wishyou.today learning

chinese hskk beginner in 32 days

The whole course on paper: the words to say, every answer frame and dialogue, the lines to repeat, the questions to answer and the model talks.

Free, with audio, games and progress tracking, at wishyou.today/learning

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The practice exams need sound, so they live online: wishyou.today/learning/language/chinese/hskk-beginner/exam.html

day 1 it's me!

Introduce yourself out loud: your name, where you're from, your age and what you do.

"Tell us about yourself" opens almost every conversation in Chinese, and every speaking test. Today you build an answer you can say in half a minute.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
介绍	jièshào	introduce	我来介绍一下，这是我妈妈。 Let me introduce you: this is my mum.
自己	zìjǐ	oneself (myself, yourself…)	我自己做饭。 I cook for myself.
叫	jiào	to be called	我叫安娜。 My name is Anna.
名字	míngzi	name	她叫什么名字? What's her name?
姓	xìng	surname; be surnamed	他姓李。 His surname is Li.
今年	jīnnián	this year	我今年二十岁。 I'm twenty this year.
岁	suì	years old	我二十岁。 I'm twenty.
十	shí	ten	十、二十、三十 ten, twenty, thirty
学生	xuéshēng	student	我是学生。 I'm a student.
认识	rènshi	to know (someone)	你认识他吗? Do you know him?

pattern 我叫……，我是……人 (say who you are)

我叫 **name** ，我是 **country** 人

叫 gives your name and 姓 gives just your surname. 是 links you to what you are: 我是学生, 我是英国人 (a country + 人 = a person from there). Your age goes 今年 + number + 岁, with no 是.

我叫小明，我是中国人。 **wǒ jiào Xiǎomíng wǒ shì Zhōngguó rén** I'm Xiaoming. I'm Chinese.

她叫安娜，她是英国人。 **tā jiào Ānnà tā shì Yīngguó rén** Her name is Anna. She's from the UK.

王老师是北京人。 **Wánglǎoshī shì Běijīng rén** Teacher Wang is from Beijing.

我姓王，是你们的汉语老师。 **wǒ xìng Wáng shì nǐmen de Hànyǔ lǎoshī** My surname is Wang. I'm your Chinese teacher.

dialogue who are you?

teacher wang 大家好！我姓王，是你们的汉语老师。
dàjiā hǎo wǒ xìng Wáng shì nǐmen de Hànyǔ lǎoshī · Hello, everyone! My surname is Wang, and I'm your Chinese teacher.

teacher wang 请你们介绍一下自己。你叫什么名字?
qǐng nǐmen jièshào yíxià zìjǐ nǐ jiào shénme míngzi · Please introduce yourselves. What's your name?

anna 老师好！我叫安娜，我是英国人。
lǎoshī hǎo wǒ jiào Ānnà wǒ shì Yīngguó rén · Hello, Teacher! I'm Anna, and I'm from the UK.

teacher wang 安娜，你今年多大?
Ānnà nǐ jīnnián duō dà · Anna, how old are you?

anna 我今年二十四岁。我是学生，在北京学习汉语。
wǒ jīnnián èrshísì suì wǒ shì xuéshēng zài Běijīng xuéxí Hànyǔ · I'm twenty-four. I'm a student, learning Chinese in Beijing.

teacher wang 你的汉语很不错!
nǐ de Hànyǔ hěn búcuò · Your Chinese is really good!

anna 谢谢老师！认识您很高兴。
xièxie lǎoshī rènshi nín hěn gāoxìng · Thank you! It's very nice to meet you.

teacher wang 认识你，我也很高兴。
rènshi nǐ wǒ yě hěn gāoxìng · Nice to meet you too.

repeat listen, then say it back

我叫安娜。 **wǒ jiào Ānnà** My name is Anna.

我是英国人。 **wǒ shì Yīngguó rén** I'm from the UK.

你叫什么名字? **nǐ jiào shénme míngzi** What's your name?

认识你很高兴。 **rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng** Nice to meet you.

我今年二十四岁。 **wǒ jīnnián èrshísì suì** I'm twenty-four.

我在北京学汉语。 **wǒ zài Běijīng xué Hànyǔ** I'm learning Chinese in Beijing.

reply answer out loud

你叫什么名字？ nǐ jiào shénme míngzi What's your name?
→ 我叫安娜。 wǒ jiào Ānnà

你是哪国人？ nǐ shì nǎ guó rén Which country are you from?
→ 我是英国人。 wǒ shì Yīngguó rén

你今年多大？ nǐ jīnnián duō dà How old are you?
→ 我今年二十四岁。 wǒ jīnnián èrshísì suì

你是学生吗？ nǐ shì xuéshēng ma Are you a student?
→ 是，我是学生。 shì wǒ shì xuéshēng
→ 我是学生，我在学汉语。 wǒ shì xuéshēng wǒ zài xué Hànyǔ

你姓什么？ nǐ xìng shénme What's your surname?
→ 我姓李。 wǒ xìng Lǐ
→ 我姓李，叫李小明。 wǒ xìng Lǐ jiào Lǐ Xiǎomíng

talk 60 seconds

Please introduce yourself.

请介绍一下你自己。 qǐng jièshào yíxià nǐ zìjǐ

我来介绍一下自己。 wǒ lái jièshào yíxià zìjǐ

我叫……，我是……人。 wǒ jiào wǒ shì rén

我今年……岁。 wǒ jīnnián suì

认识你们很高兴！ rènshi nǐmen hěn gāoxìng

model answer

大家好！我来介绍一下自己。 dàjiā hǎo wǒ lái jièshào yíxià zìjǐ

我叫安娜，我是英国人。 wǒ jiào Ānnà wǒ shì Yīngguó rén

我今年二十四岁。 wǒ jīnnián èrshísì suì

我是学生，在北京学习汉语。 wǒ shì xuéshēng zài Běijīng xuéxí Hànyǔ

我很喜欢北京，也很喜欢说汉语。 wǒ hěn xǐhuan Běijīng yě hěn xǐhuan shuō Hànyǔ

认识你们很高兴！ rènshi nǐmen hěn gāoxìng

Hello, everyone! Let me introduce myself. My name is Anna, and I'm from the UK. I'm twenty-four. I'm a student, learning Chinese in Beijing. I really like Beijing, and I love speaking Chinese. Nice to meet you all!

good to know · Ask an adult's age with 你今年多大？ For a child, 你几岁？ is the usual question. A country name + 人 is a person from there: 中国人, 英国人, 美国人, 外国人 (a foreigner).

That's your first talk in Chinese: name, country, age, what you do. Say it once more today and it will come out on its own next time.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 2 my family

Say who is in your family and what they do, with 有, 的, 都 and 也.

"How many people are in your family?" is one of the first things people in China will ask you, and a classic speaking question.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
家	jiā	home; family	这是我家。 This is my home.
口	kǒu	mouth; (for household members)	我家有三口人。 There are three people in my family.
爸爸	bàba	dad	这是我爸爸。 This is my dad.
妈妈	māma	mum	我妈妈是老师。 My mum is a teacher.
哥哥	gēge	older brother	我有两个哥哥。 I have two older brothers.
姐姐	jiějie	older sister	她是我姐姐。 She's my older sister.
弟弟	dìdi	younger brother	我弟弟十岁。 My younger brother is ten.
妹妹	mèimei	younger sister	小明有一个妹妹。 Xiaoming has a younger sister.
爷爷	yéye	grandpa (dad's father)	我爷爷今年八十岁。 My grandpa is eighty this year.
奶奶	nǎinai	grandma (dad's mother)	奶奶很喜欢喝茶。 Grandma loves drinking tea.

pattern 我家有……口人 (who is in your family)

我家有 | number | 口人: | who | 和我

口 is the measure word for the people in a family: 我家有四口人. 的 works like "'s": 小明的妹妹, Xiaoming's sister; with close family you can drop it: 我爸爸. 都 (all, both) and 也 (also) go before the verb.

小明家有五口人。 **Xiǎomíng jiā yǒu wǔ kǒu rén** There are five people in Xiaoming's family.

这是小明的妹妹。 **zhè shì Xiǎomíng de mèimei** This is Xiaoming's little sister.

我爸爸是老师，我妈妈也是老师。 **wǒ bàba shì lǎoshī wǒ māma yě shì lǎoshī** My dad is a teacher, and my mum is a teacher too.

我没有姐姐，也没有弟弟。 **wǒ méiyǒu jiějie yě méiyǒu dìdi** I don't have an older sister or a younger brother.

dialogue how many of you?

anna 小明，你家有几口人？
Xiǎomíng nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén · Xiaoming, how many people are in your family?

xiaoming 五口人：奶奶、爸爸、妈妈、妹妹和我。
wǔ kǒu rén nǎinai bàba māma mèimei hé wǒ · Five: Grandma, Dad, Mum, my little sister and me.

anna 你爸爸妈妈做什么工作？
nǐ bàba māma zuò shénme gōngzuò · What do your mum and dad do?

xiaoming 我爸爸是医生，我妈妈在公司工作。他们都很忙。
wǒ bàba shì yīshēng wǒ māma zài gōngsī gōngzuò tāmen dōu hěn máng · My dad's a doctor and my mum works at a company. They're both very busy.

xiaoming 你家呢？你有哥哥姐姐吗？
nǐ jiā ne nǐ yǒu gēge jiějie ma · What about your family? Do you have any brothers or sisters?

anna 我家有四口人：爸爸、妈妈、哥哥和我。我没有姐姐，也没有弟弟。
wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén bàba māma gēge hé wǒ wǒ méiyǒu jiějie yě méiyǒu dìdi · There are four of us: Dad, Mum, my older brother and me. No sisters, and no younger brother.

xiaoming 你的爷爷奶奶呢？
nǐ de yéye nǎinai ne · And your grandparents?

anna 他们都在英国。我很想他们！
tāmen dōu zài Yīngguó wǒ hěn xiǎng tāmen · They're both in the UK. I miss them a lot!

repeat listen, then say it back

这是我妈妈。 zhè shì wǒ māma This is my mum.

他们都很忙。 tāmen dōu hěn máng They're all busy.

我家有四口人。 wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén There are four of us in my family.

我爸爸是老师。 wǒ bàba shì lǎoshī My dad is a teacher.

你有哥哥姐姐吗？ nǐ yǒu gēge jiějie ma Do you have any older brothers or sisters?

爷爷奶奶都很好。 yéye nǎinai dōu hěn hǎo Grandpa and Grandma are both well.

reply answer out loud

你家有几口人？ nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén How many people are in your family?
→ 我家有四口人。 wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén
→ 四口人：爸爸、妈妈、哥哥和我。 sì kǒu rén bàba māma gēge hé wǒ

你有哥哥姐姐吗？ nǐ yǒu gēge jiějie ma Do you have any older brothers or sisters?
→ 我有一个哥哥，没有姐姐。 wǒ yǒu yí gè gēge méiyǒu jiějie

你爸爸妈妈做什么工作？ nǐ bàba māma zuò shénme gōngzuò What do your mum and dad do?
→ 我爸爸是老师，我妈妈在公司工作。 wǒ bàba shì lǎoshī wǒ māma zài gōngsī gōngzuò

你的爷爷奶奶在哪儿？ nǐ de yéye nǎinai zài nǎr Where are your grandparents?
→ 他们都在英国。 tāmen dōu zài Yīngguó

你是哪国人？ nǐ shì nǎ guó rén Which country are you from?
→ 我是英国人。 wǒ shì Yīngguó rén

talk 60 seconds

How many people are in your family? What do they all do?

你家有几口人？他们都做什么？ nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén tāmen dōu zuò shénme

我家有……口人：……和我。 wǒ jiā yǒu kǒu rén hé wǒ

我爸爸是…… wǒ bàba shì

我妈妈在……工作。 wǒ māma zài gōngzuò

他们都……，我也……。 tāmen dōu wǒ yě

model answer

我家有四口人：爸爸、妈妈、哥哥和我。 wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén bàba māma gēge hé wǒ

我爸爸是老师，我妈妈在公司工作。 wǒ bàba shì lǎoshī wǒ māma zài gōngsī gōngzuò

我哥哥是医生。 wǒ gēge shì yīshēng

他们都很忙，我也很忙。 tāmen dōu hěn máng wǒ yě hěn máng

我的爷爷奶奶也在英国，他们都很好。 wǒ de yéye nǎinai yě zài Yīngguó tāmen dōu hěn hǎo

我很爱我的家人！ wǒ hěn ài wǒ de jiārén

There are four of us in my family: Dad, Mum, my older brother and me. My dad is a teacher and my mum works at a company. My brother is a doctor. They're all busy, and so am I. My grandparents are in the UK too, and they're both well. I love my family very much!

good to know · 口 counts the people in a family (我家有四口人); 个 counts brothers, sisters and people in general (我有一个哥哥). 哥哥 and 姐姐 are older, 弟弟 and 妹妹 are younger: Chinese always says which.

Now you can bring your whole family into a conversation. Tell someone about them today, even if it's only your mirror.

Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 3 a good friend

Describe a good friend and say why you like them, with 因为……所以……

Speaking questions love a “why?”. A short reason with 因为 turns a one-line answer into a real one.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
朋友	péngyou	friend	小明是我朋友。 Xiaoming is my friend.
谁	shéi	who	他是谁? Who is he?
个子	gèzi	height, build (of a person)	他个子很高。 He’s tall.
高	gāo	tall, high	小明很高。 Xiaoming is tall.
眼睛	yǎnjing	eye(s)	她眼睛很大。 She has big eyes.
漂亮	piàoliang	pretty; beautiful	你的手机很漂亮。 Your phone is really pretty.
喜欢	xǐhuan	to like	你喜欢大白吗? Do you like Dabai?
为什么	wèishénme	why	你为什么不去? Why aren’t you going?
因为	yīnwèi	because	因为下雨，我不去了。 It’s raining, so I’m not going.
所以	suǒyǐ	so, therefore	我很忙，所以不能去。 I’m busy, so I can’t go.

pattern 他个子很高 (describe a person)

person | **个子 / 眼睛** | **很** | **adjective**

Chinese names the person first, then the part you describe: 他个子很高, literally “he, height very tall”. Adjectives take 很, never 是. Then give your reason: 因为 + reason, 所以 + result.

王老师个子不高。 **Wánglǎoshī gèzi bù gāo** Teacher Wang isn’t tall.

妹妹眼睛很大，很漂亮。 **mèimei yǎnjing hěn dà hěn piàoliang** His sister has big eyes; she’s very pretty.

因为她很爱笑，所以我很喜欢她。 **yīnwèi tā hěn ài xiào suǒyǐ wǒ hěn xǐhuan tā** She’s always smiling, so I really like her.

dialogue best friends

little sister 安娜姐姐，你的好朋友是谁？
Ānnà jiějie nǐ de hǎo péngyou shì shéi · Anna, who's your best friend?

anna 是你哥哥小明啊！
shì nǐ gēge Xiǎomíng a · Your brother Xiaoming, of course!

little sister 我哥哥？你为什么喜欢他？
wǒ gēge nǐ wèi shénme xǐhuan tā · My brother? Why do you like him?

anna 因为他人很好，所以我们是好朋友。
yīnwèi tā rén hěn hǎo suǒyǐ wǒmen shì hǎo péngyou · Because he's a really nice person. That's why we're good friends.

anna 你呢？你的好朋友是谁？
nǐ ne nǐ de hǎo péngyou shì shéi · What about you? Who's your best friend?

little sister 是我的同学。她个子很高，眼睛很大，很漂亮。
shì wǒ de tóngxué tā gèzi hěn gāo yǎnjing hěn dà hěn piàoliang · A girl in my class. She's tall, with big eyes. She's really pretty.

anna 你为什么喜欢她？
nǐ wèi shénme xǐhuan tā · Why do you like her?

little sister 因为她很爱笑，所以我很喜欢跟她一起玩！
yīnwèi tā hěn ài xiào suǒyǐ wǒ hěn xǐhuan gēn tā yìqǐ wán · She's always laughing, so I love playing with her!

repeat listen, then say it back

她很漂亮。 **tā hěn piàoliang** She's very pretty.

他个子很高。 **tā gèzi hěn gāo** He's tall.

小明眼睛很大。 **Xiǎomíng yǎnjing hěn dà** Xiaoming has big eyes.

你的朋友是谁？ **nǐ de péngyou shì shéi** Who's your friend?

他是我的好朋友。 **tā shì wǒ de hǎo péngyou** He's a good friend of mine.

你为什么喜欢他？ **nǐ wèi shénme xǐhuan tā** Why do you like him?

reply answer out loud

你的好朋友是谁？ nǐ de hǎo péngyou shì shéi Who is your good friend?
→ 我的好朋友是小明。 wǒ de hǎo péngyou shì Xiǎomíng

他个子高吗？ tā gèzi gāo ma Is he tall?
→ 他个子很高。 tā gèzi hěn gāo
→ 很高，眼睛也很大。 hěn gāo yǎnjing yě hěn dà

你为什么喜欢他？ nǐ wèi shénme xǐhuan tā Why do you like him?
→ 因为他人很好。 yīnwèi tā rén hěn hǎo
→ 因为他很有意思，所以我喜欢他。 yīnwèi tā hěn yǒu yìsi suǒyǐ wǒ xǐhuan tā

你家有几口人？ nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén How many people are in your family?
→ 我家有四口人。 wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén

你叫什么名字？ nǐ jiào shénme míngzi What's your name?
→ 我叫安娜。 wǒ jiào Ānnà

talk 60 seconds

Who is your good friend? Why do you like them?

你的好朋友是谁？你为什么喜欢他？ nǐ de hǎo péngyou shì shéi nǐ wèi shénme xǐhuan tā

我的好朋友是…… wǒ de hǎo péngyou shì

他个子……，眼睛……。 tā gèzi yǎnjing

因为……，所以……。 yīnwèi suǒyǐ

我们经常一起……。 wǒmen jīngcháng yìqǐ

model answer

我的好朋友是小明。 wǒ de hǎo péngyou shì Xiǎomíng

他是北京人，在大学学习。 tā shì Běijīng rén zài dàxué xuéxí

他个子很高，眼睛很大。 tā gèzi hěn gāo yǎnjing hěn dà

我喜欢他，因为他人很好，也很有意思。 wǒ xǐhuan tā yīnwèi tā rén hěn hǎo yě hěn yǒu yìsi

我们经常一起吃饭，一起说汉语。 wǒmen jīngcháng yìqǐ chī fàn yìqǐ shuō Hànyǔ

因为有小明，所以我在北京很快乐。 yīnwèi yǒu Xiǎomíng suǒyǐ wǒ zài Běijīng hěn kuàilè

My good friend is Xiaoming. He's from Beijing and studies at the university. He's tall, with big eyes. I like him because he's a really nice person, and fun too. We often eat together and speak Chinese together. Because I have Xiaoming, I'm happy in Beijing.

good to know · Answer a 为什么 question by starting with 因为: 为什么？ 因为他人很好. 他人很好 means "he's a nice person": 人 here is his character. And children call a young woman 姐姐, "big sister", as a friendly title.

You can now paint a person in a few words and say why they matter to you. That "why" is what makes an answer sound like you.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 4 where i live

Say where your home is and what it's like, where you live now, what is in your room, and how far it is from places.

"Where do you live?" and "What's your home like?" come up in every chat with a new friend, and in speaking tests too.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
住	zhù	to live; to stay	我住在北京。 I live in Beijing.
哪里	nǎlǐ	where	你住在哪里? Where do you live?
房间	fángjiān	room	这是我的房间。 This is my room.
床	chuáng	bed	床上有一只猫。 There's a cat on the bed.
旁边	pángbiān	next to, beside	我家在学校旁边。 My home is next to the school.
离	lí	(distance) from	我家离学校很近。 My home is close to school.
远	yuǎn	far	车站远不远? Is the station far?
近	jìn	near, close	超市很近。 The supermarket is very close.
大	dà	big; large	大白很大! Dabai is big!
小	xiǎo	small; little	你的猫真小! Your cat is so small!

pattern 我住在..... (where you live and where things are)

我 | 住在 | place | 。

住在 + place is where you live. 在 + place before another verb is where you do it: 我在房间里看书. 有 says what is there (房间里有床); 在 says where a thing is (床在桌子旁边). 离 + place + 近/远 is near or far.

小明住在北京。 **Xiǎomíng zhù zài Běijīng** Xiaoming lives in Beijing.

我在房间里看书。 **wǒ zài fángjiān lǐ kàn shū** I read in my room.

我的房间里有电脑。 **wǒ de fángjiān lǐ yǒu diànnǎo** There's a computer in my room.

小明家离大学有点儿远。 **Xiǎomíng jiā lí dàxué yǒudiǎnr yuǎn** Xiaoming's home is a bit far from the university.

dialogue anna's little room

xiaoming 你的房间真不错！
nǐ de fángjiān zhēn búcuò · Your room's really nice!

anna 谢谢！房间很小，但是我很喜欢。
xièxie fángjiān hěn xiǎo dànshì wǒ hěn xǐhuan · Thanks! It's small, but I love it.

xiaoming 你的床很大啊。床左边是桌子，右边是椅子。
nǐ de chuáng hěn dà a chuáng zuǒbian shì zhuōzi yòubian shì yǐzi · Your bed's big! The desk is on its left and the chair on its right.

anna 对，我每天在这里看书、学汉语。
duì wǒ měi tiān zài zhèlǐ kàn shū xué Hànyǔ · Yes, I read and study Chinese here every day.

xiaoming 这儿离大学远吗?
zhèr lí dàxué yuǎn ma · Is it far from the university?

anna 不远，很近，走路十分钟。
bù yuǎn hěn jìn zǒulù shí fēnzhōng · No, it's close: ten minutes on foot.

xiaoming 旁边有商店吗?
pángbiān yǒu shāngdiàn ma · Are there any shops nearby?

anna 有，楼前面就有一个超市，后面还有一个饭馆。
yǒu lóu qiánmiàn jiù yǒu yí gè chāoshì hòumiàn hái yǒu yí gè fànguǎn · Yes, there's a supermarket right in front of the building, and a restaurant behind it.

repeat listen, then say it back

我住在三楼。 **wǒ zhù zài sān lóu** I live on the third floor.
你住在哪里? **nǐ zhù zài nǎlǐ** Where do you live?
我的房间很小。 **wǒ de fángjiān hěn xiǎo** My room is very small.
床在桌子旁边。 **chuáng zài zhuōzi pángbiān** The bed is next to the desk.
我家离大学很近。 **wǒ jiā lí dàxué hěn jìn** My place is very close to the university.
你家离这儿远吗? **nǐ jiā lí zhèr yuǎn ma** Is your place far from here?

reply answer out loud

你住在哪里？ nǐ zhù zài nǎlǐ Where do you live?
→ 我住在北京。 wǒ zhù zài Běijīng
→ 我住在大学旁边。 wǒ zhù zài dàxué pángbiān

你的房间大吗？ nǐ de fángjiān dà ma Is your room big?
→ 不大，有点儿小。 bú dà yǒudiǎnr xiǎo

你家离这儿远吗？ nǐ jiā lí zhèr yuǎn ma Is your place far from here?
→ 不远，很近。 bù yuǎn hěn jìn
→ 有点儿远。 yǒudiǎnr yuǎn

你的好朋友是谁？ nǐ de hǎo péngyou shì shéi Who is your good friend?
→ 我的好朋友是小明。 wǒ de hǎo péngyou shì Xiǎomíng

你家前面有什么？ nǐ jiā qiánmiàn yǒu shénme What is in front of your home?
→ 我家前面有一个超市。 wǒ jiā qiánmiàn yǒu yí gè chāoshì
→ 前面有一个饭馆。 qiánmiàn yǒu yí gè fànguǎn

talk 60 seconds

Where is your home? What is it like?

你的家在哪儿？那里怎么样？ nǐ de jiā zài nǎr nàlǐ zěnmeyàng

我的家在……，离……很远。 wǒ de jiā zài lí hěn yuǎn

那里……，但是…… nàlǐ dànshì

现在我住在…… xiànzài wǒ zhù zài

我的房间里有…… wǒ de fángjiān lǐ yǒu

model answer

我的家在英国，离北京很远。 wǒ de jiā zài Yīngguó lí Běijīng hěn yuǎn

那里不大，但是很漂亮，我爸爸妈妈都住在那里。 nàlǐ bú dà dànshì hěn piàoliang wǒ bàba māma dōu zhù zài nàlǐ

现在我住在北京，在大学旁边。 xiànzài wǒ zhù zài Běijīng zài dàxué pángbiān

我的房间在三楼，不大，有点儿小。 wǒ de fángjiān zài sān lóu bú dà yǒudiǎnr xiǎo

房间里有床、桌子和椅子，桌子在床旁边。 fángjiān lǐ yǒu chuáng zhuōzi hé yǐzi zhuōzi zài chuáng pángbiān

因为这儿离大学很近，所以我每天走路去上课。 yīnwèi zhèr lí dàxué hěn jìn suǒyǐ wǒ měi tiān zǒulù qù shàngkè

My home is in the UK, a long way from Beijing. It isn't big, but it's beautiful, and my mum and dad both live there. Now I live in Beijing, next to the university. My room is on the third floor; it isn't big, it's a bit small. There's a bed, a desk and a chair, and the desk is next to the bed. It's very close to the university, so I walk to class every day.

good to know · 哪里 and 哪儿 both mean "where"; 哪儿 sounds more like Beijing. Floors: 三楼 is the third floor. In China 一楼 is the ground floor, so 三楼 is two flights up.

Your home town, your room, the shop out front: you can now take someone on a tour in Chinese. That's unit 1's last new frame. Next comes a whole Sunday with the Li family.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 5 mission: sunday with the li family

Talk about your family and your pets for a minute and a half, and answer quick questions on your friends and your home.

