wishyou.today learning

day 68 police and lawyers

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 11 · society & the news

Get through forms and offices, say which area you mean with (在)……方面, and say you don't mind with 無所謂.

Sooner or later every foreigner in Taiwan queues at an office with a form in hand: the right words make it so much easier.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
白	bái	in vain, for nothing; plain	辦公室今天沒開，我白{bai2-tw}跑了。 The office was closed today: a wasted trip.
假	jiǎ	fake, false	小心，這張是假{jia3-tw}的。 Careful, this one's a fake.
警察	jǐngchá	police officer, the police	我的錢包丟了，我去找警察。 I lost my wallet, so I went to the police.
律師	lǜshī	lawyer	她的姊姊是律師。 Her older sister is a lawyer.
人數	rénshù	number of people	今天來參加的人數比去年多。 More people came today than last year.
責任	zérèn	responsibility	照顧孩子是父母的責任。 Looking after children is the parents' responsibility.
公共	gōnggòng	public	在公共的地方要小聲說話。 Keep your voice down in public places.
全球	quánqiú	the whole world, global	這個問題是全球的問題。 This is a global problem.
青年	qīngnián	young people, youth	很多青年想去臺北工作。 Lots of young people want to work in Taipei.
性別	xìngbié	sex, gender	請在這裡寫你的姓名和性別。 Please write your name and sex here.
民族	mínzú	ethnic group, nation	臺灣有很多不同的民族和文化。 Taiwan has many different ethnic groups and cultures.
填	tián	fill in (a form)	請先填這張表。 Please fill in this form first.
救	jiù	save, rescue	謝謝你救了我的貓！ Thank you for saving my cat!
辦理	bànlǐ	handle, apply for (paperwork)	我要去辦理護照。 I need to go and apply for a passport.
手續	shǒuxù	procedure, formalities	辦這個手續要多久？ How long do these formalities take?
無所謂	wúsuǒwèi	not matter, not care	吃什麼都無所謂，你決定吧。 I don't mind what we eat: you decide.
坪	píng	ping (3.3 m², for floor area)	這間公寓有二十五坪。 This flat is 25 ping (about 83 square metres).

樣樣	yàngyàng	every kind, all-round	她樣樣都會，唱歌、跳舞、畫畫。 She can do everything: sing, dance, paint.

pattern (在).....方面 (when it comes to) and 無所謂 (it doesn't matter)

(在) **area** **方面** **comment**

(在) + an area + 方面 narrows what you're talking about: 在工作方面 (when it comes to work), 在錢方面 (money-wise). 無所謂 means you don't mind either way: 什麼時候都無所謂 (any time is fine). Careful: about important things, 無所謂 can sound like you don't care.

在工作方面，她給了我很多幫助。 **zài gōngzuò fāngmiàn tā gěi le wǒ hěn duō bāngzhù** When it comes to work, she's helped me a lot.

在錢方面，你不用擔心。 **zài qián fāngmiàn nǐ búyòng dānxīn** As far as money goes, don't worry.

坐捷運還是坐公車？我無所謂。 **zuò jiéyùn háishì zuò gōngchē wǒ wúsuǒwèi** MRT or bus? I don't mind.

dialogue paperwork

anna 志明，謝謝你陪我來辦理手續。
Zhìmíng xièxie nǐ péi wǒ lái bànlǐ shǒuxù · Zhiming, thanks for coming with me to do the paperwork.

zhiming 不會。因為人數太多的關係，今天要等很久。
bú huì yīnwèi rénshù tài duō de guānxì jīntiān yào děng hěn jiǔ · No problem. There are so many people that it's going to be a long wait today.

anna 我都等了一個小時了，還沒叫到我的號碼。
wǒ dōu děng le yí ge xiǎoshí le hái méi jiào dào wǒ de hàomǎ · I've been waiting an hour already, and they still haven't called my number.

zhiming 先填這張表吧：姓名、性別、地址。另外，還要一張照片。
xiān tián zhè zhāng biǎo ba xìngmíng xìngbié dìzhǐ lìngwài hái yào yì zhāng zhàopiàn · Fill in this form first: name, sex, address. And on top of that, they need a photo.

anna 照片？我忘了帶！我白來了！
zhàopiàn wǒ wàng le dài wǒ bái lái le · A photo? I forgot to bring one! I came for nothing!

zhiming 別急，旁邊就有地方拍照。就算要等，也不會太久。
bié jí pángbiān jiù yǒu dìfāng pāizhào jiùsuàn yào děng yě bú huì tài jiǔ · Don't panic: there's somewhere to get photos right next door. Even if there's a wait, it won't be long.

anna 在語言方面，我沒有問題；可是在手續方面，我樣樣都不懂。
zài yǔyán fāngmiàn wǒ méiyǒu wèntí kěshì zài shǒuxù fāngmiàn wǒ yàngyàng dōu bù dǒng · Language-wise I'm fine, but when it comes to paperwork, I don't understand a thing.

zhiming 我姊姊是律師，任何問題都可以問她。你看那張海報：「全球青年活動，任何性別、任何民族都歡迎！」
wǒ jiějie shì lǜshī rènhé wèntí dōu kěyǐ wèn tā nǐ kàn nà zhāng hǎibào quánqiú qīngnián huódòng rènhé xìngbié rènhé mínzú dōu huānyíng · My sister's a lawyer: you can ask her anything. Look at that poster: "Global youth event: all genders, all ethnic groups welcome!"

anna 我覺得辦手續反而比學中文還難！
wǒ juéde bàn shǒuxù fǎnér bǐ xué zhōngwén hái nán · Honestly, I think paperwork is even harder than learning Chinese!

zhiming 住在這裡，你早晚會習慣的。照顧自己的事，是每個人的責任嘛。
zhù zài zhèlǐ nǐ zǎowǎn huì xíguàn de zhàogù zìjǐ de shì shì měi ge rén de zérèn ma · Living here, you'll get used to it sooner or later. Taking care of your own affairs is everyone's job, after all.

anna 等多久我都無所謂，只要今天可以一次辦完。
děng duō jiǔ wǒ dōu wúsuǒwèi zhǐyào jīntiān kěyǐ yí cì bàn wán · I don't mind how long I wait, as long as I can get it all done in one go today.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

區
qū
district, area

修
xiū
repair, fix

整
zhěng
whole; sharp (of time)

寓
yù
residence

good to know · Thanked for a favour? In Taiwan, 不會 (“not at all”) or 不客氣 are the usual replies. In Taiwan, call 110 for the police and 119 for fire or an ambulance. Flats are measured in 坪 (about 3.3 m²): 20 坪 is roughly 66 m².

