wishyou.today learning

day 49 mountains, rivers and coasts

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 7 · travel and geography

Name the land and the water (plains, basins, gorges, straits, bays, beaches) and describe a landscape in order: from west to east, from the top down.

Travel writing, guidebooks and HSK reading texts describe places in space order. Once you have the frame, any map can talk.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
大陆	dàlù	continent, mainland	亚洲是世界上最大的大陆。 Asia is the largest continent in the world.
半岛	bàndǎo	peninsula	这个半岛三面都是海。 This peninsula has sea on three sides.
岛屿	dǎoyǔ	islands	这片海上有很多美丽的岛屿。 There are many beautiful islands in this sea.
海峡	hǎixiá	strait	坐船过海峡只要一个小时。 Crossing the strait by boat only takes an hour.
海湾	hǎiwān	bay, gulf	海湾里的水很平静。 The water in the bay is very calm.
港湾	gǎngwān	harbour	傍晚，船都回到了港湾。 In the evening, the boats all came back to the harbour.
海滨	hǎibīn	seaside	夏天很多人去海滨度假。 In summer lots of people go on holiday to the seaside.
海滩	hǎitān	beach	孩子们在海滩上玩了一下午。 The children played on the beach all afternoon.
沙滩	shātān	sandy beach	沙滩上的沙子又细又软。 The sand on the beach is fine and soft.
沿岸	yánàn	along the coast or banks	|长江{==the Yangtze}沿岸有很多大城市。 There are many big cities along the Yangtze.
对岸	duìàn	the opposite bank	河对岸就是另一个省了。 The other side of the river is already another province.
河畔	hépàn	riverside	晚饭后，我们在河畔散步。 After dinner we went for a walk by the river.
湖泊	húpō	lakes	这个地区湖泊很多。 This area has a lot of lakes.
溪	xī	stream, brook	山里有一条清清的小溪。 There is a clear little stream in the hills.
运河	yùnhé	canal	大运河从北京一直通到杭州。 The Grand Canal runs all the way from

			Beijing to Hangzhou.
支流	zhīliú	tributary	这条河有十几条支流。 This river has a dozen or so tributaries.
流域	liúyù	river basin	|黄河{==the Yellow River}流域是中国文化的发源地之一。 The Yellow River basin is one of the birthplaces of Chinese culture.
上游	shàngyóu	upper reaches	上游下了大雨，河水涨了。 It rained hard upstream, and the river rose.
下游	xiàyóu	lower reaches	下游的城市要做好准备。 The cities downstream must get ready.
发源	fāyuán	to rise, originate (river)	这条河发源|于雪山。 This river rises in the snow mountains.
发源地	fāyuándì	source, birthplace	这座城市是京剧的发源地。 This city is the birthplace of Peking opera.
水域	shuǐyù	waters, body of water	这片水域禁止游泳。 Swimming is not allowed in these waters.
瀑布	pùbù	waterfall	瀑布从山上冲下来，声音很大。 The waterfall crashes down the mountain with a roar.
山川	shānchuān	landscape, mountains and rivers	这一带山川美丽，空气也很好。 The landscape round here is beautiful, and the air is good too.
江山	jiāngshān	the land, a country's landscape	站在山顶往下看，真是江山如画。 From the top of the mountain, the land looks just like a painting.
山脉	shānmài	mountain range	这条山脉从东到西有一千多公里。 This mountain range runs over a thousand kilometres from east to west.
山岭	shānlǐng	mountain ridges	汽车在山岭之间开了三个小时。 The car drove through the mountains for three hours.
山谷	shāngǔ	valley	山谷里很安静，只听得见鸟叫。 The valley is very quiet: all you can hear is birdsong.
峡谷	xiágǔ	gorge, canyon	河水在峡谷里流得很急。 The river runs very fast through the gorge.
丘陵	qiūlíng	hills, hilly land	这一带是丘陵，适合种{zhong4}茶。 This area is hilly and good for growing tea.
盆地	péndì	basin (land)	这个盆地四周都是山，夏天特别热。 This basin is ringed by mountains, and it's extremely hot in summer.
平原	píngyuán	plain	平原上的田一眼望不到边。 The fields on the plain stretch further than the eye can see.
雪山	xuěshān	snow mountain	远处的雪山一年四季都是白的。 The snow mountains in the distance are white all year round.
悬崖	xuányá	cliff, precipice	别走到悬崖边上，太危险了。 Don't go to the edge of the cliff: it's too dangerous.

陡峭	dǒuqiào	steep, precipitous	这段山路非常陡峭。 This stretch of mountain road is very steep.
视	shì	to look at; to regard; (视……而定) to depend on	去不去，要视天气而定。 Whether we go depends on the weather.

pattern describe a place in space order

从/由 + start | 往/向 + direction | 先是……再是……最后是……

To describe a landscape, pick a viewpoint and move in one direction: 从西往东 (or written 由西向东), 从上往下, 从远到近. Then list what you meet in order with 先是……再是/然后是……最后是……, or by sides: 左边是……右边是……, 北边是……南边是……

站在山顶往下看，左边是峡谷，右边是一条小溪。 **zhàn zài shāndǐng wǎng xià kàn zuǒbian shì xiágǔ yòubian shì yì tiáo xiǎo xī** Looking down from the top, on the left is a gorge and on the right a little stream.

这个半岛北边是海湾，南边是港湾和海滩。 **zhège bàndǎo běi biān shì hǎiwān nán biān shì gǎngwān hé hǎitān** This peninsula has a bay to the north, and a harbour and beaches to the south.

由西向东，先是山脉，然后是丘陵，最后是平原。 **yóu xī xiàng dōng xiān shì shānmài ránhòu shì qiūlíng zuìhòu shì píngyuán** From west to east, first come the mountain ranges, then the hills, and finally the plains.

dialogue a map on the wall

dr zhou 你们看这张地图：中国在亚洲大陆的东边，东边和南边是大海，海上有很多岛屿和海峡。

nǐmen kàn zhè zhāng dìtú Zhōngguó zài Yàzhōu dàlù de dōng biān dōng biān hé nán biān shì dà hǎi hǎi shàng yǒu hěn duō dǎoyǔ hé hǎixiá · Look at this map: China is on the east of the Asian continent. To the east and south is the sea, full of islands and straits.

dr zhou 从西往东，先是雪山和高原，再往东是丘陵，最后是平原。

cóng xī wǎng dōng xiān shì xuěshān hé gāoyuán zài wǎng dōng shì qiūlíng zuìhòu shì píngyuán · From west to east, first there are snow mountains and plateaus, further east come the hills, and finally the plains.

little sister 难怪大河都是从西往东流的！

nánguài dà hé dōu shì cóng xī wǎng dōng liú de · No wonder the big rivers all flow from west to east!

dr zhou 对。黄河流域是中国文化的发源地之一，河水很混浊；长江沿岸有很多大城市。

duì huánghé liúyù shì Zhōngguó wénhuà de fāyuándì zhī yī hé shuǐ hěn hùnzhuó chángjiāng yánàn yǒu hěn duō dà chéngshì · Right. The Yellow River basin is one of the birthplaces of Chinese culture, and its water is very muddy; there are many big cities along the Yangtze.

anna 长江下游的城市我去过几个，可是上游一次也没去过。

chángjiāng xiàyóu de chéngshì wǒ qù guo jǐ gè kěshì shàngyóu yí cì yě méi qù guo · I've been to a few cities on the lower Yangtze, but never once to the upper reaches.

dr zhou 那你不妨跟我去云南。下个月我要专程去一条峡谷，考察长江的一条支流。

nà nǐ bùfáng gēn wǒ qù Yúnnán xià gè yuè wǒ yào zhuānchéng qù yì tiáo xiágǔ kǎochá chángjiāng de yì tiáo zhīliú · Then why not come to Yunnan with me? Next month I'm going specially to a gorge to study one of the Yangtze's tributaries.

little sister 峡谷里是什么样子？能在水里游泳吗？

xiágǔ lǐ shì shénme yàngzi néng zài shuǐ lǐ yóuyǒng ma · What's it like in the gorge? Can you swim in the water?

dr zhou 那片水域水流太急，千万别下去。东边是陡峭的悬崖，西边是山岭，中间还有一个大瀑布。

nà piàn shuǐyù shuǐliú tài jí qiānwàn bié xiàqù dōng biān shì dǒuqiào de xuányá xī biān shì shānlǐng zhōngjiān hái yǒu yí gè dà pùbù · The current in those waters is far too strong: don't even think of going in. On the east side are sheer cliffs, on the west side mountains, and in the middle a huge waterfall.

little sister 瀑布旁边一定很清凉吧！

pùbù pángbiān yídìng hěn qīngliáng ba · It must be lovely and cool by the waterfall!

anna 中国的山川真美！难怪古今中外的诗人都爱写山水。我不由得想马上出发。去几天呢？

Zhōngguó de shānchuān zhēn měi nánguài gǔjīn zhōngwài de shīrén dōu ài xiě shān shuǐ wǒ bùyóude xiǎng mǎshàng chūfā qù jǐ tiān ne · China's landscapes are so beautiful! No wonder poets of every age and country love writing about mountains and rivers. I can't help wanting to set off right now. How many days would it be?

dr zhou 要视天气而定。下大雨的话，山路就不好走了，我们可能还得风餐露宿几天。

yào shì tiānqì ér dìng xià dà yǔ dehuà shān lù jiù bù hǎo zǒu le wǒmen kěnéng hái děi fēngcān lùsù jǐ tiān · It depends on the weather. If it rains hard, the mountain roads get difficult, and we might have to rough it for a few days.

little sister 那我们趁早准备吧！这次我要尽情地看看这大好江山。

nà wǒmen chènzǎo zhǔnbèi ba zhè cì wǒ yào jìnqíng de kàn kan zhè dà hǎo jiāngshān · Then let's get ready early! This time I want to see as much of this glorious country as I can.

dr zhou 好！峡谷里飞禽走兽很多，你们记得带好相机。

hǎo xiágǔ lǐ fēiqín zǒushòu hěn duō nǐmen jìde dài hǎo xiàngjī · Good! There's plenty of wildlife in the gorge, so remember your cameras.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

捏
niē
to pinch, squeeze; to make up

掐
qiā
to pinch (with nails); to time, cut off

搓
cuō
to rub (between your hands)

揉
róu
to rub, knead

good to know · Spoken vs written: 河边 / 河畔, 海边 / 海滨, 湖 / 湖泊, 岛 / 岛屿. The second word of each pair belongs to guidebooks, signs and essays. For rivers, 上游 and 下游 also work for business: 上游企业 are the suppliers, 下游 the customers.

Plains, gorges, straits and bays: hand yourself any map of China and you can now walk someone across it in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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day 50 frontiers and far places

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 7 · travel and geography

Talk about remote and border places (deserts, oases, borders, crossings, hot springs) and rank things with 仅次于: “second only to”.

News, travel writing and HSK reading passages love rankings and far-off places. 仅次于 lets you rank anything in one tidy phrase.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
边疆	biānjiāng	frontier region	他年轻的时候在边疆工作过十年。 When he was young he worked in the frontier regions for ten years.
边界	biānjiè	border, boundary line	这条河是两个国家的边界。 This river is the border between the two countries.
边境	biānjìng	border area	这座边境小城每天都有很多外国游客。 This little border town gets lots of foreign visitors every day.
边远	biānyuǎn	remote, far-flung	他每年都去边远山区给孩子们上课。 Every year he goes to remote mountain areas to teach children.
偏僻	piānpì	out of the way, secluded	那个村子很偏僻，一天只有一趟车。 That village is really out of the way: there’s only one bus a day.
偏远	piānyuǎn	remote	偏远地区的网络还不太好。 The internet in remote areas still isn’t very good.
内地	nèidì	inland, the interior	他从沿海城市搬到了内地。 He moved from a coastal city to the interior.
乡下	xiāngxia	the countryside	我小时候住在乡下的奶奶家。 As a child I lived with my grandma in the countryside.
首府	shǒufǔ	regional capital	从首府到边境还要开两天车。 From the regional capital to the border is another two days’ drive.
都会	dūhuì	metropolis	上海是一座国际大都会。 Shanghai is an international metropolis.
繁华	fánhuá	bustling, flourishing	这条街是城里最繁华的地方。 This street is the busiest part of town.
荒凉	huāngliáng	desolate, bleak	路两边很荒凉，几十公里看不到一个人。 Both sides of the road are desolate: you don’t see a soul for dozens of kilometres.
戈壁	gēbì	Gobi, stony desert	汽车在戈壁上开了一整天。 The car drove across the Gobi all day.
绿洲	lǜzhōu	oasis	沙漠里的绿洲像一个绿色的小岛。 An oasis in the desert is like a little green island.
沼泽	zhǎozé	swamp, marsh	前面是沼泽，车开不过去。 There’s a swamp ahead: the car can’t get

			through.
坝	bà	dam, embankment	河上新修了一座大坝。 A big new dam has been built on the river.
地势	dìshì	terrain, lie of the land	中国的地势西高东低。 China's land is high in the west and low in the east.
地带	dìdài	zone, belt	这里是沙漠和草原中间的过渡地带。 This is the transition zone between the desert and the grassland.
崎岖	qíqū	rugged, bumpy (road)	山路崎岖，我们走得很慢。 The mountain path was rough, so we went slowly.
赤道	chìdào	the equator	这个国家离赤道很近，一年四季都很热。 This country is close to the equator: it's hot all year.
经度	jīngdù	longitude	这两座城市的经度差不多。 These two cities are at about the same longitude.
纬度	wěidù	latitude	纬度越高，冬天越冷。 The higher the latitude, the colder the winter.
交界	jiāojiè	to share a border	这个县在三个省的交界处。 This county lies where three provinces meet.
境内	jìngnèi	within the borders	这条河在中国境内有八百公里。 This river runs for eight hundred kilometres inside China.
境外	jìngwài	outside the borders, abroad	来这里旅游的境外游客越来越多。 More and more visitors from abroad are coming here.
过境	guòjìng	to transit, pass through	我们只是过境，不在这里停留。 We're only passing through; we're not staying here.
口岸	kǒuàn	port of entry, border crossing	这个口岸每天有上万人过境。 Over ten thousand people cross the border at this checkpoint every day.
环球	huánqiú	round the world	他退休以后打算环球旅行。 After he retires he plans to travel round the world.
高空	gāokōng	high altitude	飞机在一万米的高空飞行。 The plane flies at an altitude of ten thousand metres.
上空	shàngkōng	the sky above	城市上空飘着几朵白云。 A few white clouds float in the sky above the city.
奇观	qíguān	wonder, marvel	沙漠里的日出真是一大奇观。 Sunrise in the desert is a real wonder.
风景线	fēngjǐngxiàn	scenic route, attraction	这条海边公路风景很美，是一条有名的风景线。 This coast road is beautiful: it's a famous scenic route.
温泉	wēnquán	hot spring	冬天泡温泉特别舒服。 Soaking in a hot spring in winter is wonderful.
去处	qùchù	place to go	周末带孩子出去玩，动物园是个好去处。 The zoo is a good place to take the kids at the weekend.