This is unit 1 as a mock round: repeat, answer, then one long talk, the three parts of a speaking test, all about the people (and pets) in your life.

chapter 1 meet grandma and dabai

xiaoming 安娜，你来了！这是我奶奶。
Ānnà nǐ lái le zhè shì wǒ nǎinai · Anna, you made it! This is my grandma.

anna 奶奶好！我叫安娜，是小明的朋友。
nǎinai hǎo wǒ jiào Ānnà shì Xiǎomíng de péngyou · Hello, Grandma! I'm Anna, Xiaoming's friend.

grandma 你好，你好！认识你很高兴。你的汉语真好！
nǐhǎo nǐhǎo rènshi nǐ hěn gāoxìng nǐ de Hànyǔ zhēn hǎo · Hello, hello! So nice to meet you. Your Chinese is wonderful!

anna 谢谢奶奶！这是你们的狗吗？
xièxie nǎinai zhè shì nǐmen de gǒu ma · Thank you! Is this your dog?

xiaoming 对，它叫大白。它很大，很爱跟人玩。
duì tā jiào Dàbái tā hěn dà hěn ài gēn rén wán · Yes, he's called Dabai. He's big, and he loves to play with people.

grandma 大白也是我们的家人！
Dàbái yě shì wǒmen de jiārén · Dabai is part of the family too!

chapter 2 grandma's children

grandma 安娜，你家有几口人？
Ānnà nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén · Anna, how many people are in your family?

anna 四口人：爸爸、妈妈、哥哥和我。您呢？
sì kǒu rén bàba māma gēge hé wǒ nín ne · Four: Dad, Mum, my brother and me. And you?

grandma 我有两个孩子：一个儿子，一个女儿。小明的爸爸是我儿子。
wǒ yǒu liǎng gè háizi yí gè érzi yí gè nǚér Xiǎomíng de bàba shì wǒ érzi · I have two children, a son and a daughter. Xiaoming's dad is my son.

ms zhang 我是他的妻子。我先生是医生，每天都很忙！
wǒ shì tā de qīzi wǒ xiānsheng shì yīshēng měi tiān dōu hěn máng · And I'm his wife. My husband's a doctor, and he's busy every single day!

anna 您的女儿住在哪儿？
nín de nǚér zhù zài nǎr · Where does your daughter live?

grandma 她住在上海，离北京很远。
tā zhù zài Shànghǎi lí Běijīng hěn yuǎn · She lives in Shanghai, a long way from Beijing.

chapter 3 a room and a cat

little sister 安娜姐姐，你住在哪里？
Ānnà jiějie nǐ zhù zài nǎlǐ · Anna, where do you live?

anna 我住在大学旁边。你们看，这是我的房间！
wǒ zhù zài dàxué pángbiān nǐmen kàn zhè shì wǒ de fángjiān · Next to the university. Look (she shows a photo on her phone), this is my room!

little sister 你的床旁边是什么？是猫吗？
nǐ de chuáng pángbiān shì shénme shì māo ma · What's that next to your bed? Is it a cat?

anna 对，那是我的猫。它很小，很爱睡觉。
duì nà shì wǒ de māo tā hěn xiǎo hěn ài shuìjiào · Yes, that's my cat. She's tiny and loves to sleep.

xiaoming 安娜很爱她的猫！
Ānnà hěn ài tā de māo · Anna really loves her cat!

grandma 今天你来我们家，我们都很高兴。下个星期天再来吧！
jīntiān nǐ lái wǒmen jiā wǒmen dōu hěn gāoxìng xià gè xīngqītiān zài lái ba · We're all so happy you came today. Come again next Sunday!

repeat listen, then say it back

这是我们的狗。 **zhè shì wǒmen de gǒu** This is our dog.

我有两个孩子。 **wǒ yǒu liǎng gè háizi** I have two children.

我丈夫是医生。 **wǒ zhàngfu shì yīshēng** My husband is a doctor.

我的猫很爱睡觉。 **wǒ de māo hěn ài shuìjiào** My cat loves to sleep.

我住在大学旁边。 **wǒ zhù zài dàxué pángbiān** I live next to the university.

reply answer out loud

你今年多大？ **nǐ jīnnián duō dà** How old are you?
→ 我今年二十四岁。 **wǒ jīnnián èrshísì suì**

你爸爸妈妈做什么工作？ **nǐ bàba māma zuò shénme gōngzuò** What do your mum and dad do?
→ 我爸爸是老师，我妈妈在公司工作。 **wǒ bàba shì lǎoshī wǒ māma zài gōngsī gōngzuò**

你为什么喜欢你的好朋友？ **nǐ wèi shénme xǐhuan nǐ de hǎo péngyou** Why do you like your good friend?
→ 因为他人很好。 **yīnwèi tā rén hěn hǎo**
→ 因为他很有意思，所以我很喜欢他。 **yīnwèi tā hěn yǒu yìsi suǒyǐ wǒ hěn xǐhuan tā**

你的房间里有什么？ **nǐ de fángjiān lǐ yǒu shénme** What's in your room?
→ 有床、桌子和椅子。 **yǒu chuáng zhuōzi hé yǐzi**

你家有狗吗？ **nǐ jiā yǒu gǒu ma** Do you have a dog?
→ 没有，但是我有一只猫。 **méiyǒu dànshì wǒ yǒu yì zhī māo**
→ 有，我家有一只狗。 **yǒu wǒ jiā yǒu yì zhī gǒu**

talk 90 seconds

Talk about your family. Do you prefer dogs or cats? Why? Talk for a minute and a half.

说一说你的家人。你喜欢狗还是猫？为什么？ shuō yi shuo nǐ de jiārén nǐ xǐhuan gǒu háishi māo wèi shénme

我家有……口人：…… wǒ jiā yǒu kǒu rén

他个子……，眼睛……。 tā gèzi yǎnjing

我喜欢……，因为……，所以……。 wǒ xǐhuan yīnwèi suǒyǐ

model answer

我家有四口人：爸爸、妈妈、哥哥和我。 wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén bàba māma gēge hé wǒ

我爸爸是老师，我妈妈在公司工作，他们都很忙。 wǒ bàba shì lǎoshī wǒ māma zài gōngsī gōngzuò tāmen dōu hěn máng

我哥哥是医生，他个子很高，很爱笑。 wǒ gēge shì yīshēng tā gèzi hěn gāo hěn ài xiào

我很喜欢猫。 wǒ hěn xǐhuan māo

我在北京有一只猫，它很小，眼睛很大，很爱睡觉。 wǒ zài Běijīng yǒu yì zhī māo tā hěn xiǎo yǎnjing hěn dà hěn ài shuìjiào

我也喜欢狗，小明家的狗叫大白，它很爱跟人玩。 wǒ yě xǐhuan gǒu Xiǎomíng jiā de gǒu jiào Dàbái tā hěn ài gēn rén wán

但是我的房间很小，所以我没有狗。 dànshì wǒ de fángjiān hěn xiǎo suǒyǐ wǒ méiyǒu gǒu

我很爱我的家人和我的猫！ wǒ hěn ài wǒ de jiārén hé wǒ de māo

There are four of us in my family: Dad, Mum, my older brother and me. My dad is a teacher and my mum works at a company; they're both busy. My brother is a doctor; he's tall and always smiling. I really like cats. In Beijing I have a cat: she's tiny, with big eyes, and she loves to sleep. I like dogs too: Xiaoming's dog is called Dabai, and he loves playing with people. But my room is very small, so I don't have a dog. I love my family and my cat!

Unit 1 done: you can talk about yourself, your family, a friend and your home, for a full minute and a half. Next unit: your day, hour by hour.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 6 good morning

Say when you get up and walk through your morning, one step after another.

“When do you get up, and what do you do next?” is a favourite speaking question: it needs clock times and a chain of actions, which you build today.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
每	měi	every, each	我每天学汉语。 I study Chinese every day.
起床	qǐchuáng	to get up	你几点起床? What time do you get up?
早上	zǎoshang	early morning	我早上七点起床。 I get up at seven in the morning.
早	zǎo	early; morning!	王老师早! Morning, Teacher Wang!
点	diǎn	o’clock; dot	现在三点。 It’s three o’clock.
半	bàn	half; half past	现在三点半。 It’s half past three.
洗	xǐ	to wash	我去洗手。 I’m going to wash my hands.
早饭	zǎofàn	breakfast	你几点吃早饭? What time do you have breakfast?
上班	shàngbān	to go to work	爸爸八点上班。 Dad starts work at eight.
上学	shàngxué	go to school	妹妹七点去上学。 My little sister goes to school at seven.

pattern 我每天早上……点…… (clock times in your day)

我每天早上 | number | 点（半） | verb

The time goes before the verb: 我七点起床. 点 is “o’clock” and 半 is “half past”: 七点半. Then link the steps: 起床后 (after getting up), ……了就…… (as soon as … then), and 再 (and then).

我早上六点半起床。 **wǒ zǎoshang liù diǎn bàn qǐchuáng** I get up at half past six in the morning.

起床后，我喝一杯茶。 **qǐchuáng hòu wǒ hē yì bēi chá** After I get up, I have a cup of tea.

吃了早饭，我就去上班。 **chī le zǎofàn wǒ jiù qù shàngbān** As soon as I’ve had breakfast, I go to work.

我喝一杯水，再吃早饭。 **wǒ hē yì bēi shuǐ zài chī zǎofàn** I drink a glass of water, then I have breakfast.

dialogue early birds

anna 小明，早上好！你每天几点起床？
Xiǎomíng zǎoshang hǎo nǐ měi tiān jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng · Morning, Xiaoming! What time do you get up every day?

xiaoming 六点半。我家早上很忙！
liù diǎn bàn wǒ jiā zǎoshang hěn máng · Half past six. Mornings at my place are busy!

anna 为什么？
wèi shénme · Why?

xiaoming 我妈妈八点上班，妹妹七点半上学，大家都很早起床。
wǒ māma bā diǎn shàngbān mèimei qī diǎn bàn shàngxué dàjiā dōu hěn zǎo qǐchuáng · My mum starts work at eight and my sister starts school at half past seven, so everyone gets up early.

anna 你起床后做什么？
nǐ qǐchuáng hòu zuò shénme · What do you do after you get up?

xiaoming 我洗了手就吃早饭。奶奶每天做包子！
wǒ xǐ le shǒu jiù chī zǎofàn nǎinai měi tiān zuò bāozi · I wash my hands and go straight to breakfast. Grandma makes steamed buns every day!

anna 真好！我早上就喝一杯咖啡，再吃一个面包。
zhēn hǎo wǒ zǎoshang jiù hē yì bēi kāfēi zài chī yí gè miànbāo · Lucky you! In the morning I just have a coffee and then some bread.

xiaoming 那明天早上来我家吃包子吧！
nà míngtiān zǎoshang lái wǒ jiā chī bāozi ba · Then come to my place for buns tomorrow morning!

repeat listen, then say it back

我七点起床。 **wǒ qī diǎn qǐchuáng** I get up at seven.

你几点起床？ **nǐ jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng** What time do you get up?

我早上喝咖啡。 **wǒ zǎoshang hē kāfēi** I drink coffee in the morning.

我七点半吃早饭。 **wǒ qī diǎn bàn chī zǎofàn** I have breakfast at half past seven.

妹妹七点去上学。 **mèimei qī diǎn qù shàngxué** My little sister goes to school at seven.

吃了早饭就去上班。 **chī le zǎofàn jiù qù shàngbān** Right after breakfast, I go to work.

reply answer out loud

你每天几点起床？ nǐ měi tiān jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng What time do you get up every day?
→ 我每天七点起床。 wǒ měi tiān qī diǎn qǐchuáng
→ 六点半。 liù diǎn bàn

起床后你做什么？ qǐchuáng hòu nǐ zuò shénme What do you do after you get up?
→ 我喝一杯水，再吃早饭。 wǒ hē yì bēi shuǐ zài chī zǎofàn

你早上吃什么？ nǐ zǎoshang chī shénme What do you have for breakfast?
→ 我吃面包，喝咖啡。 wǒ chī miànbāo hē kāfēi

你早上几点去上课？ nǐ zǎoshang jǐ diǎn qù shàngkè What time do you go to class in the morning?
→ 我八点十分去上课。 wǒ bā diǎn shí fēn qù shàngkè
→ 吃了早饭就去，八点。 chī le zǎofàn jiù qù bā diǎn

你住在哪里？ nǐ zhù zài nǎlǐ Where do you live?
→ 我住在大学旁边。 wǒ zhù zài dàxué pángbiān

talk 60 seconds

What time do you get up every morning? What do you do after you get up?

你每天早上几点起床？起床后做什么？ nǐ měi tiān zǎoshang jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng qǐchuáng hòu zuò shénme

我每天早上……点起床。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang diǎn qǐchuáng

起床后，我…… qǐchuáng hòu wǒ

……了就……。 le jiù

我再…… wǒ zài

model answer

我每天早上六点半起床。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang liù diǎn bàn qǐchuáng

起床后，我喝一杯水。 qǐchuáng hòu wǒ hē yì bēi shuǐ

七点我吃早饭，我喜欢吃面包，喝咖啡。 qī diǎn wǒ chī zǎofàn wǒ xǐhuan chī miànbāo hē kāfēi

吃了早饭，我就去上课。 chī le zǎofàn wǒ jiù qù shàngkè

我家离大学很近，我走路去，八点就到了。 wǒ jiā lí dàxué hěn jìn wǒ zǒulù qù bā diǎn jiù dào le

星期天我不上课，所以起床很晚！ xīngqītiān wǒ bú shàngkè suǒyǐ qǐchuáng hěn wǎn

I get up at half past six every morning. After I get up, I drink a glass of water. At seven I have breakfast: I like bread and coffee. Once I've had breakfast, I go to class. My place is close to the university, so I walk and I'm there by eight. On Sundays I have no classes, so I get up late!

good to know · 2 o'clock is 两点, not 二点; 12 o'clock is 十二点. 上班 is going to work, 上学 going to school, 上课 starting class: the same 上, "go up to". 先 and 然后 ("first … then") are not HSK 1–2 words, so this course leaves them out on purpose: ……后, ……了就…… and 再 do the same job. Their partner ……前, "before …", comes on day 8.

Clock times plus a chain of steps: that's a whole morning in Chinese. Try it tomorrow while you make your coffee.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 7 lunch, with whom?

Say where you eat lunch, who with, and what you do while you eat.

Meals are the heart of the day in China, and “where and with whom?” questions test your word order: who, when, where, then what.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
中午	zhōngwǔ	noon, midday	现在是中午十二点。 It’s twelve noon.
午饭	wǔfàn	lunch	我们吃午饭吧！ Let’s have lunch!
晚饭	wǎnfàn	dinner, supper	晚饭吃饺子吧！ Let’s have dumplings for dinner!
吃	chī	to eat	你吃什么？ What are you eating?
饭	fàn	meal; cooked rice	你想吃饭吗？ Do you want to eat?
喝	hē	to drink	你想喝什么？ What would you like to drink?
时候	shíhou	time; moment	你什么时候工作？ When do you work?
一起	yīqǐ	together	我们一起去吧！ Let’s go together!
跟	gēn	with; and	我跟妈妈一起去超市。 I’m going to the supermarket with Mum.
面包	miànbāo	bread	我早上吃面包。 I eat bread in the morning.

pattern 跟……一起 (who you do it with)

我 | 跟 | person | 一起 | verb

跟 + person + 一起 + verb: “do it with someone”. The order in a Chinese sentence is who, when, where, then what: 我中午在饭馆吃饭. ……的时候 means “when” or “while”: 吃饭的时候.

我跟小明一起吃午饭。 **wǒ gēn Xiǎomíng yìqǐ chī wǔfàn** I have lunch with Xiaoming.

中午我在大学吃饭。 **zhōngwǔ wǒ zài dàxué chī fàn** At lunchtime I eat at the university.

吃饭的时候，我们不看手机。 **chī fàn de shíhou wǒmen bú kàn shǒujī** We don’t look at our phones while we eat.

你跟谁一起吃晚饭？ **nǐ gēn shéi yìqǐ chī wǎnfàn** Who do you have dinner with?

dialogue not just bread!

xiaoming 安娜，十二点了，你吃午饭了吗？
Ānnà shíèr diǎn le nǐ chī wǔfàn le ma · Anna, it's twelve. Have you had lunch?

anna 还没有。我们一起去吃吧！
hái méiyǒu wǒmen yìqǐ qù chī ba · Not yet. Let's go and eat together!

xiaoming 好啊！你中午经常在哪儿吃饭？
hǎo a nǐ zhōngwǔ jīngcháng zài nǎr chī fàn · Sure! Where do you usually eat at lunchtime?

anna 在大学旁边的饭馆。有时候我就吃一个面包。
zài dàxué pángbiān de fànguǎn yǒu shíhou wǒ jiù chī yí gè miànbāo · At the restaurant next to the university. Sometimes I just have some bread.

xiaoming 就吃面包？太少了！跟我一起去吃米饭吧。
jiù chī miànbāo tài shǎo le gēn wǒ yìqǐ qù chī mǐfàn ba · Just bread? That's not enough! Come and have some rice with me.

anna 好。你喝什么？我想喝茶。
hǎo nǐ hē shénme wǒ xiǎng hē chá · OK. What will you drink? I'd like tea.

xiaoming 我也喝茶。吃饭的时候，我们说汉语吧！
wǒ yě hē chá chī fàn de shíhou wǒmen shuō Hànyǔ ba · Tea for me too. Let's speak Chinese while we eat!

anna 没问题！
méi wèntí · No problem!

repeat listen, then say it back

中午吃什么？ **zhōngwǔ chī shénme** What's for lunch?

你吃午饭了吗？ **nǐ chī wǔfàn le ma** Have you had lunch yet?

晚饭我在家吃。 **wǎnfàn wǒ zài jiā chī** I have dinner at home.

我跟朋友一起吃。 **wǒ gēn péngyou yìqǐ chī** I eat with friends.

我们一起吃饭吧！ **wǒmen yìqǐ chī fàn ba** Let's eat together!

中午我在大学吃饭。 **zhōngwǔ wǒ zài dàxué chī fàn** At lunchtime I eat at the university.

reply answer out loud

你中午在哪儿吃饭？ nǐ zhōngwǔ zài nǎr chī fàn Where do you eat at lunchtime?
→ 我在大学旁边的饭馆吃饭。 wǒ zài dàxué pángbiān de fànguǎn chī fàn
→ 在家吃。 zài jiā chī

你跟谁一起吃午饭？ nǐ gēn shéi yìqǐ chī wǔfàn Who do you have lunch with?
→ 我跟小明一起吃。 wǒ gēn Xiǎomíng yìqǐ chī
→ 我经常跟同学一起吃。 wǒ jīngcháng gēn tóngxué yìqǐ chī

你晚饭在哪儿吃？ nǐ wǎnfàn zài nǎr chī Where do you have dinner?
→ 晚饭我经常在家吃。 wǎnfàn wǒ jīngcháng zài jiā chī

你每天几点起床？ nǐ měi tiān jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng What time do you get up every day?
→ 我每天七点起床。 wǒ měi tiān qī diǎn qǐchuáng

你的好朋友是谁？ nǐ de hǎo péngyou shì shéi Who is your good friend?
→ 我的好朋友是小明。 wǒ de hǎo péngyou shì Xiǎomíng

talk 60 seconds

Where do you eat lunch every day? Who do you eat with?

你每天中午在哪儿吃饭？跟谁一起吃？ nǐ měi tiān zhōngwǔ zài nǎr chī fàn gēn shéi yìqǐ chī

我每天中午在……吃饭。 wǒ měi tiān zhōngwǔ zài chī fàn

我经常跟……一起吃。 wǒ jīngcháng gēn yìqǐ chī

……的时候，我们……。 de shíhou wǒmen

我喜欢吃……，喝……。 wǒ xǐhuan chī hē

model answer

我每天中午十二点吃午饭。 wǒ měi tiān zhōngwǔ shíèr diǎn chī wǔfàn

我经常在大学旁边的饭馆吃饭。 wǒ jīngcháng zài dàxué pángbiān de fànguǎn chī fàn

我跟小明一起吃，有时候也跟同学一起吃。 wǒ gēn Xiǎomíng yìqǐ chī yǒu shíhou yě gēn tóngxué yìqǐ chī

我们喜欢吃米饭，喝茶。 wǒmen xǐhuan chī mǐfàn hē chá

吃饭的时候，我们说汉语，也说很多有意思的事。 chī fàn de shíhou wǒmen shuō Hànyǔ yě shuō hěn duō yǒu yìsi de shì

晚饭我经常在家吃。 wǎnfàn wǒ jīngcháng zài jiā chī

I have lunch at twelve every day. I usually eat at a restaurant next to the university. I eat with Xiaoming, and sometimes with my classmates too. We like rice and tea. While we eat, we speak Chinese and talk about lots of fun things. I usually have dinner at home.

good to know · 你吃饭了吗？ (Have you eaten?) is also a friendly greeting around mealtimes; 吃了 or 还没有 is all you need to answer. Time and place go before the verb, never at the end: 我中午在饭馆吃饭, not 我吃饭在饭馆中午.

Who, when, where, then what: you now have the backbone of every Chinese sentence about your day.
Have lunch with someone today and say it in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 8 evenings

Say what you are doing right now, what you like doing in the evening before bed, and why.

“What are you doing?” starts half of all phone calls, and “what do you like doing, and why?” is a classic speaking question.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
晚上	wǎnshang	evening, night	晚上我学习汉语。 I study Chinese in the evening.
晚	wǎn	late; evening	现在十点，不晚。 It’s ten o’clock. Not late.
下班	xiàbān	to finish work	妈妈下午五点下班。 Mum finishes work at 5 p.m.
回	huí	to return; go back	我晚上七点回家。 I go home at seven in the evening.
电视	diànshì	TV, television	爸爸在看电视。 Dad is watching TV.
看	kàn	look, watch, read	我在看书。 I’m reading a book.
书	shū	book	这是我的书。 This is my book.
休息	xiūxi	to rest; to have time off	星期天我休息。 I’m off on Sunday.
睡觉	shuìjiào	to sleep; go to bed	我晚上十点睡觉。 I go to bed at ten at night.
累	lèi	tired	我今天很累。 I’m really tired today.

pattern 在 / 正在 + verb (what’s going on)

我 | 在 / 正在 | verb | 呢

Put 在 or 正在 before a verb to say something is happening right now; 呢 at the end makes it sound chatty. It’s the same 在 as “at”: 我在家看书 is “I read at home”, 我在看书 is “I’m reading”.

我正在看书呢。 **wǒ zhèngzài kàn shū ne** I’m reading at the moment.

小明在看电视。 **Xiǎomíng zài kàn diànshì** Xiaoming is watching TV.

妈妈正在做饭呢。 **māma zhèngzài zuòfàn ne** Mum is cooking right now.

因为很累，所以我在家休息。 **yīnwèi hěn lèi suǒyǐ wǒ zài jiā xiūxi** I’m tired, so I’m resting at home.

dialogue an evening call

anna 喂，小明，你在做什么呢？
wèi Xiǎomíng nǐ zài zuò shénme ne · Hi, Xiaoming, what are you up to?

xiaoming 我正在看电视呢。你呢？
wǒ zhèngzài kàn diànshì ne nǐ ne · I'm watching TV. And you?

anna 我在看书。今天上了很多课，很累。
wǒ zài kàn shū jīntiān shàng le hěn duō kè hěn lèi · I'm reading. I had lots of classes today, so I'm tired.

xiaoming 那你今天早一点儿睡觉吧。
nà nǐ jīntiān zǎo yìdiǎnr shuìjiào ba · Then get to bed a bit early tonight.

anna 好。你爸爸回家了吗？
hǎo nǐ bàba huí jiā le ma · OK. Is your dad home yet?

xiaoming 还没有。他经常很晚下班，九点回家。
hái méiyǒu tā jīngcháng hěn wǎn xiàbān jiǔ diǎn huí jiā · Not yet. He often finishes late and gets home at nine.

anna 医生真忙啊！
yīshēng zhēn máng a · Doctors are so busy!

xiaoming 是啊。明天见！
shì a míngtiān jiàn · They sure are. See you tomorrow!

repeat listen, then say it back

我正在看书。 wǒ zhèngzài kàn shū I'm reading.

今天我很累。 jīntiān wǒ hěn lèi I'm tired today.

你在做什么呢？ nǐ zài zuò shénme ne What are you doing?

睡觉前我喜欢看书。 shuìjiào qián wǒ xǐhuan kàn shū Before bed I like reading.

晚上我在家休息。 wǎnshang wǒ zài jiā xiūxi In the evening I rest at home.

妈妈下班回家很晚。 māma xiàbān huí jiā hěn wǎn Mum gets home from work late.

reply answer out loud

你晚上喜欢做什么？ nǐ wǎnshang xǐhuan zuò shénme What do you like doing in the evening?
→ 我喜欢在家看书。 wǒ xǐhuan zài jiā kàn shū
→ 我喜欢看电视。 wǒ xǐhuan kàn diànshì

你现在在做什么？ nǐ xiànzài zài zuò shénme What are you doing now?
→ 我正在学汉语呢。 wǒ zhèngzài xué Hànyǔ ne

睡觉前你做什么？ shuìjiào qián nǐ zuò shénme What do you do before bed?
→ 睡觉前我看一会儿书。 shuìjiào qián wǒ kàn yíhuìr shū
→ 我给妈妈打电话。 wǒ gěi māma dǎ diànhuà

你中午跟谁一起吃饭？ nǐ zhōngwǔ gēn shéi yìqǐ chī fàn Who do you eat with at lunchtime?
→ 我跟同学一起吃。 wǒ gēn tóngxué yìqǐ chī

起床后你做什么？ qǐchuáng hòu nǐ zuò shénme What do you do after you get up?
→ 我喝一杯咖啡，再吃早饭。 wǒ hē yì bēi kāfēi zài chī zǎofàn

talk 60 seconds

What do you like doing in the evening before bed? Why?

