wishyou.today learning

day 62 on stage

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 10 · arts & traditions

Talk about a show, its actors and its audience, and plan for what might go wrong with 萬一.

Concerts, plays and book talks are some of the best evenings out in Taipei, and 萬一 helps you plan for anything.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
表演	biǎoyǎn	perform; performance	今天晚上的表演八點開始。 Tonight's performance starts at eight.
觀眾	guānzhòng	audience, viewers	表演結束的時候，觀眾都站起來了。 When the show ended, the whole audience stood up.
鋼琴	gāngqín	piano	她從小就學鋼琴。 She's learned the piano since she was little.
演員	yǎnyuán	actor, actress	這位演員演得非常好。 This actor is excellent.
藝術	yìshù	art, the arts	我對藝術很有興趣。 I'm very interested in art.
內容	nèiróng	content	這本書的內容很有意思。 The content of this book is really interesting.
小說	xiǎoshuō	novel, fiction	我最近在看一本日本小說。 I'm reading a Japanese novel at the moment.
作者	zuòzhě	author, writer	這本小說的作者是臺灣人。 The author of this novel is Taiwanese.
演出	yǎnchū	perform, put on a show	他們下個月要到臺中演出。 They're performing in Taichung next month.
讀者	dúzhě	reader	這位作者有很多年輕的讀者。 This author has lots of young readers.
聽眾	tīngzhòng	listeners, audience	各位聽眾，晚安！ Good evening, listeners!
演	yǎn	act, play (a role)	你在這部電影裡演誰？ Who do you play in this film?
作品	zuòpǐn	work (of art), piece	這是他最有名的作品。 This is his most famous work.
萬一	wànyī	in case, what if	萬一下雨，我們就在家看電影。 If it happens to rain, we'll stay in and watch a film.
親眼	qīnyǎn	with your own eyes	我想親眼看他的表演。 I want to see his performance with my own eyes.
早日	zǎorì	soon, at an early date	祝你早日完成你的作品！ I hope you finish your work soon!
輩子	bèizi	lifetime	我這輩子沒看過這麼好的表演。 I've never seen such a good show in my life.

多多少少	duōduoshǎoshǎo	more or less, to some degree	學中文的人，多多少少都聽過這首歌。 Anyone learning Chinese has heard this song, more or less.

pattern 萬一: in case, what if

萬一 | something unlikely happens | (就) | what to do

萬一 (literally “one in ten thousand”) introduces something unlikely, and usually unwanted: 萬一下雨 (in case it rains). Then say what you’ll do, often with 就. A question can follow too: 萬一他不來呢？ (What if he doesn’t come?)

帶一把傘吧，萬一下雨呢？ **dài yì bǎ sǎn ba wànyī xiàyǔ ne** Take an umbrella: what if it rains?

萬一遲到了，就不能進去了。 **wànyī chídào le jiù bù néng jìn qù le** If we’re late, they won’t let us in.

萬一票賣完了，我們怎麼辦？ **wànyī piào mài wán le wǒmen zěnmebàn** What do we do if the tickets sell out?

dialogue a night at the theatre

david 安娜，我買到兩張票了！今天晚上要演的是一本有名的小說。
Ānnà wǒ mǎi dào liǎng zhāng piào le jīntiān wǎnshàng yào yǎn de shì yì běn yǒumíng de xiǎoshuō · Anna, I got two tickets! Tonight they’re putting on a famous novel.

anna 太好了！那本小說我看過，內容很有意思。聽說作者也會來？
tài hǎo le nà běn xiǎoshuō wǒ kàn guo nèiróng hěn yǒuyìsi tīngshuō zuòzhě yě huì lái · Brilliant! I’ve read that novel: it’s really interesting. I heard the author’s coming too?

david 對，演出以後，作者會跟觀眾見面。由於是最後一場，因此票都賣完了。
duì yǎnchū yǐhòu zuòzhě huì gēn guānzhòng jiànmiàn yóuyú shì zuìhòu yì chǎng yīncǐ piào dōu mài wán le · Yes, after the show the author meets the audience. It’s the last night, so it’s sold out.

anna 我好想見這位作者！他常常在網上發表文章，我每篇都看。那我們早點出發吧。萬一遲到了，就不能進去了。
wǒ hǎo xiǎng jiàn zhè wèi zuòzhě tā chángcháng zài wǎng shàng fābiǎo wénzhāng wǒ měi piān dōu kàn nà wǒmen zǎodiǎn chūfā ba wànyī chídào le jiù bù néng jìn qù le · I’d love to meet this author! He often publishes pieces online, and I read every one. So let’s leave early: if we’re late, they won’t let us in.

anna 你看那位演員，一會兒演爺爺，一會兒演孩子，真厲害！
nǐ kàn nà wèi yǎnyuán yìhuǐr yǎn yéye yìhuǐr yǎn háizi zhēn lìhài · Look at that actor: one minute he’s a grandpa, the next a child. Amazing!

david 他都七十歲了，還天天練習。他說他要演一輩子。
tā dōu qīshí suì le hái tiāntiān liànxí tā shuō tā yào yǎn yí bèizi · He’s seventy already and still practises every day. He says he’ll act his whole life.

anna 鋼琴的聲音也好美。你看，觀眾都站起來了！
gāngqín de shēngyīn yě hǎo měi nǐ kàn guānzhòng dōu zhàn qǐlai le · The piano sounds beautiful too. Look, the whole audience is standing up!

david 這就是藝術。我很高興能親眼看到這場表演。
zhè jiù shì yìshù wǒ hěn gāoxìng néng qīnyǎn kàn dào zhè chǎng biǎoyǎn · That’s art for you. I’m so glad I got to see this show with my own eyes.

anna 我早晚也要寫一本小說，然後出版！
wǒ zǎowǎn yě yào xiě yì běn xiǎoshuō ránhòu chūbǎn · One day I’m going to write a novel too, and get it published!

david 祝你早日完成你的作品！我當你的第一個讀者。
zhù nǐ zǎorì wánchéng nǐ de zuòpǐn wǒ dāng nǐ de dì yī ge dúzhě · Here’s to finishing it soon! I’ll be your first reader.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



假
jià
holiday, time off

裝
zhuāng
put in, pack, fill



改
gǎi
change, correct

將
jiāng
will (written); = 把 (written)

good to know · 萬一 is for unlikely things, usually bad ones. For a plain “if”, use 如果 or 要是. 觀眾 watch (a play, TV, a match); 聽眾 listen (radio, a talk); 讀者 read.

