wishyou.today learning

day 74 hobbies and tempers

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 12 · looks & personality

Describe hobbies, tempers and personalities, and say what something has (or hasn't) to do with with 跟……有關 / 沒有關係.

Looking for a flatmate, a colleague or a friend? You'll need to describe what people are like.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
愛好	àihào	hobby, interest; be keen on	你有什麼愛好？ What are your hobbies?
熱情	rèqíng	warm, enthusiastic; enthusiasm	臺灣人對客人很熱情。 Taiwanese people are very warm towards guests.
男性	nánxìng	male, men	這個工作，男性和女性都可以做。 Both men and women can do this job.
女性	nǚxìng	female, women	我們公司的女性員工比較多。 Our company has more female staff.
活潑	huópō	lively, outgoing	她的妹妹很活潑，一直說話。 Her younger sister is really lively: she never stops talking.
懶	lǎn	lazy	週末我很懶，不想出門。 At weekends I'm lazy and don't want to go out.
夢想	mèngxiǎng	dream; dream of	他的夢想是開一家咖啡店。 His dream is to open a café.
嚴格	yángé	strict	我們的老師很嚴格，可是很關心學生。 Our teacher is strict, but really cares about us.
脾氣	píqì	temper, temperament	他的脾氣很好，從來不生氣。 He's very good-tempered: he never gets angry.
特點	tèdiǎn	feature, characteristic	這家店的特點是東西又便宜又好吃。 What's special about this place is that the food is cheap and good.
今後	jīnhòu	from now on	今後我每天都要運動。 From now on I'm going to exercise every day.
熱心	rèxīn	warm-hearted, eager to help	王|阿姨很熱心，常常幫助鄰居。 Auntie Wang is so kind: she's always helping the neighbours.
粗心	cūxīn	careless	我太粗心了，又忘了帶鑰匙。 I'm so careless: I forgot my keys again.
冷靜	lěngjìng	calm, cool-headed	遇到問題的時候，要先冷靜。 When you hit a problem, stay calm first.
身材	shēncái	figure, build	他常常運動，身材很好。 He works out a lot and is in great shape.

幾乎	jīhū	almost, nearly	我幾乎每天都喝咖啡。 I drink coffee almost every day.
當	dàng	treat as, take for	我把你當{dang4-tw}好朋友。 I think of you as a good friend.
有關	yǒuguān	related to, have to do with	他的工作跟電腦有關。 His job has to do with computers.

pattern 跟……有關 / 跟……沒有關係: have (nothing) to do with

something **跟** **something else** **有關 / 沒有關係**

A 跟 B 有關 means A has to do with B, is related to B. The negative is usually A 跟 B 沒有關係 (has nothing to do with B), or 無關 in writing. Before a noun: 跟工作有關的事 (work-related things).

他的工作跟藝術有關。 **tā de gōngzuò gēn yìshù yǒuguān** His job has something to do with art.

你的脾氣跟天氣有關嗎？ **nǐ de píqì gēn tiānqì yǒuguān ma** Does your mood depend on the weather?

成績跟性別沒有關係。 **chéngjī gēn xìngbié méiyǒu guānxì** Grades have nothing to do with gender.

dialogue flatmate wanted

meiling 安娜，第三間房間空了，我們要找新的室友。我看，先寫一個廣告吧。
Ānnà dì sān jiān fángjiān kōng le wǒmen yào zhǎo xīn de shìyǒu wǒ kàn xiān xiě yí ge guǎnggào ba · Anna, the third room's free, so we need a new flatmate. I think we should write an ad first.

anna 好！男性、女性都可以嗎？
hǎo nánxìng nǚxìng dōu kěyǐ ma · OK! Men and women both?

meiling 都可以。住得好不好跟性別沒有關係，性格才重要。
dōu kěyǐ zhù de hǎo bu hǎo gēn xìngbié méiyǒu guānxì xìnggé cái zhòngyào · Either. Whether you get on has nothing to do with gender: personality is what matters.

anna 對。我希望新室友熱情、活潑，愛好跟藝術有關，像畫畫、音樂什麼的。
duì wǒ xīwàng xīn shìyǒu rèqíng huópō àihào gēn yìshù yǒuguān xiàng huà huà yīnyuè shénmede · Right. I'd like someone warm and lively, with hobbies to do with the arts: painting, music, that kind of thing.

