǎotàitai	old lady	那位老太太已经九十岁了。 That old lady is already ninety.
母	mǔ	female (of animals)	我们家的猫是母的。 Our cat is female.
媳妇	xífu	wife (colloquial); daughter-in-law	他媳妇是北京人。 His wife is from Beijing.
婚姻	hūnyīn	marriage	他们的婚姻很幸福。 They have a very happy marriage.
订婚	dìnghūn	to get engaged	他们去年订婚，今年结婚。 They got engaged last year and are getting married this year.
求婚	qiúhūn	to propose (marriage)	他在海边向女朋友求婚了。 He proposed to his girlfriend by the sea.

嫁	jià	(of a woman) to marry	她嫁给了一个医生。 She married a doctor.
娶	qǔ	(of a man) to marry, take a wife	他娶了一个很能干的姑娘。 He married a very capable young woman.
夫人	fūrén	Mrs, madam; wife (formal)	王先生和夫人一起参加了宴会。 Mr Wang and his wife came to the banquet together.
娃娃	wáwa	baby, child; doll	小姑娘抱着一个布娃娃。 The little girl is hugging a rag doll.
婴儿	yīngér	baby, infant	婴儿每天要睡很长时间。 Babies sleep for a very long time every day.
岁数	suìshu	age (of an older person)	您多大岁数了? May I ask how old you are?
养老	yǎnglǎo	to retire; care for the elderly	很多人退休以后回老家养老。 Many people go back to their home town when they retire.
养老院	yǎnglǎoyuàn	care home, old people's home	周末我们去养老院看望老人。 At the weekend we visit the elderly at the care home.
一辈子	yībèizi	a lifetime, all one's life	奶奶当了一辈子老师。 Grandma was a teacher all her life.
终身	zhōngshēn	lifelong	这台洗衣机终身保修。 This washing machine has a lifetime warranty.

pattern 人家: other people, he or she, or a playful "me"

人家 **= other people / he, she / I (playful)**

人家 has three uses. "Other people": 人家都走了 everyone else has left. Someone you've just mentioned: 人家是专家 she's the expert, you know. And said coyly, "me": 人家不想去嘛 I don't wanna go!

人家是专家，你听人家的吧。 **rénjia shì zhuānjiā nǐ tīng rénjia de ba** She's the expert: do what she says.

你看人家小明，又能干又懂事。 **nǐ kàn rénjia Xiǎomíng yòu nénggàn yòu dǒng shì** Look at Xiaoming: capable and sensible.

人家不想去嘛！ **rénjia bù xiǎng qù ma** But I don't want to go!

dialogue grandma's ninetieth birthday

anna 小明，今天来了这么多人！他们都是你的亲属吗?
Xiǎomíng jīntiān lái le zhème duō rén tāmen dōu shì nǐ de qīnshǔ ma · Xiaoming, so many people today! Are they all your relatives?

xiaoming 对，今天是我奶奶九十岁生日。那位穿红衣服的是我姑姑，旁边是我舅舅。
duì jīntiān shì wǒ nǎinai jiǔshí suì shēngrì nà wèi chuān hóng yīfu de shì wǒ gūgu pángbiān shì wǒ jiùjiu · Yes, it's my grandma's ninetieth birthday. The one in red is my aunt, and next to her is my uncle.

anna 姑姑和舅舅有什么不一样?
gūgu hé jiùjiu yǒu shénme bù yíyàng · What's the difference between 姑姑 and 舅舅?

xiaoming 姑姑是我爸爸的姐妹，舅舅是我妈妈的兄弟。
gūgu shì wǒ bàba de jiěmèi jiùjiu shì wǒ māma de xiōngdì · 姑姑 is my dad's sister; 舅舅 is my mum's brother.

ms zhang 那个抱着婴儿的是我姨的女儿，她去年刚嫁到北京。小娃娃才三个月。
nàge bào zhe yīngér de shì wǒ yí de nǚér tā qùnián gāng jià dào Běijīng xiǎo wáwa cái sān gè yuè · The one holding the baby is my aunt's daughter. She married and moved to Beijing last year. The little one is only three months old.

anna 那位老太太就是奶奶吧？这么大岁数了，身体还这么好！
nà wèi lǎotàitai jiùshì nǎinai ba zhème dà suìshu le shēntǐ hái zhème hǎo · And that old lady must be Grandma. At her age, and still so healthy!

ms zhang 是啊。人家都劝她去养老院，她说在家养老最舒服。
shì a rénjia dōu quàn tā qù yǎnglǎoyuàn tā shuō zài jiā yǎnglǎo zuì shūfu · Yes. People keep telling her to move to a care home, but she says home is the best place to grow old.

little sister 奶奶还问小明什么时候娶媳妇呢！
nǎinai hái wèn Xiǎomíng shénme shíhou qǔ xífu ne · Grandma even asked Xiaoming when he's getting married!

ms zhang 长辈嘛，都关心这些。
zhǎngbèi ma dōu guānxīn zhèxiē · That's what the older generation worry about, isn't it.

xiaoming 得了，你们别说我了，人家还想好好工作呢。
déle nǐmen bié shuō wǒ le rénjia hái xiǎng hǎohǎo gōngzuò ne · Oh come on, leave me alone: I just want to get on with my job.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

舅
jiù
mother's brother

甥
sheng
sister's child

good to know · Chinese family words show which side a relative is on: 姑姑 and 叔叔 are on your father's side, 姨 and 舅舅 on your mother's. 嫁 is for a woman marrying (嫁给他), 娶 for a man (娶她). 结婚 works for both. 疼 isn't only "it hurts": as a verb it means "to dote on": 奶奶最疼我 "Grandma dotes on me". 心疼 (to feel for someone) comes from the same idea.

At the next family dinner, you'll know exactly who is who, and what to call them.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 18 a new flat

Describe a flat and a building, and use 净, 一同 and 大都 to say “nothing but”, “together” and “mostly”.

Flat-hunting is a rite of passage in Chinese cities, and house prices are everyone’s favourite topic.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
净	jìng	nothing but, all the time; clean	你别净玩手机了，快来帮忙。 Stop playing on your phone all the time and come and help.
一同	yītóng	together (written)	我们一同去参观了新房子。 We went to see the new house together.
大都	dàdū	mostly, for the most part	这个小区的居民大都是年轻人。 Most of the residents on this estate are young.
住宅	zhùzhái	residence, housing	这栋住宅楼有二十层。 This block of flats has twenty floors.
建筑物	jiànzhùwù	building, structure	这座建筑物已经有一百年的历史了。 This building is already a hundred years old.
栋	dòng	(measure) for buildings	我们小区一共有十栋楼。 There are ten buildings on our estate.
户	hù	(measure) households	这栋楼一共有三十户。 There are thirty households in this building.
平方米	píngfāngmǐ	square metre	这套房子有八十平方米。 This flat is eighty square metres.
房价	fángjià	housing prices	北京的房价很高。 House prices in Beijing are very high.
隔壁	gébì	next door	隔壁住着一对{=pair, couple (measure word)}老夫妻。 An old couple live next door.
楼道	lóudào	stairwell, corridor (in a block of flats)	楼道里的灯坏了。 The light in the stairwell is broken.
走廊	zǒuláng	corridor, hallway	卫生间在走廊的右边。 The toilet is on the right of the corridor.
角落	jiǎoluò	corner	房间的角落里放着一张小桌子。 There’s a small table in the corner of the room.
墙壁	qiángbì	wall	我们打算把墙壁刷白{=white}。 We’re planning to paint the walls white.
砖	zhuān	brick	这面墙是用红砖建的。 This wall is built of red brick.
坚固	jiāngù	solid, sturdy	这座桥非常坚固。 This bridge is very solid.