Queue, form, photo, signature: paperwork in Chinese is now just another conversation.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 69 accidents and safety

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 11 · society & the news

Talk about accidents and safety, read short news items, and move to a new topic with 至於.

Scooters, busy junctions, typhoons: in Taiwan, safety talk is everyday talk, and so is the evening news.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
炸	zhà	explode, blow up	新聞說，工廠裡有一個機器炸{zha4-tw}了。 The news says a machine exploded in a factory.
平安	píngān	safe and sound	祝你一路平安！ Have a safe journey!
意外	yìwài	accident; unexpected	開車要小心，別出意外。 Drive carefully: don't have an accident.
車禍	chēhuò	traffic accident	這條路常常發生車禍。 There are often accidents on this road.
搶	qiǎng	rob, grab; rush to	大家都在搶票。 Everyone is scrambling for tickets.
簽名	qiānmíng	sign (your name); signature	請在這裡簽名。 Please sign here.
土地	tǔdì	land	這塊土地以前是一片草地。 This land used to be a meadow.
開放	kāifàng	open (to the public)	這座公園每天早上六點開放。 This park opens at six every morning.
人口	rénkǒu	population	臺灣的人口大約兩千三百萬。 Taiwan's population is about twenty-three million.
地位	dìwèi	position, status	女人的社會地位越來越高。 Women's social status keeps rising.
窮	qióng	poor	他小時候家裡很窮。 His family was poor when he was a child.
避免	bìmiǎn	avoid	為了避免遲到，我早點出門。 To avoid being late, I left early.
傷害	shānghài	hurt, harm	太晚睡覺會傷害身體。 Going to bed too late is bad for you.
不幸	bùxìng	unfortunate; sadly	很不幸，我們的比賽輸了。 Unfortunately, we lost our match.
利益	lìyì	interests, benefit	這個計畫對大家都有利益。 This plan benefits everyone.
至於	zhìyú	as for	我會去，至於他，我不知道。 I'm going; as for him, I don't know.
說起來	shuōqǐlái	come to think of it	說起來，我們已經三年沒見了。 Come to think of it, we haven't seen each other for three years.

這樣子	zhèyàngzi	like this, this way	這樣子做比較快。 It's quicker this way.

pattern 至於: as for

one topic + comment | 至於 | another topic | comment

至於 moves to a new, related topic: "as for…". Finish what you're saying about the first thing, then 至於 + the next thing, then your comment on it. It often brings in the less certain or less important part.

城市的生活很方便，至於鄉下，空氣比較好。 **chéngshì de shēnghuó hěn fāngbiàn zhìyú xiāngxià kōngqì bǐjiào hǎo** City life is convenient; as for the countryside, the air is better.

我負責買菜，至於做菜，就交給你了。 **wǒ fùzé mǎi cài zhìyú zuò cài jiù jiāo gěi nǐ le** I'll do the shopping; as for the cooking, that's up to you.

這個計畫對公司有利益，至於員工，就不一定了。 **zhè ge jìhuà duì gōngsī yǒu lìyì zhìyú yuángōng jiù bù yídìng le** This plan benefits the company; as for the staff, not necessarily.

dialogue a small accident

anna 志明，美玲說你出了車禍！你還好嗎？
Zhìmíng Měilíng shuō nǐ chū le chēhuò nǐ háihǎo ma · Zhiming, Meiling says you've had an accident! Are you OK?

zhiming 我很平安，只是一個小意外。在路口，一輛汽車突然轉過來，我的機車就倒了。
wǒ hěn píngān zhǐshì yí ge xiǎo yìwài zài lùkǒu yí liàng qìchē túrán zhuǎn guò lái wǒ de jīchē jiù dǎo le · I'm fine, it was only a small accident. At a junction a car suddenly turned in front of me, and my scooter went over.

anna 你受傷了嗎？
nǐ shòushāng le ma · Were you hurt?

zhiming 我倒是沒事。不只我沒事，對方也沒事。至於我的機車，就不太好了。
wǒ dàoshì méi shì bù zhǐ wǒ méi shì duìfāng yě méi shì zhìyú wǒ de jīchē jiù bú tài hǎo le · I'm actually fine. And not just me: the other driver's fine too. As for my scooter, that's another story.

anna 說起來，這條路常常發生車禍。
shuōqǐlái zhè tiáo lù chángcháng fāshēng chēhuò · Come to think of it, there are often accidents on that road.

zhiming 對，警察也這樣說。我已經在報告上簽名了，手續也都辦理好了。
duì jǐngchá yě zhèyàng shuō wǒ yǐjīng zài bàogào shàng qiānmíng le shǒuxù yě dōu bànlǐ hǎo le · Yes, the police said so too. I've already signed the report, and the paperwork's all done.

anna 萬一下次又遇到這樣子的事，你要馬上打電話給我們。
wànyī xià cì yòu yùdào zhèyàngzi de shì nǐ yào mǎshàng dǎdiànhuà gěi wǒmen · If anything like this happens again, call us straight away.

zhiming 好。在安全方面，我以後會更小心，騎慢一點，避免傷害自己和別人。
hǎo zài ānquán fāngmiàn wǒ yǐhòu huì gèng xiǎoxīn qí màn yìdiǎn bìmiǎn shānghài zìjǐ hé biérén · OK. When it comes to safety, I'll be more careful from now on: ride slower, so I don't hurt myself or anyone else.

anna 修理機車要多少錢？要不要我幫你負擔一點？
xiūlǐ jīchē yào duōshǎo qián yào bu yào wǒ bāng nǐ fùdān yìdiǎn · How much will it cost to fix the scooter? Do you want me to chip in?

zhiming 錢無所謂，人平安最重要。
qián wúsuǒwèi rén píngān zuì zhòngyào · The money doesn't matter: what counts is that nobody got hurt.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

設
shè
set up

備
bèi
prepare, have ready



金
jīn
gold, money



居
jū
reside

good to know · 平安 is the wish for safety: 一路平安 (have a safe trip), 出入平安 (safe comings and goings). Many scooters carry a little 平安 charm. 炸 has two readings: zhà, explode, and zhá, deep-fry (炸雞).