你晚上睡觉前喜欢做什么？为什么？ nǐ wǎnshang shuìjiào qián xǐhuan zuò shénme wèi shénme

睡觉前，我经常…… shuìjiào qián wǒ jīngcháng

因为……，所以……。 yīnwèi suǒyǐ

有时候我…… yǒu shíhou wǒ

我觉得…… wǒ juéde

model answer

我每天晚上十点半睡觉。 wǒ měi tiān wǎnshang shí diǎn bàn shuìjiào

睡觉前，我喜欢在家看一会儿书。 shuìjiào qián wǒ xǐhuan zài jiā kàn yíhuìr shū

因为看书很有意思，也能学很多汉语，所以我每天都看。 yīnwèi kàn shū hěn yǒu yìsi yě néng xué hěn duō Hànyǔ suǒyǐ wǒ měi tiān dōu kàn

有时候我也给妈妈打电话，跟她说说我的一天。 yǒu shíhou wǒ yě gěi māma dǎ diànhuà gēn tā shuō shuo wǒ de yì tiān

睡觉前我不看手机，因为看了手机就睡不好。 shuìjiào qián wǒ bú kàn shǒujī yīnwèi kàn le shǒujī jiù shuì bu hǎo

I go to bed at half past ten every evening. Before bed I like to read at home for a while. Reading is fun and I learn lots of Chinese from it, so I read every day. Sometimes I also call my mum and tell her about my day. I don't look at my phone before bed, because if I do, I don't sleep well.

good to know · On the phone, 喂 starts the call; many people say it with a rising tone, wéi. 回家 is going home, 回来 coming back: 他九点回家.

You can now say what's happening right now, what you do before bed, and why. Next time someone calls and asks 你在做什么呢? , you're ready.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 9 my week

Talk about your week: days, dates, how often you do things, and your favourite day.

"Which day do you like best, and why?" needs days of the week, how-often words and a reason: three tools that come up again and again.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
星期	xīngqī	week	今天星期几? What day is it today?
今天	jīntiān	today	今天星期五。 Today is Friday.
明天	míngtiān	tomorrow	明天是十月二十四号。 Tomorrow is 24 October.
昨天	zuótiān	yesterday	昨天是星期四。 Yesterday was Thursday.
上午	shàngwǔ	morning (before noon)	我上午学习汉语。 I study Chinese in the morning.
下午	xiàwǔ	afternoon	我下午工作。 I work in the afternoon.
经常	jīngcháng	often	我经常去超市。 I often go to the supermarket.
有时	yǒushí	sometimes	我有时在家吃饭。 Sometimes I eat at home.
忙	máng	busy	你今天忙吗? Are you busy today?
时间	shíjiān	time	你有时间吗? Do you have time?

pattern 经常, 有时, 每……都 (how often)

我 | 经常 / 有时 | verb | ……

How-often words go before the verb: 我经常跟朋友吃饭 (often), 我有时去商店 (sometimes). 每 + 天 / 个星期 usually takes 都: 我每天都学汉语. The days are 星期 + 一 to 六, plus 星期天 or 星期日; 星期几? asks which day.

我经常跟朋友一起吃饭。 **wǒ jīngcháng gēn péngyou yìqǐ chī fàn** I often eat with friends.

星期六我有时去超市。 **xīngqīliù wǒ yǒushí qù chāoshì** On Saturdays I sometimes go to the supermarket.

我每个星期都给妈妈打电话。 **wǒ měi gè xīngqī dōu gěi māma dǎ diànhuà** I call my mum every week.

今天星期几? **jīntiān xīngqī jǐ** What day is it today?

dialogue plans for the weekend

teacher wang 安娜，明天星期六，你忙吗？
Ānnà míngtiān xīngqīliù nǐ máng ma · Anna, tomorrow's Saturday. Are you busy?

anna 很忙！上午九点有课，中午跟小明吃饭，晚上给妈妈打电话。
hěn máng shàngwǔ jiǔ diǎn yǒu kè zhōngwǔ gēn Xiǎomíng chī fàn wǎnshang gěi māma dǎ diànhuà · Very! I have class at nine in the morning, lunch with Xiaoming at noon, and I call my mum in the evening.

teacher wang 你每个星期都给妈妈打电话吗？
nǐ měi gè xīngqī dōu gěi māma dǎ diànhuà ma · Do you call your mum every week?

anna 对，我经常打，有时一个星期打两次。
duì wǒ jīngcháng dǎ yǒushí yí gè xīngqī dǎ liǎng cì · Yes, I call her a lot. Sometimes twice a week.

teacher wang 真好。那你星期天有时间吗？我们班一起去吃饺子。
zhēn hǎo nà nǐ xīngqītiān yǒu shíjiān ma wǒmen bān yìqǐ qù chī jiǎozi · That's lovely. And are you free on Sunday? Our class is going out for dumplings together.

anna 有时间！几点？
yǒu shíjiān jǐ diǎn · I'm free! What time?

teacher wang 中午十二点，在学校旁边的饭馆。
zhōngwǔ shíèr diǎn zài xuéxiào pángbiān de fànguǎn · Twelve noon, at the restaurant next to the school.

anna 太好了！我最喜欢星期天了！
tài hǎo le wǒ zuì xǐhuan xīngqītiān le · Great! Sunday really is my favourite day!

repeat listen, then say it back

今天星期几？ **jīntiān xīngqī jǐ** What day is it today?

明天是星期六。 **míngtiān shì xīngqīliù** Tomorrow is Saturday.

我下午有时间。 **wǒ xiàwǔ yǒu shíjiān** I'm free in the afternoon.

我上午有汉语课。 **wǒ shàngwǔ yǒu Hànyǔ kè** I have Chinese class in the morning.

我最喜欢星期天。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan xīngqītiān** Sunday is my favourite day.

我经常跟朋友吃饭。 **wǒ jīngcháng gēn péngyou chī fàn** I often eat out with friends.

reply answer out loud

今天星期几？ jīntiān xīngqī jǐ What day is it today?
→ 今天星期五。 jīntiān xīngqīwǔ

你星期几最忙？ nǐ xīngqī jǐ zuì máng Which day are you busiest?
→ 星期一最忙。 xīngqīyī zuì máng
→ 我星期三最忙，上午下午都有课。 wǒ xīngqīsān zuì máng shàngwǔ xiàwǔ dōu yǒu kè

你明天有时间吗？ nǐ míngtiān yǒu shíjiān ma Are you free tomorrow?
→ 有时间。 yǒu shíjiān
→ 上午没有，下午有。 shàngwǔ méiyǒu xiàwǔ yǒu

你晚上喜欢做什么？ nǐ wǎnshang xǐhuan zuò shénme What do you like doing in the evening?
→ 我喜欢在家看书。 wǒ xǐhuan zài jiā kàn shū

你跟谁一起吃午饭？ nǐ gēn shéi yìqǐ chī wǔfàn Who do you have lunch with?
→ 我经常跟小明一起吃。 wǒ jīngcháng gēn Xiǎomíng yìqǐ chī

talk 60 seconds

Which day of the week do you like best? Why?

一个星期里，你最喜欢星期几？为什么？ yí gè xīngqī lǐ nǐ zuì xǐhuan xīngqī jǐ wèi shénme

我最喜欢星期…… wǒ zuì xǐhuan xīngqī

因为…… yīnwèi

我经常……，有时……。 wǒ jīngcháng yǒushí

星期一到星期五我都很…… xīngqīyī dào xīngqīwǔ wǒ dōu hěn

model answer

一个星期里，我最喜欢星期天。 yí gè xīngqī lǐ wǒ zuì xǐhuan xīngqītiān

星期一到星期六我都很忙，上午有课，下午也要学习。 xīngqīyī dào xīngqīliù wǒ dōu hěn máng shàngwǔ yǒu kè xiàwǔ yě yào xuéxí

星期天我有时间，可以晚一点儿起床。 xīngqītiān wǒ yǒu shíjiān kěyǐ wǎn yìdiǎnr qǐchuáng

起床后，我经常去商店买东西，再跟朋友一起吃午饭。 qǐchuáng hòu wǒ jīngcháng qù shāngdiàn mǎi dōngxi zài gēn péngyou yìqǐ chī wǔfàn

下午我有时在家看书，有时出去玩。 xiàwǔ wǒ yǒushí zài jiā kàn shū yǒushí chūqù wán

因为星期天不忙，所以我很高兴！ yīnwèi xīngqītiān bù máng suǒyǐ wǒ hěn gāoxìng

My favourite day of the week is Sunday. From Monday to Saturday I'm busy: I have classes in the morning and I need to study in the afternoon too. On Sunday I have time, and I can get up a bit later. After I get up, I often go shopping, and then have lunch with friends. In the afternoon I sometimes read at home and sometimes go out. Sunday isn't busy, so I'm happy!

good to know · Sunday is 星期天 in speech and 星期日 in writing; both are right. Dates go big to small: 十月三十号 is 30 October. Ask with 几月几号?

Days, dates, how often and your favourite day: you can now plan a week out loud. Tomorrow: a whole Saturday in Chinese, hour by hour.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 10 mission: anna's busy saturday

Talk through a whole day with clock times, from getting up to going to bed.

Unit 2 as a mock round: numbers and times are where speaking answers wobble most, so today you say them all day long.

chapter 1 a morning call

xiaoming 喂，安娜，你起床了吗?
wèi Ānnà nǐ qǐchuáng le ma · Hi Anna, are you up?

anna 起床了！我七点就起床了。九点我有汉语课。
qǐchuáng le wǒ qī diǎn jiù qǐchuáng le jiǔ diǎn wǒ yǒu Hànyǔ kè · I'm up! I got up at seven. I have Chinese class at nine.

xiaoming 下课后我们一起吃午饭吧。你几点下课?
xiàkè hòu wǒmen yìqǐ chī wǔfàn ba nǐ jǐ diǎn xiàkè · Let's have lunch together after class. What time do you finish?

anna 十一点。我们十二点在饭馆见，好吗?
shíyī diǎn wǒmen shíèr diǎn zài fànguǎn jiàn hǎo ma · At eleven. Shall we meet at the restaurant at twelve?

xiaoming 好！我跟妹妹一起去。
hǎo wǒ gēn mèimei yìqǐ qù · Great! I'll bring my little sister.

chapter 2 how many students?

little sister 安娜姐姐，你们上午上了几个小时的课?
Ānnà jiějie nǐmen shàngwǔ shàng le jǐ gè xiǎoshí de kè · Anna, how many hours of class did you have this morning?

anna 两个小时，九点到十一点。我们说了很多汉语!
liǎng gè xiǎoshí jiǔ diǎn dào shíyī diǎn wǒmen shuō le hěn duō Hànyǔ · Two hours, from nine to eleven. We spoke lots of Chinese!

xiaoming 你们班有多少学生?
nǐmen bān yǒu duōshao xuéshēng · How many students are in your class?

anna 八个：五个美国人，三个英国人。
bā gè wǔ gè Měiguó rén sān gè Yīngguó rén · Eight: five Americans and three Brits.

little sister 我们班有四十六个学生!
wǒmen bān yǒu sìshíliù gè xuéshēng · There are forty-six students in my class!

xiaoming 好了，我们点菜吧!
hǎo le wǒmen diǎn cài ba · Right, let's order!

chapter 3 good news from home

xiaoming 喂，安娜，你在做什么呢?
wèi Ānnà nǐ zài zuò shénme ne · Hi Anna, what are you up to?

anna 我给妈妈打电话了。北京晚上九点，英国是下午一点。
wǒ gěi māma dǎ diànhuà le Běijīng wǎnshang jiǔ diǎn Yīngguó shì xiàwǔ yī diǎn · I just called my mum. When it's nine in the evening in Beijing, it's one in the afternoon in the UK.

xiaoming 你家人都好吗?
nǐ jiārén dōu hǎo ma · Is everyone at home well?

anna 都很好！我哥哥下个月跟他的女朋友一起来北京，我太高兴了！
dōu hěn hǎo wǒ gēge xià gè yuè gēn tā de nǚpéngyou yìqǐ lái Běijīng wǒ tài gāoxìng le · Everyone's fine! My brother is coming to Beijing next month with his girlfriend. I'm so happy!

xiaoming 太好了！你今天累吗?
tài hǎo le nǐ jīntiān lèi ma · That's great! Are you tired today?

anna 有点儿累。今天我想早一点儿睡觉，十点就睡。
yǒudiǎnr lèi jīntiān wǒ xiǎng zǎo yìdiǎnr shuìjiào shí diǎn jiù shuì · A bit. I want an early night tonight; I'll be asleep by ten.

repeat listen, then say it back

我七点就起床了。 wǒ qī diǎn jiù qǐchuáng le I was up at seven.

我九点有汉语课。 wǒ jiǔ diǎn yǒu Hànyǔ kè I have Chinese class at nine.

我们十二点见吧。 wǒmen shíèr diǎn jiàn ba Let's meet at twelve.

北京现在晚上九点。 Běijīng xiànzài wǎnshang jiǔ diǎn It's nine in the evening in Beijing now.

我们班有八个学生。 wǒmen bān yǒu bā gè xuéshēng There are eight students in our class.

reply answer out loud

现在几点? xiànzài jǐ diǎn What time is it now?
→ 现在下午三点半。 xiànzài xiàwǔ sān diǎn bàn
→ 两点十分。 liǎng diǎn shí fēn

你早上几点吃早饭? nǐ zǎoshang jǐ diǎn chī zǎofàn What time do you have breakfast?
→ 我七点半吃早饭。 wǒ qī diǎn bàn chī zǎofàn

你中午跟谁一起吃饭? nǐ zhōngwǔ gēn shéi yìqǐ chī fàn Who do you have lunch with?
→ 我跟小明一起吃。 wǒ gēn Xiǎomíng yìqǐ chī

你晚上喜欢做什么？为什么? nǐ wǎnshang xǐhuan zuò shénme wèi shénme What do you like doing in the evening? Why?
→ 我喜欢看书，因为很有意思。 wǒ xǐhuan kàn shū yīnwèi hěn yǒu yìsi

你星期几最忙? nǐ xīngqī jǐ zuì máng Which day are you busiest?
→ 星期一最忙。 xīngqīyī zuì máng
→ 我星期六最忙，上午有课。 wǒ xīngqīliù zuì máng shàngwǔ yǒu kè

talk 90 seconds

Talk us through your day: what do you do, and when?

说一说你的一天：你几点做什么？ shuō yi shuo nǐ de yì tiān nǐ jǐ diǎn zuò shénme

我每天早上……点起床。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang diǎn qǐchuáng

……了就……。 le jiù

睡觉前，我…… shuìjiào qián wǒ

晚上……点…… wǎnshang diǎn

model answer

我每天早上七点起床。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang qī diǎn qǐchuáng

起床后，我喝一杯咖啡，再吃一个面包。 qǐchuáng hòu wǒ hē yì bēi kāfēi zài chī yí gè miànbāo

八点二十分我去大学，九点上课。 bā diǎn èrshí fēn wǒ qù dàxué jiǔ diǎn shàngkè

十二点我跟小明一起吃午饭。 shíèr diǎn wǒ gēn Xiǎomíng yìqǐ chī wǔfàn

下午两点到五点，我在家学习汉语。 xiàwǔ liǎng diǎn dào wǔ diǎn wǒ zài jiā xuéxí Hànyǔ

吃了晚饭，我就看一会儿书。 chī le wǎnfàn wǒ jiù kàn yíhuìr shū

睡觉前，我给妈妈打电话。 shuìjiào qián wǒ gěi māma dǎ diànhuà

晚上十点半我睡觉。 wǎnshang shí diǎn bàn wǒ shuìjiào

I get up at seven every morning. After I get up, I have a coffee and then a piece of bread. At twenty past eight I go to the university, and class starts at nine. At twelve I have lunch with Xiaoming. From two to five in the afternoon, I study Chinese at home. After dinner I read for a while. Before bed I call my mum. At half past ten I go to bed.

Unit 2 done: you can talk through a whole day, clock time by clock time. Next unit: food and drink, the tastiest topic in Chinese.

Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 11 food i like

Say what food you like best, and how good it is.

"What do you like to eat?" is the friendliest question in China, and an easy one to talk about for a minute.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
菜	cài	dish; vegetables	我爱吃中国菜。 I love Chinese food.
好吃	hǎochī	tasty; delicious	妈妈做的菜很好吃。 Mum's cooking is delicious.
肉	ròu	meat	我不吃肉。 I don't eat meat.
鱼	yú	fish	这儿的鱼很好吃。 The fish here is delicious.
米饭	mǐfàn	cooked rice	我爱吃米饭。 I love rice.
面条儿	miàntiáor	noodles	我想吃面条儿。 I'd like noodles.
饺子	jiǎozi	dumpling	你喜欢吃饺子吗? Do you like dumplings?
水果	shuǐguǒ	fruit	我们吃水果吧。 Let's have some fruit.
最	zuì	most, -est	我最喜欢中国菜。 Chinese food is my favourite.
非常	fēicháng	very; extremely	包子非常好吃。 The baozi are super tasty.

pattern 最 and 非常: your favourite, and how good it is

我 | 最 | 喜欢吃 | food

最 means "most": 我最喜欢吃饺子 is "I like dumplings most", your favourite. To say how good something is, put a word before the adjective: 很 (very), 非常 (really), 真 (truly!), 有点儿 (a bit, often a complaint), or 太…了 (so, too).

我最喜欢吃鱼。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī yú** Fish is my favourite.

这个菜非常好吃。 **zhège cài fēicháng hǎochī** This dish is really tasty.

学校旁边的面条儿真好吃! **xuéxiào pángbiān de miàntiáor zhēn hǎochī** The noodles next to school are so good!

这个饭馆的菜有点儿贵。 **zhège fànguǎn de cài yǒudiǎnr guì** The food in this restaurant is a bit expensive.

dialogue what's for lunch?

xiaoming 安娜，中午你想吃什么？
Ānnà zhōngwǔ nǐ xiǎng chī shénme · Anna, what do you want for lunch?

anna 我想吃面条儿。你呢？
wǒ xiǎng chī miàntiáor nǐ ne · I fancy noodles. You?

xiaoming 我最喜欢吃饺子。学校旁边的饺子非常好吃。
wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī jiǎozi xuéxiào pángbiān de jiǎozi fēicháng hǎochī · Dumplings are my favourite. The dumplings next to school are really good.

anna 饺子里有什么？
jiǎozi lǐ yǒu shénme · What's in them?

xiaoming 有肉，也有菜。你也吃饺子吧！
yǒu ròu yě yǒu cài nǐ yě chī jiǎozi ba · Meat and vegetables. Have dumplings too!

anna 好！吃了饺子，我们再吃一点儿水果。
hǎo chī le jiǎozi wǒmen zài chī yìdiǎnr shuǐguǒ · OK! And after the dumplings, let's have a bit of fruit.

xiaoming 太好了！
tài hǎo le · Great!

repeat listen, then say it back

我最喜欢吃鱼。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī yú** Fish is my favourite.

这个菜非常好吃。 **zhège cài fēicháng hǎochī** This dish is really tasty.

米饭有点儿冷了。 **mǐfàn yǒudiǎnr lěng le** The rice has gone a bit cold.

我每天都吃水果。 **wǒ měi tiān dōu chī shuǐguǒ** I eat fruit every day.

你最喜欢吃什么菜？ **nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme cài** What food do you like best?

我中午经常吃面条儿。 **wǒ zhōngwǔ jīngcháng chī miàntiáor** I often have noodles at lunchtime.

reply answer out loud

你最喜欢吃什么？ **nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme** What do you like to eat best?
→ 我最喜欢吃饺子。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī jiǎozi**

你喜欢吃鱼吗？ **nǐ xǐhuan chī yú ma** Do you like fish?
→ 喜欢，鱼非常好吃。 **xǐhuan yú fēicháng hǎochī**
→ 我不太喜欢吃鱼。 **wǒ bú tài xǐhuan chī yú**

你每天吃水果吗？ **nǐ měi tiān chī shuǐguǒ ma** Do you eat fruit every day?
→ 我每天都吃水果。 **wǒ měi tiān dōu chī shuǐguǒ**

你中午在哪儿吃饭？ **nǐ zhōngwǔ zài nǎr chī fàn** Where do you have lunch?
→ 我中午在学校吃饭。 **wǒ zhōngwǔ zài xuéxiào chī fàn**

你每天早上几点起床？ **nǐ měi tiān zǎoshang jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng** What time do you get up every morning?
→ 我每天早上七点起床。 **wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang qī diǎn qǐchuáng**

talk 75 seconds

What food do you like best? Why?

你最喜欢吃什么菜？为什么？ nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme cài wèi shénme

我最喜欢吃…… wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī

……非常好吃。 fēicháng hǎochī

因为……，所以…… yīnwèi suǒyǐ

model answer

我最喜欢吃饺子。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī jiǎozi

饺子里有肉，也有菜，非常好吃。 jiǎozi lǐ yǒu ròu yě yǒu cài fēicháng hǎochī

我妈妈做的饺子最好吃。 wǒ māma zuò de jiǎozi zuì hǎochī

因为我的家人都喜欢吃饺子，所以星期六我们经常一起做饺子。 yīnwèi wǒ de jiārén dōu xǐhuan chī jiǎozi suǒyǐ xīngqīliù wǒmen jīngcháng yìqǐ zuò jiǎozi

我也很喜欢吃水果。 wǒ yě hěn xǐhuan chī shuǐguǒ

Dumplings are my favourite food. They have meat and vegetables inside, and they're really tasty. The dumplings my mum makes are the best. My whole family loves dumplings, so on Saturdays we often make them together. I really like fruit too.

good to know · 菜 is both "a dish" and "vegetables": 点菜 is ordering dishes, 有肉也有菜 is "meat and veg". In a talk, say the food first, then one detail about it (what's inside, who makes it), then why you like it. Three steps and you've got your minute.

Now you can tell anyone what you love to eat, and make a friend over lunch.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 12 tea or coffee?

Ask “this or that?” with 还是, and say what you drink and how often.

Tea or coffee, hot or cold: you’ll be asked this in every home, café and office in China.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
茶	chá	tea	请喝茶。 Please have some tea.
咖啡	kāfēi	coffee	你喝咖啡吗? Do you drink coffee?
水	shuǐ	water	我想喝水。 I’d like some water.
牛奶	niúnǎi	milk	小明喝牛奶。 Xiaoming drinks milk.
奶茶	nǎichá	milk tea	我想喝一杯奶茶。 I’d like a milk tea.
红茶	hóngchá	black tea	我喜欢喝红茶。 I like black tea.
杯子	bēizi	cup, glass	这是我的杯子。 This is my cup.
还是	háishi	or (in questions); had better	你喝茶还是喝咖啡? Would you like tea or coffee?
热	rè	hot	七月很热。 July is hot.
一点儿	yīdiǎnr	a little; a bit	我会说一点儿汉语。 I can speak a little Chinese.

pattern a 还是 b? choose one

你喝 | A | 还是 | B | ?

还是 joins two choices in a question: 你喝茶还是喝咖啡? There’s no 吗 at the end, and you answer with one of the two. To say how often, put 经常 (often) or 有时 (sometimes) before the verb.

你喝红茶还是绿茶？——红茶。 **nǐ hē hóngchá háishi lǜchá hóngchá** Black tea or green tea? – Black tea.

你要热的还是冷的？ **nǐ yào rè de háishi lěng de** Hot or cold?

我经常喝绿茶，有时喝红茶。 **wǒ jīngcháng hē lǜchá yǒushí hē hóngchá** I often drink green tea, and sometimes black tea.

dialogue grandma’s tea

grandma 安娜，你喝茶还是喝咖啡？
Ānnà nǐ hē chá háishi hē kāfēi · Anna, will you have tea or coffee?

anna 喝茶吧，谢谢奶奶！
hē chá ba xièxie nǎinai · Tea, please. Thank you, Grandma!

grandma 红茶还是绿茶？
hóngchá háishi lǜchá · Black or green?

anna 红茶。我早上喝咖啡，下午喜欢喝红茶。
hóngchá wǒ zǎoshang hē kāfēi xiàwǔ xǐhuan hē hóngchá · Black. I drink coffee in the morning, and I like black tea in the afternoon.

grandma 我也最爱喝茶，每天都喝五六杯！
wǒ yě zuì ài hē chá měi tiān dōu hē wǔliù bēi · I love tea more than anything too. I drink five or six cups a day!

xiaoming 奶奶，我不喝茶，我要一杯牛奶。
nǎinai wǒ bù hē chá wǒ yào yì bēi niúnǎi · Grandma, I don't want tea. I'll have a glass of milk.

grandma 你要热的还是冷的？
nǐ yào rè de háishi lěng de · Hot or cold?

xiaoming 热的，谢谢奶奶！
rè de xièxie nǎinai · Hot, thanks Grandma!

repeat listen, then say it back

我想喝一点儿水。 wǒ xiǎng hē yìdiǎnr shuǐ I'd like a little water.

我要一杯热牛奶。 wǒ yào yì bēi rè niúnǎi I'll have a glass of hot milk.

你喝红茶还是绿茶？ nǐ hē hóngchá háishi lǜchá Do you drink black tea or green tea?

下午我喜欢喝奶茶。 xiàwǔ wǒ xǐhuan hē nǎichá In the afternoon I like milk tea.

我早上经常喝咖啡。 wǒ zǎoshang jīngcháng hē kāfēi I often drink coffee in the morning.

