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# day 55 continents and coasts

Chinese HSK 6 in 90 days
unit 8 · nature & disasters

**Talk about continents, poles, coasts and islands, and say how surprised you were when you looked closer.**

Travel plans, documentaries and climate news all need these words, and 不看不知道，一看吓一跳 is a saying you will hear every week.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 北极 | běijí | the North Pole, the Arctic | 北极非常冷，到处都是冰。<br>The Arctic is freezing, with ice everywhere. |
| 两极 | liǎngjí | the two poles; two extremes | 地球的两极都非常寒冷。<br>Both of the Earth's poles are bitterly cold. |
| 南极洲 | Nánjízhōu | Antarctica | 南极洲上几乎没有人住。<br>Almost nobody lives in Antarctica. |
| 北美洲 | Běiměizhōu | North America | 美国在北美洲。<br>The USA is in North America. |
| 南美洲 | Nánměizhōu | South America | 我想去南美洲旅游。<br>I'd like to travel in South America. |
| 大洋洲 | Dàyángzhōu | Oceania | 大洋洲有很多美丽的岛。<br>Oceania has many beautiful islands. |
| 岛 | dǎo | island | 我们坐船去了那个小岛。<br>We took a boat to the little island. |
| 岸 | àn | bank, shore | 船慢慢靠了岸。<br>The boat slowly came in to the shore. |
| 海岸 | hǎiàn | coast, seashore | 这条海岸的风景特别美。<br>The scenery along this coast is stunning. |
| 沿海 | yánhǎi | coastal (area) | 沿海城市的经济比较发达。<br>Coastal cities tend to have stronger economies. |
| 海域 | hǎiyù | sea area, waters | 这片海域有很多鱼。<br>There are lots of fish in these waters. |
| 海面 | hǎimiàn | sea surface | 太阳从海面上升起来了。<br>The sun rose over the sea. |
| 海拔 | hǎibá | height above sea level | 这座山的海拔有三千多米。<br>This mountain is over three thousand metres high. |
| 广阔 | guǎngkuò | vast, wide | 站在海边，看着广阔的大海，心情好极了。<br>Standing by the vast sea, I felt wonderful. |
| 大地 | dàdì | the earth, the land | 春天来了，大地一片绿色。<br>Spring has come and the land is turning green. |
| 显 | xiǎn | to show, look (younger …) | 这件衣服很显年轻。<br>This top makes you look young. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 清晰 | qīngxī | clear, distinct | 这张照片拍得很清晰。<br>This photo is very sharp. |
| 引 | yǐn | to lead, attract, draw | 美丽的海岸引来了很多游客。<br>The beautiful coast draws lots of tourists. |
| 适宜 | shìyí | suitable, fit for | 这个季节很适宜去海边。<br>This season is just right for the seaside. |

## pattern 不看不知道，一看吓一跳

**不 + verb** **不知道** **，一 + verb** **吓一跳 / 才发现 ...**

Literally “don’t look and you don’t know; look once and you jump with fright”. The same verb goes in both halves: you only discover the surprising truth by doing it. The ending can change: 一看吓一跳, 一比才发现, 一算吓一跳.

不看不知道，一看吓一跳。 **bú kàn bù zhīdào yí kàn xià yí tiào** You’d never believe it until you see it.

不算不知道，一算吓一跳：这个月花了这么多钱！ **bú suàn bù zhīdào yí suàn xià yí tiào zhège yuè huā le zhème duō qián** I had no idea until I added it up: I spent so much this month!

不试不知道，一试才发现，这件衣服很显年轻。 **bú shì bù zhīdào yí shì cái fāxiàn zhè jiàn yīfu hěn xiǎn niánqīng** I only found out when I tried it on: this top makes me look younger.

## dialogue a map of the world

**dr zhou** 安娜，你看这张地图。地球的两极，一个是北极，一个是南极洲。
**Ānnà nǐ kàn zhè zhāng dìtú dìqiú de liǎngjí yí gè shì běijí yí gè shì Nánjízhōu** · Anna, look at this map. The Earth’s two poles: one is the Arctic, the other Antarctica.

**anna** 南极洲是一大片陆地。那北极的冰下面也是陆地吗？
**Nánjízhōu shì yí dà piàn lùdì nà běijí de bīng xiàmiàn yě shì lùdì ma** · Antarctica is a huge piece of land. Is there land under the ice at the North Pole too?

**dr zhou** 不是，北极主要是海，海面上是厚厚的冰。
**bú shì běijí zhǔyào shì hǎi hǎimiàn shàng shì hòu hòu de bīng** · No, the Arctic is mostly sea, with thick ice on top.

**anna** 原来是这样！我一直以为北极也是陆地呢。
**yuánlái shì zhèyàng wǒ yìzhí yǐwéi běijí yě shì lùdì ne** · So that’s how it is! I always thought the Arctic was land too.

**dr zhou** 不查不知道，一查吓一跳：这几十年，两极的冰少了很多。
**bù chá bù zhīdào yì chá xià yí tiào zhè jǐ shí nián liǎngjí de bīng shǎo le hěn duō** · Look at the data and you get a shock: there’s much less ice at both poles than a few decades ago.

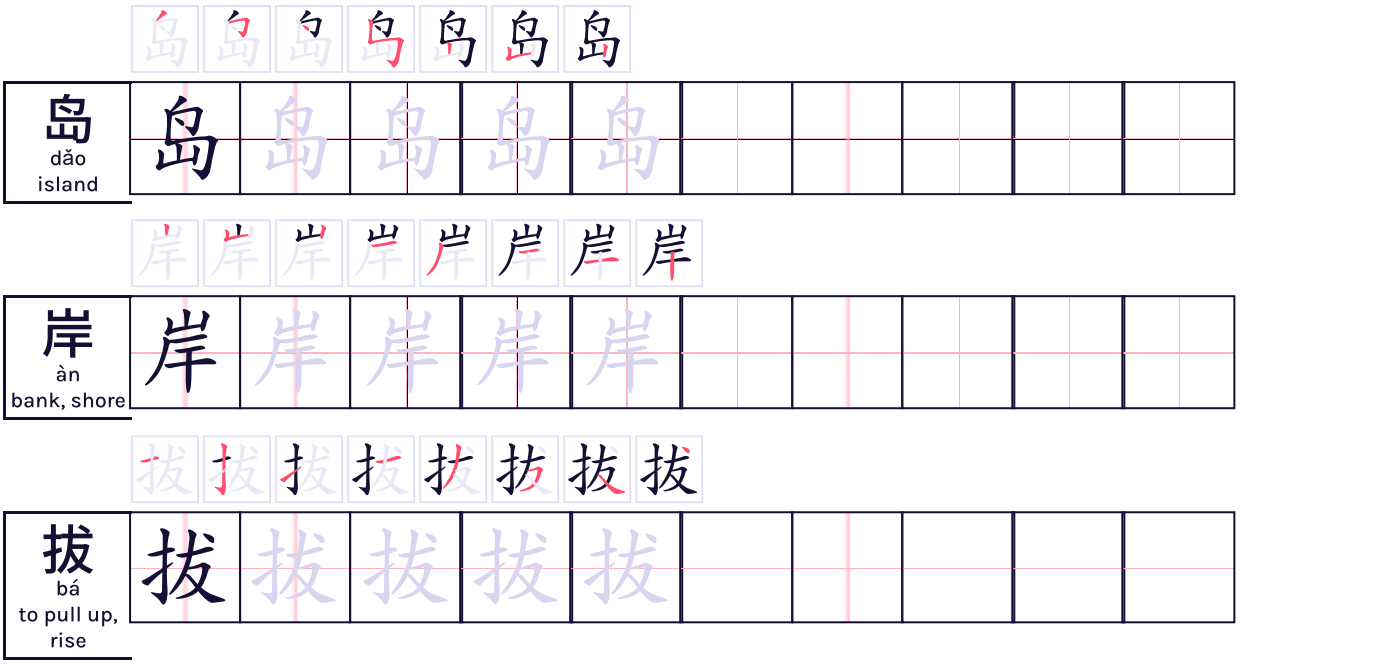
**anna** 冰少了，海面会升高吧？沿海的城市怎么办？
**bīng shǎo le hǎimiàn huì shēng gāo ba yánhǎi de chéngshì zěnme bàn** · With less ice the sea will rise, won’t it? What about coastal cities?