拆除	chāichú	to demolish, remove	这栋旧楼明年就要拆除了。 This old building will be pulled down next year.
改造	gǎizào	to transform, renovate	他们改造了一栋老房子。 They renovated an old house.
家居	jiājū	home furnishings; home	周末我们去家居商场买了一张床。 At the weekend we bought a bed at a furniture store.
摆放	bǎifàng	to place, arrange	书架上整齐地摆放着很多书。 Lots of books are neatly arranged on the shelves.
布置	bùzhì	to decorate, arrange (a room)	她把房间布置得很温暖。 She has made her room really cosy.
配套	pèitào	to make a complete set; supporting	这个小区的配套设施很齐全。 The estate has all the facilities you need.
有序	yǒuxù	orderly	大家有序地上了车。 Everyone got on the bus in an orderly way.
透过	tòuguò	through (a window); by means of	阳光透过窗户照进房间。 Sunlight shines into the room through the window.

pattern 净、一同、大都: nothing but, together, mostly

subject | 净 / 一同 / 大都 | verb phrase

Three scope adverbs that go right before the verb. 净 means “nothing but, all the time” and is often a complaint (你净说好听的). 一同 means “together” and is more written than 一起. 大都 means “mostly, for the most part”.

你别净玩手机了，快来帮忙。 **nǐ bié jìng wán shǒujī le kuài lái bāngmáng** Stop playing on your phone all the time and come and help.

周末我们一同去看了新房子。 **zhōumò wǒmen yìtóng qù kàn le xīn fángzi** At the weekend we went to see the new flat together.

这些老房子大都是用砖建的。 **zhèxiē lǎo fángzi dàdū shì yòng zhuān jiàn de** These old houses are mostly built of brick.

dialogue anna’s new flat

anna 小明，这就是我的新家！我好容易才找到这套房子。
Xiǎomíng zhè jiùshì wǒ de xīn jiā wǒ hǎoróngyì cái zhǎo dào zhè tào fángzi · Xiaoming, this is my new home! It took me ages to find this flat.

xiaoming 不错！多少平方米？
búcuò duōshao píngfāngmǐ · Not bad! How many square metres?

anna 六十平方米。这栋楼一共有二十层，每层住着四户。
liùshí píngfāngmǐ zhè dòng lóu yígòng yǒu èrshí céng měi céng zhù zhe sì hù · Sixty. The building has twenty floors, with four households on each floor.

xiaoming 这种老楼的墙很坚固。不过厨房好像被改造过。
zhè zhǒng lǎo lóu de qiáng hěn jiāngù búguò chúfáng hǎoxiàng bèi gǎizào guo · The walls in these old blocks are really solid. But the kitchen looks like it's been redone.

anna 对，原来的房东把厨房和客厅中间的墙拆除了，现在大多了。
duì yuánlái de fángdōng bǎ chúfáng hé kètīng zhōngjiān de qiáng chāichú le xiànzài dà duō le · Yes, the old landlord knocked down the wall between the kitchen and the living room, so it's much bigger now.

xiaoming 家具怎么摆放？我建议把沙发放在窗户旁边，书架放在角落里。
jiājù zěnme bǎifàng wǒ jiànyì bǎ shāfā fàng zài chuānghu pángbiān shūjià fàng zài jiǎoluò lǐ · How will you arrange the furniture? I'd put the sofa by the window and the bookshelf in the corner.

anna 好主意。周末我想去家居商场，再买一些东西布置一下。
hǎo zhǔyi zhōumò wǒ xiǎng qù jiājū shāngchǎng zài mǎi yìxiē dōngxi bùzhì yíxià · Good idea. At the weekend I want to go to a furniture store and get a few things to decorate.

xiaoming 我和妹妹可以一同去帮你。对了，隔壁住的是谁？
wǒ hé mèimei kěyǐ yìtóng qù bāng nǐ duì le gébì zhù de shì shéi · My sister and I can come along and help. By the way, who lives next door?

anna 一位老太太，人很好。她每天都打扫楼道。
yí wèi lǎotàitai rén hěn hǎo tā měi tiān dōu dǎsǎo lóudào · An old lady. She's lovely: she sweeps the stairwell every day.

xiaoming 那你运气真好！
nà nǐ yùnqi zhēn hǎo · You're lucky, then!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

宅
zhái
house

栋
dòng
(measure) for buildings

good to know · Chinese flats are measured in 平方米 (square metres), and the size usually includes a share of the stairwell and corridors. 净 as an adverb usually sounds like a complaint: 你净买没用的东西 "you only ever buy useless stuff".

You can now describe a flat room by room, and talk house prices like a local.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 19 chores

Talk about housework and the things in your home, and use time adverbs: 一时, 不时, 仍旧, 依旧, 一向.

Sharing chores is part of living with anyone, and these adverbs let you say “still”, “always” and “now and then”.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
一时	yīshí	for a moment; at the moment	他的名字我一时想不起来了。 I just can’t think of his name right now.
不时	bùshí	now and then, from time to time	他一边工作，一边不时地看看手机。 He’s working, but keeps glancing at his phone.
仍旧	réngjiù	still, as before	已经十年了，这里仍旧没什么变化。 It’s been ten years, and this place still hasn’t changed much.
依旧	yījiù	still, as before (written)	十年过去了，这条街依旧那么热闹。 Ten years on, this street is as lively as ever.
一向	yīxiàng	always, all along	他一向很准时。 He’s always on time.
清洁	qīngjié	clean; cleaning	公司每天晚上都有人来做清洁。 Someone comes to clean the office every evening.
清理	qīnglǐ	to clear out, tidy up	周末我要清理一下冰箱。 At the weekend I’m going to clear out the fridge.
清扫	qīngsǎo	to sweep, clean up	雪停了，工人们开始清扫街道。 The snow has stopped, and workers have started clearing the streets.
清洗	qīngxǐ	to wash, rinse	水果吃之前要清洗干净。 Wash fruit well before you eat it.
灰尘	huīchén	dust	桌子上全是灰尘。 The table is covered in dust.
洗漱	xǐshù	to wash up (face and teeth)	我每天早上六点起床洗漱。 I get up and wash at six every morning.
浴室	yùshì	bathroom	浴室的灯坏了。 The bathroom light is broken.
晾	liàng	to hang out to dry	把洗好的衣服晾在阳台上。 Hang the washing out on the balcony.
铺	pū	to spread, lay out; make (a bed)	我帮你铺床吧。 Let me make the bed for you.
枕头	zhěntou	pillow	这个枕头太高了，我睡不好。 This pillow is too high: I can’t sleep well.
暖气	nuǎnqì	central heating	北京的冬天有暖气，房间里很暖和。 Beijing homes have heating in winter, so it’s warm indoors.

热水器	rèshuǐqì	water heater	热水器坏了，没有热水了。 The water heater is broken: there's no hot water.
电饭锅	diànfànguō	rice cooker	用电饭锅做饭又快又方便。 Cooking rice in a rice cooker is quick and easy.
插座	chāzuò	socket, power point	床边没有插座，手机没法充电。 There's no socket by the bed, so I can't charge my phone.
开关	kāiguān	switch	灯的开关在门旁边。 The light switch is by the door.
照明	zhàomíng	lighting	这个房间的照明不太好。 The lighting in this room isn't very good.
明亮	míngliàng	bright, well-lit	新的客厅又宽又明亮。 The new living room is spacious and bright.
通风	tōngfēng	to ventilate, air (a room)	每天开窗通风，对身体有好处。 Opening the windows every day to air the room is good for you.
自来水	zìláishuǐ	tap water	这里的自来水不能直接喝。 You can't drink the tap water here straight.

pattern 一时、不时、仍旧、依旧、一向: time adverbs

subject | **一时 / 不时 / 仍旧 / 依旧 / 一向** | **verb phrase**

Five time adverbs, all before the verb: 一时 "for the moment" (一时想不起来 can't think of it right now), 不时 "every now and then", 仍旧 and 依旧 "still, as before" (依旧 is more written), 一向 "always, all along".

他叫什么名字？我一时想不起来了。 **tā jiào shénme míngzi wǒ yìshí xiǎng bu qǐlai le** What's his name? I just can't think of it.

我在家工作，大白不时过来看看我。 **wǒ zài jiā gōngzuò Dàbái bùshí guòlái kàn kan wǒ** I work from home, and Dabai comes over to check on me every now and then.