pattern 仅次于: second only to

A **仅次于** **B (the number one)**

A 仅次于 B means A comes right after B: B is first and A is second. It is a written, rather formal phrase, perfect for rankings, statistics and reports. Often the field comes first: 在全国，……仅次于……

黄河全长五千多公里，在中国仅次于长江。 **huánghé quán cháng wǔqiān duō gōnglǐ zài Zhōngguó jǐncìyú chángjiāng** The Yellow River is over five thousand kilometres long, second only to the Yangtze in China.

这个口岸每年过境的人数，在全国仅次于上海的机场。 **zhège kǒuàn měi nián guòjìng de rénshù zài quán guó jǐncìyú Shànghǎi de jīchǎng** The number of people crossing at this checkpoint each year is second in the whole country only to Shanghai's airport.

在外国游客最喜欢的大都会里，北京仅次于上海。 **zài wàiguó yóukè zuì xǐhuan de dà dūhuì lǐ Běijīng jǐncìyú Shànghǎi** Among the big cities foreign visitors like best, Beijing comes second only to Shanghai.

dialogue postcards from the frontier

editor lin 我刚从西北边疆回来，路上遇到了一连串有意思的事。我在写一组文章，题目叫“边疆的风景线”。

wǒ gāng cóng xīběi biānjiāng huílái lùshang yùdào le yìliánchuàn yǒu yìsi de shì wǒ zài xiě yì zǔ wénzhāng tímù jiào biānjiāng de fēngjǐngxiàn · I've just come back from the north-western frontier, and a whole string of interesting things happened on the way. I'm writing a series called "Frontier Views".

xiaoming 边疆？是不是特别偏远，路也很崎岖？

biānjiāng shì bu shì tèbié piānyuǎn lù yě hěn qíqū · The frontier? Isn't it incredibly remote, with terrible roads?

editor lin 有的地方是。我们从首府开车出发，开了两天才到边境。那儿的地势很特别：北边是雪山，南边是沙漠，中间那条地带是一个大盆地，有一个个绿洲，还有一片片沼泽。

yǒude dìfang shì wǒmen cóng shǒufǔ kāichē chūfā kāi le liǎng tiān cái dào biānjìng nàr de dìshì hěn tèbié běi biān shì xuěshān nán biān shì shāmò zhōngjiān nà tiáo dìdài shì yí gè dà péndì yǒu yí gè gè lǜzhōu hái yǒu yí piàn piàn zhǎozé · Some places are. We drove from the regional capital and it took two days to reach the border. The lie of the land is amazing: snow mountains to the north, desert to the south, and in between a belt of land that forms a great basin, with oases and big marshes.

editor lin 那儿的河上修了一座坝。这条河发源于雪山，在我国境内只有几百公里，然后就流到境外去了。

nàr de hé shàng xiū le yí zuò bà zhè tiáo hé fāyuán yú xuěshān zài wǒ guó jìngnèi zhǐyǒu jǐ bǎi gōnglǐ ránhòu jiù liú dào jìngwài qù le · There's a dam on the river there. The river rises in the snow mountains and only runs a few hundred kilometres inside China, then it flows out across the border.

xiaoming 我还以为边远地区跟乡下一样，都很荒凉，空荡荡的呢。

wǒ hái yǐwéi biānyuǎn dìqū gēn xiāngxia yíyàng dōu hěn huāngliáng kōngdàngdàng de ne · I thought remote areas were like the countryside: all bleak and empty.

editor lin 没什么好奇怪的，大家都这么想。可是边境口岸比我想的繁华多了，每天都有很多境外的商人和游客过境。

méi shénme hǎo qíguài de dàjiā dōu zhème xiǎng kěshì biānjìng kǒuàn bǐ wǒ xiǎng de fánhuá duō le měi tiān dōu yǒu hěn duō jìngwài de shāngrén hé yóukè guòjìng · Nothing strange about that: everyone thinks so. But the border crossing was far busier than I expected, with lots of traders and tourists from abroad coming through every day.

xiaoming 这么说，那儿有来自五湖四海的人？

zhème shuō nàr yǒu láizì wǔhú sìhǎi de rén · So there are people there from all over?

editor lin 对。我们跟当地人萍水相逢，他们却请我们去家里喝茶。

duì wǒmen gēn dāngdì rén píngshuǐ xiāngféng tāmen què qǐng wǒmen qù jiā lǐ hē chá · Yes. We were strangers who'd just met the locals by chance, yet they invited us home for tea.

anna 口岸旁边的小城也跟内地的大都会一样热闹吗？

kǒuàn pángbiān de xiǎo chéng yě gēn nèidì de dà dūhuì yíyàng rènao ma · Is the little town by the crossing as lively as a big city in the interior?

editor lin 当然没那么大。最奇怪的是时间：那儿跟北京的经度差了三四十度，可是用的是北京时间，所以夏天晚上十点天还亮着。

dāngrán méi nàme dà zuì qíguài de shì shíjiān nàr gēn Běijīng de jīngdù chà le sānsìshí dù kěshì yòng de shì Běijīng shíjiān suǒyǐ xiàtiān wǎnshang shí diǎn tiān hái liàng zhe · Not that big, of course. The strangest thing is the time: it's thirty or forty degrees of longitude from Beijing, but it runs on Beijing time, so in summer it's still light at ten at night.

anna 真是奇观！回来的时候，你从飞机上能看见边界吗？

zhēn shì qíguān huílái de shíhou nǐ cóng fēijī shàng néng kànjiàn biānjiè ma · What a wonder! On the way back, could you see the border from the plane?

editor lin 能！飞机飞过边境上空的时候，我从高空往下看，那条河清清楚楚。安娜，你去云南也给我们写一篇游记吧，在我们网站上，旅游文章的读者人数仅次于新闻。

néng fēijī fēi guo biānjìng shàngkōng de shíhou wǒ cóng gāokōng wǎng xià kàn nà tiáo hé qīngqīngchuchu Ānnà nǐ qù Yúnnán yě gěi wǒmen xiě yì piān yóu jì ba zài wǒmen wǎngzhàn shàng lǚyóu wénzhāng de dúzhě

rénshù jǐncìyú xīnwén · Yes! As we flew over the border, I looked down from high up and could see the river clear as anything. Anna, write us a travel piece from Yunnan too: on our site, only the news gets more readers than travel pieces.

xiaoming 写完云南，下一组干脆写环球旅行，从赤道写到北极！

xiě wán Yúnnán xià yì zǔ gāncuì xiě huánqiú lǚxíng cóng chìdào xiě dào běijí · After Yunnan, why not go for a round-the-world series next, from the equator to the North Pole!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

捶
chuí
to pound, thump (with your fist)

砸
zá
to smash, pound; to drop on; to flop

劈
pī
to split, chop

凿
záo
to chisel, bore a hole

good to know · Remote, three ways: 偏僻 (out of the way, hard to find), 偏远 / 边远 (far from the centre). 边远山区 and 偏远地区 are fixed pairs in the news. With 仅次于, the winner comes after it: A 仅次于 B means B is number one.

Deserts, oases, borders and the sky above them: your Chinese can now travel to the very edge of the map.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 51 on the road

Talk your way through a car journey (detours, tunnels, flyovers, U-turns, a crash ahead) and complain about things that happen too easily with 动不动就.

Every road trip in China comes with a running commentary on the traffic. 动不动就 is the everyday way to grumble about it.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
轿车	jiàochē	car, saloon car	停车场里停着一辆黑色的轿车。 A black car is parked in the car park.
卡车	kǎchē	lorry, truck	高速公路|上卡车特别多。 There are loads of lorries on the motorway.
私家车	sījiāchē	private car	现在很多家庭都有了私家车。 Lots of families have their own car now.
方向盘	fāngxiàngpán	steering wheel	开车的时候，两只手要握住方向盘。 When you drive, keep both hands on the steering wheel.
轮胎	lúntāi	tyre	车的轮胎没气了。 The car has a flat tyre.
后备箱	hòubèixiāng	boot (of a car), trunk	行李都放进后备箱了。 The luggage is all in the boot.
机动	jīdòng	flexible, spare (time, money)	行程里最好留一天机动时间。 It's best to keep one spare day in the plan.
驾	jià	to drive (a vehicle)	他驾车从北京一直开到了西安。 He drove all the way from Beijing to Xi'an.
路段	lùduàn	stretch of road	这个路段经常堵车。 This stretch of road is often jammed.
路径	lùjìng	route, path	手机地图给了我们三条路径。 The map app gave us three routes.
路途	lùtú	journey, way	路途很远，大家多带一点儿水。 It's a long way, so everyone bring some extra water.
捷径	jiéjìng	shortcut	学语言没有捷径。 There are no shortcuts in learning a language.
岔	chà	fork (in a road), to branch off	走到岔路口，往左拐。 When you reach the fork, turn left.
立交桥	lìjiāoqiáo	flyover, interchange	北京的立交桥又多又复杂。 Beijing has lots of flyovers, and they're complicated.
天桥	tiānqiáo	footbridge	过马路请走天桥。 Please use the footbridge to cross the road.
隧道	suìdào	tunnel	这条隧道有十几公里长。 This tunnel is over ten kilometres long.

地道	dìdào	underpass, tunnel	过马路可以走地道{di4dao4}。 You can cross the road by the underpass.
通车	tōngchē	to open to traffic	这座大桥下个月就要通车了。 This bridge opens to traffic next month.
绕行	ràoxíng	to detour	前方施工，车辆请绕行。 Road works ahead: vehicles please take a detour.
绕远儿	ràoyuǎnr	to go the long way round	走这条路太绕远儿了。 This road takes us miles out of the way.
掉头	diàotóu	to turn round, U-turn	这儿不能掉头，要开到前面的路口。 You can't do a U-turn here; you have to drive on to the next junction.
逆行	nìxíng	to go the wrong way	那辆车在逆行，太危险了！ That car is driving the wrong way: so dangerous!
追尾	zhuīwěi	rear-end collision	前面两辆车追尾了，路堵得很厉害。 Two cars in front have had a rear-end crash, and the road is badly jammed.
停放	tíngfàng	to park (a vehicle)	自行车请停放在车棚里。 Please park bicycles in the bike shed.
颠簸	diānbǒ	to bump, jolt	山路很颠簸，我有点儿晕车。 The mountain road is so bumpy that I feel a bit carsick.
枢纽	shūniǔ	hub, key link	这座城市是全国的交通枢纽。 This city is a transport hub for the whole country.
直达	zhídá	to go direct, nonstop	这趟火车直达上海。 This train goes straight through to Shanghai.
顺路	shùnlù	on the way	我顺路送你回家吧。 Let me drop you home: it's on my way.
沿途	yántú	along the way	沿途的风景美极了。 The scenery along the way was gorgeous.
沿线	yánxiàn	along the line	高铁沿线有很多小城市。 There are many small towns along the high-speed line.
上行	shàngxíng	to go up (trains: towards the capital)	上行的列车马上就要进站了。 The up train is about to arrive.
下行	xiàxíng	to go down (trains: away from the capital)	下行的车在对面的站台。 Trains in the down direction leave from the opposite platform.
缆车	lǎnchē	cable car	我们坐缆车上山，走路下山。 We'll take the cable car up and walk down.
卧铺	wòpù	sleeper berth	坐夜车最好买卧铺。 On an overnight train it's best to get a sleeper.
动不动	dòngbudòng	at the slightest thing, easily	他开车动不动就按喇叭。 When he drives, he honks the horn at the slightest thing.

pattern 动不动就: at the slightest thing

someone / something | 动不动就 | something unwelcome

动不动就 says something happens far too easily, at the slightest excuse. It is nearly always a complaint: 动不动就生气 (flares up at nothing), 动不动就堵车 (jams up all the time). Never use it for good things.