Book the tickets, read the novel first, and plan for every “what if”: your evening out is ready.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 63 films and books

Talk about films, books and plays, say who you borrow from or apologise to with 向, and make allowances with 畢竟.

Arguing about a film over coffee is one of the best ways to make friends, and to practise your Chinese.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
主題	zhǔtí	theme, subject	這部電影的主題是家庭。 The film's theme is family.
導演	dǎoyǎn	director (film, play)	這位導演拍了很多有名的電影。 This director has made lots of famous films.
影片	yǐngpiàn	film, video (clip)	我在網路上看了一段很好笑的影片。 I watched a really funny video online.
博物館	bówùguǎn	museum	這個週末我們去博物館吧。 Let's go to the museum this weekend.
欣賞	xīnshǎng	enjoy, appreciate (art, views)	我們坐在這裡欣賞風景吧。 Let's sit here and enjoy the view.
角色	juésè	role, character (in a story)	這個角色很難演。 This role is hard to play.
明星	míngxīng	star, celebrity	他是很有名的電影明星。 He's a very famous film star.
文學	wénxué	literature	她在大學念英國文學。 She studies English literature at university.
歌曲	gēqǔ	song, piece of music	這個節目只播臺灣的歌曲。 This programme only plays Taiwanese songs.
戲	xì	play, show, drama	昨天的戲很好看。 Yesterday's play was really good.
戲劇	xìjù	drama, theatre	我對戲劇很有興趣。 I'm really interested in theatre.
劇本	jùběn	script, screenplay	演員們都在看新的劇本。 The actors are all reading the new script.
風格	fēnggé	style	我很喜歡這位導演的風格。 I really like this director's style.
畢竟	bìjìng	after all	別生他的氣，他畢竟|還是{==still}個孩子。 Don't be cross with him: he's only a child, after all.
堂	táng	(measure word for lessons); hall	我今天有三堂課。 I have three classes today.
知	zhī	know (in set phrases)	這件事你知我知，別告訴別人。 This stays between you and me: don't tell anyone.
不少	bùshǎo	quite a few, a lot	不少人來看這部電影。 Quite a lot of people came to see this film.

公克	gōngkè	gram	這種茶一百公克三百塊。 This tea is three hundred dollars for a hundred grams.

pattern 向 + someone + verb (to, from) and 畢竟 (after all)

向 | someone | 借 / 學習 / 道歉 / 說明...

向 + a person + verb shows who the action is aimed at: 向他道歉 (apologise to him), 向你學習 (learn from you), 向朋友借錢 (borrow from a friend). It is a little more formal than 跟. 畢竟 (after all) gives the fact that explains or excuses something: 他畢竟還小 (he's still young, after all).

我想向你學習。 **wǒ xiǎng xiàng nǐ xuéxí** I'd like to learn from you.

導演向觀眾說明了這部戲的主題。 **dǎoyǎn xiàng guānzhòng shuōmíng le zhè bù xì de zhǔtí** The director explained the play's theme to the audience.

畢竟是第一部電影，已經很不錯了。 **bìjìng shì dì yī bù diànyǐng yǐjīng hěn búcuò le** It's a first film, after all: it's already pretty good.

dialogue a film to argue about

david 昨天那部電影，你看了嗎？我覺得導演的風格太奇怪了。
zuótiān nà bù diànyǐng nǐ kàn le ma wǒ juéde dǎoyǎn de fēnggé tài qíguài le · Did you see that film yesterday? I thought the director's style was really odd.

anna 我倒很欣賞這位導演。畢竟是他的第一部電影，已經很不錯了。
wǒ dào hěn xīnshǎng zhè wèi dǎoyǎn bìjìng shì tā de dì yī bù diànyǐng yǐjīng hěn búcuò le · Actually, I really like this director. It's his first film, after all: it's already pretty good.

david 可是主題不清楚，內容也很誇張，那位明星演的角色也很無聊。
kěshì zhǔtí bù qīngchǔ nèiróng yě hěn kuāzhāng nà wèi míngxīng yǎn de juésè yě hěn wúliáo · But the theme isn't clear, the story is over the top, and the star's character is boring.

anna 你一說起電影，就停不下來！
nǐ yì shuō qǐ diànyǐng jiù tíng bu xialai · Once you start on films, you can't stop!

david 我大學念的是文學和戲劇嘛！就是你不同意，我也要說！
wǒ dàxué niàn de shì wénxué hé xìjù ma jiùshì nǐ bù tóngyì wǒ yě yào shuō · I studied literature and theatre at university! Even if you don't agree, I'm going to say it!

anna 好，好，你說吧，我當你的聽眾。不過，這部電影以一首老歌曲開始，我很喜歡。
hǎo hǎo nǐ shuō ba wǒ dāng nǐ de tīngzhòng búguò zhè bù diànyǐng yǐ yì shǒu lǎo gēqǔ kāishǐ wǒ hěn xǐhuān · OK, OK, go on: I'll be your audience. Still, the film opens with an old song, and I loved that.

david 這倒是。還有一件事：我向陳老師借了劇本，可是還沒看完。
zhè dàoshì hái yǒu yí jiàn shì wǒ xiàng Chén lǎoshī jiè le jùběn kěshì hái méi kàn wán · That's true. And another thing: I borrowed the script from Teacher Chen, but I haven't finished it.

anna 下一堂課她會問的！萬一她問你問題，怎麼辦？
xià yì táng kè tā huì wèn de wànyī tā wèn nǐ wèntí zěnmebàn · She's going to ask about it next lesson! What if she asks you a question?

david 這件事你知我知，別告訴她。今天晚上我一定看完！
zhè jiàn shì nǐ zhī wǒ zhī bié gàosù tā jīntiān wǎnshàng wǒ yídìng kàn wán · This stays between you and me: don't tell her. I'll finish it tonight, I promise!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

況
kuàng
condition



完
wán
finish; be over



球
qiú
ball

場
chǎng
(measure word for shows, games)

good to know · 向 and 跟 often both work (向他借, 跟他借); 向 sounds a little more formal and is the one you see in writing. 影片 is the everyday Taiwan word for a video clip; a film at the cinema is 電影.

