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# day 41 in the kitchen

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 6 · food and cooking

**Name the ways of cooking (simmer, stew, steam, pan-fry, bake, smoke), prepare food (peel, soak, mix, press) and keep it (freeze, keep fresh), and tease the cook with 不是我说你 and -鬼.**

Recipes, cooking videos and food labels use these verbs on every line. And a good scolding in the kitchen is part of family life.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 熬 | áo | to simmer, stew for a long time; to endure | 鸡汤要用小火慢慢熬。<br>Chicken soup should simmer slowly over a low heat. |
| 炖 | dùn | to stew, braise | 牛肉要炖两个小时才好吃。<br>Beef needs two hours' stewing to taste good. |
| 煲 | bāo | to cook slowly in a pot (southern) | 南方人喜欢煲汤。<br>People in the south love making slow-cooked soups. |
| 煎 | jiān | to pan-fry (in a little oil) | 鱼可以蒸，也可以煎。<br>You can steam fish or pan-fry it. |
| 烘 | hōng | to bake, dry, warm by a fire | 她每个周末都在家烘面包。<br>She bakes bread at home every weekend. |
| 烘焙 | hōngbèi | to bake (cakes, bread); to roast (coffee) | 她最近在学烘焙，天天做蛋糕。<br>She's learning to bake and makes cakes every day. |
| 蒸 | zhēng | to steam | 馒头要上锅蒸二十分钟。<br>The steamed buns need twenty minutes in the steamer. |
| 熏 | xūn | to smoke (food); to fill with smoke | 这种鱼是用茶叶熏的，特别香。<br>This fish is smoked over tea leaves: it smells wonderful. |
| 涮 | shuàn | to dip-boil (hot pot); to rinse | 冬天大家最爱涮羊肉。<br>In winter everyone loves dipping lamb in the hot pot. |
| 拌 | bàn | to mix, toss (a salad) | 黄瓜切好以后，加点醋拌一拌。<br>Once the cucumber is sliced, add a little vinegar and toss it. |
| 搅拌 | jiǎobàn | to stir, mix | 面粉里掺一点儿水，搅拌均匀。<br>Mix a little water into the flour and stir until smooth. |
| 掺 | chān | to mix in, add | 米饭里掺了一些小米，更有营养。<br>There's some millet mixed into the rice: it's more nutritious. |
| 剥 | bāo | to peel, shell | 你帮我剥几个鸡蛋吧。<br>Could you peel a few eggs for me? |
| 削 | xiāo | to peel (with a knife), pare | 土豆要先削皮。<br>Peel the potatoes first. |
| 宰 | zǎi | to slaughter, kill (for food); to rip off | 市场上的师傅帮我们把鱼宰好了。<br>The fishmonger at the market killed and cleaned the fish for us. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 榨 | zhà | to press, squeeze (juice, oil) | 早上我喜欢榨一杯果汁。<br>In the morning I like to make a glass of fresh juice. |
| 沏 | qī | to make (tea), infuse | 客人来了，先沏一壶茶。<br>When guests arrive, make a pot of tea first. |
| 浸泡 | jìnpào | to soak | 米要先在水里浸泡一个小时。<br>Soak the rice in water for an hour first. |
| 发酵 | fājiào | to ferment; to rise (dough) | 做馒头要先让面发酵。<br>To make steamed buns, first let the dough rise. |
| 酿造 | niàngzào | to brew (soy sauce, vinegar, wine) | 这家老店酿造的酱油特别香。<br>The soy sauce brewed by this old shop is wonderfully fragrant. |
| 冷冻 | lěngdòng | to freeze | 剩下的肉放进冰箱冷冻起来。<br>Put the leftover meat in the freezer. |
| 保鲜 | bǎoxiān | to keep fresh | 蔬菜放在保鲜盒里，可以多放几天。<br>Vegetables keep a few days longer in an airtight box. |
| 腐烂 | fǔlàn | to rot, go bad; corrupt | 天气太热，水果几天就腐烂了。<br>In this heat, fruit goes rotten in a few days. |
| 焦 | jiāo | burnt, scorched; anxious | 火太大了，鱼都焦了。<br>The heat was too high: the fish has burnt. |
| 火候 | huǒhou | heat and timing (cooking); mastery | 炒菜最重要的是火候。<br>The most important thing in stir-frying is getting the heat and timing right. |
| 烹饪 | pēngrèn | cooking, cuisine (the art) | 她在学校学的是烹饪。<br>She studied cookery at college. |
| 烹调 | pēngtiáo | to cook (dishes); cookery | 这本书介绍了各地菜的烹调方法。<br>This book explains how dishes from all over are cooked. |
| 配方 | pèifāng | recipe, formula | 这个蛋糕是按奶奶的配方做的。<br>This cake is made from Grandma's recipe. |
| 调料 | tiáoliào | seasoning, condiment | 盐和醋是最常用的调料。<br>Salt and vinegar are the most common seasonings. |
| 作料 | zuòliao | seasoning (spoken, north) | 饺子的作料准备好了吗?<br>Is the dipping sauce for the dumplings ready? |
| 香料 | xiāngliào | spice; perfume | 炖肉的时候放一点儿香料。<br>Add a few spices when you stew meat. |
| 味精 | wèijīng | monosodium glutamate, MSG | 我们家做菜从来不放味精。<br>We never put MSG in our cooking at home. |
| 添加剂 | tiānjiājì | additive (food) | 这种饮料里有很多添加剂。<br>This drink has lots of additives. |
| 锡纸 | xīzhǐ | tin foil, aluminium foil | 用锡纸把鱼包起来，再放进锅里。<br>Wrap the fish in foil, then put it in the pan. |
| 易拉罐 | yìlāguàn | ring-pull can | 把易拉罐扔进回收的垃圾桶。<br>Put the cans in the recycling bin. |
| 鬼 | guǐ | ghost; (suffix) a person who is ...; sly | 你这个懒鬼，就知道吃，不知道做!<br>You lazybones: you know how to eat but not how to cook! |

## pattern kitchen disasters: 落得个…… and 不是我说你

不是我说你, | problem | 结果 | 落得个 | outcome

Two old friends for when things go wrong. 不是我说你 “I hate to say it, but…” softens a complaint before you make it. 落得个 + outcome tells you how it ended, usually badly: 落得个一锅焦饭 “ended up with a pot of burnt rice”. Cooking verbs are the third piece: each method has its own word.

他不看火候，结果落得个一锅焦饭。 **tā bú kàn huǒhou jiéguǒ luò de gè yì guō jiāo fàn** He didn’t watch the heat and ended up with a pot of burnt rice.

不是我说你，做饭的时候别老看手机。 **bú shì wǒ shuō nǐ zuòfàn de shíhou bié lǎo kàn shǒujī** I hate to say it, but stop looking at your phone while you cook.

菜没放进冰箱，结果落得个一筐烂菜。 **cài méi fàng jìn bīngxiāng jiéguǒ luò de gè yì kuāng làn cài** The vegetables weren’t put in the fridge, and we ended up with a basket of rotten veg.

## dialogue a cooking lesson

**ms zhang** 安娜，今天我教你做几个家常菜。把袖子挽起来，我们先熬一锅鸡汤：鸡肉先在水里浸泡半个小时，再放进锅里，用小火慢慢炖两个小时。南方人管这个叫“煲汤”。

**Ānnà jīntiān wǒ jiāo nǐ zuò jǐ gè jiācháng cài bǎ xiùzi wǎn qǐlai wǒmen xiān áo yì guō jī tāng jī ròu xiān zài shuǐ lǐ jìnpào bàn gè xiǎoshí zài fàng jìn guō lǐ yòng xiǎo huǒ màn màn dùn liǎng gè xiǎoshí nánfāng rén guǎn zhège jiào bāo tāng** · Anna, today I'll teach you a few home-style dishes. Roll up your sleeves: first, a pot of chicken soup. Soak the chicken in water for half an hour, then put it in the pot and stew it slowly over a low heat for two hours. In the south they call this 煲汤.

**little sister** 妈妈，我来煎鱼！

**māma wǒ lái jiān yú** · Mum, I'll fry the fish!

**ms zhang** 你小心一点儿，火候很重要，火太大了鱼就焦了。

**nǐ xiǎoxīn yìdiǎnr huǒhou hěn zhòngyào huǒ tài dà le yú jiù jiāo le** · Be careful: heat and timing matter. If the heat is too high, the fish will burn.

**little sister** 哎呀，已经焦了！

**āiyā yǐjīng jiāo le** · Oh no, it's already burnt!

**ms zhang** 不是我说你，做饭的时候别老看手机。

**bú shì wǒ shuō nǐ zuòfàn de shíhou bié lǎo kàn shǒujī** · I hate to say it, but stop looking at your phone while you cook.

**xiaoming** 我妹妹每次做饭，都落得个一锅焦饭。

**wǒ mèimei měi cì zuòfàn dōu luò de gè yì guō jiāo fàn** · Every time my sister cooks, it ends in a pot of burnt rice.

**anna** 这条鱼是谁宰的？

**zhè tiáo yú shì shéi zǎi de** · Who killed and cleaned this fish?

**ms zhang** 市场上的师傅宰好了。安娜，你帮我剥几个鸡蛋，再把土豆削皮，切成丝。

**shìchǎng shàng de shīfu zǎi hǎo le Ānnà nǐ bāng wǒ bāo jǐ gè jīdàn zài bǎ tǔdòu xiāo pí qiē chéng sī** · The fishmonger at the market did it. Anna, could you peel a few eggs for me, then peel the potatoes and cut them into thin strips?

**anna** 鸡蛋剥好了，有一个不太好剥，我用手指抠了半天。黄瓜呢？

**jīdàn bāo hǎo le yǒu yí gè bú tài hǎo bāo wǒ yòng shǒuzhǐ kōu le bàntiān huángguā ne** · The eggs are peeled; one was tricky, and I had to pick at it with my fingers for ages. And the cucumber?

**ms zhang** 黄瓜切好以后，加点醋拌一拌。我们家做菜从来不放味精，调料就是盐、醋和一点儿糖。北方人管调料也叫“作料”。

**huángguā qiē hǎo yǐhòu jiā diǎn cù bàn yi ban wǒmen jiā zuò cài cónglái bú fàng wèijīng tiáoliào jiùshì yán cù hé yìdiǎnr táng běifāng rén guǎn tiáoliào yě jiào zuòliao** · When the cucumber's sliced, add a little vinegar and toss it. We never use MSG: the seasoning is just salt, vinegar and a little sugar. In the north people also call seasoning 作料.

**anna** 那这些香料是做什么用的？

**nà zhèxiē xiāngliào shì zuò shénme yòng de** · And what are these spices for?

**ms zhang** 炖肉用的。烹调最重要的是火候和配方，香料也是不可或缺的。这些是我妈妈教我的。

**dùn ròu yòng de pēngtiáo zuì zhòngyào de shì huǒhou hé pèifāng xiāngliào yě shì bùkě huòquē de zhèxiē shì wǒ māma jiāo wǒ de** · For stewing meat. In cooking, what matters most is the heat, the timing and the recipe, and spices are indispensable too: my mother taught me these.

**anna** 阿姨，您烹饪的本事真大！

**āyí nín pēngrèn de běnshi zhēn dà** · You're such a good cook!

**little sister** 我最喜欢吃妈妈做的熏鱼，还有冬天的涮羊肉。

**wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī māma zuò de xūn yú hái yǒu dōngtiān de shuàn yáng ròu** · My favourite is Mum's smoked fish, and hot-pot lamb in winter.

**xiaoming** 我妈妈做的馒头也特别好吃。面要先揉好，再发酵，然后上锅蒸。

**wǒ māma zuò de mántou yě tèbié hǎochī miàn yào xiān róu hǎo zài fājiào ránhòu shàng guō zhēng** · Mum's

steamed buns are great too. The dough has to be kneaded first, then left to rise, then it goes in the steamer.

**ms zhang** 蒸馒头我还行，蛋糕要烘焙，我就不太会了。妹妹会烘面包，还会榨果汁、沏茶。
**zhēng mántou wǒ hái xíng dàngāo yào hōngbèi wǒ jiù bú tài huì le mèimei huì hōng miànbāo hái huì zhà guǒzhī qī chá** · Steamed buns I can manage, but cakes have to be baked, and I'm not much good at that. My daughter can bake bread, and she makes fresh juice and tea too.

**little sister** 做蛋糕要在面粉里掺一点儿牛奶，再加鸡蛋搅拌均匀。
**zuò dàngāo yào zài miànfěn lǐ chān yìdiǎnr niúnǎi zài jiā jīdàn jiǎobàn jūnyún** · For a cake you mix a little milk into the flour, then add the eggs and stir until smooth.

**anna** 我们那条街上有一家老店，酿造的酱油特别香。
**wǒmen nà tiáo jiē shàng yǒu yì jiā lǎo diàn niàngzào de jiàngyóu tèbié xiāng** · There's an old shop on my street that brews wonderful soy sauce.

**ms zhang** 好酱油要发酵很久。现在很多食品都有添加剂，买东西的时候要看一看。
**hǎo jiàngyóu yào fājiào hěn jiǔ xiànzài hěn duō shípǐn dōu yǒu tiānjiājì mǎi dōngxi de shíhou yào kàn yi kan** · Good soy sauce takes a long time to ferment. Lots of food has additives these days: have a look when you buy things.

**xiaoming** 剩下的肉怎么办？
**shèng xià de ròu zěnme bàn** · What do we do with the leftover meat?

**ms zhang** 用锡纸包好，放进冰箱冷冻。蔬菜放在保鲜盒里密封好，不然几天就腐烂了。
**yòng xīzhǐ bāo hǎo fàng jìn bīngxiāng lěngdòng shūcài fàng zài bǎoxiān hé lǐ mìfēng hǎo bùrán jǐ tiān jiù fǔlàn le** · Wrap it in foil and freeze it. Seal the vegetables in an airtight box, or they'll rot in a few days.

**little sister** 桌子上的易拉罐我拿去扔了。
**zhuōzi shàng de yìlāguàn wǒ ná qù rēng le** · I'll take the cans on the table to the bin.

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

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 筐 kuāng basket | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 缸 gāng vat, large jar, tank | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 钩 gōu hook; to hook | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 框 kuàng frame | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**good to know** · Chinese has a cooking verb for every method: 炒 stir-fry, 煎 pan-fry, 炸 deep-fry, 蒸 steam, 煮 boil, 炖 stew, 熬 simmer, 烤 roast, 烘 bake, 熏 smoke, 涮 dip-boil. -鬼 names people by a habit, usually teasing: 懒鬼 lazybones, 小气鬼 skinflint, 机灵鬼 clever clogs.