这条路动不动就堵车，我们还是坐地铁吧。 **zhè tiáo lù dòngbudòng jiù dǔchē wǒmen háishi zuò dìtiě ba** This road jams up at the drop of a hat: let's take the underground.

这辆旧轿车动不动就出毛病。 **zhè liàng jiù jiàochē dòngbudòng jiù chū máobìng** This old car breaks down at the slightest thing.

这条线的上行列车动不动就晚点，下行的反而很准时。 **zhè tiáo xiàn de shàngxíng lièchē dòngbudòng jiù wǎndiǎn xiàxíng de fǎnér hěn zhǔnshí** The up trains on this line are late all the time, while the down trains are actually very punctual.

dialogue the road to the airport

xiaoming 行李都放进后备箱了吧？轮胎我昨天也检查过了，放心。
xíngli dōu fàng jìn hòubèixiāng le ba lúntāi wǒ zuótiān yě jiǎnchá guo le fàngxīn · Is all the luggage in the boot? I checked the tyres yesterday too, so don't worry.

little sister 都放好了。哥哥，你开车别动不动就按喇叭，吵死了。
dōu fàng hǎo le gēge nǐ kāichē bié dòngbudòng jiù àn lǎba chǎo sǐ le · All in. And please don't honk at every little thing, it's deafening.

xiaoming 我开车向来很稳健！倒是你，坐私家车动不动就晕车。
wǒ kāichē xiànglái hěn wěnjiàn dàoshì nǐ zuò sījiāchē dòngbudòng jiù yùnchē · I've always been a steady driver! You're the one who gets carsick at the drop of a hat.

anna 手机地图给了三条路径。平日这条路不堵，可眼下正是上班的时候。最快的那条，前面有个路段在施工，车辆要绕行。
shǒujī dìtú gěi le sān tiáo lùjìng píngrì zhè tiáo lù bù dǔ kě yǎnxià zhèng shì shàngbān de shíhou zuì kuài de nà tiáo qiánmiàn yǒu gè lùduàn zài shīgōng chēliàng yào ràoxíng · The map app gives three routes. This road isn't usually busy, but right now it's rush hour. On the fastest one, there are road works on a stretch ahead, and cars have to detour.

xiaoming 那走立交桥下面那条岔路，过了隧道就是机场高速，这是一条捷径。
nà zǒu lìjiāoqiáo xiàmiàn nà tiáo chà lù guò le suìdào jiùshì jīchǎng gāosù zhè shì yì tiáo jiéjìng · Then we'll take the side road under the flyover. Through the tunnel and we're on the airport motorway: it's a shortcut.

little sister 你的捷径每次都绕远儿！上次在桥上走错了，又不能掉头，多开了半个小时。
nǐ de jiéjìng měi cì dōu ràoyuǎnr shàng cì zài qiáo shàng zǒu cuò le yòu bù néng diàotóu duō kāi le bàn gè xiǎoshí · Your shortcuts always take us miles out of the way! Last time you went wrong on the flyover, couldn't turn round, and we drove an extra half hour.

xiaoming 哎，你们看，那边路上两辆轿车追尾了，旁边还有一辆卡车在逆行！太惊险了，幸好我们没走那条路。
āi nǐmen kàn nàbiān lùshang liǎng liàng jiàochē zhuīwěi le pángbiān hái yǒu yí liàng kǎchē zài nìxíng tài jīngxiǎn le xìnghǎo wǒmen méi zǒu nà tiáo lù · Hey, look: over on that road two cars have crashed into each other, and there's a lorry going the wrong way! That was close: lucky we didn't go that way.

anna 周博士说，从机场到峡谷路途很远，山路又崎岖又颠簸，所以她留了一天机动时间。峡谷口还有缆车，能看到瀑布。
Zhōubóshì shuō cóng jīchǎng dào xiágǔ lùtú hěn yuǎn shān lù yòu qíqū yòu diānbǒ suǒyǐ tā liú le yì tiān jīdòng shíjiān xiágǔ kǒu hái yǒu lǎnchē néng kàn dào pùbù · Dr Zhou says it's a long way from the airport to the gorge, and the mountain roads are rough and bumpy, so she's left a spare day. There's a cable car at the mouth of the gorge too, with a view of the waterfall.

little sister 下次我们坐卧铺火车去吧。沿途的风景一定很美，火车沿线的小城也可以停下来看看。
xià cì wǒmen zuò wòpù huǒchē qù ba yántú de fēngjǐng yídìng hěn měi huǒchē yánxiàn de xiǎo chéng yě kěyǐ tíng xialai kàn kan · Next time let's take the sleeper train. The scenery along the way must be lovely, and we could stop at little towns along the line.

xiaoming 到了！机场是交通枢纽，四通八达，要吃有吃，要喝有喝。你们先进去，我把车停放好，随即就来。
dào le jīchǎng shì jiāotōng shūniǔ sìtōng bādá yào chī yǒu chī yào hē yǒu hē nǐmen xiān jìnqù wǒ bǎ chē tíngfàng hǎo suíjí jiù lái · Here we are! The airport is a transport hub with links everywhere: food, drink, whatever you want. You go in first; I'll park the car and be right with you.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

刨
páo
to dig, dig up

铲
chǎn
to shovel, scrape

抠
kōu
to dig out (with a finger); to be stingy

挠
náo
to scratch

good to know · Signs are written in a formal style: 车辆请绕行 (vehicles please detour), 禁止掉头 (no U-turns), 请勿逆行 (do not drive against the traffic). 地道 dìdào is an underpass; 地道 dìdao means authentic. The tones tell you which.

Detours, shortcuts and a crash on the motorway: you can now back-seat drive in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 52 by sea and by air

Talk about ships, planes and freight, and link your reasons like a written text: 若/倘若 (if), 以防/免得 (in case, so as not to), 况且/加之 (besides, on top of that), 乃至 (and even), 且 (and).

Announcements, safety cards, contracts and news reports are built on these linking words. Knowing them turns long formal sentences into easy reading.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
船舶	chuánbó	ships, vessels	港口里停着各种各样的船舶。 All kinds of vessels are moored in the port.
帆	fān	sail	风很大，船上的帆都鼓起来了。 The wind is strong, and the boat's sails have filled out.
帆船	fānchuán	sailing boat	海湾里有几只白色的帆船。 There are a few white sailing boats in the bay.
桨	jiǎng	oar, paddle	他拿起桨，慢慢地把船划到了对岸。 He picked up the oars and slowly rowed the boat to the other side.
游船	yóuchuán	pleasure boat, cruise boat	晚上坐游船看两岸的风景，特别美。 Taking a boat in the evening to see both banks lit up is lovely.
渔船	yúchuán	fishing boat	天还没亮，渔船就出海了。 The fishing boats put out to sea before dawn.
停泊	tíngbó	to moor, anchor	几十条船停泊在港湾里。 Dozens of boats are moored in the harbour.
航海	hánghǎi	navigation, seafaring	他从小就梦想去航海。 Ever since he was a child he has dreamed of sailing the seas.
航行	hángxíng	to sail, fly (a route)	这条船已经在海上航行了三天。 The ship has been at sea for three days.
航运	hángyùn	shipping	这个城市的航运非常发达。 This city has a highly developed shipping industry.
海运	hǎiyùn	to ship by sea; sea freight	海运比空运便宜，可是慢多了。 Shipping by sea is cheaper than by air, but much slower.
货运	huòyùn	freight transport	这条铁路主要用于货运。 This railway is mainly used for freight.
集装箱	jízhuāngxiāng	shipping container	码头上堆满了集装箱。 The docks are piled high with containers.
客运	kèyùn	passenger transport	春节前后是客运最忙的时候。 The weeks around the Spring Festival are the busiest time for passenger transport.
客流	kèliú	passenger flow	火车站今天的客流特别大。 The station is extremely busy with passengers today.
客机	kèjī	airliner, passenger plane	这架客机能坐三百多人。 This airliner seats over three hundred people.

机舱	jīcāng	aircraft cabin	机舱里有点儿冷，我要了一条毯子。 It was a bit cold in the cabin, so I asked for a blanket.
舱	cāng	cabin, hold (ship or plane)	大的行李请放在行李舱里。 Please put large bags in the luggage hold.
直升机	zhíshēngjī	helicopter	直升机把受伤的游客送到了医院。 A helicopter took the injured tourist to hospital.
登陆	dēnglù	to land, come ashore	台风明天上午登陆。 The typhoon will make landfall tomorrow morning.
搭乘	dāchéng	to travel by, take (transport)	欢迎搭乘本次航班。 Welcome aboard this flight.
导航	dǎoháng	to navigate; satnav	开车去那儿最好用导航。 If you drive there, it's best to use the satnav.
漂泊	piāobó	to drift, wander	他在外面漂泊了十几年，终于回家了。 After more than ten years of wandering, he finally came home.
况且	kuàngqiě	moreover, besides	太晚了，况且外面还在下雨，你别走了。 It's too late, and besides, it's still raining: stay here tonight.
免得	miǎnde	so as not to, lest	多带一件外套，免得着凉。 Take an extra coat so you don't catch cold.
若	ruò	if (written)	若有问题，请随时联系我。 If there are any problems, please contact me at any time.
倘若	tǎngruò	if, supposing (written)	倘若航班取消，我们就改坐火车。 If the flight is cancelled, we'll take the train instead.
若是	ruòshì	if	若是天气好，我们就坐游船去湖上看看。 If the weather's good, we'll take a boat out on the lake.
以防	yǐfáng	in case, to guard against	请系好安全带，以防飞机颠簸。 Please fasten your seat belt in case of turbulence.
加之	jiāzhī	on top of that, in addition	山里天气多变，加之路不好走，要多留时间。 The mountain weather is changeable, and on top of that the roads are bad, so allow plenty of time.
乃至	nǎizhì	and even, up to	这家公司的船舶航行在中国沿海乃至世界各地。 This company's ships sail along China's coast and even all over the world.
且	qiě	and, moreover (written)	这家航空公司的机票便宜，且服务周到。 This airline's tickets are cheap, and its service is good too.
亦	yì	also (written)	我亦有同感。 I feel the same way.

pattern written links: if, in case, besides, and even

若 / 倘若 / 若是 + if…

……，以防 / 免得 + risk

况且 / 加之 + extra reason

A 乃至 B · A 且 B

若, 倘若 and 若是 are written ways to say 如果. 以防 (in case) and 免得 (so as not to) come in the second clause and name the risk you are avoiding. 况且 and 加之 add one more reason (况且 sounds persuasive, 加之 factual); 鉴于 (in view of) opens with the reason. 乃至 means “and even”, and 且 is a written “and”.

若是天气好，我们就坐游船去湖上看看。 **ruòshì tiānqì hǎo wǒmen jiù zuò yóuchuán qù hú shàng kàn kan** If the weather’s good, we’ll take a boat out on the lake.

鉴于天气不好，今天的游船都停泊在港湾里。 **jiànyú tiānqì bù hǎo jīntiān de yóuchuán dōu tíngbó zài gǎngwān lǐ** In view of the bad weather, all the pleasure boats are staying moored in the harbour today.

高铁又快又准时，加之票也不贵，长途客运现在主要靠高铁。 **gāotiě yòu kuài yòu zhǔnshí jiāzhī piào yě bú guì chángtú kèyùn xiànzài zhǔyào kào gāotiě** High-speed trains are fast and punctual, and on top of that tickets are cheap, so long-distance passengers now mostly go by high-speed rail.