这么多年过去了，这里的风景依旧很美。 **zhème duō nián guòqù le zhèlǐ de fēngjǐng yījiù hěn měi** After all these years, the view here is as beautiful as ever.

dialogue cleaning day

anna 今天我们把整个房子都清洁一遍吧。
jīntiān wǒmen bǎ zhěnggè fángzi dōu qīngjié yí biàn ba · Let's give the whole flat a proper clean today.

little sister 好！你看，窗户上全是灰尘。
hǎo nǐ kàn chuānghu shàng quán shì huīchén · OK! Look, the windows are covered in dust.

anna 我先清扫地面，你帮我清洗浴室，好吗？
wǒ xiān qīngsǎo dìmiàn nǐ bāng wǒ qīngxǐ yùshì hǎo ma · I'll sweep the floor first. Could you clean the bathroom?

little sister 没问题。哎，热水器怎么没有热水？
méi wèntí āi rèshuǐqì zěnme méiyǒu rè shuǐ · Sure. Hey, why isn't the water heater giving any hot water?

anna 我也不知道，昨天还能用。我一时也想不起房东的电话。
wǒ yě bù zhīdào zuótiān hái néng yòng wǒ yìshí yě xiǎng bu qǐ fángdōng de diànhuà · No idea: it worked yesterday. And I can't remember the landlord's number right now.

little sister 看看开关是不是关了。……对，开关没开！
kàn kan kāiguān shì bu shì guān le duì kāiguān méi kāi · Check whether it's switched off. … Yes, the switch was off!

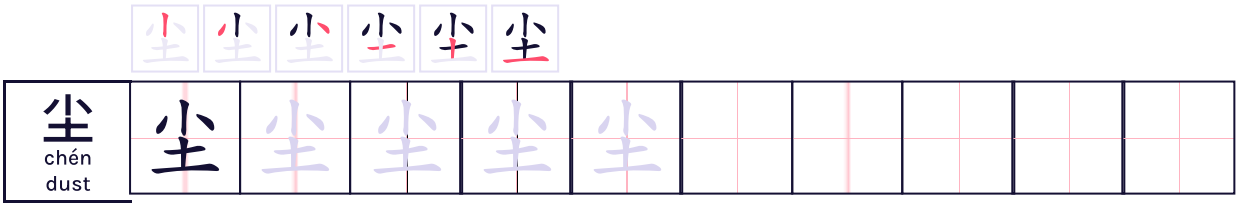
anna 哈哈，原来是这样。对了，洗漱的东西都放在浴室里吧。
hā hā yuánlái shì zhèyàng duì le xǐshù de dōngxi dōu fàng zài yùshì lǐ ba · Ha ha, so that was it. Oh, put all the toiletries in the bathroom, will you?

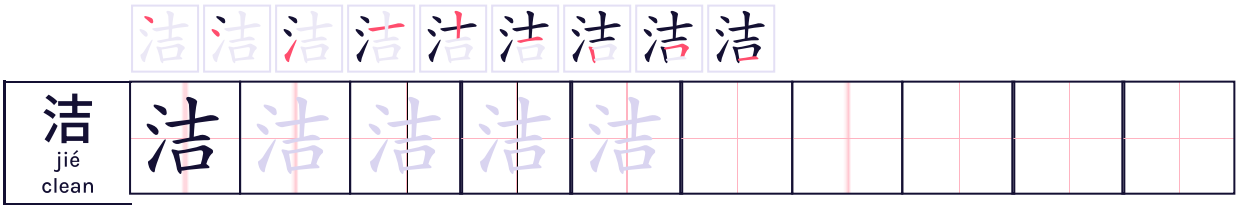
little sister 好的。床我帮你铺好了，枕头也放好了。
hǎo de chuáng wǒ bāng nǐ pū hǎo le zhěntou yě fàng hǎo le · OK. I've made the bed for you and put the pillows out.

anna 谢谢！这个房间又明亮又通风，我一向喜欢这样的房子。
xièxie zhège fángjiān yòu míngliàng yòu tōngfēng wǒ yíxiàng xǐhuan zhèyàng de fángzi · Thanks! This room is bright and airy: I've always loved places like this.

little sister 不过照明不太够，晚上看书得买一个台灯。
búguò zhàomíng bú tài gòu wǎnshang kàn shū děi mǎi yí gè táidēng · The lighting isn't great, though: you'll need a desk lamp for reading at night.

write it trace the grey, then write your own





good to know · In China, people usually boil tap water before drinking it, which is why every home has a kettle or a water dispenser. North of the Huai River, Chinese cities have central heating (暖气) in winter; in the south most homes don't.

Now you can share the chores in Chinese, and say what has always been, and still is, true.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 20 around town

Describe a neighbourhood, a town and the countryside, and complain about bad timing with 早不……，晚不……

Every place has a story, and “of all the times to…” is one of the most human things you can say.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
街头	jiētóu	the street(s), street corner	街头有很多卖小吃的。 There are lots of snack sellers on the street.
人行道	rénxíngdào	pavement, sidewalk	请走人行道，注意安全。 Please walk on the pavement and stay safe.
周边	zhōubiān	surroundings, nearby	学校周边有很多饭馆。 There are lots of restaurants around the school.
空地	kòngdì	open space, empty lot	楼下有一块空地，孩子们常在那儿踢球。 There’s an open space downstairs where the kids often play football.
井	jǐng	well (for water)	村庄里原先有一口老井。 The village used to have an old well.
镇	zhèn	town; to chill (a drink)	他住在一个小镇上。 He lives in a small town.
城镇	chéngzhèn	towns, cities and towns	越来越多的人从农村搬到了城镇。 More and more people are moving from the countryside to the towns.
都市	dūshì	metropolis, big city	北京是一个热闹的大都市。 Beijing is a bustling metropolis.
村庄	cūnzhuāng	village	河边有一个美丽的小村庄。 There’s a beautiful little village by the river.
郊外	jiāowài	the countryside around a city	周末我们开车去郊外玩。 At the weekend we drove out into the countryside.
家园	jiāyuán	home, homeland	保护环境就是保护我们的家园。 Protecting the environment means protecting our home.
家家户户	jiājiāhùhù	every household	过年的时候，家家户户都很热闹。 At Chinese New Year every household is full of life.
千家万户	qiānjiāwànhù	countless households, everyone	互联网已经走进了千家万户。 The internet has reached just about every home.
衣食住行	yīshízhùxíng	the basics of daily life	手机改变了我们的衣食住行。 Phones have changed every part of our daily life.
轮流	lúnliú	to take turns	我们轮流打扫房间。 We take turns cleaning the room.

封闭	fēngbì	to close off, seal	这条路正在修，暂时封闭了。 This road is being repaired and is closed for now.
通道	tōngdào	passage, passageway	请不要在安全通道里放东西。 Please don't leave things in the emergency exit.
处处	chùchù	everywhere, in every way	春天来了，处处都是花。 Spring is here and there are flowers everywhere.
遍地	biàndì	everywhere (on the ground), all over	这个季节，郊外遍地是花。 At this time of year, the countryside is covered in flowers.
一带	yīdài	area, around (a place)	这一带的房价很高。 House prices around here are very high.
内外	nèiwài	inside and outside; home and abroad	这家{=(measure word)}公司在国内外都很有名。 This company is famous both at home and abroad.
远方	yuǎnfāng	a distant place, far away	他常常想念远方的家人。 He often misses his family far away.
遥远	yáoyuǎn	distant, far-off	那是一个遥远的国家。 That's a faraway country.
众人	zhòngrén	everyone, the crowd (written)	他的话让众人都笑了起来。 What he said made everyone burst out laughing.

pattern 早不……，晚不……: of all the times to …

早不 X **，晚不 X** **，the worst possible moment**

早不……，晚不…… complains about bad timing: "of all the times to …". Use the same verb in both halves, then say the unlucky moment. Speakers often add 偏偏 ("just, of all things") in the last part.

早不停电，晚不停电，我一做饭就停电了。 **zǎo bù tíng diàn wǎn bù tíng diàn wǒ yí zuòfàn jiù tíng diàn le** Of all the times for a power cut: just as I started cooking.

早不说，晚不说，你怎么现在才说！ **zǎo bù shuō wǎn bù shuō nǐ zěnme xiànzài cái shuō** You could have said so any time: why tell me now?

早不坏，晚不坏，电梯在我搬家那天坏了。 **zǎo bú huài wǎn bú huài diàntī zài wǒ bānjiā nà tiān huài le** Of all the days for the lift to break down: the day I moved house.