我有时喝一点儿红茶。 wǒ yǒushí hē yìdiǎnr hóngchá Sometimes I drink a little black tea.

reply answer out loud

你喝茶还是喝咖啡？ nǐ hē chá háishi hē kāfēi Do you drink tea or coffee?
→ 我喝茶。 wǒ hē chá
→ 我喝咖啡，不喝茶。 wǒ hē kāfēi bù hē chá

你早上喝什么？ nǐ zǎoshang hē shénme What do you drink in the morning?
→ 我早上喝一杯牛奶。 wǒ zǎoshang hē yì bēi niúnǎi

你的杯子里是什么？ nǐ de bēizi lǐ shì shénme What's in your cup?
→ 我的杯子里是红茶。 wǒ de bēizi lǐ shì hóngchá

你经常喝奶茶吗？ nǐ jīngcháng hē nǎichá ma Do you often drink milk tea?
→ 我有时喝奶茶。 wǒ yǒushí hē nǎichá

你最喜欢吃什么菜？ nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme cài What food do you like best?
→ 我最喜欢吃鱼。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī yú

talk 75 seconds

Do you prefer tea or coffee? Why?

你喜欢喝茶还是喝咖啡？为什么？ nǐ xǐhuan hē chá háishi hē kāfēi wèi shénme

我喜欢喝……，不喜欢喝…… wǒ xǐhuan hē bù xǐhuan hē

我经常……，有时…… wǒ jīngcháng yǒushí

因为……，所以…… yīnwèi suǒyǐ

model answer

我喜欢喝茶，不太喜欢喝咖啡。 wǒ xǐhuan hē chá bú tài xǐhuan hē kāfēi

我每天都喝三四杯茶。 wǒ měi tiān dōu hē sānsì bēi chá

早上我经常喝绿茶，下午有时喝红茶。 zǎoshang wǒ jīngcháng hē lǜchá xiàwǔ yǒushí hē hóngchá

因为喝咖啡晚上睡不好，所以下午我不喝咖啡。 yīnwèi hē kāfēi wǎnshang shuì bu hǎo suǒyǐ xiàwǔ wǒ bù hē kāfēi

我的朋友喜欢喝奶茶，我们有时一起去喝。 wǒ de péngyou xǐhuan hē nǎichá wǒmen yǒushí yìqǐ qù hē

I like tea, and I'm not very keen on coffee. I drink three or four cups of tea a day. In the morning I often have green tea, and in the afternoon sometimes black tea. Coffee stops me sleeping well at night, so I don't drink it in the afternoon. My friends like milk tea, and sometimes we go for one together.

good to know · A 还是 B already makes a question: never add 吗. 你喝茶还是咖啡吗 is a classic beginner slip. Answer a choice question with just the choice: 红茶。 or 热的。 That's natural, short and safe in a timed reply.

Hot or cold, tea or coffee: now you can ask, choose and say why, like a good host.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 13 at a restaurant

Order in a restaurant, say what you'd like and ask what it costs.

Eating out is cheap and fun in China, and ordering is the speaking you'll do most.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
饭馆	fànguǎn	restaurant	我们去饭馆吃饭吧。 Let's go and eat at a restaurant.
点	diǎn	order (food)	我们点{dian3-2}菜吧! Let's order!
要	yào	to want; I'll have	我要米饭。 I'll have rice.
想	xiǎng	would like to; to think; to miss	我想吃包子。 I'd like to eat steamed buns.
请	qǐng	please; to invite	请吃饺子! Please have some dumplings!
多少	duōshao	how many; how much	你认识多少汉字? How many Chinese characters do you know?
钱	qián	money	这个多少钱? How much is this?
块	kuài	yuan (spoken); piece	十块钱。 Ten yuan.
可以	kěyǐ	can, may	我可以看一下吗? May I take a look?
再	zài	again; then (later)	你明天再来吧。 Come back tomorrow.

pattern 想 and 要: what you'd like

我 | 想 / 要 | 吃 / 喝 / 点 | thing

想 + verb is "would like to", a wish: 我想吃鱼. 要 is firmer, "I want, I'll have", and it can take the thing straight away: 我要一杯茶, which is how you order. Start a request with 请 (please), and end a suggestion with 吧 (let's). Ask the price with 多少钱; 太贵了 is "too expensive!".

我想吃饺子。 **wǒ xiǎng chī jiǎozi** I'd like some dumplings.

我要两杯奶茶。 **wǒ yào liǎng bēi nǎichá** I'll have two milk teas.

请再给我一个杯子。 **qǐng zài gěi wǒ yí gè bēizi** Could I have another cup, please?

这个多少钱? ——三十块。 **zhège duōshao qián sānshí kuài** How much is this? – Thirty yuan.

dialogue xiaoming's treat

xiaoming 安娜，今天我请你吃饭！你想吃什么？
Ānnà jīntiān wǒ qǐng nǐ chī fàn nǐ xiǎng chī shénme · Anna, dinner's on me today! What would you like?

anna 谢谢！我想吃鱼。这个鱼多少钱？
xièxie wǒ xiǎng chī yú zhège yú duōshao qián · Thanks! I'd like fish. How much is this fish?

xiaoming 八十八块。
bāshíbā kuài · Eighty-eight yuan.

anna 太贵了！我们点面条儿吧，面条儿很便宜。
tài guì le wǒmen diǎn miàntiáor ba miàntiáor hěn piányi · That's too expensive! Let's get noodles, noodles are cheap.

xiaoming 没关系，你想吃就点吧！
méi guānxi nǐ xiǎng chī jiù diǎn ba · Don't worry, if you want it, order it!

anna 好吧，谢谢你！那我们再要一个菜，可以吗？
hǎo ba xièxie nǐ nà wǒmen zài yào yí gè cài kěyǐ ma · OK then, thank you! And can we have one more dish?

xiaoming 不客气！你好，我们要这个鱼和这个菜，请再给我们两杯茶。
búkèqi nǐhǎo wǒmen yào zhège yú hé zhège cài qǐng zài gěi wǒmen liǎng bēi chá · You're welcome! Hello, we'll have this fish and this dish, and two teas, please.

anna 小明，下次我请你！对了，洗手间在哪儿？
Xiǎomíng xià cì wǒ qǐng nǐ duì le xǐshǒujiān zài nǎr · Xiaoming, next time it's my treat! Oh, by the way, where's the toilet?

xiaoming 在前面，右边就是。
zài qiánmiàn yòubian jiù shì · Straight ahead, on the right.

repeat listen, then say it back

这个菜多少钱？ **zhège cài duōshao qián** How much is this dish?

你想点什么菜？ **nǐ xiǎng diǎn shénme cài** What would you like to order?

我想去饭馆吃饭。 **wǒ xiǎng qù fànguǎn chī fàn** I'd like to eat out.

请给我一杯热水。 **qǐng gěi wǒ yì bēi rè shuǐ** A glass of hot water, please.

太贵了，我们不点了。 **tài guì le wǒmen bù diǎn le** That's too expensive, we won't order it.

我要一条鱼和米饭。 **wǒ yào yì tiáo yú hé mǐfàn** I'll have a fish and rice.

reply answer out loud

你想吃什么？ nǐ xiǎng chī shénme What would you like to eat?
→ 我想吃饺子。 wǒ xiǎng chī jiǎozi
你要喝什么？ nǐ yào hē shénme What will you have to drink?
→ 我要一杯红茶。 wǒ yào yì bēi hóngchá
这个菜多少钱？ zhège cài duōshao qián How much is this dish?
→ 这个菜三十块钱。 zhège cài sānshí kuài qián
你喝茶还是喝咖啡？ nǐ hē chá háishi hē kāfēi Do you drink tea or coffee?
→ 我喝茶。 wǒ hē chá
洗手间在哪儿？ xǐshǒujiān zài nǎr Where's the toilet?
→ 洗手间在前面，右边就是。 xǐshǒujiān zài qiánmiàn yòubian jiù shì
→ 不好意思，我不知道。 bù hǎoyìsi wǒ bù zhīdào

talk 75 seconds

Do you often eat out? What do you like to order?

你经常去饭馆吃饭吗？你喜欢点什么菜？ nǐ jīngcháng qù fànguǎn chī fàn ma nǐ xǐhuan diǎn shénme cài

我有时跟……去饭馆吃饭。 wǒ yǒushí gēn qù fànguǎn chī fàn

我最喜欢点…… wǒ zuì xǐhuan diǎn

那儿的菜不贵，…… nàr de cài bú guì

model answer

我有时跟朋友去饭馆吃饭，一个星期去一两次。 wǒ yǒushí gēn péngyou qù fànguǎn chī fàn yí gè xīngqī qù yìliǎng cì

我们经常去学校旁边的饭馆。 wǒmen jīngcháng qù xuéxiào pángbiān de fànguǎn

我最喜欢点鱼和饺子，饺子非常好吃。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan diǎn yú hé jiǎozi jiǎozi fēicháng hǎochī

那儿的菜不贵，两个人一百块钱就可以吃得很好。 nàr de cài bú guì liǎng gè rén yìbǎi kuài qián jiù kěyǐ chī de hěn hǎo

我想下个星期再去。 wǒ xiǎng xià gè xīngqī zài qù

I sometimes eat out with friends, once or twice a week. We often go to the restaurant next to school. I like to order fish and dumplings best; the dumplings are really tasty. The food there isn't expensive: two people can eat really well for a hundred yuan. I want to go again next week.

good to know · To call the staff in a restaurant, a friendly 你好！ is all you need. Then order with 我们要…: 我们要这个和这个. 我请你 means "it's my treat". In China friends often take turns paying, so 下次我请你 is the polite reply. 不好意思 is the everyday "excuse me" or "sorry" (asking the way, a small slip); 不客气 is "you're welcome", the answer to 谢谢.

You can walk into a restaurant, order for the table and talk about the bill. Dinner is served!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 14 cooking at home

Say what you can cook, and how well, with 会 and 得.

Cooking is a great small-talk topic, and “can you cook?” is a classic speaking question.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
做饭	zuòfàn	to cook	今天我做饭吧! Let me cook today!
会	huì	can (know how to)	我会说汉语。 I can speak Chinese.
做	zuò	to do; to make	你妈妈做什么工作? What does your mum do?
超市	chāoshì	supermarket	我在超市买东西。 I’m shopping at the supermarket.
买	mǎi	to buy	我想买苹果。 I’d like to buy apples.
东西	dōngxi	thing, stuff	我去超市买东西。 I’m going to the supermarket to do some shopping.
得	de	(after a verb: how well, how fast)	你说得很好! You speak really well!
不错	bùcuò	pretty good, not bad	这个饭馆很不错。 This restaurant is really good.
鸡蛋	jīdàn	(hen’s) egg	我要一个鸡蛋。 I’ll have an egg.
多	duō	many, much	饭馆里人很多。 There are lots of people in the restaurant.

pattern 会 + verb: what you can do, and 得: how well

我 | 会 / 不会 | 做 | dish

会 + verb means you can do something because you learned how: 我会做饭. Say 不会 for “can’t”. To say how well, add 得 + adjective after the verb: 做得很好. With an object, say the verb twice: 她做饭做得很好.

我会做饺子。 **wǒ huì zuò jiǎozi** I can make dumplings.

小明不会做饭。 **Xiǎomíng bú huì zuòfàn** Xiaoming can’t cook.

奶奶做菜做得非常好。 **nǎinai zuò cài zuò de fēicháng hǎo** Grandma cooks really well.

她做得很快。 **tā zuò de hěn kuài** She’s quick at it.

dialogue a plan for grandma

xiaoming 安娜，下个星期六是我奶奶的生日。
Ānnà xià gè xīngqīliù shì wǒ nǎinai de shēngrì · Anna, next Saturday is my grandma's birthday.

anna 你想给奶奶做饭吗?
nǐ xiǎng gěi nǎinai zuòfàn ma · Do you want to cook for her?

xiaoming 是啊，但是我不太会做饭。我就会做鸡蛋!
shì a dànshì wǒ bú tài huì zuòfàn wǒ jiù huì zuò jīdàn · Yes, but I'm not much of a cook. I can just about make eggs!

anna 没关系，我会做鱼，我们一起做吧!
méi guānxi wǒ huì zuò yú wǒmen yìqǐ zuò ba · Don't worry, I can cook fish. Let's cook together!

xiaoming 太好了！你做鱼做得怎么样?
tài hǎo le nǐ zuò yú zuò de zěnmeyàng · Great! How good is your fish?

anna 还不错！我们去超市买东西吧。
hái búcuò wǒmen qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi ba · Not bad at all! Let's go and get the shopping.

xiaoming 买鱼、鸡蛋，再买一些水果。
mǎi yú jīdàn zài mǎi yìxiē shuǐguǒ · Fish, eggs, and some fruit too.

anna 好！奶奶喜欢吃水果，我们多买一点儿。
hǎo nǎinai xǐhuan chī shuǐguǒ wǒmen duō mǎi yìdiǎnr · Good! Grandma likes fruit, let's get plenty.

repeat listen, then say it back

我不太会做饭。 **wǒ bú tài huì zuòfàn** I'm not much of a cook.

你做的鱼真不错！ **nǐ zuò de yú zhēn búcuò** The fish you made is really good!

我们去超市买东西。 **wǒmen qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi** We're going shopping at the supermarket.

妈妈做饭做得很好。 **māma zuòfàn zuò de hěn hǎo** Mum is a good cook.

我会做鸡蛋，不会做鱼。 **wǒ huì zuò jīdàn bú huì zuò yú** I can make eggs, but I can't cook fish.

你多吃一点儿鸡蛋吧！ **nǐ duō chī yìdiǎnr jīdàn ba** Have some more eggs!

reply answer out loud

你会做饭吗? **nǐ huì zuòfàn ma** Can you cook?
→ 我会做饭。 **wǒ huì zuòfàn**
→ 我不太会做饭。 **wǒ bú tài huì zuòfàn**

你会做什么菜? **nǐ huì zuò shénme cài** What can you make?
→ 我会做鸡蛋和面条儿。 **wǒ huì zuò jīdàn hé miàntiáor**

你家谁做饭做得最好? **nǐ jiā shéi zuòfàn zuò de zuì hǎo** Who's the best cook in your family?
→ 我妈妈做饭做得最好。 **wǒ māma zuòfàn zuò de zuì hǎo**

你经常去超市吗? **nǐ jīngcháng qù chāoshì ma** Do you often go to the supermarket?
→ 我经常去超市买东西。 **wǒ jīngcháng qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi**

你家有几口人? **nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén** How many people are there in your family?
→ 我家有四口人。 **wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén**

talk 75 seconds

Can you cook? What can you make? How good is it?

你会做饭吗？你会做什么菜？做得怎么样？ nǐ huì zuòfàn ma nǐ huì zuò shénme cài zuò de zěnmeyàng

我会做……，不会做…… wǒ huì zuò bú huì zuò

我……做得很…… wǒ zuò de hěn

我经常去超市买…… wǒ jīngcháng qù chāoshì mǎi

model answer

我会做饭，但是做得不太好。 wǒ huì zuòfàn dànshì zuò de bú tài hǎo

我会做鸡蛋和面条儿，不会做鱼。 wǒ huì zuò jīdàn hé miàntiáor bú huì zuò yú

我妈妈做饭做得非常好，她做的饺子最好吃。 wǒ māma zuòfàn zuò de fēicháng hǎo tā zuò de jiǎozi zuì hǎochī

星期六我经常跟妈妈去超市买东西，回家一起做饭。 xīngqīliù wǒ jīngcháng gēn māma qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi huí jiā yìqǐ zuòfàn

我想跟她学做鱼。 wǒ xiǎng gēn tā xué zuò yú

I can cook, but not very well. I can make eggs and noodles, but not fish. My mum is a really good cook; her dumplings are the best. On Saturdays I often go to the supermarket with her, and then we cook together at home. I want her to teach me how to cook fish.

good to know · 会 is for skills you learned (cooking, swimming, Chinese). For “able to right now” Chinese uses 能: you’ll meet it again in unit 5. Modest answers sound natural in Chinese: 做得不太好 or 还不错 rather than “I’m a great cook”.

Now you can talk about your cooking, honestly and modestly, like a local.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 15 mission: grandma's birthday dinner

Chinese HSKK beginner
in 32 days
unit 3 · food & drink

Talk about food and drink for a minute and a half: what you like, what you order, what you can cook, and how you spend a birthday.

A mock round on unit 3: repeat, answer and talk, the three parts of the speaking test, all about food.

chapter 1 shopping for grandma

anna 小明，今天是奶奶的生日，我们买什么？
Xiǎomíng jīntiān shì nǎinai de shēngrì wǒmen mǎi shénme · Xiaoming, it's Grandma's birthday today. What shall we buy?

xiaoming 买鱼、肉和鸡蛋。奶奶最喜欢吃鱼。
mǎi yú ròu hé jīdàn nǎinai zuì xǐhuan chī yú · Fish, meat and eggs. Fish is Grandma's favourite.

anna 我还想给奶奶买花。
wǒ hái xiǎng gěi nǎinai mǎi huā · I'd also like to get Grandma some flowers.

xiaoming 好啊！这些花多少钱？
hǎo a zhèxiē huā duōshao qián · Good idea! How much are these flowers?

anna 五十块。有点儿贵，但是真漂亮！
wǔshí kuài yǒudiǎnr guì dànshì zhēn piàoliang · Fifty yuan. A bit expensive, but they're so pretty!

chapter 2 who made the fish?

xiaoming 安娜，你做鱼做得真好！
Ānnà nǐ zuò yú zuò de zhēn hǎo · Anna, your fish is really good!

anna 谢谢！你做的鸡蛋也不错。
xièxie nǐ zuò de jīdàn yě búcuò · Thanks! Your eggs aren't bad either.

ms zhang 你们两个都会做饭了！太好了。
nǐmen liǎng gè dōu huì zuòfàn le tài hǎo le · You can both cook now! Wonderful.

dr li 我在网上点了三个菜，快到了。
wǒ zài wǎngshang diǎn le sān gè cài kuài dào le · I've ordered three dishes online. They'll be here soon.

xiaoming 大家来吃饭吧！
dàjiā lái chī fàn ba · Dinner's ready, everyone!

chapter 3 flowers for grandma

anna 奶奶，生日快乐！这些花是送给您的。
nǎinai shēngrì kuàilè zhèxiē huā shì sòng gěi nín de · Happy birthday, Grandma! These flowers are for you.

grandma 谢谢你，安娜！花真漂亮。
xièxie nǐ Ānnà huā zhēn piàoliang · Thank you, Anna! They're beautiful.

xiaoming 奶奶，这个鱼是安娜做的，您吃一点儿吧。
nǎinai zhège yú shì Ānnà zuò de nín chī yìdiǎnr ba · Grandma, Anna made this fish. Have some.

grandma 非常好吃！安娜，你还会做什么菜？
fēicháng hǎochī Ānnà nǐ hái huì zuò shénme cài · Delicious! Anna, what else can you cook?

anna 我还会做面条儿。下次我给您做！
wǒ hái huì zuò miàntiáor xià cì wǒ gěi nín zuò · I can make noodles too. I'll make you some next time!

grandma 对，对！大家多吃一点儿！
duì duì dàjiā duō chī yìdiǎnr · Yes, yes! Eat up, everyone!

repeat listen, then say it back

今天是奶奶的生日。 **jīntiān shì nǎinai de shēngrì** It's Grandma's birthday today.

我想给奶奶买些花。 **wǒ xiǎng gěi nǎinai mǎi xiē huā** I'd like to buy Grandma some flowers.

我们去超市买东西吧。 **wǒmen qù chāoshì mǎi dōngxi ba** Let's go shopping at the supermarket.

奶奶做饭做得非常好。 **nǎinai zuòfàn zuò de fēicháng hǎo** Grandma is a really good cook.

你喝红茶还是喝绿茶？ **nǐ hē hóngchá háishi hē lǜchá** Do you drink black tea or green tea?

reply answer out loud

你最喜欢吃什么水果？ **nǐ zuì xǐhuan chī shénme shuǐguǒ** What's your favourite fruit?
→ 我最喜欢吃苹果。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī píngguǒ**

你喜欢喝热茶还是冷茶？ **nǐ xǐhuan hē rè chá háishi lěng chá** Do you like your tea hot or cold?
→ 我喜欢喝热茶。 **wǒ xǐhuan hē rè chá**

你经常去饭馆吗？ **nǐ jīngcháng qù fànguǎn ma** Do you often eat out?
→ 我有时去饭馆吃饭。 **wǒ yǒushí qù fànguǎn chī fàn**

你会做什么菜？ **nǐ huì zuò shénme cài** What can you cook?
→ 我会做鱼，也会做鸡蛋。 **wǒ huì zuò yú yě huì zuò jīdàn**

你的生日是几月几号？ **nǐ de shēngrì shì jǐ yuè jǐ hào** When is your birthday?
→ 我的生日是五月八号。 **wǒ de shēngrì shì wǔ yuè bā hào**

talk 90 seconds

What do you like to do on your birthday? Why? Talk for a minute and a half.

过生日的时候，你喜欢做什么？为什么？ guò shēngrì de shíhou nǐ xǐhuan zuò shénme wèi shénme

我的生日是……月……号。 wǒ de shēngrì shì yuè hào

……的时候，我们…… de shíhou wǒmen

model answer

我的生日是五月八号。 wǒ de shēngrì shì wǔ yuè bā hào

过生日的时候，我喜欢跟家人和朋友一起吃饭。 guò shēngrì de shíhou wǒ xǐhuan gēn jiārén hé péngyou yìqǐ chī fàn

有时候我们在家吃，妈妈给我做很多好吃的菜。 yǒu shíhou wǒmen zài jiā chī māma gěi wǒ zuò hěn duō hǎochī de cài

有时候我们去饭馆，点鱼、肉和饺子。 yǒu shíhou wǒmen qù fànguǎn diǎn yú ròu hé jiǎozi

朋友们还送我花，给我唱生日歌。 péngyoumen hái sòng wǒ huā gěi wǒ chàng shēngrì gē

因为大家都在一起，所以我非常高兴。 yīnwèi dàjiā dōu zài yìqǐ suǒyǐ wǒ fēicháng gāoxìng

在中国，过年的时候大家也都回家，跟家人一起吃饭。 zài Zhōngguó guònián de shíhou dàjiā yě dōu huí jiā gēn jiārén yìqǐ chī fàn

My birthday is on the eighth of May. On my birthday I like to eat with my family and friends. Sometimes we eat at home, and Mum makes me lots of tasty dishes. Sometimes we go to a restaurant and order fish, meat and dumplings. My friends also give me flowers and sing me the birthday song. Everyone is together, so I'm very happy. In China, at New Year everyone goes home too, and eats with their family.

Unit 3 done! You can talk about food, drinks, eating out and cooking: that's a lot of conversations.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 16 sport

Talk about the sport you do: how often, how long and how well.

"What's your hobby?" is one of the most common questions in a speaking test, and sport gives you plenty to say.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
爱好	àihào	hobby; be fond of	我的爱好是看书。 My hobby is reading.
运动	yùndòng	sport, exercise	我很喜欢运动。 I really like doing sport.
跑步	pǎobù	run, go jogging	我早上|去跑步。 I go running in the morning.
游泳	yóuyǒng	swim	你会游泳吗? Can you swim?
篮球	lánqiú	basketball	他喜欢打篮球。 He likes playing basketball.
足球	zúqiú	football (soccer)	我们去踢足球吧! Let's go and play football!
踢	tī	kick	你踢足球吗? Do you play football?
打	dǎ	hit; play (ball games)	我们去打篮球吧! Let's go and play basketball!
快	kuài	fast, quick; soon	他跑得很快。 He runs fast.
慢	màn	slow	请说慢一点儿。 Please speak a bit more slowly.

pattern verb + 得: how fast, how well

他 跑 得 很快

Verb + 得 + adjective says how someone does something: 他跑得很快. With an object, say the verb twice: 游泳游得很慢. To say how long, put the time after the verb: 跑半个小时, 打两个小时篮球.

他跑得很快。 **tā pǎo de hěn kuài** He runs fast.

我踢足球踢得不太好。 **wǒ tī zúqiú tī de bú tài hǎo** I'm not very good at football.

她每天游一个小时。 **tā měi tiān yóu yí gè xiǎoshí** She swims for an hour every day.

昨天我打了一个小时篮球。 **zuótiān wǒ dǎ le yí gè xiǎoshí lánqiú** Yesterday I played basketball for an hour.

dialogue sporty xiaoming

anna 小明，你的爱好是什么？
Xiǎomíng nǐ de àihào shì shénme · Xiaoming, what are your hobbies?

xiaoming 运动！我喜欢踢足球，也喜欢打篮球。
yùndòng wǒ xǐhuan tī zúqiú yě xǐhuan dǎ lánqiú · Sport! I like football, and basketball too.

anna 你每天都运动吗？
nǐ měi tiān dōu yùndòng ma · Do you do sport every day?

xiaoming 每天都运动。早上我跑步，跑半个小时。
měi tiān dōu yùndòng zǎoshang wǒ pǎobù pǎo bàn gè xiǎoshí · Every day. In the morning I go running, for half an hour.

anna 你跑得快吗？
nǐ pǎo de kuài ma · Are you fast?

xiaoming 很快！你呢？你喜欢什么运动？
hěn kuài nǐ ne nǐ xǐhuan shénme yùndòng · Very! What about you? What sport do you like?

anna 我喜欢游泳，但是我游得很慢。
wǒ xǐhuan yóuyǒng dànshì wǒ yóu de hěn màn · I like swimming, but I'm slow.

xiaoming 慢一点儿没关系，运动就好！
màn yìdiǎnr méi guānxi yùndòng jiù hǎo · Slow is fine. Moving is what counts!

repeat listen, then say it back

我的爱好是运动。 wǒ de àihào shì yùndòng My hobby is sport.

我每天早上跑步。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang pǎobù I go running every morning.

我游泳游得很慢。 wǒ yóuyǒng yóu de hěn màn I swim slowly.

星期六我们去踢足球。 xīngqīliù wǒmen qù tī zúqiú On Saturday we're going to play football.

小明跑步跑得非常快。 Xiǎomíng pǎobù pǎo de fēicháng kuài Xiaoming runs really fast.