You can now defend your favourite film, borrow a book politely and forgive a first attempt: that's a good friend in any language.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 64 crosstalk and drama

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 10 · arts & traditions

Talk about crosstalk, TV series, bands and stories, say how things turned out with 結果, and sum up with 總之.

"I thought it would be boring... and then!" is how half of all good stories start.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
紅包	hóngbāo	red envelope (gift of money)	過年的時候，奶奶給每個孩子一個紅包。 At New Year, Grandma gives every child a red envelope.
功夫	gōngfu	kung fu; time and effort	他的功夫很厲害。 His kung fu is amazing.
相聲	xiàngshēng	crosstalk (comic dialogue)	我第一次聽相聲就笑得停不下來。 The first time I heard crosstalk, I couldn't stop laughing.
描寫	miáoxiě	describe, portray	這本小說描寫臺北的生活。 This novel portrays life in Taipei.
結局	jiéjú	ending (of a story)	這部電影的結局太難過了。 The film's ending is so sad.
劇情	jùqíng	plot, storyline	劇情很簡單，可是讓人很感動。 The plot is simple, but very moving.
樂團	yuètuán	band, orchestra	我弟弟在一個樂團裡唱歌。 My younger brother sings in a band.
題材	tícái	subject matter	這部電影的題材很特別。 The film's subject matter is unusual.
歌星	gēxīng	pop star, singer	這位歌星在亞洲非常有名。 This singer is really famous in Asia.
連續劇	liánxùjù	TV series, soap opera	我媽媽每天晚上都看連續劇。 My mum watches her TV series every evening.
音響	yīnxiǎng	stereo, sound system	這家咖啡店的音響很好。 This café has a great sound system.
合唱	héchàng	sing together; chorus	最後一首歌，我們大家一起合唱吧！ For the last song, let's all sing together!
總之	zǒngzhī	in short, anyway	總之，這部電影你一定要看。 In short, you have to see this film.
無窮	wúqióng	endless, boundless	音樂給了我無窮的快樂。 Music has given me endless joy.
真理	zhēnlǐ	truth	這本小說說出了一個簡單的真理。 This novel tells a simple truth.
不用說	bùyòngshuō	needless to say	他的中文很好，英文就不用說了。 His Chinese is very good, and his English goes without saying.

裡邊	lǐbiān	inside	外面太冷了，我們去裡邊坐吧。 It's too cold out here: let's sit inside.
哪些	nǎxiē	which (ones)	你喜歡哪些歌星？ Which singers do you like?

pattern 結果 (as it turned out) and 總之 (in short)

what happened or what you expected | 結果 | how it really turned out

結果 at the start of a clause tells how things turned out, often not as expected: 我以為他不會來，結果他來了 (I thought he wouldn't come, but he did). 總之 (in short, anyway) wraps up after several points, or cuts a long story short.

我本來只想看一個小時，結果看到半夜。 **wǒ běnlái zhǐ xiǎng kàn yí ge xiǎoshí jiéguǒ kàn dào bànyè** I only meant to watch for an hour, and ended up watching till midnight.

天氣、時間、錢都有問題。總之，下次再去吧。 **tiānqì shíjiān qián dōu yǒu wèntí zǒngzhī xià cì zài qù ba** The weather, the time, the money: all problems. In short, let's go next time.

劇情好、音樂好、演員也好。總之，你一定要看！ **jùqíng hǎo yīnyuè hǎo yǎnyuán yě hǎo zǒngzhī nǐ yídìng yào kàn** Great plot, great music, great actors. In short, you have to see it!

dialogue crosstalk and a tv series

zhiming 昨天我去聽相聲了。本來以為會很無聊，結果笑了兩個小時！

zuótiān wǒ qù tīng xiàngshēng le běnlái yǐwéi huì hěn wúliáo jiéguǒ xiào le liǎng ge xiǎoshí · I went to a crosstalk show yesterday. I thought it would be boring, but I laughed for two hours!

meiling 真的嗎？我一直覺得相聲是老人聽的，我比較欣賞戲劇。

zhēnde ma wǒ yìzhí juéde xiàngshēng shì lǎorén tīng de wǒ bǐjiào xīnshǎng xìjù · Really? I always thought crosstalk was for old people: I prefer theatre.

zhiming 我也這麼想，誰知道年輕的觀眾比老人還多！說相聲要很多年的功夫，畢竟是傳統藝術。

wǒ yě zhème xiǎng shéi zhīdào niánqīng de guānzhòng bǐ lǎorén hái duō shuō xiàngshēng yào hěn duō nián de gōngfu bìjìng shì chuántǒng yìshù · So did I, but who knew: there were more young people than old! Crosstalk takes years to master: it's a traditional art, after all.

meiling 我昨天在家看連續劇。劇情很簡單，結果我哭了一個晚上。

wǒ zuótiān zài jiā kàn liánxùjù jùqíng hěn jiǎndān jiéguǒ wǒ kū le yí ge wǎnshàng · I stayed in and watched a TV series yesterday. The plot was simple, but I ended up crying all evening.

zhiming 你最近看了哪些連續劇？我也想看。

nǐ zuìjìn kàn le nǎxiē liánxùjù wǒ yě xiǎng kàn · Which series have you been watching lately? I want to watch too.

meiling 一部描寫老師和學生的戲。題材不特別，可是結局說出了一個簡單的真理。

yí bù miáoxiě lǎoshī hé xuéshēng de xì tícái bú tèbié kěshì jiéjú shuō chū le yí ge jiǎndān de zhēnlǐ · One about a teacher and her students. The subject is nothing special, but the ending says something simple and true.

zhiming 結局怎麼樣？

jiéjú zěnmeyàng · How does it end?

meiling 不能說！總之，你一定要看。

bù néng shuō zǒngzhī nǐ yídìng yào kàn · Can't tell you! Anyway, you have to watch it.

zhiming 好。下個月有一個樂團來演出，那位歌星也會來，大家會一起合唱。你去不去？我可以向朋友多買兩張票。

hǎo xià ge yuè yǒu yí ge yuètuán lái yǎnchū nà wèi gēxīng yě huì lái dàjiā huì yìqǐ héchàng nǐ qù bu qù wǒ kěyǐ xiàng péngyǒu duō mǎi liǎng zhāng piào · OK. Next month a band is playing, that singer's coming too, and everyone sings along. Are you going? I can get two more tickets from a friend.