**dr zhou** 这正是我们研究的问题。很多国家都很关注附近的海域。
**zhè zhèng shì wǒmen yánjiū de wèntí hěn duō guójiā dōu hěn guānzhù fùjìn de hǎiyù** · That’s exactly what we study. Lots of countries are watching their waters closely.

**anna** 下个月我想去南方的一个岛上玩，那里安全吗？
**xià gè yuè wǒ xiǎng qù nánfāng de yí gè dǎo shàng wán nàlǐ ānquán ma** · Next month I’d like to visit an island in the south. Is it safe?

**dr zhou** 放心，那里很适宜旅游。不过去海边也好，去山区也好，都要先看天气预报。
**fàngxīn nàlǐ hěn shìyí lǚyóu búguò qù hǎi biān yěhǎo qù shānqū yěhǎo dōu yào xiān kàn tiānqì yùbào** · Don’t worry, it’s a great place to visit. But whether you go to the coast or the mountains, check the forecast first.

## write it trace the grey, then write your own




**good to know** · Chinese counts seven continents: 亚洲, 欧洲, 非洲, 北美洲, 南美洲, 大洋洲 and 南极洲. 洲 has the water radical 氵: land in the water. 海拔 is height above sea level: 海拔三千米 means 3,000 metres up.

**You can now talk about where on Earth you want to go, and how surprised you were when you got there.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 56 weather



**Describe the weather in detail: storms, showers, humidity, light and dark, and weather that keeps changing.**

The weather is everyone's first small talk, and 一时……一时…… is how a writer says it changes from one moment to the next.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 晴朗 | qínglǎng | clear and sunny | 今天天气晴朗，适宜出门。<br>It's clear and sunny today: a good day to go out. |
| 阵雨 | zhènyǔ | shower (of rain) | 下午可能有阵雨。<br>There may be showers this afternoon. |
| 风雨 | fēngyǔ | wind and rain; hardships | 他们一起经历了很多风雨。<br>They've been through a lot together. |
| 打雷 | dǎléi | to thunder | 外面打雷了，快关窗户。<br>It's thundering: close the windows. |
| 雷 | léi | thunder | 雷声把孩子吓哭了。<br>The thunder made the child cry. |
| 闪电 | shǎndiàn | lightning | 天空中出现了一道{=(measure word: a flash of)}闪电。<br>A flash of lightning lit up the sky. |
| 彩虹 | cǎihóng | rainbow | 雨停了，天上出现了彩虹。<br>The rain stopped and a rainbow came out. |
| 台风 | táifēng | typhoon | 台风明天到，大家不要出海。<br>The typhoon arrives tomorrow; nobody should go out to sea. |
| 潮湿 | cháoshī | damp, humid | 南方的春天很潮湿。<br>Spring in the south is very humid. |
| 干燥 | gānzào | dry | 北京的冬天很干燥。<br>Beijing winters are very dry. |
| 湿度 | shīdù | humidity | 今天的湿度很高，衣服晒不干{gan1}。<br>It's so humid today the washing won't dry. |
| 炎热 | yánrè | scorching hot | 炎热的夏天，大家都想去游泳。<br>In the scorching summer everyone wants a swim. |
| 严寒 | yánhán | bitterly cold | 在严寒的冬天，一杯热茶让人心里暖暖的。<br>In the bitter cold of winter, a cup of hot tea warms you through. |
| 寒冬 | hándōng | cold winter | 寒冬过去，春天就要来了。<br>Winter is over; spring is on its way. |
| 暖 | nuǎn | warm; to warm | 太阳一出来，身上就暖暖的。<br>Once the sun comes out, you feel warm all over. |
| 淋 | lín | to get wet (in the rain); pour | 我没带伞，被雨淋了。<br>I had no umbrella and got soaked. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 飘 | piāo | to float, drift (in the air) | 天上飘着白{=white}云。<br>White clouds are drifting across the sky. |
| 月光 | yuèguāng | moonlight | 月光照在湖面上，美极了。<br>The moonlight on the lake was beautiful. |
| 黑暗 | hēiàn | dark | 停电了，房间里一片黑暗。<br>The power went out and the room was pitch dark. |
| 影子 | yǐngzi | shadow | 中午的时候，影子最短。<br>Shadows are shortest at noon. |
| 发光 | fāguāng | to give off light, shine | 月亮本身不发光。<br>The moon gives off no light of its own. |
| 景象 | jǐngxiàng | scene, sight | 城市里到处是一片热闹的景象。<br>All over the city it's a lively scene. |
| 一阵 | yīzhèn | a burst, a spell | 一阵风吹过来，好冷。<br>A gust of wind blew in. Brr! |
| 频繁 | pínfán | frequent | 最近这里的暴雨越来越频繁了。<br>Downpours here are getting more and more frequent. |

## pattern 一时……一时……: one moment …, the next …

一时 A，一时 B

Two 一时 phrases describe something that keeps switching between two states: weather, moods, plans. It is a little written; in speech people often say 一会儿……一会儿……

他的心情一时好，一时坏。 **tā de xīnqíng yìshí hǎo yìshí huài** His mood goes up and down.

外面一时下雨，一时出太阳。 **wàimiàn yìshí xià yǔ yìshí chū tàiyáng** Outside it keeps switching between rain and sunshine.

她一时想去，一时又不想去。 **tā yìshí xiǎng qù yìshí yòu bù xiǎng qù** One minute she wants to go, the next she doesn't.

## dialogue caught in the rain

**xiaoming** 刚才还很晴朗，怎么突然下起了阵雨？
**gāngcái hái hěn qínglǎng zěnme tūrán xià qǐ le zhènyǔ** · It was clear and sunny a minute ago. Where did this shower come from?

**anna** 这几天的天气一时晴一时雨，我左等右等，雨还是不停。
**zhè jǐ tiān de tiānqì yìshí qíng yìshí yǔ wǒ zuǒ děng yòu děng yǔ háishi bù tíng** · The weather's been sunny one moment and rainy the next. I've waited and waited and it won't stop.

**xiaoming** 你放着家里的伞不带，现在被淋湿了吧？
**nǐ fàng zhe jiā lǐ de sǎn bú dài xiànzài bèi lín shī le ba** · You left your umbrella at home, and now you're soaked, aren't you?

**anna** 别说了！你听，又打雷了，雷声好大。
**bié shuō le nǐ tīng yòu dǎléi le léi shēng hǎo dà** · Don't rub it in! Listen, it's thundering again, and loud.

**xiaoming** 看，闪电！一阵风吹过来，雨都飘到脸上了，好冷。
**kàn shǎndiàn yízhèn fēng chuī guolai yǔ dōu piāo dào liǎn shàng le hǎo lěng** · Look, lightning! A gust of wind just blew the rain in my face. Brr!

