wishyou.today learning

day 1 what are you like?

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 1 · people & character

Describe someone's looks and character, and soften a criticism with 只是 (it's just that).

New boss, new classmates: the first thing everyone asks is "so, what are they like?"

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
藍	lán	blue	他穿著一件藍外套。 He's wearing a blue jacket.
個子	gèzi	height, build	我弟弟的個子很高。 My little brother is very tall.
年齡	niánlíng	age	這個工作沒有年齡的要求。 There's no age requirement for this job.
勇敢	yǒnggǎn	brave	她一個人去歐洲旅行，真勇敢。 She went travelling in Europe on her own: so brave.
難看	nánkàn	ugly, unsightly	這件衣服的顏色很難看。 The colour of this top is awful.
堅持	jiānchí	keep at it; insist	他每天堅持跑步。 He keeps up his running every day.
積極	jījí	positive, proactive	她工作很積極。 She's very proactive at work.
耐心	nàixīn	patience	陳|老師對{=towards}學生很有耐心。 Teacher Chen is very patient with her students.
性格	xìnggé	personality, character	他的性格很好，大家都喜歡他。 He has a lovely personality: everyone likes him.
姑娘	gūniang	girl, young woman	那位姑娘是誰？ Who's that young woman?
各位	gèwèi	everyone (polite)	各位好，我是安娜。 Hello everyone, I'm Anna.
誠實	chéngshí	honest	他是一個很誠實的人。 He's a very honest person.
得意	déyì	pleased with oneself	他考了一百分，很得意。 He got full marks and is very pleased with himself.
驕傲	jiāoào	proud; arrogant	他很聰明，可是有一點驕傲。 He's clever, but a bit arrogant.
後	hòu	after, later	三天後{hou4-tw2}，我們再見面。 We'll meet again in three days.
只是	zhǐshì	it's just that; only	這件衣服不錯，只是有一點貴。 This top is nice; it's just a bit pricey.
之後	zhīhòu	after	下課之後，我們去吃飯吧。 Let's go and eat after class.
還要	háiyào	even (more)	今天比昨天還要熱。 Today is even hotter than yesterday.

pattern 只是 (it's just that) and verb + 出 (come up with)

the good part ，只是 **the small problem**

Say the good thing first, then 只是 + the small problem: it sounds kinder than 可是. 只是 also means "only, just": 我只是問一下. After a verb, 出 means "out, into the open": 想出 (think up), 說出 (say out loud), 看出 (tell, see from the signs).

這個房間不錯，只是有一點小。 **zhè ge fángjiān búcuò zhǐshì yǒuyìdiǎn xiǎo** The room's nice; it's just a bit small.

我不是不想去，只是太累了。 **wǒ bú shì bù xiǎng qù zhǐshì tài lèi le** It's not that I don't want to go: I'm just too tired.

你想出辦法了嗎？ **nǐ xiǎng chū bànfǎ le ma** Have you come up with a plan?

我看出來他有一點緊張。 **wǒ kàn chū lái tā yǒuyìdiǎn jǐnzhāng** I could tell he was a bit nervous.

dialogue the new boss

manager li 各位好，這位是新來的安娜。從今天起，她在我們公司工作三個月。
gèwèi hǎo zhè wèi shì xīn lái de Ānnà cóng jīntiān qǐ tā zài wǒmen gōngsī gōngzuò sān ge yuè · Hello everyone. This is Anna, who's just joined us. From today she'll be working here for three months.

anna 各位好！我的中文還不夠好，不過我會堅持，也很有耐心。
gèwèi hǎo wǒ de zhōngwén hái bú gòu hǎo búguò wǒ huì jiānchí yě hěn yǒu nàixīn · Hello everyone! My Chinese isn't quite good enough yet, but I'll keep at it, and I'm very patient.

manager li 好。在我們這裡，最重要的是誠實。有問題，就馬上說出來。
hǎo zài wǒmen zhèlǐ zuì zhòngyào de shì chéngshí yǒu wèntí jiù mǎshàng shuō chū lái · Good. Here, honesty matters most. If there's a problem, say so straight away.

meiling 第一天怎麼樣？你的經理是什麼樣的人？
dì yī tiān zěnmeyàng nǐ de jīnglǐ shì shénme yàng de rén · So how was day one? What's your boss like?

anna 他個子很高，看不出他的年齡。工作的時候很認真，只是很少笑。
tā gèzi hěn gāo kàn bu chū tā de niánlíng gōngzuò de shíhòu hěn rènzhēn zhǐshì hěn shǎo xiào · He's tall, and you can't tell how old he is. He's very serious at work; it's just that he hardly ever smiles.

meiling 你穿這件藍外套去的嗎？很好看啊！他一定很喜歡你這個勇敢的外國姑娘。
nǐ chuān zhè jiàn lán wàitào qù de ma hěn hǎokàn a tā yídìng hěn xǐhuān nǐ zhè ge yǒnggǎn de wàiguó gūniang · Did you wear that blue jacket? It looks great! I bet he likes you, the brave foreign girl.

anna 才不是！下班之後，我跟同學大衛去吃飯，他說這個顏色很難看。
cái bú shì xiàbān zhīhòu wǒ gēn tóngxué Dàwèi qù chī fàn tā shuō zhè ge yánsè hěn nánkàn · No way! After work I had dinner with my classmate David, and he said this colour is awful.

meiling 大衛？就是那個加拿大男生？他是不是很驕傲？
Dàwèi jiù shì nà ge Jiānádà nánshēng tā shì bu shì hěn jiāoào · David? The Canadian guy? Is he arrogant?

anna 不會，他很誠實，只是有一點得意：他的中文說得比我還要好！
bú huì tā hěn chéngshí zhǐshì yǒuyìdiǎn déyì tā de zhōngwén shuō de bǐ wǒ háiyào hǎo · No, he's just honest. He's a bit pleased with himself, though: his Chinese is even better than mine!

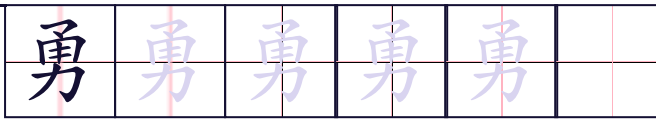
write it trace the grey, then write your own

藍
lán
blue

齡
líng
age (of a person)



勇
yǒng
brave



敢
gǎn
dare



good to know · 只是 is the polite way to criticise in Taiwan: praise first, then 只是 + a small problem. 可是 sounds more like a real objection. 後 and 前 after a time mean “later” and “ago”: 三天後, 兩年前. They are short, written-style forms of 以後 and 以前.

You can now describe anyone’s looks and character, and say “nice, it’s just that…” like a local.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 2 strengths and weaknesses

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 1 · people & character

Talk about strengths and weaknesses, and add a surprise with 卻 (yet) or one more thing with 還 (on top of that).

Job interviews, school reports, friends: everyone asks about your good points and your bad ones.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
黑	hēi	dark; black	外面已經很黑了。 It's already dark outside.
自信	zìxìn	self-confidence	她說中文的時候很有自信。 She speaks Chinese with a lot of confidence.
生	shēng	give birth to; grow	她生了一個兒子。 She had a baby boy.
缺點	quēdiǎn	weakness, flaw	每個人都有缺點。 Everyone has weaknesses.
優點	yōudiǎn	strength, good point	這個房子的優點是離捷運|站{=station}很近。 The good thing about this flat is that it's close to the MRT.
仔細	zǐxì	careful, thorough	請你仔細看一看。 Please take a careful look.
親切	qīnqiè	kind, warm	王|阿姨對{=towards}大家都很親切。 Auntie Wang is kind to everyone.
成熟	chéngshóu	mature; ripe	他才十八歲，可是很成熟。 He's only eighteen, but very mature.
細心	xìxīn	attentive, careful	護士很細心地{de-tw3}照顧病人。 The nurse looks after the patients very attentively.
幽默	yōumò	humorous	李|經理很幽默。 Manager Li is very funny.
優秀	yōuxiù	outstanding	她是一個很優秀的學生。 She's an outstanding student.
本人	běnrén	oneself, in person	他本人比照片好看。 He looks better in person than in photos.
樂觀	lèguān	optimistic	不管發生什麼事，她都很樂觀。 Whatever happens, she stays optimistic.
堅強	jiānqiáng	strong (inside)	他生病以後，變得很堅強。 Since he fell ill he's become very strong.
前	qián	before, ago	兩年前{qian2-tw2}，我第一次來臺灣。 Two years ago I came to Taiwan for the first time.
卻	què	but, yet	他很年輕，卻很成熟。 He's young, yet very mature.
之間	zhījiān	between, among	朋友之間要{=should}誠實。 Friends should be honest with each other.