meiling 除了性格以外，還要愛乾淨。上一個室友很懶，幾乎不打掃。
chúle xìnggé yǐwài hái yào ài gānjìng shàng yí ge shìyǒu hěn lǎn jīhū bù dǎsǎo · Apart from personality, they need to be tidy. The last flatmate was lazy and hardly ever cleaned.

anna 難怪你那時候脾氣不太好！
nánguài nǐ nà shíhòu píqì bú tài hǎo · No wonder you were so grumpy back then!

meiling 我那時候不但不冷靜，反而天天生氣。今後我要冷靜一點。
wǒ nà shíhòu búdàn bù lěngjìng fǎnér tiāntiān shēngqì jīnhòu wǒ yào lěngjìng yìdiǎn · Back then, far from staying calm, I got angry every day. From now on I'll be calmer.

anna 另外，房東很嚴格，任何人都不能養狗。
lìngwài fángdōng hěn yángé rènhé rén dōu bù néng yǎng gǒu · Also, the landlord's strict: nobody's allowed a dog.

meiling 我們把小黑當家人，新室友也要喜歡貓。
wǒmen bǎ Xiǎohēi dàng jiārén xīn shìyǒu yě yào xǐhuān māo · We treat Xiaohei as family, so the new flatmate has to like cats too.

anna 我寫好了：「找室友！特點：熱心、不粗心、喜歡貓。夢想跟藝術有關的人最好！」
wǒ xiě hǎo le zhǎo shìyǒu tèdiǎn rèxīn bù cūxīn xǐhuān māo mèngxiǎng gēn yìshù yǒuguān de rén zuìhǎo · Done: "Flatmate wanted! Must be: kind, not careless, a cat lover. Dreams to do with the arts a plus!"

meiling 寫得很好！我們的鄰居人人都很熱心，新室友一定會喜歡這裡。
xiě de hěn hǎo wǒmen de línjū rénrén dōu hěn rèxīn xīn shìyǒu yídìng huì xǐhuān zhèlǐ · Great! Our neighbours are all so kind: the new flatmate is sure to love it here.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

查
chá
look up, check

記
jì
note down; remember

客
kè
guest

熱 rè hot													

good to know · Careful with 當: in 把 A 當 B (treat A as B) it is dàng. In 當老師 (be a teacher) it is dāng. 男性 and 女性 are neutral words for forms, surveys and the news; with friends you'll hear 男生 and 女生, even for adults.

You can now describe exactly who you'd like to live with, and say what has nothing to do with it.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 75 bold or shy?

Describe someone as bold or shy, capable or independent, and say what someone is affected by or popular with using 受 + something + 影響/歡迎.

First impressions, photos, personalities: choosing a flatmate means reading people, and talking about them kindly.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
表情	biǎoqíng	(facial) expression	看他的表情，他好像不太高興。 From his expression, he doesn't look very happy.
獨立	dúlì	independent	她很獨立，什麼事都自己做。 She's very independent and does everything herself.
個性	gèxìng	personality	他們兩個的個性很不一樣。 The two of them have very different personalities.
打扮	dǎbàn	dress up; the way you dress	今天你打扮得好漂亮！ You look lovely today!
長處	chángchù	strength, strong point	每個人都有自己的長處。 Everyone has their own strengths.
大膽	dàdǎn	bold, daring	她很大膽，一個人去國外旅行。 She's bold: she travelled abroad on her own.
膽小	dǎnxiǎo	timid, cowardly	我很膽小，不敢一個人看鬼的電影。 I'm a scaredy-cat: I daren't watch ghost films on my own.
魅力	mèilì	charm, appeal	這個城市很有魅力。 This city has so much charm.
形象	xíngxiàng	image	這件事對公司的形象不太好。 This isn't good for the company's image.
嚴肅	yánsù	serious, stern	經理的表情很嚴肅。 The manager looks very serious.
私人	sīrén	private, personal	這是我私人的事，請別問。 That's my private business: please don't ask.
瘋狂	fēngkuáng	crazy, wild	他瘋狂地{de-tw3}愛上{=(come to)}了滑雪。 He fell madly in love with skiing.
本領	běnlǐng	skill, ability	她的本領很大，什麼都會修。 She's very capable: she can fix anything.
能幹	nénggàn	capable, able	我們的經理又能幹又熱心。 Our manager is capable and warm-hearted.
善於	shànyú	be good at	他很善於跟人溝通。 He's good at communicating with people.
首先	shǒuxiān	first (of all)	首先，我要謝謝大家。 First of all, I'd like to thank everyone.
週	zhōu	week	這個課一週有三堂。 This course has three classes a week.