**anna** 天气预报说，晚上还有台风，湿度也很高。
**tiānqì yùbào shuō wǎnshang hái yǒu táifēng shīdù yě hěn gāo** · The forecast says there's a typhoon tonight, and the humidity is high too.

**xiaoming** 那我们快回去吧。停电的时候外面一片黑暗，很危险。
**nà wǒmen kuài huiqu ba tíng diàn de shíhou wàimiàn yí piàn hēiàn hěn wēixiǎn** · Then let's get home. If the power goes it'll be pitch dark out here, which is dangerous.

**anna** 好。不过雨停以后要是出现彩虹，那景象一定很美，我要出来拍照！
**hǎo búguò yǔ tíng yǐhòu yàoshi chūxiàn cǎihóng nà jǐngxiàng yídìng hěn měi wǒ yào chūlái pāizhào** · OK. But if a rainbow comes out after the rain, it'll be a beautiful sight. I'm coming out to take photos!

## write it trace the grey, then write your own

雷
léi
thunder

虹
hóng
rainbow

**good to know** · Weather forecasts love these words: 晴朗 clear, 阵雨 showers, 雷阵雨 thundery showers, 湿度 humidity. 飘 is drifting in the air (snow, clouds, a smell); the water version of "float, drift" is 漂, which you meet on day 58. 化 is also a verb, "to melt, dissolve": 雪化了, 冰化成了水, 糖在水里化了. As a suffix it is "-ise": 现代化.

**Next time the sky can't decide, you can describe it beautifully: 一时晴，一时雨.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 57 plants and farms



**Talk about flowers, crops and farm work, and describe someone busy with this and that.**

Food starts on a farm, and Chinese poems, paintings and festivals are full of plum blossom, orchids and chrysanthemums.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 花朵 | huāduǒ | flower, bloom | 公园里的花朵都开了。<br>The flowers in the park are all out. |
| 菊花 | júhuā | chrysanthemum | 秋天是看菊花的季节。<br>Autumn is the season for chrysanthemums. |
| 兰花 | lánhuā | orchid | 兰花很难养，要特别小心。<br>Orchids are hard to grow; they need real care. |
| 梅花 | méihuā | plum blossom | 梅花在寒冷的冬天|开放{==to bloom}。<br>Plum blossom opens in the cold of winter. |
| 松 | sōng | loose; to loosen | 这里的土又松又软。<br>The soil here is loose and soft. |
| 株 | zhū | (measure word for plants) | 我在阳台上种{zhong4}了两株花。<br>I've planted two flowers on the balcony. |
| 刺 | cì | thorn; to prick | 玫瑰很漂亮，可是有刺。<br>Roses are pretty, but they have thorns. |
| 结 | jiē | to bear (fruit) | 树上结{jie1-6}了很多苹果。<br>The tree is full of apples. |
| 结果 | jiēguǒ | to bear fruit | 这棵苹果树种{zhong4}了三年，今年终于结果{jie1guo3}了。<br>We planted this apple tree three years ago, and this year it finally bore fruit. |
| 种地 | zhòngdì | to farm, work the land | 他爷爷一辈子都在种地。<br>His grandfather farmed all his life. |
| 田 | tián | field (for crops) | 田里的水稻快熟了。<br>The rice in the fields is nearly ripe. |
| 农田 | nóngtián | farmland | 村子周围都是农田。<br>The village is surrounded by farmland. |
| 庄稼 | zhuāngjia | crops | 今年雨水充足，庄稼长{zhang3}得很好。<br>There's been plenty of rain this year, and the crops are doing well. |
| 水稻 | shuǐdào | rice (the plant) | 南方人种{zhong4}水稻，北方人种{zhong4}小麦。<br>Southerners grow rice; northerners grow wheat. |
| 小麦 | xiǎomài | wheat | 面粉是用小麦做的。<br>Flour is made from wheat. |
| 播种 | bōzhǒng | to sow (seeds) | 春天是播种的季节。<br>Spring is the season for sowing. |
| 培育 | péiyù | to grow, breed; to raise | 科学家培育出了一种新的水稻。<br>Scientists have bred a new kind of rice. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 丰收 | fēngshōu | to have a good harvest | 今年又是一个丰收年。<br>It's been another bumper year. |
| 农产品 | nóngchǎnpǐn | farm produce | 这个市场卖的都是当地的农产品。<br>Everything at this market is local farm produce. |
| 土壤 | tǔrǎng | soil | 这里的土壤很适宜种{zhong4}茶。<br>The soil here is ideal for tea. |
| 肥沃 | féiwò | fertile | 河边的土地非常肥沃。<br>The land by the river is very fertile. |
| 泥 | ní | mud | 刚下过{guo}雨，鞋上全是泥。<br>It's just rained, and my shoes are covered in mud. |
| 割 | gē | to cut, harvest | 农民们正在田里割小麦。<br>The farmers are harvesting wheat in the fields. |
| 砍 | kǎn | to chop, cut down | 这棵树太老了，只好砍了。<br>The tree was too old, so it had to be cut down. |

## pattern a这a那: doing this and that

verb 这 same verb 那

Say one verb twice, once with 这 and once with 那, and it means doing all sorts of things of that kind: 忙这忙那 busy with this and that, 问这问那 asking about everything, 想这想那 worrying about everything. It is lively and often a little critical.

妈妈在厨房里忙这忙那。 **māma zài chúfáng lǐ máng zhè máng nà** Mum is busy with all sorts of jobs in the kitchen.

别想这想那了，早一点儿睡吧。 **bié xiǎng zhè xiǎng nà le zǎo yìdiǎnr shuì ba** Stop worrying about everything and get some sleep.

他一到超市就买这买那，花了很多钱。 **tā yí dào chāoshì jiù mǎi zhè mǎi nà huā le hěn duō qián** Once he's in a supermarket he buys everything in sight and spends a fortune.

## dialogue back to the village

**xiaoming** 安娜，这就是我爸爸小时候住的村子。到处都是农田，家家户户都种地。
**Ānnà zhè jiùshì wǒ bàba xiǎoshíhou zhù de cūn zi dàochù dōu shì nóngtián jiājiāhùhù dōu zhòngdì** · Anna, this is the village where my dad grew up. Farmland everywhere, and every family farms.

**dr li** 我小时候，放学以后要帮家里种庄稼。
**wǒ xiǎoshíhou fàngxué yǐhòu yào bāng jiā lǐ zhòng zhuāngjia** · When I was little I had to help with the crops after school.

**anna** 那您会割小麦吗？
**nà nín huì gē xiǎomài ma** · So can you harvest wheat?

**dr li** 当然会！春天播种，夏天割小麦，忙这忙那，一年四季都闲不下来。
**dāngrán huì chūntiān bōzhǒng xiàtiān gē xiǎomài máng zhè máng nà yì nián sìjì dōu xián bu xialai** · Of course! Sowing in spring, harvesting in summer, always some job to do. No rest all year.

**anna** 您看，田边那株花真漂亮，是兰花吗？
**nín kàn tián biān nà zhū huā zhēn piàoliang shì lánhuā ma** · Look, that flower at the edge of the field is lovely. Is it an orchid?

**dr li** 不是，那是菊花。小心，它旁边的树有刺。
**bú shì nà shì júhuā xiǎoxīn tā pángbiān de shù yǒu cì** · No, it's a chrysanthemum. Careful, the tree next to it has thorns.

**xiaoming** 爸爸，这棵大树怎么被砍了？
**bàba zhè kē dà shù zěnme bèi kǎn le** · Dad, why has this big tree been cut down?

**dr li** 它太老了，下面的泥土也松了，大风一吹就会倒。
**tā tài lǎo le xiàmiàn de nítǔ yě sōng le dà fēng yì chuī jiù huì dǎo** · It was too old, and the earth under it had gone loose. One strong wind and it would have fallen.