好了	hǎole	OK, right; that's it	好了，我們開始吧！ Right, let's get started!

pattern 卻 (but, yet) and 還 (on top of that)

fact **, subject +** **卻** **the surprise**

卻 means "but, yet" and stands after the subject (他卻……), never at the start of the clause. 還 adds one more thing on top: 白天上班，晚上還去上課 (by day work, and on top of that classes at night).

他很聰明，卻不太努力。 **tā hěn cōngmíng què bú tài nǔlì** He's clever, yet he doesn't work very hard.

外面很冷，房間裡卻很熱。 **wàimiàn hěn lěng fángjiān lǐ què hěn rè** It's cold outside, but the room is hot.

她白天上班，晚上還要上課。 **tā báitiān shàngbān wǎnshàng hái yào shàngkè** She works by day, and on top of that she has classes in the evening.

他會說英文，還會說一點中文。 **tā huì shuō yīngwén hái huì shuō yìdiǎn zhōngwén** He speaks English, and a bit of Chinese on top of that.

dialogue practising for the interview

meiling 安娜，下個星期我要去一家公司見經理，你幫我練習一下，好嗎？
Ānnà xià ge xīngqí wǒ yào qù yì jiā gōngsī jiàn jīnglǐ nǐ bāng wǒ liànxí yíxià hǎo ma · Anna, next week I'm meeting a manager at a company. Could you help me practise?

anna 好了，我們開始吧。林小姐，請說說你的優點。
hǎole wǒmen kāishǐ ba Lín xiǎojiě qǐng shuō shuo nǐ de yōudiǎn · Right, let's begin. Ms Lin, please tell me about your strengths.

meiling 我很細心，也很樂觀。我白天上課，晚上還在便利商店打工，所以很會照顧客人。
wǒ hěn xìxīn yě hěn lèguān wǒ báitiān shàngkè wǎnshàng hái zài biànlìshāngdiàn dǎgōng suǒyǐ hěn huì zhàogù kèrén · I'm attentive and optimistic. I study by day and on top of that work evenings at a convenience store, so I'm good with customers.

anna 很好。那你的缺點呢？
hěn hǎo nà nǐ de quēdiǎn ne · Very good. And your weaknesses?

meiling 我的缺點是太仔細，一件事要做很久。
wǒ de quēdiǎn shì tài zǐxì yí jiàn shì yào zuò hěn jiǔ · My weakness is that I'm too thorough: one job takes me ages.

anna 這個回答很聰明。你說的是缺點，聽的人卻覺得是優點。
zhè ge huídá hěn cōngmíng nǐ shuō de shì quēdiǎn tīng de rén què juéde shì yōudiǎn · That's a clever answer. You're naming a weakness, but the listener hears a strength.

meiling 本人很優秀，也很堅強！
běnrén hěn yōuxiù yě hěn jiānqiáng · Yours truly is outstanding, and resilient too!

anna 別太得意。你要有自信，也要親切一點，經理才會喜歡你。
bié tài déyì nǐ yào yǒu zìxìn yě yào qīnqiè yìdiǎn jīnglǐ cái huì xǐhuān nǐ · Don't get carried away. Be confident, and a bit warm too: that's how the manager will like you.

meiling 你說得對。兩年前我很怕跟人說話，現在成熟多了。
nǐ shuō de duì liǎng nián qián wǒ hěn pà gēn rén shuōhuà xiànzài chéngshóu duō le · You're right. Two years ago I was scared of talking to people; I'm much more grown-up now.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

難
nán
hard, difficult



持
chí
hold

極
jí
extremely; 極了: so...!



心
xīn
heart, mind

good to know · 卻 always comes after the subject: 他卻不來 (yet he didn't come). At the start of a clause use 可是 or 但是. Interviews in Taiwan often ask 你的優點和缺點是什麼? The classic move is Meiling's: a weakness that sounds like a strength.

You can now sell your strengths, admit a weakness gracefully and add "yet" and "on top of that" to any story.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 3 honest, gentle, a bit fierce

Say what people seem like with V起來 (look, sound, taste…) and generalise with 一般來說.

First impressions are often wrong: being able to say “he looks fierce, but…” is half of every chat about people.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
紅	hóng	red; popular	她的臉紅了。 She blushed.
黃	huáng	yellow	香蕉黃了，可以吃了。 The bananas have gone yellow: they’re ready to eat.
醜	chǒu	ugly	這隻狗很醜，可是很可愛。 This dog is ugly but cute.
個人	gèrén	individual; personal	這是我個人的看法。 This is my personal opinion.
行為	xíngwéi	behaviour	這種行為很沒有禮貌。 That kind of behaviour is very rude.
大方	dàfāng	generous; natural, poised	他很大方，常常請客。 He’s very generous: he’s always treating people.
單純	dānchún	simple, innocent	小孩子的想法很單純。 Children see things very simply.
糊塗	hútú	muddled, scatterbrained	我真糊塗，又忘了帶鑰匙。 I’m such a scatterbrain: I forgot my keys again.
老實	lǎoshí	honest, well-behaved	他很老實，有什麼就說什麼。 He’s very straightforward: he says exactly what he thinks.
謙虛	qiānxū	modest	她很優秀，也很謙虛。 She’s outstanding, and modest too.
溫柔	wēnróu	gentle, tender	她說話很溫柔。 She speaks very gently.
被動	bèidòng	passive	他的性格有一點被動。 He’s a bit passive by nature.
冷淡	lěngdàn	cold, distant	她今天對{=towards}我很冷淡，是不是生氣了？ She’s been cold with me today. Is she cross?
兇	xiōng	fierce	那隻狗很兇。 That dog is fierce.
突然	túrán	suddenly	天突然黑了。 Suddenly it went dark.
之前	zhīqián	before	吃飯之前要{=should}洗手。 Wash your hands before you eat.
一般來說	yībānláishuō	generally speaking	一般來說，臺灣人很親切。 Generally speaking, people in Taiwan are very

			friendly.
天天	tiāntiān	every day	他天天去運動。 He works out every day.

pattern v起來 (it looks, sounds, tastes...) and 一般來說 (generally speaking)

看・聽・吃・聞 **起來** **how it seems**

Verb + 起來 gives your impression: 看起來很貴 (looks expensive), 聽起來不錯 (sounds good), 吃起來很甜 (tastes sweet). Start a general statement with 一般來說, "generally speaking", then add the exception with 可是 or 卻.

一般來說，這種行為很沒有禮貌。 **yìbānláishuō zhè zhǒng xíngwéi hěn méiyǒu lǐmào** Generally speaking, that kind of behaviour is rude.

這個湯喝起來有一點鹹。 **zhè ge tāng hē qǐlai yǒuyìdiǎn xián** This soup tastes a bit salty.

