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day 41 taking sides

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 6 · ideas & debate

State your position, agree and disagree, and change the subject neatly with 至于 “as for”.

Debates, meetings and dinner-table arguments all need words for taking a side, and for steering the talk.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
至于	zhìyú	as for; to go so far as	我只{zhi3}负责写报告，至于数据，你去问小明吧。 I’m only writing the report. As for the data, ask Xiaoming.
立场	lìchǎng	position, standpoint	每个|人看问题的立场不一样。 Everyone sees things from a different standpoint.
主张	zhǔzhāng	to advocate; position	他主张大家多骑自行车。 He argues that people should cycle more.
赞同	zàntóng	to approve of	我很赞同你的看法。 I fully agree with you.
认同	rèntóng	to identify with, accept	越来越多的人认同这种生活方式。 More and more people identify with this way of life.
认可	rènkě	to approve, recognise	他的能力得到了大家的认可。 His ability has won everyone’s recognition.
认定	rèndìng	to be convinced; to determine	他认定自己是对的，不愿意听别人的意见。 He’s convinced he’s right and won’t listen to anyone.
争论	zhēnglùn	to argue, debate	他们为这个问题争论了一个下午。 They argued about it all afternoon.
争议	zhēngyì	controversy	这个决定引起了很大的争议。 The decision caused a lot of controversy.
质疑	zhìyí	to question, challenge	有人质疑这个数据是否准确。 Some people question whether the data is accurate.
对立	duìlì	to be opposed	两种观点并不是完全对立的。 The two views aren’t completely opposed.
片面	piànmiàn	one-sided	只{zhi3}听一个|人的意见，难免会片面。 If you only listen to one person, you’re bound to be one-sided.
极端	jíduān	extreme	他的看法太极端了。 His views are too extreme.
正面	zhèngmiàn	positive; front	这件事也有正面的影响。 This also has a positive side.
负面	fùmiàn	negative	网上的负面消息太多了。 There’s too much negative news online.
看待	kàndài	to regard, view	你怎么看待这个问题? How do you see this issue?

看重	kànzhòng	to value, set store by	年轻人找工作，越来越看重工作环境。 Young job-seekers care more and more about the working environment.
前者	qiánzhě	the former	一个是钱，一个是时间，我更看重前者。 Money or time? I value the former more.
后者	hòuzhě	the latter	城市和农村，她更喜欢后者。 City or countryside? She prefers the latter.
证实	zhèngshí	to confirm	这个消息已经被证实了。 The news has been confirmed.
无疑	wúyí	undoubtedly	这无疑是一个好消息。 This is undoubtedly good news.
毫无	háowú	not the slightest	他对这件事毫无兴趣。 He hasn't the slightest interest in it.
毫不	háobù	not in the least	她毫不犹豫地答应了。 She said yes without the slightest hesitation.
即便	jíbiàn	even if	即便下雨，比赛也不会取消。 Even if it rains, the match won't be cancelled.

pattern 至于: as for...

point A **，至于** **point B** **，comment**

至于 "as for" turns to a related point, often one you want to set aside or hand over: 价格没问题，至于时间，再商量. It starts a clause. The point after it is the new topic.

我负责做饭，至于洗碗，就交给你了。 **wǒ fùzé zuòfàn zhìyú xǐ wǎn jiù jiāo gěi nǐ le** I'll do the cooking. As for the washing-up, that's your job.

他说要来，至于什么时候来，他没说。 **tā shuō yào lái zhìyú shénme shíhou lái tā méi shuō** He says he's coming. As for when, he didn't say.

前者我同意，至于后者，我还要想想。 **qiánzhě wǒ tóngyì zhìyú hòuzhě wǒ hái yào xiǎng xiang** I agree with the first point. As for the second, I need to think.

dialogue choosing sides

professor chen 下个月讨论会的题目是“小学生应该不应该有手机”。大家先说说自己的立场。
xià gè yuè tǎolùn huì de tímù shì xiǎoxuéshēng yīnggāi bù yīnggāi yǒu shǒujī dàjiā xiān shuō shuo zìjǐ de lìchǎng · Next month’s topic is “Should primary-school children have phones?”. First, tell us where you stand.

little sister 我主张应该有。手机能帮孩子学习，也方便联系父母。
wǒ zhǔzhāng yīnggāi yǒu shǒujī néng bāng háizi xuéxí yě fāngbiàn liánxì fùmǔ · I say yes. Phones help children learn, and they make it easy to reach their parents.

xiaoming 我不赞同。孩子用手机，负面影响无疑比正面影响大。
wǒ bú zàntóng háizi yòng shǒujī fùmiàn yǐngxiǎng wúyí bǐ zhèngmiàn yǐngxiǎng dà · I disagree. For children, the downsides of phones clearly outweigh the upsides.

little sister 哥哥，你这个看法太片面了！你有什么证据?
gēge nǐ zhège kànfǎ tài piànmiàn le nǐ yǒu shénme zhèngjù · That’s so one-sided! What’s your evidence?

xiaoming 很多研究都证实了，用手机太多会影响睡眠。
hěn duō yánjiū dōu zhèngshí le yòng shǒujī tài duō huì yǐngxiǎng shuìmián · Plenty of studies have confirmed that too much phone use hurts sleep.

professor chen 你们俩的观点并不是完全对立的。至于谁对谁错，要看我们怎么看待“用手机”。
nǐmen liǎ de guāndiǎn bìng bú shì wánquán duìlì de zhìyú shéi duì shéi cuò yào kàn wǒmen zěnme kàndài yòng shǒujī · Your views aren’t completely opposed. As for who’s right, it depends how we look at “using a phone”.

anna 我认同陈教授的看法。关键不是有没有手机，而是怎么用。
wǒ rèntóng Chénjiàoshòu de kànfǎ guānjiàn bú shì yǒu méiyǒu shǒujī ér shì zěnme yòng · I agree with Professor Chen. The key isn’t having a phone, it’s how you use it.

little sister 那倒是。我看重的是学习，哥哥看重的是健康，前者和后者都很重要。
nà dàoshì wǒ kànzhòng de shì xuéxí gēge kànzhòng de shì jiànkāng qiánzhě hé hòuzhě dōu hěn zhòngyào · True. I care about learning, he cares about health, and both matter.

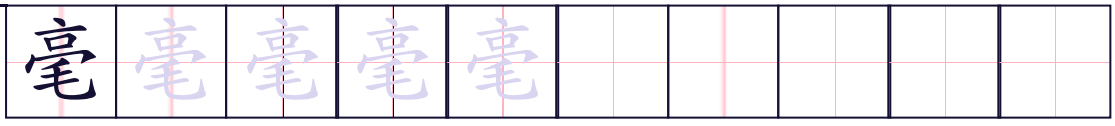
xiaoming 好吧。即便观点不同，我们也可以好好讨论，不用争论得这么极端。
hǎo ba jíbiàn guāndiǎn bù tóng wǒmen yě kěyǐ hǎohǎo tǎolùn búyòng zhēnglùn de zhème jíduān · All right. Even if we disagree, we can discuss it calmly, without getting so extreme.

professor chen 说得好！毫无争议的题目才没意思呢。
shuō de hǎo háo wú zhēngyì de tímù cái méi yìsi ne · Well said! A topic with no controversy would be boring.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



毫
háo
a tiny bit (a hair)



good to know · 赞同, 认同 and 认可 all mean agreeing: 赞同 a view, 认同 a value or identity you share, 认可 approval or recognition of someone’s work. 前者 “the former” and 后者 “the latter” keep a comparison tidy, just like in English essays.

You can now take a side, push back politely and steer a discussion. That’s the heart of every debate. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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day 42 cause and effect

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 6 · ideas & debate

Explain causes and effects, make guesses and suppositions, and read the written 因 “because of”.