早不来，晚不来，他在众人都走了以后才来。 **zǎo bu lái wǎn bù lái tā zài zhòngrén dōu zǒu le yǐhòu cái lái** Of all the times to arrive: he came after everyone had left.

dialogue a walk round the neighbourhood

anna 小明，我们去附近走走吧，我想了解一下周边的情况。
Xiǎomíng wǒmen qù fùjìn zǒu zou ba wǒ xiǎng liǎojiě yíxià zhōubiān de qíngkuàng · Xiaoming, let's go for a walk. I want to get to know the area.

xiaoming 好啊。这一带原先是一个村庄，听说还有一口老井呢。
hǎo a zhè yídài yuánxiān shì yí gè cūnzhuāng tīngshuō hái yǒu yì kǒu lǎo jǐng ne · Sure. This area used to be a village. Apparently there's still an old well.

anna 真的吗？现在完全是城镇的样子了。
zhēn de ma xiànzài wánquán shì chéngzhèn de yàngzi le · Really? It looks completely like a town now.

xiaoming 是啊，二十年前这里还是遥远的郊外，现在变成了大都市的一部分。
shì a èrshí nián qián zhèlǐ háishi yáoyuǎn de jiāowài xiànzài biànchéng le dà dūshì de yí bùfen · Yes. Twenty years ago this was the far-off countryside; now it's part of the big city.

anna 你看那边有一块空地，以后会建什么？
nǐ kàn nàbiān yǒu yí kuài kòngdì yǐhòu huì jiàn shénme · Look, there's an empty lot over there. What will they build?

xiaoming 听说要建一个公园。现在那边封闭了，要么从这条通道走，要么绕过去。
tīngshuō yào jiàn yí gè gōngyuán xiànzài nàbiān fēngbì le yàome cóng zhè tiáo tōngdào zǒu yàome rào guoqu · A park, I hear. It's closed off at the moment: we either take this passage or go round.

anna 哎呀，早不下雨，晚不下雨，我们一出来散步就下雨了！
āiyā zǎo bú xià yǔ wǎn bú xià yǔ wǒmen yì chūlái sànbù jiù xià yǔ le · Oh no! Of all the times to rain: the moment we come out for a walk!

xiaoming 我们去那家咖啡店避一避雨吧。
wǒmen qù nà jiā kāfēi diàn bì yi bi yǔ ba · Let's shelter in that café for a bit.

anna 好。这里处处都有小店，衣食住行都很方便。
hǎo zhèlǐ chùchù dōu yǒu xiǎo diàn yī shí zhù xíng dōu hěn fāngbiàn · OK. There are little shops everywhere here: everything you need is close by.

xiaoming 现在快递和外卖已经走进了千家万户嘛。
xiànzài kuàidì hé wàimài yǐjīng zǒu jìn le qiānjiā wànhù ma · Well, deliveries and takeaways reach just about every home now.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

井
jǐng
well (for water)

庄
zhuāng
village, farmstead

good to know · 衣食住行 (clothes, food, housing, transport) is the standard way to say "daily life" in news and essays. 都 is dū in 都市 and 首都 (city, capital), and dōu in 都 "all".

You can now tell the story of a place, from village to city, and grumble about the rain like a native.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 21 on the road

Talk about traffic, vehicles and directions, and use 把 with a thing or event as the subject.

Traffic is the small talk of every Chinese city, and this 把 pattern is everywhere in the news.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
路况	lùkuàng	road and traffic conditions	出发前先查一下路况。 Check the traffic before you set off.
路面	lùmiàn	road surface	下雪以后路面很滑。 The roads are slippery after the snow.
路程	lùchéng	distance, journey	从我家到公司，开车要半个小时的路程。 From my home to the office is half an hour's drive.
畅通	chàngtōng	flowing freely, unblocked	今天路上很畅通，十分钟就到了。 The roads were clear today: we got there in ten minutes.
拥挤	yōngjǐ	crowded	早上的地铁非常拥挤。 The underground is packed in the morning.
高峰	gāofēng	peak, rush hour	下班高峰的时候，路上特别堵。 At evening rush hour the roads are really jammed.
机动车	jīdòngchē	motor vehicle	这条路上禁止机动车通行。 Motor vehicles are not allowed on this road.
摩托车	mótuōchē	motorbike	他每天骑摩托车上班。 He rides his motorbike to work every day.
货车	huòchē	lorry, truck	一辆大货车停在路边。 A big lorry is parked by the road.
客车	kèchē	coach, long-distance bus	我们坐长途客车回老家。 We take the long-distance coach back to our home town.
轮	lún	wheel; to take turns; (measure) a round	下{=next}一轮比赛明天开始。 The next round of the competition starts tomorrow.
轮子	lúnzi	wheel	我的箱子掉了一个轮子。 One of the wheels has come off my suitcase.
刹车	shāchē	to brake; brakes	前面有人，司机赶紧刹车。 There was someone ahead, so the driver braked hard.
碰撞	pèngzhuàng	to collide, crash	两辆车在路口发生了碰撞。 Two cars collided at the junction.
拐	guǎi	to turn (a corner)	在前面路口往左拐。 Turn left at the next junction.
拐弯	guǎiwān	to turn a corner	拐弯的时候要慢一点。 Slow down when you turn a corner.

拦	lán	to stop, block; hail (a taxi)	我在路边拦了一辆出租车。 I hailed a taxi by the road.
倒车	dǎochē	to change (buses, trains)	从我家去公司不用倒车，很方便。 From home to the office there's no need to change: very handy.
时速	shísù	speed (per hour)	这条路的最高时速是八十公里。 The speed limit on this road is eighty kilometres an hour.
方位	fāngwèi	direction, position	在山里很容易搞不清方位。 It's easy to lose your bearings in the mountains.
乘	chéng	to ride, take (transport, written)	您可以乘{cheng2-6-2}地铁去机场。 You can take the underground to the airport.
穿过	chuānguò	to go through, cross	穿过这条马路就是公园。 Cross this road and you're at the park.
晕车	yùnchē	to be carsick	我一坐客车就晕车。 I get carsick as soon as I get on a coach.
漫长	màncháng	long, endless (time, a road)	北方的冬天很漫长。 Winters in the north are long.

pattern 把 with a thing as the subject

a thing or an event | 把 | someone / something | verb + result

把 usually follows a person, but the subject can also be a thing or an event that causes a result: 一场大雨把路面弄湿了 "a downpour soaked the roads". The verb always carries a result or change after it.

大风把门吹开了。 **dà fēng bǎ mén chuī kāi le** The wind blew the door open.

那辆摩托车把路边的花撞倒了。 **nà liàng mótuōchē bǎ lùbiān de huā zhuàng dǎo le** That motorbike knocked over the flowers by the road.

漫长的路程把大家都累坏了。 **màncháng de lùchéng bǎ dàjiā dōu lèi huài le** The long journey wore everyone out.

dialogue stuck in traffic

xiaoming 哎呀，前面怎么这么堵？刚才路上还很畅通。
āiyā qiánmiàn zěnme zhème dǔ gāngcái lùshang hái hěn chàngtōng · Oh no, why is it so jammed up ahead? The road was clear a minute ago.

anna 我看看手机上的路况……前面有两辆车发生了碰撞。
wǒ kàn kan shǒujī shàng de lùkuàng qiánmiàn yǒu liǎng liàng chē fāshēng le pèngzhuàng · Let me check the traffic on my phone... two cars have collided ahead.

ms zhang 难怪。这个时间不是高峰，平时很少堵车。
nán guài zhège shíjiān bú shì gāofēng píngshí hěn shǎo dǔchē · That explains it. It's not rush hour: there's hardly ever a jam at this time.

xiaoming 一辆货车把路堵住了，机动车都过不去。
yí liàng huòchē bǎ lù dǔ zhù le jīdòngchē dōu guò bu qù · A lorry is blocking the road, and no vehicles can get past.

anna 那摩托车呢？我看见有几辆摩托车从旁边穿过。
nà mótuōchē ne wǒ kànjiàn yǒu jǐ liàng mótuōchē cóng pángbiān chuānguò · What about motorbikes? I saw a few slipping through at the side.

ms zhang 警察在前面拦着，只让客车先走。
jǐngchá zài qiánmiàn lán zhe zhǐ ràng kèchē xiān zǒu · The police are stopping traffic up ahead and only letting coaches through.