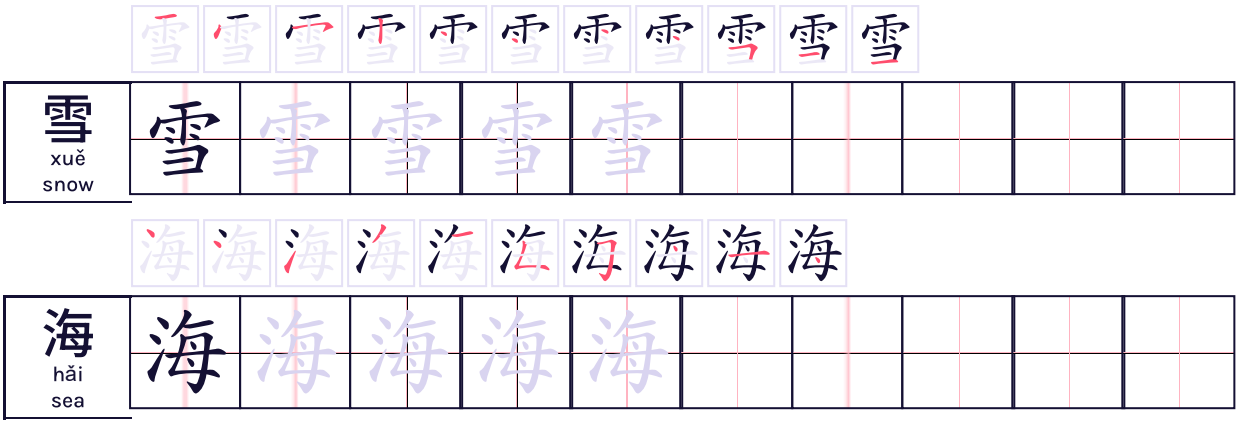
meiling 不用說，當然要去！那位歌星的歌曲我都會唱。音樂給我無窮的快樂。

búyòngshuō dāngrán yào qù nà wèi gēxīng de gēqǔ wǒ dōu huì chàng yīnyuè gěi wǒ wúqióng de kuàilè · Need you ask? Of course! I can sing all that singer's songs. Music gives me endless joy.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

教 jiāo teach

練 liàn practise, train



good to know · 結果 is also a noun, “result”: 考試的結果 (the exam results). Today it starts a clause: “and then, as it turned out…”. New meaning: 一樣 as a noun, “one kind, one item”: 每一樣 every one (of them), 只買了一樣 bought just one thing.

Now you can tell the story of your evening, twist ending and all, and wrap it up with a neat 總之.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 65 old customs

Talk about old customs and New Year traditions, and look at things from someone's point of view with 從……的角度來看.

Every family in Taiwan has its New Year rules: ask about them and you'll get a story, and maybe an invitation.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
毛筆	máobǐ	writing brush	用毛筆寫字很難。 Writing with a brush is hard.
古代	gǔdài	ancient times	古代的人用毛筆寫字。 In ancient times, people wrote with brushes.
角度	jiǎodù	angle, point of view	從這個角度拍照最好看。 Photos look best from this angle.
命	mìng	life; fate	她真好命，工作輕鬆，錢又多。 She's so lucky: an easy job, and good money too.
風俗	fēngsú	custom, tradition	每個地方都有自己的風俗。 Every place has its own customs.
古老	gǔlǎo	ancient, very old	這是一個很古老的故事。 This is a very old story.
煙火	yānhuǒ	fireworks	過年的時候，大家一起看煙火。 At New Year, everyone watches the fireworks together.
宗教	zōngjiào	religion	這個博物館介紹臺灣的宗教和文化。 This museum introduces Taiwan's religions and culture.
規矩	guījǔ	rules, manners	吃飯的時候有很多規矩。 There are lots of rules at the dinner table.
團圓	tuányuán	be together (as a family)	過年的時候，全家人團圓。 At New Year, the whole family gets together.
國王	guówáng	king	這個故事裡有一個國王和三個女兒。 In this story there's a king and his three daughters.
鬼	guǐ	ghost	我弟弟很怕鬼。 My younger brother is scared of ghosts.
鞭炮	biānpào	firecrackers	過年的時候，外面一直放鞭炮。 At New Year they let off firecrackers outside all the time.
一連	yīlián	in a row, in succession	上個星期一連下了五天雨。 Last week it rained five days in a row.
真是	zhēnshì	really, truly	今天的天氣真是太好了！ The weather today is just wonderful!
大多數	dàduōshù	the great majority	大多數的學生都住在學校附近。 Most of the students live near the university.

慢慢	mànmàn	slowly, take your time	別急，慢慢來。 No rush: take your time.
年年	niánnián	every year	這個活動年年都有很多人參加。 Lots of people take part in this event every year.

pattern 從……的角度來看: from the point of view of

從 | someone / something | 的角度來看 | your view

從 + someone + 的角度來看 means “seen from someone’s point of view”, then you give the view. 角度 is an angle, so you are literally looking from their angle. You can also say 從這個角度來看 (seen this way).

從外國人的角度來看，這個風俗很有意思。 **cóng wàiguó rén de jiǎodù lái kàn zhè ge fēngsú hěn yǒuyìsi** From a foreigner’s point of view, this custom is really interesting.

從歷史和宗教的角度來看，這個節日很重要。 **cóng lìshǐ hé zōngjiào de jiǎodù lái kàn zhè ge jiérì hěn zhòngyào** From the point of view of history and religion, this festival matters.