他每天打两个小时篮球。 tā měi tiān dǎ liǎng gè xiǎoshí lánqiú He plays basketball for two hours every day.

reply answer out loud

你喜欢什么运动？ nǐ xǐhuan shénme yùndòng What sport do you like?
→ 我喜欢跑步。 wǒ xǐhuan pǎobù

你每天运动几个小时？ nǐ měi tiān yùndòng jǐ gè xiǎoshí How many hours of sport do you do a day?
→ 我每天运动一个小时。 wǒ měi tiān yùndòng yí gè xiǎoshí

你跑得快吗？ nǐ pǎo de kuài ma Are you a fast runner?
→ 我跑得不太快。 wǒ pǎo de bú tài kuài

你会游泳吗？ nǐ huì yóuyǒng ma Can you swim?
→ 我会游泳，但是游得很慢。 wǒ huì yóuyǒng dànshì yóu de hěn màn

你会做饭吗？ nǐ huì zuòfàn ma Can you cook?
→ 我会做饭，做得还不错。 wǒ huì zuòfàn zuò de hái búcuò

talk 75 seconds

What sport do you like? Do you often do sport?

你喜欢什么运动？你经常运动吗？ nǐ xǐhuan shénme yùndòng nǐ jīngcháng yùndòng ma

我每个星期……次，每次……个小时 wǒ měi gè xīngqī cì měi cì gè xiǎoshí

我……得很…… wǒ de hěn

因为……，所以…… yīnwèi suǒyǐ

model answer

我最喜欢的运动是游泳。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan de yùndòng shì yóuyǒng

我每个星期游三次，每次游一个小时。 wǒ měi gè xīngqī yóu sān cì měi cì yóu yí gè xiǎoshí

我游得不快，但是我很喜欢。 wǒ yóu de bú kuài dànshì wǒ hěn xǐhuan

我也喜欢跑步，早上有时跑半个小时。 wǒ yě xǐhuan pǎobù zǎoshang yǒushí pǎo bàn gè xiǎoshí

因为运动对身体好，所以我经常运动。 yīnwèi yùndòng duì shēntǐ hǎo suǒyǐ wǒ jīngcháng yùndòng

My favourite sport is swimming. I swim three times a week, for an hour each time. I'm not fast, but I love it. I like running too: in the morning I sometimes run for half an hour. Sport is good for you, so I do it often.

good to know · 打 or 踢? Hands: 打篮球. Feet: 踢足球. And 游泳 and 跑步 need no extra verb. Time of day goes before the verb (早上跑步), how long goes after it (跑半个小时). Mixing them up is the most common slip.

Fast, slow, every day or now and then: you can talk about your sport in real sentences now.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 17 songs & films

Say what songs and films you like, and what you have seen or heard, with 过 and 次.

Films and songs are easy to talk about, and 过 lets you share experiences: “I’ve seen it three times!”

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
听	tīng	listen	我在听歌。 I’m listening to a song.
歌	gē	song	我很喜欢听歌。 I love listening to songs.
唱	chàng	sing	她唱歌很好听。 She sings beautifully.
跳舞	tiàowǔ	dance	奶奶很喜欢跳舞。 Grandma loves dancing.
电影	diànyǐng	film, movie	我喜欢看电影。 I like watching films.
好听	hǎotīng	nice-sounding, lovely	汉语很好听！ Chinese sounds lovely!
好看	hǎokàn	good-looking; nice	这件衣服很好看。 This top looks great.
有意思	yǒuyìsi	interesting, fun	这个电影很有意思。 This film is really interesting.
过	guo	(after a verb: have ever done)	我去过北京。 I’ve been to Beijing.
次	cì	time (how many times)	我去过两次。 I’ve been twice.

pattern verb + 过: have done it, and how many times

我 | 看 | 过 | thing | ...次

过 right after a verb means you have done it at some time: 我看过这个电影. Say “never” with 没 + verb + 过: 我没听过. Count the times with a number + 次: 看过两次.

- 我看过这个电影。 **wǒ kàn guo zhège diànyǐng** I’ve seen this film.
- 我没听过这个歌。 **wǒ méi tīng guo zhège gē** I’ve never heard this song.
- 他去过中国三次。 **tā qù guo Zhōngguó sān cì** He’s been to China three times.
- 你吃过饺子吗？ **nǐ chī guo jiǎozi ma** Have you ever had dumplings?

dialogue seen it twice

xiaoming 安娜，你看过这个电影吗?
Ānnà nǐ kàn guo zhège diànyǐng ma · Anna, have you seen this film?

anna 看过，我看过两次！非常好看。
kàn guo wǒ kàn guo liǎng cì fēicháng hǎokàn · Yes, twice! It's really good.

xiaoming 我还没看过。有意思吗?
wǒ hái méi kàn guo yǒu yìsi ma · I haven't seen it yet. Is it any good?

anna 很有意思！电影里的歌也很好听。
hěn yǒu yìsi diànyǐng lǐ de gē yě hěn hǎotīng · It's great fun! The songs in it are lovely too.

xiaoming 你会唱吗?
nǐ huì chàng ma · Can you sing them?

anna 会唱一点儿。你奶奶也喜欢唱歌吗?
huì chàng yìdiǎnr nǐ nǎinai yě xǐhuan chàng gē ma · A little. Does your grandma like singing too?

xiaoming 她喜欢跳舞！她每天晚上都去跳舞。
tā xǐhuan tiàowǔ tā měi tiān wǎnshang dōu qù tiàowǔ · She likes dancing! She goes dancing every evening.

anna 真好！下次我跟奶奶一起去跳舞。
zhēn hǎo xià cì wǒ gēn nǎinai yìqǐ qù tiàowǔ · How lovely! Next time I'll go dancing with her.

repeat listen, then say it back

这个歌非常好听。 zhège gē fēicháng hǎotīng This song is really nice.

我很喜欢听中国歌。 wǒ hěn xǐhuan tīng Zhōngguó gē I really like listening to Chinese songs.

你看过这个电影吗? nǐ kàn guo zhège diànyǐng ma Have you seen this film?

这个电影非常好看。 zhège diànyǐng fēicháng hǎokàn This film is really good.

奶奶每天晚上去跳舞。 nǎinai měi tiān wǎnshang qù tiàowǔ Grandma goes dancing every evening.

这个电影我看过三次了。 zhège diànyǐng wǒ kàn guo sān cì le I've seen this film three times now.

reply answer out loud

你喜欢听什么歌? nǐ xǐhuan tīng shénme gē What songs do you like?
→ 我喜欢听中国歌。 wǒ xǐhuan tīng Zhōngguó gē

你看过中国电影吗? nǐ kàn guo Zhōngguó diànyǐng ma Have you ever seen a Chinese film?
→ 看过，很有意思。 kàn guo hěn yǒu yìsi
→ 我没看过。 wǒ méi kàn guo

你会跳舞吗? nǐ huì tiàowǔ ma Can you dance?
→ 我不会跳舞。 wǒ bú huì tiàowǔ
→ 我会跳一点儿。 wǒ huì tiào yìdiǎnr

你会唱中国歌吗? nǐ huì chàng Zhōngguó gē ma Can you sing a Chinese song?
→ 我会唱一个中国歌。 wǒ huì chàng yí gè Zhōngguó gē

你喜欢什么运动? nǐ xǐhuan shénme yùndòng What sport do you like?
→ 我喜欢打篮球。 wǒ xǐhuan dǎ lánqiú

talk 75 seconds

What good films have you seen? Why do you like them?

你看过什么好看的电影？为什么喜欢它？ nǐ kàn guo shénme hǎokàn de diànyǐng wèi shénme xǐhuan tā

我看过……，看过……次 wǒ kàn guo kàn guo cì

这个电影很……，因为…… zhège diànyǐng hěn yīnwèi

电影里的…… diànyǐng lǐ de

model answer

我看过一个很好看的中国电影。 wǒ kàn guo yí gè hěn hǎokàn de Zhōngguó diànyǐng

我看过两次，第二次是跟朋友一起看的。 wǒ kàn guo liǎng cì dì èr cì shì gēn péngyou yìqǐ kàn de

电影里有一只小狗，非常有意思。 diànyǐng lǐ yǒu yì zhī xiǎo gǒu fēicháng yǒu yìsi

电影里的歌也很好听，我现在还会唱。 diànyǐng lǐ de gē yě hěn hǎotīng wǒ xiànzài hái huì chàng

我喜欢它，因为它让我很快乐。 wǒ xǐhuan tā yīnwèi tā ràng wǒ hěn kuàilè

I've seen a really good Chinese film. I've seen it twice; the second time I watched it with a friend. There's a little dog in it, and it's great fun. The songs in it are lovely too, and I can still sing them. I like it because it makes me happy.

good to know · 过 is about experience (have ever), 了 is about one finished event. 我看过 = I've seen it (at some point); 我看了 = I watched it (then). Can't remember a film's Chinese name? Just describe it: 一个很好看的美国电影. Talking around a gap is a real speaking skill.

Seen it, heard it, sung it: now you can share your experiences, not just your plans.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 18 phone & computer

Say what you are doing right now, and how long you spend on your phone or computer.

"What are you doing?" starts half the phone calls in the world, and screen time is a favourite speaking topic.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
手机	shǒujī	mobile phone	我想买一个新手机。 I want to buy a new phone.
电脑	diànnǎo	computer	我的电脑是新的。 My computer is new.
上网	shàngwǎng	to go online	我想上网。 I want to go online.
打电话	dǎdiànhuà	make a phone call	我晚上给你打电话。 I'll call you this evening.
说话	shuōhuà	speak, talk	妹妹想和你说话。 My little sister wants to talk to you.
正在	zhèngzài	in the middle of (doing)	我正在学习汉语。 I'm studying Chinese right now.
告诉	gàosu	tell	请告诉我你的名字。 Please tell me your name.
找	zhǎo	look for, find	喂，我找小明。 Hello, may I speak to Xiaoming?
小时	xiǎoshí	hour	我学习一个小时。 I study for an hour.
现在	xiànzài	now	现在几点? What time is it now?

pattern 在 / 正在 + verb: what's going on

我 | 在 / 正在 | verb | (呢)

在 or 正在 before a verb says it's happening right now: 我在上网. 正在 stresses "right at this moment", and 呢 at the end makes it sound relaxed and chatty. For how long, put the time after the verb: 看三个小时手机.

我在上网呢。 **wǒ zài shàngwǎng ne** I'm online.

爸爸正在打电话。 **bàba zhèngzài dǎ diànhuà** Dad's on the phone right now.

你现在在做什么? **nǐ xiànzài zài zuò shénme** What are you doing now?

我每天看两个小时电脑。 **wǒ měi tiān kàn liǎng gè xiǎoshí diànnǎo** I spend two hours a day on the computer.

dialogue what are you up to?

anna 喂，小明，你现在在做什么？
wèi Xiǎomíng nǐ xiànzài zài zuò shénme · Hi Xiaoming, what are you up to?

xiaoming 我正在上网呢。我在找一个电影。
wǒ zhèngzài shàngwǎng ne wǒ zài zhǎo yí gè diànyǐng · I'm online. I'm looking for a film.

anna 什么电影？
shénme diànyǐng · What film?

xiaoming 一个中国电影，很有意思。你想一起看吗？
yí gè Zhōngguó diànyǐng hěn yǒu yìsi nǐ xiǎng yìqǐ kàn ma · A Chinese film. It's really good. Do you want to watch it together?

anna 好啊！你每天上网几个小时？
hǎo a nǐ měi tiān shàngwǎng jǐ gè xiǎoshí · Sure! How many hours a day are you online?

xiaoming 三四个小时吧。你呢？
sānsì gè xiǎoshí ba nǐ ne · Three or four, I guess. You?

anna 我每天看两个小时手机，晚上不看电脑。
wǒ měi tiān kàn liǎng gè xiǎoshí shǒujī wǎnshang bú kàn diànnǎo · I spend two hours a day on my phone, and I stay off the computer in the evening.

xiaoming 好，明天我们在我家看电影吧。我告诉妹妹，她也想看！
hǎo míngtiān wǒmen zài wǒ jiā kàn diànyǐng ba wǒ gàosu mèimei tā yě xiǎng kàn · OK, let's watch the film at my place tomorrow. I'll tell my sister, she wants to see it too!

repeat listen, then say it back

你现在在做什么？ **nǐ xiànzài zài zuò shénme** What are you doing now?

我在找我的手机。 **wǒ zài zhǎo wǒ de shǒujī** I'm looking for my phone.

妈妈正在打电话呢。 **māma zhèngzài dǎ diànhuà ne** Mum's on the phone right now.

你能告诉我你的电话吗？ **nǐ néng gàosu wǒ nǐ de diànhuà ma** Can you tell me your phone number?

我每天看两个小时手机。 **wǒ měi tiān kàn liǎng gè xiǎoshí shǒujī** I spend two hours a day on my phone.

晚上我在电脑上看电影。 **wǎnshang wǒ zài diànnǎo shàng kàn diànyǐng** In the evening I watch films on my computer.

reply answer out loud

你现在在做什么？ nǐ xiànzài zài zuò shénme What are you doing now?
→ 我在学汉语。 wǒ zài xué Hànyǔ

你每天看几个小时手机？ nǐ měi tiān kàn jǐ gè xiǎoshí shǒujī How many hours a day are you on your phone?
→ 我每天看三个小时手机。 wǒ měi tiān kàn sān gè xiǎoshí shǒujī

你经常给朋友打电话吗？ nǐ jīngcháng gěi péngyou dǎ diànhuà ma Do you often call your friends?
→ 我有时给朋友打电话。 wǒ yǒushí gěi péngyou dǎ diànhuà

你在电脑上做什么？ nǐ zài diànnǎo shàng zuò shénme What do you do on your computer?
→ 我在电脑上看电影。 wǒ zài diànnǎo shàng kàn diànyǐng

你看过中国电影吗？ nǐ kàn guo Zhōngguó diànyǐng ma Have you ever seen a Chinese film?
→ 看过，很好看。 kàn guo hěn hǎokàn

talk 75 seconds

How many hours a day are you on your phone? What do you do on it?

你每天看几个小时手机？你在手机上做什么？ nǐ měi tiān kàn jǐ gè xiǎoshí shǒujī nǐ zài shǒujī shàng zuò shénme

我每天看……个小时手机。 wǒ měi tiān kàn gè xiǎoshí shǒujī

我经常在手机上…… wǒ jīngcháng zài shǒujī shàng

……的时候，我…… de shíhou wǒ

model answer

我每天看三四个小时手机。 wǒ měi tiān kàn sānsì gè xiǎoshí shǒujī

早上我在手机上看时间和天气。 zǎoshang wǒ zài shǒujī shàng kàn shíjiān hé tiānqì

中午我经常在手机上听歌。 zhōngwǔ wǒ jīngcháng zài shǒujī shàng tīng gē

晚上我给家人打电话，有时上网看电影。 wǎnshang wǒ gěi jiārén dǎ diànhuà yǒushí shàngwǎng kàn diànyǐng

我觉得看手机的时间太多了，所以晚上十点后我不看手机。 wǒ juéde kàn shǒujī de shíjiān tài duō le suǒyǐ wǎnshang shí diǎn hòu wǒ bú kàn shǒujī

I spend three or four hours a day on my phone. In the morning I check the time and the weather on it. At lunchtime I often listen to songs on it. In the evening I call my family, and sometimes I go online and watch a film. I think it's too much time on my phone, so I don't look at it after ten at night.

good to know · 在 does two jobs: 在家 (at home) and 在看 (is watching). 我在家看电视 can mean both "I watch TV at home" and, with 呢, "I'm at home watching TV". Your phone number is just 电话 in speech: 你的电话是多少? Read the digits one by one, and 1 is often said yāo.

Now you can answer the phone in Chinese and say what you're up to, right now.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 19 out with friends

Tell someone what you did last weekend: where you went, what you did, when you came back.

"What did you do on Saturday?" comes up every Monday, and a little story in the past is exactly what a speaking test asks for.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
出去	chūqù	go out	我们出去玩吧！ Let's go out and have fun!
回来	huílái	come back	妈妈回来了！ Mum's back!
玩	wán	to play; have fun	我们玩吧！ Let's play!
好玩儿	hǎowánr	fun	北京很好玩儿。 Beijing is a lot of fun.
等	děng	wait (for)	请等一下。 Just a moment, please.
见	jiàn	see, meet	明天见！ See you tomorrow!
快乐	kuàilè	happy, joyful	生日快乐！ Happy birthday!
笑	xiào	to laugh; to smile	你笑什么？ What are you laughing at?
一会儿	yīhuìr	a moment; a little while	请等一会儿。 Please wait a moment.
就	jiù	just, right (there); then	车站就在前面。 The station is just ahead.

pattern verb + 了: what you did

when | 我 | verb | 了 | thing

了 after a verb says it happened, it's done: 我去了商场, 买了一些衣服. A time word (昨天, 上个星期六) tells when. For going out and coming back, use 出去 (go out) and 回来 (come back): 十点出去，八点回来.

昨天我去了电影院。 **zuótiān wǒ qù le diànyǐngyuàn** Yesterday I went to the cinema.

我们吃了饺子，喝了奶茶。 **wǒmen chī le jiǎozi hē le nǎichá** We had dumplings and milk tea.

我们十点出去，六点回来。 **wǒmen shí diǎn chūqù liù diǎn huílái** We went out at ten and came back at six.

dialogue how was your saturday?

teacher wang 安娜，上个星期六你做什么了？
Ānnà shàng gè xīngqīliù nǐ zuò shénme le · Anna, what did you do last Saturday?

anna 我跟小明和他妹妹出去玩了。
wǒ gēn Xiǎomíng hé tā mèimei chūqù wán le · I went out with Xiaoming and his little sister.

teacher wang 你们去哪儿了？
nǐmen qù nǎr le · Where did you go?

anna 我们去了商场，买了一些东西，还吃了饺子。
wǒmen qù le shāngchǎng mǎi le yìxiē dōngxi hái chī le jiǎozi · We went to the mall, bought a few things and had dumplings.

teacher wang 好玩儿吗？
hǎowánr ma · Was it fun?

anna 非常好玩儿！小明一说话，我们就笑。
fēicháng hǎowánr Xiǎomíng yì shuōhuà wǒmen jiù xiào · Great fun! Every time Xiaoming said something, we laughed.

teacher wang 你们几点回来的？
nǐmen jǐ diǎn huílái de · What time did you get back?

anna 晚上九点。那天我们都很快乐！
wǎnshang jiǔ diǎn nà tiān wǒmen dōu hěn kuàilè · Nine in the evening. We had such a happy day!

repeat listen, then say it back

明天下午三点见！ míngtiān xiàwǔ sān diǎn jiàn See you tomorrow at three!

我们一起出去玩吧。 wǒmen yìqǐ chūqù wán ba Let's go out together.

昨天我们去了电影院。 zuótiān wǒmen qù le diànyǐngyuàn Yesterday we went to the cinema.

我们晚上九点回来了。 wǒmen wǎnshang jiǔ diǎn huílái le We came back at nine in the evening.

请在门口等我一会儿。 qǐng zài ménkǒu děng wǒ yíhuìr Please wait for me at the door for a moment.

小明一说话，我们就笑了。 Xiǎomíng yì shuōhuà wǒmen jiù xiào le As soon as Xiaoming spoke, we laughed.

reply answer out loud

昨天晚上你做什么了？ zuótiān wǎnshang nǐ zuò shénme le What did you do last night?
→ 我在家看电视了。 wǒ zài jiā kàn diànshì le

你经常跟朋友出去玩吗？ nǐ jīngcháng gēn péngyou chūqù wán ma Do you often go out with friends?
→ 我经常跟朋友出去玩。 wǒ jīngcháng gēn péngyou chūqù wán

今天晚上你几点回来？ jīntiān wǎnshang nǐ jǐ diǎn huílái What time are you coming back tonight?
→ 我九点回来。 wǒ jiǔ diǎn huílái

你喜欢去商场吗？ nǐ xǐhuan qù shāngchǎng ma Do you like going to the mall?
→ 喜欢，商场很好玩儿。 xǐhuan shāngchǎng hěn hǎowánr

你每天看几个小时手机？ nǐ měi tiān kàn jǐ gè xiǎoshí shǒujī How many hours a day are you on your phone?
→ 我每天看两个小时手机。 wǒ měi tiān kàn liǎng gè xiǎoshí shǒujī

talk 75 seconds

Where did you go last Saturday? What did you do?

上个星期六你去哪儿了？做了什么？ shàng gè xīngqīliù nǐ qù nǎr le zuò le shénme

上个星期六我去了…… shàng gè xīngqīliù wǒ qù le

我们……点出去，……点回来。 wǒmen diǎn chūqù diǎn huílái

我们……了……，非常…… wǒmen le fēicháng

model answer

上个星期六我跟两个朋友出去玩了。 shàng gè xīngqīliù wǒ gēn liǎng gè péngyou chūqù wán le

我们上午十点出去，晚上八点回来。 wǒmen shàngwǔ shí diǎn chūqù wǎnshang bā diǎn huílái

我们去了商场，买了一些衣服。 wǒmen qù le shāngchǎng mǎi le yìxiē yīfu

中午我们在饭馆吃了面条儿，下午去电影院看了一个电影。 zhōngwǔ wǒmen zài fànguǎn chī le miàntiáor xiàwǔ qù diànyǐngyuàn kàn le yí gè diànyǐng

那天我们笑了很多次，大家都很快乐。 nà tiān wǒmen xiào le hěn duō cì dàjiā dōu hěn kuàilè

Last Saturday I went out with two friends. We went out at ten in the morning and came back at eight in the evening. We went to the mall and bought some clothes. At lunchtime we had noodles in a restaurant, and in the afternoon we saw a film at the cinema. We laughed a lot that day, and everyone was happy.

good to know · Tell a past story in time order: morning, lunchtime, afternoon, evening. The time words do the linking for you. 出去 and 回来 are seen from where the speaker is: 出 + 去 “out, away from me”, 回 + 来 “back, towards me”.

Monday-morning chat, sorted: you can tell a whole little story about your weekend.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 20 mission: a day off

Talk about your hobbies for a minute and a half: what you do, since when, how well, and why you like it.

A mock round on unit 4: repeat, answer and talk about sport, films, screens and going out.

chapter 1 what shall we do?

anna 小明，今天星期六，你想做什么？
Xiǎomíng jīntiān xīngqīliù nǐ xiǎng zuò shénme · Xiaoming, it's Saturday. What do you want to do?

xiaoming 我想去打球。我从小就喜欢打篮球。
wǒ xiǎng qù dǎ qiú wǒ cóngxiǎo jiù xǐhuan dǎ lánqiú · I want to play ball. I've loved basketball since I was little.

anna 你妹妹呢？她在做什么？
nǐ mèimei ne tā zài zuò shénme · And your sister? What's she doing?

xiaoming 她正在画画呢。她画得非常好。
tā zhèngzài huà huà ne tā huà de fēicháng hǎo · She's drawing. She's really good at it.

little sister 安娜，你看，这是我画的大白！
Ānnà nǐ kàn zhè shì wǒ huà de Dàbái · Anna, look, I drew Dabai!

anna 真好看！你画得真好。
zhēn hǎokàn nǐ huà de zhēn hǎo · It's lovely! You draw so well.

chapter 2 where's the ball?

xiaoming 安娜，你会打篮球吗？
Ānnà nǐ huì dǎ lánqiú ma · Anna, can you play basketball?

anna 不太会。我小时候踢过足球，没打过篮球。
bú tài huì wǒ xiǎoshíhou tī guo zúqiú méi dǎ guo lánqiú · Not really. I played football as a kid, but never basketball.

xiaoming 没关系，我来帮忙！你拿着球，往前跑！
méi guānxi wǒ lái bāngmáng nǐ ná zhe qiú wǎng qián pǎo · No problem, I'll help! Hold the ball and run forward!

anna 好！……啊，球呢？
hǎo a qiú ne · OK! ...Oh, where's the ball?

xiaoming 你看，大白去找球了！大白跑得真快！
nǐ kàn Dàbái qù zhǎo qiú le Dàbái pǎo de zhēn kuài · Look, Dabai's gone after it! He's so fast!

chapter 3 a happy day

little sister 我们去电影院吧！我在网上看了，四点有一个好看的电影。
wǒmen qù diànyǐngyuàn ba wǒ zài wǎngshang kàn le sì diǎn yǒu yí gè hǎokàn de diànyǐng · Let's go to the cinema! I looked online: there's a good film at four.

anna 好啊！电影院远吗？
hǎo a diànyǐngyuàn yuǎn ma · Great! Is the cinema far?

xiaoming 不远，走路十分钟就到了。我们走吧！
bù yuǎn zǒulù shí fēnzhōng jiù dào le wǒmen zǒu ba · No, it's ten minutes on foot. Let's go!

anna 这个电影的名字是什么意思？
zhège diànyǐng de míngzi shì shénme yìsi · What does the film's name mean?

xiaoming 意思是“快乐的一天”。
yìsi shì kuàilè de yì tiān · It means “A Happy Day”.

little sister 今天就是快乐的一天！
jīntiān jiù shì kuàilè de yì tiān · Today is a happy day!

repeat listen, then say it back

我小时候经常踢足球。 **wǒ xiǎoshíhou jīngcháng tī zúqiú** I often played football as a child.

她画的大白非常好看。 **tā huà de Dàbái fēicháng hǎokàn** Her drawing of Dabai is really good.

我们走路去电影院吧。 **wǒmen zǒulù qù diànyǐngyuàn ba** Let's walk to the cinema.

请告诉我这个字的意思。 **qǐng gàosu wǒ zhège zì de yìsi** Please tell me what this character means.

我从小就很喜欢打篮球。 **wǒ cóngxiǎo jiù hěn xǐhuan dǎ lánqiú** I've loved basketball since I was little.

reply answer out loud

你的爱好是什么？ **nǐ de àihào shì shénme** What are your hobbies?