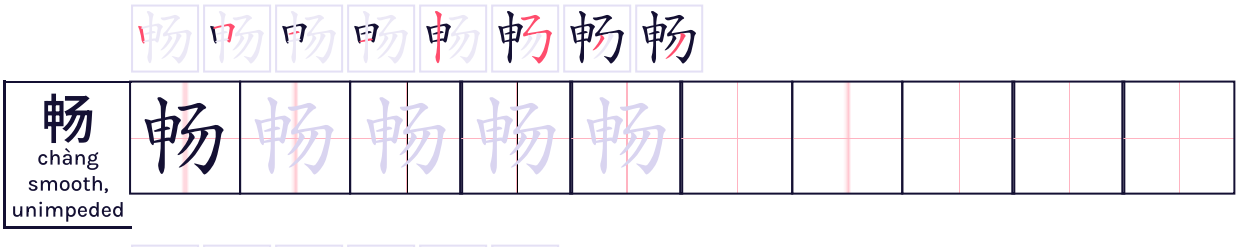
xiaoming 我们拐弯，走另一条路吧。安娜，你帮我看看地图上的方位。
wǒmen guǎiwān zǒu lìng yì tiáo lù ba Ānnà nǐ bāng wǒ kàn kan dìtú shàng de fāngwèi · Let's turn off and take another road. Anna, can you check where we are on the map?

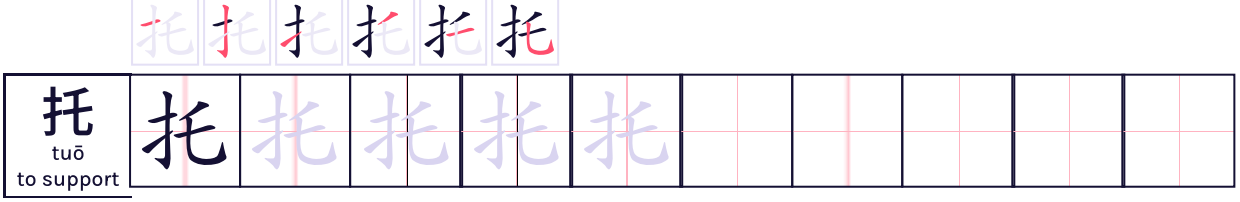
anna 好。不过开慢一点嘛，我有点晕车。
hǎo búguò kāi màn yìdiǎn ma wǒ yǒudiǎn yùnchē · OK. But drive a bit slower, will you? I'm feeling carsick.

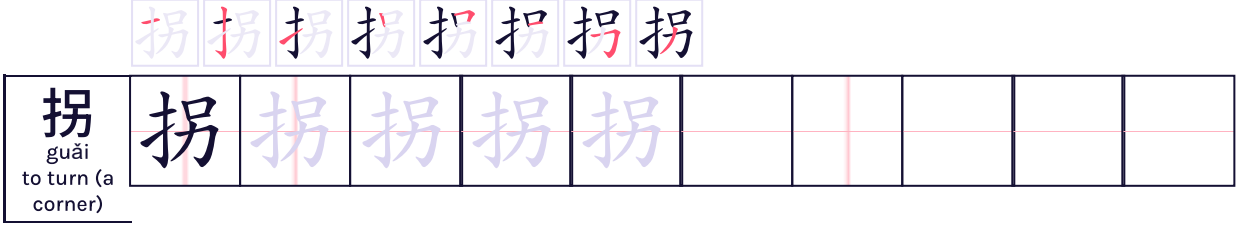
ms zhang 别着急，路程还很长，我们轮着开吧。
bié zháojí lùchéng hái hěn cháng wǒmen lún zhe kāi ba · No rush: we've still got a long way to go. Let's take turns driving.

xiaoming 哎，车好像有点不对，是不是哪个轮子没气了？
āi chē hǎoxiàng yǒudiǎn bú duì shì bu shì nǎge lúnzi méi qì le · Hey, something feels wrong with the car. Has one of the tyres gone flat?

write it trace the grey, then write your own









拦
lán
to stop, block; hail (a taxi)

good to know · 倒车 dǎochē is “to change buses or trains”; 倒车 dàochē, with a different tone, is “to reverse a car”. 乘 is the written word for taking transport (乘地铁, 乘飞机); in speech say 坐.

Traffic jams, detours, carsickness: you can now ride out any road trip in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 22 planning a trip

Plan a trip, from booking a guesthouse to arriving, and describe mess with 东一……，西一……

Travel is where Chinese opens up the whole country, and planning it together is half the fun.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
旅程	lǚchéng	journey, trip	祝你旅程愉快！ Have a good trip!
旅途	lǚtú	journey, (on) the way	旅途中我认识了很多新朋友。 I made lots of new friends on the way.
全程	quánchéng	the whole journey, the whole way	这次旅行全程有导游陪同。 A guide comes with us the whole way on this trip.
出游	chūyóu	to go on a trip	春天是出游的好季节。 Spring is a great season for trips.
观光	guānguāng	to go sightseeing	每年都有很多外国人来北京观光。 Every year lots of foreigners come to Beijing to see the sights.
观赏	guānshǎng	to view and enjoy, admire	很多人特地来这里观赏日出。 Many people come here specially to watch the sunrise.
游人	yóurén	tourists, visitors	周末公园里的游人特别多。 The park is full of visitors at the weekend.
人山人海	rénshānrénhǎi	huge crowds	国庆节的时候，长城上人山人海。 At National Day there are huge crowds on the Great Wall.
风光	fēngguāng	scenery, view	这里的自然风光非常美。 The natural scenery here is beautiful.
景观	jǐngguān	landscape, sight	这座桥是这座城市最有名的景观。 This bridge is the most famous sight in the city.
名胜	míngshèng	famous scenic spot	这座城市有很多名胜。 This city has lots of famous sights.
闻名	wénmíng	famous, well-known	这里的小吃闻名全国。 The snacks here are famous all over the country.
迷人	mírén	charming, enchanting	晚上的湖边风景很迷人。 The lake is enchanting at night.
塔	tǎ	tower, pagoda	山上有一座古老的塔。 There's an ancient pagoda on the hill.
民宿	mínsù	guesthouse, B&B	我们在网上预定了一家{=(measure word)}民宿。 We booked a guesthouse online.
预定	yùdìng	to book, reserve	我已经预定了明天的火车票。 I've already booked tomorrow's train tickets.

陪同	péitóng	to accompany (formal)	王老师陪同学生们参观了博物馆。 Teacher Wang took the students round the museum.
携带	xiédài	to carry, take along	请随身携带护照。 Please keep your passport with you.
落地	luòdì	to land; fall to the ground	飞机已经安全落地了。 The plane has landed safely.
抵达	dǐdá	to arrive, reach (formal)	我们将在下午三点抵达北京。 We will arrive in Beijing at 3 p.m.
接连	jiēlián	in a row, one after another	这几天接连下了好几场雨。 It has rained several days in a row.
一道	yīdào	together	我们一道去吧。 Let's go together.
为期	wéiqī	lasting (a period)	这次为期三天的旅行非常愉快。 This three-day trip was really enjoyable.
成千上万	chéngqiānshàngwàn	thousands and thousands	每年都有成千上万的游人来这里。 Thousands of visitors come here every year.

pattern 东一……，西一……: scattered all over

东一 | measure word + noun | ，西一 | the same again

东一……，西一…… repeats a measure word (or a verb) to say things are scattered all over, in no order: 衣服东一件，西一件 "clothes everywhere". 东一句，西一句 is talking in bits and pieces.

地上东一个箱子，西一个包，乱得很。 **dì shàng dōng yí gè xiāngzi xī yí gè bāo luàn de hěn** There are cases and bags all over the floor: what a mess.

他东一句，西一句，我也没听明白。 **tā dōng yí jù xī yí jù wǒ yě méi tīng míngbai** He kept jumping from one thing to another, and I didn't follow.