**Simmer, steam, pan-fry, peel, soak and stir: you can now follow a Chinese recipe and cook alongside a Chinese mum.**
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# day 42 flavours and feasts

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 6 · food and cooking

**Describe how food tastes and feels (fresh, rich, tender, crispy, greasy, fishy), talk about meals from a quick bite to a banquet, and tease a greedy friend with 你看你.**

Food is the favourite topic at every Chinese table, and food writing has its own rich vocabulary of taste and texture.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 菜肴 | càiyáo | dishes, cuisine (formal) | 这家酒楼的菜肴在美食界很有名。<br>This restaurant's dishes are famous in the food world. |
| 佳肴 | jiāyáo | delicacies, fine dishes | 桌子上摆满了美味佳肴。<br>The table was laden with delicious dishes. |
| 盛宴 | shèngyàn | grand banquet, feast | 今天的晚饭真是一场盛宴。<br>Tonight's dinner was a real feast. |
| 丰盛 | fēngshèng | sumptuous, lavish (meal) | 春节的晚饭总是特别丰盛。<br>The Spring Festival dinner is always a real spread. |
| 便饭 | biànfàn | simple meal, potluck | 下次来我家吃个便饭吧。<br>Next time, come round to mine for a simple meal. |
| 伙食 | huǒshí | meals, food (at a canteen or school) | 我们公司的伙食还不错。<br>The food at our company canteen isn't bad. |
| 膳食 | shànshí | diet, meals (formal) | 老人要注意膳食营养。<br>Older people need to pay attention to a nutritious diet. |
| 夜宵 | yèxiāo | late-night snack | 加班到很晚，我常常一个人吃夜宵。<br>When I work late, I often have a late-night snack on my own. |
| 野餐 | yěcān | picnic | 周末我们去公园野餐吧。<br>Let's go for a picnic in the park at the weekend. |
| 就餐 | jiùcān | to dine, have a meal (formal) | 本店就餐时间为中午十一|点到晚上九点。<br>Meals are served from 11 am to 9 pm. |
| 酒楼 | jiǔlóu | restaurant (large, traditional) | 这家酒楼开了一百多年。<br>This restaurant has been open for over a hundred years. |
| 卤味 | lǔwèi | food braised in soy and spices | 这家的卤味是老配方做的。<br>Their braised dishes are made to an old recipe. |
| 麻辣 | málà | numbing and spicy | 我最爱吃麻辣火锅。<br>Numbing-spicy hot pot is my favourite. |
| 鲜美 | xiānměi | delicious, savoury (fresh taste) | 这条鱼的味道特别鲜美。<br>This fish tastes wonderfully fresh. |
| 醇厚 | chúnhòu | rich, mellow (taste) | 这碗汤的味道很醇厚。<br>This soup has a rich, mellow flavour. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 浓郁 | nóngyù | strong, rich (smell, atmosphere) | 厨房里飘着浓郁的香味。<br>A rich smell is drifting from the kitchen. |
| 滋味 | zīwèi | taste, flavour; how it feels | 离开家的滋味真不好受。<br>Being away from home is a horrible feeling. |
| 风味 | fēngwèi | local flavour, special taste | 这家店的菜很有家乡风味。<br>This restaurant's food really tastes of home. |
| 正宗 | zhèngzōng | authentic, genuine | 这是正宗的北京烤肉。<br>This is authentic Beijing barbecue. |
| 油腻 | yóunì | greasy, oily | 这道菜太油腻了，我不太喜欢。<br>This dish is too greasy for me. |
| 腥 | xīng | fishy (smell, taste) | 鱼很新鲜，一点儿也不腥。<br>The fish is really fresh: it doesn't smell fishy at all. |
| 嫩 | nèn | tender; delicate, young | 这块牛肉很嫩。<br>This beef is very tender. |
| 酥 | sū | crispy, flaky; limp (limbs) | 这种饼又香又酥。<br>This pastry is fragrant and flaky. |
| 热腾腾 | rèténgténg | steaming hot | 冬天喝一碗热腾腾的汤，真舒服。<br>A steaming bowl of soup in winter: wonderful. |
| 素食 | sùshí | vegetarian food | 她最近开始吃素食。<br>She's started eating vegetarian recently. |
| 素 | sù | vegetarian; plain | 我不吃肉，我吃素。<br>I don't eat meat: I'm vegetarian. |
| 荤 | hūn | meat or fish (dishes) | 这家店荤的素的都有。<br>This place has meat dishes and vegetarian ones. |
| 分量 | fènliàng | portion, amount; weight (importance) | 这家饭馆的菜分量很足。<br>The portions at this restaurant are generous. |
| 馋 | chán | greedy (for food); to crave | 一闻到香味，我就馋了。<br>One whiff and I'm dying for some. |
| 贪吃 | tānchī | greedy, gluttonous | 你又贪吃了，小心肚子疼。<br>You've been greedy again: watch out for a stomach ache. |
| 嚼 | jiáo | to chew | 牛肉太老了，嚼不动。<br>The beef is too tough to chew. |
| 咀嚼 | jǔjué | to chew; to mull over | 吃饭的时候要慢慢咀嚼。<br>Chew slowly when you eat. |
| 啃 | kěn | to gnaw, nibble | 他坐在门口啃骨头。<br>He sat at the door gnawing on a bone. |
| 咽 | yàn | to swallow | 他急着把饭咽了下去。<br>He gulped his food down. |
| 蘸 | zhàn | to dip (in sauce) | 饺子蘸点醋更好吃。<br>Dumplings taste better dipped in a little vinegar. |
| 界 | jiè | (suffix) world, circles, field | 他在美食界大名鼎鼎。<br>He's a big name in the food world. |

## pattern talking food: 什么a的b的 and 你看你

什么 | taste A | 的 | taste B | 的 | ……

Taste words love 什么A的B的: 什么麻辣的、油腻的 “spicy stuff, greasy stuff”. With 都 it means “he likes it all”, with 一概不 “he won’t touch any of it”. And when a friend eats too fast or too much, 你看你 is the gentle “look at you!”.

桌子上什么卤味的、热菜的，摆得满满的。 **zhuōzi shàng shénme lǔwèi de rè cài de bǎi de mǎn mǎn de** The table is covered with braised meats, hot dishes, everything.

你看你，又贪吃了吧？ **nǐ kàn nǐ yòu tānchī le ba** Look at you: been greedy again, have you?

她什么腥的、油腻的，都不爱吃。 **tā shénme xīng de yóunì de dōu bú ài chī** She doesn’t like anything fishy or greasy.

## dialogue a table for the food column

**editor lin** 安娜，我在写一篇文章，讲北京的老酒楼。你们陪我来尝尝吧。
**Ānnà wǒ zài xiě yì piān wénzhāng jiǎng Běijīng de lǎo jiǔlóu nǐmen péi wǒ lái cháng chang ba** · Anna, I'm writing a piece on Beijing's old restaurants. Come and taste with me.

**anna** 太好了！一闻到这个香味，我就馋了。
**tài hǎo le yì wén dào zhège xiāng wèi wǒ jiù chán le** · Great! One whiff of that smell and I'm starving.

**editor lin** 这家酒楼开了一百多年，客人络绎不绝，它的菜肴在美食界大名鼎鼎。
**zhè jiā jiǔlóu kāi le yìbǎi duō nián kèrén luòyì bùjué tā de càiyáo zài měishí jiè dàmíng dǐngdǐng** · This restaurant has been open for over a hundred years, with a constant stream of customers, and its dishes are famous in the food world.

**xiaoming** 菜单上什么卤味的、麻辣的、素的，要什么有什么。
**càidān shàng shénme lǔwèi de málà de sù de yào shénme yǒu shénme** · The menu has braised meats, spicy dishes, vegetarian dishes, anything you like.

**editor lin** 先来一份卤味。他们的卤味是老配方做的，用了十几种香料，滋味很醇厚。
**xiān lái yí fèn lǔwèi tāmen de lǔwèi shì lǎo pèifāng zuò de yòng le shí jǐ zhǒng xiāngliào zīwèi hěn chúnhòu** · Let's start with the braised meats. They're made to an old recipe with a dozen or more spices, and have a rich, mellow flavour.

**anna** 这个麻辣牛肉香味浓郁，可是太辣了！
**zhège málà niú ròu xiāng wèi nóngyù kěshì tài là le** · This spicy beef smells amazing, but it's so hot!

**editor lin** 正宗的风味就是这样，又香又辣。
**zhèngzōng de fēngwèi jiùshì zhèyàng yòu xiāng yòu là** · That's the authentic taste: fragrant and fiery.

**xiaoming** 这条鱼特别鲜美，一点儿也不腥，是蒸的吧？肉也很嫩。
**zhè tiáo yú tèbié xiānměi yìdiǎnr yě bù xīng shì zhēng de ba ròu yě hěn nèn** · This fish tastes wonderfully fresh: not fishy at all. Is it steamed? And so tender.

**anna** 这个饼又香又酥。不过那个红烧肉有点儿油腻，美中不足。
**zhège bǐng yòu xiāng yòu sū búguò nàge hóng shāo ròu yǒudiǎnr yóunì měizhōng bùzú** · This pastry is fragrant and flaky. That braised pork is a bit greasy, though: the one flaw.

**editor lin** 尝尝这碗热腾腾的汤。
**cháng chang zhè wǎn rètēngtēng de tāng** · Try this steaming bowl of soup.

**anna** 哎呀，太烫了！我急着往下咽，烫到舌头了。
**āiyā tài tàng le wǒ jí zhe wǎng xià yàn tàng dào shétou le** · Ouch, it's so hot! I gulped it down and burnt my tongue.

**xiaoming** 你看你，慢慢喝。吃饭也一样，好好嚼一嚼再咽。
**nǐ kàn nǐ màn màn hē chī fàn yě yíyàng hǎohǎo jiáo yi jiao zài yàn** · Look at you: slow down. Same with food: chew properly before you swallow.

**editor lin** 慢慢咀嚼，才能吃出真正的滋味。
**màn màn jǔjué cáinéng chī chū zhēnzhèng de zīwèi** · Only by chewing slowly can you taste the real flavour.

**xiaoming** 我最爱啃骨头，越啃越香。
**wǒ zuì ài kěn gǔtou yuè kěn yuè xiāng** · I love gnawing on bones: the more you gnaw, the better it tastes.

**anna** 饺子来了！蘸什么？
**jiǎozi lái le zhàn shénme** · Here come the dumplings! What do I dip them in?

**editor lin** 蘸醋。这家的菜分量真足，三个人点了六个菜，太多了。
**zhàn cù zhè jiā de cài fènliàng zhēn zú sān gè rén diǎn le liù gè cài tài duō le** · Vinegar. The portions here are huge: three of us ordered six dishes, that's far too much.

**anna** 小明，你又在贪吃了。
**Xiǎomíng nǐ yòu zài tānchī le** · Xiaoming, you're being greedy again.

**xiaoming** 我们公司的伙食太一般了，菜里味精还放得特别多，难得吃顿好的。
**wǒmen gōngsī de huǒshí tài yìbān le cài lǐ wèijīng hái fàng de tèbié duō nándé chī dùn hǎo de** · The canteen food at work is so ordinary, and they put loads of MSG in it: I don't often get a good meal.

**editor lin** 现在很多公司都开始重视员工的膳食营养了。
**xiànzài hěn duō gōngsī dōu kāishǐ zhòngshì yuángōng de shànshí yíngyǎng le** · A lot of companies are starting to take their staff's diet seriously now.

**anna** 我最近常吃素食。这家店荤的素的都有，太好了。
**wǒ zuìjìn cháng chī sùshí zhè jiā diàn hūn de sù de dōu yǒu tài hǎo le** · I've been eating a lot of vegetarian food lately. This place has both meat and vegetarian dishes: perfect.

**editor lin** 我平时加班到很晚，常常一个人吃夜宵。今天能跟你们一起就餐，真开心。
**wǒ píngshí jiābān dào hěn wǎn chángcháng yí gè rén chī yèxiāo jīntiān néng gēn nǐmen yìqǐ jiùcān zhēn kāixīn** · I usually work late and often have a late-night snack on my own. It's lovely to eat with you both today.

**xiaoming** 一桌子的佳肴，今天真是一场盛宴！
**yì zhuōzi de jiāyáo jīntiān zhēn shì yì chǎng shèngyàn** · A table full of delicacies: tonight is a real feast!

**anna** 这么丰盛！天气好的时候，我们去公园野餐吧。
**zhème fēngshèng tiānqì hǎo de shíhou wǒmen qù gōngyuán yěcān ba** · Such a spread! When the weather's good, let's have a picnic in the park.

**editor lin** 好啊。下次你们来我家，我炖一锅肉，请你们吃个便饭。
**hǎo a xià cì nǐmen lái wǒ jiā wǒ dùn yì guō ròu qǐng nǐmen chī gè biànfàn** · Good idea. And next time, come to mine: I'll stew a pot of meat and we'll have a simple meal.

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

罩
zhào
cover, shade; to cover

秤
chèng
scales, steelyard

漆
qī
lacquer, paint; to paint

遮
zhē
to cover, block, hide from view

**good to know** · 麻 is the tingling numbness of Sichuan pepper (花椒); 辣 is chilli heat. Together, 麻辣 is the signature taste of Sichuan and Chongqing food. -界 names a field and the people in it: 美食界 the food world, 新闻界 the press, 商界 business circles, 科学界 the scientific community.

**Fresh, rich, tender, crispy, numbing: you can now taste a meal in Chinese, not just eat it.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 43 from the market



**Shop for vegetables, seasonings, nuts, dairy and seafood at a Chinese market, and say “it depends on …” with 视……而定.**

The morning market is the heart of Chinese food life, and 视……而定 is how notices, menus and careful people say “it depends”.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 葱 | cōng | spring onion, scallion | 面条上撒一点儿葱花。<br>Sprinkle a little chopped spring onion on the noodles. |
| 姜 | jiāng | ginger | 炖鱼的时候要放几片姜。<br>Put a few slices of ginger in when you stew fish. |
| 蒜 | suàn | garlic | 这道菜要多放点蒜。<br>This dish needs plenty of garlic. |
| 芝麻 | zhīma | sesame | 面包上有很多芝麻。<br>There are lots of sesame seeds on the bread. |
| 香油 | xiāngyóu | sesame oil | 凉菜里加几滴香油，特别香。<br>A few drops of sesame oil make a cold dish delicious. |
| 萝卜 | luóbo | radish, turnip | 冬天的萝卜又甜又脆。<br>Winter radishes are sweet and crunchy. |
| 南瓜 | nánguā | pumpkin | 南瓜汤又甜又香。<br>Pumpkin soup is sweet and fragrant. |
| 红薯 | hóngshǔ | sweet potato | 冬天在街上买个烤红薯，又香又暖和。<br>In winter, buying a roast sweet potato in the street keeps you warm and smells wonderful. |
| 蘑菇 | mógu | mushroom | 我们去山上采蘑菇吧。<br>Let’s go and pick mushrooms on the hill. |
| 豆子 | dòuzi | beans, peas | 豆子要先在水里浸泡一个晚上。<br>Beans need soaking overnight first. |
| 淀粉 | diànfěn | starch, cornflour | 做汤的时候可以加一点儿淀粉。<br>You can add a little starch when you make soup. |
| 粉丝 | fěnsī | glass noodles; fans (of a star) | 白菜炖粉丝是一道北方家常菜。<br>Cabbage stewed with glass noodles is a northern home-style dish. |
| 谷物 | gǔwù | cereals, grains | 早饭吃点谷物和牛奶，很健康。<br>Cereal and milk for breakfast is very healthy. |
| 坚果 | jiānguǒ | nut | 每天吃一把坚果，对身体好。<br>A handful of nuts a day is good for you. |
| 核桃 | hétao | walnut | 核桃富含营养。<br>Walnuts are very nutritious. |
| 瓜子 | guāzǐ | sunflower or melon seeds | 春节的时候，家家都准备瓜子和糖。<br>At the Spring Festival every family puts out seeds and sweets. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 莲子 | liánzǐ | lotus seed | 莲子可以用来煮粥。<br>Lotus seeds are good in rice porridge. |
| 枣 | zǎo | jujube, Chinese date | 奶奶喜欢在粥里放几个红枣。<br>Grandma likes to put a few red dates in her porridge. |
| 柿子 | shìzi | persimmon | 秋天，树上的柿子红了。<br>In autumn the persimmons on the trees turn red. |
| 椰子 | yēzi | coconut | 在海边喝一个新鲜的椰子，真舒服。<br>Drinking a fresh coconut by the sea is bliss. |
| 蜂蜜 | fēngmì | honey | 冬天喝蜂蜜水对嗓子好。<br>Honey water in winter is good for your throat. |
| 奶酪 | nǎilào | cheese | 这种奶酪是从英国买的。<br>This cheese was bought in the UK. |
| 乳制品 | rǔzhìpǐn | dairy products | 牛奶、奶酪这些乳制品要放在冰箱里。<br>Dairy products like milk and cheese go in the fridge. |
| 火腿 | huǒtuǐ | ham | 这家店的火腿是云南的。<br>This shop's ham comes from Yunnan. |
| 罐头 | guàntou | tin, can (of food) | 罐头吃起来方便，可是不够新鲜。<br>Tinned food is convenient, but not very fresh. |
| 虾 | xiā | shrimp, prawn | 虾要挑活的。<br>Pick live prawns. |
| 螃蟹 | pángxiè | crab | 秋天是吃螃蟹的季节。<br>Autumn is crab season. |
| 水产 | shuǐchǎn | aquatic products, seafood | 这个城市靠海，水产很便宜。<br>This city is by the sea, so seafood is cheap. |
| 丸子 | wánzi | ball (meatball, fishball) | 火锅里放一些肉丸子和鱼丸子。<br>Put some meatballs and fishballs in the hot pot. |
| 馅 | xiàn | filling, stuffing | 你喜欢什么馅的饺子?<br>What filling do you like in your dumplings? |
| 冰棍儿 | bīnggùnr | ice lolly, popsicle | 夏天吃个冰棍儿，特别解渴。<br>An ice lolly in summer really quenches your thirst. |
| 口香糖 | kǒuxiāngtáng | chewing gum | 吃完饭，他喜欢嚼一块口香糖。<br>After a meal he likes to chew a piece of gum. |
| 解渴 | jiěkě | to quench your thirst | 西瓜特别解渴。<br>Watermelon really quenches your thirst. |
| 富含 | fùhán | to be rich in | 南瓜富含维生素。<br>Pumpkin is rich in vitamins. |
| 碟 | dié | small plate, dish; (measure word) | 我们点了一碟花生。<br>We ordered a dish of peanuts. |

**pattern 视……而定: depending on ...**

what | 视 / 看 | condition | 而定

视……而定 means “is decided according to …”: first the thing, then 视 + what it depends on + 而定: 价格视大小而定 “the price depends on the size”. 视 is the written word; in everyday Chinese the same frame is said with 看 or 要看: 价格要看大小而定. You will meet 视 in notices and contracts, 看 at the market.