Accidents, reports and the news: you can now follow what happened and say what matters most. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 70 government and citizens

Talk about representatives, rules and equality in a group, and insist with 無論如何 (whatever happens).

Clubs, classes and neighbourhoods all choose someone to speak for them: you might be next.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
代表	dàibiǎo	representative; represent	她代表我們班參加比賽。 She's representing our class in the competition.
制度	zhìdù	system (of rules)	每個國家的教育制度都不一樣。 Every country's education system is different.
政治	zhèngzhì	politics	我對政治沒有興趣。 I'm not interested in politics.
總統	zǒngtǒng	president (of a country)	總統每四年選一次。 The president is elected every four years.
人類	rénlèi	humankind	環境問題會影響全人類。 Environmental problems affect all of humankind.
人民	rénmín	the people	總統要聽人民的意見。 The president should listen to the people.
限制	xiànzhì	limit, restriction	這個活動沒有年齡的限制。 There's no age limit for this event.
平等	píngděng	equal	男女應該平等。 Men and women should be equal.
團體	tuántǐ	group, organisation	這個團體每個週末都去海灘打掃。 This group goes to the beach every weekend to clean up.
大會	dàhuì	general meeting, assembly	明天的大會有五百個人參加。 Five hundred people are coming to tomorrow's assembly.
貢獻	gòngxiàn	contribution; contribute	她對這個社會有很大的貢獻。 She's made a big contribution to society.
敵人	dírén	enemy	別把對方當敵人，大家都是朋友。 Don't treat the other side as the enemy: we're all friends.
古	gǔ	ancient, old	這座古城已經有三百年的歷史了。 This old town is three hundred years old.
人物	rénwù	figure, character	他是臺灣歷史上很重要的人物。 He's an important figure in Taiwan's history.
實行	shíxíng	put into practice, carry out	新的制度下個月開始實行。 The new system takes effect next month.

無論如何	wúlùnrúhé	whatever happens, no matter what	無論如何，你明天一定要來。 Whatever happens, you have to come tomorrow.
聽起來	tīngqǐlái	sound (like)	這個計畫聽起來不錯。 This plan sounds good.
最多	zuìduō	at most	我最多等你十分鐘。 I'll wait ten minutes for you, at most.

pattern 無論如何: whatever happens

無論如何 **,** **(都 / 一定 / 也) + what will happen**

無論如何 (literally "no matter how things are") means "whatever happens, in any case". Use it to insist or to promise. The second part often has 都, 一定 or 也.

無論如何，你要先吃飯。 **wúlùnrúhé nǐ yào xiān chī fàn** Whatever happens, eat something first.

無論如何，總統都要聽人民的意見。 **wúlùnrúhé zǒngtǒng dōu yào tīng rénmín de yìjiàn** Whatever happens, a president must listen to the people.

無論如何，我們都會幫你。 **wúlùnrúhé wǒmen dōu huì bāng nǐ** Whatever happens, we'll help you.

dialogue anna for representative?

david 安娜，下個星期學生大會要選新的代表，你要不要參加？
Ānnà xià ge xīngqí xuéshēng dàhuì yào xuǎn xīn de dàibiǎo nǐ yào bu yào cānjiā · Anna, next week the student assembly is choosing new representatives. Do you want to stand?

anna 我？我是外國人，可以嗎？說起來，我連學校的制度都不太了解。
wǒ wǒ shì wàiguó rén kěyǐ ma shuōqǐlái wǒ lián xuéxiào de zhìdù dōu bú tài liǎojiě · Me? I'm a foreigner: is that allowed? Come to think of it, I don't really understand how the university works.

david 當然可以。學校的制度很平等，任何學生都可以當代表，地位都一樣。
dāngrán kěyǐ xuéxiào de zhìdù hěn píngděng rènhé xuéshēng dōu kěyǐ dāng dàibiǎo dìwèi dōu yíyàng · Of course. The university's system is fair: any student can be a representative, and everyone has the same standing.

anna 聽起來不錯，可是我對政治沒有興趣。
tīngqǐlái búcuò kěshì wǒ duì zhèngzhì méiyǒu xìngqù · Sounds good, but I'm not interested in politics.

david 這不是政治，大家也不是敵人。代表只是幫同學向學校說明大家的需要，保護學生的利益。
zhè bú shì zhèngzhì dàjiā yě bú shì dírén dàibiǎo zhǐshì bāng tóngxué xiàng xuéxiào shuōmíng dàjiā de xūyào bǎohù xuéshēng de lìyì · It isn't politics, and nobody's the enemy. A representative just explains to the university what students need, and looks after their interests.

anna 那在大會上，每個人可以說多久？
nà zài dàhuì shàng měi ge rén kěyǐ shuō duō jiǔ · So at the assembly, how long does each person get to speak?

david 有時間的限制，每個人最多說三分鐘。
yǒu shíjiān de xiànzhì měi ge rén zuìduō shuō sān fēnzhōng · There's a time limit: three minutes each, at most.

anna 三分鐘？算了，我一定說不完！
sān fēnzhōng suànle wǒ yídìng shuō bu wán · Three minutes? Forget it, I'd never finish!

david 無論如何，你一定要試一下！畢竟你的中文那麼好，又了解外國學生的問題。
wúlùnrúhé nǐ yídìng yào shì yíxià bìjìng nǐ de zhōngwén nàme hǎo yòu liǎojiě wàiguó xuéshēng de wèntí · Whatever happens, you've got to give it a go! Your Chinese is so good, after all, and you understand foreign students' problems.

anna 好吧。至於我要說什麼，你得幫我準備。
hǎo ba zhìyú wǒ yào shuō shénme nǐ děi bāng wǒ zhǔnbèi · Fine. As for what I'm going to say, you'll have to help me prepare.

david 沒問題！報名要簽名，我陪你去。
méi wèntí bàomíng yào qiānmíng wǒ péi nǐ qù · No problem! Signing up needs your signature: I'll come with you.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

舒
shū
relaxed

必
bì
must

約
yuē
arrange to meet, ask out



具
jù
have, possess (written)

good to know · 無論如何 is strong and a bit formal. In casual speech people also say 不管怎樣 with the same meaning. 人民 is “the people” of a country; 人們 (coming on day 72) is just “people” in general.