News, science and every good argument are built on “why”. Today you get the words to say it.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
因	yīn	because of (written)	比赛因下雨推迟了。 The match was postponed because of rain.
动机	dòngjī	motive	你学中文的动机是什么? What made you want to learn Chinese?
动力	dònglì	motivation, driving force	家人的支持是我最大的动力。 My family’s support is what drives me most.
引发	yǐnfā	to trigger, set off	这篇文章引发了很多讨论。 The article set off a lot of discussion.
激发	jīfā	to spark, arouse	好老师能激发学生的兴趣。 Good teachers spark students’ interest.
加剧	jiājù	to worsen, intensify	天气变化加剧了缺水的问题。 Changes in the weather have made the water shortage worse.
减弱	jiǎnruò	to weaken	到了晚上，风慢慢减弱了。 By evening the wind had slowly died down.
伴随	bànsuí	to go along with	城市的发展伴随着很多新问题。 A city’s growth brings many new problems with it.
涉及	shèjí	to involve, touch on	这个问题涉及很多方面。 This issue touches on many areas.
关联	guānlián	to be connected	这两件事之间没有关联。 There’s no link between the two.
联想	liánxiǎng	to be reminded of, associate	看到这张照片，我联想到了自己的童年。 This photo reminds me of my own childhood.
前提	qiántí	precondition	健康是一切的前提。 Health comes before everything else.
假设	jiǎshè	to suppose; hypothesis	假设你有一百万，你会做什么? Suppose you had a million: what would you do?
设想	shèxiǎng	to imagine; idea, plan	这只{zhi3}是我的一个设想，还需要讨论。 It’s only an idea of mine; we still need to discuss it.
推测	tuīcè	to infer, deduce	我推测他明天不会来。 My guess is he won’t come tomorrow.
猜测	cāicè	to guess, speculate	这只{zhi3}是大家的猜测，不一定是真的。 That’s just speculation; it may not be true.
代价	dàijià	price, cost (of doing sth)	为了成功，他付出了很大的代价。 He paid a high price for his success.

被动	bèidòng	passive	别总是等别人安排，太被动了。 Don't always wait for others to arrange things: it's too passive.
被迫	bèipò	to be forced to	他被迫放弃了这个计划。 He was forced to give up the plan.
本能	běnnéng	instinct; instinctively	保护孩子是父母的本能。 Protecting their children is a parent's instinct.
间接	jiànjiē	indirect	这件事间接影响了我们的生活。 This indirectly affected our lives.
之所以	zhīsuǒyǐ	the reason why … is	我之所以学中文，是因为喜欢中国菜。 The reason I'm learning Chinese is that I love Chinese food.
为此	wèicǐ	for this reason, to this end	他想去中国留学，为此每天学两个小时中文。 He wants to study in China, so he studies Chinese two hours a day.
出于	chūyú	out of, stemming from	我这样说完全是出于关心。 I only said it because I care.

pattern 因: because of (written)

what happened + 因 + cause + result

因 is the written "because of". It goes inside the sentence, right before the cause: 比赛因雨推迟, "the match was put off because of rain". With 而 it links a cause to a result: 因工作太忙而生病. In speech, say 因为.

很多人因工作压力太大而失眠。 **hěn duō rén yīn gōngzuò yālì tài dà ér shīmián** Many people can't sleep because of stress at work.

会议因经理生病推迟了。 **huìyì yīn jīnglǐ shēngbìng tuīchí le** The meeting was postponed because the manager was ill.

这条路因下大雨关闭了。 **zhè tiáo lù yīn xià dà yǔ guānbì le** The road was closed because of heavy rain.

dialogue why so hot?

anna 周博士，我左想右想也不明白，今年夏天为什么这么热?
Zhōubóshì wǒ zuǒ xiǎng yòu xiǎng yě bù míngbai jīnnián xiàtiān wèi shénme zhème rè · Dr Zhou, I've thought about it every which way: why was this summer so hot?

dr zhou 原因很复杂，涉及很多方面。不过科学家推测，全球气温升高是最重要的原因。
yuányīn hěn fùzá shèjí hěn duō fāngmiàn búguò kēxué jiā tuīcè quánqiú qìwēn shēng gāo shì zuì zhòngyào de yuányīn · It's complicated and involves many factors. But scientists believe global warming is the main cause.

little sister 天气变热跟下大雨也有关联吗?
tiānqì biàn rè gēn xià dà yǔ yě yǒu guānlián ma · Is warmer weather linked to heavy rain too?

dr zhou 有。气温高了，空气里的水多了，就容易引发大雨，问题也就加剧了。
yǒu qìwēn gāo le kōngqì lǐ de shuǐ duō le jiù róngyì yǐnfā dà yǔ wèntí yě jiù jiājù le · Yes. Higher temperatures mean more water in the air, which easily sets off heavy rain and makes things worse.

anna 那这种变化会减弱吗?
nà zhè zhǒng biànhuà huì jiǎnruò ma · So will these changes ease off?

dr zhou 前提是大家一起少用电、少开车。我们的生活方式一直在间接影响天气。
qiántí shì dàjiā yìqǐ shǎo yòng diàn shǎo kāichē wǒmen de shēnghuó fāngshì yìzhí zài jiànjiē yǐngxiǎng tiānqì · Only if we all use less electricity and drive less. Our way of life is indirectly affecting the weather all the time.

little sister 可是很多人是被迫开车的，因为家离公司太远了。
kěshì hěn duō rén shì bèipò kāichē de yīnwèi jiā lí gōngsī tài yuǎn le · But lots of people have to drive, because they live so far from work.

dr zhou 没错。城市的发展总是伴随着新问题。我的设想是多建地铁，让大家不再被动地开车。
méi cuò chéngshì de fāzhǎn zǒngshì bànsuí zhe xīn wèntí wǒ de shèxiǎng shì duō jiàn dìtiě ràng dàjiā bú zài bèidòng de kāichē · Exactly. Growing cities always bring new problems. My idea is to build more metro lines, so people aren't stuck driving.

anna 我之所以参加这个项目，是出于兴趣，也想做一点有用的事。
wǒ zhīsuǒyǐ cānjiā zhège xiàngmù shì chūyú xìngqù yě xiǎng zuò yìdiǎn yǒuyòng de shì · The reason I joined this project is that I'm interested, and I want to do something useful.

dr zhou 这样的动机最好！为此，我们先把问题讲清楚。
zhèyàng de dòngjī zuìhǎo wèicǐ wǒmen xiān bǎ wèntí jiǎng qīngchu · That's the best motive there is! So let's start by explaining the problem clearly.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

涉 shè to wade

good to know · 之所以...是因为... puts the result first and the reason second: 我之所以迟到，是因为堵车. It sounds thoughtful and is great in essays. 推测 is reasoning from evidence; 猜测 is plain guessing. Scientists 推测, gossips 猜测.

Why, because, so: you can now follow a science explanation in Chinese, and give one.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 43 thinking clearly

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 6 · ideas & debate

Organise your thinking: define, divide into types and levels, compare, and give examples.

Clear thinking is half of a good argument. These are the words for structure: core, points, levels, cases.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
凡是	fánshì	every, all (who/that)	凡是去过{guo}那里的人，都说风景很美。 Everyone who has been there says the scenery is beautiful.
思路	sīlù	train of thought, approach	你的思路很清楚。 Your thinking is very clear.
要点	yàodiǎn	main points	请把会议的要点记下来。 Please note down the main points of the meeting.
要素	yàosù	key element	时间、地点和人物是故事的三个要素。 Time, place and characters are the three elements of a story.
核心	héxīn	core	这个问题的核心是钱。 At the core of this problem is money.
重心	zhòngxīn	focus; centre of gravity	今年工作的重心是提高质量。 This year's focus at work is raising quality.
实质	shízhì	essence, substance	这两个说法实质上是一样的。 The two statements are essentially the same.
定义	dìngyì	definition; to define	每个|人对成功的定义都不一样。 Everyone defines success differently.
类别	lèibié	category	图书馆的书按照类别放好。 Library books are shelved by category.
划分	huàfēn	to divide, mark off	按照年龄，孩子们被划分到三个班。 The children are divided into three classes by age.
区分	qūfēn	to tell apart	他区分不了{liao3-4}这两个字。 He can't tell these two characters apart.
分级	fēnjí	to grade, sort into levels	这些阅读材料按难度分级。 These reading materials are graded by difficulty.
等级	děngjí	grade, rank	这个考试一共有九个等级。 This exam has nine levels in all.
层次	céngcì	level; structure	这篇文章写得很有层次。 This essay is well structured.
层面	céngmiàn	level, aspect	我们要从不同的层面来看这个问题。 We need to look at this from different angles.
方方面面	fāngfāngmiànmiàn	every aspect	这个计划考虑到了方方面面。 This plan has thought of everything.
同类	tónglèi	the same kind	跟同类产品比，这个价格更便宜。 Compared with similar products, this one is cheaper.