去不去爬山，看天气而定。 **qù bu qù pá shān kàn tiānqì ér dìng** Whether we go climbing depends on the weather.

价格看季节而定。 **jiàgé kàn jìjié ér dìng** The price depends on the season.

每天吃多少，看个人情况而定。 **měi tiān chī duōshao kàn gèrén qíngkuàng ér dìng** How much to eat each day depends on the person.

## dialogue the morning market

**dr li** 安娜，明天你请客，我陪你来买菜。打算做几个菜？
**Ānnà míngtiān nǐ qǐngkè wǒ péi nǐ lái mǎi cài dǎsuàn zuò jǐ gè cài** · Anna, you're having people round tomorrow, so I'll help you shop. How many dishes are you making?

**anna** 还没想好，看来多少人而定吧。大概八个人。
**hái méi xiǎng hǎo kàn lái duōshao rén ér dìng ba dàgài bā gè rén** · I haven't decided: it depends how many people come. About eight, probably.

**dr li** 先买葱、姜、蒜，这是做中国菜必不可少的。
**xiān mǎi cōng jiāng suàn zhè shì zuò Zhōngguó cài bìbùkěshǎo de** · First, spring onions, ginger and garlic: you can't cook Chinese food without them.

**xiaoming** 爸爸，这个是姜还是蒜？
**bàba zhège shì jiāng háishi suàn** · Dad, is this ginger or garlic?

**dr li** 你说你一个大男人，连姜和蒜都分不清！
**nǐ shuō nǐ yí gè dà nánrén lián jiāng hé suàn dōu fēn bù qīng** · Honestly, a grown man who can't tell ginger from garlic!

**anna** 我想包饺子，什么馅好呢？
**wǒ xiǎng bāo jiǎozi shénme xiàn hǎo ne** · I want to make dumplings: what filling would be good?

**dr li** 萝卜肉的、蘑菇的都好吃。馅里加一点儿香油和芝麻，更香。
**luóbo ròu de mógu de dōu hǎochī xiàn lǐ jiā yìdiǎnr xiāngyóu hé zhīma gèng xiāng** · Radish and pork, or mushroom: both are delicious. A little sesame oil and some sesame seeds in the filling make it even better.

**anna** 我有两个朋友吃素，蘑菇馅的正好。再做一个汤吧，让这顿饭丰盛一点。
**wǒ yǒu liǎng gè péngyou chī sù mógu xiàn de zhènghǎo zài zuò yí gè tāng ba ràng zhè dùn fàn fēngshèng yìdiǎn** · Two of my friends are vegetarian, so mushroom is perfect. And a soup, too, to make it a proper spread.

**dr li** 南瓜汤不错，南瓜富含维生素。豆子、淀粉、粉丝这边都有。
**nánguā tāng búcuò nánguā fùhán wéishēngsù dòuzi diànfěn fěnsī zhèbiān dōu yǒu** · Pumpkin soup is good: pumpkin is rich in vitamins. There are beans, starch and glass noodles over here as well.

**xiaoming** 我要买几个红薯，冬天烤红薯最好吃了，一想就馋了。
**wǒ yào mǎi jǐ gè hóngshǔ dōngtiān kǎo hóngshǔ zuì hǎochī le yì xiǎng jiù chán le** · I want some sweet potatoes: roast sweet potato is the best thing in winter. Just thinking about it makes my mouth water.

**anna** 早饭我想买一些谷物、牛奶和奶酪。
**zǎofàn wǒ xiǎng mǎi yìxiē gǔwù niúnǎi hé nǎilào** · For breakfast I want some cereal, milk and cheese.

**dr li** 牛奶、奶酪这些乳制品记得放冰箱保鲜。
**niúnǎi nǎilào zhèxiē rǔzhìpǐn jìde fàng bīngxiāng bǎoxiān** · Remember to keep dairy things like milk and cheese fresh in the fridge.

**xiaoming** 那边卖坚果：核桃、瓜子、莲子，还有红枣。
**nàbiān mài jiānguǒ hétao guāzǐ liánzǐ hái yǒu hóng zǎo** · They sell nuts over there: walnuts, sunflower seeds, lotus seeds, and red dates.

**dr li** 核桃对大脑好，我每天吃几个。莲子和枣可以煮粥，也可以浸泡一夜再炖汤。柿子也熟了，可是一次别吃太多。再买一瓶蜂蜜，冬天喝蜂蜜水对嗓子好。
**hétao duì dànǎo hǎo wǒ měi tiān chī jǐ gè liánzǐ hé zǎo kěyǐ zhǔ zhōu yě kěyǐ jìnpào yí yè zài dùn tāng shìzi yě shú le kěshì yí cì bié chī tài duō zài mǎi yì píng fēngmì dōngtiān hē fēngmì shuǐ duì sǎngzi hǎo** · Walnuts are good for the brain: I eat a few every day. Lotus seeds and dates are good in porridge, or you can soak them overnight and make soup. The persimmons are ripe too, but don't eat too many at once. And get a jar of honey: honey water in winter is good for your throat.

**xiaoming** 我想买个椰子，椰子水特别解渴。
**wǒ xiǎng mǎi gè yēzi yēzi shuǐ tèbié jiěkě** · I want to buy a coconut: coconut water really quenches your thirst.

**dr li** 你看你，跟孩子一样，这么贪吃。火腿和罐头要不要？
**nǐ kàn nǐ gēn háizi yíyàng zhème tānchī huǒtuǐ hé guàntou yào búyào** · Look at you, just like a child, so greedy. Ham and tins, do you want any?

**anna** 罐头不太新鲜，买一点儿火腿就好。水产在哪儿？我想买虾和螃蟹。
**guàntou bú tài xīnxiān mǎi yìdiǎnr huǒtuǐ jiù hǎo shuǐchǎn zài nǎr wǒ xiǎng mǎi xiā hé pángxiè** · Tins aren't very fresh: a little ham will do. Where's the seafood? I want prawns and crab.

**dr li** 往前走。虾要挑活的，鱼可以让老板帮你宰好。螃蟹现在正是季节，价格看大小而定。
**wǎng qián zǒu xiā yào tiāo huó de yú kěyǐ ràng lǎobǎn bāng nǐ zǎi hǎo pángxiè xiànzài zhèng shì jìjié jiàgé kàn dàxiǎo ér dìng** · Straight ahead. Pick live prawns, and you can get the fishmonger to kill and clean the fish for you. It's crab season now: the price depends on the size.

**xiaoming** 再买一些肉丸子和鱼丸子，下次涮火锅用。
**zài mǎi yìxiē ròu wánzi hé yú wánzi xià cì shuàn huǒguō yòng** · Let's get some meatballs and fishballs too, for the next hot pot.

**anna** 我还得买几个小碟，装作料用。
**wǒ hái děi mǎi jǐ gè xiǎo dié zhuāng zuòliao yòng** · I still need to buy some little dishes for the dipping sauces.

**dr li** 该买的就买，不该买的就别买，别浪费。
**gāi mǎi de jiù mǎi bù gāi mǎi de jiù bié mǎi bié làngfèi** · Buy what you need, and leave what you don't: no waste.

**xiaoming** 门口有卖口香糖的，我去买一盒。
**ménkǒu yǒu mài kǒuxiāngtáng de wǒ qù mǎi yì hé** · They sell chewing gum by the entrance: I'll go and get a pack.

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

捂
wǔ
to cover (with your hand)

兜
dōu
pocket; to wrap up; to go round

梳
shū
to comb; to sort out

剃
tì
to shave

**good to know** · At a Chinese market, ask 怎么卖？ "how is it sold?": prices are often per 斤 (half a kilo). 视……而定 is formal, for notices and contracts (费用视情况而定). In speech people say 看情况 or 要看……而定.

**Spring onion, ginger, garlic and a good haggle: you are ready for any Chinese market.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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# day 44 rough, smooth and clean

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 6 · food and cooking

**Describe textures, surfaces and damage (rough, smooth, sticky, cracked, rusty) and how clean or murky things are, and compare in written style with A + adjective + 于/过 + B.**

Reports, product labels and science writing compare with 高于, 好于 and 强过, and describe materials with exactly these words.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 粗糙 | cūcāo | rough, coarse; crude (work) | 爷爷的手很粗糙，可是很有力。<br>Grandpa's hands are rough, but strong. |
| 光滑 | guānghuá | smooth, glossy | 这块石头摸起来很光滑。<br>This stone feels smooth. |
| 细腻 | xìnì | fine, smooth; delicate (feelings) | 这种茶的味道很细腻。<br>This tea has a delicate flavour. |
| 黏 | nián | sticky | 米饭煮得太黏了。<br>The rice is cooked too sticky. |
| 润 | rùn | moist, smooth; to moisten | 喝了点蜂蜜水，嗓子润多了。<br>After some honey water my throat feels much better. |
| 滋润 | zīrùn | moist; to moisturise, nourish | 秋天天气干{gan1}，要多喝水滋润皮肤。<br>Autumn air is dry: drink plenty of water to keep your skin moist. |
| 质地 | zhìdì | texture, quality (of a material) | 这块布的质地很好。<br>This cloth is good quality. |
| 颗粒 | kēlì | grain, particle | 水里有很多看不见的小颗粒。<br>There are lots of tiny particles in the water you can't see. |
| 粉末 | fěnmò | powder | 这种药是粉末，要用水冲开再喝。<br>This medicine is a powder: mix it with water before you drink it. |
| 泡沫 | pàomò | foam, froth, bubbles; a bubble (economy) | 河边有很多白色的泡沫。<br>There's a lot of white foam along the river. |
| 气泡 | qìpào | bubble (of air or gas) | 水快开的时候会冒出很多气泡。<br>When water is about to boil, lots of bubbles come up. |
| 渣 | zhā | dregs, residue; crumbs | 把茶叶渣倒掉，再沏一壶。<br>Tip out the tea leaves and make another pot. |
| 锈 | xiù | rust; to rust | 桥上的栏杆都生锈了。<br>The railings on the bridge have all rusted. |
| 皱 | zhòu | wrinkle, crease; to frown | 衣服都皱了，回去熨一熨。<br>Your clothes are all creased: give them an iron when you get back. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 裂缝 | lièfèng | crack, rift | 墙上有一道裂缝，得{dei3}赶快修补。<br>There's a crack in the wall: it needs patching soon. |
| 缺口 | quēkǒu | gap, breach; shortfall | 碗边上有个缺口。<br>There's a chip in the rim of the bowl. |
| 窟窿 | kūlong | hole (big, gaping) | 窗户纸上破了一个窟窿。<br>There's a hole torn in the paper window. |
| 孔 | kǒng | hole, opening (small); pore | 盆底有个小孔，水可以流出去。<br>There's a little hole in the bottom of the pot so the water can drain. |
| 口子 | kǒuzi | cut, slit, tear | 我的袖子上划了一道口子。<br>I've torn my sleeve. |
| 空洞 | kōngdòng | hollow; empty (of content) | 这篇文章写得很空洞，没有内容。<br>This article is empty: there's nothing in it. |
| 空白 | kòngbái | blank (space); gap | 我脑子里一片空白。<br>My mind went completely blank. |
| 空荡荡 | kōngdàngdàng | empty, deserted | 年轻人都去城里了，村子里空荡荡的。<br>The young people have all gone to the city, and the village is deserted. |
| 虚 | xū | weak (health); empty; false | 爬了一天山，我觉得身体有点儿虚。<br>After a day's climbing I feel a bit drained. |
| 稠 | chóu | thick (liquid); dense | 这碗粥又稠又香。<br>This porridge is thick and smells wonderful. |
| 稠密 | chóumì | dense (population, trees) | 这里人口稠密，交通很拥挤。<br>This area is densely populated and the traffic is heavy. |
| 浓重 | nóngzhòng | thick, heavy (fog, smell, accent) | 早上山里的雾很浓重。<br>In the morning there's a heavy fog in the mountains. |
| 混浊 | hùnzhuó | muddy, murky | 下过大雨以后，河水变得很混浊。<br>After the heavy rain the river turned muddy. |
| 清澈 | qīngchè | clear, limpid (water) | 这条小河的水特别清澈。<br>The water in this little river is crystal clear. |
| 清新 | qīngxīn | fresh (air); refreshing (style) | 雨后的空气真清新。<br>The air is so fresh after the rain. |
| 清凉 | qīngliáng | cool, refreshing | 山里的夏天很清凉。<br>Summer in the mountains is lovely and cool. |
| 洁净 | jiéjìng | clean, spotless | 医院的房间都很洁净。<br>The hospital rooms are all spotless. |
| 整洁 | zhěngjié | clean and tidy | 村子虽然小，可是很整洁。<br>The village is small, but clean and tidy. |
| 污秽 | wūhuì | filthy, dirty (formal) | 河里的水变得很污秽，鱼都不见了。<br>The river water has become filthy, and the fish have gone. |
| 坚实 | jiānshí | solid, sturdy | 这座老桥还很坚实。<br>This old bridge is still sturdy. |
| 牢固 | láogù | firm, secure | 梯子放得很牢固，你放心上去吧。<br>The ladder is firmly in place: you can go |

up safely.

## pattern a + adjective + 于/过 + b: written comparisons

A | adjective | 于 / 过 | B

In written Chinese, 于 after an adjective means “than”: 高于 higher than, 好于 better than, 多于 more than, 低于 lower than. 过 does the same in a livelier, spoken way: 强过 stronger than, 好过 better than. So A比B高 becomes A高于B in a report.

山里的空气质量好于城市。 **shān lǐ de kōngqì zhìliàng hǎo yú chéngshì** The air in the mountains is better than in the city.

这里的人口密度高于周围的地区。 **zhèlǐ de rénkǒu mìdù gāoyú zhōuwéi de dìqū** The population density here is higher than in the surrounding area.

我觉得老办法强过新办法。 **wǒ juéde lǎo bànfǎ qiáng guò xīn bànfǎ** I think the old way is better than the new one.

## dialogue water from the hills

**dr zhou** 今天我带你们去山里取一些水，带回实验室检查一下。
**jīntiān wǒ dài nǐmen qù shān lǐ qǔ yìxiē shuǐ dài huí shíyànshì jiǎnchá yíxià** · Today I'm taking you into the hills to collect some water to check in the lab.