→ 我的爱好是跑步。 **wǒ de àihào shì pǎobù**

你喜欢去电影院看电影吗？ **nǐ xǐhuan qù diànyǐngyuàn kàn diànyǐng ma** Do you like seeing films at the cinema?

→ 喜欢，我经常去电影院。 **xǐhuan wǒ jīngcháng qù diànyǐngyuàn**

你小时候喜欢做什么？ **nǐ xiǎoshíhou xǐhuan zuò shénme** What did you like doing as a child?

→ 我小时候喜欢画画。 **wǒ xiǎoshíhou xǐhuan huà huà**

你每天都上网吗？ **nǐ měi tiān dōu shàngwǎng ma** Do you go online every day?

→ 我每天都上网。 **wǒ měi tiān dōu shàngwǎng**

上个星期六你做什么了？ **shàng gè xīngqīliù nǐ zuò shénme le** What did you do last Saturday?

→ 我跟朋友出去玩了。 **wǒ gēn péngyou chūqù wán le**

talk 90 seconds

Talk about your hobbies: what do you like doing, and why?

说一说你的爱好：你喜欢做什么？为什么？ shuō yi shuo nǐ de àihào nǐ xǐhuan zuò shénme wèi shénme

我从小就喜欢…… wǒ cóngxiǎo jiù xǐhuan

因为……，所以…… yīnwèi suǒyǐ

model answer

我的爱好是画画。 wǒ de àihào shì huà huà

我从小就喜欢画画，小时候每天都画。 wǒ cóngxiǎo jiù xǐhuan huà huà xiǎoshíhou měi tiān dōu huà

我最喜欢画猫和狗，我画得还不错。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan huà māo hé gǒu wǒ huà de hái búcuò

星期六我经常在家画两三个小时。 xīngqīliù wǒ jīngcháng zài jiā huà liǎngsān gè xiǎoshí

因为画画的时候我很快乐，所以我觉得这是一个很好的爱好。 yīnwèi huà huà de shíhou wǒ hěn kuàilè suǒyǐ wǒ juéde zhè shì yí gè hěn hǎo de àihào

我也喜欢运动，有时跟朋友去打篮球。 wǒ yě xǐhuan yùndòng yǒushí gēn péngyou qù dǎ lánqiú

My hobby is drawing. I've loved drawing since I was little; as a child I drew every day. I like drawing cats and dogs best, and I'm not bad at it. On Saturdays I often draw at home for two or three hours. Drawing makes me happy, so I think it's a great hobby. I like sport too, and sometimes play basketball with friends.

Unit 4 done! Sport, songs, films, screens and days out: your free time now has a voice in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 21 learning chinese

Say why you learn Chinese, how you study, and what you can understand or still get wrong.

“Why are you learning Chinese?” is the question every Chinese speaker will ask you, in the test and in real life.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
学习	xuéxí	to study, learn	我们学习汉字。 We’re studying Chinese characters.
汉语	Hànyǔ	Chinese (language)	我学习汉语。 I study Chinese.
中文	Zhōngwén	Chinese (language)	你会说中文吗? Can you speak Chinese?
汉字	Hànzì	Chinese character	我学汉字。 I’m learning Chinese characters.
说	shuō	to speak, say	你说什么? What did you say?
写	xiě	write	你会写这个字吗? Can you write this character?
读	dú	read (aloud), study	老师读，我们听。 The teacher reads, we listen.
懂	dǒng	to understand	我懂了! I get it!
觉得	juéde	to think; to feel	我觉得汉语很好玩儿。 I think Chinese is fun.
知道	zhīdào	know	我不知道。 I don’t know.

pattern verb + result: 听懂, 写错, 看完

verb | 懂 / 错 / 完 | 了

Chinese adds the result straight after the verb: 听 listen + 懂 understand = 听懂, to understand what you hear. 写错 is to write it wrong, 看完 to finish reading. Say “can’t” with 不 in the middle (听不懂), and “didn’t” with 没 in front (没听懂).

你说的我都听懂了。 **nǐ shuō de wǒ dōu tīng dǒng le** I understood everything you said.

对不起，这个字我写错了。 **duìbuqǐ zhège zì wǒ xiě cuò le** Sorry, I wrote this character wrong.

这本书我看完了。 **zhè běn shū wǒ kàn wán le** I’ve finished this book.

老师说得太快，我听不懂。 **lǎoshī shuō de tài kuài wǒ tīng bu dǒng** The teacher speaks too fast; I can’t follow.

dialogue how is your chinese?

teacher wang 安娜，你学汉语多长时间了？
Ānnà nǐ xué Hànyǔ duō cháng shíjiān le · Anna, how long have you been learning Chinese?

anna 一年了。我每天都学习一个小时。
yì nián le wǒ měi tiān dōu xuéxí yí gè xiǎoshí · A year now. I study for an hour every day.

teacher wang 你觉得汉语怎么样？
nǐ juéde Hànyǔ zěnmeyàng · What do you think of Chinese?

anna 说汉语很有意思，但是汉字太多了！
shuō Hànyǔ hěn yǒu yìsi dànshì Hànzì tài duō le · Speaking Chinese is great fun, but there are so many characters!

teacher wang 你能看懂中文书吗？
nǐ néng kàn dǒng Zhōngwén shū ma · Can you read Chinese books?

anna 能看懂一些。有的字我还不认识，有时也写错。
néng kàn dǒng yìxiē yǒude zì wǒ hái bú rènshi yǒushí yě xiě cuò · Some. There are characters I still don't know, and sometimes I write them wrong.

teacher wang 没关系。每天读一点儿，你就会读得很好。
méi guānxi měi tiān dú yìdiǎnr nǐ jiù huì dú de hěn hǎo · That's fine. Read a little every day and you'll read well.

anna 谢谢老师！我知道了，今天晚上就读。
xièxie lǎoshī wǒ zhīdào le jīntiān wǎnshang jiù dú · Thank you! Got it, I'll start reading tonight.

repeat listen, then say it back

这个汉字我写错了。 **zhège Hànzì wǒ xiě cuò le** I wrote this character wrong.

我每天学习一个小时。 **wǒ měi tiān xuéxí yí gè xiǎoshí** I study for an hour every day.

老师说的我都听懂了。 **lǎoshī shuō de wǒ dōu tīng dǒng le** I understood everything the teacher said.

我觉得汉语很有意思。 **wǒ juéde Hànyǔ hěn yǒu yìsi** I think Chinese is really interesting.

我每天晚上都读中文书。 **wǒ měi tiān wǎnshang dōu dú Zhōngwén shū** I read Chinese books every evening.

我学汉语，因为我很喜欢中国。 **wǒ xué Hànyǔ yīnwèi wǒ hěn xǐhuan Zhōngguó** I learn Chinese because I really like China.

reply answer out loud

你学汉语多长时间了？ nǐ xué Hànyǔ duō cháng shíjiān le How long have you been learning Chinese?
→ 我学了一年汉语了。 wǒ xué le yì nián Hànyǔ le
→ 一年了。 yì nián le

你为什么学汉语？ nǐ wèi shénme xué Hànyǔ Why are you learning Chinese?
→ 因为我很喜欢中国，所以我学汉语。 yīnwèi wǒ hěn xǐhuan Zhōngguó suǒyǐ wǒ xué Hànyǔ

老师说汉语，你能听懂吗？ lǎoshī shuō Hànyǔ nǐ néng tīng dǒng ma When the teacher speaks Chinese, can you understand?
→ 我能听懂一些。 wǒ néng tīng dǒng yìxiē
→ 老师说得慢，我就能听懂。 lǎoshī shuō de màn wǒ jiù néng tīng dǒng

你每天读中文书吗？ nǐ měi tiān dú Zhōngwén shū ma Do you read Chinese books every day?
→ 我每天晚上读半个小时。 wǒ měi tiān wǎnshang dú bàn gè xiǎoshí

你每天几点起床？ nǐ měi tiān jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng What time do you get up every day?
→ 我每天早上七点起床。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang qī diǎn qǐchuáng

talk 90 seconds

Why are you learning Chinese? How do you study each day? Talk for a minute and a half.

你为什么学汉语？你每天怎么学？ nǐ wèi shénme xué Hànyǔ nǐ měi tiān zěnme xué

因为……，所以…… yīnwèi suǒyǐ

我能听懂……，有时写错…… wǒ néng tīng dǒng yǒushí xiě cuò

model answer

我学汉语，因为我很喜欢中国。 wǒ xué Hànyǔ yīnwèi wǒ hěn xǐhuan Zhōngguó

我现在住在北京，每天都说汉语。 wǒ xiànzài zhù zài Běijīng měi tiān dōu shuō Hànyǔ

我每天早上读半个小时中文书，晚上写汉字。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang dú bàn gè xiǎoshí Zhōngwén shū wǎnshang xiě Hànzì

老师说得慢的时候，我都能听懂。 lǎoshī shuō de màn de shíhou wǒ dōu néng tīng dǒng

汉字很多，我有时写错，但是我觉得很有意思。 Hànzì hěn duō wǒ yǒushí xiě cuò dànshì wǒ juéde hěn yǒu yìsi

我知道，每天都学一点儿，我就会说得很好。 wǒ zhīdào měi tiān dōu xué yìdiǎnr wǒ jiù huì shuō de hěn hǎo

I learn Chinese because I really like China. I live in Beijing now and speak Chinese every day. Every morning I read a Chinese book for half an hour, and in the evening I write characters. When the teacher speaks slowly, I understand everything. There are lots of characters and sometimes I write them wrong, but I think it's great fun. I know that if I learn a little every day, I'll speak well.

good to know · 听懂 is "hear and understand", 看懂 "read and understand". 我听不懂 is the most useful sentence in this course: say it, then ask 你能说得慢一点儿吗？ In the talk, one reason with 因为……所以…… and one example of how you study already make a good answer.

You just talked about your Chinese, in Chinese, for a minute and a half. That is the whole idea.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 22 classes & teachers

Talk about your class and a teacher: what the teacher asks you to do, and what is coming up soon.

A teacher you remember is one of the easiest things to talk about for a minute and a half.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
老师	lǎoshī	teacher	王老师好! Hello, Teacher Wang!
上课	shàngkè	have class, start class	我们八点上课。 We have class at eight.
下课	xiàkè	finish class	我们十二点下课。 Our class finishes at twelve.
教室	jiàoshì	classroom	教室里有很多桌子和椅子。 There are lots of desks and chairs in the classroom.
班	bān	class (a group of students)	我们班有二十个学生。 There are twenty students in our class.
教	jiāo	to teach	王|老师教我们汉语。 Teacher Wang teaches us Chinese.
问	wèn	ask	我想问一个问题。 I'd like to ask a question.
问题	wèntí	question, problem	老师，我有一个问题。 Teacher, I have a question.
考试	kǎoshì	exam; to take an exam	快要考试了。 The exam is coming up soon.
准备	zhǔnbèi	to prepare; to get ready	你准备好了吗? Are you ready?

pattern 让/请/叫 someone do something

who asks | 让 / 请 / 叫 | who | does what

One person makes, asks or tells another to do something: 老师让我们说汉语, the teacher has us speak Chinese. 请 is polite (please ask), 叫 is everyday “tell”. The second person is both the one asked and the one who acts. 快要……了 says something is coming soon; 已经……了 says it is already done.

老师让我们读这本书。 **lǎoshī ràng wǒmen dú zhè běn shū** The teacher has us read this book.

我没听懂，就请老师再说一次。 **wǒ méi tīng dǒng jiù qǐng lǎoshī zài shuō yí cì** I didn’t catch it, so I asked the teacher to say it again.

妈妈叫我早上七点起床。 **māma jiào wǒ zǎoshang qī diǎn qǐchuáng** Mum tells me to get up at seven in the morning.

快要上课了，老师已经在教室了。 **kuàiyào shàngkè le lǎoshī yǐjīng zài jiàoshì le** Class is about to start; the teacher is already in the classroom.

dialogue anna’s teacher

xiaoming 安娜，你们的汉语老师怎么样？
Ānnà nǐmen de Hànyǔ lǎoshī zěnmeyàng · Anna, what’s your Chinese teacher like?

anna 王老师很好。她上课的时候经常笑。
Wáng lǎoshī hěn hǎo tā shàngkè de shíhou jīngcháng xiào · Teacher Wang is great. She laughs a lot in class.

xiaoming 她让你们做什么？
tā ràng nǐmen zuò shénme · What does she have you do?

anna 她让我们多说汉语，有问题就问她。
tā ràng wǒmen duō shuō Hànyǔ yǒu wèntí jiù wèn tā · She has us speak lots of Chinese and ask her when we have a question.

xiaoming 你们班有多少学生？
nǐmen bān yǒu duōshao xuéshēng · How many students are in your class?

anna 十二个，都是外国人。
shíèr gè dōu shì wàiguó rén · Twelve, all from other countries.

xiaoming 你们快要考试了吧？
nǐmen kuàiyào kǎoshì le ba · You’ve got an exam coming up soon, right?

anna 是啊，下星期三。我已经准备了一个星期了！
shì a xià xīngqīsān wǒ yǐjīng zhǔnbèi le yí gè xīngqī le · Yes, next Wednesday. I’ve already been preparing for a week!

repeat listen, then say it back

王老师教我们汉语。 **Wáng lǎoshī jiāo wǒmen Hànyǔ** Teacher Wang teaches us Chinese.

老师让我们多说汉语。 **lǎoshī ràng wǒmen duō shuō Hànyǔ** The teacher has us speak lots of Chinese.

我们班的教室在三楼。 **wǒmen bān de jiàoshì zài sān lóu** Our classroom is on the third floor.

快要考试了，我们都很忙。 **kuàiyào kǎoshì le wǒmen dōu hěn máng** The exam is coming soon; we’re all busy.

有问题的时候，我就问老师。 **yǒu wèntí de shíhou wǒ jiù wèn lǎoshī** When I have a question, I ask the teacher.

下课后，老师让我们写汉字。 **xiàkè hòu lǎoshī ràng wǒmen xiě Hànzì** After class, the teacher has us write characters.

reply answer out loud

你的汉语老师是谁？ nǐ de Hànyǔ lǎoshī shì shéi Who is your Chinese teacher?
→ 我的汉语老师是王老师。 wǒ de Hànyǔ lǎoshī shì Wáng lǎoshī

老师让你们做什么？ lǎoshī ràng nǐmen zuò shénme What does your teacher have you do?
→ 老师让我们多说汉语。 lǎoshī ràng wǒmen duō shuō Hànyǔ

你们班有多少个学生？ nǐmen bān yǒu duōshao gè xuéshēng How many students are there in your class?
→ 我们班有十二个学生。 wǒmen bān yǒu shíèr gè xuéshēng

考试你准备好了吗？ kǎoshì nǐ zhǔnbèi hǎo le ma Are you ready for the exam?
→ 我已经准备好了。 wǒ yǐjīng zhǔnbèi hǎo le
→ 还没有，我今天晚上准备。 hái méiyǒu wǒ jīntiān wǎnshang zhǔnbèi

你为什么学汉语？ nǐ wèi shénme xué Hànyǔ Why are you learning Chinese?
→ 因为我喜欢中国，所以学汉语。 yīnwèi wǒ xǐhuan Zhōngguó suǒyǐ xué Hànyǔ

talk 90 seconds

Tell us about one of your teachers. Do you like their class? Why? Talk for a minute and a half.

说一说你的一个老师。你喜欢他的课吗？为什么？ shuō yi shuo nǐ de yí gè lǎoshī nǐ xǐhuan tā de kè ma wèi shénme

老师让我们…… lǎoshī ràng wǒmen

我喜欢他的课，因为…… wǒ xǐhuan tā de kè yīnwèi

model answer

我想说一说我的汉语老师，王老师。 wǒ xiǎng shuō yi shuo wǒ de Hànyǔ lǎoshī Wáng lǎoshī

她教我们班汉语，已经教了一年了。 tā jiāo wǒmen bān Hànyǔ yǐjīng jiāo le yì nián le

上课的时候，她让我们多说汉语，有问题就问她。 shàngkè de shíhou tā ràng wǒmen duō shuō Hànyǔ yǒu wèntí jiù wèn tā

她说得很慢，所以我都能听懂。 tā shuō de hěn màn suǒyǐ wǒ dōu néng tīng dǒng

我很喜欢她的课，因为她的课很有意思。 wǒ hěn xǐhuan tā de kè yīnwèi tā de kè hěn yǒu yìsi

快要考试了，王老师让我们好好准备，我觉得我能考得很好。 kuàiyào kǎoshì le Wáng lǎoshī ràng wǒmen hǎo hǎo zhǔnbèi wǒ juéde wǒ néng kǎo de hěn hǎo

I'd like to talk about my Chinese teacher, Teacher Wang. She teaches our class Chinese and has been teaching us for a year. In class she has us speak lots of Chinese, and we ask her when we have a question. She speaks slowly, so I understand everything. I really like her class because it's interesting. The exam is coming soon; Teacher Wang tells us to prepare well, and I think I can do well.

good to know · In 老师让我们说汉语, 我们 does two jobs: the teacher asks us, and we speak. No extra word is needed between them. 上课 is to have class (or to start class), 下课 is when class ends. Students all over China wait for the 下课 bell.

You can now describe a teacher, a class and what is coming up. That is a full part-three answer.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 23 my job

Say what you do for work (or want to do), when you start, and what you like about it even when it's hard.

"What do you do?" comes up in every first conversation, and in the test's talk part.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
工作	gōngzuò	to work; job	我在医院工作。 I work at a hospital.
公司	gōngsī	company	我妈妈在公司工作。 My mum works at a company.
医生	yīshēng	doctor	小明的爸爸是医生。 Xiaoming's dad is a doctor.
大学	dàxué	university	你在哪个大学学习? Which university do you study at?
中学	zhōngxué	secondary school	她是中学老师。 She's a secondary school teacher.
小学	xiǎoxué	primary school	他在小学工作。 He works at a primary school.
虽然	suīrán	although	虽然很冷，但是天气很好。 It's cold, but the weather is lovely.
但是	dànshì	but	我想去，但是我很忙。 I'd like to go, but I'm busy.
开始	kāishǐ	to start, to begin	考试九点开始。 The exam starts at nine.
希望	xīwàng	to hope; a hope	我希望明天是晴天。 I hope it's sunny tomorrow.

pattern 虽然……但是……: even though..., still...

虽然 + the hard part + 但是 + the good part

English uses one word ("although" or "but"); Chinese likes both: 虽然 in the first half, 但是 in the second. It is the easiest way to sound balanced in a talk: 虽然很累，但是很有意思. For the job you want, use 想 (want to) or 希望 (hope to).

虽然我的工作很累，但是我很喜欢。 **suīrán wǒ de gōngzuò hěn lèi dànshì wǒ hěn xǐhuan** My job is tiring, but I really like it.

虽然公司很远，但是我每天都走路去。 **suīrán gōngsī hěn yuǎn dànshì wǒ měi tiān dōu zǒulù qù** The company is far away, but I walk there every day.

我想做老师，教中学生汉语。 **wǒ xiǎng zuò lǎoshī jiāo zhōngxuéshēng Hànyǔ** I want to be a teacher and teach Chinese to secondary school students.

我希望明年能去大学学习。 **wǒ xīwàng míngnián néng qù dàxué xuéxí** I hope I can go to university next year.

dialogue what do you do?

anna 张女士，您在哪儿工作?
Zhāng nǚshì nín zài nǎr gōngzuò · Ms Zhang, where do you work?

ms zhang 我在一家公司工作，已经工作十年了。
wǒ zài yì jiā gōngsī gōngzuò yǐjīng gōngzuò shí nián le · I work at a company. I've been there ten years.

anna 您的工作忙吗?
nín de gōngzuò máng ma · Is your job busy?

ms zhang 虽然很忙，但是我很喜欢。安娜，你想做什么工作?
suīrán hěn máng dànshì wǒ hěn xǐhuan Ānnà nǐ xiǎng zuò shénme gōngzuò · It's busy, but I like it a lot. Anna, what work would you like to do?

anna 我希望明年能在北京的大学工作。
wǒ xīwàng míngnián néng zài Běijīng de dàxué gōngzuò · I hope I can work at a university in Beijing next year.

ms zhang 小明，你呢?
Xiǎomíng nǐ ne · And you, Xiaoming?

xiaoming 我想做医生。但是爸爸说，医生的工作很累。
wǒ xiǎng zuò yīshēng dànshì bàba shuō yīshēng de gōngzuò hěn lèi · I want to be a doctor. But Dad says a doctor's work is tiring.

dr li 虽然很累，但是很有意思!
suīrán hěn lèi dànshì hěn yǒu yìsi · It's tiring, but it's very interesting!

repeat listen, then say it back

李医生在医院工作。 **Lǐ yīshēng zài yīyuàn gōngzuò** Dr Li works at a hospital.

我在一家公司工作。 **wǒ zài yì jiā gōngsī gōngzuò** I work at a company.

我姐姐在中学教汉语。 **wǒ jiějie zài zhōngxué jiāo Hànyǔ** My older sister teaches Chinese at a secondary school.

我希望明年去中国工作。 **wǒ xīwàng míngnián qù Zhōngguó gōngzuò** I hope to go and work in China next year.

我每天早上九点开始工作。 **wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang jiǔ diǎn kāishǐ gōngzuò** I start work at nine every morning.

虽然工作很忙，但是我很喜欢。 **suīrán gōngzuò hěn máng dànshì wǒ hěn xǐhuan** Work is busy, but I really like it.

reply answer out loud

你做什么工作？ nǐ zuò shénme gōngzuò What do you do for work?
→ 我是老师，在中学工作。 wǒ shì lǎoshī zài zhōngxué gōngzuò
→ 我是学生，在大学学习。 wǒ shì xuéshēng zài dàxué xuéxí

你每天几点开始工作？ nǐ měi tiān jǐ diǎn kāishǐ gōngzuò What time do you start work every day?
→ 我每天早上九点开始工作。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang jiǔ diǎn kāishǐ gōngzuò

你喜欢你的工作吗？ nǐ xǐhuan nǐ de gōngzuò ma Do you like your job?
→ 虽然很忙，但是我很喜欢。 suīrán hěn máng dànshì wǒ hěn xǐhuan

你想做什么工作？ nǐ xiǎng zuò shénme gōngzuò What job would you like to do?
→ 我想做医生。 wǒ xiǎng zuò yīshēng
→ 我希望在公司工作。 wǒ xīwàng zài gōngsī gōngzuò

老师让你们做什么？ lǎoshī ràng nǐmen zuò shénme What does your teacher have you do?
→ 老师让我们多说汉语。 lǎoshī ràng wǒmen duō shuō Hànyǔ

talk 90 seconds

What do you do for work? Do you like it? Why? (Still studying? Say what work you want to do.) Talk for a minute and a half.

你做什么工作？你喜欢你的工作吗？为什么？ nǐ zuò shénme gōngzuò nǐ xǐhuan nǐ de gōngzuò ma wèi shénme

虽然……，但是…… suīrán dànshì

我希望…… wǒ xīwàng

model answer

我在一家公司工作，已经工作三年了。 wǒ zài yì jiā gōngsī gōngzuò yǐjīng gōngzuò sān nián le

我每天早上九点开始工作，下午六点下班。 wǒ měi tiān zǎoshang jiǔ diǎn kāishǐ gōngzuò xiàwǔ liù diǎn xiàbān

虽然工作很忙，但是我很喜欢。 suīrán gōngzuò hěn máng dànshì wǒ hěn xǐhuan

因为公司里的人都很好，工作也很有意思。 yīnwèi gōngsī lǐ de rén dōu hěn hǎo gōngzuò yě hěn yǒu yìsi

公司离我家很近，我每天走路去上班。 gōngsī lí wǒ jiā hěn jìn wǒ měi tiān zǒulù qù shàngbān

我希望明年能去中国工作。 wǒ xīwàng míngnián néng qù Zhōngguó gōngzuò

I work at a company and have been there three years. I start at nine every morning and finish at six in the afternoon. Work is busy, but I really like it, because the people at the company are all nice and the work is interesting. The company is close to my home, so I walk to work every day. I hope I can go and work in China next year.

good to know · Not working yet? Answer 你想做什么工作？ instead: 我想做……, 因为…… is a full, good answer. Schools: 小学 primary, 中学 secondary, 大学 university. 上小学 means to be at primary school.

Busy but happy, tired but interested: with 虽然……但是…… your answers now have two sides, like real opinions.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 24 busy days, ill days

Say how you feel when you are ill, what you can and can't do, and give advice with 别.

Feeling unwell abroad is when you most need simple, clear Chinese.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
身体	shēntǐ	body; health	您身体好吗? How is your health?
生病	shēngbìng	fall ill, be sick	我生病了，今天不能去上课。 I'm ill, I can't go to class today.
头	tóu	head	我的头有点儿疼。 My head hurts a bit.
疼	téng	to hurt; sore	我的手很疼。 My hand really hurts.
舒服	shūfu	comfortable; to feel well	你哪儿不舒服? Where don't you feel well?
药	yào	medicine	你吃药了吗? Have you taken your medicine?
医院	yīyuàn	hospital	李先生在医院工作。 Mr Li works at a hospital.
看病	kànbìng	see a doctor	我想去医院看病。 I want to go to the hospital to see a doctor.
能	néng	can, be able to	我今天不能去上课。 I can't go to class today.
别	bié	don't	别走! Don't go!

pattern 能, 可以 and 别: can, may, don't

能 / 可以 / 不能 | verb | 别 / 不要 | verb

能 is "can" (you are able to), 可以 is "may" (it's allowed or fine). Put 不能 before a verb for "can't". To tell someone not to do something, use 别 or 不要 before the verb: 别去上班了, don't go to work.

我生病了，今天不能去上课。 **wǒ shēngbìng le jīntiān bù néng qù shàngkè** I'm ill, so I can't go to class today.