這件紅外套看起來很貴。 **zhè jiàn hóng wàitào kànqǐlái hěn guì** This red jacket looks expensive.

dialogue the scary professor

david 你們的華語老師是什麼樣的人？我們的教授看起來好兇！
nǐmen de huáyǔ lǎoshī shì shénme yàng de rén wǒmen de jiàoshòu kànqǐlái hǎo xiōng · What's your Chinese teacher like? Our professor looks so fierce!

anna 陳老師很溫柔，也很有耐心。你的教授呢？
Chén lǎoshī hěn wēnróu yě hěn yǒu nàixīn nǐ de jiàoshòu ne · Teacher Chen is gentle and very patient. What about your professor?

david 他上課的時候很冷淡，從來不笑。可是他很老實，有什麼就說什麼。
tā shàngkè de shíhòu hěn lěngdàn cónglái bú xiào kěshì tā hěn lǎoshí yǒu shénme jiù shuō shénme · In class he's cold and never smiles. But he's straightforward: he says exactly what he thinks.

zhiming 一般來說，臺灣的教授都很謙虛。看起來兇，人卻很好。
yìbānláishuō Táiwān de jiàoshòu dōu hěn qiānxū kànqǐlái xiōng rén què hěn hǎo · Generally speaking, professors in Taiwan are pretty modest. They look fierce, but they're nice people.

david 真的嗎？上次上課的時候，我突然肚子痛，他很溫柔地說：「你先去休息吧！」
zhēnde ma shàng cì shàngkè de shíhòu wǒ túrán dùzi tòng tā hěn wēnróu de shuō nǐ xiān qù xiūxí ba · Really? Last time in class I suddenly got a stomach ache, and he said gently, "Go and rest first!"

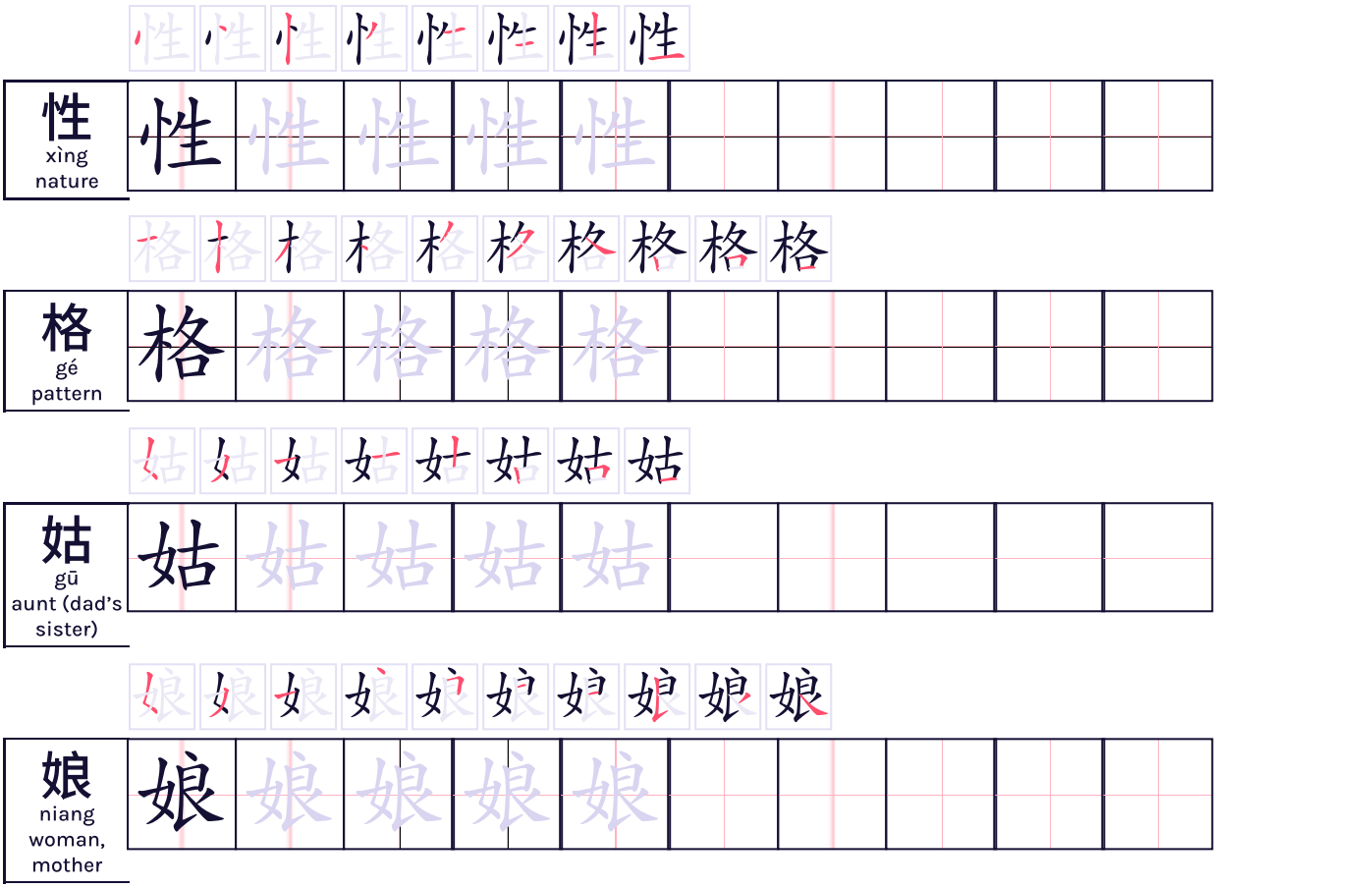
anna 你看，他其實很親切。你的想法太單純了！
nǐ kàn tā qíshí hěn qīnqiè nǐ de xiǎngfǎ tài dānchún le · See, he's actually kind. You see things too simply!

zhiming 我個人覺得，大衛就是太被動了。下次上課之前，你先去找教授聊一聊吧。
wǒ gèrén juéde Dàwèi jiù shì tài bèidòng le xià cì shàngkè zhīqián nǐ xiān qù zhǎo jiàoshòu liáo yi liao ba · Personally, I think David is just too passive. Before the next class, go and have a chat with the professor.

david 好吧。你們看，我的黃帽子看起來醜不醜？
hǎo ba nǐmen kàn wǒ de huáng màozi kànqǐlái chǒu bu chǒu · OK. By the way, look: does my yellow hat look ugly?

zhiming 不醜，只是有一點像香蕉！
bù chǒu zhǐshì yǒuyìdiǎn xiàng xiāngjiāo · Not ugly; it just looks a bit like a banana!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · 起來 works with any sense: 看起來 (looks), 聽起來 (sounds), 吃起來 (tastes), 聞起來 (smells), and even 說起來 (when you put it into words). 兇 is how Taiwan writes "fierce"; the mainland uses 凶. Both are correct, but stick to 兇 here.

You can now give a first impression, generalise politely and point out the surprise behind it.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 4 good kids and sisters

Describe children and family members, and read rules written with 可 (may) and 不可 (must not).