受	shòu	receive, be subjected to	這部電影很受年輕人歡迎。 This film is very popular with young people.

pattern 受 + something + 影響 / 歡迎: be influenced by, be popular with

someone / something | (很)受 | who / what | (的)影響 / 歡迎

受 means “receive, be subjected to”. 受 + someone + 歡迎 is “popular with”: 很受學生歡迎. 受 + something + (的)影響 is “influenced, affected by”: 受天氣影響. You can add 很 before 受 for “very”.

這家店很受外國人歡迎。 **zhè jiā diàn hěn shòu wàiguó rén huānyíng** This shop is very popular with foreigners.

飛機受颱風影響，不能起飛。 **fēijī shòu táifēng yǐngxiǎng bù néng qǐfēi** The plane can’t take off because of the typhoon.

我受朋友的影響，也開始爬山了。 **wǒ shòu péngyǒu de yǐngxiǎng yě kāishǐ pá shān le** My friends rubbed off on me, and I’ve started hiking too.

dialogue three replies

zhiming 你們的廣告很受歡迎！一週以內就有三個人回信。
nǐmen de guǎnggào hěn shòu huānyíng yì zhōu yǐnèi jiù yǒu sān ge rén huíxìn · Your ad's a hit! Three people have replied within a week.

meiling 首先，我們看第一個人。她說她很膽小，晚上不敢一個人在家。
shǒuxiān wǒmen kàn dì yī ge rén tā shuō tā hěn dǎnxiǎo wǎnshàng bù gǎn yí ge rén zài jiā · First, let's look at the first one. She says she's timid and daren't stay home alone at night.

anna 這樣的話，晚上我們非在家不可。我們常常很晚才回來……
zhèyàng dehuà wǎnshàng wǒmen fēi zài jiā bù kě wǒmen chángcháng hěn wǎn cái huí lái · Then we'd simply have to be home every evening. We often get back late…

zhiming 第二個是男生，個性很大膽，也很開朗。他瘋狂地喜歡爬山，週末都不在家。
dì èr ge shì nánshēng gèxìng hěn dàdǎn yě hěn kāilǎng tā fēngkuáng de xǐhuān pá shān zhōumò dōu bú zài jiā · The second is a guy: bold and cheerful. He's crazy about hiking, never home at weekends.

meiling 週末不在家，我無所謂。第三個呢？
zhōumò bú zài jiā wǒ wúsuǒwèi dì sān ge ne · Him being out at weekends doesn't bother me. And the third?

zhiming 第三個是女生，年齡跟你們差不多。她說自己很獨立，善於做菜，在設計方面也很有本領。
dì sān ge shì nǚshēng niánlíng gēn nǐmen chàbùduō tā shuō zìjǐ hěn dúlì shànyú zuò cài zài shèjì fāngmiàn yě hěn yǒu běnlǐng · The third is a woman, about your age. She says she's independent, a good cook, and very skilled at design.

anna 聽起來很能幹！可是照片上她的表情有點嚴肅。
tīngqǐlái hěn nénggàn kěshì zhàopiàn shàng tā de biǎoqíng yǒudiǎn yánsù · She sounds really capable! But she looks a bit serious in her photo.

meiling 照片只是表面，跟本人不一定一樣。也許她只是不喜歡拍照，也不太愛打扮。
zhàopiàn zhǐshì biǎomiàn gēn běnrén bù yídìng yíyàng yěxǔ tā zhǐshì bù xǐhuān pāizhào yě bú tài ài dǎbàn · A photo is only the surface: people aren't always like their pictures. Maybe she just doesn't like having her picture taken, or dressing up.

zhiming 她還說，她很重視私人的空間，愛好是畫畫。
tā hái shuō tā hěn zhòngshì sīrén de kōngjiān àihào shì huà huà · She also says she values her personal space, and her hobby is painting.

anna 我們也是！我看她做事一定不粗心。每個人都有自己的長處和魅力，我們請她來看房子吧！
wǒmen yě shì wǒ kàn tā zuòshì yídìng bù cūxīn měi ge rén dōu yǒu zìjǐ de chángchù hé mèilì wǒmen qǐng tā lái kàn fángzi ba · So do we! I reckon she's not a careless person. Everyone has their own strengths and charm: let's invite her to see the flat!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

刷
shuā
brush

牙
yá
tooth

櫃
guì
cupboard

音
yīn
sound

good to know · 受歡迎 alone is fine too: 這首歌很受歡迎 (this song is very popular). 膽 is the gall bladder, the old seat of courage: 大膽 bold, 膽小 timid, 膽量 guts.