## write it trace the grey, then write your own

兰
lán
orchid

麦
mài
wheat, grain

沃
wò
fertile

泥
ní
mud

**good to know** · 结 has two readings: jiē for fruit (结果 bear fruit) and jié for tying and endings (结果 result, 结束 end). 种 is zhòng as a verb (种地, 种树) and zhǒng as "kind, seed" (一种, 播种 bōzhǒng).

**From a field to your bowl of rice: you can now talk about where food comes from, and tease a friend who asks about everything.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 58 wild animals



**Talk about wild animals and nature, and describe a careful search or study with 一番.**

Nature documentaries, zoo visits and walks in the wild need these words, and 一番 makes any effort sound thorough.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 狮子 | shīzi | lion | 动物园里的狮子正在睡觉。<br>The lions at the zoo are asleep. |
| 狼 | láng | wolf | 狼常常一群一群地生活。<br>Wolves usually live in packs. |
| 鲨鱼 | shāyú | shark | 大部分鲨鱼不会主动伤害人。<br>Most sharks won't attack people unprovoked. |
| 乌龟 | wūguī | tortoise, turtle | 乌龟走得很慢，但能活很久。<br>Tortoises walk slowly but live a long time. |
| 老鼠 | lǎoshǔ | mouse, rat | 我家的猫从来不抓老鼠。<br>Our cat never catches mice. |
| 蚂蚁 | mǎyǐ | ant | 蚂蚁虽然小，力气却很大。<br>Ants are small but very strong. |
| 蜜蜂 | mìfēng | bee | 蜜蜂在花园里飞来飞去。<br>Bees are flying all around the garden. |
| 野 | yě | wild | 山上开满了野花。<br>The hills are covered in wild flowers. |
| 野生 | yěshēng | wild (animals, plants) | 我们要保护野生动物。<br>We must protect wildlife. |
| 野外 | yěwài | the open country, outdoors | 在野外要注意安全。<br>Be careful when you're out in the wild. |
| 繁殖 | fánzhí | to breed, reproduce | 老鼠繁殖得非常快。<br>Mice breed very fast. |
| 捕 | bǔ | to catch | 这里的人以前都靠捕鱼生活。<br>People here used to live by fishing. |
| 生命力 | shēngmìnglì | vitality, will to live | 这种草的生命力很强。<br>This grass is incredibly hardy. |
| 万物 | wànwù | all things (in nature) | 春天来了，万物开始生长。<br>Spring is here, and everything starts to grow. |
| 天然 | tiānrán | natural | 这个湖是天然形成的。<br>This lake formed naturally. |
| 罕见 | hǎnjiàn | rare | 这么大的雪在南方很罕见。<br>Snow this heavy is rare in the south. |
| 化石 | huàshí | fossil | 博物馆里有很多动物化石。<br>The museum has lots of animal fossils. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 脚印 | jiǎoyìn | footprint | 雪地{di4-3}上留下了一串脚印。<br>A line of footprints was left in the snow. |
| 埋 | mái | to bury | 小狗把骨头埋在了院子里。<br>The puppy buried its bone in the yard. |
| 浮 | fú | to float (on water) | 木头会浮在水上。<br>Wood floats on water. |
| 漂 | piāo | to float, drift (on water) | 河上漂着一片叶子。<br>A leaf is drifting down the river. |
| 水流 | shuǐliú | current, flow of water | 这里水流很急，不要游泳。<br>The current is strong here: no swimming. |
| 水面 | shuǐmiàn | water surface | 水面上有几只鸭子。<br>There are a few ducks on the water. |
| 隐藏 | yǐncáng | to hide, conceal | 很多小动物白天隐藏在树林里。<br>Many small animals hide in the woods by day. |

## pattern 一番: a round of effort

verb | 了一番 | / 经过一番 + noun

番 counts a round of something that takes time and care. After a verb: 研究了一番 (studied it carefully), 介绍了一番. Before a noun: 一番努力, 一番功夫. It makes an effort sound real and thorough.

经过一番努力，他终于成功了。 **jīngguò yì fān nǔlì tā zhōngyú chénggōng le** After a lot of hard work, he finally succeeded.

她认真地打扮了一番才出门。 **tā rènzhēn de dǎban le yì fān cái chūmén** She got properly dressed up before going out.

我们先观察一番，再决定怎么做。 **wǒmen xiān guānchá yì fān zài juédìng zěnme zuò** Let's take a good look first, then decide what to do.

## dialogue by the river

**little sister** 周博士，这条河里真的有野生的乌龟吗?
Zhōubóshì zhè tiáo hé lǐ zhēn de yǒu yěshēng de wūguī ma · Dr Zhou, are there really wild turtles in this river?

**dr zhou** 有。我们先观察一番。你看，那只乌龟正浮在水面上晒太阳呢。
yǒu wǒmen xiān guānchá yì fān nǐ kàn nà zhī wūguī zhèng fú zài shuǐmiàn shàng shài tàiyáng ne · There are. Let's look carefully first. See, that turtle is floating on the surface, sunbathing.

**anna** 它旁边漂着一片叶子，它一动也不动。
tā pángbiān piāo zhe yí piàn yèzi tā yí dòng yě bú dòng · There's a leaf drifting right next to it, and it doesn't move a muscle.

**dr zhou** 乌龟很聪明。水流太急的时候，它会隐藏在石头下面。
wūguī hěn cōngmíng shuǐliú tài jí de shíhou tā huì yǐncáng zài shítou xiàmiàn · Turtles are clever. When the current is too strong, they hide under rocks.

**little sister** 那边地上有很多小洞，是老鼠的家吗?
nàbiān dì shàng yǒu hěn duō xiǎo dòng shì lǎoshǔ de jiā ma · There are lots of little holes in the ground over there. Do mice live there?

**dr zhou** 是蚂蚁的家。别小看蚂蚁，它们繁殖得很快，生命力特别强。
shì mǎyǐ de jiā bié xiǎokàn mǎyǐ tāmen fánzhí de hěn kuài shēngmìnglì tèbié qiáng · Ants do. Don't underestimate ants: they breed fast and they're incredibly tough.

**anna** 这里有狼吗?
zhèlǐ yǒu láng ma · Are there wolves here?

**dr zhou** 以前有，现在很少了。不过你看，这个脚印是野猪的。
yǐqián yǒu xiànzài hěn shǎo le búguò nǐ kàn zhège jiǎoyìn shì yě zhū de · There used to be, but hardly any now. Look, though: this footprint is a wild boar's.

**little sister** 在野外走一走，真有意思!
zài yěwài zǒu yi zou zhēn yǒu yìsi · Walking out in the wild is so much fun!

**dr zhou** 是啊，大自然里的万物，都有自己生存的办法。
shì a dàzìrán lǐ de wànwù dōu yǒu zìjǐ shēngcún de bànfǎ · Yes. Everything in nature has its own way of surviving.

## write it trace the grey, then write your own

乌
wū
black, crow

龟
guī
turtle

罕
hǎn
rare

**good to know** · Both 浮 and 漂 are "float" on water: 浮 is staying up on the surface, 漂 is drifting along with the water. 老鼠 and 老虎 both start with 老, which here is just a friendly word prefix, not "old".