Whatever happens, you can now speak up for a group: three minutes is plenty when you know the words.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 71 crime and conflict

Spot a scam and talk about crime, war films and morals, explain a term with 所謂……就是, and agree strongly with 可不是!

Phone scams are a real problem in Taiwan, and the first defence is knowing the words when someone tries one on you.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
殺	shā	kill	這部電影描寫一個殺了國王的人。 This film is about a man who killed a king.
戰爭	zhànzhēng	war	這本小說的題材是戰爭。 The subject of this novel is war.
道德	dàodé	morals, ethics	在公共的地方大聲說話，很沒有道德。 Talking loudly in public places is really inconsiderate.
犯	fàn	commit (an error, crime); break (rules)	他犯了一個大錯誤。 He made a big mistake.
騙子	piànzi	swindler, con artist	那個人是騙子，別相信他。 That man's a con artist: don't believe him.
自殺	zìshā	suicide; take one's own life	報告說，學校應該多注意學生的心理健康，避免自殺的問題。 The report says schools should pay more attention to students' mental health to prevent suicide.
軍隊	jūnduì	army, armed forces	颱風以後，軍隊來幫忙打掃。 After the typhoon, the army came to help clear up.
混亂	hùnluàn	chaotic, in chaos	停電以後，車站一片混亂。 After the power cut, the station was in chaos.
上當	shàngdàng	be fooled, be taken in	我上當了，那支手機是假{jia3-tw}的！ I was conned: that phone was a fake!
天下	tiānxià	the world, everywhere	天下的媽媽都一樣。 Mothers are the same the world over.
打仗	dǎzhàng	fight a war	我不喜歡打仗的電影。 I don't like war films.
革命	gémìng	revolution; revolt	手機給我們的生活帶來了一場革命。 Mobile phones brought a revolution to our lives.
欺負	qīfù	bully, pick on	別欺負你弟弟！ Stop picking on your little brother!
犧牲	xīshēng	sacrifice	她為了孩子犧牲了很多。 She gave up a lot for her children.
空軍	kōngjūn	air force	他哥哥在空軍工作。 His older brother works in the air force.
所謂	suǒwèi	so-called; what is called	所謂「團圓」，就是全家人在一起。 What we call 團圓 means the whole family being together.

外邊	wàibiān	outside	外邊下雨了，帶傘吧。 It's raining outside: take an umbrella.
變更	biàngēng	change (plans, dates)	會議的時間變更了，改到下午三點。 The meeting has been moved to 3 pm.

pattern 所謂……就是 (what we call… means) and 可不是！ (you can say that again)

所謂 | a term | (就)是 / 是指 | what it means

所謂 + a term + (就)是 explains what a word or saying means: 所謂「團圓」，就是全家人在一起. 所謂的 + noun can also sound doubtful: "so-called". 可不是！ (sometimes 可不是嘛！) is a warm, strong "Exactly! You can say that again!"

所謂「天下」，就是全世界。 **suǒwèi tiānxià jiù shì quán shìjiè** What we call 天下 means the whole world.

外邊好吵！——可不是！吵了一個晚上了。 **wàibiān hǎo chǎo kěbúshì chǎo le yí ge wǎnshàng le** It's so noisy outside! — Tell me about it! It's been going on all evening.

這就是所謂的好朋友。 **zhè jiù shì suǒwèi de hǎo péngyǒu** That's what you call a good friend.

dialogue a strange phone call

anna 美玲，剛才有人打電話給我，說我網路上買的東西有問題，要我馬上把錢轉到另外一個銀行。

Měilíng gāngcái yǒu rén dǎdiànhuà gěi wǒ shuō wǒ wǎnglù shàng mǎi de dōngxi yǒu wèntí yào wǒ mǎshàng bǎ qián zhuǎn dào lìngwài yí ge yínháng · Meiling, someone just called me and said there was a problem with something I bought online. They wanted me to transfer money to another bank right away.

meiling 你沒有轉吧？那是騙子！這樣子的電話很多。

nǐ méiyǒu zhuǎn ba nà shì piànzi zhèyàngzi de diànhuà hěn duō · You didn't transfer it, did you? That's a scammer! There are loads of calls like that.

anna 我差點上當！他說得很清楚，聽起來好像是真的。

wǒ chàdiǎn shàngdàng tā shuō de hěn qīngchǔ tīngqǐlái hǎoxiàng shì zhēnde · I almost fell for it! He sounded so clear, it seemed real.

meiling 騙子最喜歡欺負外國人和老人。你看新聞，警察說這個人已經犯了很多次了。

piànzi zuì xǐhuān qīfù wàiguó rén hé lǎorén nǐ kàn xīnwén jǐngchá shuō zhè ge rén yǐjīng fàn le hěn duō cì le · Scammers love to pick on foreigners and old people. Look at the news: the police say this man has done it lots of times.

anna 太沒有道德了！我只會在夜市講價，不會跟騙子說話！

tài méiyǒu dàodé le wǒ zhǐ huì zài yèshì jiǎngjià bú huì gēn piànzi shuōhuà · That's so wrong! The only bargaining I do is at the night market: I don't talk to scammers!

meiling 可不是！上個月我奶奶也差點上當，結果銀行的人發現了，馬上打電話給警察。

kěbúshì shàng ge yuè wǒ nǎinai yě chàdiǎn shàngdàng jiéguǒ yínháng de rén fāxiàn le mǎshàng dǎdiànhuà gěi jǐngchá · Exactly! Last month my grandma almost fell for one too, but the bank staff noticed and called the police at once.