**anna** 这条小河的水真清澈，能看见下面的石头。
**zhè tiáo xiǎo hé de shuǐ zhēn qīngchè néng kànjiàn xiàmiàn de shítou** · The water in this little river is so clear: you can see the stones on the bottom.

**dr zhou** 山里的水一般好于城里。你看，城边那条河的水就很混浊。
**shān lǐ de shuǐ yìbān hǎo yú chéng lǐ nǐ kàn chéng biān nà tiáo hé de shuǐ jiù hěn hùnzhuó** · Water in the mountains is usually better than in the city. Look how murky the river on the edge of town is.

**xiaoming** 还别说，这里的空气也特别清新，夏天还很清凉。
**háibiéshuō zhèlǐ de kōngqì yě tèbié qīngxīn xiàtiān hái hěn qīngliáng** · You know what, the air here is really fresh too, and it's lovely and cool in summer.

**dr zhou** 我们回去看看水里有没有小颗粒和粉末。有的东西眼睛看不见，就得靠仪器。
**wǒmen huíqù kàn kan shuǐ lǐ yǒu méiyǒu xiǎo kēlì hé fěnmò yǒude dōngxi yǎnjing kàn bu jiàn jiù děi kào yíqì** · Back at the lab we'll see whether there are tiny particles or powder in the water. Some things you can't see with your eyes: you need instruments.

**anna** 那边河上怎么有那么多白色的泡沫?
**nàbiān hé shàng zěnme yǒu nàme duō báisè de pàomò** · Why is there so much white foam on that river over there?

**dr zhou** 可能是有人往河里倒了洗衣服的水。泡沫和气泡多，说明水不洁净。
**kěnéng shì yǒu rén wǎng hé lǐ dào le xǐ yīfu de shuǐ pàomò hé qìpào duō shuōmíng shuǐ bù jiéjìng** · Someone may have poured washing water into it. Lots of foam and bubbles means the water isn't clean.

**xiaoming** 我小时候来过这儿，那时候河水很干净，现在却有点儿污秽了，真让人痛心。
**wǒ xiǎoshíhou lái guo zhèr nà shíhou hé shuǐ hěn gānjìng xiànzài què yǒudiǎnr wūhuì le zhēn ràng rén tòngxīn** · I came here as a child, and the river was clean then; now it's a bit filthy. It's painful to see.

**anna** 这个村子怎么空荡荡的?
**zhège cūn zi zěnme kōngdàngdàng de** · Why is this village so empty?

**dr zhou** 年轻人都去城里工作了。以前这里人口稠密，人口密度高于周围的村子，现在住的大多是老人，看起来有点儿凄凉。
**niánqīng rén dōu qù chéng lǐ gōngzuò le yǐqián zhèlǐ rénkǒu chóumì rénkǒu mìdù gāoyú zhōuwéi de cūn zi xiànzài zhù de dàduō shì lǎorén kàn qǐlai yǒudiǎnr qīliáng** · The young people have gone to work in the city. It used to be densely populated, denser than the villages around it; now most of the people here are old, and it looks a bit forlorn.

**xiaoming** 那座老房子的墙上有一道裂缝，围墙也有个缺口，窗户纸上还破了一个大窟窿。
**nà zuò lǎo fángzi de qiáng shàng yǒu yídào lièfèng wéiqiáng yě yǒu gè quēkǒu chuānghu zhǐ shàng hái pò le yí gè dà kūlong** · That old house has a crack in its wall, a gap in the courtyard wall, and a big hole torn in the paper window.

**dr zhou** 那座老桥倒是很牢固，几百年了，还那么坚实。
**nà zuò lǎo qiáo dàoshì hěn láogù jǐ bǎi nián le hái nàme jiānshí** · That old bridge is still firm, though: hundreds of years old and still so solid.

**anna** 桥上的栏杆都生锈了。桥头的石头摸起来很光滑，桥面却很粗糙。
**qiáo shàng de lángān dōu shēng xiù le qiáo tóu de shítou mō qǐlai hěn guānghuá qiáo miàn què hěn cūcāo** · The railings on the bridge have all rusted. The stone at the end feels smooth, but the surface of the bridge is rough.

**dr zhou** 走了几百年，石头都变得光滑了。来，喝杯茶。这里的山水泡茶最好，你们尝尝，味道是不是很细腻?
**zǒu le jǐ bǎi nián shítou dōu biàn de guānghuá le lái hē bēi chá zhèlǐ de shān shuǐ pào chá zuìhǎo nǐmen cháng chang wèidào shì bu shì hěn xìnì** · Hundreds of years of feet have worn it smooth. Come, have some tea. Mountain water makes the best tea: taste it, isn't it delicate?

**anna** 嗯，喝下去嗓子很润。秋天干，多喝点茶也滋润。
**ǹg hē xiaqu sǎngzi hěn rùn qiūtiān gān duō hē diǎn chá yě zīrùn** · Mm, it's soothing on the throat. Autumn is dry, so drinking more tea keeps you moist too.

**xiaoming** 茶叶渣倒在哪儿?
**cháyè zhā dào zài nǎr** · Where do I throw the tea leaves?

**dr zhou** 倒在门口的花盆里，盆底有个小孔，水能流出去。
**dào zài ménkǒu de huā pén lǐ pén dǐ yǒu gè xiǎo kǒng shuǐ néng liú chuqu** · In the flowerpot by the door: there's a little hole in the bottom so the water drains away.

**xiaoming** 村里的粥又稠又香，里面还放了南瓜和枣。米饭有点儿黏，不过很好吃。
**cūn lǐ de zhōu yòu chóu yòu xiāng lǐmiàn hái fàng le nánguā hé zǎo mǐfàn yǒudiǎnr nián búguò hěn hǎochī** · The porridge in the village is thick and smells great, with pumpkin and dates in it. The rice is a bit sticky, but delicious.

**dr zhou** 这才是正宗的风味，城里吃不到。
**zhè cái shì zhèngzōng de fēngwèi chéng lǐ chī bu dào** · That's the real taste: you can't get it in the city.

**anna** 我爬了一天山，身体有点儿虚。袖子还划了一道口子，衣服也皱了。
**wǒ pá le yì tiān shān shēntǐ yǒudiǎnr xū xiùzi hái huá le yídào kǒuzi yīfu yě zhòu le** · I've been climbing all day and I feel drained. I've torn my sleeve, and my clothes are all creased.

**xiaoming** 你看你。我买了一块这里的布，质地很好，送你做件新衣服。
**nǐ kàn nǐ wǒ mǎi le yí kuài zhèlǐ de bù zhìdì hěn hǎo sòng nǐ zuò jiàn xīn yīfu** · Look at you. I've bought a piece of local cloth: it's good quality. You can have it for a new shirt.

**dr zhou** 这个村子虽然小，可是很整洁，村里人也很质朴。早上的雾很浓重，太阳一出来就散了。
**zhège cūn zi suīrán xiǎo kěshì hěn zhěngjié cūn lǐ rén yě hěn zhìpǔ zǎoshang de wù hěn nóngzhòng tàiyáng yì chūlái jiù sàn le** · The village is small, but clean and tidy, and the people are simple and unpretentious. The morning fog is heavy, but it lifts as soon as the sun comes out.

**anna** 回去以后，您的报告要写得详细一点儿，可别写得空洞。
**huíqù yǐhòu nín de bàogào yào xiě de xiángxì yìdiǎnr kě bié xiě de kōngdòng** · When we get back, make your report detailed: don't let it be empty words.

**dr zhou** 放心，要写就写个清楚。不过现在让我写，我脑子里一片空白，太累了!
**fàngxīn yào xiě jiù xiě gè qīngchu búguò xiànzài ràng wǒ xiě wǒ nǎozi lǐ yí piàn kòngbái tài lèi le** · Don't worry: if I write it, I'll write it properly. But if you asked me now, my mind would go blank: I'm exhausted!

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

縫
féng
to sew, stitch

熨
yùn
to iron, press

棚
péng
shed, shelter, awning

烘
hōng
to bake, dry, warm by a fire

**good to know** · Three words for holes: 孔 a small, neat hole; 窟窿 a big, ragged one; 口子 a cut or tear. In reports and the news, comparisons use 于: 高于 / 低于 / 多于 / 少于 / 大于 / 小于. In speech, 比 is still the everyday word.

**Rough, smooth, cracked, crystal clear: you can now describe the world as precisely as a scientist, and compare like a report.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

# day 45 when: time words



**Follow and take part in a formal meeting: drafts, spokespeople, public money, and the written time adverbs that say “not yet”, “once”, “at that time”, “at once” and “for now”.**

Notices, meeting minutes and the news are built on 尚未, 一经, 届时, 随即 and 暂且. You will read them every day in China.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 姑且 | gūqiě | for the time being, tentatively | 这个办法姑且试一试吧。<br>Let’s give this method a try for now. |
| 即 | jí | at once, immediately; namely (written) | 会后即开始报名。<br>Registration opens immediately after the meeting. |
| 即时 | jíshí | immediate, real-time | 有问题可以即时在网上反映。<br>You can report problems online in real time. |
| 届时 | jièshí | at that time, when the time comes | 下个月开业，届时欢迎大家光临。<br>We open next month: you are all welcome to come then. |
| 尽早 | jǐnzǎo | as early as possible | 有问题请尽早提出。<br>Please raise any problems as early as possible. |
| 就此 | jiùcǐ | at this point, here and now | 今天的会就此结束。<br>Today’s meeting ends here. |
| 历来 | lìlái | always, throughout history | 这里的街坊历来都很团结。<br>The people of this neighbourhood have always stuck together. |
| 尚 | shàng | still, yet (written) | 这件事尚在讨论之中。<br>This is still under discussion. |
| 随即 | suíjí | immediately afterwards | 会议结束后，大家随即开始讨论。<br>Right after the meeting, everyone started discussing. |
| 向来 | xiànglái | always, all along | 他向来说话算数。<br>He has always kept his word. |
| 一经 | yījīng | once (something happens) | 方案一经通过，就马上施工。<br>Once the plan is approved, building will begin at once. |
| 暂且 | zànqiě | for the time being | 这件事我们暂且不谈。<br>Let’s leave that matter for now. |
| 早日 | zǎorì | soon, at an early date | 祝你早日康复！<br>Get well soon! |
| 暂 | zàn | temporary; temporarily | 饭馆暂定晚上十点关门。<br>The restaurants are provisionally set to close at ten at night. |
| 尚未 | shàngwèi | not yet | 美食街的计划尚未确定。<br>The plan for the food street hasn’t been decided yet. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 稍后 | shāohòu | shortly, in a moment | 具体时间我稍后发给大家。<br>I'll send everyone the exact times shortly. |
| 及早 | jízǎo | as soon as possible, before it's too late | 安全问题要及早考虑。<br>Safety needs thinking about before it's too late. |
| 当即 | dāngjí | on the spot, at once | 我们当即就去了解了情况。<br>We went and looked into it on the spot. |
| 议 | yì | to discuss; opinion | 今天我们议一议美食街的事。<br>Today let's discuss the food street. |
| 曰 | yuē | to say (classical) | 我爸爸有一句话，曰：“好吃的，大家一起吃。”<br>My dad has a saying, which goes: “Good food is for sharing.” |
| 算数 | suànshù | to count, hold (a promise) | 他向来说话算数。<br>He has always kept his word. |
| 马后炮 | mǎhòupào | hindsight, wisdom after the event | 出了事再说，那就是马后炮了。<br>Saying it after something goes wrong is just hindsight. |
| 重申 | chóngshēn | to reaffirm, restate | 我重申一下我们的意见。<br>Let me restate our view. |
| 告状 | gàozhuàng | to complain (to someone in charge), tell on | 有人去街道告状，说饭馆太吵。<br>Someone complained to the street office that the restaurants were too noisy. |
| 公费 | gōngfèi | at public expense | 这次培训是公费的。<br>This training is paid for publicly. |
| 公款 | gōngkuǎn | public money, public funds | 绝不能用公款请客吃饭。<br>Public money must never be spent on banquets. |
| 基建 | jījiàn | infrastructure, capital construction | 这个项目|的基建部分要三个月。<br>The infrastructure part of the project will take three months. |
| 发言人 | fāyánrén | spokesperson | 孙律师是我们的发言人。<br>Lawyer Sun is our spokesperson. |
| 共同体 | gòngtóngtǐ | community (of shared interests) | 胡同是一个共同体，大家的事大家商量。<br>The hutong is a community: what concerns everyone is decided together. |
| 草案 | cǎoàn | draft (plan, law) | 这只是一个草案，还可以修改。<br>This is only a draft: it can still be changed. |
| 领袖 | lǐngxiù | leader (of a group, a field) | 张女士是我们街坊里的意见领袖。<br>Ms Zhang is the one whose opinion counts among the neighbours. |
| 拥护 | yōnghù | to support, endorse | 我拥护这个计划。<br>I support this plan. |

## pattern written time adverbs: not yet, once, then, at once, for now

**尚 / 一经 / 届时 / 随即 / 暂且 …** **verb**

Written Chinese has its own “when” words, placed before the verb. Not yet: 尚, 尚未. Once: 一经. When the time comes: 届时. At once: 即, 随即, 当即, 即时. As early as possible: 尽早, 及早, 早日 (in wishes). For now: 暂且, 姑且, 暂. Always: 历来, 向来. Here and now: 就此.

这件事尚在讨论之中。 **zhè jiàn shì shàng zài tǎolùn zhīzhōng** This is still under discussion.

这件事我们暂且不谈。 **zhè jiàn shì wǒmen zànqiě bù tán** Let’s leave that matter for now.

这里的街坊历来都很团结。 **zhèlǐ de jiēfang lìlái dōu hěn tuánjié** The people of this neighbourhood have always stuck together.

祝你早日康复！ **zhù nǐ zǎorì kāngfù** Get well soon!

## dialogue the residents’ meeting

**professor chen** 各位街坊，今天我们议一议胡同口美食街的草案。
**gèwèi jiēfang jīntiān wǒmen yì yi yi hútòng kǒu měishí jiē de cǎoàn** · Neighbours, today let's discuss the draft plan for a food street at the end of the lane.

**xiaoming** 什么美食街？我从来没听说过。
**shénme měishí jiē wǒ cónglái méi tīngshuō guo** · What food street? I've never heard of it.

**professor chen** 街道打算在胡同口开一条美食街。草案尚未确定，今天先听听大家的意见。
**jiēdào dǎsuàn zài hútòng kǒu kāi yì tiáo měishí jiē cǎoàn shàngwèi quèdìng jīntiān xiān tīng ting dàjiā de yìjiàn** · The street office wants to open a food street at the end of the hutong. The draft isn't final yet: today we'll hear what everyone thinks.

**ms zhang** 我们街坊历来支持保护胡同。开美食街，会不会太吵？我有点儿疑虑。
**wǒmen jiēfang lìlái zhīchí bǎohù hútòng kāi měishí jiē huì bu huì tài chǎo wǒ yǒudiǎnr yílǜ** · People here have always supported protecting the hutong. Won't a food street be too noisy? I have my doubts.

**lawyer sun** 我是大家选的发言人。我重申一下：方案一经通过，就要尽早施工，届时会有一些声音。
**wǒ shì dàjiā xuǎn de fāyánrén wǒ chóngshēn yíxià fāngàn yìjīng tōngguò jiù yào jǐnzǎo shīgōng jièshí huì yǒu yìxiē shēngyīn** · I'm the spokesperson you chose. Let me restate: once the plan is approved, building will start as soon as possible, and there will be some noise then.

**anna** 施工要多久？
**shīgōng yào duō jiǔ** · How long will the building take?

**lawyer sun** 基建部分大概三个月，具体时间我稍后发给大家。
**jījiàn bùfen dàgài sān gè yuè jùtǐ shíjiān wǒ shāohòu fā gěi dàjiā** · The infrastructure part about three months: I'll send everyone the exact dates shortly.

**xiaoming** 钱从哪儿来？会不会有人钻空子，用公款请客吃饭？
**qián cóng nǎr lái huì bu huì yǒu rén zuān kòngzi yòng gōngkuǎn qǐngkè chī fàn** · Where's the money coming from? Won't someone exploit a loophole and use public money for banquets?