公园里的游人东一群，西一群，都在拍照。 **gōngyuán lǐ de yóurén dōng yì qún xī yì qún dōu zài pāizhào** Groups of visitors all over the park are taking photos.

dialogue planning the family holiday

little sister 下个月放假，我们全家一道出游吧！
xià gè yuè fàngjià wǒmen quán jiā yídào chūyóu ba · We're off next month: let's all go on a trip together!

ms zhang 好啊。我想去南方看看，那边的风光很迷人。
hǎo a wǒ xiǎng qù nánfāng kàn kan nàbiān de fēngguāng hěn mírén · Good idea. I'd like to see the south: the scenery there is lovely.

xiaoming 有一个海边小城，以一座古塔闻名，周边还有很多名胜。
yǒu yí gè hǎi biān xiǎo chéng yǐ yí zuò gǔ tǎ wénmíng zhōubiān hái yǒu hěn duō míngshèng · There's a little seaside town famous for its old pagoda, with lots of sights nearby.

anna 我也想一起去观光！
wǒ yě xiǎng yìqǐ qù guānguāng · I'd love to come sightseeing too!

little sister 我已经在网上看了几家民宿，有一家能观赏海上的日出。
wǒ yǐjīng zài wǎngshang kàn le jǐ jiā mínsù yǒu yì jiā néng guānshǎng hǎi shàng de rì chū · I've already looked at a few guesthouses online. From one of them you can watch the sunrise over the sea.

ms zhang 现在去会不会人山人海?
xiànzài qù huì bu huì rénshān rénhǎi · Won't it be packed with people?

xiaoming 不会，我们不在节日去，游人不会太多。
bú huì wǒmen bú zài jiérì qù yóurén bú huì tài duō · No, we won't go on a holiday weekend, so there won't be too many visitors.

anna 那我们坐飞机还是坐火车?
nà wǒmen zuò fēijī háishi zuò huǒchē · So do we fly or take the train?

xiaoming 坐飞机，两个小时就落地了。落地以后再坐车，全程大概四个小时。
zuò fēijī liǎng gè xiǎoshí jiù luòdì le luòdì yǐhòu zài zuò chē quánchéng dàgài sì gè xiǎoshí · Fly: we land in two hours. Then a drive, so about four hours door to door.

little sister 太好了！行李别带太多，东一个包，西一个箱子，太麻烦了。
tài hǎo le xíngli bié dài tài duō dōng yí gè bāo xī yí gè xiāngzi tài máfan le · Great! Don't bring too much luggage: bags and cases everywhere are such a pain.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

抵
dǐ
to reach

塔
tǎ
tower, pagoda

good to know · 民宿 are small family-run guesthouses, very popular in China's villages and old towns, often with home cooking. 人山人海 ("mountains and seas of people") is the go-to phrase for holiday crowds.

You can now plan a whole trip in Chinese, from booking to touchdown.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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day 23 crossing borders

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 3 · family, home & travel

Get through the airport and the border, and talk about ports and ships. Review 除非……才……, 大都 and 一同.

Crossing a border in Chinese means understanding every sign and question at check-in, security and passport control.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
出境	chūjìng	to leave the country	出境的时候要检查护照。 Passports are checked when you leave the country.
入境	rùjìng	to enter a country	外国人入境需要签证。 Foreigners need a visa to enter the country.
出示	chūshì	to show, present (a document)	请出示您的护照。 Please show your passport.
免税	miǎnshuì	tax-free, duty-free	机场有很多免税店。 There are lots of duty-free shops at the airport.
退税	tuìshuì	tax refund	外国游客买东西可以退税。 Foreign visitors can get a tax refund on their shopping.
托运	tuōyùn	to check in (luggage); to ship	这个箱子太大了，需要托运。 This case is too big: it needs to be checked in.
港口	gǎngkǒu	port, harbour	这座城市有一个很大的港口。 This city has a very big port.
码头	mǎtóu	dock, pier	我们在码头等船。 We're waiting for the boat at the pier.
船只	chuánzhī	ships, vessels	港口里停着很多船只。 There are lots of ships in the harbour.
轮船	lúnchuán	steamship, ship	我们坐轮船去旅行。 We're travelling by ship.
艘	sōu	(measure) for ships	海上有一艘大船。 There's a big ship at sea.
渡	dù	to cross (water)	以前人们只{zhi3}能坐小船渡河。 In the past people could only cross the river in small boats.
运送	yùnsòng	to transport, ship	这些货物要用船运送到国外。 These goods are going abroad by sea.
跟随	gēnsuí	to follow	请跟随导游上船。 Please follow the guide onto the boat.
跟前	gēnqián	in front of, close by	他走到我跟前，问我去哪儿。 He came up to me and asked where I was going.
相连	xiānglián	to be linked, connected	这两个城市由一座大桥相连。 The two cities are linked by a big bridge.

延伸	yánshēn	to extend, stretch	这条路一直延伸到海边。 This road runs all the way to the sea.
截至	jiézhì	up to (a date), as of	截至昨天，已经有一千人报名了。 As of yesterday, a thousand people had signed up.
间隔	jiàngé	interval, gap	地铁每间隔五分钟来一班。 There's an underground train every five minutes.
往年	wǎngnián	previous years	今年的游客比往年多。 There are more visitors this year than in previous years.
历年	lìnián	over the years	这些是历年考试的题目。 These are exam questions from past years.
常年	chángnián	all year round	这座山上常年有雪。 There's snow on this mountain all year round.
一律	yīlǜ	all, without exception	所有行李一律要检查。 All luggage must be checked, without exception.
近来	jìnlái	recently, lately	近来天气一直很好。 The weather has been lovely lately.

pattern review: 除非……，才…… at the border

除非 | the one condition | ，(subject) 才 | what is allowed

Back from day 4: 除非 names the one condition, and 才 means "only then". Border rules love it: 除非有签证，才能入境 "you can only enter with a visa". Today's texts also bring back 大都 and 一同 from day 18.

除非出示护照，才能登机。 **chúfēi chūshì hùzhào cái néng dēngjī** You can only board if you show your passport.

除非买够五百块，才能退税。 **chúfēi mǎi gòu wǔbǎi kuài cái néng tuìshuì** You only get a tax refund if you spend five hundred or more.

除非行李太大，才需要托运。 **chúfēi xíngli tài dà cái xūyào tuōyùn** You only need to check in your luggage if it's too big.

除非天气好，船只才能渡海。 **chúfēi tiānqì hǎo chuánzhī cái néng dù hǎi** Boats can only cross the sea if the weather is good.

dialogue a first trip abroad

little sister 安娜，这是我第一次出境，好紧张啊！
Ānnà zhè shì wǒ dì yī cì chūjìng hǎo jǐnzhāng a · Anna, this is my first time leaving the country. I'm so nervous!

anna 别担心，跟着我就行了。我们先去托运行李。
bié dānxīn gēn zhe wǒ jiù xíng le wǒmen xiān qù tuōyùn xíngli · Don't worry, just follow me. First let's check in our bags.

little sister 我的箱子会不会太重？
wǒ de xiāngzi huì bu huì tài zhòng · Is my case too heavy?

anna 不会。除非超过二十三公斤，才需要另外付钱。
bú huì chúfēi chāoguò èrshísān gōngjīn cái xūyào lìngwài fù qián · No. You only pay extra if it's over twenty-three kilos.

little sister 过安检的时候要出示什么？
guò ānjiǎn de shíhou yào chūshì shénme · What do I have to show at security?

anna 护照和机票。还有，水一律不能带上飞机。
hùzhào hé jīpiào hái yǒu shuǐ yílǜ bù néng dài shàng fēijī · Your passport and ticket. And no water on the plane, no exceptions.

little sister 那我们出境以后，能去免税店看看吗？
nà wǒmen chūjìng yǐhòu néng qù miǎnshuì diàn kàn kan ma · After passport control, can we have a look at the duty-free shop?

anna 当然可以，我们一同去。不过近来很多东西在网上买更便宜。
dāngrán kěyǐ wǒmen yìtóng qù búguò jìnlái hěn duō dōngxi zài wǎngshang mǎi gèng piányi · Of course, we'll go together. Mind you, lately a lot of things are cheaper online.

little sister 到了英国，买东西还能退税吗？
dào le Yīngguó mǎi dōngxi hái néng tuìshuì ma · And in the UK, can we get tax back on shopping?

anna 外国游客大都可以退税，记得保管好发票。
wàiguó yóukè dàdū kěyǐ tuìshuì jìde bǎoguǎn hǎo fāpiào · Most foreign visitors can, yes. Remember to keep your receipts safe.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

港
gǎng
harbour

艘
sōu
(measure) for ships

good to know · 出境 and 入境 are on every airport sign in China: 出境 departures (international), 入境 arrivals. 截至 + date is the standard way news reports say "as of": 截至今年六月 "as of June this year". 轮船 is one ship, a steamer (坐轮船去大连); 船只 is the collective "ships, vessels" of notices and news (港口的船只), so it rarely takes a number.