從這個角度來看，你說得也對。 **cóng zhè ge jiǎodù lái kàn nǐ shuō de yě duì** Seen that way, you’re right too.

dialogue new year rules

anna 王阿姨，過年快到了。臺灣人過年有哪些風俗？

Wáng āyí guònián kuài dào le Táiwān rén guònián yǒu nǎxiē fēngsú · Auntie Wang, New Year's nearly here. What are the New Year customs in Taiwan?

auntie wang 風俗很多！除夕晚上，全家人團圓，一起吃飯，還可以看煙火。電視上也有很多過年的節目，像相聲、合唱什麼的。

fēngsú hěn duō chúxì wǎnshàng quán jiārén tuányuán yìqǐ chī fàn hái kěyǐ kàn yānhuǒ diànshì shàng yě yǒu hěn duō guònián de jiémù xiàng xiàngshēng héchàng shénmede · Lots! On New Year's Eve the whole family gets together for dinner, and there are fireworks too. There are lots of New Year shows on TV as well, like crosstalk and choirs.

anna 我聽說還要放鞭炮。為什麼？

wǒ tīngshuō hái yào fàng biānpào wèishénme · I heard people let off firecrackers too. Why?

auntie wang 古代的人說，有一個很可怕的「年」，每年過年的時候都會來。它很怕鞭炮的聲音。這是一個很古老的故事。

gǔdài de rén shuō yǒu yí ge hěn kěpà de nián měi nián guònián de shíhòu dōu huì lái tā hěn pà biānpào de shēngyīn zhè shì yí ge hěn gǔlǎo de gùshi · In the old days people said a terrible monster called Nian came every New Year, and it was scared of the noise of firecrackers. It's a very old story.

anna 我還以為是鬼呢！從外國人的角度來看，這些風俗真是有意思！

wǒ hái yǐwéi shì guǐ ne cóng wàiguó rén de jiǎodù lái kàn zhèxiē fēngsú zhēnshì yǒuyìsi · I thought it would be a ghost! From a foreigner's point of view, these customs are really fascinating!

auntie wang 規矩也不少：過年不能說「死」，也不能打破碗。

guījǔ yě bùshǎo guònián bù néng shuō sǐ yě bù néng dǎ pò wǎn · There are plenty of rules too: at New Year you mustn't say "die", or break a bowl.

anna 你說，我要準備什麼？

nǐ shuō wǒ yào zhǔnbèi shénme · So tell me, what should I get ready?

auntie wang 假如你來我家過年，就什麼都不用準備，只要帶肚子來！

jiǎrú nǐ lái wǒ jiā guònián jiù shénme dōu búyòng zhǔnbèi zhǐyào dài dùzi lái · If you come to my place for New Year, you don't need anything: just bring your appetite!

anna 好！我一定把菜都吃光！總之，我會很有禮貌的。

hǎo wǒ yídìng bǎ cài dōu chī guāng zǒngzhī wǒ huì hěn yǒu lǐmào de · Deal! I'll eat every last bite! Anyway, I'll be very polite.

auntie wang 慢慢吃，別急。大多數的人過年都會胖兩公斤！你這麼愛吃，真是好命！

mànmàn chī bié jí dàduōshù de rén guònián dōu huì pàng liǎng gōngjīn nǐ zhème ài chī zhēnshì hǎo mìng · Take your time. Most people put on two kilos at New Year! You love your food so much, lucky you!

anna 不用說，我一定吃得比大家都多！

búyòngshuō wǒ yídìng chī de bǐ dàjiā dōu duō · Needless to say, I'll eat more than anyone!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

賽
sài
competition

員
yuán
member



里
lǐ
li
(neighbourhood
ward)

減
jiǎn
minus,
subtract

good to know · If you do break a bowl at New Year, people quickly say 歲歲平安 (“peace every year”, a pun: 碎 “broken” sounds like 歲 “year”). The old New Year monster is usually called 年 (Nian): the story says firecrackers and the colour red scare it away.

Ask about customs from the other person’s angle and you’ll understand a place much faster. Happy New Year in advance!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 66 temples and old buildings

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 10 · arts & traditions

Visit temples, churches and museums and talk about them, say “any… at all” with 任何……都, and say the opposite happened with 反而.

Taiwan’s old temples are living places, full of history, snacks and people: you’ll visit one sooner or later.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
教堂	jiàotáng	church	這座教堂已經有一百多年的歷史了。 This church is over a hundred years old.
廟	miào	temple	廟口的小吃很有名。 The snacks in front of the temple are famous.
人間	rénjiān	the human world, on earth	這裡的風景真美，好像人間天堂。 The scenery here is so beautiful: it’s like heaven on earth.
寺廟	sìmiào	temple	臺南有很多古老的寺廟。 Tainan has lots of old temples.
天堂	tiāntáng	heaven, paradise	對愛吃的人來說，夜市就是天堂。 For food lovers, the night market is paradise.
玉	yù	jade	這個玉很漂亮，可是太貴了。 This jade is lovely, but it’s too expensive.
上帝	shàngdì	God	在這部電影裡，他演上帝。 In this film he plays God.
道教	Dàojiào	Taoism	這是一座道教的廟。 This is a Taoist temple.
佛教	Fójiào	Buddhism	佛教的寺廟常常在山上。 Buddhist temples are often up in the mountains.
基督教	Jīdūjiào	Christianity	很多人喜歡在這座基督教的教堂結婚。 Lots of people like to get married in this Christian church.
民國	mínguó	the Republic (ROC) years	這座房子是民國初年蓋的。 This house was built in the early years of the Republic.
靈魂	línghún	soul	音樂是這部電影的靈魂。 The music is the soul of this film.
反而	fǎnér	instead, on the contrary	吃了藥以後，他的病不但沒好，反而更嚴重了。 After the medicine he didn’t get better: he got worse.
在於	zàiyú	lie in, depend on	問題在於我們沒有時間。 The problem is that we don’t have time.
總而言之	zǒngéryánzhī	in a word, all in all	總而言之，這次的活動很成功。 All in all, the event was a great success.
對了	duìle	oh, by the way	對了，你明天有空嗎？ Oh, by the way, are you free tomorrow?

沒什麼	méishénme	it's nothing	你怎麼了？——沒什麼，只是有點累。 What's wrong? — Nothing, I'm just a bit tired.

pattern 任何……都 (any) and (不但)不……反而 (on the contrary)

任何 | person / thing | 都 | (不)…

任何 + noun + 都 means "any… at all": 任何人都可以 (anyone can), 任何東西都不能摸 (don't touch anything). 反而 says the result is the opposite of what you'd expect, often after 不但不/不但沒: 他不但不累，反而很興奮 (far from tired, he was excited).