**lawyer sun** 修路和水管是公费的，可是绝不能用公款吃喝，这一点草案上写得很清楚。
**xiū lù hé shuǐ guǎn shì gōngfèi de kěshì juébù néng yòng gōngkuǎn chī hē zhè yìdiǎn cǎoàn shàng xiě de hěn qīngchu** · The roads and pipes are paid for publicly, but public money must never be spent on eating and drinking: the draft is very clear about that.

**ms zhang** 前几天有人去街道告状，说胡同里的饭馆晚上卖夜宵，太吵。
**qián jǐ tiān yǒu rén qù jiēdào gàozhuàng shuō hútòng lǐ de fànguǎn wǎnshang mài yèxiāo tài chǎo** · A few days ago someone complained to the street office that the restaurants in the hutong sell late-night food and are too noisy.

**lawyer sun** 我们当即就去了解了情况，饭馆随即改了营业时间。
**wǒmen dāngjí jiù qù liǎojiě le qíngkuàng fànguǎn suíjí gǎi le yíngyè shíjiān** · We went and looked into it on the spot, and the restaurant changed its opening hours straight away.

**anna** 我觉得美食街是好事，各地的菜肴都能尝到。我拥护这个计划。
**wǒ juéde měishí jiē shì hǎo shì gèdì de càiyáo dōu néng cháng dào wǒ yōnghù zhège jìhuà** · I think a food street is a good thing: we'll be able to try dishes from all over. I support the plan.

**xiaoming** 我也拥护。不过安全问题要及早考虑，别出了事再说，那就是马后炮了。
**wǒ yě yōnghù búguò ānquán wèntí yào jízǎo kǎolǜ bié chū le shì zàishuō nà jiùshì mǎhòupào le** · Me too. But safety needs thinking about now: saying something after an accident is just hindsight.

**professor chen** 说得对。胡同是一个共同体，大家的事大家商量，也要多为别人着想。
**shuō de duì hútòng shì yí gè gòngtóngtǐ dàjiā de shì dàjiā shāngliang yě yào duō wèi biérén zhuóxiǎng** · Quite right. The hutong is a community: what concerns everyone is decided together, and we should all think of others too.

**ms zhang** 那饭馆几点关门？
**nà fànguǎn jǐ diǎn guān mén** · And what time will the restaurants close?

**lawyer sun** 暂定晚上十点。有问题可以即时在网上反映，我们会尽早处理。
**zàn dìng wǎnshang shí diǎn yǒu wèntí kěyǐ jíshí zài wǎngshang fǎnyìng wǒmen huì jǐnzǎo chǔlǐ** · Ten at night, provisionally. You can report problems online in real time, and we'll deal with them as soon as we can.

**anna** 美食街前面能不能建一块草坪，再放几张公用的桌子？
**měishí jiē qiánmiàn néng bu néng jiàn yí kuài cǎopíng zài fàng jǐ zhāng gōngyòng de zhuōzi** · Could there be a lawn in front of the food street, with a few shared tables?

**professor chen** 张女士是我们街坊里的意见领袖，您说说？
**Zhāngnǚshì shì wǒmen jiēfang lǐ de yìjiàn lǐngxiù nín shuō shuo** · Ms Zhang, people listen to you round here: what do you think?

**ms zhang** 我只是随便说说罢了。我的意见是：暂且按草案试三个月，不好就改，不能让这件事不了了之。
**wǒ zhǐshì suíbiàn shuō shuo bàle wǒ de yìjiàn shì zànqiě àn cǎoàn shì sān gè yuè bù hǎo jiù gǎi bù néng ràng zhè jiàn shì bùliǎo liǎozhī** · I'm only giving my view, that's all. My suggestion: try the draft for three months for now, change it if it doesn't work, and not let the matter just fizzle out.

**professor chen** 好，那我们姑且这么定。大家说话要算数。想在美食街开店的街坊，会后即可来找我报名。
**hǎo nà wǒmen gūqiě zhème dìng dàjiā shuōhuà yào suànshù xiǎng zài měishí jiē kāi diàn de jiēfang huì hòu jí kě lái zhǎo wǒ bàomíng** · Good, so let's agree on that for now. And let's all keep our word. Neighbours who want a stall on the food street can sign up with me straight after the meeting.

**xiaoming** 我爸爸有一句话，曰：“好吃的，大家一起吃。”希望美食街早日开业！
**wǒ bàba yǒu yí jù huà yuē hǎochī de dàjiā yìqǐ chī xīwàng měishí jiē zǎorì kāiyè** · My dad has a saying, which goes: “Good food is for sharing.” Here's to the food street opening soon!

**professor chen** 不知不觉，已经九点了。今天的会就此结束，谢谢大家！
**bùzhī bùjué yǐjīng jiǔ diǎn le jīntiān de huì jiùcǐ jiéshù xièxie dàjiā** · Before we knew it, it's nine o'clock. The meeting ends here: thank you all!

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

盗
dào
to steal

掰
bāi
to break off (with your hands)

扳
bān
to pull (a lever), turn; to turn round

揪
jiū
to grab, seize (and hold tight)

**good to know** · Spoken → written: 还没 → 尚未, 马上 → 随即 / 即, 先 → 暂且, 一直 → 向来 / 历来, 到时候 → 届时. 马后炮 “cannon behind the horse” is a move in Chinese chess; as an idiom it means advice that comes only after the event.

**Drafts, spokespeople and 尚未 / 一经 / 届时: you can now sit through a Chinese meeting and know exactly what was decided, and when.**
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# day 46 times of day and of life

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 6 · food and cooking

**Tell a life story in time order with written time words (早年, 当晚, 次日一早, 一晃, 迄今), and talk about times of day and of life.**

Memoirs, biographies and HSK essays are told in time order. The right time word at the start of each sentence makes your story easy to follow.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 黎明 | límíng | dawn, daybreak | 黎明的时候，医院里很安静。<br>At dawn the hospital is very quiet. |
| 一早 | yīzǎo | early in the morning | 我明天一早就出发。<br>I'm setting off first thing tomorrow. |
| 黄昏 | huánghūn | dusk, twilight | 黄昏的时候，我们在河边散步。<br>At dusk we went for a walk by the river. |
| 当晚 | dàngwǎn | that same evening | 他下午到了北京，当晚就去看了父母。<br>He arrived in Beijing in the afternoon and went to see his parents that same evening. |
| 当日 | dāngrì | on that day, the same day | 当日下午，病人的家人来了。<br>That afternoon, the patient's family came. |
| 次日 | cìrì | the next day | 次日一早，病人醒了。<br>Early the next morning, the patient woke up. |
| 即日 | jírì | today; within a few days | 即日起，晚上探望时间延长到九点。<br>From today, evening visiting hours are extended to nine o'clock. |
| 改日 | gǎirì | another day, some other time | 今天太晚了，我们改日再聊吧。<br>It's too late today: let's talk another time. |
| 来年 | láinián | next year, the coming year | 来年春天，我们再来这里。<br>Next spring we'll come here again. |
| 平日 | píngrì | ordinary days, usually | 他平日很少说起往事。<br>He rarely talks about the past. |
| 往常 | wǎngcháng | usually, as usual (in the past) | 他今天比往常回来得晚。<br>He came home later than usual today. |
| 往日 | wǎngrì | former days, the past | 往日的朋友都去哪儿了？<br>Where have all the friends of the old days gone? |
| 昔日 | xīrì | former days (literary) | 昔日的小村子，现在成了一座城市。<br>The little village of the past is now a city. |
| 早年 | zǎonián | in your early years, years ago | 他早年在山里当医生。<br>In his early years he was a doctor in the mountains. |
| 往事 | wǎngshì | past events, memories | 老人们喜欢坐在一起回忆往事。<br>Old people love sitting together remembering the past. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 前夕 | qiánxī | eve (of an event) | 春节前夕，他常常在医院值班。<br>On the eve of the Spring Festival, he was often on duty at the hospital. |
| 末日 | mòrì | end of the world, doomsday; last day | 那天的大雪，像世界末日一样。<br>The snowstorm that day was like the end of the world. |
| 彻夜 | chèyè | all night long | 为了照顾病人，他彻夜没睡。<br>He stayed up all night to look after the patient. |
| 通宵 | tōngxiāo | all night, overnight | 今天有急诊，我可能要通宵。<br>There's an emergency today: I may be up all night. |
| 连夜 | liányè | that very night, overnight | 他连夜赶回了村里。<br>He hurried back to the village that very night. |
| 昼夜 | zhòuyè | day and night | 医院昼夜都有人值班。<br>There are always people on duty at the hospital, day and night. |
| 成天 | chéngtiān | all day long | 他成天在医院，很少回家。<br>He's at the hospital all day long and rarely goes home. |
| 成年 | chéngnián | all year round | 他成年{cheng2nian2-7}在外面工作，很少回家。<br>He works away all year round and rarely comes home. |
| 毕生 | bìshēng | all your life, lifelong | 他把毕生的精力都献给了医学。<br>He devoted his whole life to medicine. |
| 终生 | zhōngshēng | all your life, lifelong | 当医生是我终生的选择。<br>Being a doctor is the choice of my life. |
| 永恒 | yǒnghéng | eternal, everlasting | 对家人的爱是永恒的。<br>Love for your family is eternal. |
| 永久 | yǒngjiǔ | permanent, for ever | 那碗面条，会永久留在我心里。<br>That bowl of noodles will stay in my heart for ever. |
| 刹那 | chànà | instant, split second | 那一刹那，我觉得当医生值了。<br>In that instant, I felt being a doctor was worth it. |
| 转眼 | zhuǎnyǎn | in the blink of an eye | 转眼我也快退休了。<br>In the blink of an eye, I'm nearly retiring. |
| 一晃 | yīhuàng | in a flash (time passes) | 一晃三十年过去了。<br>Thirty years went by in a flash. |
| 眼下 | yǎnxià | at present, right now | 眼下最重要的是好好休息。<br>Right now the most important thing is to rest properly. |
| 迄今 | qìjīn | so far, to date | 迄今为止，他已经做了上万台手术。<br>To date he has performed over ten thousand operations. |
| 长期以来 | chángqīyǐlái | for a long time (up to now) | 长期以来，这里一直缺医生。<br>For a long time there has been a shortage of doctors here. |
| 多年来 | duōniánlái | for many years (up to now) | 多年来，他每个星期都去看父母。<br>For many years he has visited his parents every week. |
| 连年 | liánnián | year after year | 这里连年丰收。<br>There has been a good harvest here year after year. |

## pattern telling a story in time order

早年 / 那年 → 当晚 → 次日一早 → 后来 → 一晃 / 转眼 → 迄今 / 眼下

A Chinese story in time order puts a time word at the start of each step: first the background (早年, 那年冬天), then the night and the next morning (当晚, 次日一早), then the years passing (后来, 一晃, 转眼), and finally the present (如今, 眼下, 迄今为止). Each new time word starts a new step, so you rarely need “and then”.

他早年在山里当医生。那年冬天，来了一个病人，他当晚就给病人做了手术。 **tā zǎonián zài shān lǐ dāng yīshēng nà nián dōngtiān lái le yí gè bìngrén tā dàngwǎn jiù gěi bìngrén zuò le shǒushù** In his early years he was a doctor in the mountains. One winter a patient came in, and he operated that same night.

次日一早，病人醒了。后来，病人的家人每年都来看他。 **cìrì yìzǎo bìngrén xǐng le hòulái bìngrén de jiārén měi nián dōu lái kàn tā** Early the next morning, the patient woke up. After that, the patient’s family came to see him every year.

一晃三十年过去了。迄今为止，他已经做了上万台手术。 **yíhuàng sānshí nián guòqù le qìjīn wéizhǐ tā yǐjīng zuò le shàng wàn tái shǒushù** Thirty years went by in a flash. To date, he has performed over ten thousand operations.

## dialogue dr li’s night shift

**anna** 李医生，黄昏了，您还没下班？我给您带了饺子。

**Lǐyīshēng huánghūn le nín hái méi xiàbān wǒ gěi nín dài le jiǎozi** · Dr Li, it's getting dark and you're still at work? I've brought you some dumplings.

**dr li** 谢谢！今天有急诊，晚上可能要通宵。

**xièxie jīntiān yǒu jízhěn wǎnshang kěnéng yào tōngxiāo** · Thank you! There's an emergency today: I may be up all night.

**anna** 您往常也这么忙吗？

**nín wǎngcháng yě zhème máng ma** · Are you usually this busy?

**dr li** 平日还好。年轻的时候才累呢，成天在医院，忙了睡，睡了忙。

**píngrì hái hǎo niánqīng de shíhou cái lèi ne chéngtiān zài yīyuàn máng le shuì shuì le máng** · Ordinary days are fine. It was tiring when I was young: I was at the hospital all day, work, sleep, work, sleep.

**anna** 您给我讲讲早年的事吧。

**nín gěi wǒ jiǎng jiang zǎonián de shì ba** · Tell me about your early years.

**dr li** 往日的事，说起来很长。早年我大学毕业，去了山里的一个小医院。

**wǎngrì de shì shuō qǐlai hěn cháng zǎonián wǒ dàxué bìyè qù le shān lǐ de yí gè xiǎo yīyuàn** · The old days take a long time to tell. When I was young, I graduated from university and went to a little hospital in the mountains.

**dr li** 那年冬天的一个晚上，下着大雪，冰天雪地，像世界末日一样。村里人连夜把一个病人送来，我当晚就给他做了手术，彻夜没睡。

**nà nián dōngtiān de yí gè wǎnshang xià zhe dà xuě bīngtiān xuědì xiàng shìjiè mòrì yíyàng cūn lǐ rén liányè bǎ yí gè bìngrén sòng lái wǒ dàngwǎn jiù gěi tā zuò le shǒushù chèyè méi shuì** · One winter night it was snowing hard, ice and snow everywhere: it felt like the end of the world. Villagers brought a patient in through the night, I operated on him that same night, and I didn't sleep at all.

**dr li** 次日一早，天刚黎明，病人醒了。一位护士给我端来一碗热腾腾的面条。那一刹那，我觉得当医生值了。

**cìrì yìzǎo tiān gāng límíng bìngrén xǐng le yí wèi hùshi gěi wǒ duān lái yì wǎn rètēngtēng de miàntiáo nà yí chànà wǒ juéde dāng yīshēng zhí le** · Early the next morning, just at dawn, the patient woke up. A nurse brought me a steaming bowl of noodles. In that instant I felt it was all worth it.

**anna** 真感人！那个晚上一定很惊心动魄。

**zhēn gǎnrén nàge wǎnshang yídìng hěn jīngxīn dòngpò** · That's so moving! That night must have been nerve-racking.

**dr li** 当日下午，病人的家人走了十几里山路来感谢我。他们一定要报答我，可我什么都没有收。那碗面条，会永久留在我心里。

**dāngrì xiàwǔ bìngrén de jiārén zǒu le shí jǐ lǐ shān lù lái gǎnxiè wǒ tāmen yídìng yào bàodá wǒ kě wǒ shénme dōu méiyǒu shōu nà wǎn miàntiáo huì yǒngjiǔ liú zài wǒ xīnlǐ** · That afternoon, the patient's family walked over ten li along mountain paths to thank me. They were determined to repay me, but I wouldn't take anything. That bowl of noodles will stay in my heart for ever.

**anna** 后来呢？

**hòulái ne** · And after that?

**dr li** 后来我回了北京。一晃三十多年过去了，转眼我也快退休了。

**hòulái wǒ huí le Běijīng yíhuàng sānshí duō nián guòqù le zhuǎnyǎn wǒ yě kuài tuìxiū le** · Later I came back to Beijing. Thirty-odd years went by in a flash, and in the blink of an eye I'm nearly retiring.

**anna** 这么多年来，您做了多少台手术？

**zhème duō nián lái nín zuò le duōshao tái shǒushù** · How many operations have you done in all these years?

**dr li** 多年来我从没数过。迄今为止，上万台吧。

**duō nián lái wǒ cóng méi shù guo qìjīn wéizhǐ shàng wàn tái ba** · I've never counted. To date, over ten thousand, I suppose.