anna 還好你奶奶平安沒事。總之，以後任何人打電話要錢，我都不相信。無論如何，先問你們。

háihǎo nǐ nǎinai píngān méi shì zǒngzhī yǐhòu rènhé rén dǎdiànhuà yào qián wǒ dōu bù xiāngxìn wúlùnrúhé xiān wèn nǐmen · Thank goodness your grandma is all right. Anyway, from now on I won't believe anyone who calls asking for money. Whatever happens, I'll ask you first.

meiling 對！好了，我們看電影吧。今天的電影是說戰爭的。

duì hǎole wǒmen kàn diànyǐng ba jīntiān de diànyǐng shì shuō zhànzhēng de · Right! OK, let's watch a film. Tonight's is about a war.

anna 古代打仗的電影？殺來殺去，看起來好混亂。

gǔdài dǎzhàng de diànyǐng shā lái shā qù kànqǐlái hǎo hùnluàn · A war film set in ancient times? All that killing: it looks so chaotic.

meiling 很多人為了國家犧牲，結果引起了一場革命。所謂歷史，就是這些人的故事。

hěn duō rén wèile guójiā xīshēng jiéguǒ yǐnqǐ le yì chǎng gémìng suǒwèi lìshǐ jiù shì zhèxiē rén de gùshi · Lots of people die for their country, and it ends up causing a revolution. That's what history is: these people's stories.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

空
kōng
empty

木
mù
wood, tree

廣
guǎng
wide, broad

燈
dēng
lamp, light

good to know · Phone scams (詐騙) are common in Taiwan. If a caller asks for a transfer, hang up and call 165, the police anti-fraud line. 殺價 (literally "kill the price") is everyday Taiwan Mandarin for haggling, for example at a night market.

You know the tricks now: spot the scam, say "可不是！", and explain what a word really means.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 72 young people and elections

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 11 · society & the news

Talk about safety in your neighbourhood, young people and elections, and give or ask for an opinion with 我看 / 你看.

In Taiwan, neighbours really do look out for each other, and 我看..... is how every neighbourly suggestion begins.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
國內	guónèi	domestic, in the country	我們這次在國內旅行。 This time we're travelling at home (in Taiwan).
國外	guówài	abroad	她想去國外念書。 She wants to study abroad.
青少年	qīngshàonián	teenagers, young people	很多青少年每天上網好幾個小時。 Lots of teenagers spend hours online every day.
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief	小心小偷！ Watch out for pickpockets!
毒品	dúpǐn	drugs (illegal)	在臺灣，帶毒品是很嚴重的事。 In Taiwan, carrying drugs is very serious.
強盜	qiángdào	robber	警察抓到了那個強盜。 The police caught the robber.
吸毒	xīdú	take drugs	這個活動告訴青少年吸毒的壞處。 This event tells teenagers about the harm drugs do.
選舉	xuǎnjǔ	election	明年有市長的選舉。 There's a mayoral election next year.
安定	āndìng	stable, settled	他想找一份安定的工作。 He wants to find a stable job.
人們	rénmen	people	人們都說臺北的捷運很方便。 People always say Taipei's MRT is very convenient.
人人	rénrén	everyone	這首歌人人都會唱。 Everyone can sing this song.
市長	shìzhǎng	mayor	市長今天來我們的學校參觀。 The mayor visited our school today.
殖民地	zhímíndì	colony	很多國家以前都是殖民地。 Many countries used to be colonies.
腐敗	fǔbài	corrupt; rotten	人民最討厭腐敗的政治。 What people hate most is corrupt politics.
想到	xiǎngdào	think of, occur to	我突然想到一個好主意。 A good idea suddenly came to me.
況且	kuàngqiě	besides, moreover	今天太晚了，況且外邊在下雨，明天再去吧。 It's too late today, and besides, it's raining: let's go tomorrow.

里	lǐ	li (neighbourhood ward)	我們這個里有兩千多個|人。 Our ward has over two thousand people.

pattern 我看…… (i think) / 你看…… (what do you think?)

我看 / 你看 **，** **an opinion / a question**

我看 at the start of a sentence doesn't mean "I look": it gives your opinion, like "I reckon". 你看 + a question asks for the other person's opinion: 你看怎麼樣？ (what do you think?). Both are friendly and spoken.

我看，大家出門都要記得鎖門。 **wǒ kàn dàjiā chūmén dōu yào jìde suǒ mén** I reckon everyone should remember to lock the door when they go out.

你看這張海報：「青少年不要碰毒品！」你看怎麼樣？ **nǐ kàn zhè zhāng hǎibào qīngshàonián bú yào pèng dúpǐn nǐ kàn zěnmeyàng** Look at this poster: "Teenagers: stay away from drugs!" What do you think?

我看，學校應該多告訴學生吸毒的壞處。 **wǒ kàn xuéxiào yīnggāi duō gàosù xuéshēng xīdú de huàichù** I think schools should tell students more about the harm drugs do.

dialogue a thief in the building

auntie wang 安娜，你聽說了嗎？昨天晚上我們大樓有小偷！
Ānnà nǐ tīngshuō le ma zuótiān wǎnshàng wǒmen dàlóu yǒu xiǎotōu · Anna, have you heard? There was a thief in our building last night!

anna 真的？大家都平安嗎？有人受傷嗎？
zhēnde dàjiā dōu píngān ma yǒu rén shòushāng ma · Really? Is everyone safe? Was anyone hurt?

auntie wang 幸虧那家人去國外旅行了，家裡沒有人。
xìngkuī nà jiā rén qù guówài lǚxíng le jiā lǐ méiyǒu rén · Luckily that family was away abroad, so nobody was home.

zhiming 我看，大家出門都要記得鎖門。
wǒ kàn dàjiā chūmén dōu yào jìde suǒ mén · I reckon everyone needs to remember to lock up when they go out.

auntie wang 對！還有，最近騙子也很多，大家別上當。
duì hái yǒu zuìjìn piànzi yě hěn duō dàjiā bié shàngdàng · Yes! And there are lots of scammers about lately too: don't anyone fall for them.