**You can now describe what you see on a walk in the wild, from ants to wolves, and how hard you looked.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 59 disasters



**Understand news about floods, droughts and fires, talk about them calmly and kindly, and say how you can help.**

Disasters are in the news every year. Knowing the words helps you follow the facts, stay safe and offer help.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 灾 | zāi | disaster | 我们要学一些防灾的知识。<br>We should learn something about disaster preparedness. |
| 灾害 | zāihài | disaster (natural) | 地震是一种自然灾害。<br>An earthquake is a natural disaster. |
| 灾难 | zāinàn | catastrophe, disaster | 面对灾难，人们互相帮助。<br>In the face of disaster, people help each other. |
| 灾区 | zāiqū | disaster area | 很多志愿者去了灾区。<br>Many volunteers went to the disaster area. |
| 受灾 | shòuzāi | to be hit by a disaster | 这次大雨让很多村子受灾。<br>The heavy rain hit many villages. |
| 遭受 | zāoshòu | to suffer (loss, damage) | 那年夏天，南方遭受了严重的洪水。<br>That summer the south suffered serious floods. |
| 遭遇 | zāoyù | to run into; experience | 他们在路上遭遇了大风。<br>They ran into a gale on the way. |
| 突发 | tūfā | to break out suddenly | 遇到突发情况，要保持冷静。<br>In an emergency, stay calm. |
| 洪水 | hóngshuǐ | flood | 洪水过后，大家开始打扫街道。<br>After the flood, everyone started cleaning the streets. |
| 淹 | yān | to flood, submerge | 大雨把路都淹了。<br>The heavy rain flooded the roads. |
| 淹没 | yānmò | to submerge, drown out | 河边的农田被淹没了。<br>The fields by the river were under water. |
| 干旱 | gānhàn | drought; dry | 这个地区常年干旱。<br>This region is dry all year round. |
| 旱灾 | hànzāi | drought (disaster) | 连续几个月不下雨，发生了旱灾。<br>Months without rain brought a drought. |
| 恶劣 | èliè | very bad, harsh | 天气恶劣的时候，最好不要出门。<br>In bad weather it's best to stay in. |
| 火灾 | huǒzāi | fire (disaster) | 发生火灾时，不要坐电梯。<br>In a fire, don't take the lift. |
| 爆 | bào | to burst | 好险！|水管{==water pipe}爆了，差点儿把电脑淹了。<br>That was close! A pipe burst and nearly flooded the computer. |
| 爆发 | bàofā | to break out, erupt | 大雨过后，山区爆发了洪水。<br>After the downpour, floods broke out in the hills. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 爆炸 | bàozhà | to explode | 手机充电时太热，可能会爆炸。<br>A phone that gets too hot while charging could explode. |
| 炸 | zhà | to explode, burst | 气球突然炸{zha4}了，把孩子吓了一跳{tiao4}。<br>The balloon suddenly popped and made the child jump. |
| 来临 | láilín | to arrive, approach | 台风来临前，船都回到了港口。<br>Before the typhoon arrived, the boats all came back to harbour. |
| 其间 | qíjiān | during that time | 我在北京住了三年，其间去过{guo}很多地方。<br>I lived in Beijing for three years and went to lots of places in that time. |
| 险 | xiǎn | dangerous; nearly | 好险！差点儿就迟到了。<br>Phew! I was almost late. |

## pattern 虽……但……: although …, still …

虽 **a fact** ，但 / 却 / 也 **the contrast**

虽 is the short, written 虽然. It comes after the subject (天气虽恶劣) and the second half turns with 但, 却 or 也. News reports love it because it is short and serious.

雨虽不大，但下了一整天。 **yǔ suī bú dà dàn xià le yì zhěng tiān** The rain wasn't heavy, but it went on all day.

这里虽多年没有发生灾害，但大家还是要做好准备。 **zhèlǐ suī duō nián méiyǒu fāshēng zāihài dàn dàjiā háishi yào zuò hǎo zhǔnbèi** There hasn't been a disaster here for years, but people still need to be ready.

台风虽已过去，但很多地方还没有电。 **táifēng suī yǐ guòqù dàn hěn duō dìfang hái méiyǒu diàn** The typhoon has passed, but many places still have no power.

## dialogue back from the flood

**anna** 周博士，新闻说南方突发洪水，很多村子都受灾了。
**Zhōubóshì xīnwén shuō nánfāng tūfā hóngshuǐ hěn duō cūn zi dōu shòuzāi le** · Dr Zhou, the news says floods hit the south suddenly and many villages were affected.

**dr zhou** 是的，我刚从灾区回来。我在那里住了五天，其间雨一直没停。
**shì de wǒ gāng cóng zāiqū huílái wǒ zài nàlǐ zhù le wǔ tiān qíjiān yǔ yìzhí méi tíng** · Yes, I've just come back from there. I stayed five days, and it rained the whole time.

**anna** 那里的人都安全吗？
**nàlǐ de rén dōu ānquán ma** · Are the people there safe?

**dr zhou** 大部分人都提前离开了。房子虽被淹了，但人都平安。
**dà bùfen rén dōu tíqián líkāi le fángzi suī bèi yān le dàn rén dōu píngān** · Most people left in time. The houses were flooded, but people are safe.

**xiaoming** 本来以为今年会好一些，不料又发生了洪水。前几年，那里还遭遇过干旱。
**běnlái yǐwéi jīnnián huì hǎo yìxiē búliào yòu fāshēng le hóngshuǐ qián jǐ nián nàlǐ hái zāoyù guo gānhàn** · We thought this year would be better, and then came floods again. A few years ago they even had a drought.

**dr zhou** 对。极端天气越来越多，灾难来临前做好准备非常重要。
**duì jíduān tiānqì yuè lái yuè duō zāinàn láilín qián zuò hǎo zhǔnbèi fēicháng zhòngyào** · Right. Extreme weather is getting more common, so being ready before a disaster strikes really matters.

**anna** 我们能做些什么？
**wǒmen néng zuò xiē shénme** · What can we do?

**dr zhou** 可以给灾区捐东西，也可以学一些防灾的知识。比如发生火灾时，不要坐电梯。
**kěyǐ gěi zāiqū juān dōngxi yě kěyǐ xué yìxiē fáng zāi de zhīshi bǐrú fāshēng huǒzāi shí búyào zuò diàntī** · You can donate to the area, and learn some basic preparedness. For example, never take the lift in a fire.

**anna** 好，我明天就去报名当志愿者。
**hǎo wǒ míngtiān jiù qù bàomíng dāng zhìyuànzhě** · Right, I'll sign up as a volunteer tomorrow.

## write it trace the grey, then write your own

灾
zāi
disaster

旱
hàn
drought

劣
liè
inferior

**good to know** · The 灾 family: 火灾 fire, 旱灾 drought, 灾区 disaster area, 救灾 relief, 防灾 preparedness. 炸 is zhà for explode (爆炸) and zhá for deep-fry (炸鸡). Context always tells you which. 封 counts letters (一封信) and is also a verb, "to seal, close off": 封路 "close a road", 封住 "seal up", 大雪封山 "snow cuts off the mountains".