Signs, rules and family gossip: you'll meet 不可 on every notice in Taiwan, and 乖 at every family dinner.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
綠	lǜ	green	春天到了，山都綠了。 Spring is here and the hills have turned green.
姊妹	jiěmèi	sisters	她們兩個是姊妹。 The two of them are sisters.
乖	guāi	good, well-behaved	這個孩子很乖。 This child is very good.
拿手	náshǒu	good at, one's speciality	這道菜是我媽媽的拿手菜。 This dish is my mum's speciality.
懂事	dǒngshì	sensible, grown-up (of a child)	她才十歲，卻很懂事。 She's only ten but very sensible.
體貼	tǐtiē	considerate	他很體貼，常常幫太太做家裡的事。 He's very considerate and often helps his wife with the housework.
孝順	xiàoshùn	devoted to one's parents	他很孝順，每個週末都回家看父母。 He's a devoted son: he goes home to see his parents every weekend.
英俊	yīngjùn	handsome	照片裡的男生很英俊。 The guy in the photo is very handsome.
保守	bǎoshǒu	conservative	我爺爺的想法比較保守。 My grandpa's ideas are rather conservative.
女士	nǚshì	lady, Ms	各位女士、各位先生，歡迎！ Ladies and gentlemen, welcome!
花心	huāxīn	fickle (in love)	他很花心，女朋友換了很多個。 He's a player: he's had lots of girlfriends.
化妝品	huàzhuāngpǐn	cosmetics, make-up	她很少用化妝品。 She rarely wears make-up.
開朗	kāilǎng	cheerful, outgoing	美玲的性格很開朗。 Meiling is very outgoing.
做人	zuòrén	conduct oneself	做人要{=should}誠實。 In life, you should be honest.
終於	zhōngyú	at last, finally	等了一個小時，公車終於來了。 After an hour's wait, the bus finally came.
至少	zhìshǎo	at least	從這裡到機場至少要{=take (time)}一個小時。 It takes at least an hour from here to the airport.
聲	shēng	(measure word for sounds)	他叫{=call out}了我一聲{sheng1-tw2}。 He called out to me.

可	kě	may, can (formal)	這裡不可{ke3-tw2}停車。 No parking here.

pattern 可 (may) and 不可 (must not): the language of rules

place / who | 可 · 不可 | verb

Signs, rules and notices use the short, formal 可 (may) and 不可 (must not). In conversation you still say 可以 and 不可以. Read it the way you read “No parking” or “Each reader may borrow five books”.

各位女士、先生，請注意：車上不可吃東西。 **gèwèi nǚshì xiānshēng qǐng zhùyì chē shàng bù kě chī dōngxi** Ladies and gentlemen, please note: no eating on board.

每人可借五本書。 **měi rén kě jiè wǔ běn shū** Each person may borrow five books.

考試的時候，不可用手機。 **kǎoshì de shíhòu bù kě yòng shǒujī** Phones may not be used during the exam.

dialogue grandma lin’s news

grandma lin 美玲，你叔叔的女兒下個星期要來臺北看大學，想在你們這裡住幾天，可以嗎？
Měilíng nǐ shúshu de nǚér xià ge xīngqí yào lái Táiběi kàn dàxué xiǎng zài nǐmen zhèlǐ zhù jǐ tiān kěyǐ ma · Meiling, your uncle’s daughter is coming to Taipei next week to look at universities. Could she stay with you for a few days?

meiling 當然可以！她現在多高了？我好久沒看到她了。
dāngrán kěyǐ tā xiànzài duō gāo le wǒ hǎo jiǔ méi kàn dào tā le · Of course! How tall is she now? I haven’t seen her for ages.

grandma lin 她已經比你高了！這個孩子很乖，也很懂事，在家常常幫忙。
tā yǐjīng bǐ nǐ gāo le zhè ge háizi hěn guāi yě hěn dǒngshì zài jiā chángcháng bāngmáng · She’s taller than you already! She’s a good girl, very sensible, always helping at home.

anna 她喜歡什麼？我可以帶她去逛夜市。
tā xǐhuān shénme wǒ kěyǐ dài tā qù guàng yèshì · What does she like? I could take her to a night market.

grandma lin 她很開朗，什麼都喜歡。只是她爸爸很保守，說晚上十點以後不可出門。
tā hěn kāilǎng shénme dōu xǐhuān zhǐshì tā bàba hěn bǎoshǒu shuō wǎnshàng shí diǎn yǐhòu bù kě chūmén · She’s cheerful, she likes everything. It’s just that her dad is very conservative: no going out after ten at night.

meiling 奶奶放心，我們很體貼的，一定讓她十點以前回家。
nǎinai fàngxīn wǒmen hěn tǐtiē de yídìng ràng tā shí diǎn yǐqián huí jiā · Don’t worry, Grandma: we’re very considerate. We’ll make sure she’s home before ten.

grandma lin 美玲，你也不小了，至少帶一個男朋友回家給奶奶看一看吧！
Měilíng nǐ yě bù xiǎo le zhìshǎo dài yí ge nán péngyǒu huí jiā gěi nǎinai kàn yi kan ba · Meiling, you’re not a child any more: bring home at least one boyfriend for Grandma to see!

meiling 奶奶！現在的男生都很花心，我還是自己一個人比較好。
nǎinai xiànzài de nánshēng dōu hěn huāxīn wǒ háishì zìjǐ yí ge rén bǐjiào hǎo · Grandma! Boys these days are all players. I’m better off on my own.

grandma lin 不花心的也有啊！你看志明，又英俊又孝順。
bù huāxīn de yě yǒu a nǐ kàn Zhìmíng yòu yīngjùn yòu xiàoshùn · There are faithful ones too! Look at Zhiming: handsome and good to his parents.

meiling 奶奶，他是我的朋友啦！
nǎinai tā shì wǒ de péngyǒu la · Grandma, he’s my friend!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



各
gè
each, every (different)

實
shí
real



意
yì
wish, mind



之
zhī
(written 的)

good to know · 乖 is the praise every Taiwanese child hears: 好乖 (so good). For an older child who understands how things work, say 懂事. 孝順 (devoted to your parents) is one of the warmest things you can say about someone in Taiwan.

You can now read the rules on any sign and join in when the family talks about the kids.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 5 love and marriage

Talk about love, weddings and marriage, say what someone should do with 該, and compare with 跟……比起來.

Weddings, couples and “have you got someone yet?”: love is the favourite topic at every Taiwanese table.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
兒童	értóng	child, children	這本書是給兒童看的。 This book is for children.
愛情	àiqíng	(romantic) love	這是一個愛情故事。 It’s a love story.
家長	jiāzhǎng	parent (of a pupil)	明天學校請家長來開會。 Tomorrow the school has asked parents to come to a meeting.
一生	yīshēng	one’s whole life	他一生都住在臺南。 He lived in Tainan all his life.
老公	lǎogōng	husband (informal)	我老公很會做菜。 My husband is a great cook.
老婆	lǎopó	wife (informal)	他很愛他老婆。 He loves his wife very much.
對象	duìxiàng	partner (to marry); target	你有對象了嗎？ Are you seeing anyone?
婚禮	hūnlǐ	wedding	我們下{=next}個月要去參加婚禮。 We’re going to a wedding next month.
夫婦	fūfù	married couple	林先生夫婦住在我們樓上。 Mr and Mrs Lin live upstairs from us.
戀愛	liànài	be in love, date	他們談了三年戀愛，終於結婚了。 They went out for three years and finally got married.
寶貝	bǎobèi	treasure; darling	寶貝，該睡覺了。 Time for bed, sweetheart.
親	qīn	kiss	媽媽親了一下孩子的臉。 Mum gave the child a kiss on the cheek.
去世	qùshì	pass away	我的外公兩年前{qian2-tw2}去世了。 My grandad passed away two years ago.
互相	hùxiāng	each other	朋友之間要{=should}互相幫助。 Friends should help each other.
曾經	céngjīng	once, at one time	我曾經在日本住過一年。 I once lived in Japan for a year.
全	quán	whole, all	全家人都來了。 The whole family came.
話	huà	words, what someone says	你說的話，我都記得。 I remember everything you said.

該	gāi	should; it's time to	很晚了，我該走了。 It's late, I should go.
比起來	bǐqǐlái	compared with (跟...比起來)	跟臺北比起來，臺南的生活比較慢。 Compared with Taipei, life in Tainan is slower.

pattern 該 (should, it's time to) and 跟……比起來 (compared with)

跟 A 比起來 , B + adjective

該 is a short 應該: 你該休息了 (you should rest). With 了 at the end it means "it's time to": 我該走了. To compare, put the first thing between 跟 and 比起來, then say how the second one is: 跟臺北比起來，臺南比較熱.