任何問題都可以問我。 **rènhé wèntí dōu kěyǐ wèn wǒ** You can ask me anything.

廟裡不但不安靜，反而很熱鬧。 **miào lǐ búdàn bù ānjìng fǎnér hěn rènao** The temple wasn't quiet at all: it was buzzing.

吃了藥，他的病反而更嚴重了。 **chī le yào tā de bìng fǎnér gèng yánzhòng le** He took the medicine, but he only got worse.

dialogue an old temple

david 這座廟已經快三百年了。任何人都可以進來參觀，不用門票。
zhè zuò miào yǐjīng kuài sānbǎi nián le rènhé rén dōu kěyǐ jìn lái cānguān búyòng ménpiào · This temple is nearly three hundred years old. Anyone can come in and look around, and it's free.

anna 我以為廟裡很安靜。結果不但不安靜，反而很熱鬧！
wǒ yǐwéi miào lǐ hěn ānjìng jiéguǒ búdàn bù ānjìng fǎnér hěn rènao · I thought temples were quiet. It's not quiet at all: it's buzzing!

david 過年的時候更熱鬧，還有人放鞭炮呢！這裡有佛教的，也有道教的。從歷史的角度來看，這座廟簡直就是一個博物館。
guònián de shíhòu gèng rènao hái yǒu rén fàng biānpào ne zhèlǐ yǒu Fójiào de yě yǒu Dàojiào de cóng lìshǐ de jiǎodù lái kàn zhè zuò miào jiǎnzhí jiù shì yí ge bówùguǎn · It's even livelier at New Year: people even let off firecrackers! There's Buddhist and Taoist here. Historically speaking, the temple is practically a museum.

anna 門上有一個圓，好漂亮。旁邊那座老房子是什麼時候蓋的？
mén shàng yǒu yí ge yuán hǎo piàoliàng pángbiān nà zuò lǎo fángzi shì shénme shíhòu gài de · There's a circle on the door: so pretty. When was that old house next to it built?

david 民國初年。這些老房子使得這條街很有特色。
mínguó chū nián zhèxiē lǎo fángzi shǐde zhè tiáo jiē hěn yǒu tèsè · In the early years of the Republic. These old houses give the street its character.

anna 門口的字寫得真好，一定是用毛筆寫的。我覺得廟是這個城市的靈魂。而且廟口的小吃……對愛吃的人來說，這裡簡直是人間天堂！
ménkǒu de zì xiě de zhēn hǎo yídìng shì yòng máobǐ xiě de wǒ juéde miào shì zhè ge chéngshì de línghún érqiě miào kǒu de xiǎochī duì ài chī de rén lái shuō zhèlǐ jiǎnzhí shì rénjiān tiāntáng · The writing at the entrance is beautiful: it must have been done with a brush. I think temples are the soul of this city. And the snacks out front… for food lovers, this is heaven on earth!

david 這座廟有名的原因，不只在於歷史，也在於人：老人、學生、外國人，大家都來。
zhè zuò miào yǒumíng de yuányīn bù zhǐ zàiyú lìshǐ yě zàiyú rén lǎorén xuéshēng wàiguó rén dàjiā dōu lái · The temple is famous not just for its history but for its people: old folks, students, foreigners, everyone comes.

anna 對了，附近還有一座基督教的教堂，也很古老。大衛，你的腳怎麼了？
duìle fùjìn hái yǒu yí zuò Jīdūjiào de jiàotáng yě hěn gǔlǎo Dàwèi nǐ de jiǎo zěnme le · Oh, by the way, there's an old Christian church nearby too. David, what's up with your foot?

david 沒什麼，鞋子有點小。我一點也不累！所以啦，來臺北一定要來看廟！
méishénme xiézi yǒudiǎn xiǎo wǒ yìdiǎn yě bú lèi suǒyǐ la lái Táiběi yídìng yào lái kàn miào · It's nothing, my shoes are a bit small. I'm not tired one bit! So there you go: come to Taipei, and you have to see the temples!

anna 總而言之，今天真是太開心了。
zǒngéryánzhī jīntiān zhēnshì tài kāixīn le · All in all, today was wonderful.

david 下次我帶你去別的老街，那裡的風俗也很有意思。
xià cì wǒ dài nǐ qù biéde lǎo jiē nàlǐ de fēngsú yě hěn yǒuyìsi · Next time I'll take you to another old street: the customs there are fascinating too.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

法 法 法 法 法 法 法 法

法 fǎ way	法	法	法	法	法					

差
chà
poor, bad; short of

夢
mèng
dream

租
zū
rent (verb)

good to know · Temples welcome visitors. Be quiet near people praying, don't step on the raised threshold, and go in by the right-hand door and out by the left. New meaning: 圓 as a noun, "circle": 畫一個圓 draw a circle. You know it as an adjective, "round".

Any temple, any church, any museum: you can now visit, ask, and tell your friends what surprised you.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 67 mission: the lantern festival

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 10 · arts & traditions

Follow a whole festival day: read an event notice, talk about customs and shows, and describe how the evening turned out.

The lantern festival brings everything in this unit together: the stage, the stories, the temples and the family.

chapter 1 what's on tonight

meiling 安娜，今天晚上廟口有燈會！我念通知給你聽。
Ānnà jīntiān wǎnshàng miào kǒu yǒu dēnghuì wǒ niàn tōngzhī gěi nǐ tīng · Anna, there's a lantern festival in front of the temple tonight! I'll read you the notice.