**You can now follow a disaster report calmly, and say clearly how you would like to help.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 60 mountain rescue



**Talk about mountains, plateaus and landscapes, ask for help in an emergency, and change topic with 至于.**

Hiking is hugely popular in China, and knowing how to call for help and describe where you are can matter a lot. 至于 lets you move on smoothly to the next point.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 高原 | gāoyuán | plateau, highland | 在高原上走路要慢一点儿。<br>Walk slowly on a high plateau. |
| 草原 | cǎoyuán | grassland, prairie | 草原上有很多马和羊。<br>There are lots of horses and sheep on the grassland. |
| 山顶 | shāndǐng | mountaintop, summit | 我们爬了五个小时，终于到了山顶。<br>We climbed for five hours and finally reached the top. |
| 山峰 | shānfēng | mountain peak | 远处的山峰上还有雪。<br>There's still snow on the distant peaks. |
| 山坡 | shānpō | hillside, slope | 山坡上种{zhong4}满了茶树。<br>The hillside is covered with tea bushes. |
| 坡 | pō | slope; sloping | 前面的坡很滑，慢一点儿！<br>The slope ahead is slippery: slow down! |
| 沟 | gōu | ditch, gully | 路边有一条很深的沟。<br>There's a deep ditch by the road. |
| 地形 | dìxíng | terrain, landform | 这里的地形很复杂。<br>The terrain here is complicated. |
| 地域 | dìyù | region, territory | 中国地域广阔，各地的气候差别很大。<br>China is vast, and the climate differs a lot from place to place. |
| 地质 | dìzhì | geology | 他大学学的是地质。<br>He studied geology at university. |
| 救命 | jiùmìng | to save a life; help! | 救命啊！有人吗?<br>Help! Is anyone there? |
| 求救 | qiújiù | to call for help | 他迷路以后，马上打电话求救。<br>When he got lost, he phoned for help at once. |
| 救援 | jiùyuán | to rescue; rescue | 救援队很快就到了。<br>The rescue team arrived quickly. |
| 救灾 | jiùzāi | disaster relief | 救灾的时候，最重要的是减少伤亡。<br>In disaster relief, the first thing is to keep casualties down. |
| 消防 | xiāofáng | fire fighting, fire safety | 消防队员很快就扑灭了山上的大火。<br>Firefighters soon put out the fire on the hill. |
| 灭 | miè | to go out; put out (a fire) | 风太大，火灭了。<br>The wind was too strong and the fire went out. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 扑灭 | pūmiè | to put out (a fire) | 大火终于被扑灭了。<br>The fire was finally put out. |
| 伤亡 | shāngwáng | casualties | 这次地震没有造成人员伤亡。<br>The earthquake caused no casualties. |
| 伤员 | shāngyuán | injured person | 伤员已经被送到了医院。<br>The injured have been taken to hospital. |
| 重建 | chóngjiàn | to rebuild | 地震以后，人们开始重建家园。<br>After the earthquake, people began rebuilding their homes. |
| 融化 | rónghuà | to melt | 春天到了，山顶的雪开始融化。<br>Spring has come and the snow on the summit is melting. |
| 以免 | yǐmiǎn | so as not to, in case | 多穿一点儿衣服，以免感冒。<br>Wrap up warm so you don't catch cold. |

## pattern 至于: as for

**topic A + comment** **，至于** **topic B** **，comment**

至于 moves on to a related point: "as for B …". It often hands B over or leaves it open: 至于……，还没决定 / 你得问别人. It always starts the second part of what you say.

我们明天去爬山，至于去哪座山，还没决定。 **wǒmen míngtiān qù pá shān zhìyú qù nǎ zuò shān hái méi juédìng** We're going hiking tomorrow; as for which mountain, we haven't decided.

救援队已经出发了，至于什么时候能到，要看天气。 **jiùyuán duì yǐjīng chūfā le zhìyú shénme shíhou néng dào yào kàn tiānqì** The rescue team has set off; as for when they'll arrive, it depends on the weather.

这里的地形我比较熟悉，至于地质，你得问周博士。 **zhèlǐ de dìxíng wǒ bǐjiào shúxi zhìyú dìzhì nǐ děi wèn Zhōubóshì** I know the terrain here quite well; as for the geology, you'll have to ask Dr Zhou.

## dialogue trouble on the mountain

**anna** 小明，前面的坡很滑，慢一点儿！
**Xiǎomíng qiánmiàn de pō hěn huá màn yìdiǎnr** · Xiaoming, the slope ahead is slippery. Slow down!

**xiaoming** 没事。不爬不知道，一爬才发现这座山峰这么高。
**méishì bù pá bù zhīdào yì pá cái fāxiàn zhè zuò shānfēng zhème gāo** · I'm fine. You only find out when you climb: this peak is so high.

**anna** 小心！……你怎么了？
**xiǎoxīn nǐ zěnme le** · Careful! … What happened?

**xiaoming** 我的脚掉进沟里了，好疼，走不了了。
**wǒ de jiǎo diào jìn gōu lǐ le hǎo téng zǒu bu liǎo le** · My foot went into a ditch. It really hurts; I can't walk.

**anna** 别动，我马上打电话求救。
**bié dòng wǒ mǎshàng dǎ diànhuà qiújiù** · Don't move. I'll call for help right now.

**xiaoming** 先给我爸爸打电话吧，他是医生。至于救援队，看看情况再说。
**xiān gěi wǒ bàba dǎ diànhuà ba tā shì yīshēng zhìyú jiùyuán duì kàn kan qíngkuàng zàishuō** · Call my dad first, he's a doctor. As for the rescue team, let's see how it goes.

**dr li** 小明，先别动，把脚放平。我已经联系了山上的救援队。
**Xiǎomíng xiān bié dòng bǎ jiǎo fàng píng wǒ yǐjīng liánxì le shān shàng de jiùyuán duì** · Xiaoming, keep still and keep your foot flat. I've already contacted the mountain rescue team.

**anna** 他们多久能到？我们在半山坡上。
**tāmen duō jiǔ néng dào wǒmen zài bàn shānpō shàng** · How long will they be? We're halfway up the hillside.

**dr li** 他们对这里的地形很熟悉，半个小时就到。
**tāmen duì zhèlǐ de dìxíng hěn shúxi bàn gè xiǎoshí jiù dào** · They know the terrain well; they'll be there in half an hour.

**xiaoming** 爸爸，对不起，让您担心了。
**bàba duìbuqǐ ràng nín dānxīn le** · Sorry for worrying you, Dad.

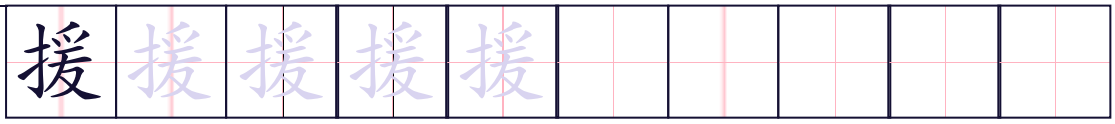
## write it trace the grey, then write your own

坡
pō
slope; sloping





援
yuán
to help, aid



**good to know** · In China, dial 110 for the police, 119 for fire and rescue, and 120 for an ambulance. 以免 (so as not to) is the opposite of 以便 (so that): 早点儿走，以免迟到 / 早点儿走，以便找到座位.

**You can now describe a landscape, call for help clearly, and steer a conversation with 至于.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 61 mission: the storm



**Follow a story of an island holiday, a typhoon and its aftermath, using the words of land, sea, weather, plants, animals and disasters together.**

Weather warnings, staying safe and helping out afterwards: this is the language people really use when nature turns rough.

## chapter 1 paradise

**little sister** 哇，这里的海岸太美了！海面又平又蓝。
**wā zhèlǐ de hǎiàn tài měi le hǎimiàn yòu píng yòu lán** · Wow, this coast is gorgeous! The sea is so calm and blue.

**xiaoming** 这座岛不大，海拔很低，岛上到处都是松树。
**zhè zuò dǎo bú dà hǎibá hěn dī dǎo shàng dàochù dōu shì sōngshù** · The island is small and low-lying, with pine trees everywhere.

**anna** 不来不知道，一来吓一跳，原来南方的海水这么清。
**bù lái bù zhīdào yì lái xià yí tiào yuánlái nánfāng de hǎi shuǐ zhème qīng** · You never know till you come: I had no idea the southern sea was so clear.