这家航空公司的机票便宜，且服务周到。 **zhè jiā hángkōng gōngsī de jīpiào piányi qiě fúwù zhōudào** This airline’s tickets are cheap, and its service is good too.

dialogue a nervous flyer

anna 包放进行李舱了吗？……你怎么了？脸都白了。
bāo fàng jìn xíngli cāng le ma nǐ zěnme le liǎn dōu bái le · Did you get your bag into the overhead locker? … What's wrong? You've gone white.

little sister 我对坐飞机一直有点儿畏惧。刚才发的安全说明，我紧张得看都没看。
wǒ duì zuò fēijī yìzhí yǒudiǎnr wèijù gāngcái fā de ānquán shuōmíng wǒ jǐnzhāng de kàn dōu méi kàn · I've always been a bit afraid of flying. I was so nervous I didn't even look at the safety card they handed out.

anna 我给你念：“倘若遇到紧急情况，请先戴好自己的氧气面罩，然后再帮助别人。若需要帮助，请找工作人员。”你看，先做什么，后做什么，写得清清楚楚。
wǒ gěi nǐ niàn tǎngruò yùdào jǐnjí qíngkuàng qǐng xiān dài hǎo zìjǐ de yǎngqì miàn zhào ránhòu zài bāngzhù biérén ruò xūyào bāngzhù qǐng zhǎo gōngzuò rényuán nǐ kàn xiān zuò shénme hòu zuò shénme xiě de qīngqīngchuchu · I'll read it to you: “In an emergency, first put on your own oxygen mask, then help others. If you need help, please ask a member of the crew.” See? What to do first and what to do next, all clearly set out.

little sister 若是飞机掉下去怎么办？我生怕到时候惊慌失措。
ruòshì fēijī diào xiaqu zěnme bàn wǒ shēngpà dào shíhou jīnghuāng shīcuò · And what if the plane falls out of the sky? I'm so afraid I'd panic.

anna 别瞎想。客机是最安全的交通工具，况且今天天气这么好。你要是坐过直升机，就知道这个机舱有多舒服了。
bié xiā xiǎng kèjī shì zuì ānquán de jiāotōng gōngjù kuàngqiě jīntiān tiānqì zhème hǎo nǐ yàoshi zuò guo zhíshēngjī jiù zhīdào zhège jīcāng yǒu duō shūfu le · Don't be silly. Airliners are the safest way to travel, and besides, the weather's perfect today. If you'd ever been in a helicopter, you'd know how comfortable this cabin is.

little sister 听你这么说，我好像吃了一颗定心丸。我妈妈公司做的是航运，货都是用集装箱海运的。她说在海上航行慢是慢，可是货运便宜多了。
tīng nǐ zhème shuō wǒ hǎoxiàng chī le yì kē dìngxīnwán wǒ māma gōngsī zuò de shì hángyùn huò dōu shì yòng jízhuāngxiāng hǎiyùn de tā shuō zài hǎi shàng hángxíng màn shì màn kěshì huòyùn piányi duō le · Hearing you say that puts my mind at rest. My mum's company is in shipping: all its goods go by sea in containers. She says sailing is slow, but freight is much cheaper that way.

anna 到了峡谷，我们坐游船。周博士说，下游的湖上有挂着白帆的帆船、渔船，还有划桨的小船。
dào le xiágǔ wǒmen zuò yóuchuán Zhōubóshì shuō xiàyóu de hú shàng yǒu guà zhe bái fān de fānchuán yúchuán hái yǒu huá jiǎng de xiǎo chuán · When we get to the gorge, we'll take a boat. Dr Zhou says the lake downstream has sailing boats with white sails, fishing boats and little rowing boats.

little sister 那还差不多！对了，周博士为什么提前走了？
nà hái chàbuduō duì le Zhōubóshì wèi shénme tíqián zǒu le · Now you're talking! By the way, why did Dr Zhou go on ahead?

anna 鉴于这个季节雨多，加之山路不好走，她先去看看，以防出问题。她一年有一半时间在外面漂泊，真不容易。
jiànyú zhège jìjié yǔ duō jiāzhī shān lù bù hǎo zǒu tā xiān qù kàn kan yǐfáng chū wèntí tā yì nián yǒu yíbàn shíjiān zài wàimiàn piāobó zhēn bù róngyì · Since it rains a lot this season, and on top of that the mountain roads are bad, she went to check first in case of problems. She spends half the year on the road: it's not easy.

little sister 她说过，搞研究就像航海，全国乃至世界各地都得去。下了飞机她来接我们，她车上有导航，免得我们迷路。
tā shuō guo gǎo yánjiū jiù xiàng hánghǎi quán guó nǎizhì shìjiè gèdì dōu děi qù xià le fēijī tā lái jiē wǒmen tā chē shàng yǒu dǎoháng miǎnde wǒmen mílù · She told me research is like sailing the seas: you have to go all over the country, even all over the world. She's meeting us off the plane, and she has satnav in the car, so we won't get lost.

anna 你看窗外，从高空往下看，山脉和丘陵都看得清清楚楚！
nǐ kàn chuāng wài cóng gāokōng wǎng xià kàn shānmài hé qiūlíng dōu kàn de qīngqīngchuchu · Look out of the window: from up here you can see the mountain ranges and the hills so clearly!

little sister

真是奇观！我都不紧张了。

zhēn shì qíguān wǒ dōu bù jǐnzhāng le · What a sight! I'm not nervous any more.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

捅
tǒng
to poke, jab; to let out (a secret)

戳
chuō
to jab, poke (with a point)

磕
kē
to knock, bump

撬
qiào
to prise open, lever

good to know · 以防 vs 免得: both name a risk in the second clause. 以防 is formal (signs, notices); 免得 is everyday: 快走吧，免得迟到. The formal ifs, from most to least formal: 倘若, 若, 若是. All of them pair with 就 or 则 in the second clause.

Safety cards, freight, sails and helicopters: the formal Chinese of travel now reads like a conversation.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 53 setting off

Plan a trip and set off: guides, tents, sleeping bags, board and lodging, stopovers and round trips, and talk about what you do besides work with (在)……之余.

Trip planning has its own vocabulary, half everyday and half formal. And 之余 is how Chinese talks about the life you have outside work.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
动身	dòngshēn	to set off	我们明天一早就动身。 We're setting off first thing tomorrow.
启程	qǐchéng	to set out (on a journey)	代表团明天启程回国。 The delegation sets out for home tomorrow.
起程	qǐchéng	to set out (on a journey)	我们明天一早起程。 We set out early tomorrow morning.
赴	fù	to go to, attend (formal)	他赴英国留学，五年后学成归来。 He went to study in the UK and came back five years later with his degree.
赶赴	gǎnfù	to rush to	医生们连夜赶赴现场。 The doctors rushed to the scene through the night.
归来	guīlái	to return, come back	他们旅行归来，带回了很多照片。 Back from their trip, they brought lots of photos.
来回	láihuí	round trip; back and forth	从这儿到山顶，来回要六个小时。 From here to the summit and back takes six hours.
逗留	dòuliú	to stay, stop over	我们在这个小城逗留了三天。 We stayed in this little town for three days.
滞留	zhìliú	to be stranded	因为大雪，很多旅客滞留在机场。 Because of the heavy snow, many passengers were stranded at the airport.
漫游	mànyóu	to roam, wander	退休以后，他在全国各地漫游。 After retiring, he roamed all over the country.
郊游	jiāoyóu	outing, trip to the country	周末我们全家去郊游。 This weekend the whole family is going on an outing to the countryside.
避暑	bìshǔ	to escape the summer heat	夏天很多人去山里避暑。 In summer lots of people go to the mountains to escape the heat.
探险	tànxiǎn	to explore, go on an expedition	他喜欢去没人去过的地方探险。 He loves exploring places nobody has been to.
徒步	túbù	on foot	我们打算徒步穿越这个峡谷。 We're planning to cross this gorge on foot.
露营	lùyíng	to camp	今天晚上我们在湖边露营。 Tonight we're camping by the lake.

帐篷	zhàngpeng	tent	天黑以前一定要把帐篷搭好。 We must get the tent up before dark.
睡袋	shuìdài	sleeping bag	山上晚上很冷，要带厚一点儿的睡袋。 It's cold up the mountain at night: bring a thicker sleeping bag.
穿越	chuānyuè	to cross, pass through	他们用十天穿越了沙漠。 They crossed the desert in ten days.
迷失	míshī	to lose (one's way)	在森林里很容易迷失方向。 It's easy to lose your bearings in a forest.
带路	dàilù	to show the way	我不认识路，你给我们带路吧。 I don't know the way: could you lead us?
向导	xiàngdǎo	guide (person)	我们请了一位当地的向导。 We hired a local guide.
一行	yīxíng	a party, group (travelling together)	我们一行五人，明天去山里。 Our party of five is going to the mountains tomorrow.
见闻	jiànwén	what one sees and hears, experiences	她把旅途中的见闻写成了一本书。 She turned what she saw and heard on her travels into a book.
食宿	shísù	board and lodging	参加活动的人，食宿由我们安排。 For everyone taking part, we'll arrange food and accommodation.
客房	kèfáng	guest room, hotel room	这家酒店有两百多间客房。 This hotel has over two hundred rooms.
星级	xīngjí	star-rated (hotel)	这家是五星级酒店，服务特别好。 This is a five-star hotel: the service is excellent.
包袱	bāofu	bundle; a burden	别有思想包袱，大家都|会帮你。 Don't let it weigh on you: everyone will help you.
随身	suíshēn	carry-on, on one's person	随身的东西请自己保管好。 Please look after your personal belongings yourself.
位子	wèizi	seat, place	请问，这个位子有人吗? Excuse me, is this seat taken?
巷	xiàng	lane, alley	旅馆在一条安静的小巷里。 The guesthouse is in a quiet little lane.
港	gǎng	port, harbour	船已经进港了。 The ship has already come into port.
余	yú	more than; remaining (after a number)	这次比赛有三万余人参加。 More than thirty thousand people are taking part in the race.

pattern **(在) ……之余: besides, when not busy with**

(在) | activity / feeling | 之余, | something else

……之余 means “in the time left over from” or “on top of”. With work or study it says what you do in your free time: 工作之余, 学习之余. With a feeling it adds a second feeling: 高兴之余，也有点儿担心 (glad, but also a little worried). It is a touch formal.

在紧张的工作之余，他每个周末都去徒步。 **zài jǐnzhāng de gōngzuò zhī yú tā měi gè zhōumò dōu qù túbù** Besides his stressful job, he goes hiking every weekend.

研究之余，周博士还写了好几本科普书。 **yánjiū zhī yú Zhōubóshì hái xiě le hǎo jǐ běn kēpǔ shū** On top of her research, Dr Zhou has written several popular science books.

惊喜之余，她也有一点儿担心。 **jīngxǐ zhī yú tā yě yǒuyìdiǎnr dānxīn** Delighted as she was, she was also a little worried.

dialogue the plan

dr zhou 欢迎来到峡谷口！我们一行三人，明天黎明就动身。
huānyíng lái dào xiágǔ kǒu wǒmen yìxíng sān rén míngtiān límíng jiù dòngshēn · Welcome to the mouth of the gorge! There are three of us, and we set off at dawn tomorrow.

little sister 周博士，您工作之余也喜欢徒步吗？
Zhōubóshì nín gōngzuò zhī yú yě xǐhuan túbù ma · Dr Zhou, do you like hiking in your free time too?

dr zhou 当然！工作之余，我最喜欢徒步穿越峡谷。这一带地势复杂，山岭又多，所以我请了一位当地的向导给我们带路，免得我们在山里迷失方向。
dāngrán gōngzuò zhī yú wǒ zuì xǐhuan túbù chuānyuè xiágǔ zhè yídài dìshì fùzá shānlǐng yòu duō suǒyǐ wǒ qǐng le yí wèi dāngdì de xiàngdǎo gěi wǒmen dàilù miǎnde wǒmen zài shān lǐ míshī fāngxiàng · Of course! When I'm not working, my favourite thing is hiking through gorges. The terrain round here is complicated, with ridge after ridge, so I've hired a local guide to lead us, so we don't lose our way in the mountains.

anna 我们晚上住哪儿？要露营吗？
wǒmen wǎnshang zhù nǎr yào lùyíng ma · Where do we sleep? Are we camping?

dr zhou 第一天晚上在山谷里露营，帐篷和睡袋向导都准备好了。第二天住山里的小旅馆，食宿都很简单，不是什么星级酒店。
dì yī tiān wǎnshang zài shāngǔ lǐ lùyíng zhàngpeng hé shuìdài xiàngdǎo dōu zhǔnbèi hǎo le dì èr tiān zhù shān lǐ de xiǎo lǚguǎn shísù dōu hěn jiǎndān bú shì shénme xīngjí jiǔdiàn · The first night we camp in the valley: the guide has the tents and sleeping bags ready. The second night we stay in a little inn in the mountains. Food and beds are simple: definitely not a star-rated hotel.

little sister 没关系，这家旅馆在小巷里，客房又安静又干净，我已经很满意了。
méi guānxi zhè jiā lǚguǎn zài xiǎo xiàng lǐ kèfáng yòu ānjìng yòu gānjìng wǒ yǐjīng hěn mǎnyì le · That's fine. This guesthouse is down a lane, the rooms are quiet and clean, and I'm already happy.

anna 我能把大包袱留在客房，随身只带一个小背包吗？
wǒ néng bǎ dà bāofu liú zài kèfáng suíshēn zhǐ dài yí gè xiǎo bēibāo ma · Can I leave my big bundle in the room and just take a small backpack?

dr zhou 可以。来回一共四天。山里天气变得快，以前有游客在山上多逗留了一天，结果碰上大雨，滞留了三天。所以我们一定要按计划走。
kěyǐ láihuí yígòng sì tiān shān lǐ tiānqì biàn de kuài yǐqián yǒu yóukè zài shān shàng duō dòuliú le yì tiān jiéguǒ pèng shàng dà yǔ zhìliú le sān tiān suǒyǐ wǒmen yídìng yào àn jìhuà zǒu · Yes. It's four days there and back. Mountain weather changes fast: some tourists once stayed an extra day on the mountain, got caught in heavy rain and were stranded for three days. So we must stick to the plan.

anna 山里晚上冷吗？
shān lǐ wǎnshang lěng ma · Is it cold in the mountains at night?

dr zhou 冷。不过附近有温泉，是个好去处。
lěng búguò fùjìn yǒu wēnquán shì gè hǎo qùchù · Yes. But there's a hot spring nearby: a great place to go.

little sister 太刺激了，简直是去探险！我早就憧憬这样的旅行了。回去以后，我要把这次的见闻都写下来。
tài cìjī le jiǎnzhí shì qù tànxiǎn wǒ zǎo jiù chōngjǐng zhèyàng de lǚxíng le huíqù yǐhòu wǒ yào bǎ zhè cì de jiànwén dōu xiě xialai · How exciting, it's a real expedition! I've dreamed of a trip like this for ages. When I get back, I'm going to write down everything we see and hear.

anna 林编辑还等着我的游记呢。来，我们三个先拍个照，发给她！
Línbiānjí hái děng zhe wǒ de yóu jì ne lái wǒmen sān gè xiān pāi gè zhào fā gěi tā · Editor Lin is waiting for my travel piece too. Come on, let's take a photo of the three of us first and send it to her!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

掀
xiān
to lift (a lid, a cover), raise

揭
jiē
to peel off, uncover; to expose

撕
sī
to tear, rip

亦
yì
also (written)

good to know · Setting off, from everyday to formal: 走 → 出发 → 动身 → 启程 / 起程. Arriving formally: 抵达; coming home formally: 归来. 逗留 is a stay you choose; 滞留 is a stay you are stuck with (stranded by snow, strikes, cancelled flights).