差异	chāyì	difference	南方和北方的饮食有很大的差异。 Food in the south and the north is very different.
相差	xiāngchà	to differ (by)	我们俩的年龄相差五岁。 There are five years between us.
对应	duìyìng	to correspond	这两个词的意思并不完全对应。 The meanings of the two words don't match exactly.
典型	diǎnxíng	typical; typical example	这是一个很典型的例子。 This is a very typical example.
案例	ànlì	case (example)	老师给我们讲了几个真实的案例。 The teacher told us about some real cases.
比方	bǐfang	analogy; for example	比方说，你可以每天早上读半个小时。 For example, you could read for half an hour every morning.
犹如	yóurú	just like (written)	读一本好书，犹如交了一个好朋友。 Reading a good book is like making a good friend.

pattern 凡是...都...: every ... without exception

凡是 | a group or kind | ，都 | what is true of all

凡是 + a group, then 都 + what is true of every one of them: 凡是去过的人都说好, "everyone who has been says it's great". It's firmer than 所有的, and sounds like a rule.

凡是新同学，都要先做一个自我介绍。 **fánshì xīn tóngxué dōu yào xiān zuò yí gè zìwǒ jièshào** Every new student introduces themselves first.

凡是跟钱有关的事，都要小心。 **fánshì gēn qián yǒuguān de shì dōu yào xiǎoxīn** Be careful with anything to do with money.

凡是故事，都少不了时间、地点和人物这三个要素。 **fánshì gùshi dōu shǎo bu liǎo shíjiān dìdiǎn hé rénwù zhè sān gè yàosù** Every story needs three elements: time, place and characters.

dialogue getting it straight

little sister 陈教授，我准备讨论会准备了一个星期，可是想这想那，越想越乱。
Chénjiàoshòu wǒ zhǔnbèi tǎolùn huì zhǔnbèi le yí gè xīngqī kěshì xiǎng zhè xiǎng nà yuè xiǎng yuè luàn · Professor Chen, I've been preparing for the debate for a week, but I keep worrying about everything and getting more muddled.

professor chen 别急，先把思路弄清楚。你的核心观点是什么?
bié jí xiān bǎ sīlù nòng qīngchu nǐ de héxīn guāndiǎn shì shénme · Don't panic. First get your thinking straight. What's your core argument?

little sister 我认为网上学习比在教室里学习更好。
wǒ rènwéi wǎngshang xuéxí bǐ zài jiàoshì lǐ xuéxí gèng hǎo · I think learning online is better than learning in a classroom.

professor chen 那你要先给“更好”下一个定义。是学得更快，还是学得更深?
nà nǐ yào xiān gěi gèng hǎo xià yí gè dìngyì shì xué de gèng kuài háishi xué de gèng shēn · Then you first need to define "better". Learning faster, or learning more deeply?

little sister 我觉得要从几个层面来看：时间、费用和效果。
wǒ juéde yào cóng jǐ gè céngmiàn lái kàn shíjiān fèiyong hé xiàoguǒ · I think it should be looked at on several levels: time, cost and results.

professor chen 很好，这就是你的三个要点。凡是重要的观点，都要有案例支持。
hěn hǎo zhè jiùshì nǐ de sān gè yàodiǎn fánshì zhòngyào de guāndiǎn dōu yào yǒu ànlì zhīchí · Good, those are your three main points. Every important point needs a case to back it up.

little sister 比方说，我有一个同学在网上学画画，进步特别快。
bǐfang shuō wǒ yǒu yí gè tóngxué zài wǎngshang xué huà huà jìnbù tèbié kuài · For example, a classmate of mine learned to paint online and improved really fast.

professor chen 可以，但最好再找几个典型的案例。另外，要区分“网上学习”和“看视频”，两者差异很大。
kěyǐ dàn zuìhǎo zài zhǎo jǐ gè diǎnxíng de ànlì lìngwài yào qūfēn wǎngshang xuéxí hé kàn shìpín liǎng zhě chāyì hěn dà · Fine, but find a few more typical cases. And tell "online learning" apart from "watching videos": they're very different.

little sister 明白了！这两个说法并不对应，实质也不一样。
míngbai le zhè liǎng gè shuōfǎ bìng bú duìyìng shízhì yě bù yíyàng · I see! The two don't match up: they're different in substance.

professor chen 对。思路清楚了，文章就犹如一棵树，有根也有枝。
duì sīlù qīngchu le wénzhāng jiù yóurú yì kē shù yǒu gēn yě yǒu zhī · Exactly. Once your thinking is clear, your essay is like a tree, with roots and branches.

good to know · 凡是 needs 都 later in the sentence: leaving out 都 is a common mistake. 比方说 is a friendly spoken "for example"; in writing use 比如 or 例如. 大概 is also a noun, "the gist": 我知道个大概 "I've got the rough idea". As an adverb it is "probably": 他大概不来了.

Define, divide, give a case: you now have the toolkit for a clear argument in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 44 solving problems

Talk through a problem: causes, steps, flaws and workable solutions, and keep two things apart with X归X.

Problems come up at work and at home. Knowing how to talk them through calmly is a superpower in any language.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
归	guī	to belong to; to return	这件事归我管。 This is my responsibility.
途径	tújìng	way, channel	网上学习是一个很好的途径。 Online study is a great way to learn.
步骤	bùzhòu	step (in a process)	请按照下面的步骤操作。 Please follow the steps below.
初步	chūbù	initial, preliminary	我们已经有了一个初步的计划。 We already have an initial plan.
可行	kěxíng	feasible	这个办法可行吗? Will this work?
切实	qièshí	practical, realistic	我们需要切实可行的办法。 We need practical, workable solutions.
排除	páichú	to rule out	医生已经排除|了这种可能。 The doctor has ruled that out.
消除	xiāochú	to remove, get rid of	多沟通可以消除误会。 Talking more clears up misunderstandings.
筛选	shāixuǎn	to screen, shortlist	公司从一百份简历里筛选出了十个|人。 The company shortlisted ten people from a hundred CVs.
弥补	míbǔ	to make up for	他想用努力来弥补经验的不足。 He wants to make up for his lack of experience with hard work.
缺陷	quēxiàn	defect, flaw	这个产品有一个设计上的缺陷。 This product has a design flaw.
弱点	ruòdiǎn	weakness	每个|人都有自己的弱点。 Everyone has their weak points.
薄弱	bóruò	weak (area)	我的听力比较薄弱。 My listening is quite weak.
局限	júxiàn	to limit; limitation	不要把自己局限在一个地方。 Don't limit yourself to one place.
限度	xiàndù	limit	我的耐心是有限度的。 My patience has its limits.
障碍	zhàngài	obstacle	语言不再是我们交流的障碍。 Language is no longer a barrier between us.
阻碍	zǔài	to hinder	害怕失败会阻碍你进步。 Fear of failure holds you back.