**anna** 您把毕生的精力都献给了医学。

**nín bǎ bìshēng de jīnglì dōu xiàn gěi le yīxué** · You've given your whole life to medicine.

**dr li** 当医生是我终生的选择。长期以来，医院昼夜都有人值班，大家都很辛苦。
**dāng yīshēng shì wǒ zhōngshēng de xuǎnzé chángqī yǐlái yīyuàn zhòuyè dōu yǒu rén zhíbān dàjiā dōu hěn xīnkǔ** · Being a doctor is the choice of my life. For as long as anyone can remember, the hospital has had people on duty day and night: everyone works so hard.

**anna** 现在条件好多了吧?
**xiànzài tiáojiàn hǎoduō le ba** · Things must be much better now?

**dr li** 是啊，医院连年都有新设备。眼下最缺的是年轻医生，要及早培养。
**shì a yīyuàn liánnián dōu yǒu xīn shèbèi yǎnxià zuì quē de shì niánqīng yīshēng yào jízǎo péiyǎng** · Yes, the hospital gets new equipment year after year. What we lack most right now is young doctors: we need to train them early.

**anna** 听说您以前成年在医院，春节前夕也常常值班?
**tīngshuō nín yǐqián chéngnián zài yīyuàn Chūnjié qiánxī yě chángcháng zhíbān** · I hear you used to be at the hospital all year round, often on duty even on the eve of the Spring Festival?

**dr li** 对。不过来年我就不值春节的班了，我答应过张女士。
**duì búguò láinián wǒ jiù bù zhí Chūnjié de bān le wǒ dāying guo Zhāngnǚshì** · Yes. But next year I won't work over the Spring Festival: I promised Ms Zhang.

**anna** 张女士一定很高兴！昔日的病人，现在还跟您联系吗?
**Zhāngnǚshì yídìng hěn gāoxìng xīrì de bìngrén xiànzài hái gēn nín liánxì ma** · Ms Zhang must be delighted! Do your old patients still keep in touch?

**dr li** 有几个还联系。老朋友坐在一起，最爱回忆往事。这份深情厚谊是永恒的。
**yǒu jǐ gè hái liánxì lǎo péngyou zuò zài yìqǐ zuì ài huíyì wǎngshì zhè fèn shēnqíng hòuyì shì yǒnghéng de** · A few do. When old friends get together, they love remembering the past. That kind of deep friendship lasts for ever.

**anna** 墙上的通知写着：“即日起，晚上探望时间延长到九点。”
**qiáng shàng de tōngzhī xiě zhe jírì qǐ wǎnshang tànwàng shíjiān yáncháng dào jiǔ diǎn** · The notice on the wall says: “From today, evening visiting hours are extended to nine o'clock.”

**dr li** 对，这样家人下班也能来。今天太晚了，你回去吧，改日再来聊。明天一早我还要去看病人。
**duì zhèyàng jiārén xiàbān yě néng lái jīntiān tài wǎn le nǐ huíqù ba gǎirì zài lái liáo míngtiān yìzǎo wǒ hái yào qù kàn bìngrén** · Yes, so families can come after work. It's late now: you go home, and come and chat another day. I have to see my patients first thing tomorrow.

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

**拽**
zhuài
to pull, drag, yank

**扯**
chě
to pull, tear; to chat

**挽**
wǎn
to roll up (sleeves); to take (an arm)

| 拎<br>līn<br>to carry (by the handle) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**good to know** · Past and present time words come in pairs: 当日 that day / 次日 the next day, 往日 / 昔日 the old days, 如今 / 眼下 now. 一晃 and 转眼 both mean time flew: 一晃十年 “ten years flew by”, 转眼又是春天 “suddenly it’s spring again”.

**Early years, that night, the next morning, thirty years in a flash: you can now tell a whole life story in Chinese.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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# day 47 measure words and counts

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 6 · food and cooking

**Use the advanced measure words (则, 幢, 缕, 盏, 股, 截, 摊, 码, 宗, 枚 …), units of land and weight, and the numbers of a news report (人次, 过半, 不下, 合计, 累计).**

News reports, statistics and good descriptions depend on the right measure word: 一缕炊烟, 一盏灯, 一则新闻, 五十万人次.

## words

| word | pinyin | meaning | example |
|---|---|---|---|
| 码 | mǎ | (measure word for matters); code; yard | 这是两码事，别混在一起说。<br>Those are two different things: don't mix them up. |
| 枚 | méi | (measure word for coins, stamps, medals) | 他送给我一枚纪念邮票。<br>He gave me a commemorative stamp. |
| 则 | zé | (measure word for news items, notices) | 报纸上有一则{ze2-7}关于美食节的新闻。<br>There's a news item about the food festival in the paper. |
| 幢 | zhuàng | (measure word for buildings) | 公园旁边有一幢红色的老楼。<br>Next to the park there's an old red building. |
| 宗 | zōng | (measure word for deals, cases) | 今天她做成了一宗大生意。<br>Today she closed a big deal. |
| 截 | jié | a section, length; to cut off | 这根竹竿断了一截。<br>A piece has broken off this bamboo pole. |
| 缕 | lǚ | wisp, strand (of smoke, hair, light) | 远处升起一缕炊烟。<br>A wisp of cooking smoke rose in the distance. |
| 丸 | wán | pill, ball; (measure word for pills) | 这种中药一次吃一丸。<br>Take one pill of this Chinese medicine at a time. |
| 盏 | zhǎn | (measure word for lamps) | 门口挂着一盏红灯笼。<br>A red lantern hangs by the door. |
| 桩 | zhuāng | (measure word for events, matters); stake | 女儿结婚，是我们家的一桩大事。<br>Our daughter's wedding is a big event for our family. |
| 股 | gǔ | (measure word for smells, streams) | 厨房里飘来一股香味。<br>A delicious smell is drifting from the kitchen. |
| 丛 | cóng | clump, thicket; (measure word for plants) | 摊位后面有一丛竹子。<br>There's a clump of bamboo behind the stall. |
| 席 | xí | seat; (measure word for talks) | 他的一席话让大家很感动。<br>What he said moved everyone. |
| 堂 | táng | (measure word for lessons); hall | 今天我上了一堂生动的数学课。<br>Today I had a really lively maths lesson. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 胎 | tāi | foetus; birth (child number); tyre | 她刚生了二胎，是个女儿。<br>She has just had her second child: a girl. |
| 摊 | tān | stall; (measure word for puddles) | 地上有一摊水，小心别滑倒{dao3}。<br>There's a puddle on the floor: careful you don't slip. |
| 磅 | bàng | pound (weight) | 这个西瓜有十磅，差不多九斤。<br>This watermelon weighs ten pounds: about nine jin. |
| 亩 | mǔ | mu (unit of land, about 667 m²) | 这个公园占|地{di4-3}一百亩。<br>This park covers a hundred mu. |
| 公顷 | gōngqǐng | hectare | 公园差不多有七公顷。<br>The park is about seven hectares. |
| 立方 | lìfāng | cube; cubic metre (spoken) | 二的立方是八。<br>Two cubed is eight. |
| 立方米 | lìfāngmǐ | cubic metre | 那口大锅装得下一立方米的水。<br>That huge pot can hold a cubic metre of water. |
| 人次 | réncì | person-times, visits | 美食节三天共接待游客五十万人次。<br>The food festival received 500,000 visits over three days. |
| 百分比 | bǎifēnbǐ | percentage | 年轻游客的百分比比去年高。<br>The percentage of young visitors is higher than last year. |
| 半数 | bànshù | half (the number) | 半数以上的摊位卖小吃。<br>Over half the stalls sell snacks. |
| 过半 | guòbàn | more than half | 来参加的人中，过半是年轻人。<br>More than half of the people who came were young. |
| 不下 | bùxià | no less than, at least | 来参观的老人也不下十万人次。<br>There were no fewer than 100,000 visits from older people too. |
| 合计 | héjì | to add up to, total | 三天合计卖了二十万个饺子。<br>Altogether, 200,000 dumplings were sold in three days. |
| 累计 | lěijì | cumulative; to add up (over time) | 今年累计已有一百万人来过这里。<br>So far this year a total of a million people have been here. |
| 总和 | zǒnghé | sum, total | 三个数字的总和是多少？<br>What is the sum of the three numbers? |
| 亿万 | yìwàn | hundreds of millions, countless | 饺子是亿万中国人都爱吃的食物。<br>Dumplings are a food loved by hundreds of millions of Chinese people. |
| 双重 | shuāngchóng | double, twofold | 张女士有双重身份：经理和厨师。<br>Ms Zhang has two roles: manager and cook. |
| 双向 | shuāngxiàng | two-way | 这条路是双向的。<br>This is a two-way road. |
| 一揽子 | yīlǎnzi | package (of measures, deals) | 明年还有一揽子新计划。<br>There's a whole package of new plans for next year. |
| 一连串 | yīliánchuàn | a series, a string of | 记者问了一连串的问题。<br>The reporter asked a string of questions. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 额外 | éwài | extra, additional | 今年额外加了一个晚上的活动。<br>This year an extra evening of events was added. |

## pattern advanced measure words, and 人次

一 | 则 / 幢 / 缕 / 盏 / 股 / 截 … | thing

Each measure word paints its noun: 一则新闻 a news item, 一幢楼 a building, 一缕炊烟 a wisp of smoke, 一盏灯 a lamp, 一股香味 a waft of smell, 一截绳子 a length of rope, 一摊水 a puddle, 一宗生意 a deal, 一枚邮票 a stamp, 两码事 two different things, 一重重山 range upon range of hills. 人次 counts visits: one person coming twice is 2 人次.

报纸上有一则关于美食节的新闻。 **bàozhǐ shàng yǒu yì zé guānyú měishí jié de xīnwén** There's a news item about the food festival in the paper.

公园旁边有一幢红色的老楼。 **gōngyuán pángbiān yǒu yí zhuàng hóngsè de lǎo lóu** Next to the park there's an old red building.

我们翻过了一重又一重的山。 **wǒmen fān guò le yì chóng yòu yì chóng de shān** We crossed range after range of hills.

这乃是北京最大的一次美食节。 **zhè nǎi shì Běijīng zuì dà de yí cì měishí jié** This is indeed the biggest food festival Beijing has held.

## dialogue numbers for the news

**editor lin** 安娜，我在写一则美食节的新闻，你帮我看看数字对不对。今年美食节占地一百亩，差不多七公顷，一共有三百多个摊位，半数以上卖小吃。

**Ānnà wǒ zài xiě yì zé měishí jié de xīnwén nǐ bāng wǒ kàn kan shùzì duì bu duì jīnnián měishí jié zhàn dì yìbǎi mǔ chàbuduō qī gōngqǐng yígòng yǒu sānbǎi duō gè tān wèi bànshù yǐshàng mài xiǎochī** · Anna, I'm writing a news piece on the food festival: can you check my numbers? This year the festival covers a hundred mu, about seven hectares. There are over three hundred stalls, and more than half sell snacks.

**xiaoming** 我妈妈的摊就在那幢红楼旁边，后面有一丛竹子。

**wǒ māma de tān jiù zài nà zhuàng hóng lóu pángbiān hòumiàn yǒu yì cóng zhúzi** · My mum's stall is next to that red building, with a clump of bamboo behind it.

**editor lin** 三天累计接待游客五十万人次。来参加的人中，过半是年轻人。不过老人也不下十万人次。

**sān tiān lěijì jiēdài yóukè wǔshí wàn réncì lái cānjiā de rén zhōng guòbàn shì niánqīng rén búguò lǎorén yě búxià shí wàn réncì** · Over the three days it's had 500,000 visits in total. More than half the visitors were young, but older people made no fewer than 100,000 visits too.

**anna** 年轻游客的百分比是多少？

**niánqīng yóukè de bǎifēnbǐ shì duōshao** · What percentage of the visitors were young?

**editor lin** 百分之五十五，比去年高。光是饺子，三天合计就卖了二十万个，最受欢迎的是萝卜馅和蘑菇馅的。

**bǎi fēn zhī wǔshíwǔ bǐ qùnián gāo guāng shì jiǎozi sān tiān héjì jiù mài le èrshí wàn gè zuì shòu huānyíng de shì luóbo xiàn hé mógu xiàn de** · Fifty-five per cent, higher than last year. Dumplings alone: 200,000 sold over the three days, and the favourites were radish and mushroom fillings.

**xiaoming** 这些数字的总和，说明北京人有多爱吃！

**zhèxiē shùzì de zǒnghé shuōmíng Běijīng rén yǒu duō ài chī** · Add it all up and it shows how much Beijing loves eating!

**editor lin** 饺子是亿万中国人都爱吃的食物嘛。今年还额外加了一个晚上的活动，明年还有一揽子新计划。

**jiǎozi shì yìwàn Zhōngguó rén dōu ài chī de shíwù ma jīnnián hái éwài jiā le yí gè wǎnshang de huódòng míngnián hái yǒu yìlǎnzi xīn jìhuà** · Dumplings are loved by hundreds of millions of Chinese people. This year they added an extra evening of events, and there's a whole package of new plans for next year.

**anna** 那口大锅真大！

**nà kǒu dà guō zhēn dà** · That giant pot is enormous!

**editor lin** 那口锅装得下一立方米的水，人们都说“一个立方的汤”，是这次美食节的明星。

**nà kǒu guō zhuāng de xià yí lìfāngmǐ de shuǐ rénmen dōu shuō yí gè lìfāng de tāng shì zhè cì měishí jié de míngxīng** · It holds a cubic metre of water, "a cube of soup" as people say: it's the star of the festival.

**ms zhang** 你们来得正好！闻到一股香味了吧？饺子刚煎好。打早上开门起，客人川流不息。刚才一位老先生说，吃了我的丸子，比吃一丸药还有用。

**nǐmen lái de zhènghǎo wén dào yì gǔ xiāng wèi le ba jiǎozi gāng jiān hǎo dǎ zǎoshang kāi mén qǐ kèrén chuānliú bùxī gāngcái yí wèi lǎo xiānsheng shuō chī le wǒ de wánzi bǐ chī yì wán yào hái yǒuyòng** · Perfect timing! Can you smell that? The dumplings have just been fried. Ever since we opened this morning, there's been a steady stream of customers. An old gentleman just said my meatballs did him more good than a pill.

**editor lin** 张女士有双重身份：平时是经理，周末是厨师。

**Zhāngnǚshì yǒu shuāngchóng shēnfèn píngshí shì jīnglǐ zhōumò shì chúshī** · Ms Zhang leads a double life: manager in the week, cook at the weekend.

**ms zhang** 一个是工作，一个是爱好，这是两码事。今天我还做成了一宗大生意：一家饭馆要订我的饺子！

**yí gè shì gōngzuò yí gè shì àihào zhè shì liǎng mǎ shì jīntiān wǒ hái zuò chéng le yì zōng dà shēngyi yì jiā fànguǎn yào dìng wǒ de jiǎozi** · One is work, one is a hobby: two different things. And today I closed a big deal: a restaurant wants to order my dumplings!

**anna** 这个西瓜真大，有多重？
zhège xīguā zhēn dà yǒu duō zhòng · This watermelon is huge: how heavy is it?

**ms zhang** 差不多十磅，就是九斤左右。旁边那个摊的姑娘刚生了二胎，我买来送给她。
chàbuduō shí bàng jiùshì jiǔ jīn zuǒyòu pángbiān nàge tān de gūniang gāng shēng le èr tāi wǒ mǎi lái sòng gěi tā · About ten pounds, roughly nine jin. The young woman at the next stall has just had her second baby: I bought it as a present for her.

**editor lin** 张女士，我能问您一连串问题吗？我想写进新闻里。
Zhāngnǚshì wǒ néng wèn nín yìliánchuàn wèntí ma wǒ xiǎng xiě jìn xīnwén lǐ · Ms Zhang, can I ask you a string of questions? I'd like to put you in the piece.