Tent, sleeping bag, guide, plan: you can now organise a whole expedition in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 54 shape and size

Describe shapes and sizes in a landscape (sunken, jutting, flat, tilted, towering, vast, narrow) and say “nothing is more … than …”.

Travel writing lives on shape words: cliffs tower, paths narrow, plateaus stretch away. And “nothing beats …” is how you sum up a trip.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
凹	āo	sunken, concave	路面有一块凹下去了，开车小心。 Part of the road surface has sunk: drive carefully.
凸	tū	protruding, convex	墙上有一块石头凸出来了。 A stone is sticking out of the wall.
扁	biǎn	flat	我的背包被压扁了。 My backpack has been squashed flat.
横	héng	horizontal, crosswise	一棵大树横{heng2-7}在路中间。 A big tree lies across the middle of the path.
倾斜	qīngxié	to tilt, lean	那座老塔有点儿倾斜了。 That old pagoda is leaning a little.
棱角	léngjiǎo	edges and corners; sharpness	这块石头棱角很尖，别碰到手。 This stone has sharp edges: don’t cut your hand.
轮廓	lúnkuò	outline, contour	远处只能看见山的轮廓。 In the distance you can only see the outline of the mountains.
格子	gézi	check pattern, squares	他穿着一件蓝格子衬衫。 He’s wearing a blue checked shirt.
花纹	huāwén	decorative pattern	这块石头上的花纹像一幅画。 The pattern on this stone looks like a painting.
花样	huāyàng	variety, pattern; trick	她做菜的花样真多。 She can make so many different dishes.
立体	lìtǐ	three-dimensional	这张地图是立体的，山都凸出来了。 This map is three-dimensional: the mountains stick out.
个头儿	gètóur	height, size (of a person)	他个头儿不高，可是力气很大。 He isn’t tall, but he’s very strong.
巨人	jùrén	giant	那块大石头像一个站着的巨人。 That big rock looks like a standing giant.
渺小	miǎoxiǎo	tiny, insignificant	站在大山面前，人显得很渺小。 Standing before the great mountains, people look tiny.
微型	wēixíng	miniature, micro-	这是一台微型相机，放在口袋里就行。 This is a miniature camera: it fits in your pocket.
袖珍	xiùzhēn	pocket-sized	我带了一本袖珍字典。 I brought a pocket dictionary.

区区	qūqū	a mere, trifling	区区小事，不用客气。 It was nothing at all: no need to thank me.
胖乎乎	pànghūhū	chubby, plump	那个孩子胖乎乎的，真可爱。 That little kid is so chubby and cute.
稚嫩	zhìnèn	tender, young, immature	孩子稚嫩的声音让大家都笑了。 The child's little voice made everyone laugh.
宽敞	kuānchang	spacious, roomy	新房子的客厅很宽敞。 The living room in the new flat is very spacious.
宽阔	kuānkuò	broad, wide	这条马路很宽阔，可以并排开四辆车。 This road is very wide: four cars can drive side by side.
宽广	kuānguǎng	vast, broad (also of the mind)	到了下游，河面宽广，水流平静。 In its lower reaches the river is broad and the current calm.
宽松	kuānsōng	loose (clothes); relaxed, roomy	爬山最好穿宽松的衣服。 For hiking it's best to wear loose clothes.
宽泛	kuānfàn	broad, vague	这个题目太宽泛了，你得{dei3}写得具体一点儿。 This topic is too broad: you need to be more specific.
辽阔	liáokuò	vast, boundless (land, sea)	草原辽阔，一眼望不到边。 The grassland stretches away further than the eye can see.
开阔	kāikuò	open, wide; open-minded	站在山顶，眼前顿时开阔了。 At the top of the mountain, the view suddenly opened out.
浩瀚	hàohàn	vast (sea, sky, books)	夜里看着浩瀚的天空，人会变得很安静。 Gazing at the vast sky at night makes you very calm.
茫茫	mángmáng	boundless, hazy	大雪过后，四周白茫茫的一片。 After the heavy snow, everything around was a vast expanse of white.
狭小	xiáxiǎo	narrow and small, cramped	房间狭小，只放得下一张床。 The room is so cramped it only fits a bed.
狭窄	xiázhǎi	narrow	山路很狭窄，只能一个人走。 The path is so narrow that only one person can pass at a time.
陡	dǒu	steep	这段坡太陡了，我们慢慢走。 This slope is too steep: let's go slowly.
矗立	chùlì	to stand tall, tower	江边矗立着一座座高楼。 Tall buildings tower along the river.
屹立	yìlì	to stand firm, tower	这座古塔在山上屹立了一千年。 This old pagoda has stood on the hill for a thousand years.
耸立	sǒnglì	to rise high, tower	峡谷两边耸立着陡峭的悬崖。 Sheer cliffs rise high on both sides of the gorge.
挺拔	tǐngbá	tall and straight	路两边是一排排挺拔的大树。 Both sides of the road are lined with tall, straight trees.
莫	mò	nothing, no one (written)	人生最大的快乐莫过于和家人在一起。 Nothing in life is happier than being with your

family.

pattern 莫过于: nothing is more ... than

最 + adjective + 的 | 莫过于 | the thing

……莫过于X means “nothing is more … than X”: 最美的莫过于这里的日出. It is written and a little formal; in speech the same idea is 最……的就是……了.

这一路上，最美的莫过于悬崖上那几棵挺拔的大树。 **zhè yílù shàng zuì měi de mò guòyú xuányá shàng nà jǐ kē tǐngbá de dà shù** Of everything on the way, nothing was more beautiful than those tall, straight trees on the cliff.

走了一天，最舒服的莫过于在宽敞的客房里好好休息。 **zǒu le yì tiān zuì shūfu de mò guòyú zài kuānchang de kèfáng lǐ hǎohǎo xiūxi** After a day’s walking, nothing feels better than a good rest in a roomy guest room.

我觉得最了不起的，莫过于那座在山上屹立了一千年的古塔。 **wǒ juéde zuì liǎobuqǐ de mò guòyú nà zuò zài shān shàng yìlì le yìqiān nián de gǔ tǎ** To me, nothing is more remarkable than that old pagoda that has stood on the hill for a thousand years.

dialogue giants in the rock

little sister 哇！两边的悬崖这么高，像两个巨人。山下的村子里还传来孩子们稚嫩的读书声。
wā liǎng biān de xuányá zhème gāo xiàng liǎng gè jùrén shān xià de cūn zi lǐ hái chuán lái háizimen zhìnèn de dúshū shēng · Wow! The cliffs on either side are so high, like two giants. And you can hear the little voices of children reading aloud in the village below.

dr zhou 东边的悬崖有一千多米高。从下往上看，越往上越陡，最上面还有一点儿雪。
dōng biān de xuányá yǒu yìqiān duō mǐ gāo cóng xià wǎng shàng kàn yuè wǎng shàng yuè dǒu zuì shàngmiàn hái yǒuyìdiǎnr xuě · The cliff on the east side is over a thousand metres high. Looking up from the bottom, it gets steeper the higher it goes, and there's still a little snow at the very top.

little sister 悬崖上有一道裂缝，好像随时会掉下石头来！
xuányá shàng yǒu yídào lièfèng hǎoxiàng suíshí huì diào xià shítou lái · There's a crack in the cliff: it looks as if rocks could fall at any moment!

anna 站在这儿，我觉得自己特别渺小。你们看，那块大石头的轮廓像不像一个胖乎乎的孩子？
zhàn zài zhèr wǒ juéde zìjǐ tèbié miǎoxiǎo nǐmen kàn nà kuài dà shítou de lúnkuò xiàng bu xiàng yí gè pànghūhū de háizi · Standing here, I feel so tiny. Look, doesn't the outline of that big rock look like a chubby child?

little sister 像！它旁边那块中间凹进去，两边凸出来，扁扁的，有很多棱角，上面的花纹像格子衬衫。
xiàng tā pángbiān nà kuài zhōngjiān āo jinqu liǎng biān tū chulai biǎn biǎn de yǒu hěn duō léngjiǎo shàngmiàn de huāwén xiàng gézi chènshān · It does! The one next to it is hollow in the middle, sticks out on both sides, all flat and full of sharp edges, and the pattern on it looks like a checked shirt.

anna 我看得都出神了。
wǒ kàn de dōu chūshén le · I've been staring at them, completely spellbound.

dr zhou 这些石头花样很多，都是河水几万年冲出来的，有的光滑，有的粗糙，就像一本立体的地质书。
zhèxiē shítou huāyàng hěn duō dōu shì hé shuǐ jǐ wàn nián chōng chulai de yǒude guānghuá yǒude cūcāo jiù xiàng yì běn lìtǐ de dìzhì shū · These rocks come in all shapes: the river carved them over tens of thousands of years, some smooth, some rough. They're like a three-dimensional geology book.

anna 前面的路越来越窄了，还有一棵树横在路上。下面是白茫茫的河水，我有点儿怕。
qiánmiàn de lù yuè lái yuè zhǎi le hái yǒu yì kē shù héng zài lùshang xiàmiàn shì bái mángmáng de hé shuǐ wǒ yǒudiǎnr pà · The path ahead is getting narrower, and there's a tree lying across it. Down below the river is a mass of white water: I'm a bit scared.

dr zhou 小心，那段路有点儿倾斜。过了这一段，河面就宽阔了，前面是辽阔的高原，眼前马上就开阔了，心情也会舒畅很多。
xiǎoxīn nà duàn lù yǒudiǎnr qīngxié guò le zhè yí duàn hé miàn jiù kuānkuò le qiánmiàn shì liáokuò de gāoyuán yǎnqián mǎshàng jiù kāikuò le xīnqíng yě huì shūchàng hěn duō · Careful, that bit slopes a little. After this stretch the river widens, the plateau stretches out ahead, the view opens right up, and you'll feel much better.

little sister 我个头儿小，走窄路没问题。区区几公里，难不倒我！我还带了一台微型相机，一路拍下来。
wǒ gètóur xiǎo zǒu zhǎi lù méi wèntí qūqū jǐ gōnglǐ nán bù dǎo wǒ wǒ hái dài le yì tái wēixíng xiàngjī yílù pāi xialai · I'm small, so narrow paths are no problem. A mere few kilometres won't beat me! And I've brought a mini camera to film the whole way.

anna 在狭小的办公室里待久了，最开心的莫过于看到这样的风景。一想到晚上能看浩瀚的天空，我就不累了。
zài xiáxiǎo de bàngōngshì lǐ dāi jiǔ le zuì kāixīn de mò guòyú kàn dào zhèyàng de fēngjǐng yì xiǎng dào wǎnshang néng kàn hàohàn de tiānkōng wǒ jiù bú lèi le · After so long in a cramped office, nothing makes me happier than a view like this. Just thinking about the vast night sky this evening, I'm not tired at all.

dr zhou 那就加油！不过一定要听向导的，别一个人乱走，不然落得个在山里迷路，那就麻烦了。

nà jiù jiāyóu búguò yídìng yào tīng xiàngdǎo de bié yí gè rén luàn zǒu bùrán luò de gè zài shān lǐ mílù nà jiù máfan le · Then keep going! But do listen to the guide and don't wander off alone, or you'll end up lost in the mountains, and that would be serious.

anna 放心，我们会紧跟着向导。这一路真是一条美丽的风景线。

fàngxīn wǒmen huì jǐn gēn zhe xiàngdǎo zhè yílù zhēn shì yì tiáo měilì de fēngjǐngxiàn · Don't worry, we'll stay right behind the guide. This whole route is one long beautiful view.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

绎
yì
unbroken

炖
dùn
to stew, braise

煲
bāo
to cook slowly in a pot (southern)

蒸
zhēng
to steam

good to know · Standing tall, three ways: 矗立 (tall buildings, towers), 耸立 (sheer height: cliffs, peaks), 屹立 (standing firm through time: an old pagoda, a nation). Wide, five ways: 宽敞 roomy (rooms), 宽阔 broad (roads, rivers), 宽广 vast (land, the mind), 宽松 loose (clothes, rules), 宽泛 vague (topics).

Towering, sunken, vast or cramped: you can now paint any landscape in Chinese, rock by rock.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 55 edges, sides and places

Chinese HSK 7–9 in 193 days
unit 7 · travel and geography

Say where things are (on the edge, at the end, to one side, between, all around) and turn an argument round with 反过来（说）.