医生说你可以回家休息。 **yīshēng shuō nǐ kěyǐ huí jiā xiūxi** The doctor says you can go home and rest.

你别去上班了，在家休息吧。 **nǐ bié qù shàngbān le zài jiā xiūxi ba** Don't go to work; stay home and rest.

晚上不要喝咖啡。 **wǎnshang búyào hē kāfēi** Don't drink coffee in the evening.

dialogue a phone call

xiaoming 喂，安娜，你怎么还没来？
wèi Ānnà nǐ zěnme hái méi lái · Hello, Anna? Why aren't you here yet?

anna 对不起，我今天身体不舒服，头很疼。
duìbuqǐ wǒ jīntiān shēntǐ bù shūfu tóu hěn téng · Sorry, I'm not feeling well today. I've got a bad headache.

xiaoming 你生病了？去医院看病了吗？
nǐ shēngbìng le qù yīyuàn kànbìng le ma · You're ill? Have you seen a doctor?

anna 没有，我在家休息呢。
méiyǒu wǒ zài jiā xiūxi ne · No, I'm resting at home.

xiaoming 我问问我爸爸……他说你要多喝水，多休息。
wǒ wèn wen wǒ bàba tā shuō nǐ yào duō hē shuǐ duō xiūxi · Let me ask my dad… He says drink lots of water and rest.

anna 我能吃药吗？
wǒ néng chī yào ma · Can I take some medicine?

xiaoming 可以吃一点儿。明天还疼，就去医院吧。别太累了！
kěyǐ chī yìdiǎnr míngtiān hái téng jiù qù yīyuàn ba bié tài lèi le · A little is fine. If it still hurts tomorrow, go to the hospital. And don't overdo it!

anna 好的，谢谢你和李医生！
hǎo de xièxie nǐ hé Lǐ yīshēng · OK, thank you, and thank Dr Li!

repeat listen, then say it back

我今天头疼，不舒服。 **wǒ jīntiān tóu téng bù shūfu** I've got a headache today; I don't feel well.

我下午要去医院看病。 **wǒ xiàwǔ yào qù yīyuàn kànbìng** I'm going to the hospital to see a doctor this afternoon.

生病了就别去上班了。 **shēngbìng le jiù bié qù shàngbān le** If you're ill, don't go to work.

医生让我多喝水，多休息。 **yīshēng ràng wǒ duō hē shuǐ duō xiūxi** The doctor told me to drink lots of water and rest.

我身体不舒服，不能去上课。 **wǒ shēntǐ bù shūfu bù néng qù shàngkè** I'm not feeling well, so I can't go to class.

别太累了，今天早一点儿睡觉。 **bié tài lèi le jīntiān zǎo yìdiǎnr shuìjiào** Don't overdo it; go to bed a bit earlier tonight.

reply answer out loud

你今天身体怎么样？ nǐ jīntiān shēntǐ zěnmeyàng How are you feeling today?
→ 我身体很好。 wǒ shēntǐ hěn hǎo
→ 我有点儿不舒服。 wǒ yǒudiǎnr bù shūfu

你生病了去医院吗？ nǐ shēngbìng le qù yīyuàn ma When you're ill, do you go to the hospital?
→ 头很疼的时候，我就去医院。 tóu hěn téng de shíhou wǒ jiù qù yīyuàn

头疼的时候，你吃药吗？ tóu téng de shíhou nǐ chī yào ma Do you take medicine when you have a headache?
→ 我吃一点儿药，多休息。 wǒ chī yìdiǎnr yào duō xiūxi

生病了，你能去上班吗？ shēngbìng le nǐ néng qù shàngbān ma When you're ill, can you go to work?
→ 不能，我在家休息。 bù néng wǒ zài jiā xiūxi

你喜欢你的工作吗？ nǐ xǐhuan nǐ de gōngzuò ma Do you like your job?
→ 虽然很忙，但是我很喜欢。 suīrán hěn máng dànshì wǒ hěn xǐhuan

talk 90 seconds

What do you do when you are ill? Do you go to the hospital? Talk for a minute and a half.

你生病的时候做什么？你会去医院吗？ nǐ shēngbìng de shíhou zuò shénme nǐ huì qù yīyuàn ma

生病的时候，我不能……，可以…… shēngbìng de shíhou wǒ bù néng kěyǐ

别……，要多休息 bié yào duō xiūxi

model answer

我的身体很好，很少生病。 wǒ de shēntǐ hěn hǎo hěn shǎo shēngbìng

生病的时候，我不能去上班，就在家休息。 shēngbìng de shíhou wǒ bù néng qù shàngbān jiù zài jiā xiūxi

我多喝水，早一点儿睡觉，睡觉前再喝一杯热水。 wǒ duō hē shuǐ zǎo yìdiǎnr shuìjiào shuìjiào qián zài hē yì bēi rè shuǐ

头疼的时候，我就吃一点儿药。 tóu téng de shíhou wǒ jiù chī yìdiǎnr yào

很不舒服的时候，我就去医院看病。 hěn bù shūfu de shíhou wǒ jiù qù yīyuàn kànbìng

医生经常说："别太累了，你要多休息。" yīshēng jīngcháng shuō bié tài lèi le nǐ yào duō xiūxi

I'm very healthy and rarely ill. When I am ill, I can't go to work, so I rest at home. I drink lots of water and go to bed a bit earlier, with a cup of hot water before bed. When I have a headache, I just take a little medicine. When I feel really unwell, I go to the hospital to see a doctor. Doctors often say: "Don't overdo it; you need plenty of rest."

good to know · 看病 is "to see a doctor" (for the patient) and also "to treat patients" (for the doctor). In China you usually go to a hospital, not a family doctor. 多 before a verb means "do more of it": 多喝水, 多休息, 多说汉语.

You can now say you are unwell, understand advice and pass it on: Chinese for real life.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 25 mission: exam week

Chinese HSKK beginner in 32 days
unit 5 · school & work

Talk through a busy week of study and work: what you remember, what you forget, and how you help each other.

A mock round on unit 5: the test likes school, work and busy days, and so does real conversation.

chapter 1 the night before

xiaoming 明天就要考试了，我还没准备好！
míngtiān jiù yào kǎoshì le wǒ hái méi zhǔnbèi hǎo · The exam's tomorrow and I'm not ready yet!

ms zhang 没事，你已经读了一个星期的书了。
méishì nǐ yǐjīng dú le yí gè xīngqī de shū le · Don't worry, you've been studying for a whole week.

anna 我明天也有考试。王老师说要考三十个汉字。
wǒ míngtiān yě yǒu kǎoshì Wáng lǎoshī shuō yào kǎo sānshí gè Hànzì · I've got a test tomorrow too. Teacher Wang says it's thirty characters.

xiaoming 那我们一起学吧！我说一个词，你写汉字。
nà wǒmen yìqǐ xué ba wǒ shuō yí gè cí nǐ xiě Hànzì · Let's study together, then! I say a word, you write the characters.

anna 好！……啊，“读书”的“读”我写错了。
hǎo a dúshū de dú wǒ xiě cuò le · OK! … Oh, I got the 读 of 读书 wrong.

xiaoming 没关系，你都记得，就是这个字写错了。
méi guānxi nǐ dōu jìde jiù shì zhège zì xiě cuò le · Never mind, you remember them all; it's just this one you wrote wrong.

chapter 2 test day

teacher wang 同学们，快要考试了，请大家写好名字。
tóngxuémen kuàiyào kǎoshì le qǐng dàjiā xiě hǎo míngzi · Everyone, the test is about to start. Please write your names.

anna 王老师，对不起，我忘了拿笔！
Wáng lǎoshī duìbuqǐ wǒ wàng le ná bǐ · Teacher Wang, sorry, I forgot to bring a pen!

teacher wang 没关系，我这儿有。考试的时候别说话。
méi guānxi wǒ zhèr yǒu kǎoshì de shíhou bié shuōhuà · That's fine, I have one here. No talking during the test.

anna 老师，这个题我看不懂。
lǎoshī zhège tí wǒ kàn bu dǒng · Teacher, I don't understand this question.

teacher wang 考试的时候我不能告诉你，你再看看。
kǎoshì de shíhou wǒ bù néng gàosu nǐ nǐ zài kàn kan · I can't tell you during the test. Read it again.

chapter 3 home late

ms zhang 都十点了，你爸爸还没回来。
dōu shí diǎn le nǐ bàba hái méi huílái · It's ten already and your dad still isn't back.

dr li 我回来了！今天医院里看病的人很多。
wǒ huílái le jīntiān yīyuàn lǐ kànbìng de rén hěn duō · I'm home! There were lots of patients at the hospital today.

xiaoming 爸爸，我今天考得很好！我都记得！
bàba wǒ jīntiān kǎo de hěn hǎo wǒ dōu jìde · Dad, my exam went really well! I remembered everything!

anna 我也考完了，就写错了一个字。
wǒ yě kǎo wán le jiù xiě cuò le yí gè zì · I've finished my test too, and I only got one character wrong.

dr li 太好了！我呢，今天忘了吃晚饭。
tài hǎo le wǒ ne jīntiān wàng le chī wǎnfàn · Great! As for me, I forgot to have dinner today.

ms zhang 饭已经做好了，快来吃吧！
fàn yǐjīng zuò hǎo le kuài lái chī ba · Dinner's already made. Come and eat!

repeat listen, then say it back

快要考试了，你准备好了吗？ **kuàiyào kǎoshì le nǐ zhǔnbèi hǎo le ma** The exam's coming soon. Are you ready?

我记得这个字，但是写错了。 **wǒ jìde zhège zì dànshì xiě cuò le** I remember this character, but I wrote it wrong.

生病的时候，别去学校上课。 **shēngbìng de shíhou bié qù xuéxiào shàngkè** When you're ill, don't go to school.

老师让我们好好准备考试。 **lǎoshī ràng wǒmen hǎo hǎo zhǔnbèi kǎoshì** The teacher tells us to prepare well for the exam.

虽然考试很多，但是我不累。 **suīrán kǎoshì hěn duō dànshì wǒ bú lèi** There are lots of exams, but I'm not tired.

reply answer out loud

上课你都能听懂吗？ shàngkè nǐ dōu néng tīng dǒng ma Can you understand everything in class?
→ 我能听懂一些。 wǒ néng tīng dǒng yìxiē
→ 老师说得慢，我都能听懂。 lǎoshī shuō de màn wǒ dōu néng tīng dǒng

你每天写汉字吗？ nǐ měi tiān xiě Hànzì ma Do you write characters every day?
→ 我每天写半个小时汉字。 wǒ měi tiān xiě bàn gè xiǎoshí Hànzì
→ 不是每天都写，有时写。 bú shì měi tiān dōu xiě yǒushí xiě

你为什么喜欢你的工作？ nǐ wèi shénme xǐhuan nǐ de gōngzuò Why do you like your job?
→ 因为我的工作很有意思。 yīnwèi wǒ de gōngzuò hěn yǒu yìsi
→ 我不太喜欢，因为太忙了。 wǒ bú tài xǐhuan yīnwèi tài máng le

生病的时候，你做什么？ shēngbìng de shíhou nǐ zuò shénme What do you do when you're ill?
→ 我在家休息，多喝水。 wǒ zài jiā xiūxi duō hē shuǐ

你经常忘东西吗？ nǐ jīngcháng wàng dōngxi ma Do you often forget things?
→ 我经常忘拿笔！ wǒ jīngcháng wàng ná bǐ
→ 不，我都记得。 bù wǒ dōu jìde

talk 90 seconds

Are your studies and work busy? Tell us about a busy day. Talk for a minute and a half.

你每天的学习和工作忙吗？说一说你很忙的一天。 nǐ měi tiān de xuéxí hé gōngzuò máng ma shuō yi shuo nǐ hěn máng de yì tiān

快要……了，我已经…… kuàiyào le wǒ yǐjīng

虽然很累，但是…… suīrán hěn lèi dànshì

model answer

我每天的学习和工作都很忙。 wǒ měi tiān de xuéxí hé gōngzuò dōu hěn máng

上个星期五是我最忙的一天。 shàng gè xīngqīwǔ shì wǒ zuì máng de yì tiān

我早上七点起床，八点就有课。 wǒ zǎoshang qī diǎn qǐchuáng bā diǎn jiù yǒu kè

因为快要考试了，下课后我跟同学一起在学校读书。 yīnwèi kuàiyào kǎoshì le xiàkè hòu wǒ gēn tóngxué yìqǐ zài xuéxiào dúshū

晚上我去公司工作，十一点回家。 wǎnshang wǒ qù gōngsī gōngzuò shíyī diǎn huí jiā

虽然很累，但是我觉得很快乐。 suīrán hěn lèi dànshì wǒ juéde hěn kuàilè

My studies and work are busy every day. Last Friday was my busiest day. I got up at seven and had class at eight. The exams were coming soon, so after class I studied at school with my classmates. In the evening I went to work and didn't get home until eleven. It was tiring, but I felt happy.

Unit 5 done: school, teachers, work and health. You can now talk about the busiest parts of life, for a minute and a half each.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 26 shopping

Ask the price, say it's too expensive, pick the colour you want and talk about where you buy clothes.

Shopping is the everyday topic where you speak most, and prices and colours come up in every speaking test.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
衣服	yīfu	clothes	这件衣服多少钱? How much is this top?
裤子	kùzi	trousers, pants	这条裤子多少钱? How much are these trousers?
颜色	yánsè	colour	你喜欢什么颜色? What colour do you like?
红色	hóngsè	red	红色很漂亮。 Red is really pretty.
贵	guì	expensive	这个很贵。 This is expensive.
便宜	piányi	cheap	苹果很便宜! The apples are cheap!
商店	shāngdiàn	shop, store	这个商店卖什么? What does this shop sell?
太	tài	too; very	这个太贵了! This is far too expensive!
穿	chuān	to wear; put on	今天我穿新衣服。 Today I'm wearing new clothes.
新	xīn	new	这是我的新电脑。 This is my new computer.

pattern 多少钱? 太贵了! and 红色的

这件衣服 | 多少钱? | 太……了 | 红色的 / 我买的

Ask 多少钱? and you'll hear a number plus 块 (the spoken word for yuan). 太……了 says "too…!": 太贵了. Put 的 after a colour or a short phrase to point at one thing: 红色的 is "the red one", 我买的衣服 "the clothes I bought".

这条裤子多少钱? 一百二十块。 **zhè tiáo kùzi duōshao qián yìbǎièrshí kuài** How much are these trousers? A hundred and twenty yuan.

太贵了! 有便宜一点儿的吗? **tài guì le yǒu piányi yìdiǎnr de ma** Too expensive! Do you have a cheaper one?

我想要红色的，不要白色的。 **wǒ xiǎng yào hóngsè de búyào báisè de** I want the red one, not the white one.

我昨天买的衣服很好看。 **wǒ zuótiān mǎi de yīfu hěn hǎokàn** The clothes I bought yesterday look great.

dialogue too expensive!

xiaoming 安娜，你看，这件红色的衣服很漂亮！
Ānnà nǐ kàn zhè jiàn hóngsè de yīfu hěn piàoliang · Anna, look, this red top is lovely!

anna 是很漂亮。多少钱?
shì hěn piàoliang duōshao qián · It is lovely. How much is it?

xiaoming 四百八十块。
sìbǎibāshí kuài · Four hundred and eighty yuan.

anna 太贵了！我不买。
tài guì le wǒ bù mǎi · Way too expensive! I'm not buying it.

xiaoming 那条黑色的裤子呢？一百零五块。
nà tiáo hēisè de kùzi ne yìbǎilíngwǔ kuài · What about those black trousers? A hundred and five yuan.

anna 这个很便宜！我穿一下。
zhège hěn piányi wǒ chuān yíxià · That's cheap! I'll try them on.

xiaoming 怎么样?
zěnmeyàng · How are they?

anna 有点儿长，但是颜色很好看。我买了！
yǒudiǎnr cháng dànshì yánsè hěn hǎokàn wǒ mǎi le · A bit long, but the colour is great. I'll take them!

repeat listen, then say it back

请问，这件衣服多少钱? **qǐngwèn zhè jiàn yīfu duōshao qián** Excuse me, how much is this top?

我喜欢在网上买衣服。 **wǒ xǐhuan zài wǎngshang mǎi yīfu** I like buying clothes online.

我想买一条红色的裤子。 **wǒ xiǎng mǎi yì tiáo hóngsè de kùzi** I'd like to buy a pair of red trousers.

我今天穿的衣服是新的。 **wǒ jīntiān chuān de yīfu shì xīn de** The clothes I'm wearing today are new.

太贵了，有便宜一点儿的吗? **tài guì le yǒu piányi yìdiǎnr de ma** That's too expensive. Is there a cheaper one?

这个商店的东西都很便宜。 **zhège shāngdiàn de dōngxi dōu hěn piányi** Everything in this shop is cheap.

reply answer out loud

你喜欢什么颜色的衣服？ nǐ xǐhuan shénme yánsè de yīfu What colour clothes do you like?
→ 我喜欢红色的衣服。 wǒ xǐhuan hóngsè de yīfu
你经常在哪儿买衣服？ nǐ jīngcháng zài nǎr mǎi yīfu Where do you usually buy clothes?
→ 我经常在网上买衣服。 wǒ jīngcháng zài wǎngshang mǎi yīfu
→ 我经常去商场买。 wǒ jīngcháng qù shāngchǎng mǎi
你的衣服是新的吗？ nǐ de yīfu shì xīn de ma Are your clothes new?
→ 不是，是去年买的。 bú shì shì qùnián mǎi de
→ 是新的，我昨天买的。 shì xīn de wǒ zuótiān mǎi de
一千块的衣服贵吗？ yìqiān kuài de yīfu guì ma Are clothes for a thousand yuan expensive?
→ 太贵了！ tài guì le
→ 我觉得太贵了，我不买。 wǒ juéde tài guì le wǒ bù mǎi
你生病了去医院吗？ nǐ shēngbìng le qù yīyuàn ma When you're ill, do you go to the hospital?
→ 很不舒服的时候，我就去医院。 hěn bù shūfu de shíhou wǒ jiù qù yīyuàn

talk 90 seconds

Where do you like to buy clothes? Why? Talk for a minute and a half.

你喜欢去哪儿买衣服？为什么？ nǐ xǐhuan qù nǎr mǎi yīfu wèi shénme
我喜欢在……买衣服，因为…… wǒ xǐhuan zài mǎi yīfu yīnwèi
……太贵了，……很便宜 tài guì le hěn piányi

model answer

我喜欢在网上买衣服。 wǒ xǐhuan zài wǎngshang mǎi yīfu
因为网上的衣服很便宜，颜色也很多。 yīnwèi wǎngshang de yīfu hěn piányi yánsè yě hěn duō
商场里的衣服很漂亮，但是太贵了。 shāngchǎng lǐ de yīfu hěn piàoliang dànshì tài guì le
上个月我在网上买了一条裤子，八十块钱。 shàng gè yuè wǒ zài wǎngshang mǎi le yì tiáo kùzi bāshí kuài qián
我今天穿的就是这条裤子，你看，很好看吧？ wǒ jīntiān chuān de jiù shì zhè tiáo kùzi nǐ kàn hěn hǎokàn ba
有时我也跟朋友一起去商店，买东西的时候我们很快乐。 yǒushí wǒ yě gēn péngyou yìqǐ qù shāngdiàn mǎi dōngxi de shíhou wǒmen hěn kuàilè

I like buying clothes online, because clothes online are cheap and come in lots of colours. Clothes in shopping centres are lovely, but too expensive. Last month I bought a pair of trousers online for eighty yuan. I'm wearing them today; look, they're nice, aren't they? Sometimes I also go to the shops with friends, and we have fun shopping together.

good to know · Measure words for clothes: 一件衣服 (a top, a jacket), 一条裤子 (a pair of trousers). 条 is for long, thin things. In shops you'll hear 块 for yuan; the price tag says 元. They are the same money.

Prices, colours and "the one I bought": you can shop in Chinese and talk about it afterwards.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 27 the weather

Ask and say what the weather is like, compare today with yesterday, and say what is about to happen.

The weather is the safest small talk there is, and an easy part-three question to fill ninety seconds.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
天气	tiānqì	weather	今天天气怎么样? What's the weather like today?
冷	lěng	cold	今天很冷。 It's cold today.
下雨	xiàyǔ	to rain	外边在下雨。 It's raining outside.
雨	yǔ	rain	雨很大! It's raining hard!
雪	xuě	snow	我很喜欢雪! I love snow!
晴	qíng	sunny, clear	今天是晴天。 It's a sunny day today.
阴	yīn	cloudy, overcast	明天可能是阴天。 It'll probably be cloudy tomorrow.
怎么样	zěnmeyàng	how is it?	这个菜怎么样? How's this dish?
比	bǐ	than; compare	我比你高。 I'm taller than you.
可能	kěnéng	maybe; possible	他可能不来了。 He probably isn't coming.

pattern 怎么样? 冷不冷? and a 比 b

天气怎么样? / 冷不冷? | 今天 | 比 | 昨天 + adjective

怎么样? asks "how is it?". Say an adjective twice with 不 in the middle for a yes-or-no question: 冷不冷? is it cold? To compare, put 比 between the two things and the adjective last, with no 很: 今天比昨天冷. 快要……了 says it's about to happen.

今天天气怎么样?很好,是晴天。 **jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng hěn hǎo shì qíng tiān** How's the weather today? Lovely, it's sunny.

明天冷不冷?明天比今天冷。 **míngtiān lěng bu lěng míngtiān bǐ jīntiān lěng** Will it be cold tomorrow? Tomorrow will be colder than today.

你喜欢不喜欢下雪? **nǐ xǐhuan bù xǐhuan xià xuě** Do you like snow?

天阴了,快要下雨了。 **tiān yīn le kuàiyào xià yǔ le** It's clouded over; it's about to rain.

dialogue rain on the way

anna 小明，今天天气怎么样?
Xiǎomíng jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng · Xiaoming, what's the weather like today?

xiaoming 不太好，是阴天，可能要下雨。
bú tài hǎo shì yīn tiān kěnéng yào xià yǔ · Not great. It's cloudy and it may rain.

anna 冷不冷?
lěng bu lěng · Is it cold?

xiaoming 有点儿冷，比昨天冷多了。
yǒudiǎnr lěng bǐ zuótiān lěng duō le · A bit. Much colder than yesterday.

anna 那我多穿一件衣服。我们还去看电影吗?
nà wǒ duō chuān yí jiàn yīfu wǒmen hái qù kàn diànyǐng ma · Then I'll put on another layer. Are we still going to the cinema?

xiaoming 去吧！电影院离这儿不远。
qù ba diànyǐngyuàn lí zhèr bù yuǎn · Let's go! The cinema isn't far from here.

anna 你看，下雨了！雨很大!
nǐ kàn xià yǔ le yǔ hěn dà · Look, it's raining! And it's pouring!

xiaoming 没事，我们坐出租车去吧。
méishì wǒmen zuò chūzūchē qù ba · No problem, let's take a taxi.

repeat listen, then say it back

今天比昨天冷一点儿。 **jīntiān bǐ zuótiān lěng yìdiǎnr** Today is a little colder than yesterday.

北京一月很冷，有时下雪。 **Běijīng yī yuè hěn lěng yǒushí xià xuě** Beijing is very cold in January, and sometimes it snows.

快要下雨了，我们回家吧。 **kuàiyào xià yǔ le wǒmen huí jiā ba** It's about to rain. Let's go home.

明天可能是阴天，不太冷。 **míngtiān kěnéng shì yīn tiān bú tài lěng** Tomorrow may be cloudy, not too cold.

你们那儿今天天气怎么样? **nǐmen nàr jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng** What's the weather like where you are today?

我喜欢晴天，因为可以出去玩。 **wǒ xǐhuan qíng tiān yīnwèi kěyǐ chūqù wán** I like sunny days because I can go out.

reply answer out loud

今天天气怎么样？ jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng What's the weather like today?
→ 今天是晴天，不冷也不热。 jīntiān shì qíng tiān bù lěng yě bú rè
→ 今天是阴天，有点儿冷。 jīntiān shì yīn tiān yǒudiǎnr lěng

今天比昨天冷吗？ jīntiān bǐ zuótiān lěng ma Is today colder than yesterday?
→ 今天比昨天冷一点儿。 jīntiān bǐ zuótiān lěng yìdiǎnr

你喜欢下雪吗？为什么？ nǐ xǐhuan xià xuě ma wèi shénme Do you like snow? Why?
→ 我喜欢下雪，因为雪很漂亮。 wǒ xǐhuan xià xuě yīnwèi xuě hěn piàoliang

你们那儿几月最冷？ nǐmen nàr jǐ yuè zuì lěng Which month is coldest where you live?
→ 我们那儿一月最冷。 wǒmen nàr yī yuè zuì lěng

你经常在哪儿买衣服？ nǐ jīngcháng zài nǎr mǎi yīfu Where do you usually buy clothes?
→ 我经常在网上买衣服。 wǒ jīngcháng zài wǎngshang mǎi yīfu

talk 90 seconds

What is the weather like today? Do you like this kind of weather? Why? Talk for a minute and a half.