Bold or shy, serious or lively: you can now describe people fairly and kindly.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 76 looks and style

Describe looks, style and manners, and stress how true something is with 可 + 真 / 算是.

“She’s REALLY good!”: when you want to stress a compliment (or a complaint), Taiwan Mandarin reaches for 可.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
化妝	huàzhuāng	put on make-up	她每天早上化妝要二十分鐘。 She takes twenty minutes to do her make-up every morning.
鬍子	húzi	beard, moustache	我爸爸留了鬍子，看起來老了十歲。 My dad’s grown a beard and looks ten years older.
活力	huólì	energy, vitality	年輕人很有活力。 Young people are full of energy.
外表	wàibiǎo	appearance, looks	別只看一個人的外表。 Don’t judge people only by their looks.
小氣	xiǎoqì	stingy, petty	別那麼小氣，請大家喝杯咖啡吧。 Don’t be so stingy: buy everyone a coffee.
歲數	suìshù	age (of an older person)	奶奶的歲數大了，走路比較慢。 Grandma is getting on, so she walks more slowly.
活躍	huóyuè	active	她在班上很活躍，常常回答問題。 She’s very active in class and often answers questions.
模樣	móyàng	look, appearance	他|還是{==still}小時候的模樣，一點也沒變。 He still looks the way he did as a child: he hasn’t changed a bit.
天真	tiānzhēn	innocent, naive	你太天真了，他不會還{huan2-tw}錢的。 You’re so naive: he’s never going to pay you back.
頭腦	tóunǎo	brains, mind	他很有頭腦，做生意很成功。 He’s got a good head on his shoulders and does well in business.
溫和	wēnhé	gentle, mild	陳|老師說話很溫和。 Teacher Chen speaks very gently.
好客	hàokè	hospitable	臺南人很好客。 People in Tainan are very hospitable.
熟練	shúliàn	skilled, practised	他做菜做得很熟練。 He’s a very practised cook.
周到	zhōudào	thoughtful, considerate	這家飯店的服務很周到。 The service at this hotel is very attentive.
淘氣	táoqì	naughty, mischievous	小黑很淘氣，常常跳到桌子上。 Xiaohei is naughty and keeps jumping on the table.
還有	háiyǒu	and also, besides	我要一杯咖啡，還有一個蛋糕。 I’d like a coffee, and a cake too.

較	jiào	comparatively, than (written)	今年的人數較{jiao4-tw3}去年多。 There are more people this year than last year.
數	shù	number, figure	我心裡有數{shu4-tw3}，你別擔心。 I know what I'm doing: don't worry.

pattern 可 + 真 / 算是: really, truly

someone / something | 可 | 真 + adjective / 算是 + noun

In speech, 可 before 真 or 算是 adds strong emphasis: 她可真能幹！ (she's REALLY capable!), 這可算是最好的 (this really counts as the best). It often comes with an exclamation, a compliment or a mild complaint: 你可真小氣!

今天可真熱！ **jīntiān kě zhēn rè** It's really hot today!

你可真小氣！ **nǐ kě zhēn xiǎoqì** You really are stingy!

他可算是我們班最活躍的學生了。 **tā kě suàn shì wǒmen bān zuì huóyuè de xuéshēng le** He really is the most active student in our class.

dialogue the third applicant

auntie wang 昨天來看房子的那個小姐，怎麼樣？
zuótiān lái kàn fángzi de nà ge xiǎojiě zěnmeyàng · So, the young woman who came to see the flat yesterday: how was she?

meiling 她可真好！說話很溫和，做菜也很熟練，還帶了一盒點心來，很周到。
tā kě zhēn hǎo shuōhuà hěn wēnhé zuò cài yě hěn shúliàn hái dài le yì hé diǎnxīn lái hěn zhōudào · She was really lovely! Gently spoken, a practised cook, and she even brought a box of snacks: so thoughtful.

anna 說到點心，她做的蛋糕可算是我吃過最好吃的了！
shuō dào diǎnxīn tā zuò de dàngāo kě suàn shì wǒ chī guo zuì hǎochī de le · Speaking of snacks, her cake really is the best I've ever had!

auntie wang 那她的外表呢？是什麼模樣？
nà tā de wàibiǎo ne shì shénme móyàng · And her looks? What does she look like?