Maps, directions, search parties and debates all need precise place words. 反过来说 is the classic move for seeing a point from the other side.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
边缘	biānyuán	edge, margin; on the verge	别站在悬崖边缘拍照。 Don't stand on the edge of the cliff to take photos.
背面	bèimiàn	the back, reverse side	照片的背面写着日期。 The date is written on the back of the photo.
侧面	cèmiàn	side, flank; indirectly	从侧面看，这座山像一个人的脸。 From the side, this mountain looks like a face.
横向	héngxiàng	horizontal, across	跟别的旅馆横向比较，这家的价格居于中等。 Compared side by side with other guesthouses, this one is mid-priced.
局部	júbù	part, local	明天局部地区有雨。 Tomorrow there will be rain in places.
大片	dàpiàn	large stretch, expanse	山下是一大片树林。 Below the mountain is a great stretch of forest.
方圆	fāngyuán	circumference, all round	方圆十公里内只有这一个村子。 This is the only village for ten kilometres around.
四方	sìfāng	all directions, everywhere	四方的游客都来这里看日出。 Visitors come from all over to watch the sunrise here.
全方位	quánfāngwèi	all-round, all-sided	这台相机可以全方位拍摄。 This camera can shoot in every direction.
纵深	zòngshēn	depth (going inward)	越往峡谷的纵深走，路越难走。 The deeper you go into the gorge, the harder the path.
区间	qūjiān	range, interval	这里的房价区间在一百到两百元之间。 Rooms here range from one to two hundred yuan.
界限	jièxiàn	limit, dividing line (abstract)	工作和生活要有界限。 There should be a line between work and life.
界线	jièxiàn	boundary line	这条小溪就是两个村子的界线。 This stream is the boundary between the two villages.
尽头	jìntóu	end (of a road, river)	路的尽头是一个小村子。 At the end of the road there is a small village.
上限	shàngxiàn	upper limit	每个帐篷的人数上限是四个人。 Each tent sleeps four people at most.

终极	zhōngjí	ultimate, final	我们这次的终极目标是峡谷尽头的湖。 Our ultimate goal this time is the lake at the end of the gorge.
介于	jièyú	to lie between	这几天的气温介于十度和二十度之间。 Temperatures these days are between ten and twenty degrees.
居于	jūyú	to be in (a position), rank	这座山的高度在全省居于第二位。 This mountain is the second highest in the province.
所在	suǒzài	where something is, location	这就是问题所在。 That is where the problem lies.
坐落	zuòluò	to be located, sit (buildings)	村子坐落在两座山之间。 The village sits between two mountains.
一旁	yīpáng	one side, nearby	他一个人站在一旁，什么也没说。 He stood to one side on his own and said nothing.
去向	qùxiàng	whereabouts, direction gone	那只狗跑了，谁也不知道它的去向。 The dog ran off, and nobody knows where it went.
下落	xiàluò	whereabouts; to fall	丢了三天的包终于有下落了。 The bag lost three days ago has finally turned up.
遍布	biànbù	to be found everywhere	这一带遍布大大小小的湖泊。 This area is dotted with lakes, large and small.
附	fù	to attach, enclose	信后附了一张地图。 A map is enclosed with the letter.
附加	fùjiā	to add, additional	这个价格不附加任何费用。 There are no extra charges on top of this price.
挨	āi	to be next to; one by one	我们的帐篷挨着小溪。 Our tent is right next to the stream.
丙	bǐng	third (in a series), C	我们住在丙区，最里面是丁区。 We're in zone C; zone D is the furthest in.
丁	dīng	fourth (in a series), D	丁区在峡谷的最里面。 Zone D is the furthest into the gorge.
担	dàn	a shoulder-pole load	他挑着一担东西上山。 He carried a load up the mountain on his shoulder pole.

pattern 反过来（说）: the other way round

statement **反过来（说），** **the same idea, reversed**

反过来 means “turned the other way round”. As a linking phrase, 反过来（说）turns your point round to look at it from the other side: “conversely”, “by the same token”. It is great for arguments, advice and essays.

山里人帮了我们，反过来，我们也应该帮他们。 **shān lǐ rén bāng le wǒmen fǎnguolai wǒmen yě yīnggāi bāng tāmen** The mountain people helped us; by the same token, we should help them.

在山里迷路，待在原地最安全；反过来说，越走越远就越难找了。 **zài shān lǐ mílù dāi zài yuán dì zuì ānquán fǎnguolaishuō yuè zǒu yuè yuǎn jiù yuè nán zhǎo le** If you get lost in the mountains, staying put is safest; conversely, the further you walk, the harder you are to find.

工作和生活要有界限：工作不该影响生活；反过来说，生活也不该影响工作。 **gōngzuò hé shēnghuó yào yǒu jièxiàn gōngzuò bù gāi yǐngxiǎng shēnghuó fǎnguolaishuō shēnghuó yě bù gāi yǐngxiǎng gōngzuò** Work and life need a clear line between them: work shouldn’t spill into your life, and conversely, life shouldn’t get in the way of work.

dialogue where’s my sister?

anna 周博士，妹妹不见了！刚才她说去一旁拍照，现在不知道去向了。我心里慌乱得很。
Zhōubóshì mèimei bújiàn le gāngcái tā shuō qù yìpáng pāizhào xiànzài bù zhīdào qùxiàng le wǒ xīnlǐ huāngluàn de hěn · Dr Zhou, Xiaoming's sister has disappeared! She said she was going to the side to take photos, and now nobody knows where she went. I'm in a real state.

dr zhou 别慌。向导说过，在山里迷路，待在原地最安全；反过来说，越走越远，就越难找。她最后在哪儿?
bié huāng xiàngdǎo shuō guo zài shān lǐ mílù dāi zài yuán dì zuì ānquán fǎnguolaishuō yuè zǒu yuè yuǎn jiù yuè nán zhǎo tā zuìhòu zài nǎr · Don't panic. The guide told us that if you get lost in the mountains, staying put is safest; conversely, the further you walk, the harder you are to find. Where did you last see her?

anna 就在这个岔路口。她往右边那条小路的尽头走了。
jiù zài zhège chà lùkǒu tā wǎng yòubian nà tiáo xiǎo lù de jìntóu zǒu le · Right here at the fork. She went off towards the end of the path on the right.

dr zhou 看地图，右边是悬崖的边缘，左边是一大片树林。方圆两公里都没有人家，只有一个露营的地方挨着小溪。我们分头搜寻吧。
kàn dìtú yòubian shì xuányá de biānyuán zuǒbian shì yí dàpiàn shùlín fāngyuán liǎng gōnglǐ dōu méiyǒu rénjia zhǐyǒu yí gè lùyíng de dìfang āi zhe xiǎo xī wǒmen fēn tóu sōuxún ba · According to the map, on the right is the edge of the cliff, and on the left a big stretch of forest. There are no houses for two kilometres around, only a campsite next to the stream. Let's split up and search.

anna 这片树林那么大，她要是迷了路，我们就是彻夜去找，也不一定找得到她。
zhè piàn shùlín nàme dà tā yàoshi mí le lù wǒmen jiùshì chèyè qù zhǎo yě bù yídìng zhǎo de dào tā · The forest is so big: if she's lost, we could search all night and still not find her.

little sister （电话里）喂？我在一块大石头的背面，侧面有一条小溪。别担心，我没事！
diànhuà lǐ wèi wǒ zài yí kuài dà shítou de bèimiàn cèmiàn yǒu yì tiáo xiǎo xī bié dānxīn wǒ méishì · (on the phone) Hello? I'm behind a big rock, with a stream along the side. Don't worry, I'm fine!

dr zhou 太好了，总算有你的下落了！你待在那儿别动，我们马上过来。向导说今天晚上局部有雨，我们得早一点儿到。
tài hǎo le zǒngsuàn yǒu nǐ de xiàluò le nǐ dāi zài nàr bié dòng wǒmen mǎshàng guòlái xiàngdǎo shuō jīntiān wǎnshang júbù yǒu yǔ wǒmen děi zǎo yìdiǎnr dào · Thank goodness, at last we know where you are! Stay right there; we're coming. The guide says there'll be rain in places tonight, so we need to get there early.

little sister 对不起，我真羞愧！我只是想拍几张全方位的风景照，结果越走越远。
duìbuqǐ wǒ zhēn xiūkuì wǒ zhǐshì xiǎng pāi jǐ zhāng quánfāngwèi de fēngjǐng zhào jiéguǒ yuè zǒu yuè yuǎn · I'm sorry, I feel so ashamed! I just wanted some all-round shots of the view, and I kept walking further and further.

anna 吓死我了！你没受惊吧？以后你不管去哪儿，都得告诉我们。
xià sǐ wǒ le nǐ méi shòujīng ba yǐhòu nǐ bùguǎn qù nǎr dōu děi gàosu wǒmen · You scared me to death! Are you all right, not too shaken? From now on, wherever you go, you tell us first.

dr zhou 好了，出发吧。今天晚上露营的地方分甲、乙、丙、丁四个区，我们在丙区。丁区在峡谷的纵深处，每个区的人数上限是二十人。这儿很受欢迎，四方的游客都来。
hǎo le chūfā ba jīntiān wǎnshang lùyíng de dìfang fēn jiǎ yǐ bǐng dīng sì gè qū wǒmen zài bǐng qū dīng qū zài xiágǔ de zòngshēn chù měi gè qū de rénshù shàngxiàn shì èrshí rén zhèr hěn shòu huānyíng sìfāng de yóukè dōu lái · Right, let's go. Tonight's campsite has four zones, A, B, C and D, and we're in C. Zone D is deep in the gorge. Each zone takes twenty people at most. It's very popular: people come from all over.

little sister 你们看向导，一个人挑着一担东西，什么帐篷的、锅的，还比我们走得快！明天的终极目标是哪儿?
nǐmen kàn xiàngdǎo yí gè rén tiāo zhe yí dàn dōngxi shénme zhàngpeng de guō de hái bǐ wǒmen zǒu de kuài míngtiān de zhōngjí mùbiāo shì nǎr · Look at the guide: he's carrying a whole load on his shoulder pole, tents, pots, everything, and he's still faster than us! What's tomorrow's ultimate goal?

dr zhou 明天我们要走到两个县交界的那片地带。
míngtiān wǒmen yào zǒu dào liǎng gè xiàn jiāojiè de nà piàn dìdài · Tomorrow we walk to the area where two

counties meet.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

熏
xūn
to smoke (food); to fill with smoke

涮
shuàn
to dip-boil (hot pot); to rinse

拌
bàn
to mix, toss (a salad)

掺
chān
to mix in, add

good to know · 甲乙丙丁 (jiǎ yǐ bǐng dīng) are the old Chinese A, B, C, D: zones, grades, and the two parties to a contract, 甲方 and 乙方. Where is it? 所在 (the place where it is: 问题所在), 坐落 (where a building sits), 居于 (where it ranks), 介于 (what it lies between).

Edge, side, end, between, all around: you can now find anyone, or anything, on a Chinese map.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 56 mission: hiking in the mountains

Follow a whole hike in Chinese: the park notice at the gate, the last stretch of the gorge, a boat on the lake, the bumpy road home and the travel piece that comes out of it.

Everything from this unit comes together: mountains and rivers, far places, roads, boats and planes, setting off, shapes and sizes, edges and places.

chapter 1 chapter 1: the notice at the gate

dr zhou 今天是最后一段路，我们的终极目标就是峡谷尽头的湖。出发以前，先看看门口的通知。

jīntiān shì zuìhòu yí duàn lù wǒmen de zhōngjí mùbiāo jiùshì xiágǔ jìntóu de hú chūfā yǐqián xiān kàn kan ménkǒu de tōngzhī · Today is the last stretch: our ultimate goal is the lake at the end of the gorge. Before we set off, let's read the notice at the gate.

anna 我来读！（读）“各位游客：欢迎来到本景区！本景区坐落在两座雪山之间，是长江一条支流的发源地。由北向南，先是陡峭的峡谷和悬崖，再往南是瀑布和湖泊，最后是一片宽阔的平原。

wǒ lái dú dú gèwèi yóukè huānyíng lái dào běn jǐngqū běn jǐngqū zuòluò zài liǎng zuò xuěshān zhījiān shì chángjiāng yì tiáo zhīliú de fāyuándì yóu běi xiàng nán xiān shì dǒuqiào de xiágǔ hé xuányá zài wǎng nán shì pùbù hé húpō zuìhòu shì yí piàn kuānkuò de píngyuán · I'll read it! (reading) "Dear visitors, welcome to the scenic area! The area lies between two snow mountains and is the source of one of the Yangtze's tributaries. From north to south, first come steep gorges and cliffs, further south waterfalls and lakes, and finally a broad plain.