Check-in, security, passport control: you can now cross a border entirely in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 24 mission: the family trip

Follow a whole family trip in Chinese: packing, the flight and the road, the ferry, a relative's guesthouse and an old hometown.

Missions put the whole unit to work in one story: family, home, town, road and travel.

chapter 1 packing

ms zhang 明天早上六点出发，洗漱完就走。大家的行李都收拾好了吗?
míngtiān zǎoshang liù diǎn chūfā xǐshù wán jiù zǒu dàjiā de xíngli dōu shōushi hǎo le ma · We leave at six tomorrow morning, as soon as we've washed. Has everyone packed?

little sister 还没有……我的衣服东一件，西一件，到处都是。
hái méiyǒu wǒ de yīfu dōng yí jiàn xī yí jiàn dàochù dōu shì · Not yet... my clothes are scattered all over the place.

xiaoming 人家安娜早就收拾好了，你看看人家!
rénjia Ānnà zǎo jiù shōushi hǎo le nǐ kàn kan rénjia · Anna packed ages ago: look at her!

little sister 知道啦！我的枕头可以带吗?
zhīdào la wǒ de zhěntou kěyǐ dài ma · All right! Can I bring my pillow?

ms zhang 得了，民宿里什么都有。冰箱我已经清理过了，洗的衣服也晾干了。
déle mínsù lǐ shénme dōu yǒu bīngxiāng wǒ yǐjīng qīnglǐ guo le xǐ de yīfu yě liàng gān le · Oh, come on: the guesthouse has everything. I've cleared out the fridge, and the washing is dry.

dr li 走之前把暖气关了，热水器的开关也别忘了。
zǒu zhīqián bǎ nuǎnqì guān le rèshuǐqì de kāiguān yě bié wàng le · Before we go, turn off the heating, and don't forget the switch on the water heater.

xiaoming 大白怎么办？它净在门口转来转去。
Dàbái zěnme bàn tā jìng zài ménkǒu zhuàn lái zhuàn qù · What about Dabai? He keeps pacing around by the door.

ms zhang 隔壁的老太太会照顾它，她一向喜欢狗。
gébì de lǎotàitai huì zhàogù tā tā yíxiàng xǐhuan gǒu · The old lady next door will look after him: she's always loved dogs.

little sister 奶奶不跟我们一同去吗?
nǎinai bù gēn wǒmen yìtóng qù ma · Isn't Grandma coming with us?

dr li 她岁数大了，不想走远路。不过她给小明做了一包点心，让他路上吃。
tā suìshu dà le bù xiǎng zǒu yuǎn lù búguò tā gěi Xiǎomíng zuò le yì bāo diǎnxin ràng tā lùshang chī · She's getting on and doesn't want to travel far. But she's made Xiaoming a bag of snacks for the journey.

little sister 又是小明！奶奶最疼孙子了。
yòu shì Xiǎomíng nǎinai zuì téng sūnzi le · Xiaoming again! Grandma dotes on her grandson the most.

chapter 2 landing and the road

anna 飞机落地了！我们为期五天的旅程正式开始！
fēijī luòdì le wǒmen wéiqī wǔ tiān de lǚchéng zhèngshì kāishǐ · We've landed! Our five-day trip has officially begun!

little sister 哎呀，我托运的箱子掉了一个轮子！
āiyā wǒ tuōyùn de xiāngzi diào le yí gè lúnzi · Oh no, my checked suitcase has lost a wheel!

xiaoming 早不坏，晚不坏，一下飞机就坏了。
zǎo bú huài wǎn bú huài yí xià fēijī jiù huài le · Of all the times to break: the moment we get off the plane.

dr li 没事，我帮你提。大家随身携带的东西都拿好了吗？
méishì wǒ bāng nǐ tí dàjiā suíshēn xiédài de dōngxi dōu ná hǎo le ma · Never mind, I'll carry it. Has everyone got the things they brought with them?

ms zhang 我预定的车就在停车场。路上我们轮流开。
wǒ yùdìng de chē jiù zài tíngchēchǎng lùshang wǒmen lúnliú kāi · The car I booked is in the car park. We'll take turns driving on the way.

anna 我看看路况……前面有一辆货车和一辆摩托车发生了碰撞。
wǒ kàn kan lùkuàng qiánmiàn yǒu yí liàng huòchē hé yí liàng mótuōchē fāshēng le pèngzhuàng · Let me check the traffic… a lorry and a motorbike have collided up ahead.

xiaoming 难怪这么拥挤。那条路封闭了，机动车都过不去。
nánguài zhème yōngjǐ nà tiáo lù fēngbì le jīdòngchē dōu guò bu qù · No wonder it's so crowded. That road is closed: no vehicles can get through.

ms zhang 那我们在前面路口拐弯，走另一条路。安娜，你帮我看看方位。
nà wǒmen zài qiánmiàn lùkǒu guǎiwān zǒu lìng yì tiáo lù Ānnà nǐ bāng wǒ kàn kan fāngwèi · Then we'll turn at the next junction and take another road. Anna, help me keep track of where we are.

dr li 刚才一场雨把路面弄湿了，慢点开。
gāngcái yì chǎng yǔ bǎ lùmiàn nòng shī le màn diǎn kāi · That shower just now has made the road wet: drive a bit slower.

little sister 前面那辆客车老是刹车，我有点晕车。
qiánmiàn nà liàng kèchē lǎoshì shāchē wǒ yǒudiǎn yùnchē · The coach in front keeps braking: I feel a bit carsick.

anna 拐过去路就畅通了，还没到高峰呢。你们看，郊外遍地都是花！
guǎi guoqu lù jiù chàngtōng le hái méi dào gāofēng ne nǐmen kàn jiāowài biàndì dōu shì huā · Once we're round the corner the road is clear: it isn't rush hour yet. Look, there are flowers everywhere out here!

ms zhang 路程不远，穿过两个小镇就到港口了。
lùchéng bù yuǎn chuānguò liǎng gè xiǎo zhèn jiù dào gǎngkǒu le · It's not far: through two little towns and we're at the port.

chapter 3 the ferry

anna 哇，码头上停着这么多船只！
wā mǎtóu shàng tíng zhe zhème duō chuánzhī · Wow, look at all the boats at the pier!

xiaoming 我们坐的是那艘白色的轮船，每隔半个小时开一班。
wǒmen zuò de shì nà sōu báisè de lúnchuán měi gé bàn gè xiǎoshí kāi yì bān · Ours is that white ship. One leaves every half hour.

xiaoming 我们的车也能开上去。这艘船常年来回渡海，一次能运送一百多辆车。
wǒmen de chē yě néng kāi shangqu zhè sōu chuán chángnián láihuí dù hǎi yí cì néng yùnsòng yìbǎi duō liàng chē · Our car can go on too. The ship crosses back and forth all year round and carries over a hundred cars each time.

ms zhang 上船要出示船票，大家跟着我。
shàng chuán yào chūshì chuán piào dàjiā gēn zhe wǒ · You have to show your ticket to board. Follow me, everyone.

anna 牌子上写着：“乘客请有序上船，车辆一律停在下层。”
páizi shàng xiě zhe chéngkè qǐng yǒuxù shàng chuán chēliàng yílǜ tíng zài xiàcéng · The sign says: “Passengers please board in an orderly way. All vehicles park on the lower deck.”