阻挡	zǔdǎng	to stop, block	什么也阻挡不了{liao3-4}他。 Nothing can stop him.
陷入	xiànrù	to fall into, get caught in	公司陷入了困难。 The company ran into difficulties.
常规	chángguī	routine, conventional	用常规的方法解决不了{liao3-4}这个问题。 The usual methods won't solve this.
则	zé	while, whereas (written)	南方人爱吃米饭，北方人则更爱吃饺子。 Southerners love rice, whereas northerners prefer dumplings.
与其	yǔqí	rather than	与其在家发愁，不如出去走走。 Rather than fretting at home, go out for a walk.
足以	zúyǐ	enough to	这些钱足以买一辆车。 This money is enough to buy a car.

pattern x归x，y归y: x is one thing, y is another

X | 归 | X | ，Y | 归 | Y

X归X，Y归Y keeps two things apart: 朋友归朋友，生意归生意, "friends are friends, but business is business". Often only the first half is said, X归X, and then a clause says what still holds: 好吃归好吃，也不能吃太多.

说归说，做归做，我们要看行动。 **shuō guī shuō zuò guī zuò wǒmen yào kàn xíngdòng** Talk is one thing, doing is another. We'll judge by actions.

喜欢归喜欢，太贵的东西我还是不买。 **xǐhuan guī xǐhuan tài guì de dōngxi wǒ háishi bù mǎi** Liking it is one thing, but I won't buy anything that pricey.

着急归着急，步骤一个也不能少。 **zháojí guī zháojí bùzhòu yí gè yě bù néng shǎo** Being in a hurry is one thing, but we can't skip a single step.

dialogue a flaw in the design

xiaoming 安娜，我们的新产品出了问题。这几天我总算明白什么叫“压力”了。
Ānnà wǒmen de xīn chǎnpǐn chū le wèntí zhè jǐ tiān wǒ zǒngsuàn míngbai shénme jiào yālì le · Anna, our new product has a problem. These last few days I've finally learned what "stress" means.

anna 怎么了？慢慢说。
zěnme le màn màn shuō · What happened? Take your time.

xiaoming 测试的时候发现了一个缺陷，电池用不了多久，公司一下子陷入了被动。
cèshì de shíhou fāxiàn le yí gè quēxiàn diànchí yòng bu liǎo duō jiǔ gōngsī yíxià zi xiànrù le bèidòng · Testing found a flaw: the battery doesn't last. Suddenly the company is on the back foot.

anna 原因找到了吗？
yuányīn zhǎo dào le ma · Have you found the cause?

xiaoming 我们已经排除了几种可能，现在初步认定是设计的问题。
wǒmen yǐjīng páichú le jǐ zhǒng kěnéng xiànzài chūbù rèndìng shì shèjì de wèntí · We've ruled out a few possibilities. For now we think it's a design problem.

anna 与其自己发愁，不如跟团队一起想办法。别把思路局限在常规的方法上。
yǔqí zìjǐ fāchóu bùrú gēn tuánduì yìqǐ xiǎng bànfǎ bié bǎ sīlù júxiàn zài chángguī de fāngfǎ shàng · Rather than worrying alone, work it out with the team. And don't limit yourselves to the usual methods.

xiaoming 我们打算先找出设计的弱点，再筛选出最可行的方案，找最好的途径解决。
wǒmen dǎsuàn xiān zhǎo chū shèjì de ruòdiǎn zài shāixuǎn chū zuì kěxíng de fāngàn zhǎo zuìhǎo de tújìng jiějué · We plan to find the weak spots in the design first, then shortlist the most workable fixes and find the best way through.

anna 你们经理怎么说？他是你的老同学吧？
nǐmen jīnglǐ zěnme shuō tā shì nǐ de lǎo tóngxué ba · What does your manager say? He's an old classmate of yours, isn't he?

xiaoming 对，可是同学归同学，工作归工作。他说这次的问题归我负责，一定不能拖延。
duì kěshì tóngxué guī tóngxué gōngzuò guī gōngzuò tā shuō zhè cì de wèntí guī wǒ fùzé yídìng bù néng tuōyán · Yes, but a classmate is one thing and work is another. He says this problem is mine to fix, with no delays.

anna 那倒是。经过这一番努力，你们一定能弥补这个缺陷。
nà dàoshì jīngguò zhè yì fān nǔlì nǐmen yídìng néng míbǔ zhège quēxiàn · Fair enough. After all this effort, you're sure to fix the flaw.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

径 jìng path

驟 zhòu pace

good to know · 与其A，不如B “rather than A, better B” is the classic way to give advice in a debate or an essay. 则 is a written “whereas, then”: it comes after the subject of the second clause: 口语则比较薄弱. 难 is also a verb, “to stump, put on the spot”: 这下可难住我了 “now you've got me”, 什么也难不倒她 “nothing beats her”.

You can now talk a friend through a problem, step by step, and keep friendship and work in their places.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 45 learning from the past

Look back and learn from the past, talk about change and influence, and grumble about someone who refuses everything.

History, careers and cities all change. Talking about what we learn from the past is a classic essay and debate theme.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
回顾	huígù	to look back on	回顾这一年，我学到了很多。 Looking back on this year, I've learned a lot.
反思	fǎnsī	to reflect on	失败以后，我们要好好反思。 After a failure, we should reflect carefully.
吸取	xīqǔ	to draw (a lesson), absorb	我们要从这次失败中吸取教训。 We should learn from this failure.
借鉴	jièjiàn	to draw on, learn from	我们可以借鉴别的国家的经验。 We can learn from other countries' experience.
启发	qǐfā	to inspire, give ideas	这本书给了我很大的启发。 This book gave me lots of ideas.
启示	qǐshì	lesson, insight	这个故事给我们的启示是什么? What lesson does this story teach us?
理念	lǐniàn	philosophy, idea	这家{=(measure word)}公司的理念是“客户第一”。 The company's philosophy is “customers first”.
树立	shùlì	to set (an example), establish	父母要给孩子树立好榜样。 Parents should set their children a good example.
确立	quèlì	to establish, settle	他很早就确立了自己的目标。 He set his goals early on.
赋予	fùyǔ	to give, endow	这个节日被赋予了新的意义。 The festival has been given a new meaning.
主导	zhǔdǎo	dominant; to lead	在这个市场里，大公司占主导地位。 Big companies dominate this market.
占据	zhànjù	to occupy, take up	手机占据了我们大部分的时间。 Phones take up most of our time.
取代	qǔdài	to replace	电脑能取代老师吗? Can computers replace teachers?
转移	zhuǎnyí	to shift, transfer	他想转移大家的注意力。 He wants to shift everyone's attention.
倾向	qīngxiàng	to tend to; tendency	我更倾向第二个方案。 I lean towards the second option.
形态	xíngtài	form, shape	水有三种形态。 Water takes three forms.

过渡	guòdù	transition	从学生到职员，需要一个过渡的阶段。 Going from student to employee takes a period of transition.
开启	kāiqǐ	to open, start	毕业以后，她开启了新的生活。 After graduating, she started a new life.
引入	yǐnrù	to bring in, introduce	学校引入了新的教学方法。 The school has brought in new teaching methods.
持久	chíjiǔ	lasting	只有兴趣才|能带来持久的动力。 Only real interest brings lasting motivation.
例外	lìwài	exception	大家都要准时，谁也不能例外。 Everyone must be on time, no exceptions.
以往	yǐwǎng	the past, before	今年的游客比以往多得多。 There are far more tourists this year than before.
日益	rìyì	increasingly, day by day	环境问题日益严重。 Environmental problems are getting worse by the day.
不至于	bùzhìyú	not go so far as	他只是|有点{==a bit, rather}感冒，不至于住院吧。 It's only a cold. Surely he won't need hospital.

pattern 这也不x，那也不y: not this, not that

这也不 | X | ，那也不 | Y

这也不X，那也不Y grumbles about someone who turns everything down: 这也不吃，那也不吃, "won't eat this, won't eat that". X and Y can be the same verb or two different ones. The tone is half annoyed, half amused.

孩子这也不玩，那也不玩，就想看手机。 **háizi zhè yě bù wán nà yě bù wán jiù xiǎng kàn shǒujī** The kids won't play with anything: they just want their phones.