anna 本景区位于两个省的交界处，地势北高南低，方圆五十公里内遍布大大小小的湖泊和温泉，好去处很多。每年接待游客上百万人次，在全省仅次于省会附近的古城。请注意以下几点：

běn jǐngqū wèiyú liǎng gè shěng de jiāojiè chù dìshì běi gāo nán dī fāngyuán wǔshí gōnglǐ nèi biànbù dàdàxiǎoxiǎo de húpō hé wēnquán hǎo qùchù hěn duō měi nián jiēdài yóukè shàng bǎi wàn réncì zài quán shěng jǐncìyú shěnghuì fùjìn de gǔ chéng qǐng zhùyì yǐxià jǐ diǎn · The area lies where two provinces meet. The land is high in the north and low in the south, and for fifty kilometres around it is dotted with lakes and hot springs, so there are plenty of places to go. It receives over a million visits a year, second in the province only to the old town near the provincial capital. Please note the following:

anna 一、峡谷里的水域水流很急，禁止游泳。二、徒步的游客请走指定的路径，不要走到悬崖边缘，以防发生危险。三、露营的地方分甲、乙、丙、丁四个区，帐篷请搭在区内，每个区的人数上限为二十人。

yī xiágǔ lǐ de shuǐyù shuǐliú hěn jí jìnzhǐ yóuyǒng èr túbù de yóukè qǐng zǒu zhǐdìng de lùjìng búyào zǒu dào xuányá biānyuán yīfáng fāshēng wēixiǎn sān lùyíng de dìfang fēn jiǎ yǐ bǐng dīng sì gè qū zhàngpeng qǐng dā zài qū nèi měi gè qū de rénshù shàngxiàn wéi èrshí rén · 1. The waters in the gorge are fast-flowing: no swimming. 2. Hikers must keep to the marked paths and stay away from the cliff edges, in case of accidents. 3. The campsite has four zones, A, B, C and D. Please pitch tents inside the zones; each zone takes twenty people at most.

anna 四、山里天气多变，加之有的路段狭窄，若遇到大雨，请在原地等待，请勿单独行动。倘若迷失方向，请拨打救援电话，必要时景区会派直升机救援。

sì shān lǐ tiānqì duō biàn jiāzhī yǒude lùduàn xiázhǎi ruò yùdào dà yǔ qǐng zài yuán dì děngdài qǐng wù dāndú xíngdòng tǎngruò míshī fāngxiàng qǐng bōdǎ jiùyuán diànhuà bìyào shí jǐngqū huì pài zhíshēngjī jiùyuán · 4. Mountain weather is changeable, and on top of that some stretches of path are narrow: if there is heavy rain, wait where you are and do not set off alone. If you lose your way, call the rescue number; if necessary, the scenic area will send a helicopter.

anna 五、缆车站在山谷的侧面，上行和下行的缆车每天早上八点到下午五点运行。六、私家车请停放在大门一旁的停车场。七、景区内有星级酒店，亦有民居客房，食宿可在游客中心预订，露营费里不附加别的费用。请保管好随身物品，且爱护山川树木。祝各位旅途愉快！”

wǔ lǎnchē zhàn zài shāngǔ de cèmiàn shàngxíng hé xiàxíng de lǎnchē měi tiān zǎoshang bā diǎn dào xiàwǔ wǔ diǎn yùnxíng liù sījiāchē qǐng tíngfàng zài dà mén yìpáng de tíngchēchǎng qī jǐngqū nèi yǒu xīngjí jiǔdiàn yì yǒu mínjū kèfáng shísù kě zài yóukè zhōngxīn yùdìng lùyíng fèi lǐ bú fùjiā biéde fèiyong qǐng bǎoguǎn hǎo suíshēn wùpǐn qiě àihù shānchuān shùmù zhù gèwèi lǚtú yúkuài · 5. The cable car station is on the side of the valley; cars going up and down run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. 6. Private cars must park in the car park beside the main gate. 7. There are star-rated hotels in the area and also rooms in local houses; board and lodging can be

booked at the visitor centre, and there are no extra charges on top of the camping fee. Please look after your belongings and take care of the landscape and the trees. Have a pleasant journey!”

dr zhou 通知的背面还附了一张地图。你们看，我们在这儿，湖在峡谷的纵深处，路的尽头。
tōngzhī de bèimiàn hái fù le yì zhāng dìtú nǐmen kàn wǒmen zài zhèr hú zài xiágǔ de zòngshēn chù lù de jìntóu · There’s a map on the back of the notice. Look: we’re here, and the lake is deep in the gorge, at the very end of the path.

little sister 写得真全面！以防、倘若、亦、且，全是书面上的说法。
xiě de zhēn quánmiàn yǐfáng tǎngruò yì qiě quán shì shūmiàn shàng de shuōfǎ · That covers everything! 以防, 倘若, 亦, 且: it’s all written language.

dr zhou 通知和合同都这么写。鉴于昨天的事，今天谁也不许一个人乱走。
tōngzhī hé hétóng dōu zhème xiě jiànyú zuótiān de shì jīntiān shéi yě bùxǔ yí gè rén luàn zǒu · Notices and contracts are always written like that. In view of what happened yesterday, nobody wanders off alone today.

little sister 知道了！我动不动就迷路，今天一定跟紧向导。
zhīdào le wǒ dòngbudòng jiù mílù jīntiān yídìng gēn jǐn xiàngdǎo · I know! I get lost at the drop of a hat, so today I’ll stick right behind the guide.

chapter 2 chapter 2: the last stretch

dr zhou 从这儿往前，路越来越窄。左边耸立着悬崖，右边是峡谷，下面就是河水。
cóng zhèr wǎng qián lù yuè lái yuè zhǎi zuǒbian sǒnglì zhe xuányá yòubian shì xiágǔ xiàmiàn jiùshì hé shuǐ · From here on the path gets narrower and narrower. Cliffs tower on the left, the gorge drops away on the right, and the river is right below.

anna 前面那个瀑布好高！水从山上冲下来，像一块挂在悬崖上的白布。
qiánmiàn nàge pùbù hǎo gāo shuǐ cóng shān shàng chōng xialai xiàng yí kuài guà zài xuányá shàng de bái bù · That waterfall ahead is so high! The water pours down the mountain like a white cloth hanging on the cliff.

little sister 那边的石头凹凸不平，像巨人的脸。还有那块扁扁的，轮廓像一只鞋。
nàbiān de shítou āo tū bùpíng xiàng jùrén de liǎn hái yǒu nà kuài biǎn biǎn de lúnkuò xiàng yì zhī xié · The rocks over there are all lumps and hollows, like a giant's face. And that flat one is shaped like a shoe.

anna 小心，前面有一棵树横在路上，旁边的石头还有点儿倾斜。
xiǎoxīn qiánmiàn yǒu yì kē shù héng zài lùshang pángbiān de shítou hái yǒudiǎnr qīngxié · Careful, there's a tree lying across the path ahead, and the rock beside it is leaning a bit.

dr zhou 这些石头有棱角，也有花纹，花样多得很。你们看那块，立体得像一个胖乎乎的小熊。
zhèxiē shítou yǒu léngjiǎo yě yǒu huāwén huāyàng duō de hěn nǐmen kàn nà kuài lìtǐ de xiàng yí gè pànghūhū de xiǎo xióng · These rocks have sharp edges and patterns too, all kinds of shapes. Look at that one: it's so three-dimensional it looks like a chubby little bear.

dr zhou 这条河的上游在雪山上，到了下游，河面就宽阔了。沿岸的村子都靠这条河生活。
zhè tiáo hé de shàngyóu zài xuěshān shàng dào le xiàyóu hé miàn jiù kuānkuò le yánàn de cūn zi dōu kào zhè tiáo hé shēnghuó · This river's upper reaches are up in the snow mountains; in the lower reaches it broadens out. All the villages along its banks live off it.

anna 从悬崖上往下看，河对岸的村子小得像玩具。在大自然面前，人真渺小。
cóng xuányá shàng wǎng xià kàn hé duìàn de cūn zi xiǎo de xiàng wánjù zài dàzìrán miànqián rén zhēn miǎoxiǎo · Looking down from the cliff, the village on the far bank is as small as a toy. Before nature, people are so tiny.

little sister 这条小溪就是两个村子的界线吧？向导挑着一担东西，挨着溪水走得飞快。
zhè tiáo xiǎo xī jiùshì liǎng gè cūn zi de jièxiàn ba xiàngdǎo tiāo zhe yí dàn dōngxi āi zhe xī shuǐ zǒu de fēi kuài · Is this stream the boundary between the two villages? The guide is carrying a full load on his shoulder pole and racing along right beside the water.

dr zhou 对。这一带是整条山脉里最美的一段，长江的这条支流就发源于前面的雪山，流过一大片森林，最后进入长江流域。
duì zhè yídài shì zhěng tiáo shānmài lǐ zuì měi de yí duàn chángjiāng de zhè tiáo zhīliú jiù fāyuán yú qiánmiàn de xuěshān liú guò yí dàpiàn sēnlín zuìhòu jìnrù chángjiāng liúyù · Yes. This is the most beautiful part of the whole range. The Yangtze tributary rises in the snow mountains ahead, runs through a great stretch of forest, and finally joins the Yangtze basin.

anna 山谷里矗立着一棵棵挺拔的大树，上面是浩瀚的天空，远处的雪山白茫茫的。真是大好江山！
shāngǔ lǐ chùlì zhe yì kē kē tǐngbá de dà shù shàngmiàn shì hàohàn de tiānkōng yuǎn chù de xuěshān bái mángmáng de zhēnshi dà hǎo jiāngshān · Tall straight trees tower in the valley, the vast sky is above us, and the snow mountains in the distance are a sea of white. What a glorious country!

little sister 我的腿快走不动了。区区十公里，怎么这么累？
wǒ de tuǐ kuài zǒu bu dòng le qūqū shí gōnglǐ zěnme zhème lèi · My legs can barely move. It's a mere ten kilometres: why am I so tired?

dr zhou 山路崎岖，又陡又滑，在这儿走十公里比在平原上走二十公里还累。况且我们每个人还背着帐篷和睡袋。
shān lù qíqū yòu dǒu yòu huá zài zhèr zǒu shí gōnglǐ bǐ zài píngyuán shàng zǒu èrshí gōnglǐ hái lèi kuàngqiě wǒmen měi gè rén hái bēi zhe zhàngpeng hé shuìdài · The path is rough, steep and slippery: ten kilometres here is harder than twenty on the plain. And besides, we're each carrying a tent and a sleeping bag.

anna 加油！我觉得旅行中最开心的，莫过于走到最后看见风景的那一刻了。
jiāyóu wǒ juéde lǚxíng zhōng zuì kāixīn de mò guòyú zǒu dào zuìhòu kànjiàn fēngjǐng de nà yí kè le · Keep going! For me, nothing on a trip beats the moment you reach the end and see the view.

little sister 哇，到了！湖在那儿！湖水那么蓝，四周雪山的影子都在水里。
wā dào le hú zài nàr hú shuǐ nàme lán sìzhōu xuěshān de yǐngzi dōu zài shuǐ lǐ · Wow, we're here! There's the lake! The water is so blue, and the snow mountains all around are reflected in it.

dr zhou 这就是峡谷的尽头。这个湖也是那条支流的发源地之一，我要在这儿取几个水样。
zhè jiùshì xiágǔ de jìntóu zhège hú yě shì nà tiáo zhīliú de fāyuándì zhī yī wǒ yào zài zhèr qǔ jǐ gè shuǐ yàng · This is the end of the gorge. The lake is also one of the sources of that tributary: I'm going to take a few water samples here.

chapter 3 chapter 3: a boat on the lake

dr zhou 湖边有个小港湾，停泊着几条游船和渔船。我们租一条小船，自己划桨吧。
hú biān yǒu gè xiǎo gǎngwān tíngbó zhe jǐ tiáo yóuchuán hé yúchuán wǒmen zū yì tiáo xiǎo chuán zìjǐ huá jiǎng ba · There's a little harbour on the lake, with a few pleasure boats and fishing boats moored there. Let's hire a small boat and row ourselves.

anna 好啊！你们看那边的帆船，白色的帆，就像一幅画。
hǎo a nǐmen kàn nàbiān de fānchuán báisè de fān jiù xiàng yì fú huà · Great! Look at the sailing boats over there with their white sails: it's like a painting.

little sister 我来划！……哎呀，船怎么老是转圈？
wǒ lái huá āiyā chuán zěnme lǎoshì zhuǎn quān · I'll row! … Oh no, why does the boat keep going round in circles?

anna 你动不动就用力太大，两只桨要一起划。
nǐ dòngbudòng jiù yònglì tài dà liǎng zhī jiǎng yào yìqǐ huá · You keep pulling too hard: you have to row with both oars together.

dr zhou 我年轻的时候跟打鱼的人在海上航行过，学过一点儿航海。来，我教你。
wǒ niánqīng de shíhou gēn dǎ yú de rén zài hǎi shàng hángxíng guo xué guo yìdiǎnr hánghǎi lái wǒ jiāo nǐ · When I was young I sailed with fishermen and learned a bit of seamanship. Here, I'll show you.

little sister 周博士，您工作之余也常去海边吗？
Zhōubóshì nín gōngzuò zhī yú yě cháng qù hǎi biān ma · Dr Zhou, do you often go to the seaside too, when you're not working?

dr zhou 常去。我在一个半岛上住过一年，那儿有海湾、海滩，还有很多小岛屿，坐船过海峡只要一个小时。
cháng qù wǒ zài yí gè bàndǎo shàng zhù guo yì nián nàr yǒu hǎiwān hǎitān hái yǒu hěn duō xiǎo dǎoyǔ zuò chuán guò hǎixiá zhǐyào yí gè xiǎoshí · Often. I once lived on a peninsula for a year: there were bays and beaches and lots of little islands, and it was only an hour by boat across the strait.

anna 你这样到处漂泊，不累吗？
nǐ zhèyàng dàochù piāobó bú lèi ma · Isn't it tiring, always wandering around like that?