今天天气怎么样？你喜欢这样的天气吗？为什么？ jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng nǐ xǐhuan zhèyàng de tiānqì ma wèi shénme

今天比昨天…… jīntiān bǐ zuótiān

我喜欢……的天气，因为…… wǒ xǐhuan de tiānqì yīnwèi

model answer

今天北京的天气不太好，是阴天。 jīntiān Běijīng de tiānqì bú tài hǎo shì yīn tiān

今天比昨天冷，可能快要下雨了。 jīntiān bǐ zuótiān lěng kěnéng kuàiyào xià yǔ le

我不太喜欢这样的天气，因为不能出去玩。 wǒ bú tài xǐhuan zhèyàng de tiānqì yīnwèi bù néng chūqù wán

我最喜欢晴天，不冷也不热。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan qíng tiān bù lěng yě bú rè

晴天的时候，我喜欢跟朋友一起去外面跑步。 qíng tiān de shíhou wǒ xǐhuan gēn péngyou yìqǐ qù wàimiàn pǎobù

下雪的时候也很好，北京的雪非常漂亮。 xià xuě de shíhou yě hěn hǎo Běijīng de xuě fēicháng piàoliang

The weather in Beijing isn't great today; it's cloudy. It's colder than yesterday, and it may rain soon. I don't much like this kind of weather, because I can't go out. I like sunny days best, not cold and not hot. On sunny days I like going running outside with friends. Snowy days are nice too: snow in Beijing is beautiful.

good to know · With 比 there is no 很: say 今天比昨天冷, never 今天比昨天很冷. Add 一点儿 or 多了 after the adjective for "a bit" or "much". No word for the seasons yet? Use months: 北京一月很冷, 七月很热.

Small talk done right: weather, a comparison and a reason, all in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 28 getting around

Say how you get to work or school, how far it is and how long it takes.

"How do you get to work?" is a classic speaking question, and the answer is a ready-made little story.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
坐	zuò	to sit; travel by	请坐! Please sit down!
地铁	dìtiě	subway, metro	我们坐地铁去吧。 Let's take the subway.
公交车	gōngjiāochē	bus	我坐公交车去上班。 I take the bus to work.
出租车	chūzūchē	taxi	我们坐出租车吧。 Let's take a taxi.
开车	kāichē	to drive (a car)	我爸爸会开车。 My dad can drive.
走路	zǒulù	walk, go on foot	我每天走路去学校。 I walk to school every day.
从	cóng	from	我从英国来。 I'm from the UK.
到	dào	to arrive; to reach	我们几点到北京? What time do we get to Beijing?
分钟	fēnzhōng	minute (how long)	一个小时有六十分钟。 An hour has sixty minutes.
怎么	zěnme	how; how come	火车站怎么去? How do I get to the train station?

pattern 坐地铁去……: how, then where

who | 坐地铁 / 开车 / 走路 | 去 / 来 | where

Say how you travel first, then where you go: 我坐公交车去学校. For distance, 从 A 到 B 要…… gives the time it takes, and A 离 B 很近/很远 says how near or far. Ask with 怎么去? (how do you get there?).

我坐公交车去学校。 **wǒ zuò gōngjiāochē qù xuéxiào** I take the bus to school.

从这儿到机场要一个小时。 **cóng zhèr dào jīchǎng yào yí gè xiǎoshí** It takes an hour from here to the airport.

我家离地铁站很近。 **wǒ jiā lí dìtiě zhàn hěn jìn** My home is close to the subway station.

你每天怎么去上班? 走路去。 **nǐ měi tiān zěnme qù shàngbān zǒulù qù** How do you get to work every day? On foot.

dialogue how do we get there?

anna 小明，你每天怎么去学校?
Xiǎomíng nǐ měi tiān zěnme qù xuéxiào · Xiaoming, how do you get to school every day?

xiaoming 我坐公交车去，要二十分钟。你呢?
wǒ zuò gōngjiāochē qù yào èrshí fēnzhōng nǐ ne · I take the bus; it takes twenty minutes. And you?

anna 我走路去。学校离我家很近，十分钟就到了。
wǒ zǒulù qù xuéxiào lí wǒ jiā hěn jìn shí fēnzhōng jiù dào le · I walk. School is close to my place; I'm there in ten minutes.

xiaoming 真好！星期六我们跟奶奶去一个饭馆吃饭，那个饭馆有点儿远。
zhēn hǎo xīngqīliù wǒmen gēn nǎinai qù yí gè fànguǎn chī fàn nàge fànguǎn yǒudiǎnr yuǎn · Lucky you! On Saturday we're taking Grandma to a restaurant. It's a bit far.

anna 从这儿到那个饭馆要多长时间?
cóng zhèr dào nàge fànguǎn yào duō cháng shíjiān · How long does it take from here to the restaurant?

xiaoming 坐地铁要一个小时。
zuò dìtiě yào yí gè xiǎoshí · An hour by subway.

anna 坐出租车呢?
zuò chūzūchē ne · What about a taxi?

xiaoming 太贵了。我爸爸开车去，我们跟他一起去吧!
tài guì le wǒ bàba kāichē qù wǒmen gēn tā yìqǐ qù ba · Too expensive. My dad is driving there, so let's go with him!

repeat listen, then say it back

我每天坐地铁去上班。 **wǒ měi tiān zuò dìtiě qù shàngbān** I take the subway to work every day.

我家离学校很近，走路去。 **wǒ jiā lí xuéxiào hěn jìn zǒulù qù** My home is near the school; I walk.

坐公交车去要半个小时。 **zuò gōngjiāochē qù yào bàn gè xiǎoshí** It's half an hour by bus.

我们坐出租车去火车站吧。 **wǒmen zuò chūzūchē qù huǒchēzhàn ba** Let's take a taxi to the station.

从我家到公司要四十分钟。 **cóng wǒ jiā dào gōngsī yào sìshí fēnzhōng** It takes forty minutes from my home to the office.

从这儿到机场要多长时间? **cóng zhèr dào jīchǎng yào duō cháng shíjiān** How long does it take from here to the airport?

reply answer out loud

你每天怎么去上班？ nǐ měi tiān zěnme qù shàngbān How do you get to work every day?
→ 我每天坐地铁去上班。 wǒ měi tiān zuò dìtiě qù shàngbān
→ 我开车去。 wǒ kāichē qù

去公司要多长时间？ qù gōngsī yào duō cháng shíjiān How long does it take you to get to work?
→ 要四十分钟。 yào sìshí fēnzhōng
→ 坐地铁要半个小时。 zuò dìtiě yào bàn gè xiǎoshí

从你家到车站远吗？ cóng nǐ jiā dào chēzhàn yuǎn ma Is it far from your home to the station?
→ 不远，走路五分钟就到了。 bù yuǎn zǒulù wǔ fēnzhōng jiù dào le
→ 有点儿远，要坐公交车。 yǒudiǎnr yuǎn yào zuò gōngjiāochē

你会开车吗？ nǐ huì kāichē ma Can you drive?
→ 我会开车，但是不经常开。 wǒ huì kāichē dànshì bù jīngcháng kāi
→ 我不会开车。 wǒ bú huì kāichē

今天天气怎么样？ jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng What's the weather like today?
→ 今天是晴天，不冷也不热。 jīntiān shì qíng tiān bù lěng yě bú rè

talk 90 seconds

How do you get to work (or school) every day? How long does it take? Talk for a minute and a half.

你每天怎么去上班？路上要多长时间？ nǐ měi tiān zěnme qù shàngbān lùshang yào duō cháng shíjiān

我每天坐……去…… wǒ měi tiān zuò qù

从……到……要……分钟 cóng dào yào fēnzhōng

model answer

我每天坐地铁去上班。 wǒ měi tiān zuò dìtiě qù shàngbān

上班前，我在家喝一杯咖啡，再走路去地铁站。 shàngbān qián wǒ zài jiā hē yì bēi kāfēi zài zǒulù qù dìtiě zhàn

地铁站离我家很近，走路五分钟就到了。 dìtiě zhàn lí wǒ jiā hěn jìn zǒulù wǔ fēnzhōng jiù dào le

从我家到公司要四十分钟。 cóng wǒ jiā dào gōngsī yào sìshí fēnzhōng

在地铁上，我经常看手机，有时听歌。 zài dìtiě shàng wǒ jīngcháng kàn shǒujī yǒushí tīng gē

下雨的时候，我坐出租车去，但是出租车有点儿贵。 xià yǔ de shíhou wǒ zuò chūzūchē qù dànshì chūzūchē yǒudiǎnr guì

下班后，我坐地铁回家，七点就到家了。 xiàbān hòu wǒ zuò dìtiě huí jiā qī diǎn jiù dào jiā le

我希望明年能住在公司旁边，每天走路去上班。 wǒ xīwàng míngnián néng zhù zài gōngsī pángbiān měi tiān zǒulù qù shàngbān

I take the subway to work every day. Before work I have a coffee at home, then walk to the subway station. The station is very close to my home: five minutes on foot. It takes forty minutes from my home to the office. On the subway I often look at my phone, and sometimes I listen to songs. When it rains I take a taxi, but taxis are a bit expensive. After work I take the subway home and I'm back by seven. I hope to live next to the office next year and walk to work every day.

good to know · 坐 is for anything you ride as a passenger: 坐地铁, 坐公交车, 坐出租车, 坐飞机. 开车 is to drive, 走路 to walk. 多长时间？ asks how long. Answer with the time: 要四十分钟, 要一个小时.

How you go, how far, how long: you can now walk someone through your whole commute.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 29 trips

Say where you have travelled, and when and how you went, with 过 and 是……的.

Travel stories are a favourite part-three topic, and they show off two grammar points at once.

words to say

word	pinyin	meaning	example
旅游	lǚyóu	to travel (for fun); tourism	我想去中国旅游。 I'd like to go travelling in China.
飞机	fēijī	plane	我坐飞机去中国。 I'm flying to China.
火车	huǒchē	train	我喜欢坐火车。 I like taking the train.
机场	jīchǎng	airport	我们打车去机场。 We're taking a taxi to the airport.
酒店	jiǔdiàn	hotel	这个酒店很不错。 This hotel is really nice.
出国	chūguó	to go abroad	我明年想出国旅游。 I'd like to travel abroad next year.
外国	wàiguó	foreign country; foreign	他是外国人。 He's a foreigner.
北京	Běijīng	Beijing	他是北京人。 He's from Beijing.
中国	Zhōngguó	China	小明是中国人。 Xiaoming is Chinese.
去年	qùnián	last year	去年我不会说汉语。 Last year I couldn't speak Chinese.

pattern 去过 and 是……的: trips you have made

去过 / 没去过 | place | 是 + when / how + 去 | 的

过 after a verb says you have done it at some time: 我去过上海. "Never" is 没 + verb + 过: 我没去过. To tell when or how a past trip happened, wrap that part in 是……的: 我是去年去的, 我们是坐火车去的.

你去过上海吗？去过，去过两次。 **nǐ qù guo Shànghǎi ma qù guo qù guo liǎng cì** Have you been to Shanghai? Yes, twice.

我没去过外国。 **wǒ méi qù guo wàiguó** I've never been abroad.

我是去年十月去的。 **wǒ shì qùnián shí yuè qù de** I went last October.

我们是坐火车去的。 **wǒmen shì zuò huǒchē qù de** We went by train.

dialogue trips

xiaoming 安娜，你是什么时候来中国的?
Ānnà nǐ shì shénme shíhou lái Zhōngguó de · Anna, when did you come to China?

anna 我是去年十月来的。
wǒ shì qùnián shí yuè lái de · I came last October.

xiaoming 你是坐飞机来的吧?
nǐ shì zuò fēijī lái de ba · You came by plane, right?

anna 对，坐了十多个小时飞机！你出过国吗?
duì zuò le shí duō gè xiǎoshí fēijī nǐ chū guo guó ma · Yes, more than ten hours on the plane! Have you ever been abroad?

xiaoming 没出过。但是我去过上海两次，是坐火车去的。
méi chū guo dànshì wǒ qù guo Shànghǎi liǎng cì shì zuò huǒchē qù de · Never. But I've been to Shanghai twice, by train.

anna 上海怎么样？我还没去过。
Shànghǎi zěnmeyàng wǒ hái méi qù guo · What's Shanghai like? I haven't been yet.

xiaoming 非常漂亮，东西也很好吃！下个月我们一起坐火车去旅游吧！
fēicháng piàoliang dōngxi yě hěn hǎochī xià gè yuè wǒmen yìqǐ zuò huǒchē qù lǚyóu ba · Really beautiful, and the food is great! Let's take the train there together next month!

anna 太好了！我们住哪儿?
tài hǎo le wǒmen zhù nǎr · Brilliant! Where shall we stay?

repeat listen, then say it back

我是去年来北京的。 **wǒ shì qùnián lái Běijīng de** I came to Beijing last year.

我们是坐火车去的。 **wǒmen shì zuò huǒchē qù de** We went by train.

你去过上海吗？那儿怎么样？ **nǐ qù guo Shànghǎi ma nàr zěnmeyàng** Have you been to Shanghai? What's it like?

我们住在机场旁边的酒店。 **wǒmen zhù zài jīchǎng pángbiān de jiǔdiàn** We stayed at a hotel next to the airport.

我没出过国，明年想出国旅游。 **wǒ méi chū guo guó míngnián xiǎng chūguó lǚyóu** I've never been abroad; next year I want to travel abroad.

坐飞机去上海要两个小时。 **zuò fēijī qù Shànghǎi yào liǎng gè xiǎoshí** It's two hours to Shanghai by plane.

reply answer out loud

你去过哪儿旅游？ nǐ qù guo nǎr lǚyóu Where have you travelled to?
→ 我去过北京和上海。 wǒ qù guo Běijīng hé Shànghǎi

你出过国吗？ nǐ chū guo guó ma Have you ever been abroad?
→ 出过，我去过中国。 chū guo wǒ qù guo Zhōngguó
→ 我没出过国。 wǒ méi chū guo guó

你是哪年开始学汉语的？ nǐ shì nǎ nián kāishǐ xué Hànyǔ de Which year did you start learning Chinese?
→ 我是去年开始学的。 wǒ shì qùnián kāishǐ xué de

你喜欢坐飞机还是火车？ nǐ xǐhuan zuò fēijī háishi huǒchē Do you prefer flying or the train?
→ 我喜欢坐火车，因为可以看外面。 wǒ xǐhuan zuò huǒchē yīnwèi kěyǐ kàn wàimiàn

你每天怎么去上班？ nǐ měi tiān zěnme qù shàngbān How do you get to work every day?
→ 我每天坐地铁去上班。 wǒ měi tiān zuò dìtiě qù shàngbān

talk 90 seconds

Where have you travelled? Do you prefer travelling with your family or with friends? Why? Talk for a minute and a half.

你去过哪儿旅游？你喜欢跟家人去还是跟朋友去？为什么？ nǐ qù guo nǎr lǚyóu nǐ xǐhuan gēn jiārén qù háishi gēn péngyou qù wèi shénme

我去过……，是……去的 wǒ qù guo shì qù de

我喜欢跟……一起去，因为…… wǒ xǐhuan gēn yìqǐ qù yīnwèi

model answer

我很喜欢去外国旅游，去过美国两次，都是跟朋友一起去的。 wǒ hěn xǐhuan qù wàiguó lǚyóu qù guo Měiguó liǎng cì dōu shì gēn péngyou yìqǐ qù de

我们住在一家酒店，酒店离火车站很近。 wǒmen zhù zài yì jiā jiǔdiàn jiǔdiàn lí huǒchēzhàn hěn jìn

我喜欢跟朋友一起去旅游，因为跟朋友在一起很快乐，我们可以一起吃饭、一起玩。 wǒ xǐhuan gēn péngyou yìqǐ qù lǚyóu yīnwèi gēn péngyou zài yìqǐ hěn kuàilè wǒmen kěyǐ yìqǐ chī fàn yìqǐ wán

跟家人去也很好，但是我的家人都很忙。 gēn jiārén qù yě hěn hǎo dànshì wǒ de jiārén dōu hěn máng

去年十月，我是坐飞机来中国的。 qùnián shí yuè wǒ shì zuò fēijī lái Zhōngguó de

下个月我跟小明一起坐火车去上海，我还没去过上海呢！ xià gè yuè wǒ gēn Xiǎomíng yìqǐ zuò huǒchē qù Shànghǎi wǒ hái méi qù guo Shànghǎi ne

I love travelling abroad: I've been to the USA twice, both times with friends. We stayed at a hotel close to the railway station. I like travelling with friends, because being with friends is fun: we can eat together and have fun together. Going with family is nice too, but my family are all very busy. Last October I flew to China. Next month Xiaoming and I are taking the train to Shanghai: I've never been to Shanghai!

good to know · 去过 is for experience (at any time); 去了 is for one trip you made. 我去过上海 = I've been to Shanghai; 我昨天去了上海 = I went to Shanghai yesterday. In 是……的 you can drop 是 in quick speech: 我去年来的. Never drop the 的.

Where, when and how: you can now tell the story of a trip in Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 30 mission: a year in beijing

Talk about a whole year: what you did, what you learned and what you want to do next, using every unit of the course.

The finale is a mock round, like the exam: repeat one sentence from every unit, then answer ten quick questions. Then come two talks of 90 seconds each: the last question of the answer round, and the big talk at the end.

chapter 1 two tickets

anna 小明，去上海的火车票买好了吗?
Xiǎomíng qù Shànghǎi de huǒchē piào mǎi hǎo le ma · Xiaoming, have you got the train tickets to Shanghai?

xiaoming 买好了，是十月二十号早上八点的。
mǎi hǎo le shì shí yuè èrshí hào zǎoshang bā diǎn de · Yes, for eight in the morning on 20 October.

anna 太好了！票多少钱?
tài hǎo le piào duōshao qián · Great! How much were the tickets?

xiaoming 两个人一千零八十块，是我在网上买的。
liǎng gè rén yìqiānlíngbāshí kuài shì wǒ zài wǎngshang mǎi de · 1,080 yuan for the two of us. I bought them online.

anna 我们几点去火车站?
wǒmen jǐ diǎn qù huǒchēzhàn · What time shall we go to the station?

xiaoming 七点吧。从这儿到火车站要半个小时，我们打车去。
qī diǎn ba cóng zhèr dào huǒchēzhàn yào bàn gè xiǎoshí wǒmen dǎchē qù · Seven. It takes half an hour from here to the station, so let's get a taxi.

chapter 2 to the station

anna 快要七点了，车来了吗?
kuàiyào qī diǎn le chē lái le ma · It's nearly seven. Is the car here?

xiaoming 来了，就在门口。快走吧!
lái le jiù zài ménkǒu kuài zǒu ba · It's here, right at the door. Let's go!

anna 我的票呢？……在包里，没事!
wǒ de piào ne zài bāo lǐ méishì · Where's my ticket? … In my bag, phew!

xiaoming 你看，今天是晴天，不冷也不热。
nǐ kàn jīntiān shì qíng tiān bù lěng yě bú rè · Look, it's sunny today, not cold and not hot.

anna 我最喜欢坐火车去旅游了!
wǒ zuì xǐhuan zuò huǒchē qù lǚyóu le · Travelling by train is my favourite!

chapter 3 dinner and plans

grandma 安娜，来，多吃一点儿饺子！
Ānnà lái duō chī yìdiǎnr jiǎozi · Anna, come on, have some more dumplings!

ms zhang 安娜，你来北京已经一年了吧？
Ānnà nǐ lái Běijīng yǐjīng yì nián le ba · Anna, you've been in Beijing a year now, haven't you?

anna 是啊，我是去年十月来的。时间过得真快！
shì a wǒ shì qùnián shí yuè lái de shíjiān guò de zhēn kuài · Yes, I came last October. Time flies!

dr li 这一年你学了什么？
zhè yì nián nǐ xué le shénme · What have you learned this year?

anna 我会说汉语了，也能看懂很多汉字。明年我想在北京工作。
wǒ huì shuō Hànyǔ le yě néng kàn dǒng hěn duō Hànzì míngnián wǒ xiǎng zài Běijīng gōngzuò · I can speak Chinese now, and I can read lots of characters. Next year I want to work in Beijing.

xiaoming 太好了！那我们就不说再见了！
tài hǎo le nà wǒmen jiù bù shuō zàijiàn le · Brilliant! Then we won't say goodbye!

repeat listen, then say it back

我家有五口人，我有一个妹妹。 **wǒ jiā yǒu wǔ kǒu rén wǒ yǒu yí gè mèimei** There are five people in my family; I have a little sister.

我每天七点起床，八点上班。 **wǒ měi tiān qī diǎn qǐchuáng bā diǎn shàngbān** I get up at seven every day and start work at eight.

我最喜欢吃饺子，非常好吃。 **wǒ zuì xǐhuan chī jiǎozi fēicháng hǎochī** Dumplings are my favourite food: they're delicious.

我经常跟朋友一起去看电影。 **wǒ jīngcháng gēn péngyou yìqǐ qù kàn diànyǐng** I often go to the cinema with friends.

快要考试了，我已经准备好了。 **kuàiyào kǎoshì le wǒ yǐjīng zhǔnbèi hǎo le** The exam is coming soon, and I'm ready.

从我家到火车站要半个小时。 **cóng wǒ jiā dào huǒchēzhàn yào bàn gè xiǎoshí** It takes half an hour from my home to the station.

reply answer out loud

你家有几口人？ nǐ jiā yǒu jǐ kǒu rén How many people are there in your family?
→ 我家有四口人：爸爸、妈妈、哥哥和我。 wǒ jiā yǒu sì kǒu rén bàba māma gēge hé wǒ

你家离这儿远吗？ nǐ jiā lí zhèr yuǎn ma Is your home far from here?
→ 不远，走路十分钟。 bù yuǎn zǒulù shí fēnzhōng

你每天几点起床？ nǐ měi tiān jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng What time do you get up every day?
→ 我每天七点起床。 wǒ měi tiān qī diǎn qǐchuáng

你最喜欢星期几？为什么？ nǐ zuì xǐhuan xīngqī jǐ wèi shénme Which day of the week do you like best? Why?
→ 我最喜欢星期六，因为可以休息。 wǒ zuì xǐhuan xīngqīliù yīnwèi kěyǐ xiūxi

你喜欢喝茶还是喝咖啡？ nǐ xǐhuan hē chá háishi hē kāfēi Do you prefer tea or coffee?
→ 我喜欢喝茶，不喜欢喝咖啡。 wǒ xǐhuan hē chá bù xǐhuan hē kāfēi

你会做饭吗？ nǐ huì zuòfàn ma Can you cook?
→ 会，我会做鱼和面条儿。 huì wǒ huì zuò yú hé miàntiáor
→ 我不太会做饭。 wǒ bú tài huì zuòfàn

你有什么爱好？ nǐ yǒu shénme àihào What are your hobbies?
→ 我的爱好是跑步和听歌。 wǒ de àihào shì pǎobù hé tīng gē

你为什么学汉语？ nǐ wèi shénme xué Hànyǔ Why are you learning Chinese?
→ 因为我喜欢中国，所以我学汉语。 yīnwèi wǒ xǐhuan Zhōngguó suǒyǐ wǒ xué Hànyǔ

今天天气怎么样？ jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng What's the weather like today?
→ 今天有点儿冷，可能要下雨。 jīntiān yǒudiǎnr lěng kěnéng yào xià yǔ

你去过哪儿旅游？ nǐ qù guo nǎr lǚyóu Where have you travelled to?
→ 我去过上海，是坐火车去的。 wǒ qù guo Shànghǎi shì zuò huǒchē qù de

你喜欢在家休息，还是出去玩？为什么？ nǐ xǐhuan zài jiā xiūxi háishi chūqù wán wèi shénme Talk 1 of 2, a 90-second answer (like part 3 of the exam): do you prefer resting at home or going out? Why? Use "+15 s" if you need more time; the second talk comes next.
→ 我喜欢出去玩。因为星期一到星期五我都很忙，所以星期六我想跟朋友一起出去。我们有时去商场买东西，有时去电影院看电影。吃饭的时候，我们说很多有意思的事。但是很累的时候，我就在家休息，看一会儿书，早一点儿睡觉。我觉得出去玩和在家休息都很好。 wǒ xǐhuan chuqu wán yīnwèi xīngqīyī dào xīngqīwǔ wǒ dōu hěn máng suǒyǐ xīngqīliù wǒ xiǎng gēn péngyou yìqǐ chūqù wǒmen yǒushí qù shāngchǎng mǎi dōngxi yǒushí qù diànyǐngyuàn kàn diànyǐng chī fàn de shíhou wǒmen shuō hěn duō yǒu yìsi de shì dànshì hěn lèi de shíhou wǒ jiù zài jiā xiūxi kàn yíhuìr shū zǎo yìdiǎnr shuìjiào wǒ juéde chuqu wán hé zài jiā xiūxi dōu hěn hǎo

talk 90 seconds

Talk 2 of 2: what have you learned this year? What do you want to do next year? Talk for a minute and a half.

这一年你学了什么？明年你想做什么？ zhè yì nián nǐ xué le shénme míngnián nǐ xiǎng zuò shénme

我是……来的 wǒ shì lái de

明年我想……，我希望…… míngnián wǒ xiǎng wǒ xīwàng

model answer

这一年我学了很多东西。 zhè yì nián wǒ xué le hěn duō dōngxi

我是去年十月来北京的，那时候我不会说汉语，就会说“你好”。 wǒ shì qùnián shí yuè lái Běijīng de nà shíhou wǒ bú huì shuō Hànyǔ jiù huì shuō nǐhǎo

现在我会说汉语了，能听懂老师说的，也能看懂很多汉字。 xiànzài wǒ huì shuō Hànyǔ le néng tīng dǒng lǎoshī shuō de yě néng kàn dǒng hěn duō Hànzì

我还认识了很多中国朋友，他们经常帮我。 wǒ hái rènshi le hěn duō Zhōngguó péngyou tāmen jīngcháng bāng wǒ

明年我想在北京找一个工作。 míngnián wǒ xiǎng zài Běijīng zhǎo yí gè gōngzuò

我也希望能跟朋友一起出国旅游。 wǒ yě xīwàng néng gēn péngyou yìqǐ chūguó lǚyóu

I've learned a lot this year. I came to Beijing last October, and back then I couldn't speak Chinese: all I could say was "hello". Now I can speak Chinese: I understand what the teacher says and I can read lots of characters. I've also made lots of Chinese friends, and they often help me. Next year I want to find a job in Beijing. I also hope to travel abroad with friends.

Thirty days of speaking: you can repeat, answer and talk for a minute and a half about your life, in Chinese. The practice exams are next. You're ready.
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