他这也不想学，那也不想做，以后怎么办？ **tā zhè yě bù xiǎng xué nà yě bù xiǎng zuò yǐhòu zěnme bàn** He doesn't want to learn anything or do anything. What will become of him?

你这也不敢，那也不敢，怎么开启新生活？ **nǐ zhè yě bù gǎn nà yě bù gǎn zěnme kāiqǐ xīn shēnghuó** You're scared of everything. How will you ever start a new life?

dialogue cities of the past

professor chen 今天我们看的是中国古代的城市。回顾历史，能给我们很多启示。
jīntiān wǒmen kàn de shì Zhōngguó gǔdài de chéngshì huígù lìshǐ néng gěi wǒmen hěn duō qǐshì · Today we're looking at ancient Chinese cities. Looking back at history teaches us a lot.

anna 以往的城市跟现在的城市，最大的差异是什么？
yǐwǎng de chéngshì gēn xiànzài de chéngshì zuì dà de chāyì shì shénme · What's the biggest difference between cities then and now?

professor chen 城市的形态变了。以前是城墙主导，现在是高楼占据了天空。
chéngshì de xíngtài biàn le yǐqián shì chéng qiáng zhǔdǎo xiànzài shì gāo lóu zhànjù le tiānkōng · Their shape has changed. City walls used to dominate; now tower blocks fill the sky.

little sister 古代的人生活一定很无聊吧，没有手机，这也不能做，那也不能做。
gǔdài de rén shēnghuó yídìng hěn wúliáo ba méiyǒu shǒujī zhè yě bù néng zuò nà yě bù néng zuò · Life must have been so boring back then. No phones, you couldn't do this, couldn't do that.

professor chen 那倒不至于！他们有很多有意思的理念，我们今天还在借鉴。
nà dào búzhìyú tāmen yǒu hěn duō yǒu yìsi de lǐniàn wǒmen jīntiān hái zài jièjiàn · It wasn't that bad! They had lots of interesting ideas that we still borrow today.

anna 比如呢？
bǐrú ne · Such as?

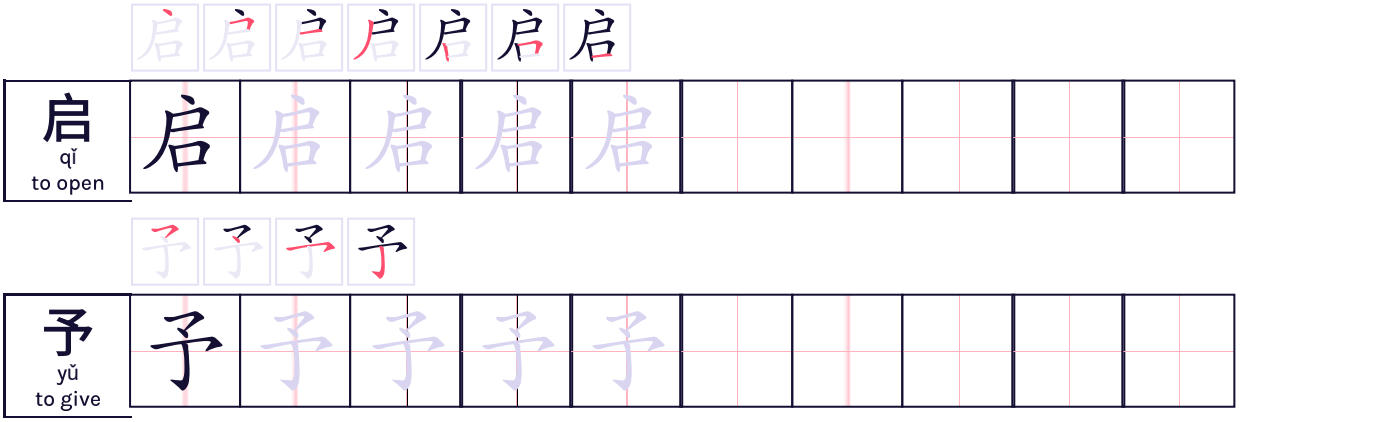
professor chen 比如很多古代城市把河水引入城里，人们住得离水很近。现在不少城市又开始倾向这种设计。
bǐrú hěn duō gǔdài chéngshì bǎ hé shuǐ yǐnrù chéng lǐ rénmen zhù de lí shuǐ hěn jìn xiànzài bù shǎo chéngshì yòu kāishǐ qīngxiàng zhè zhǒng shèjì · Many ancient cities brought river water into town, so people lived close to water. Lots of cities today are leaning towards that design again.

little sister 原来历史并没有被取代，只是转移到了新的形式里。
yuánlái lìshǐ bìng méiyǒu bèi qǔdài zhǐshì zhuǎnyí dào le xīn de xíngshì lǐ · So history hasn't been replaced; it's just moved into new forms.

professor chen 说得好！每一次过渡，都会赋予城市新的意义。
shuō de hǎo měi yí cì guòdù dōu huì fùyǔ chéngshì xīn de yìyì · Well put! Every transition gives a city new meaning.

anna 那倒是。我们应该常常反思，从过去吸取经验。
nà dàoshì wǒmen yīnggāi chángcháng fǎnsī cóng guòqù xīqǔ jīngyàn · That's true. We should often reflect, and learn from the past.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · 不至于 "it won't come to that" is a handy way to calm someone down: 不至于吧！ "surely not!" 借鉴 is literally "borrow a mirror": you look at someone else's experience to see yourself better.

You can now talk about how the past shapes the present, and tease a picky friend while you're at it.
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wishyou.today learning

day 46 a good argument

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 6 · ideas & debate

Build a strong argument with data and fair reading of the other side, and use the formal 所 + verb.

Debates and essays reward clear, formal sentences. 所 and the set phrases of today make you sound like a pro.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
所	suǒ	what (所 + verb)	我所{suo3-6}知道的就这么多。 That's all I know.
探讨	tàntǎo	to explore, discuss	今天我们来探讨一下教育的问题。 Today let's explore the question of education.
解读	jiědú	to interpret	每个|人对这首诗的解读都不同。 Everyone reads this poem differently.
解	jiě	to solve; to untie; to understand	这道数学题我解了半天也没解出来。 I spent ages on this maths problem and still couldn't solve it.
理	lǐ	to pay attention to; reason	他生气了，谁也不理。 He's cross and won't talk to anyone.
衡量	héngliáng	to weigh up, measure	不能只{zhi3}用钱来衡量成功。 You can't measure success by money alone.
忽略	hūlüè	to overlook	我们常常忽略身边最重要的人。 We often overlook the people who matter most.
丧失	sàngshī	to lose (ability, confidence)	失败了几次以后，他丧失了信心。 After failing a few times, he lost confidence.
浓厚	nónghòu	strong, deep (interest)	他对历史有浓厚的兴趣。 He has a deep interest in history.
庞大	pángdà	huge, enormous	这是一个庞大的计划。 This is an enormous plan.
密	mì	dense, close together	这里的楼建得太密了。 The buildings here are packed too close together.
分散	fēnsàn	to distract; scattered	手机很容易分散注意力。 Phones easily distract you.
次数	cìshù	number of times	他迟到的次数越来越多。 He's late more and more often.
长短	chángduǎn	length; pros and cons	这条裤子的长短正合适。 These trousers are just the right length.
称作	chēngzuò	to be called	这座城市被称作“花城”。 This city is known as “the City of Flowers”.
呈现	chéngxiàn	to show, present	这张图表呈现了五年的变化。 This chart shows five years of change.