你該休息了。 **nǐ gāi xiūxí le** You should get some rest.

跟臺北比起來，鄉下的空氣好多了。 **gēn Táiběi bǐqǐlái xiāngxià de kōngqì hǎo duō le** Compared with Taipei, the air in the countryside is much better.

跟我姊姊比起來，我比較像爸爸。 **gēn wǒ jiějie bǐqǐlái wǒ bǐjiào xiàng bàba** Compared with my sister, I take after Dad more.

dialogue love at the breakfast shop

auntie wang 志明，你也不小了，有對象了沒有？
Zhìmíng nǐ yě bù xiǎo le yǒu duìxiàng le méiyǒu · Zhiming, you're not getting any younger. Have you found someone yet?

zhiming 阿姨，我現在只想工作。找老婆的事，以後再說吧。
āyí wǒ xiànzài zhǐ xiǎng gōngzuò zhǎo lǎopó de shì yǐhòu zài shuō ba · Auntie, right now I only want to work. Finding a wife can wait.

anna 跟工作比起來，愛情更重要啊！
gēn gōngzuò bǐqǐlái àiqíng gèng zhòngyào a · Compared with work, love matters more!

auntie wang 對啊！我跟我老公是在這家店認識的。他天天來店裡吃早點，有一天終於跟我說：「我們結婚吧！」
duì a wǒ gēn wǒ lǎogōng shì zài zhè jiā diàn rènshì de tā tiāntiān lái diàn lǐ chī zǎodiǎn yǒu yì tiān zhōngyú gēn wǒ shuō wǒmen jiéhūn ba · Exactly! My husband and I met in this very shop. He came for breakfast every day, and one day he finally said, "Let's get married!"

zhiming 哇，跟電影一樣！
wā gēn diànyǐng yíyàng · Wow, just like a film!

anna 你們談戀愛談了多久？婚禮在哪裡？
nǐmen tán liànài tán le duō jiǔ hūnlǐ zài nǎlǐ · How long did you go out for? Where was the wedding?

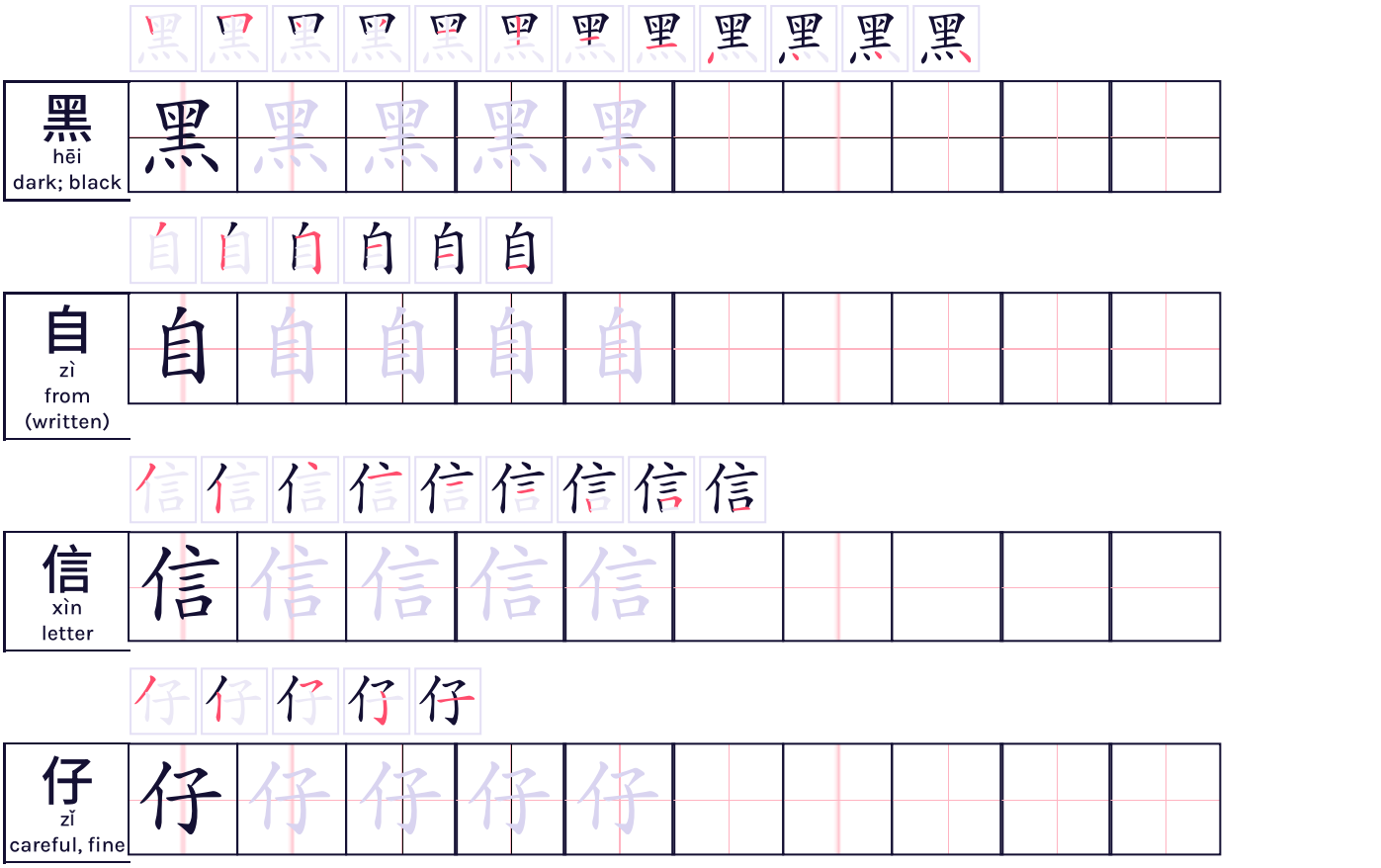
auntie wang 三個月就結婚了！婚禮很簡單，全家人一起在這家店吃飯。
sān ge yuè jiù jiéhūn le hūnlǐ hěn jiǎndān quán jiārén yìqǐ zài zhè jiā diàn chī fàn · We married after three months! The wedding was simple: the whole family ate together right here.

auntie wang 我們曾經說好，一生都在一起。他五年前去世了，可是他說的話，我都記得。
wǒmen céngjīng shuō hǎo yìshēng dōu zài yìqǐ tā wǔ nián qián qùshì le kěshì tā shuō de huà wǒ dōu jìde · We once promised to be together all our lives. He passed away five years ago, but I remember everything he said.

anna 阿姨，你們的愛情真美。
āyí nǐmen de àiqíng zhēn měi · Auntie, your love story is beautiful.

auntie wang 好了，別說我了。志明，你該找對象了！
hǎole bié shuō wǒ le Zhìmíng nǐ gāi zhǎo duìxiàng le · Right, enough about me. Zhiming, it's time you found someone!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · 老公 and 老婆 are the everyday, affectionate words for husband and wife; to be polite about other people's spouses, say 先生 and 太太. 去世 is the gentle way to say someone has died. 死 is fine for plants and animals but sounds blunt about people.

You can now tell a love story, nudge a friend with 該 and compare two lives with 跟……比起來.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 6 grandparents and ancestors

Talk about grandparents, relatives and family history, say what you had to do with 不得不, and compare with A 像 B 一樣.