anna 你看，我們要不要在下個星期的大會上說一下？
nǐ kàn wǒmen yào bu yào zài xià ge xīngqí de dàhuì shàng shuō yíxià · What do you think: should we bring it up at next week's meeting?

auntie wang 好主意！我們這個里有兩千多個人，市長選舉也快到了，人人都很關心安全。
hǎo zhǔyì wǒmen zhè ge lǐ yǒu liǎngqiān duō ge rén shìzhǎng xuǎnjǔ yě kuài dào le rénrén dōu hěn guānxīn ānquán · Good idea! Our ward has over two thousand people, and the mayoral election's coming up: everyone cares about safety.

zhiming 從年輕人的角度來看，晚上路上的燈太少了。況且很多青少年很晚才回家。
cóng niánqīng rén de jiǎodù lái kàn wǎnshàng lù shàng de dēng tài shǎo le kuàngqiě hěn duō qīngshàonián hěn wǎn cái huí jiā · From a young person's point of view, there aren't enough street lights at night. And besides, lots of teenagers get home late.

anna 我想到一個辦法：我們可以寫一封信給市長。
wǒ xiǎngdào yí ge bànfǎ wǒmen kěyǐ xiě yì fēng xìn gěi shìzhǎng · I've thought of something: we could write a letter to the mayor.

auntie wang 可不是！新聞天天說強盜、腐敗，人們最想要的，就是安定的生活。
kěbúshì xīnwén tiāntiān shuō qiángdào fǔbài rénmen zuì xiǎng yào de jiù shì āndìng de shēnghuó · Exactly! The news is all robbers and corruption every day: what people want most is a settled life.

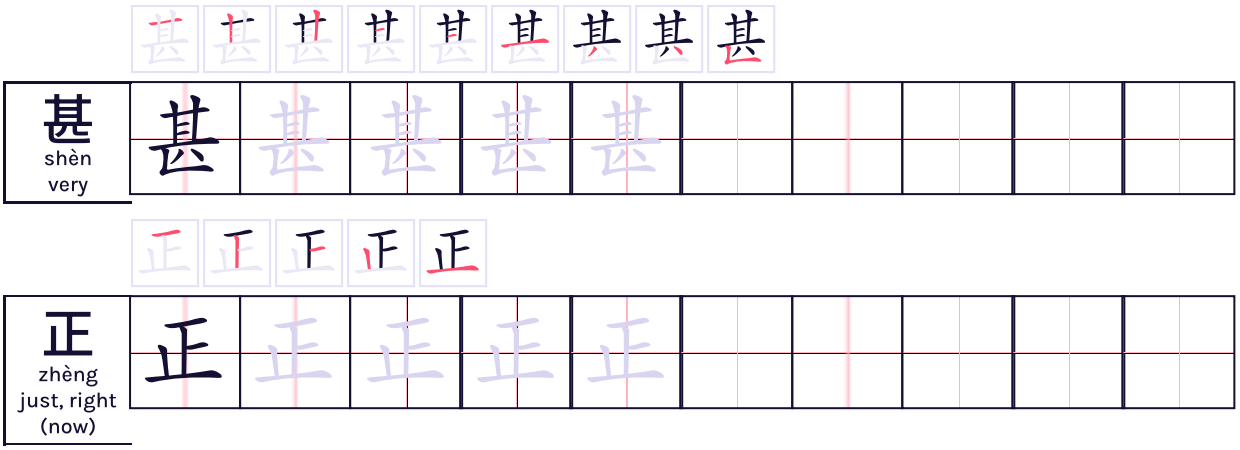
anna 我們一起寫信，也是為這個里做一點貢獻。
wǒmen yìqǐ xiě xìn yě shì wèi zhè ge lǐ zuò yìdiǎn gòngxiàn · Writing the letter together is our little contribution to the ward, too.

zhiming 所謂「好鄰居」，就是互相照顧嘛。
suǒwèi hǎo línjū jiù shì hùxiāng zhàogù ma · Being good neighbours means looking out for each other, right?

write it trace the grey, then write your own

布 bù cloth, fabric

馬 mǎ horse



good to know · 我看 and 你看 can still mean “look”: 你看，那是誰？ (look, who’s that?). The comma and what follows tell you it’s an opinion. A 里 is Taiwan’s smallest unit of local government; its elected head, the 里長, often knows everyone in the neighbourhood.

我看，you’re ready for your first neighbourhood meeting. 你看呢?
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 73 mission: the neighbourhood meeting

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 11 · society & the news

Read a meeting notice, follow a neighbourhood meeting with different views, and sum up what was decided.

A local meeting is society in miniature: safety, rules, young and old, all in one room. Today all of unit 11 comes back.

chapter 1 a notice by the lift

anna 美玲，電梯旁邊貼了一張通知。我念給你聽。
Měilíng diàntī pángbiān tiē le yì zhāng tōngzhī wǒ niàn gěi nǐ tīng · Meiling, there's a notice up by the lift. I'll read it to you.

anna 「各位鄰居：我們里的大會時間變更了，改在這個星期六上午十點，地點在附近小學的禮堂。這次大會的主題是公共安全：最近大樓裡有小偷，路口也發生了兩次車禍。警察和一位律師會來回答大家的問題。參加的人數最多一百人，請先在門口簽名。任何人都可以說說自己的意見，每個人最多三分鐘。那天學校的操場也開放，歡迎青年和青少年參加！」
gèwèi línjū wǒmen lǐ de dàhuì shíjiān biàngēng le gǎi zài zhè ge xīngqíliù shàngwǔ shí diǎn dìdiǎn zài fùjìn xiǎoxué de lǐtáng zhè cì dàhuì de zhǔtí shì gōnggòng ānquán zuìjìn dàlóu lǐ yǒu xiǎotōu lùkǒu yě fāshēng le liǎng cì chēhuò jǐngchá hé yí wèi lǜshī huì lái huídá dàjiā de wèntí cānjiā de rénshù zuìduō yìbǎi rén qǐng xiān zài ménkǒu qiānmíng rènhé rén dōu kěyǐ shuō shuo zìjǐ de yìjiàn měi ge rén zuìduō sān fēnzhōng nà tiān xuéxiào de cāochǎng yě kāifàng huānyíng qīngnián hé qīngshàonián cānjiā · "Dear neighbours: the time of our ward meeting has changed: it is now this Saturday at 10 am, in the hall of the nearby primary school. The theme is public safety: there has been a thief in the building recently, and two accidents at the junction. A police officer and a lawyer will answer questions. At most one hundred people can attend: please sign in at the door. Anyone may give their opinion, three minutes each at most. The school playground will also be open that day. Young people and teenagers welcome!"