力度	lìdù	intensity, effort	政府加大了保护环境的力度。 The government has stepped up efforts to protect the environment.
认知	rènzhī	understanding, perception	这次旅行改变了我对世界的认知。 This trip changed how I see the world.
众所周知	zhòngsuǒzhōuzhī	as everyone knows	众所周知，吸烟对健康有害。 As everyone knows, smoking is bad for you.
至关重要	zhìguānzhòngyào	vital, crucial	睡眠对健康至关重要。 Sleep is vital for your health.
诸多	zhūduō	many (written)	这个计划还存在诸多问题。 There are still many problems with this plan.
一系列	yīxìliè	a series of	公司推出了一系列新产品。 The company has launched a series of new products.
上述	shàngshù	above-mentioned	上述问题都需要尽快解决。 All the problems above need solving quickly.
该	gāi	this, the said (written)	该{gai1-6}产品已经在全国销售。 The product is already on sale nationwide.

pattern 所 + verb: "what someone …"

(who) **所** **verb** **的** **(thing)**

所 + verb + 的 turns a verb into "what someone …": 我所知道的 "what I know", 大家所关心的问题 "the issue everyone cares about". It's formal and tidy, perfect for essays and debates. In speech you can usually drop 所.

你所说的，我都同意。 **nǐ suǒ shuō de wǒ dōu tóngyì** I agree with everything you've said.

这不是我所希望的结果。 **zhè bú shì wǒ suǒ xīwàng de jiéguǒ** This isn't the result I was hoping for.

我们所说的"网上学习"，也被称作"线上学习"。 **wǒmen suǒ shuō de wǎngshang xuéxí yě bèi chēngzuò xiànshàng xuéxí** What we call "online learning" is also known as "learning on the web".

dialogue what makes a good argument

professor chen 今天我们来探讨一下：怎样的观点才有说服力？
jīntiān wǒmen lái tàntǎo yíxià zěnyàng de guāndiǎn cái yǒu shuōfú lì · Today let's explore this: what makes an argument convincing?

little sister 我觉得要有数据。众所周知，数据最有说服力。
wǒ juéde yào yǒu shùjù zhòngsuǒzhōuzhī shùjù zuì yǒu shuōfú lì · I think you need data. Everyone knows data is the most convincing.

professor chen 数据至关重要，但也要会解读。比如，迟到的次数多，未必说明这个人不认真。
shùjù zhìguān zhòngyào dàn yě yào huì jiědú bǐrú chídào de cìshù duō wèibì shuōmíng zhège rén bú rènzhēn · Data is vital, but you have to read it well. For instance, being late a lot doesn't necessarily mean someone doesn't care.

xiaoming 而且不能忽略对方的意见。
érqiě bù néng hūlüè duìfāng de yìjiàn · And you mustn't ignore the other side's views.

professor chen 对，上述两点都很重要。另外，诸多例子不如一个好例子：例子太分散，力度就不够。
duì shàngshù liǎng diǎn dōu hěn zhòngyào lìngwài zhūduō lìzi bùrú yí gè hǎo lìzi lìzi tài fēnsàn lìdù jiù búgòu · Right, both those points matter. Also, one good example beats lots of them: if your examples are scattered, you lose force.

little sister 至于时间呢？每个人发言的长短有规定吗？
zhìyú shíjiān ne měi gè rén fāyán de chángduǎn yǒu guīdìng ma · And what about time? Is there a rule for how long each person speaks?

professor chen 每人三分钟。该规定是为了公平，谁也不能例外。
měi rén sān fēnzhōng gāi guīdìng shì wèile gōngpíng shéi yě bù néng lìwài · Three minutes each. The rule is there to be fair, and there are no exceptions.

xiaoming 瞧你紧张的，才三分钟嘛！
qiáo nǐ jǐnzhāng de cái sān fēnzhōng ma · Look at you, so nervous! It's only three minutes!

little sister 哥哥，你别理我。我所担心的不是时间，是丧失信心。
gēge nǐ bié lǐ wǒ wǒ suǒ dānxīn de bú shì shíjiān shì sàngshī xìnxīn · Leave me alone. What I'm worried about isn't the time, it's losing my nerve.

professor chen 别担心。你对这个话题兴趣浓厚，准备得也很认真，一定没问题。
bié dānxīn nǐ duì zhège huàtí xìngqù nónghòu zhǔnbèi de yě hěn rènzhēn yídìng méi wèntí · Don't worry. You care deeply about this topic and you've prepared well. You'll be fine.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

丧
sàng
to lose

呈
chéng
to present

good to know · 该 in written Chinese means "this, the said": 该公司 "the company (just mentioned)". In speech it's 这个. 众所周知 and 至关重要 are four-character set phrases that instantly make an essay sound polished; use them, but not in every sentence.

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chapter 1 the rules

professor chen 欢迎大家！今天的题目是“网上学习能不能取代课堂”。
huānyíng dàjiā jīntiān de tímù shì wǎngshang xuéxí néng bu néng qǔdài kètáng · Welcome, everyone! Tonight’s topic is “Can online learning replace the classroom?”.

professor chen 今天的两位发言人，是从十个报名的同学里筛选出来的。
jīntiān de liǎng wèi fāyán rén shì cóng shí gè bàomíng de tóngxué lǐ shāixuǎn chulai de · Tonight’s two speakers were shortlisted from ten students who signed up.

professor chen 支持的一方称作“正方”，反对的一方称作“反方”。
zhīchí de yì fāng chēngzuò zhèngfāng fǎnduì de yì fāng chēngzuò fǎnfāng · The side for the motion is called “zhengfang”, the side against is called “fanfang”.

professor chen 我念一下规定。第一，发言的长短：每人三分钟。凡是超过时间的，都要扣分。
wǒ niàn yíxià guīdìng dì yī fāyán de chángduǎn měi rén sān fēnzhōng fánshì chāoguò shíjiān de dōu yào kòu fēn · Let me read the rules. One, length: three minutes each. Anyone who goes over time loses points.

professor chen 第二，提问的次数没有限制，但每个问题不能超过一分钟。
dì èr tíwèn de cìshù méiyǒu xiànzhì dàn měi gè wèntí bù néng chāoguò yì fēnzhōng · Two, there’s no limit on the number of questions, but no question may run over a minute.

professor chen 第三，该规定对所有人都一样，谁也不能例外。上述规定是上个月大家一起确立的。
dì sān gāi guīdìng duì suǒyǒu rén dōu yíyàng shéi yě bù néng lìwài shàngshù guīdìng shì shàng gè yuè dàjiā yìqǐ quèlì de · Three, these rules are the same for everyone, with no exceptions. The rules above were settled by all of us last month.

teacher wang 我是今天的评分老师。至于结果，我会根据双方的观点和证据来决定。
wǒ shì jīntiān de píngfēn lǎoshī zhìyú jiéguǒ wǒ huì gēnjù shuāngfāng de guāndiǎn hé zhèngjù lái juédìng · I’m tonight’s judge. As for the result, I’ll decide on both sides’ arguments and evidence.

teacher wang 我把评分划分为三个要素：思路、证据和表达。每个要素分级打分，一共五个等级。
wǒ bǎ píngfēn huàfēn wéi sān gè yàosù sīlù zhèngjù hé biǎodá měi gè yàosù fēnjí dǎfēn yígòng wǔ gè děngjí · I divide the score into three key elements: reasoning, evidence and delivery. Each element is graded, with five grades in all.

little sister 我的主张是：网上学习可以取代课堂。
wǒ de zhǔzhāng shì wǎngshang xuéxí kěyǐ qǔdài kètáng · My position: online learning can replace the classroom.

xiaoming 我的立场正好相反：课堂是取代不了的。
wǒ de lìchǎng zhènghǎo xiāngfǎn kètáng shì qǔdài bu liǎo de · Mine is exactly the opposite: the classroom can’t be replaced.

anna 瞧他们俩紧张的！哥哥和妹妹今天要当面争论了。
qiáo tāmen liǎ jǐnzhāng de gēge hé mèimei jīntiān yào dāngmiàn zhēnglùn le · Look how nervous they both are! Brother and sister are going head to head tonight.

chapter 2 for online learning

little sister 众所周知，现在凡是有手机的人，都可以在网上学习。
zhòngsuǒzhōuzhī xiànzài fánshì yǒu shǒujī de rén dōu kěyǐ zài wǎngshang xuéxí · As everyone knows, anyone with a phone can now learn online.