Old photos and family stories are how Taiwanese families welcome you in: you'll want the words for every relative.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
離婚	líhūn	divorce	他的父母很早就離婚了。 His parents divorced a long time ago.
失戀	shīliàn	be heartbroken (after a break-up)	他失戀了，心情很不好。 He's just been dumped and he's feeling low.
婚姻	hūnyīn	marriage	他們的婚姻很幸福。 They have a very happy marriage.
舅舅	jiùjiu	uncle (mum's brother)	我舅舅是我媽媽的弟弟。 My uncle is my mum's younger brother.
娃娃	wáwa	doll; baby	這個娃娃是我小時候的禮物。 This doll was a present when I was little.
祖父	zǔfù	grandfather (dad's father)	我祖父是在臺南出生的。 My grandfather was born in Tainan.
祖母	zǔmǔ	grandmother (dad's mother)	祖母是爸爸的媽媽，我們平常叫{=call}她奶奶。 Your 祖母 is your dad's mum: we usually call her 奶奶.
外祖父	wàizǔfù	grandfather (mum's father)	外祖父是媽媽的爸爸，我們平常叫{=call}他外公。 Your 外祖父 is your mum's dad: people usually say 外公.
外祖母	wàizǔmǔ	grandmother (mum's mother)	我的外祖母今年九十歲了。 My grandmother is ninety this year.
祖先	zǔxiān	ancestors	林奶奶說，她家的祖先兩百年前{qian2-tw2}就住在臺南了。 Grandma Lin says her family's ancestors were already living in Tainan two hundred years ago.
單身	dānshēn	single	我哥哥三十歲了，還是{==still}單身。 My brother is thirty and still single.
情人	qíngrén	sweetheart, lover	晚上，河邊有很多情人在散步。 In the evening, lots of couples stroll by the river.
舅媽	jiùmā	aunt (mum's brother's wife)	舅媽做的菜很好吃。 My aunt's cooking is delicious.
仍然	réngrán	still	已經十點了，他仍然在工作。 It's already ten and he's still working.
其次	qícì	next, secondly	找工作，最重要的是興趣，其次是錢。 When you look for a job, interest matters most; money comes second.

白白	báibái	for nothing, in vain	他沒來，我白白等了一個小時。 He didn't come: I waited an hour for nothing.
不得不	bùdébù	have no choice but to	下{xia4-tw}大雨了，我們不得不回家。 It started pouring, so we had to go home.

pattern 不得不 (have no choice but to) and a 像 b 一樣 (as ... as)

A **像** **B** **一樣** **(adjective)**

不得不 + verb is "have no choice but to", stronger than 得 (děi) or 要: 我不得不走路回家. A 像 B 一樣 + adjective says A is as ... as B: 他像他爸爸一樣高. Without the adjective it simply means "like": 像小孩子一樣.

公車不來，我不得不走路回家。 **gōngchē bù lái wǒ bùdébù zǒulù huí jiā** The bus didn't come, so I had to walk home.

他像小孩子一樣，什麼都想試。 **tā xiàng xiǎoháizi yíyàng shénme dōu xiǎng shì** He's like a child: he wants to try everything.

他們像情人一樣，天天一起散步。 **tāmen xiàng qíngrén yíyàng tiāntiān yìqǐ sànbù** Like sweethearts, they go for a walk together every day.

dialogue the family album

anna 美玲，這張舊照片上的人是誰？
Měilíng zhè zhāng jiù zhàopiàn shàng de rén shì shéi · Meiling, who are the people in this old photo?

meiling 這是我的祖父和祖母。我外祖父和外祖母住在高雄。
zhè shì wǒ de zǔfù hé zǔmǔ wǒ wàizǔfù hé wàizǔmǔ zhù zài Gāoxióng · These are my grandparents on my dad's side. My mum's parents live in Kaohsiung.

grandma lin 美玲，你又拿我的照片給人看了！
Měilíng nǐ yòu ná wǒ de zhàopiàn gěi rén kàn le · Meiling, you're showing people my photos again!

anna 奶奶好！您年輕的時候像娃娃一樣可愛！
nǎinai hǎo nín niánqīng de shíhòu xiàng wáwa yíyàng kěài · Hello Grandma! You were as pretty as a doll when you were young!

grandma lin 哪裡！那時候日子很辛苦，我十五歲就不得不去工作了。
nǎlǐ nà shíhòu rìzi hěn xīnkǔ wǒ shíwǔ suì jiù bùdébú qù gōngzuò le · Oh, go on! Life was hard back then: I had to start work at fifteen.

meiling 奶奶，那您跟爺爺是怎麼認識的？
nǎinai nà nín gēn yéye shì zěnme rènshi de · Grandma, so how did you and Grandpa meet?

grandma lin 我們是鄰居，兩家的祖先都在臺南住了兩百年。以前的人很保守，婚姻都是父母決定的。
wǒmen shì línjū liǎng jiā de zǔxiān dōu zài Táinán zhù le liǎngbǎi nián yǐqián de rén hěn bǎoshǒu hūnyīn dōu shì fùmǔ juédìng de · We were neighbours: both families had lived in Tainan for two hundred years. People were conservative then, and parents decided who you married.

anna 跟以前比起來，現在很不一樣。很多人三十歲了，仍然單身，離婚的人也比較多。
gēn yǐqián bǐqǐlái xiànzài hěn bù yíyàng hěn duō rén sānshí suì le réngrán dānshēn líhūn de rén yě bǐjiào duō · It's very different now. Lots of people are still single at thirty, and more people divorce.

grandma lin 沒關係，結婚不是最重要的。第一是健康，其次是快樂。
méiguānxi jiéhūn bú shì zuì zhòngyào de dì yī shì jiànkāng qícì shì kuàilè · Never mind: marriage isn't what matters most. First comes health, and then happiness.

meiling 奶奶說得對！
nǎinai shuō de duì · Grandma's right!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

細
xì
thin, fine, slender

親
qīn
kiss



切
qiē
cut, slice



成 chéng become; into	成	成	成	成	成					

good to know · 祖父, 祖母, 外祖父 and 外祖母 are for forms and introductions; at home you say 爺爺, 奶奶, 外公 and 外婆. Mum's side and dad's side have different words: 舅舅 is mum's brother, 叔叔 and 伯伯 are dad's brothers. 外 (outside) marks mum's side.

You can now walk through a family album, name every relative and tell the old stories with feeling.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 7 mission: meiling's cousin comes to stay

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 1 · people & character

Follow a whole weekend story about people and family, and read a visitor notice with 可 and 不可.

Describing people is half of real conversation: today all of unit 1 comes back in one story.

chapter 1 here she comes

meiling 火車到了！你看，那個個子很高、穿藍外套的姑娘，就是我叔叔的女兒。
huǒchē dào le nǐ kàn nà ge gèzi hěn gāo chuān lán wàitào de gūniang jiù shì wǒ shúshu de nǚér · The train's in! Look, that tall girl in the blue jacket: that's my uncle's daughter.

anna 她看起來很成熟，跟照片裡不一樣！她今年幾歲？
tā kànqǐlái hěn chéngshóu gēn zhàopiàn lǐ bù yíyàng tā jīnnián jǐ suì · She looks so grown-up, not like in the photos! How old is she?

meiling 十七歲。兩年前她還是一個小孩子，現在卻比我高了。
shíqī suì liǎng nián qián tā háishì yí ge xiǎoháizi xiànzài què bǐ wǒ gāo le · Seventeen. Two years ago she was still a little kid, and now she's taller than me.

anna 她一個人從臺南坐了四個小時的火車？真勇敢！
tā yí ge rén cóng Táinán zuò le sì ge xiǎoshí de huǒchē zhēn yǒnggǎn · She came four hours on the train from Tainan on her own? So brave!

meiling 她小時候就很懂事，也很乖，只是有一點糊塗。你看，她又忘了帶傘。
tā xiǎo shíhòu jiù hěn dǒngshì yě hěn guāi zhǐshì yǒuyìdiǎn hútú nǐ kàn tā yòu wàng le dài sǎn · She's always been sensible and good; she's just a bit scatterbrained. Look, she's forgotten her umbrella again.