dr li 往年这个时候游人很多，今年人少一点，正好。
wǎngnián zhège shíhou yóurén hěn duō jīnnián rén shǎo yìdiǎn zhènghǎo · Other years it’s crowded at this time; this year it’s quieter. Just right.

little sister 你们看，大海一直延伸到远方，风光真迷人！
nǐmen kàn dà hǎi yìzhí yánshēn dào yuǎnfāng fēngguāng zhēn mírén · Look, the sea stretches all the way to the horizon. It’s gorgeous!

anna 一只鸟飞到我跟前来了，它都不怕人！
yì zhī niǎo fēi dào wǒ gēnqián lái le tā dōu bú pà rén · A bird has flown right up to me: it isn’t even afraid of people!

xiaoming 听说以后两边会由一座大桥相连。
tīngshuō yǐhòu liǎng biān huì yóu yí zuò dà qiáo xiānglián · I hear the two sides will be linked by a big bridge one day.

dr li 近来接连下了好几场雨，今天终于晴了。
jìnlái jiēlián xià le hǎojǐ chǎng yǔ jīntiān zhōngyú qíng le · It’s rained several times in a row lately: today it’s finally sunny.

little sister 明天早上我们一道去海边观赏日出吧！
míngtiān zǎoshang wǒmen yídào qù hǎi biān guānshǎng rìchū ba · Let’s all go to the beach together tomorrow morning and watch the sunrise!

chapter 4 the guesthouse

dr li 我姐姐在这儿开了一家民宿，我们这几天都住她这儿。
wǒ jiějie zài zhèr kāi le yì jiā mínsù wǒmen zhè jǐ tiān dōu zhù tā zhèr · My sister runs a guesthouse here: we're staying with her for a few days.

xiaoming 姑姑的民宿布置得真漂亮，房间又明亮又通风。
gūgu de mínsù bùzhì de zhēn piàoliang fángjiān yòu míngliàng yòu tōngfēng · Auntie's guesthouse is beautifully done: the rooms are bright and airy.

anna 透过窗户就能看到大海！角落里摆放的老家具也很有特色。
tòuguò chuānghu jiù néng kàn dào dà hǎi jiǎoluò lǐ bǎifàng de lǎo jiājù yě hěn yǒu tèsè · You can see the sea through the window! And the old furniture in the corner has real character.

little sister 这栋房子是姑姑自己改造的，墙壁都是用老砖建的，特别坚固。
zhè dòng fángzi shì gūgu zìjǐ gǎizào de qiángbì dōu shì yòng lǎo zhuān jiàn de tèbié jiāngù · Auntie renovated this house herself. The walls are all old brick: really solid.

ms zhang 姑姑留了一张卡片：“浴室在走廊右边，自来水不能直接喝。”
gūgu liú le yì zhāng kǎpiàn yùshì zài zǒuláng yòubian zìláishuǐ bù néng zhíjiē hē · Auntie has left a card: “The bathroom is on the right of the corridor. Don't drink the tap water.”

anna 还有：“插座在床边，照明开关在门口，电饭锅可以随便用。”
hái yǒu chāzuò zài chuáng biān zhàomíng kāiguān zài ménkǒu diànfànguō kěyǐ suíbiàn yòng · And: “The sockets are by the bed, the light switch is by the door, and you're welcome to use the rice cooker.”

little sister 床都铺好了，房间也清扫得很干净，连灰尘都没有。
chuáng dōu pū hǎo le fángjiān yě qīngsǎo de hěn gānjìng lián huīchén dōu méiyǒu · The beds are all made, and the rooms are swept spotless: not even any dust.

anna 隔壁房间好像有个小娃娃，不时能听见他在笑。
gébì fángjiān hǎoxiàng yǒu gè xiǎo wáwa bùshí néng tīngjiàn tā zài xiào · There seems to be a little one in the room next door: you can hear him laughing now and then.

dr li 对了，我外甥上个月订婚了，明天他要来见见长辈。
duì le wǒ wàisheng shàng gè yuè dìnghūn le míngtiān tā yào lái jiàn jian zhǎngbèi · Oh, by the way, my nephew got engaged last month. He's coming tomorrow to see the older generation.

ms zhang 就是在塔下求婚的那个吧？听说众人都给他们鼓掌了。
jiùshì zài tǎ xià qiúhūn de nàge ba tīngshuō zhòngrén dōu gěi tāmen gǔzhǎng le · The one who proposed under the pagoda? I heard everyone there clapped for them.

xiaoming 妹妹，你什么时候嫁人啊？
mèimei nǐ shénme shíhou jià rén a · So, little sister, when are you getting married?

little sister 人家还在上大学呢！你自己先娶个媳妇吧。
rénjia hái zài shàng dàxué ne nǐ zìjǐ xiān qǔ gè xífu ba · I'm still at university! You go and find yourself a wife first.

chapter 5 dad's hometown

dr li 这就是我的老家。二十年过去了，这条老街依旧那么热闹。
zhè jiùshì wǒ de lǎojiā èrshí nián guòqù le zhè tiáo lǎo jiē yījiù nàme rènao · This is my hometown. Twenty years on, this old street is as lively as ever.

anna 街头处处是卖小吃的，人行道上也挤满了人。
jiētóu chùchù shì mài xiǎochī de rénxíngdào shàng yě jǐ mǎn le rén · There are snack stalls all along the street, and the pavements are packed with people.

dr li 我就在这一带长大，亲属大都还住在周边的村庄里。
wǒ jiù zài zhè yídài zhǎng dà qīnshǔ dàdū hái zhù zài zhōubiān de cūnzhuāng lǐ · I grew up around here. Most of my relatives still live in the villages nearby.

xiaoming 你们看，那口老井仍旧有人在用！
nǐmen kàn nà kǒu lǎo jǐng réngjiù yǒu rén zài yòng · Look, people are still using that old well!

dr li 以前没有自来水，家家户户都来这儿打水。
yǐqián méiyǒu zìláishuǐ jiājiāhùhù dōu lái zhèr dǎ shuǐ · Before there was tap water, every household came here to fetch water.

anna 那座塔就是这里最有名的名胜吧？
nà zuò tǎ jiùshì zhèlǐ zuì yǒumíng de míngshèng ba · That pagoda must be the most famous sight here?

dr li 对，这座古塔闻名全国，每年有成千上万的游人来观光。
duì zhè zuò gǔ tǎ wénmíng quán guó měi nián yǒu chéngqiān shàngwàn de yóurén lái guānguāng · Yes, the old pagoda is famous all over China. Thousands and thousands of visitors come to see it every year.

xiaoming 今天真是人山人海！我一时都找不到妹妹了。
jīntiān zhēn shì rénshān rénhǎi wǒ yìshí dōu zhǎo bu dào mèimei le · It's packed today! For a moment I couldn't even find my sister.

little sister 我在塔上！这里的景观太美了，整个城镇都看得见。
wǒ zài tǎ shàng zhèlǐ de jǐngguān tài měi le zhěnggè chéngzhèn dōu kàn de jiàn · I'm up the pagoda! The view is amazing: you can see the whole town.

dr li 那边的老房子都拆除了，空地上要建新的住宅。
nàbiān de lǎo fángzi dōu chāichú le kòngdì shàng yào jiàn xīn de zhùzhái · The old houses over there have all been pulled down, and new homes are going to be built on the empty land.

anna 这里的房价比大都市便宜多了吧？
zhèlǐ de fángjià bǐ dà dūshì piányi duō le ba · Housing must be much cheaper here than in the big cities?

dr li 那当然。我退休以后，也想回这儿养老，这里才是我的家园。
nà dāngrán wǒ tuìxiū yǐhòu yě xiǎng huí zhèr yǎnglǎo zhèlǐ cái shì wǒ de jiāyuán · Of course. When I retire I'd like to come back here to live out my days: this is where home really is.

ms zhang 一家人一同出游，真好。
yì jiā rén yìtóng chūyóu zhēn hǎo · It's so nice to travel together as a family.

dr li 对。这样的日子，我想过一辈子。
duì zhèyàng de rìzi wǒ xiǎng guò yíbèizi · Yes. I could live like this for the rest of my life.

Unit 3 is done: family, home, town, road and border. You can now take the whole family on holiday in Chinese.
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