**ms zhang** 问吧。不过交流是双向的，你也得尝尝我的饺子，蘸点醋更好吃。
wèn ba búguò jiāoliú shì shuāngxiàng de nǐ yě děi cháng chang wǒ de jiǎozi zhàn diǎn cù gèng hǎochī · Go ahead. But it's a two-way street: you have to try my dumplings too. They're even better dipped in a little vinegar.

**editor lin** 哈哈，好！这乃是北京近年来最大的一次美食节，您的饺子一定要写进去。
hā hā hǎo zhè nǎi shì Běijīng jìnnián lái zuì dà de yí cì měishí jié nín de jiǎozi yídìng yào xiě jinqu · Ha ha, deal! This is the biggest food festival Beijing has had in years: your dumplings have to be in it.

**ms zhang** 我当着大家的面说一句：来年我还来！今天卖完饺子，我的一桩心事也就放下了。
wǒ dāngzhe dàjiā de miàn shuō yí jù láinián wǒ hái lái jīntiān mài wán jiǎozi wǒ de yì zhuāng xīnshì yě jiù fàng xià le · Let me say it in front of everyone: I'll be back next year! Once today's dumplings are sold, that's one thing off my mind.

**anna** 您的一席话，比我上的一堂中文课还生动。
nín de yì xí huà bǐ wǒ shàng de yì táng Zhōngwén kè hái shēngdòng · What you've just said was livelier than a whole Chinese lesson.

**xiaoming** 黄昏的时候，摊位上亮起了一盏盏灯，远处还有一缕缕炊烟，真美。妈妈，您送我的那枚纪念邮票，我也带来了。
huánghūn de shíhou tān wèi shàng liàng qǐ le yì zhǎn zhǎn dēng yuǎn chù hái yǒu yì lǚ lǚ chuīyān zhēn měi māma nín sòng wǒ de nà méi jìniàn yóupiào wǒ yě dài lái le · At dusk, lamps are lighting up over the stalls, and wisps of cooking smoke are rising in the distance. So beautiful. Mum, I've brought the commemorative stamp you gave me, too.

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

**挎** kuà
to carry on your arm or shoulder

**扛** káng
to carry on your shoulder

**驮** tuó
to carry on your back (animals, bikes)

**拄** zhǔ
to lean on (a stick)

**good to know** · Many measure words come in doubles for “every one, row upon row”: 一盏盏灯 lamp after lamp, 一缕缕炊烟 wisps of smoke, 一幢幢高楼 tower after tower. Chinese land is measured in 亩 (mu): 1 亩 ≈ 667 m², and 15 亩 = 1 公顷 (hectare).

**A wisp of smoke, a lamp, a news item, 500,000 visits: your Chinese can now paint a scene and report the numbers.**
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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# day 48 mission: the hot-pot restaurant

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 6 · food and cooking

**Spend a whole evening at a hot-pot restaurant in Chinese: read the notice, order, cook, taste, tell old stories and write the review.**

Everything from this unit at one table: cooking words, tastes and textures, the market, written time words, life stories, measure words and numbers.

## chapter 1 chapter 1: the notice on the door

**editor lin** 人真多，排队的不下五十个！我是来给美食界写一则新闻的。我们先看看门口的通知，安娜，你念一下吧。

**rén zhēn duō páiduì de búxià wǔshí gè wǒ shì lái gěi měishí jiè xiě yì zé xīnwén de wǒmen xiān kàn kan ménkǒu de tōngzhī Ānnà nǐ niàn yíxià ba** · What a crowd: no fewer than fifty people queuing! I'm here to write a piece for the food world. Let's read the notice on the door first. Anna, read it out, would you?

**anna** （读）"各位客人：本店是美食街的第一家火锅店，开业时间尚短，一个月来累计接待客人三万人次，谢谢大家！本店占地两亩，可同时接待两百人。

**dú gèwèi kèrén běn diàn shì měishí jiē de dì yī jiā huǒguō diàn kāiyè shíjiān shàng duǎn yí gè yuè lái lěijì jiēdài kèrén sān wàn réncì xièxie dàjiā běn diàn zhàn dì liǎng mǔ kě tóngshí jiēdài liǎngbǎi rén** · (reading) "Dear guests: We are the first hot-pot restaurant on the food street. We have only just opened, and in our first month we have welcomed 30,000 visits in all: thank you! We cover two mu and can seat two hundred guests at once.

**anna** 本店的羊肉来自北方大草原，水产连夜从海边运来，蔬菜每天一早从市场买来。锅底用老配方熬了八个小时，辣的程度看客人口味而定。本店不使用味精和添加剂。

**běn diàn de yáng ròu láizì běifāng dà cǎoyuán shuǐchǎn liányè cóng hǎi biān yùn lái shūcài měi tiān yìzǎo cóng shìchǎng mǎi lái guō dǐ yòng lǎo pèifāng áo le bā gè xiǎoshí là de chéngdù kàn kèrén kǒuwèi ér dìng běn diàn bù shǐyòng wèijīng hé tiānjiājì** · Our lamb comes from the northern grasslands, our seafood is brought overnight from the coast, and our vegetables are bought at the market first thing every morning. Our broth is simmered for eight hours to an old recipe, and how hot it is depends on your taste. We use no MSG and no additives.

**anna** 二楼尚未开放，届时欢迎光临。座位一经预订，请按时到达。客人多的时候请及早排队，有空位即安排。如需额外的碗、碟，请告诉服务员。"

**èr lóu shàngwèi kāifàng jièshí huānyíng guānglín zuòwèi yìjīng yùdìng qǐng ànshí dàodá kèrén duō de shíhou qǐng jízǎo páiduì yǒu kōng wèi jí ānpái rú xū éwài de wǎn dié qǐng gàosu fúwù yuán** · The first floor is not yet open: you are welcome then. Once you book a table, please arrive on time. At busy times please queue early: we will seat you as soon as a table is free. If you need extra bowls or dishes, please ask our staff."

**xiaoming** "看客人口味而定"，写得像合同一样。

**kàn kèrén kǒuwèi ér dìng xiě de xiàng hétóng yíyàng** · "Depends on your taste": it reads like a contract.

**ms zhang** 这幢楼以前是一家老酒楼，菜肴很有名。后来关了，楼里空荡荡的，墙上都是裂缝。现在翻新了，栏杆虽然有点儿生锈，可是楼很坚实、牢固。

**zhè zhuàng lóu yǐqián shì yì jiā lǎo jiǔlóu càiyáo hěn yǒumíng hòulái guān le lóu lǐ kōngdàngdàng de qiáng shàng dōu shì lièfèng xiànzài fānxīn le lángān suīrán yǒudiǎnr shēng xiù kěshì lóu hěn jiānshí láogù** · This building used to be an old restaurant, famous for its food. Then it closed: it stood empty, with cracks all over the walls. Now it's been renovated: the railings are a bit rusty, but the building is solid and sound.

**xiaoming** 当时大家为美食街的草案议了好久，有人去告状说太吵，现在大家都拥护了。陈教授说话真算数。

**dāngshí dàjiā wèi měishí jiē de cǎoàn yì le hǎojiǔ yǒu rén qù gàozhuàng shuō tài chǎo xiànzài dàjiā dōu yōnghù le Chénjiàoshòu shuōhuà zhēn suànshù** · Back then everyone argued for ages over the draft plan for the food street, someone complained about the noise, and now everyone supports it. Professor Chen really kept his word.

**editor lin** 修美食街的钱是公费，基建花了三个月。他们还重申过，绝不能用公款请客。

**xiū měishí jiē de qián shì gōngfèi jījiàn huā le sān gè yuè tāmen hái chóngshēn guo juébù néng yòng gōngkuǎn qǐngkè** · The food street was built with public money, and the infrastructure took three months. They also made it clear again that public money must never be spent on banquets.

**dr zhou** 胡同真像一个共同体，大家的事大家办。

**hútòng zhēn xiàng yí gè gòngtóngtǐ dàjiā de shì dàjiā bàn** · The hutong really is a community: everyone's business is done by everyone.

**dr li** 主持会议的陈教授呢？还有当时的发言人孙律师？

**zhǔchí huìyì de Chénjiàoshòu ne hái yǒu dāngshí de fāyánrén Sūnlǜshī** · Where's Professor Chen, who chaired the meeting? And Lawyer Sun, the spokesperson back then?

| | |
|---|---|
| **ms zhang** | 孙律师今天加班。陈教授暂且来不了，稍后到。<br>**Sūnlǜshī jīntiān jiābān Chénjiàoshòu zànqiě lái bu liǎo shāohòu dào** · Lawyer Sun is working late today. Professor Chen can't come yet: he'll be along shortly. |
| **xiaoming** | 有人说，这条街早就该开了。现在才说，那是马后炮。<br>**yǒu rén shuō zhè tiáo jiē zǎo jiù gāi kāi le xiànzài cái shuō nà shì mǎhòupào** · Some people say this street should have opened long ago. Saying that now is just hindsight. |
| **little sister** | 我已经馋了！一闻到那股香味，就走不动了。<br>**wǒ yǐjīng chán le yì wén dào nà gǔ xiāng wèi jiù zǒu bu dòng le** · I'm already starving! One whiff of that smell and I can't take another step. |
| **dr li** | 你这个小馋鬼。好吃的东西值得等。<br>**nǐ zhège xiǎo chán guǐ hǎochī de dōngxi zhídé děng** · You little greedy-guts. Good food is worth waiting for. |

## chapter 2 chapter 2: ordering

**editor lin** 锅底要什么？麻辣的还是清汤的？
guō dǐ yào shénme málà de háishi qīng tāng de · Which broth? Spicy or clear?

**dr zhou** 来个一半麻辣、一半清汤的吧。我吃素食，清汤那边我来涮蔬菜。
lái gè yíbàn málà yíbàn qīng tāng de ba wǒ chī sùshí qīng tāng nàbiān wǒ lái shuàn shūcài · Let's have half spicy, half clear. I eat vegetarian, so I'll cook vegetables on the clear side.

**ms zhang** 他们的清汤是用骨头熬的，周博士您介意吗？
tāmen de qīng tāng shì yòng gǔtou áo de Zhōubóshì nín jièyì ma · Their clear broth is simmered with bones: do you mind, Dr Zhou?

**dr zhou** 那我就要一锅素的清汤吧，荤的素的分开。
nà wǒ jiù yào yì guō sù de qīng tāng ba hūn de sù de fēnkāi · Then I'll have a pot of vegetarian broth: keep meat and vegetables separate.

**xiaoming** 肉要羊肉、牛肉，再来一份虾、一份螃蟹，还有肉丸子、鱼丸子和火腿。
ròu yào yáng ròu niú ròu zài lái yí fèn xiā yí fèn pángxiè hái yǒu ròu wánzi yú wánzi hé huǒtuǐ · Meat: lamb, beef, a plate of prawns, a plate of crab, meatballs, fishballs and ham.

**little sister** 蔬菜要萝卜、蘑菇、南瓜、红薯、豆子，还有粉丝！
shūcài yào luóbo mógu nánguā hóngshǔ dòuzi hái yǒu fěnsī · Vegetables: radish, mushrooms, pumpkin, sweet potato, beans, and glass noodles!

**editor lin** 先来一盘卤味、一碟酥饼当小吃，再来一盘拌黄瓜。
xiān lái yì pán lǔwèi yì dié sū bǐng dāng xiǎochī zài lái yì pán bàn huángguā · To start, a plate of braised meats and a dish of flaky pastries as snacks, and a plate of dressed cucumber.

**anna** 这家店的分量足吗？别点太多了。
zhè jiā diàn de fènliàng zú ma bié diǎn tài duō le · Are the portions here big? Let's not order too much.

**editor lin** 分量很足，菜单上写着一盘一斤。
fènliàng hěn zú càidān shàng xiě zhe yì pán yì jīn · They're generous: the menu says a plate is a jin.

**dr li** 作料我自己调：葱、姜、蒜，一点儿香油和芝麻。
zuòliao wǒ zìjǐ tiáo cōng jiāng suàn yìdiǎnr xiāngyóu hé zhīma · I'll mix my own dipping sauce: spring onion, ginger, garlic, a little sesame oil and sesame seeds.

**anna** 芝麻酱要先搅拌一下，再掺一点儿水。
zhīma jiàng yào xiān jiǎobàn yíxià zài chān yìdiǎnr shuǐ · Stir the sesame paste first, then mix in a little water.

**ms zhang** 再来一壶茶，沏得浓一点儿。饭后吃一些水果，柿子、枣都好。这里的饺子馅也是自己调的，来一盘吧。
zài lái yì hú chá qī de nóng yìdiǎnr fàn hòu chī yìxiē shuǐguǒ shìzi zǎo dōu hǎo zhèlǐ de jiǎozi xiàn yě shì zìjǐ tiáo de lái yì pán ba · And a pot of tea, made strong. Some fruit after the meal: persimmons or dates would be nice. Their dumpling filling is home-made too: let's have a plate.

**little sister** 我还想要一个椰子，椰子水特别解渴。饭后再吃个冰棍儿！
wǒ hái xiǎng yào yí gè yēzi yēzi shuǐ tèbié jiěkě fàn hòu zài chī gè bīnggùnr · I want a coconut: coconut water really quenches your thirst. And an ice lolly after dinner!

**dr li** 冬天吃什么冰棍儿！喝点蜂蜜水吧。
dōngtiān chī shénme bīnggùnr hē diǎn fēngmì shuǐ ba · An ice lolly in winter? Have some honey water.

**dr zhou** 这里的水产是从海边连夜运来的，可以放心吃。
zhèlǐ de shuǐchǎn shì cóng hǎi biān liányè yùn lái de kěyǐ fàngxīn chī · Their seafood comes overnight from the coast: you can eat it without worrying.

**xiaoming** 我要一罐饮料。哎，易拉罐打不开了！
wǒ yào yí guàn yǐnliào āi yìlāguàn dǎ bu kāi le · I want a can of something. Hey, I can't get the can open!

## chapter 3 chapter 3: cooking at the table

**editor lin** 锅开了，冒出好多气泡。上面那层泡沫用勺子去掉。羊肉涮几秒钟就可以了，火候很重要。

**guō kāi le mào chū hǎoduō qìpào shàngmiàn nà céng pàomò yòng sháozi qù diào yáng ròu shuàn jǐ miǎo zhōng jiù kěyǐ le huǒhou hěn zhòngyào** · The pot's boiling: look at all the bubbles. Take the foam off the top with a spoon. Lamb only needs a few seconds: timing is everything.

**ms zhang** 吃火锅跟炖汤、煲汤不一样，要大火。烹饪也是一门学问，烹调的方法不同，味道就不同。

**chī huǒguō gēn dùn tāng bāo tāng bù yíyàng yào dà huǒ pēngrèn yě shì yì mén xuéwen pēngtiáo de fāngfǎ bù tóng wèidào jiù bù tóng** · Hot pot isn't like stewing or slow-cooking soup: you need a high heat. Cooking is a skill in itself: cook it a different way and it tastes different.

**anna** 羊肉好嫩，一点儿也不腥！蘸一点儿作料更香。

**yáng ròu hǎo nèn yìdiǎnr yě bù xīng zhàn yìdiǎnr zuòliao gèng xiāng** · The lamb is so tender, not gamey at all! Even better dipped in the sauce.

**little sister** 哎呀，好烫！我急着咽下去，烫到舌头了。

**āiyā hǎo tàng wǒ jí zhe yàn xiaqu tàng dào shétou le** · Ouch, it's hot! I gulped it down and burnt my tongue.

**ms zhang** 你看你，慢慢吃。好好嚼一嚼，慢慢咀嚼才有滋味。

**nǐ kàn nǐ màn màn chī hǎohǎo jiáo yi jiao màn màn jǔjué cái yǒu zīwèi** · Look at you: slow down. Chew it properly: only when you chew slowly do you get the flavour.