anna 沒關係，我帶了兩把傘。外面突然下大雨了，我們快回家吧。
méiguānxi wǒ dài le liǎng bǎ sǎn wàimiàn túrán xià dà yǔ le wǒmen kuài huí jiā ba · No problem, I brought two umbrellas. It's suddenly pouring out there: let's get home.

anna 她上火車之前，你叔叔一定很擔心吧？
tā shàng huǒchē zhīqián nǐ shúshu yídìng hěn dānxīn ba · Before she got on the train, your uncle must have been worried sick?

meiling 對，他很保守，至少打了三次電話。兩天後她回臺南，他才會放心。
duì tā hěn bǎoshǒu zhìshǎo dǎ le sān cì diànhuà liǎng tiān hòu tā huí Táinán tā cái huì fàngxīn · Yes, he's very conservative: he's called at least three times. He won't relax until she's back in Tainan in two days.

chapter 2 auntie wang approves

auntie wang 美玲，這位漂亮的姑娘是誰？
Měilíng zhè wèi piàoliàng de gūniang shì shéi · Meiling, who's this pretty young lady?

meiling 她是我叔叔的女兒，來臺北看大學。她說您做的包子像她奶奶做的一樣好吃！
tā shì wǒ shúshu de nǚér lái Táiběi kàn dàxué tā shuō nín zuò de bāozi xiàng tā nǎinai zuò de yíyàng hǎochī · She's my uncle's daughter, here to look at universities. She says your buns are as good as her grandma's!

auntie wang 哪裡！跟林奶奶的拿手菜比起來，我的包子差多了。
nǎlǐ gēn Línnǎinai de náshǒu cài bǐqǐlái wǒ de bāozi chà duō le · Oh, go on! Compared with Grandma Lin's cooking, my buns are nothing.

anna 阿姨，您太謙虛了。
āyí nín tài qiānxū le · Auntie, you're too modest.

auntie wang 她想學什麼？一般來說，你們林家的孩子都很優秀。
tā xiǎng xué shénme yìbānláishuō nǐmen Lín jiā de háizi dōu hěn yōuxiù · What does she want to study? Generally speaking, you Lin kids are all outstanding.

meiling 她想學兒童教育。她很有耐心，也很溫柔，週末還幫鄰居照顧小孩子。
tā xiǎng xué értóng jiàoyù tā hěn yǒu nàixīn yě hěn wēnróu zhōumò hái bāng línjū zhàogù xiǎoháizi · She wants to study early-childhood education. She's patient and gentle, and at weekends she looks after the neighbours' little ones too.

auntie wang 好！做人就是要這樣，又細心又親切。
hǎo zuòrén jiù shì yào zhèyàng yòu xìxīn yòu qīnqiè · Good! That's how to be: attentive and kind.

auntie wang 姑娘，在大學裡談戀愛可以，可是要找一個不花心的，像我老公一樣。
gūniang zài dàxué lǐ tán liànài kěyǐ kěshì yào zhǎo yí ge bù huāxīn de xiàng wǒ lǎogōng yíyàng · Young lady, falling in love at university is fine, but find one who isn't a player: like my husband was.

zhiming 早！哇，今天店裡好熱鬧。
zǎo wā jīntiān diàn lǐ hǎo rènao · Morning! Wow, the shop's busy today.

auntie wang 志明來了！姑娘，他是單身的，人很好，只是有一點被動。
Zhìmíng lái le gūniang tā shì dānshēn de rén hěn hǎo zhǐshì yǒuyìdiǎn bèidòng · Here's Zhiming! Young lady, he's single, and a nice boy; just a little passive.

zhiming 阿姨！我是來吃早點的，不是來找對象的！
āyí wǒ shì lái chī zǎodiǎn de bú shì lái zhǎo duìxiàng de · Auntie! I came for breakfast, not to find a girlfriend!

chapter 3 the visitor notice

david 各位好！歡迎來我們學校。我是安娜的同學大衛，從加拿大來的。

gèwèi hǎo huānyíng lái wǒmen xuéxiào wǒ shì Ānnà de tóngxué Dàwèi cóng Jiānádà lái de · Hello everyone! Welcome to our university. I'm Anna's classmate David, from Canada.

meiling 你的中文說得真好！你本人比安娜說的還要幽默。

nǐ de zhōngwén shuō de zhēn hǎo nǐ běnrén bǐ Ānnà shuō de háiyào yōumò · Your Chinese is great! In person you're even funnier than Anna said.

david 哪裡。你們看，大門口寫著參觀要注意的事。

nǎlǐ nǐmen kàn dà ménkǒu xiě zhe cānguān yào zhùyì de shì · Not at all. Look, the main gate has the rules for visitors.

anna 我念給你們聽：「各位女士、先生，各位同學：歡迎來我們學校參觀。參觀時間是上午九點到下午五點。圖書館裡不可吃東西，也不可打電話。教室裡不可拍照。十二歲以下的兒童要跟家長一起。每人可拿一本學校的介紹。有問題，請問穿紅衣服的同學。」

wǒ niàn gěi nǐmen tīng gèwèi nǚshì xiānshēng gèwèi tóngxué huānyíng lái wǒmen xuéxiào cānguān cānguān shíjiān shì shàngwǔ jiǔ diǎn dào xiàwǔ wǔ diǎn túshūguǎn lǐ bù kě chī dōngxi yě bù kě dǎdiànhuà jiàoshì lǐ bù kě pāizhào shíèr suì yǐxià de értóng yào gēn jiāzhǎng yìqǐ měi rén kě ná yì běn xuéxiào de jièshào yǒu wèntí qǐngwèn chuān hóng yīfú de tóngxué · I'll read it to you: "Ladies and gentlemen, dear students, welcome to our university. Visiting hours are 9 am to 5 pm. No eating or phone calls in the library. No photos in the classrooms. Children under twelve must stay with a parent. Each visitor may take one university guide. If you have a question, please ask a student in red."

david 一般來說，週末來參觀的人不多，今天卻有這麼多人！

yìbānláishuō zhōumò lái cānguān de rén bù duō jīntiān què yǒu zhème duō rén · Generally there aren't many visitors at weekends, but today there are loads!

meiling 大衛，你看起來對這裡很熟。

Dàwèi nǐ kànqǐlái duì zhèlǐ hěn shóu · David, you seem to know this place well.

david 我天天在這裡上課，晚上還在圖書館念書，比宿舍還要熟！

wǒ tiāntiān zài zhèlǐ shàngkè wǎnshàng hái zài túshūguǎn niànshū bǐ sùshè háiyào shóu · I have classes here every day and study in the library in the evenings too: I know it better than my dorm!

meiling 你覺得這個學校有什麼優點和缺點？

nǐ juéde zhè ge xuéxiào yǒu shénme yōudiǎn hé quēdiǎn · What do you think are the good and bad points of this university?

david 優點是老師都很親切，缺點是宿舍離教室太遠。我個人覺得，這裡的學生都很仔細，也很有禮貌。

yōudiǎn shì lǎoshī dōu hěn qīnqiè quēdiǎn shì sùshè lí jiàoshì tài yuǎn wǒ gèrén juéde zhèlǐ de xuéshēng dōu hěn zǐxì yě hěn yǒu lǐmào · The good point is that the teachers are all kind; the bad point is that the dorms are too far from the classrooms. Personally, I find the students here very careful and polite.

chapter 4 before ten o'clock

zhiming 夜市到了！大家想吃什麼？今天我請客，大方一次！
yèshì dào le dàjiā xiǎng chī shénme jīntiān wǒ qǐngkè dàfāng yí cì · Here's the night market! What does everyone want? It's on me tonight: I'm feeling generous!