little sister 手机已经占据了我们大部分时间，为什么不用来学习呢?
shǒujī yǐjīng zhànjù le wǒmen dà bùfen shíjiān wèi shénme bú yònglái xuéxí ne · Phones already take up most of our time, so why not use them to learn?

little sister 网上学习有诸多益处。首先，它易于安排，什么时候学都可以。
wǎngshang xuéxí yǒu zhūduō yìchù shǒuxiān tā yìyú ānpái shénme shíhou xué dōu kěyǐ · Online learning has many benefits. First, it's easy to fit in: you can study any time.

little sister 其次，费用低。很多人因住得远或者没有钱而上不了好学校，网上学习消除了这些障碍。
qícì fèiyong dī hěn duō rén yīn zhù de yuǎn huòzhě méiyǒu qián ér shàng bù liǎo hǎo xuéxiào wǎngshang xuéxí xiāochú le zhèxiē zhàngài · Second, it's cheap. Many people miss out on good schools because they live far away or can't afford it; online learning removes those obstacles.

little sister 第三，网上课程的数量非常庞大，类别也很多，想学什么都有。
dì sān wǎngshang kèchéng de shùliàng fēicháng pángdà lèibié yě hěn duō xiǎng xué shénme dōu yǒu · Third, the number of online courses is enormous and there are lots of categories: whatever you want to learn, it's there.

little sister 常规的课堂由老师主导，学生往往很被动。
chángguī de kètáng yóu lǎoshī zhǔdǎo xuéshēng wǎngwǎng hěn bèidòng · In a conventional classroom the teacher leads, and students are often passive.

little sister 网上学习则不同：学习的重心转移到了学生自己身上，这能激发学习的动力。
wǎngshang xuéxí zé bù tóng xuéxí de zhòngxīn zhuǎnyí dào le xuéshēng zìjǐ shēnshàng zhè néng jīfā xuéxí de dònglì · Online learning is different: the focus shifts to the students themselves, and that sparks their drive to learn.

little sister 数据也证实了这一点：在网上上课的人数日益增加。
shùjù yě zhèngshí le zhè yìdiǎn zài wǎngshang shàngkè de rénshù rìyì zēngjiā · And the data confirms it: the number of people taking online classes is growing every day.

little sister 越来越多的大学开始引入网上课程，这种倾向是阻挡不了的。
yuèláiyuè duō de dàxué kāishǐ yǐnrù wǎngshang kèchéng zhè zhǒng qīngxiàng shì zǔdǎng bu liǎo de · More and more universities are bringing in online courses. This trend can't be stopped.

little sister 以往，好课只有在大学里才能听到。网上学习开启了一个新的时代，赋予了每个人学习的机会。
yǐwǎng hǎo kè zhǐyǒu zài dàxué lǐ cái néng tīng dào wǎngshang xuéxí kāiqǐ le yí gè xīn de shídài fùyǔ le měi gè rén xuéxí de jīhuì · In the past, good lessons were only heard at university. Online learning has opened a new era and given everyone the chance to learn.

professor chen 时间到！思路很清楚，要点也很明确。
shíjiān dào sīlù hěn qīngchu yàodiǎn yě hěn míngquè · Time's up! Clear thinking and clear points.

chapter 3 for the classroom

xiaoming 我妹妹所说的，有一部分我认同。但是方便未必就等于学得好。
wǒ mèimei suǒ shuō de yǒu yí bùfen wǒ rèntóng dànshì fāngbiàn wèibì jiù děngyú xué de hǎo · I agree with part of what my sister said. But convenient doesn't necessarily mean effective.

xiaoming 我们先给“学得好”下个定义。学习的核心不是听课，而是理解和使用。
wǒmen xiān gěi xué de hǎo xià gè dìngyì xuéxí de héxīn bú shì tīng kè ér shì lǐjiě hé shǐyòng · Let's first define "learning well". The core of learning isn't sitting through lessons; it's understanding and using.

xiaoming 在网上学习，注意力很容易被分散。而在课堂上，老师能当面纠正你的错误。
zài wǎngshang xuéxí zhùyìlì hěn róngyì bèi fēnsàn ér zài kètáng shàng lǎoshī néng dāngmiàn jiūzhèng nǐ de cuòwù · Online, it's easy to get distracted. In a classroom, the teacher can correct your mistakes face to face.

xiaoming 很多人在网上学习，并不是出于兴趣，而是被迫的。没有动机，就很难坚持。
hěn duō rén zài wǎngshang xuéxí bìng bú shì chūyú xìngqù ér shì bèipò de méiyǒu dòngjī jiù hěn nán jiānchí · Many people study online not out of interest but because they have to. Without motivation it's hard to keep going.

xiaoming 学习不只是知识，还有交流。孩子们在课堂上学到怎样跟人打交道，这是网上学习的局限。
xuéxí bù zhǐshì zhīshi hái yǒu jiāoliú háizimen zài kètáng shàng xué dào zěnyàng gēn rén dǎ jiāodao zhè shì wǎngshang xuéxí de júxiàn · Learning isn't just knowledge; it's also people. In class, children learn how to deal with others. That's where online learning falls short.

xiaoming 孩子学说话、交朋友，靠的是本能，身边需要真人。
háizi xué shuōhuà jiāo péngyou kào de shì běnnéng shēnbiān xūyào zhēn rén · Children learn to talk and make friends by instinct; they need real people around them.

xiaoming 研究表明，缺少跟人交流，会阻碍孩子的认知发展。
yánjiū biǎomíng quēshǎo gēn rén jiāoliú huì zǔài háizi de rènzhī fāzhǎn · Research shows that a lack of contact with people holds back children's cognitive development.

xiaoming 新技术总是伴随着新问题。每天长时间看电脑，会加剧眼睛的问题，还会间接引发睡眠问题。
xīn jìshù zǒngshì bànsuí zhe xīn wèntí měi tiān cháng shíjiān kàn diànnǎo huì jiājù yǎnjing de wèntí hái huì jiànjiē yǐnfā shuìmián wèntí · New technology always comes with new problems. Hours at a computer every day make eye problems worse, and indirectly cause sleep problems too.

xiaoming 这些都是代价。所以，与其说网上学习能取代课堂，不如说它能弥补课堂的不足。
zhèxiē dōu shì dàijià suǒyǐ yǔqí shuō wǎngshang xuéxí néng qǔdài kètáng bùrú shuō tā néng míbǔ kètáng de bùzú · These are all costs. So rather than say online learning can replace the classroom, we should say it can make up for what the classroom lacks.

little sister 我质疑这个说法！很多大人在网上也学得很好。
wǒ zhìyí zhège shuōfǎ hěn duō dàren zài wǎngshang yě xué de hěn hǎo · I question that! Lots of adults learn very well online.

xiaoming 大人归大人，孩子归孩子。孩子的自律能力比较薄弱。两者差异很大，要区分对待。
dàren guī dàren háizi guī háizi háizi de zìlǜ nénglì bǐjiào bóruò liǎngzhě chāyì hěn dà yào qūfēn duìdài · Adults are one thing, children are another. Children's self-discipline is weaker. The two are very different and must be treated differently.

chapter 4 questions

little sister 哥哥，假设一个孩子住在山里，附近没有好学校，他该怎么办？
gēge jiǎshè yí gè háizi zhù zài shān lǐ fùjìn méiyǒu hǎo xuéxiào tā gāi zěnme bàn · Brother, suppose a child lives in the mountains with no good school nearby. What should they do?

xiaoming 这个问题可把我难住了……我承认，这时候网上学习是最可行的办法。
zhège wèntí kě bǎ wǒ nán zhù le wǒ chéngrèn zhè shíhou wǎngshang xuéxí shì zuì kěxíng de bànfǎ · That one has stumped me... I admit that in that case online learning is the most feasible option.

little sister 所以，你的观点有点片面吧？
suǒyǐ nǐ de guāndiǎn yǒudiǎn piànmiàn ba · So your view is a bit one-sided, isn't it?