**anna** 这些丸子是蒸的还是煎的？

**zhèxiē wánzi shì zhēng de háishi jiān de** · Are these balls steamed or fried?

**editor lin** 先蒸后煎，外面酥，里面嫩。这块熏肉也特别香。

**xiān zhēng hòu jiān wàimiàn sū lǐmiàn nèn zhè kuài xūn ròu yě tèbié xiāng** · Steamed first, then fried: crispy outside, tender inside. And this smoked meat is wonderful too.

**xiaoming** 这个虾真鲜美。螃蟹我来剥，哎呀，手被划了一道口子。

**zhège xiā zhēn xiānměi pángxiè wǒ lái bāo āiyā shǒu bèi huá le yídào kǒuzi** · These prawns taste so fresh. I'll shell the crab… ouch, I've cut my hand.

**little sister** 我最爱啃螃蟹腿。

**wǒ zuì ài kěn pángxiè tuǐ** · I love gnawing on crab legs.

**dr li** 不是我说你，小明，你已经吃了五盘肉了，比往常吃得还多，太贪吃了。

**bú shì wǒ shuō nǐ Xiǎomíng nǐ yǐjīng chī le wǔ pán ròu le bǐ wǎngcháng chī de hái duō tài tānchī le** · I hate to say it, Xiaoming, but you've eaten five plates of meat already, even more than usual: you're being greedy.

**xiaoming** 我在公司伙食不好，难得吃一顿丰盛的。

**wǒ zài gōngsī huǒshí bù hǎo nándé chī yí dùn fēngshèng de** · The canteen food at work is poor: I rarely get a spread like this.

**dr zhou** 麻辣锅太油腻了，我还是喜欢清汤，味道醇厚，喝了嗓子也润，皮肤也滋润。蔬菜先在水里浸泡过、冲洗过，很干净。

**málà guō tài yóunì le wǒ háishi xǐhuan qīng tāng wèidào chúnhòu hē le sǎngzi yě rùn pífū yě zīrùn shūcài xiān zài shuǐ lǐ jìnpào guo chōngxǐ guo hěn gānjìng** · The spicy pot is too greasy for me: I prefer the clear broth, rich and mellow, good for the throat and the skin. The vegetables have been soaked and rinsed: very clean.

**editor lin** 这家的锅底香味浓郁，可是不像有的店那样放香料放得太多。他们的酱是自己酿造、发酵的，桌子上的调料也很全。正宗！

**zhè jiā de guō dǐ xiāng wèi nóngyù kěshì bú xiàng yǒude diàn nàyàng fàng xiāngliào fàng de tài duō tāmen de jiàng shì zìjǐ niàngzào fājiào de zhuōzi shàng de tiáoliào yě hěn quán zhèngzōng** · Their broth smells wonderfully rich, but they don't overdo the spices like some places. Their sauce is brewed and fermented in-house, and the table has every seasoning. Authentic!

**anna** 汤一开始很清澈，涮了肉以后就混浊了。红薯煮得太久，黏在锅底，有点儿焦了。

**tāng yì kāishǐ hěn qīngchè shuàn le ròu yǐhòu jiù hùnzhuó le hóngshǔ zhǔ de tài jiǔ nián zài guō dǐ yǒudiǎnr jiāo le** · The broth was clear at first, but it's gone cloudy since we cooked the meat. And the sweet potato has cooked too long: it's stuck to the bottom and burnt a bit.

**ms zhang** 红薯和南瓜里有淀粉，汤就变稠了。加一些水吧。萝卜要削皮再放。
**hóngshǔ hé nánguā lǐ yǒu diànfěn tāng jiù biàn chóu le jiā yìxiē shuǐ ba luóbo yào xiāo pí zài fàng** · Sweet potato and pumpkin have starch in them, so the broth thickens. Add some water. And peel the radish before you put it in.

**little sister** 豆腐又光滑又细腻，可是芝麻酱里有小颗粒。粉丝好滑，夹都夹不起来！
**dòufu yòu guānghuá yòu xìnì kěshì zhīma jiàng lǐ yǒu xiǎo kēlì fěnsī hǎo huá jiā dōu jiā bu qǐlai** · The tofu is smooth and silky, but there are little lumps in the sesame paste. And the glass noodles are so slippery I can't even pick them up!

**xiaoming** 你看你，弄得桌子上一摊汤。
**nǐ kàn nǐ nòng de zhuōzi shàng yì tān tāng** · Look at you: there's a puddle of soup on the table.

**anna** 这个碗边上有个缺口，得换一个。
**zhège wǎn biān shàng yǒu gè quēkǒu děi huàn yí gè** · This bowl has a chip in the rim: it needs changing.

**editor lin** 服务员听到以后，当即给我们换了新碗。这一点我要写进文章。
**fúwù yuán tīng dào yǐhòu dāngjí gěi wǒmen huàn le xīn wǎn zhè yìdiǎn wǒ yào xiě jìn wénzhāng** · The waiter heard and changed our bowl on the spot. That's going in my article.

## chapter 4 chapter 4: dr li's first hot pot

**anna** 李医生，您第一次吃火锅是什么时候？
**Lǐyīshēng nín dì yī cì chī huǒguō shì shénme shíhou** · Dr Li, when did you first have hot pot?

**dr li** 早年我在山里当医生，那时候伙食很简单，成天吃馒头和萝卜。
**zǎonián wǒ zài shān lǐ dāng yīshēng nà shíhou huǒshí hěn jiǎndān chéngtiān chī mántou hé luóbo** · In my early years I was a doctor in the mountains. The food was simple then: steamed buns and radish, day in, day out.

**dr li** 有一年春节前夕，黄昏的时候下起了大雪，像世界末日一样。当晚，村里的人宰了一只羊，请我们去吃涮羊肉。一只炉子，一口铜锅，十几个人围着，热腾腾的。
**yǒu yì nián Chūnjié qiánxī huánghūn de shíhou xià qǐ le dà xuě xiàng shìjiè mòrì yíyàng dàngwǎn cūn lǐ de rén zǎi le yì zhī yáng qǐng wǒmen qù chī shuàn yáng ròu yì zhī lúzi yì kǒu tóng guō shí jǐ gè rén wéi zhe rèténgténg de** · One year, on the eve of the Spring Festival, heavy snow began to fall at dusk, like the end of the world. That night the villagers slaughtered a sheep and invited us for hot-pot lamb. One stove, one copper pot, a dozen people huddled round it, steaming hot.

**dr li** 我们边吃边聊，通宵没睡。次日一早，天刚黎明，雪停了，远处升起一缕缕炊烟，整个村子都是羊肉的香味。
**wǒmen biān chī biān liáo tōngxiāo méi shuì cìrì yìzǎo tiān gāng límíng xuě tíng le yuǎn chù shēng qǐ yì lǚ lǚ chuīyān zhěnggè cūn zi dōu shì yáng ròu de xiāng wèi** · We ate and talked and stayed up all night. Early the next morning, just at dawn, the snow stopped, wisps of cooking smoke rose in the distance, and the whole village smelled of lamb.

**dr li** 当日下午，我就赶回了医院。转眼四十年过去了，那锅涮羊肉的滋味，我迄今还记得，那是我终生难忘的一顿饭。
**dāngrì xiàwǔ wǒ jiù gǎn huí le yīyuàn zhuǎnyǎn sìshí nián guòqù le nà guō shuàn yáng ròu de zīwèi wǒ qìjīn hái jìde nà shì wǒ zhōngshēng nánwàng de yí dùn fàn** · That afternoon I hurried back to the hospital. Forty years have gone by in the blink of an eye, and to this day I remember that hot pot: a meal I'll never forget as long as I live.

**ms zhang** 他平日很少说起往事，今天是高兴了。多年来，他每年冬天都要吃一次涮羊肉。
**tā píngrì hěn shǎo shuō qǐ wǎngshì jīntiān shì gāoxìng le duō nián lái tā měi nián dōngtiān dōu yào chī yí cì shuàn yáng ròu** · He rarely talks about the past: tonight he's in a good mood. For years now he's had hot-pot lamb once every winter.

**dr zhou** 昔日的小山村，现在怎么样了？
**xīrì de xiǎo shān cūn xiànzài zěnmeyàng le** · And that little mountain village of the past: what's it like now?

**dr li** 长期以来，那里一直很穷。这些年连年丰收，路也修好了。来年春天我想回去看看。
**chángqī yǐlái nàlǐ yìzhí hěn qióng zhèxiē nián liánnián fēngshōu lù yě xiū hǎo le láinián chūntiān wǒ xiǎng huíqù kàn kan** · For a long time it was very poor. In recent years there've been good harvests year after year, and the road has been built. I'd like to go back next spring.

**little sister** 爸爸，那时候的火锅好于今天的吗？
**bàba nà shíhou de huǒguō hǎo yú jīntiān de ma** · Dad, was hot pot better then than today?

**dr li** 今天的肉更嫩，作料更多。可是那天晚上的快乐，高于一切。
**jīntiān de ròu gèng nèn zuòliao gèng duō kěshì nà tiān wǎnshang de kuàilè gāoyú yíqiè** · Today's meat is more tender and there are more sauces. But the joy of that night beats everything.

**anna** 您把毕生都给了病人，那样的快乐，真是永恒的。
**nín bǎ bìshēng dōu gěi le bìngrén nàyàng de kuàilè zhēn shì yǒnghéng de** · You've given your whole life to your patients: a joy like that is truly for ever.

**editor lin** 我成年在外面跑新闻，昼夜不停，今天听到这样的故事，比什么都好。
**wǒ chéngnián zài wàimiàn pǎo xīnwén zhòuyè bù tíng jīntiān tīng dào zhèyàng de gùshi bǐ shénme dōu hǎo** · I'm out chasing news all year round, day and night, and hearing a story like this tonight is better than anything.

## chapter 5 chapter 5: the bill and the review

**xiaoming** 一共多少钱?

**yígòng duōshao qián** · How much was it altogether?

**editor lin** 合计八百块，七个人，平均每人一百多。半数是肉钱。

**héjì bābǎi kuài qī gè rén píngjūn měi rén yìbǎi duō bànshù shì ròu qián** · Eight hundred yuan in total: seven of us, so just over a hundred each. Half of it was the meat.

**editor lin** 我的文章大概这么写：“这家店的菜分量足，味道好于美食街上的大多数饭馆，价格却低于平均水平。”

**wǒ de wénzhāng dàgài zhème xiě zhè jiā diàn de cài fènliàng zú wèidào hǎo yú měishí jiē shàng de dà duōshù fànguǎn jiàgé què dīyú píngjūn shuǐpíng** · Here’s roughly what I’ll write: “The portions are generous, the food is better than at most restaurants on the food street, and the prices are below average.”

**anna** 还要写上：店里很整洁，桌子和碗都很洁净。桌子是旧木头做的，摸起来有点儿粗糙，可是很有风味。

**hái yào xiě shàng diàn lǐ hěn zhěngjié zhuōzi hé wǎn dōu hěn jiéjìng zhuōzi shì jiù mùtou zuò de mō qǐlai yǒudiǎnr cūcāo kěshì hěn yǒu fēngwèi** · Write that it’s clean and tidy too, and the tables and bowls are spotless. The tables are old wood, a bit rough to the touch, but full of character.

**dr zhou** 他们的筷子是竹子做的，质地很好。剩菜和易拉罐分开放，这一点值得表扬。

**tāmen de kuàizi shì zhúzi zuò de zhìdì hěn hǎo shèng cài hé yìlāguàn fēnkāi fàng zhè yìdiǎn zhídé biǎoyáng** · Their chopsticks are bamboo, good quality. They sort food waste from cans: that deserves praise.

**xiaoming** 要写就写个清楚：二楼尚未开放，周末排队起码要一个小时。

**yào xiě jiù xiě gè qīngchu èr lóu shàngwèi kāifàng zhōumò páiduì qǐmǎ yào yí gè xiǎoshí** · If you’re writing it, write it properly: the first floor isn’t open yet, and at weekends you queue for at least an hour.

**editor lin** 对。开业一个月，接待客人三万人次，过半是附近的街坊。年轻客人的百分比，我稍后再检查一下。文章发到网上以后，读者可以即时留言。

**duì kāiyè yí gè yuè jiēdài kèrén sān wàn réncì guòbàn shì fùjìn de jiēfang niánqīng kèrén de bǎifēnbǐ wǒ shāohòu zài jiǎnchá yíxià wénzhāng fā dào wǎngshang yǐhòu dúzhě kěyǐ jíshí liúyán** · Right. In its first month it’s had 30,000 visits, more than half from neighbours nearby. I’ll double-check the percentage of young customers shortly. Once the article is online, readers can comment in real time.

**anna** 老板问了我们一连串问题，想听意见。他说，交流是双向的。

**lǎobǎn wèn le wǒmen yìliánchuàn wèntí xiǎng tīng yìjiàn tā shuō jiāoliú shì shuāngxiàng de** · The owner asked us a whole string of questions: he wanted our views. He said it should go both ways.

**editor lin** 他说明年还有一揽子计划：开二楼，搞外卖，还要做自己烘焙的点心。

**tā shuō míngnián hái yǒu yìlǎnzi jìhuà kāi èr lóu gǎo wàimài hái yào zuò zìjǐ hōngbèi de diǎnxin** · He says there’s a package of plans for next year: open the first floor, do takeaway, and make their own baked pastries.

**ms zhang** 剩下的丸子和蘑菇，我用锡纸包好带回去，放冰箱冷冻。蔬菜放进保鲜盒，不然会腐烂。

**shèng xià de wánzi hé mógu wǒ yòng xīzhǐ bāo hǎo dài huiqu fàng bīngxiāng lěngdòng shūcài fàng jìn bǎoxiān hé bùrán huì fǔlàn** · I’ll wrap the leftover meatballs and mushrooms in foil and take them home to freeze. The vegetables go in an airtight box, or they’ll rot.

**little sister** 我还有一块奶酪和半包瓜子，明天当早饭。

**wǒ hái yǒu yí kuài nǎilào hé bàn bāo guāzǐ míngtiān dāng zǎofàn** · I’ve got a piece of cheese and half a bag of sunflower seeds: that’s tomorrow’s breakfast.

**dr li** 你看你，早饭要吃一些谷物和牛奶。坚果、乳制品富含营养，可是不能只吃这个。

**nǐ kàn nǐ zǎofàn yào chī yìxiē gǔwù hé niúnǎi jiānguǒ rǔzhìpǐn fùhán yíngyǎng kěshì bù néng zhǐ chī zhège** · Look at you: breakfast should be cereal and milk. Nuts and dairy are nutritious, but you can’t live on them.

**xiaoming** 我爸爸曰：“好吃的，大家一起吃！”今天他又说话算数了。

**wǒ bàba yuē hǎochī de dàjiā yìqǐ chī jīntiān tā yòu shuōhuà suànshù le** · As my dad says: “Good food is for sharing!” Tonight he kept his word again.

**anna** 今天真是一场盛宴。祝这家店早日开二楼，生意越来越好！我们改日再来。

**jīntiān zhēn shì yì chǎng shèngyàn zhù zhè jiā diàn zǎorì kāi èr lóu shēngyi yuè lái yuè hǎo wǒmen gǎirì zài lái**

· Tonight was a real feast. Here's to the restaurant opening its first floor soon, and to business getting better and better! We'll come again another day.

**dr zhou** 你们看，街上亮起了一盏盏灯，空气也很清新。

**nǐmen kàn jiē shàng liàng qǐ le yì zhǎn zhǎn dēng kōngqì yě hěn qīngxīn** · Look: lamp after lamp is lighting up along the street, and the air is so fresh.

**little sister** 好吃是一码事，好看是另一码事，这条街两样都有！

**hǎochī shì yì mǎ shì hǎokàn shì lìng yì mǎ shì zhè tiáo jiē liǎng yàng dōu yǒu** · Tasty is one thing and pretty is another: this street has both!

**editor lin** 文章明天一早就发，届时大家记得看！今天就此结束吧。

**wénzhāng míngtiān yìzǎo jiù fā jièshí dàjiā jìde kàn jīntiān jiùcǐ jiéshù ba** · The piece goes out first thing tomorrow: remember to read it then! Let's call it a night.

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