**xiaoming** 沿海的气候很适宜旅游，每年都引来很多游客。
**yánhǎi de qìhòu hěn shìyí lǚyóu měi nián dōu yǐn lái hěn duō yóukè** · The coastal climate is very pleasant, and it draws lots of visitors every year.

**little sister** 你们看，水面上漂着一只小船，正慢慢靠岸。
**nǐmen kàn shuǐmiàn shàng piāo zhe yì zhī xiǎo chuán zhèng màn màn kào àn** · Look, a little boat is drifting on the water, slowly coming in to the shore.

**xiaoming** 这片海域鱼很多，岛上的人以前都靠捕鱼生活。
**zhè piàn hǎiyù yú hěn duō dǎo shàng de rén yǐqián dōu kào bǔ yú shēnghuó** · These waters are full of fish. People on the island used to live by fishing.

**little sister** 海里有鲨鱼吗？我想去游泳。
**hǎi lǐ yǒu shāyú ma wǒ xiǎng qù yóuyǒng** · Are there sharks in the sea? I want to go swimming.

**xiaoming** 有是有，不过很少。别游得太远就行。
**yǒu shì yǒu búguò hěn shǎo bié yóu de tài yuǎn jiù xíng** · There are, but very few. Just don't swim out too far.

**anna** 天气晴朗，天上飘着几朵白云，远处的小岛也看得很清晰。
**tiānqì qínglǎng tiānshàng piāo zhe jǐ duǒ bái yún yuǎn chù de xiǎo dǎo yě kàn de hěn qīngxī** · It's a clear, sunny day, a few white clouds are drifting by, and you can see the far islands clearly.

**anna** 我去过北美洲和南美洲，可是还没去过大洋洲。
**wǒ qù guo Běiměizhōu hé Nánměizhōu kěshì hái méi qù guo Dàyángzhōu** · I've been to North America and South America, but never to Oceania.

**xiaoming** 周博士连南极洲和北极都去过，她说两极的冰都在融化。
**Zhōubóshì lián Nánjízhōu hé běijí dōu qù guo tā shuō liǎngjí de bīng dōu zài rónghuà** · Dr Zhou has even been to Antarctica and the Arctic. She says the ice at both poles is melting.

**little sister** 你们看，海水在月光下发光，这景象太美了！
**nǐmen kàn hǎi shuǐ zài yuèguāng xià fāguāng zhè jǐngxiàng tài měi le** · Look, the sea is shining in the moonlight. What a beautiful sight!

## chapter 2 rice and flowers

**anna** 没想到岛上还有这么多农田！
**méi xiǎng dào dǎo shàng hái yǒu zhème duō nóngtián** · I never thought there'd be so much farmland on the island!

**xiaoming** 是啊，这里的人除了捕鱼，也种地。
**shì a zhèlǐ de rén chúle bǔ yú yě zhòngdì** · Yes, besides fishing, people here farm the land too.

**xiaoming** 你们看牌子上写的：“本村土壤肥沃，主要种水稻，年年丰收。”
**nǐmen kàn páizi shàng xiě de běn cūn tǔrǎng féiwò zhǔyào zhòng shuǐdào nián nián fēngshōu** · Look what the sign says: “Our village's soil is fertile. We mainly grow rice and have a good harvest every year.”

**anna** “村里自己培育的水稻，是本村最有名的农产品。”
**cūn lǐ zìjǐ péiyù de shuǐdào shì běn cūn zuì yǒumíng de nóngchǎnpǐn** · “The rice the village breeds itself is our best-known farm produce.”

**little sister** 北方主要种小麦，南方主要种水稻，对吧？
**běifāng zhǔyào zhòng xiǎomài nánfāng zhǔyào zhòng shuǐdào duì ba** · The north mainly grows wheat and the south mainly grows rice, right?

**anna** 对。你们看，农民正在田里割水稻呢。
**duì nǐmen kàn nóngmín zhèngzài tián lǐ gē shuǐdào ne** · Right. Look, the farmers are cutting the rice in the fields.

**xiaoming** 前几天刚下过雨，田里都是泥，真不容易。
**qián jǐ tiān gāng xià guo yǔ tián lǐ dōu shì ní zhēn bù róngyì** · It rained just a few days ago, so the fields are all mud. It's hard work.

**little sister** 这家院子里的花朵真多，有菊花，也有兰花。
**zhè jiā yuànzi lǐ de huāduǒ zhēn duō yǒu júhuā yě yǒu lánhuā** · This house has so many flowers in its yard: chrysanthemums, and orchids too.

**anna** 可惜梅花要冬天才开，现在看不到。
**kěxī méihuā yào dōngtiān cái kāi xiànzài kàn bu dào** · Shame the plum blossom only flowers in winter, so we can't see it now.

**xiaoming** 小心，那株花有刺！
**xiǎoxīn nà zhū huā yǒu cì** · Careful, that plant has thorns!

**little sister** 花这么多，蜜蜂也特别多。
**huā zhème duō mìfēng yě tèbié duō** · With so many flowers, there are loads of bees too.

**xiaoming** 听说山上的树林里还隐藏着很多野生动物。
**tīngshuō shān shàng de shùlín lǐ hái yǐncáng zhe hěn duō yěshēng dòngwù** · I hear lots of wild animals are hidden away in the woods up the hill, too.

## chapter 3 wind and rain

**xiaoming** 宾馆发来通知：“台风今天晚上来临，天气恶劣，请大家不要外出。”
**bīnguǎn fā lái tōngzhī táifēng jīntiān wǎnshang láilín tiānqì èliè qǐng dàjiā búyào wàichū** · The hotel has sent a notice: “The typhoon arrives this evening. The weather will be very bad, so please stay indoors.”

**xiaoming** “出岛的大桥已经封了。请准备好水和食物，以免停电后买不到东西。”
**chū dǎo de dà qiáo yǐjīng fēng le qǐng zhǔnbèi hǎo shuǐ hé shíwù yǐmiǎn tíng diàn hòu mǎi bu dào dōngxi** · “The bridge off the island is already closed. Please have water and food ready, so you aren’t caught short if the power goes off.”

**little sister** 中午还那么晴朗，现在却下起了阵雨。
**zhōngwǔ hái nàme qínglǎng xiànzài què xià qǐ le zhènyǔ** · It was so sunny at noon, and now it’s started to shower.

**anna** 难怪昨天蚂蚁都在搬家，原来大雨要来了。
**nánguài zuótiān mǎyǐ dōu zài bānjiā yuánlái dà yǔ yào lái le** · No wonder the ants were all moving house yesterday: heavy rain was on its way.

**little sister** 一时打雷，一时闪电，外面的风声像狼叫一样，好吓人。
**yìshí dǎléi yìshí shǎndiàn wàimiàn de fēng shēng xiàng láng jiào yíyàng hǎo xià rén** · Thunder one moment, lightning the next, and the wind howls like a wolf. It’s scary.

**anna** 别怕，房子很坚固。今年这一带台风频繁，大家都习惯了。
**bié pà fángzi hěn jiāngù jīnnián zhè yídài táifēng pínfán dàjiā dōu xíguàn le** · Don’t be scared, the building is solid. Typhoons have been frequent round here this year; people are used to them.

**xiaoming** 我刚去关窗，被雨淋得全身都湿了。
**wǒ gāng qù guān chuāng bèi yǔ lín de quánshēn dōu shī le** · I just went to shut the window and got soaked from head to toe.

**xiaoming** 停电了！灯一下子全灭了，外面一片黑暗。
**tíng diàn le dēng yíxiàzi quán miè le wàimiàn yí piàn hēiàn** · The power’s gone! All the lights went out at once, and it’s pitch dark outside.