meiling 「各位朋友：今年的燈會在廟口的廣場舉行，任何人都可以參加，不用門票。晚上七點開始表演：先是樂團演出，然後是相聲，最後有學生合唱，以及有名的歌星和鋼琴演出。九點放煙火。萬一下雨，表演就改到學校的禮堂。博物館今天也免費參觀，歡迎大家來欣賞古代的藝術。」
gèwèi péngyǒu jīnnián de dēnghuì zài miào kǒu de guǎngchǎng jǔxíng rènhé rén dōu kěyǐ cānjiā búyòng ménpiào wǎnshàng qī diǎn kāishǐ biǎoyǎn xiān shì yuètuán yǎnchū ránhòu shì xiàngshēng zuìhòu yǒu xuéshēng héchàng yǐjí yǒumíng de gēxīng hé gāngqín yǎnchū jiǔ diǎn fàng yānhuǒ wànyī xiàyǔ biǎoyǎn jiù gǎi dào xuéxiào de lǐtáng bówùguǎn jīntiān yě miǎnfèi cānguān huānyíng dàjiā lái xīnshǎng gǔdài de yìshù · "Dear friends: this year's lantern festival is held in the square in front of the temple. Anyone can come, no tickets needed. The show starts at 7 pm: first a band, then crosstalk, and finally a students' choir, plus a famous singer and a piano performance. Fireworks at 9. If it rains, the show moves to the school hall. The museum is also free today: come and enjoy the art of ancient times."

anna 不用說，我們一定要去！聽說那位歌星演過不少連續劇。
búyòngshuō wǒmen yídìng yào qù tīngshuō nà wèi gēxīng yǎn guo bùshǎo liánxùjù · Needless to say, we have to go! I hear that singer has been in quite a few TV series.

meiling 對了，我奶奶今天從臺南來。過年她沒來，今天我們全家人要團圓。
duìle wǒ nǎinai jīntiān cóng Táinán lái guònián tā méi lái jīntiān wǒmen quán jiārén yào tuányuán · Oh, by the way, my grandma's coming up from Tainan today. She missed New Year, so tonight the whole family gets together.

anna 太好了！從奶奶的角度來看，跟孫女一起過這個節日一定最開心。
tài hǎo le cóng nǎinai de jiǎodù lái kàn gēn sūnnǚ yìqǐ guò zhè ge jiérì yídìng zuì kāixīn · Wonderful! From a grandma's point of view, spending the festival with her granddaughter must be the best.

meiling 她年年都說要來，結果每次都太忙。這次總算來了！
tā niánnián dōu shuō yào lái jiéguǒ měi cì dōu tài máng zhè cì zǒngsuàn lái le · Every year she says she'll come, and every time she ends up too busy. This time she's finally coming!

chapter 2 wishes in ink

teacher chen 今天這堂課，我們用毛筆在燈上寫一個願望。
jīntiān zhè táng kè wǒmen yòng máobǐ zài dēng shàng xiě yí ge yuànwàng · In today's lesson, we'll write a wish on a lantern with a brush.

david 老師，古代的人也這樣過這個節日嗎？
lǎoshī gǔdài de rén yě zhèyàng guò zhè ge jiérì ma · Teacher, did people celebrate like this in ancient times too?

teacher chen 對，這是很古老的風俗。大多數的家庭這一天都要團圓，看燈、放鞭炮。規矩不多，開心最重要。
duì zhè shì hěn gǔlǎo de fēngsú dàduōshù de jiātíng zhè yì tiān dōu yào tuányuán kàn dēng fàng biānpào guījǔ bù duō kāixīn zuì zhòngyào · Yes, it's a very old custom. Most families get together on this day, look at lanterns and let off firecrackers. There aren't many rules: having fun is what counts.

anna 用毛筆寫字真難！我的字一點也不好看。
yòng máobǐ xiě zì zhēn nán wǒ de zì yìdiǎn yě bù hǎokàn · Writing with a brush is so hard! My characters don't look good at all.

teacher chen 慢慢來。畢竟是第一次，已經寫得很不錯了。
mànmàn lái bìjìng shì dì yī cì yǐjīng xiě de hěn búcuò le · Take your time. It's your first go, after all: it's already pretty good.

david 我寫的是「早日完成作品」。我的小說只寫了一半，劇情和結局都還沒想好。我是作者，你們就是我最早的讀者！
wǒ xiě de shì zǎorì wánchéng zuòpǐn wǒ de xiǎoshuō zhǐ xiě le yíbàn jùqíng hé jiéjú dōu hái méi xiǎng hǎo wǒ shì zuòzhě nǐmen jiù shì wǒ zuì zǎo de dúzhě · Mine says "finish my work soon". My novel's only half written: I haven't worked out the plot or the ending. I'm the author, and you're my very first readers!

anna 我寫的是「做一輩子的好朋友」。你們知道是寫給誰的嗎？
wǒ xiě de shì zuò yí bèizi de hǎo péngyǒu nǐmen zhīdào shì xiě gěi shéi de ma · Mine says "friends for life". Can you guess who it's for?

david 這件事你知我知，對吧？我向你保證，我不告訴美玲！
zhè jiàn shì nǐ zhī wǒ zhī duì ba wǒ xiàng nǐ bǎozhèng wǒ bú gàosù Měilíng · That's between you and me, right? I promise I won't tell Meiling!

chapter 3 on stage

zhiming 觀眾好多！我以為會下雨，大家不會來，結果不但沒下雨，反而有很多人。
guānzhòng hǎo duō wǒ yǐwéi huì xiàyǔ dàjiā bú huì lái jiéguǒ búdàn méi xiàyǔ fǎnér yǒu hěn duō rén · What a crowd! I thought it would rain and nobody would come, but it's dry and the place is packed.

david 你們看，說相聲的那兩位演員，功夫真厲害！
nǐmen kàn shuō xiàngshēng de nà liǎng wèi yǎnyuán gōngfu zhēn lìhài · Look at those two crosstalk performers: what skill!

anna 他們說得太快了，內容我多多少少聽得懂一點。
tāmen shuō de tài kuài le nèiróng wǒ duōduoshǎoshǎo tīng de dǒng yìdiǎn · They talk so fast: I understand the content, more or less.

zhiming 相聲的題材常常是生活裡的小事，描寫得很好笑。
xiàngshēng de tícái chángcháng shì shēnghuó lǐ de xiǎo shì miáoxiě de hěn hǎo xiào · Crosstalk is usually about little things in everyday life, and it makes them really funny.

david 下面是樂團和歌星！她在一部很有名的戲裡演主要的角色，那部戲的導演就是我們學校的老師。
xiàmiàn shì yuètuán hé gēxīng tā zài yí bù hěn yǒumíng de xì lǐ yǎn zhǔyào de juésè nà bù xì de dǎoyǎn jiù shì wǒmen xuéxiào de lǎoshī · Next it's the band and the singer! She played the lead in a famous play, and its director is a teacher at our university.