meiling 星期六上午？我要去面試……算了，安全的事比較重要，我也去。
xīngqíliù shàngwǔ wǒ yào qù miàn shì suànle ānquán de shì bǐjiào zhòngyào wǒ yě qù · Saturday morning? I've got an interview… never mind, safety matters more. I'll come too.

anna 我看，我們先寫下要問的問題。
wǒ kàn wǒmen xiān xiě xià yào wèn de wèntí · I think we should write down our questions first.

meiling 好。無論如何，這次一定要讓大家都知道。說起來，這個大樓住了兩百多個人，樣樣都要大家一起想辦法。
hǎo wúlùnrúhé zhè cì yídìng yào ràng dàjiā dōu zhīdào shuōqǐlái zhè ge dàlóu zhù le liǎngbǎi duō ge rén yàngyàng dōu yào dàjiā yìqǐ xiǎng bànfǎ · OK. Whatever happens, this time everyone has to hear about it. Come to think of it, over two hundred people live in this building: we have to sort everything out together.

chapter 2 auntie wang opens the meeting

auntie wang 各位鄰居，早安！我是這次大會的代表。今天的人數比我們想的還多，謝謝大家！
gèwèi línjū zǎoān wǒ shì zhè cì dàhuì de dàibiǎo jīntiān de rénshù bǐ wǒmen xiǎng de hái duō xièxie dàjiā · Good morning, neighbours! I'm chairing today's meeting. There are even more of you than we expected: thank you all!

auntie wang 剛才警察說，我們這個里的人口越來越多，小偷也越來越多。他說，最近在國內，騙子和強盜都越來越多。很多人上當，是因為太相信別人。人們一定要小心。
gāngcái jǐngchá shuō wǒmen zhè ge lǐ de rénkǒu yuèláiyuè duō xiǎotōu yě yuèláiyuè duō tā shuō zuìjìn zài guónèi piànzi hé qiángdào dōu yuèláiyuè duō hěn duō rén shàngdàng shì yīnwèi tài xiāngxìn biérén rénmen yídìng yào xiǎoxīn · The police officer just told us that our ward's population keeps growing, and so do the thieves. He says that around the country there are more and more scammers and robbers lately. Many people get taken in because they trust others too easily. People must be careful.

zhiming 我想從年輕人的角度說一下。在交通方面，路口的燈太少了，常常出意外。
wǒ xiǎng cóng niánqīng rén de jiǎodù shuō yíxià zài jiāotōng fāngmiàn lùkǒu de dēng tài shǎo le chángcháng chū yìwài · I'd like to say something from a young person's point of view. When it comes to traffic, the junction doesn't have enough lights, and there are accidents all the time.

zhiming 上個月我在那裡出了車禍。幸虧我很平安，可是我們應該避免這樣子的事再發生，不要讓任何人受傷。
shàng ge yuè wǒ zài nàlǐ chū le chēhuò xìngkuī wǒ hěn píngān kěshì wǒmen yīnggāi bìmiǎn zhèyàngzi de shì zài fāshēng bú yào ràng rènhé rén shòushāng · Last month I had an accident there. Luckily I was fine, but we should stop this from happening again, so nobody gets hurt.

manager li 我同意。我也住在這個里。安全是每個人的責任。
wǒ tóngyì wǒ yě zhù zài zhè ge lǐ ānquán shì měi ge rén de zérèn · I agree. I live in this ward too. Safety is everyone's responsibility.

anna 李經理？您也住在這裡？我以為您住在國外！
Lǐ jīnglǐ nín yě zhù zài zhèlǐ wǒ yǐwéi nín zhù zài guówài · Manager Li? You live here too? I thought you lived abroad!

manager li 我在國外住了十年，去年才回臺灣。我們真是好鄰居！
wǒ zài guówài zhù le shí nián qùnián cái huí Táiwān wǒmen zhēnshì hǎo línjū · I lived abroad for ten years and only came home last year. We really are neighbours!

chapter 3 what should we do?

manager li 我看，我們應該實行新的制度：晚上十一點以後，外邊的人不可以隨便進大樓。這不是欺負外人，是保護大家的利益。

wǒ kàn wǒmen yīnggāi shíxíng xīn de zhìdù wǎnshàng shíyī diǎn yǐhòu wàibiān de rén bù kěyǐ suíbiàn jìn dàlóu zhè bú shì qīfù wài rén shì bǎohù dàjiā de lìyì · I think we should bring in a new system: after 11 pm, people from outside can't just walk into the building. It's not about picking on outsiders: it's about protecting everyone's interests.

meiling 聽起來不錯，可是會不會限制太多？況且很多學生打工，都很晚才回家。

tīngqǐlái búcuò kěshì huì bu huì xiànzhì tài duō kuàngqiě hěn duō xuéshēng dǎgōng dōu hěn wǎn cái huí jiā · Sounds good, but isn't that too many restrictions? And besides, lots of students work part-time and get home late.

auntie wang 住在這裡的人，當然無所謂。至於外邊的人，先在一樓填一張表，寫姓名和性別，辦理一個簡單的手續就好了。

zhù zài zhèlǐ de rén dāngrán wúsuǒwèi zhìyú wàibiān de rén xiān zài yì lóu tián yì zhāng biǎo xiě xìngmíng hé xìngbié bànlǐ yí ge jiǎndān de shǒuxù jiù hǎo le · For people who live here, it makes no difference, of course. As for people from outside, they just fill in a form on the ground floor with their name and sex: a simple formality.