little sister 我妈妈公司做航运，她的船舶在海上一走就是几个星期。集装箱用海运，货运便宜，客运就不行了，太慢。
wǒ māma gōngsī zuò hángyùn tā de chuánbó zài hǎi shàng yì zǒu jiùshì jǐ gè xīngqī jízhuāngxiāng yòng hǎiyùn huòyùn piányi kèyùn jiù bùxíng le tài màn · My mum's company is in shipping: her ships are at sea for weeks at a time. Sea freight in containers is cheap for goods, but no good for passengers: far too slow.

dr zhou 所以客流都去坐飞机和高铁了。我住在半岛的时候，夏天海滨和沙滩上全是来避暑、郊游的人。
suǒyǐ kèliú dōu qù zuò fēijī hé gāotiě le wǒ zhù zài bàndǎo de shíhou xiàtiān hǎibīn hé shātān shàng quán shì lái bìshǔ jiāoyóu de rén · So passengers all take planes and high-speed trains. When I lived on the peninsula, in summer the seafront and the beaches were packed with people escaping the heat or on day trips.

anna 我小时候也喜欢在河畔和运河边漫游，那时候觉得自己像在探险。
wǒ xiǎoshíhou yě xǐhuan zài hépàn hé yùnhé biān mànyóu nà shíhou juéde zìjǐ xiàng zài tànxiǎn · When I was little, I loved wandering by the river and along the canal: I felt like I was on an expedition.

dr zhou 累是累，可是去的地方多了，心也开阔了。反过来说，一直待在办公室里，人容易变得狭隘。
lèi shì lèi kěshì qù de dìfang duō le xīn yě kāikuò le fǎnguolaishuō yìzhí dāi zài bàngōngshì lǐ rén róngyì biàn de xiáài · Tiring, yes, but the more places you go, the more open your mind becomes. Conversely, if you stay in an office all the time, it's easy to become narrow-minded.

little sister 我以后也要环球旅行，从赤道一直走到北极！
wǒ yǐhòu yě yào huánqiú lǚxíng cóng chìdào yìzhí zǒu dào běijí · One day I'm going round the world too, all the way from the equator to the North Pole!

dr zhou 好啊！从大陆走到海岛，国内乃至全世界，都值得去看看。
hǎo a cóng dàlù zǒu dào hǎi dǎo guó nèi nǎizhì quán shìjiè dōu zhídé qù kàn kan · Why not! From the

continent to the islands, from home to the whole world: it's all worth seeing.

chapter 4 chapter 4: the road home

dr zhou 向导开车送我们去机场。后备箱放得下所有的行李吗?

xiàngdǎo kāichē sòng wǒmen qù jīchǎng hòubèixiāng fàng de xià suǒyǒu de xíngli ma · The guide is driving us to the airport. Will all the luggage fit in the boot?

anna 放得下，帐篷和睡袋都装进去了，随身只带一个小包。

fàng de xià zhàngpeng hé shuìdài dōu zhuāng jinqu le suíshēn zhǐ dài yí gè xiǎo bāo · Yes, the tents and sleeping bags are all in. I'm just keeping one small bag with me.

dr zhou 向导一大早就动身来接我们了。他握着方向盘开了一整天，轮胎也检查过了，这一段路途不短。

xiàngdǎo yí dà zǎo jiù dòngshēn lái jiē wǒmen le tā wò zhe fāngxiàngpán kāi le yì zhěng tiān lúntāi yě jiǎnchá guo le zhè yí duàn lùtú bù duǎn · The guide set off first thing to fetch us. He's been at the wheel all day and he's checked the tyres: it's a long way.

little sister 这条山路好颠簸，车动不动就跳一下。

zhè tiáo shān lù hǎo diānbǒ chē dòngbudòng jiù tiào yíxià · This mountain road is so bumpy: the car jumps at every little thing.

dr zhou 前面的路段在施工，车辆要绕行。我们穿过隧道，再上立交桥，这是去机场的捷径。

qiánmiàn de lùduàn zài shīgōng chēliàng yào ràoxíng wǒmen chuānguò suìdào zài shàng lìjiāoqiáo zhè shì qù jīchǎng de jiéjìng · There are road works on the stretch ahead, and traffic has to detour. We'll go through the tunnel and up onto the flyover: it's a shortcut to the airport.

anna 看！前面有一辆卡车在掉头，后面两辆轿车差点儿追尾。

kàn qiánmiàn yǒu yí liàng kǎchē zài diàotóu hòumiàn liǎng liàng jiàochē chàdiǎnr zhuīwěi · Look! There's a lorry turning round ahead, and two cars behind it nearly crashed into each other.

little sister 前面有个岔路口，往左会不会绕远儿?

qiánmiàn yǒu gè chà lùkǒu wǎng zuǒ huì bu huì ràoyuǎnr · There's a fork ahead: will going left take us the long way round?

dr zhou 不会，向导很熟，他驾车给游客带路已经二十年了。我们留了一点儿机动时间，来得及。

bú huì xiàngdǎo hěn shú tā jià chē gěi yóukè dàilù yǐjīng èrshí nián le wǒmen liú le yìdiǎnr jīdòng shíjiān láidejí · No, the guide knows the way: he's been driving visitors around for twenty years. And we've left ourselves some spare time, so we'll make it.

dr zhou 山里开车，最怕有人逆行。还好向导开车向来很小心。

shān lǐ kāichē zuì pà yǒu rén nìxíng hái hǎo xiàngdǎo kāichē xiànglái hěn xiǎoxīn · Driving in the mountains, the worst is people going the wrong way. Luckily the guide is always a careful driver.

little sister 沿途的风景真美。若是有时间，我真想再逗留几天。

yántú de fēngjǐng zhēn měi ruòshì yǒu shíjiān wǒ zhēn xiǎng zài dòuliú jǐ tiān · The scenery along the way is so beautiful. If I had time, I'd love to stay a few more days.

anna 我们搭乘的是晚上九点的航班，我的位子靠窗。来的时候我坐的是过道的位子，这次要从机舱里好好看看风景。

wǒmen dāchéng de shì wǎnshang jiǔ diǎn de hángbān wǒ de wèizi kào chuāng lái de shíhou wǒ zuò de shì guòdào de wèizi zhè cì yào cóng jīcāng lǐ hǎohǎo kàn kan fēngjǐng · Our flight is at nine tonight, and I have a window seat. On the way here I had an aisle seat; this time I'll really watch the scenery from the cabin.

little sister 包袱太大的话，要放进行李舱。我只带了一个小包，顺路还买了一点儿特产。

bāofu tài dà dehuà yào fàng jìn xíngli cāng wǒ zhǐ dài le yí gè xiǎo bāo shùnlù hái mǎi le yìdiǎnr tèchǎn · If your bag is too big, it has to go in the hold. I've only got a small one, and I picked up some local specialities on the way.

dr zhou 下次吧。我们得按时赶到机场，免得错过航班。机场是全省的交通枢纽，直达北京的航班一天好几趟。

xià cì ba wǒmen děi ànshí gǎn dào jīchǎng miǎnde cuòguò hángbān jīchǎng shì quán shěng de jiāotōng shūniǔ zhídá Běijīng de hángbān yì tiān hǎo jǐ tàng · Next time. We have to get to the airport on time so we don't miss the flight. The airport is the province's transport hub, with several direct flights to Beijing a day.

anna 上了飞机，我就把这次的见闻写下来，林编辑等着呢。

shàng le fēijī wǒ jiù bǎ zhè cì de jiànwén xiě xialai Línbiānjí děng zhe ne · Once we're on the plane, I'll write down everything we saw and heard: Editor Lin is waiting.

chapter 5 chapter 5: the travel piece

editor lin 安娜，欢迎旅行归来！游记写好了吗？
Ānnà huānyíng lǚxíng guīlái yóu jì xiě hǎo le ma · Anna, welcome back from your travels! Is the piece written?

anna 写好了，我给你们念开头：（读）“从北京坐客机往西南飞，从一万米的高空往下看，先是辽阔的平原，再是丘陵，最后是一座座雪山。
xiě hǎo le wǒ gěi nǐmen niàn kāitóu dú cóng Běijīng zuò kèjī wǎng xīnán fēi cóng yí wàn mǐ de gāokōng wǎng xià kàn xiān shì liáokuò de píngyuán zài shì qiūlíng zuìhòu shì yí zuò zuò xuěshān · It is: I’ll read you the start. (reading) “Fly south-west from Beijing, and from ten thousand metres up you see first the vast plains, then hills, and finally snow mountain after snow mountain.

anna 下了飞机，我们一行三人坐车穿越山岭，来到峡谷口。峡谷两边的悬崖已经屹立了几百万年，在它们面前，我们的烦恼显得那么渺小。”
xià le fēijī wǒmen yìxíng sān rén zuò chē chuānyuè shānlǐng lái dào xiágǔ kǒu xiágǔ liǎng biān de xuányá yǐjīng yìlì le jǐ bǎi wàn nián zài tāmen miànqián wǒmen de fánnǎo xiǎnde nàme miǎoxiǎo · Off the plane, our party of three drove through the mountains to the mouth of the gorge. The cliffs on either side have stood there for millions of years, and before them our worries seemed so small.”

xiaoming 写得真好！那天我送你们去机场，还担心你们会在山里滞留呢。
xiě de zhēn hǎo nà tiān wǒ sòng nǐmen qù jīchǎng hái dānxīn nǐmen huì zài shān lǐ zhìliú ne · That’s really good! When I drove you to the airport that day, I was worried you’d get stranded in the mountains.

editor lin 写得很好，就是有的地方太宽泛了。比如峡谷里的村子，你可以写得具体一点儿：坐落在哪儿，有什么特色。
xiě de hěn hǎo jiùshì yǒude dìfang tài kuānfàn le bǐrú xiágǔ lǐ de cūn zi nǐ kěyǐ xiě de jùtǐ yìdiǎnr zuòluò zài nǎr yǒu shénme tèsè · It’s very good, but some parts are too vague. The village in the gorge, for example: be more specific. Where does it sit, what makes it special?

anna 好。村子在峡谷的边缘，很偏僻，一天只有一趟车，可是村里的人特别热情。
hǎo cūn zi zài xiágǔ de biānyuán hěn piānpì yì tiān zhǐyǒu yí tàng chē kěshì cūn lǐ de rén tèbié rèqíng · OK. The village is on the edge of the gorge, very out of the way, with just one bus a day, but the people there are incredibly warm.

editor lin 我在边疆也有同感。越是偏远、荒凉的地方，人越热情。而且越是边远的地方，越有自己的风景线。那儿的经度跟北京差了三四十度，纬度也高，夏天晚上十点天还亮着。
wǒ zài biānjiāng yě yǒu tónggǎn yuè shì piānyuǎn huāngliáng de dìfang rén yuè rèqíng érqiě yuè shì biānyuǎn de dìfang yuè yǒu zìjǐ de fēngjǐngxiàn nàr de jīngdù gēn Běijīng chà le sānsìshí dù wěidù yě gāo xiàtiān wǎnshang shí diǎn tiān hái liàng zhe · I felt the same at the frontier. The more remote and bleak the place, the warmer the people. And the more far-flung the place, the more it has its own kind of beauty. It’s thirty or forty degrees of longitude from Beijing, at a high latitude, and in summer it’s still light at ten at night.

editor lin 我从边疆回来的时候，飞机飞过边境上空，从窗户往下看，边界那条河清清楚楚，真是奇观。
wǒ cóng biānjiāng huílái de shíhou fēijī fēi guo biānjìng shàngkōng cóng chuānghu wǎng xià kàn biānjiè nà tiáo hé qīngqīngchuchu zhēnshi qíguān · On my way back from the frontier, as the plane flew over the border I looked down, and the river along the border was crystal clear: an amazing sight.

xiaoming 我还以为边疆跟乡下一样，没想到口岸那么繁华，跟内地的大都会差不多。
wǒ hái yǐwéi biānjiāng gēn xiāngxia yíyàng méi xiǎng dào kǒuàn nàme fánhuá gēn nèidì de dà dūhuì chàbuduō · I thought the frontier would be like the countryside: I didn’t expect the border crossing to be so busy, almost like a big city in the interior.

editor lin 境内境外的商人天天过境，河上还修了一座大坝，变化可大了。
jìngnèi jìngwài de shāngrén tiān tiān guòjìng hé shàng hái xiū le yí zuò dà bà biànhuà kě dà le · Traders from inside and outside the country cross every day, and they’ve built a big dam on the river: it has changed enormously.

xiaoming 下次你们去哪儿？戈壁？绿洲？还是边境的口岸？
xià cì nǐmen qù nǎr gēbì lǜzhōu háishi biānjìng de kǒuàn · Where are you two going next? The Gobi? An oasis? Or a border crossing?

editor lin 我想去看看沼泽里的鸟。安娜，若是有空，你亦可一起去。

wǒ xiǎng qù kàn kan zhǎozé lǐ de niǎo Ānnà ruòshì yǒu kōng nǐ yì kě yìqǐ qù · I'd like to go and see the birds in the marshes. Anna, if you're free, you're welcome to come too.

anna 好啊！不过先让我在家休息几天，免得累坏了。

hǎo a búguò xiān ràng wǒ zài jiā xiūxi jǐ tiān miǎnde lèi huài le · I'd love to! But first let me rest at home for a few days, so I don't wear myself out.

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