meiling 我親眼看到明星了！她唱的歌曲，我每一首都會唱。
wǒ qīnyǎn kàn dào míngxīng le tā chàng de gēqǔ wǒ měi yì shǒu dōu huì chàng · I've seen a real star with my own eyes! I can sing every one of her songs.

zhiming 最後是大家一起合唱。音響不太好，可是大家真是開心極了！
zuìhòu shì dàjiā yìqǐ héchàng yīnxiǎng bú tài hǎo kěshì dàjiā zhēnshì kāixīn jí le · And finally a big sing-along. The sound system isn't great, but everyone's having a fantastic time!

anna 音樂真的能給人無窮的快樂。
yīnyuè zhēnde néng gěi rén wúqióng de kuàilè · Music really can give people endless joy.

chapter 4 together

grandma lin 安娜，好久不見！過年我沒來，來，這個紅包給你。
Ānnà hǎo jiǔ bú jiàn guònián wǒ méi lái lái zhè ge hóngbāo gěi nǐ · Anna, long time no see! I missed New Year, so here, this red envelope is for you.

anna 謝謝林奶奶！我第一次在臺灣看煙火，好美！
xièxie Lín nǎinai wǒ dì yī cì zài Táiwān kàn yānhuǒ hǎo měi · Thank you, Grandma Lin! It's my first time seeing fireworks in Taiwan: so beautiful!

grandma lin 這座廟已經很老了，民國以前就有了。我小時候也在這裡看過燈。
zhè zuò miào yǐjīng hěn lǎo le mínguó yǐqián jiù yǒu le wǒ xiǎo shíhòu yě zài zhèlǐ kàn guo dēng · This temple is very old: it was here before the Republic. I came to see the lanterns here when I was little too.

david 奶奶，這裡有佛教的，也有道教的，對嗎？我覺得廟是城市的靈魂。
nǎinai zhèlǐ yǒu Fójiào de yě yǒu Dàojiào de duì ma wǒ juéde miào shì chéngshì de línghún · Grandma, there's Buddhist and Taoist here, isn't there? I think temples are a city's soul.

grandma lin 說得好。你們外國人比我們還懂！我給你們講一個古老的故事：從前有一個國王，很怕鬼……
shuō de hǎo nǐmen wàiguó rén bǐ wǒmen hái dǒng wǒ gěi nǐmen jiǎng yí ge gǔlǎo de gùshi cóngqián yǒu yí ge guówáng hěn pà guǐ · Well said. You foreigners know more than we do! Let me tell you an old story: once upon a time there was a king who was scared of ghosts…

meiling 奶奶，這個故事您講了一輩子了！
nǎinai zhè ge gùshi nín jiǎng le yí bèizi le · Grandma, you've been telling that story all your life!

grandma lin 沒什麼，好故事就是要一連講很多次。好故事的意思不在於新，而在於真。
méishénme hǎo gùshi jiù shì yào yìlián jiǎng hěn duō cì hǎo gùshi de yìsi bú zàiyú xīn ér zàiyú zhēn · Never mind: a good story deserves telling again and again. What makes a story good isn't that it's new, but that it's true.

anna 總而言之，今天的燈、表演、煙火，還有奶奶的故事，我這輩子都忘不了。
zǒngéryánzhī jīntiān de dēng biǎoyǎn yānhuǒ hái yǒu nǎinai de gùshi wǒ zhè bèizi dōu wàng bu liǎo · All in all, the lanterns, the show, the fireworks and Grandma's story: I'll never forget today as long as I live.

grandma lin 有你們這些好朋友，美玲真是好命。總之，明年你們都來臺南看燈！臺南的寺廟更多、更古老。
yǒu nǐmen zhèxiē hǎo péngyǒu Měilíng zhēnshì hǎo mìng zǒngzhī míngnián nǐmen dōu lái Táinán kàn dēng Táinán de sìmiào gèng duō gèng gǔlǎo · With good friends like you, Meiling is a lucky girl. Anyway, next year you're all coming to Tainan to see the lanterns! Tainan has even more temples, and older ones.

chapter 5 lantern festival: help wanted

meiling 燈會需要你幫忙！今年的燈會有一萬多人來，可是幫忙的人只有三十個，太少了。
dēnghuì xūyào nǐ bāngmáng jīnnián de dēnghuì yǒu yí wàn duō rén lái kěshì bāngmáng de rén zhǐyǒu sānshí ge tài shǎo le · The lantern festival needs your help! Over ten thousand people are coming this year, but we only have thirty helpers, and that isn't enough.

meiling 如果你有空，請在今天下午四點以前來廟口。工作很簡單：幫客人找位子，幫小朋友找媽媽，也要告訴大家注意安全。
rúguǒ nǐ yǒukòng qǐng zài jīntiān xiàwǔ sì diǎn yǐqián lái miào kǒu gōngzuò hěn jiǎndān bāng kèrén zhǎo wèizi bāng xiǎopéngyǒu zhǎo māma yě yào gàosù dàjiā zhùyì ānquán · If you're free, please come to the temple square before four this afternoon. The work is easy: help guests find seats, help children find their mums, and remind everyone to stay safe.

meiling 我們會先教你做什麼，不用緊張。幫忙的人可以免費吃晚飯，還可以得到一個小燈。
wǒmen huì xiān jiāo nǐ zuò shénme búyòng jǐnzhāng bāngmáng de rén kěyǐ miǎnfèi chī wǎn fàn hái kěyǐ dédào yí ge xiǎo dēng · We'll show you what to do first, so there's no need to be nervous. Helpers get a free dinner and a little lantern.

meiling 不管你是學生還是上班的人，只要你願意，我們就歡迎你！請現在就打電話報名。
bùguǎn nǐ shì xuéshēng háishì shàngbān de rén zhǐyào nǐ yuànyì wǒmen jiù huānyíng nǐ qǐng xiànzài jiù dǎdiànhuà bàomíng · Whether you're a student or at work, if you're willing we welcome you! Please phone now to sign up.

A notice, a brush, a show, a grandmother's story: you followed a whole festival in Chinese. 恭喜!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**