anna 美玲，你看，那家店的化妝品好便宜，紅的、綠的、黃的都有！
Měilíng nǐ kàn nà jiā diàn de huàzhuāngpǐn hǎo piányí hóng de lǜ de huáng de dōu yǒu · Meiling, look, the make-up in that shop is so cheap: red, green, yellow, they've got everything!

meiling 你別買了。上次你花了一大筆錢，回家以後白白放在櫃子裡，一次都沒用。
nǐ bié mǎi le shàng cì nǐ huā le yí dà bǐ qián huí jiā yǐhòu báibái fàng zài guìzi lǐ yí cì dōu méi yòng · Don't. Last time you spent a fortune, and then it just sat in the cupboard: you never used it once.

anna 好吧，你說得對。那我們來比一比，誰吃得多！
hǎo ba nǐ shuō de duì nà wǒmen lái bǐ yì bǐ shéi chī de duō · Fine, you're right. Then let's see who can eat the most!

anna 你們看，那家店有很多娃娃！這個娃娃好醜，可是很可愛。
nǐmen kàn nà jiā diàn yǒu hěn duō wáwa zhè ge wáwa hǎo chǒu kěshì hěn kěài · Look, that stall has loads of dolls! This one is so ugly, but so cute.

zhiming 你看那個老闆，看起來好兇。
nǐ kàn nà ge lǎobǎn kànqǐlái hǎo xiōng · Look at that stallholder: he looks so fierce.

meiling 他不兇，只是有一點冷淡。你們看，這裡到處都是情人！
tā bù xiōng zhǐshì yǒuyìdiǎn lěngdàn nǐmen kàn zhèlǐ dàochù dōu shì qíngrén · He's not fierce, just a bit cold. Hey, look: there are couples everywhere here!

meiling 你們兩個像小孩子一樣！
nǐmen liǎng ge xiàng xiǎoháizi yíyàng · You two are like children!

zhiming 已經九點半了！她十點以前不得不回家，我們該走了。
yǐjīng jiǔ diǎn bàn le tā shí diǎn yǐqián bùdébù huí jiā wǒmen gāi zǒu le · It's half past nine already! She has to be home before ten: we should go.

anna 時間過得好快。我覺得她跟美玲像姊妹一樣，性格都很開朗。
shíjiān guò de hǎo kuài wǒ juéde tā gēn Měilíng xiàng jiěmèi yíyàng xìnggé dōu hěn kāilǎng · Time flies. I think she and Meiling are like sisters: they're both so outgoing.

chapter 5 the cousin's plan

grandma lin 美玲，她這兩天在臺北玩得開心嗎？
Měilíng tā zhè liǎng tiān zài Táiběi wán de kāixīn ma · Meiling, did she have fun in Taipei these two days?

meiling 很開心！奶奶，她想出了一個好辦法：明年來臺北念大學，就住在我們這裡。
hěn kāixīn nǎinai tā xiǎng chū le yí ge hǎo bànfǎ míngnián lái Táiběi niàn dàxué jiù zhù zài wǒmen zhèlǐ · Loads! Grandma, she's come up with a plan: to study in Taipei next year and live with us.

grandma lin 她爸爸那麼保守，會同意嗎？
tā bàba nàme bǎoshǒu huì tóngyì ma · Her dad is so conservative: will he agree?

meiling 她說她會堅持。她很積極，也很有自信。
tā shuō tā huì jiānchí tā hěn jījí yě hěn yǒu zìxìn · She says she'll stick to it. She's determined, and very confident.

grandma lin 這個孩子真孝順，也很誠實。她還說，跟以前比起來，你成熟多了。
zhè ge háizi zhēn xiàoshùn yě hěn chéngshí tā hái shuō gēn yǐqián bǐqǐlái nǐ chéngshóu duō le · That child is so good to her family, and honest too. She also said you're much more grown-up than before.

grandma lin 她爸爸是我的小兒子。他小時候就很老實，也很單純，只是想法太保守了。
tā bàba shì wǒ de xiǎo érzi tā xiǎo shíhòu jiù hěn lǎoshí yě hěn dānchún zhǐshì xiǎngfǎ tài bǎoshǒu le · Her dad is my youngest son. He's always been honest and simple; it's just that his ideas are too conservative.

meiling 奶奶，您跟爺爺的婚姻那麼幸福，一生都在一起。
nǎinai nín gēn yéye de hūnyīn nàme xìngfú yìshēng dōu zài yìqǐ · Grandma, you and Grandpa had such a happy marriage: together all your lives.

grandma lin 對啊。我們的婚禮很簡單，愛情卻很深。你爺爺去世以前說的話，我都記得：家人之間要互相幫助。
duì a wǒmen de hūnlǐ hěn jiǎndān àiqíng què hěn shēn nǐ yéye qùshì yǐqián shuō de huà wǒ dōu jìde jiārén zhījiān yào hùxiāng bāngzhù · Yes. Our wedding was simple, but our love was deep. I remember what your grandpa said before he passed away: family should help each other.

anna 奶奶，您真樂觀，也很堅強。
nǎinai nín zhēn lèguān yě hěn jiānqiáng · Grandma, you're so positive, and so strong.

grandma lin 我們林家的祖先在臺南住了兩百年。現在孩子們都去臺北了，我很驕傲！
wǒmen Lín jiā de zǔxiān zài Táinán zhù le liǎngbǎi nián xiànzài háizimen dōu qù Táiběi le wǒ hěn jiāoào · Our Lin ancestors lived in Tainan for two hundred years. Now the kids are all off to Taipei, and I'm so proud!

grandma lin 好了，我該去做飯了。下次你們兩個一起回臺南，奶奶做三杯雞給你們吃。
hǎole wǒ gāi qù zuò fàn le xià cì nǐmen liǎng ge yìqǐ huí Táinán nǎinai zuò sān bēi jī gěi nǐmen chī · Right, I must go and cook. Next time you two come to Tainan together, Grandma will make you three-cup chicken.

anna 太好了！奶奶的三杯雞是全臺南最好吃的！
tài hǎo le nǎinai de sān bēi jī shì quán Táinán zuì hǎochī de · Wonderful! Grandma's three-cup chicken is the best in all of Tainan!

chapter 6 my weekend in taipei

meiling 我回到臺南了。這個週末，我在臺北玩得很開心。

wǒ huí dào Táinán le zhè ge zhōumò wǒ zài Táiběi wán de hěn kāixīn · I'm back in Tainan. I had a great time in Taipei this weekend.

meiling 美玲姊姊很親切，安娜很幽默，志明有一點被動，可是人很好。

Měilíng jiějie hěn qīnqiè Ānnà hěn yōumò Zhìmíng yǒuyìdiǎn bèidòng kěshì rén hěn hǎo · Cousin Meiling is so kind, Anna is funny, and Zhiming is a little passive but a really nice guy.

meiling 王阿姨做的包子好吃極了，夜市也很熱鬧。我買了很多東西，花了很多錢。

Wángāyí zuò de bāozi hǎochī jí le yèshì yě hěn rènao wǒ mǎi le hěn duō dōngxi huā le hěn duō qián · Auntie Wang's buns were amazingly good, and the night market was so lively. I bought loads of things and spent a lot of money.

meiling 我爸爸很保守，可是我會堅持。明年，我一定要來臺北念大學！

wǒ bàba hěn bǎoshǒu kěshì wǒ huì jiānchí míngnián wǒ yídìng yào lái Táiběi niàn dàxué · My dad is very conservative, but I'll stick to it. Next year, I'm definitely coming to Taipei to go to university!

meiling 回家的路上，我想了很多。我要努力念書，讓爸爸放心。

huí jiā de lù shàng wǒ xiǎng le hěn duō wǒ yào nǔlì niànshū ràng bàba fàngxīn · On the way home I thought a lot. I'll study hard and set my dad's mind at rest.

You followed a whole weekend of people, families and plans in Chinese: unit 1 is done!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**