**anna** 还好我们提前准备了水和吃的。
**háihǎo wǒmen tíqián zhǔnbèi le shuǐ hé chī de** · Good thing we got water and food in advance.

**little sister** 听说村子附近爆发了洪水，很多农田被淹没了。
**tīngshuō cūnzi fùjìn bàofā le hóngshuǐ hěn duō nóngtián bèi yānmò le** · I heard there are floods near the village, and lots of farmland is under water.

**anna** 什么声音？好像有东西爆炸了！
**shénme shēngyīn hǎoxiàng yǒu dōngxi bàozhà le** · What was that noise? It sounded like something exploded!

**xiaoming** 是对面的电线炸了，着火了！消防车已经来了。
**shì duìmiàn de diàn xiàn zhà le zháohuǒ le xiāofáng chē yǐjīng lái le** · The power line across the road blew up and caught fire! The fire engine is already here.

## chapter 4 helping out

**anna** 雨停了，阳光照在大地上，好暖啊。
**yǔ tíng le yángguāng zhào zài dàdì shàng hǎo nuǎn a** · The rain has stopped and the sun is shining on the land. It's so warm.

**little sister** 可是村子里到处都是倒下的树，真是一场灾难。
**kěshì cūnzi lǐ dàochù dōu shì dǎo xià de shù zhēn shì yì chǎng zāinàn** · But there are fallen trees all over the village. It's a real disaster.

**xiaoming** 村子在山下，地形低，所以受灾最严重。
**cūnzi zài shān xià dìxíng dī suǒyǐ shòuzāi zuì yánzhòng** · The village sits at the foot of the hill on low ground, so it was hit the hardest.

**anna** 很多家庭都遭受了损失吧？有人员伤亡吗？
**hěn duō jiātíng dōu zāoshòu le sǔnshī ba yǒu rényuán shāngwáng ma** · Lots of families must have suffered losses. Was anyone killed or hurt?

**xiaoming** 没有人死亡，只有几个伤员，救援队已经把他们送到医院了。
**méiyǒu rén sǐwáng zhǐ yǒu jǐ gè shāngyuán jiùyuán duì yǐjīng bǎ tāmen sòng dào yīyuàn le** · Nobody died, there are just a few injured, and the rescue team has already taken them to hospital.

**little sister** 昨天晚上那场火灾呢？
**zuótiān wǎnshang nà chǎng huǒzāi ne** · And last night's fire?

**xiaoming** 消防队员很快就把火扑灭了。楼上有位老人大喊“救命”，也被救了出来。
**xiāofáng duìyuán hěn kuài jiù bǎ huǒ pūmiè le lóu shàng yǒu wèi lǎorén dà hǎn jiùmìng yě bèi jiù le chulai** · The firefighters put it out quickly. An old man upstairs shouted “Help!”, and he was rescued too.

**anna** 好险！灾区现在很需要人手，我们也去参加救灾吧。
**hǎo xiǎn zāiqū xiànzài hěn xūyào rénshǒu wǒmen yě qù cānjiā jiùzāi ba** · That was close! The disaster area really needs hands now. Let's go and help with the relief work too.

**little sister** 路边的沟里全是水，水流很急，上面浮着很多树枝。
**lùbiān de gōu lǐ quán shì shuǐ shuǐliú hěn jí shàngmiàn fú zhe hěn duō shù zhī** · The ditches by the road are full of fast-flowing water, with lots of branches floating on it.

**xiaoming** 这棵树挡住了路，得先把它砍断，车才能过去。
**zhè kē shù dǎng zhù le lù děi xiān bǎ tā kǎn duàn chē cái néng guòqù** · This tree is blocking the road. We have to chop it up before cars can get through.

**anna** 树下的土都松了，难怪风一吹就倒了。
**shù xià de tǔ dōu sōng le nánguài fēng yì chuī jiù dǎo le** · The soil under it has all gone loose. No wonder it fell over in the wind.

**little sister** 你们看，这些小草被水淹了一夜，却都还活着，生命力真强！
**nǐmen kàn zhèxiē xiǎo cǎo bèi shuǐ yān le yí yè què dōu hái huó zhe shēngmìnglì zhēn qiáng** · Look, this grass was under water all night but it's all still alive. What a will to live!

## chapter 5 dr zhou arrives

**anna** 周博士！您怎么也来了？
**Zhōubóshì nín zěnme yě lái le** · Dr Zhou! What are you doing here?

**dr zhou** 我来了解这次台风的情况，也来看看你们。
**wǒ lái liǎojiě zhè cì táifēng de qíngkuàng yě lái kàn kan nǐmen** · I've come to look into this typhoon, and to see how you three are.

**little sister** 很多庄稼都被水淹了，农民们一定很难过。
**hěn duō zhuāngjia dōu bèi shuǐ yān le nóngmínmen yídìng hěn nánguò** · So many crops were flooded. The farmers must be heartbroken.

**dr zhou** 别担心，这里的土壤很肥沃，水退了以后还能重新播种。
**bié dānxīn zhèlǐ de tǔrǎng hěn féiwò shuǐ tuì le yǐhòu hái néng chóngxīn bōzhǒng** · Don't worry. The soil here is very fertile; once the water goes down they can sow again.

**xiaoming** 您不是在高原做研究吗？
**nín bú shì zài gāoyuán zuò yánjiū ma** · Weren't you doing research up on the plateau?

**dr zhou** 刚回来。那里又严寒又干燥，不过太阳一出来，山顶的雪就化了。
**gāng huílái nàlǐ yòu yánhán yòu gānzào búguò tàiyáng yì chūlái shāndǐng de xuě jiù huà le** · I've just got back. It's bitterly cold and dry up there, but as soon as the sun comes out, the snow on the summits melts.

**xiaoming** 这里正好相反，又炎热又潮湿，湿度特别高。
**zhèlǐ zhènghǎo xiāngfǎn yòu yánrè yòu cháoshī shīdù tèbié gāo** · Here it's just the opposite: hot and humid, with very high humidity.

**dr zhou** 今年各地灾害都不少，北方的草原还遭遇了干旱。
**jīnnián gèdì zāihài dōu bù shǎo běifāng de cǎoyuán hái zāoyù le gānhàn** · There have been plenty of disasters everywhere this year. The grasslands in the north even had a drought.

**little sister** 快来看！山坡上被雨冲出来一块石头，上面好像有脚印！
**kuài lái kàn shānpō shàng bèi yǔ chōng chulai yí kuài shítou shàngmiàn hǎoxiàng yǒu jiǎoyìn** · Come and look! The rain has washed a stone out of the hillside, and there seem to be footprints on it!

**dr zhou** 这是化石！它在土里埋了几百万年，在野外非常罕见。
**zhè shì huàshí tā zài tǔ lǐ mái le jǐ bǎi wàn nián zài yěwài fēicháng hǎnjiàn** · It's a fossil! It's been buried in the earth for millions of years. You very rarely find one out in the open.

**anna** 你们看，天上出现了彩虹！
**nǐmen kàn tiānshàng chūxiàn le cǎihóng** · Look, there's a rainbow in the sky!

**xiaoming** 不经历风雨，怎么见彩虹？大家一起重建，村子会更好的。
**bù jīnglì fēngyǔ zěnme jiàn cǎihóng dàjiā yìqǐ chóngjiàn cūnzi huì gèng hǎo de** · No rain, no rainbow. If everyone rebuilds together, the village will be even better.

**A coast, a rice field, a storm and a rainbow: you followed the whole story, and you know what to say when nature turns rough.**
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