zhiming 所謂「安全」，不只是不讓小偷進來，也是讓大家生活得很安定。人人都平等，老人、青年、外國人都一樣。

suǒwèi ānquán bù zhǐshì bú ràng xiǎotōu jìn lái yě shì ràng dàjiā shēnghuó de hěn āndìng rénrén dōu píngděng lǎorén qīngnián wàiguó rén dōu yíyàng · Safety doesn't only mean keeping thieves out: it means everyone living a settled life. Everyone is equal: old people, young people, foreigners, all the same.

auntie wang 可不是！我們不是敵人，是鄰居。這不是政治，也不是選舉。

kěbúshì wǒmen bú shì dírén shì línjū zhè bú shì zhèngzhì yě bú shì xuǎnjǔ · Exactly! We're not enemies, we're neighbours. This isn't politics, and it isn't an election.

manager li 我想到一個辦法：我們寫一封信給市長，說明大家的意見。人民的意見，市長一定會聽。我來簽名。

wǒ xiǎngdào yí ge bànfǎ wǒmen xiě yì fēng xìn gěi shìzhǎng shuōmíng dàjiā de yìjiàn rénmín de yìjiàn shìzhǎng yídìng huì tīng wǒ lái qiānmíng · I've thought of something: let's write to the mayor and explain our views. The mayor will listen to what the people say. I'll sign it.

auntie wang 好！你看，這樣大家都同意嗎？

hǎo nǐ kàn zhèyàng dàjiā dōu tóngyì ma · Good! What do you think: does everyone agree to this?

chapter 4 looking back

anna 今天的大會好熱鬧，一點也不混亂。王阿姨，您真厲害！

jīntiān de dàhuì hǎo rènao yìdiǎn yě bú hùnluàn Wáng āyí nín zhēn lìhài · Today's meeting was so lively, and not chaotic at all. Auntie Wang, you were brilliant!

auntie wang 我在這裡住了四十年了。我小時候，這裡很窮，這片土地上只有幾間古老的房子，二十坪的房子住十個人！

wǒ zài zhèlǐ zhù le sìshí nián le wǒ xiǎo shíhòu zhèlǐ hěn qióng zhè piàn tǔdì shàng zhǐ yǒu jǐ jiān gǔlǎo de fángzi èrshí píng de fángzi zhù shí ge rén · I've lived here for forty years. When I was little this area was poor: there were just a few old houses on this land, with ten people living in twenty ping!

meiling 說起來，奶奶也常常說以前的事：臺灣是殖民地的時代，後來打仗的日子，還有軍隊在颱風以後來救人。

shuōqǐlái nǎinai yě chángcháng shuō yǐqián de shì Táiwān shì zhímíndì de shídài hòulái dǎzhàng de rìzi hái yǒu jūnduì zài táifēng yǐhòu lái jiù rén · Come to think of it, Grandma often talks about the old days too: when Taiwan was a colony, the years of fighting after that, and the army coming to rescue people after typhoons.

auntie wang 那些人為國家犧牲了很多，對社會有很大的貢獻，都是了不起的人物。現在的生活很平安，我們要好好照顧它。

nàxiē rén wèi guójiā xīshēng le hěn duō duì shèhuì yǒu hěn dà de gòngxiàn dōu shì liǎobùqǐ de rénwù xiànzài de shēnghuó hěn píngān wǒmen yào hǎohǎo zhàogù tā · Those people gave up a lot for the country and contributed so much to society: remarkable people. Life is peaceful now, and we have to look after it.

anna 總之，今天我學到了：在安全方面，人人都有責任，不能說「無所謂」。

zǒngzhī jīntiān wǒ xué dào le zài ānquán fāngmiàn rénrén dōu yǒu zérèn bù néng shuō wúsuǒwèi · Anyway, today I learned that when it comes to safety, everyone has a responsibility: you can't just say "whatever".

meiling 還有：別相信打電話來要錢的騙子！他們最沒有道德了。

hái yǒu bié xiāngxìn dǎdiànhuà lái yào qián de piànzi tāmen zuì méiyǒu dàodé le · And also: don't believe scammers who call asking for money! They're the worst.

auntie wang 說得好！來，今天的早餐我請客，不用錢。你們白吃一次！

shuō de hǎo lái jīntiān de zǎocān wǒ qǐngkè búyòng qián nǐmen bái chī yí cì · Well said! Come on, breakfast is on me today, free of charge. Eat up for nothing, just this once!

chapter 5 a warning about fake phone calls

anna 警察今天告訴大家：最近有很多假電話。打電話的人說自己是銀行的人，或者是警察，要你把錢給他們。

jǐngchá jīntiān gàosù dàjiā zuìjìn yǒu hěn duō jiǎ diànhuà dǎdiànhuà de rén shuō zìjǐ shì yínháng de rén huòzhě shì jǐngchá yào nǐ bǎ qián gěi tāmen · The police told the public today: lately there have been many fake phone calls. The callers say they are from a bank, or are police officers, and ask you to hand over money.

anna 很多老人因為相信了這些話，被他們拿走了不少錢，有人甚至沒有錢吃飯了。

hěn duō lǎorén yīnwèi xiāngxìn le zhèxiē huà bèi tāmen ná zǒu le bùshǎo qián yǒu rén shènzhì méiyǒu qián chī fàn le · Many elderly people believed them and lost a lot of money; some even had no money left for food.

anna 警察說，不管對方是誰，只要叫你給錢，都不要相信。

jǐngchá shuō bùguǎn duìfāng shì shéi zhǐyào jiào nǐ gěi qián dōu bú yào xiāngxìn · The police say that whoever the caller is, if they ask you for money, do not believe them.

anna 如果你不放心，請先掛電話，再問家人，或是打給警察。大家也要告訴家裡的老人，不要把錢給不認識的人。

rúguǒ nǐ bú fàngxīn qǐng xiān guà diànhuà zài wèn jiārén huòshì dǎ gěi jǐngchá dàjiā yě yào gàosù jiā lǐ de lǎorén bú yào bǎ qián gěi bú rènshì de rén · If you're unsure, hang up first, then ask your family or call the police. Please also tell the older people at home not to give money to people they don't know.

A notice, a meeting, three views and a decision: you followed local democracy in Chinese, and got free breakfast.
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