xiaoming 我不是说网上学习毫无用处，而是说它有限度。
wǒ bú shì shuō wǎngshang xuéxí háo wú yòngchù ér shì shuō tā yǒu xiàndù · I'm not saying online learning is completely useless; I'm saying it has limits.

xiaoming 我也问你：在家对着电脑学习的时候，你是不是常常这也不想学，那也不想学？
wǒ yě wèn nǐ zài jiā duìzháo diànnǎo xuéxí de shíhou nǐ shì bu shì chángcháng zhè yě bù xiǎng xué nà yě bù xiǎng xué · Let me ask you too: when you study at home in front of a computer, don't you often feel like studying neither this nor that?

little sister 那倒不至于。有时候会，不过这是我自己的弱点，跟网上学习没有关联。
nà dào búzhìyú yǒu shíhou huì búguò zhè shì wǒ zìjǐ de ruòdiǎn gēn wǎngshang xuéxí méiyǒu guānlián · It's not that bad. Sometimes, yes, but that's my own weakness; it has nothing to do with online learning.

xiaoming 我猜测很多人都有这个弱点。没有老师在身边，动力很容易减弱，人就陷入了这种状态。
wǒ cāicè hěn duō rén dōu yǒu zhège ruòdiǎn méiyǒu lǎoshī zài shēnbiān dònglì hěn róngyì jiǎnruò rén jiù xiànrù le zhè zhǒng zhuàngtài · My guess is lots of people have that weakness. Without a teacher around, motivation fades easily, and people fall into that state.

little sister 这只是你的推测，你有证据吗？
zhè zhǐ shì nǐ de tuīcè nǐ yǒu zhèngjù ma · That's only your inference. Do you have evidence?

xiaoming 有。一项研究涉及三千名学生：在网上学习的和在教室学习的，成绩平均相差8分。别的同类研究结果也差不多。
yǒu yí xiàng yánjiū shèjí sānqiān míng xuéshēng zài wǎngshang xuéxí de hé zài jiàoshì xuéxí de chéngjì píngjūn xiāngchà fēn biéde tónglèi yánjiū jiéguǒ yě chàbuduō · Yes. One study involved three thousand students: those who learned online and those in classrooms differed by 8 points on average. Other studies of the same kind found much the same.

little sister 即便如此，8分也不足以说明网上学习不好。
jíbiàn rúcǐ fēn yě bù zúyǐ shuōmíng wǎngshang xuéxí bù hǎo · Even so, 8 points isn't enough to show online learning is bad.

professor chen 好！双方都毫不客气。时间到！
hǎo shuāngfāng dōu háo bú kèqi shíjiān dào · Good! Neither side is holding back. Time's up!

chapter 5 the verdict

teacher wang 两位的发言都很精彩，我很难衡量谁更好。
liǎng wèi de fāyán dōu hěn jīngcǎi wǒ hěn nán héngliáng shéi gèng hǎo · Both speeches were excellent. It's hard for me to judge which was better.

teacher wang 妹妹从时间、费用和选择三个层面来谈，层次很清楚，每个要点都有对应的数据。
mèimei cóng shíjiān fèiyong hé xuǎnzé sān gè céngmiàn lái tán céngcì hěn qīngchu měi gè yàodiǎn dōu yǒu duìyìng de shùjù · The sister covered three aspects, time, cost and choice. Her speech was well structured, with matching data for every point.

teacher wang 她对数据的解读也很准确，而且没有忽略对方的观点。
tā duì shùjù de jiědú yě hěn zhǔnquè érqiě méiyǒu hūlüè duìfāng de guāndiǎn · Her reading of the data was accurate too, and she didn't overlook the other side's view.

teacher wang 小明则抓住了学习的实质：学习不只是知识，而是方方面面的成长。他的发言很有力度。
Xiǎomíng zé zhuā zhù le xuéxí de shízhì xuéxí bù zhǐshì zhīshi ér shì fāngfāngmiànmiàn de chéngzhǎng tā de fāyán hěn yǒu lìdù · Xiaoming, for his part, got to the essence of learning: it isn't only knowledge but growth in every aspect. His speech had real force.

teacher wang 今天的结果是：两个人都赢了！
jīntiān de jiéguǒ shì liǎng gè rén dōu yíng le · Tonight's result: you both win!

anna 我只听懂了个大概，可还是觉得很精彩。这无疑是我听过最好的一场讨论会！
wǒ zhǐ tīng dǒng le gè dàgài kě háishi juéde hěn jīngcǎi zhè wúyí shì wǒ tīng guo zuìhǎo de yì chǎng tǎolùn huì · I only got the gist, but I still loved it. That was without doubt the best debate I've ever heard!

little sister 说实话，刚开始我很紧张，几乎丧失了信心。不过今天给了我很多启示。
shuō shíhuà gāng kāishǐ wǒ hěn jǐnzhāng jīhū sàngshī le xìnxīn búguò jīntiān gěi le wǒ hěn duō qǐshì · Honestly, at the start I was so nervous I nearly lost my confidence. But today taught me a lot.

xiaoming 我得好好反思一下，我有些说法太极端了。妹妹的数据也很值得借鉴。
wǒ děi hǎohǎo fǎnsī yíxià wǒ yǒuxiē shuōfǎ tài jíduān le mèimei de shùjù yě hěn zhídé jièjiàn · I need to have a good think: some of the things I said were too extreme. And my sister's use of data is well worth learning from.

professor chen 讨论会的目的不是赢，而是一起探讨问题。很多新的理念，一开始都很有争议，后来才被大家认可。
tǎolùn huì de mùdì bú shì yíng ér shì yìqǐ tàntǎo wèntí hěn duō xīn de lǐniàn yì kāishǐ dōu hěn yǒu zhēngyì hòulái cái bèi dàjiā rènkě · The point of a debate isn't winning; it's exploring a question together. Lots of new ideas are controversial at first and only accepted later.

professor chen 比方说，以前很多人认定女孩子不用上学。现在谁还这么想？
bǐfang shuō yǐqián hěn duō rén rèndìng nǚ háizi búyòng shàngxué xiànzài shéi hái zhème xiǎng · For example, many people used to be convinced girls didn't need to go to school. Who thinks that now?

anna 所以看待新东西，要看到正面，也要看到负面。至于正方和反方，前者看重机会，后者看重质量，两者都至关重要。
suǒyǐ kàndài xīn dōngxi yào kàn dào zhèngmiàn yě yào kàn dào fùmiàn zhìyú zhèngfāng hé fǎnfāng qiánzhě kànzhòng jīhuì hòuzhě kànzhòng zhìliàng liǎngzhě dōu zhìguān zhòngyào · So when we look at something new, we should see the positive and the negative. As for the two sides, the first cares about opportunity and the second about quality, and both are vital.

xiaoming 我现在初步的设想是：网上和课堂结合起来，这可能是最切实的办法。
wǒ xiànzài chūbù de shèxiǎng shì wǎngshang hé kètáng jiéhé qǐlai zhè kěnéng shì zuì qièshí de bànfǎ · My first idea now: combine online and classroom learning. That's probably the most practical way.

little sister 我赞同。不过前提是学校愿意改变，中间也需要一个过渡。
wǒ zàntóng búguò qiántí shì xuéxiào yuànyì gǎibiàn zhōngjiān yě xūyào yí gè guòdù · I agree. But that depends on schools being willing to change, and there has to be a transition.

professor chen 看到大家兴趣这么浓厚，我很高兴。为此，下个月我们就来探讨“未来学校的形态”！
kàn dào dàjiā xìngqù zhème nónghòu wǒ hěn gāoxìng wèicǐ xià gè yuè wǒmen jiù lái tàntǎo wèilái xuéxiào de

xíngtài · I'm glad to see you all so interested. So next month, we'll explore "what the school of the future looks like"!

You've just followed a full debate in Chinese, with data, examples, rebuttals and a verdict. That is HSK 6 at work.
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