anna 阿姨，外表不重要啦！她不太化妝，也不太打扮，可是看起來很有活力。
āyí wàibiǎo bú zhòngyào la tā bú tài huàzhuāng yě bú tài dǎbàn kěshì kànqǐlái hěn yǒu huólì · Auntie, looks don't matter! She doesn't wear much make-up or dress up, but she seems full of energy.

auntie wang 不化妝又不會難看。做人啊，老實最重要。
bú huàzhuāng yòu bú huì nánkàn zuòrén a lǎoshí zuì zhòngyào · No make-up doesn't make anyone ugly. In life, being honest is what matters most.

meiling 可是有一個問題：她有一隻狗，很淘氣。她說她的狗很受小朋友歡迎。
kěshì yǒu yí ge wèntí tā yǒu yì zhī gǒu hěn táoqì tā shuō tā de gǒu hěn shòu xiǎopéngyǒu huānyíng · But there's one problem: she has a dog, a naughty one. She says it's very popular with children.

anna 一方面，我們很喜歡她；一方面，房東不讓養狗，小黑也會怕。
yìfāngmiàn wǒmen hěn xǐhuān tā yìfāngmiàn fángdōng bú ràng yǎng gǒu Xiǎohēi yě huì pà · On the one hand, we really like her; on the other, the landlord doesn't allow dogs, and Xiaohei would be scared.

auntie wang 你們兩個太天真了。至於房東，他最討厭狗，我心裡有數，他一定不會同意。
nǐmen liǎng ge tài tiānzhēn le zhìyú fángdōng tā zuì tǎoyàn gǒu wǒ xīn lǐ yǒu shù tā yídìng bú huì tóngyì · You two are so naive. As for the landlord, he can't stand dogs: I know him, he'll never agree.

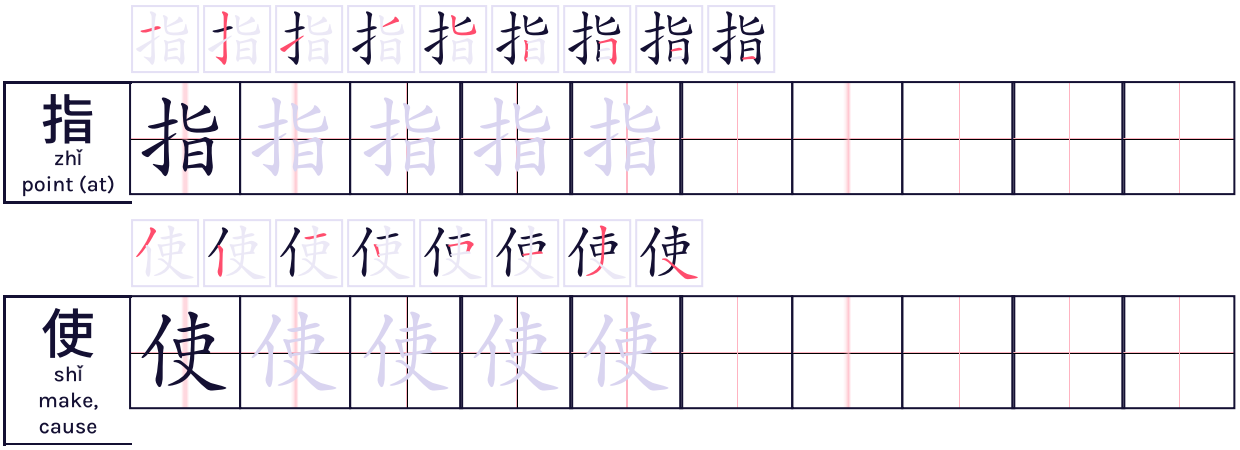
meiling 唉，那我們還得再找。
āi nà wǒmen hái děi zài zhǎo · Sigh, then we'll have to keep looking.

anna 還有，王阿姨，您做的蛋餅可真好吃！再來一份！
háiyǒu Wáng āyí nín zuò de dàn bǐng kě zhēn hǎochī zài lái yí fèn · And Auntie Wang, your egg pancakes really are delicious! One more, please!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

級
jí
grade, level (measure word)

堆
duī
pile, heap (of)



good to know · 可 for emphasis is spoken and lively. Don't confuse it with 可是 (but) or 可以 (can). 歲數 is polite for an older person's age: 您多大歲數了？ For a child: 你幾歲?

Now your compliments really land: 你的中文可真好!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 77 heroes and stubborn types

Describe good and difficult personalities, own up to a mistake, and play something down with ……而已 (that's all).

Everyone makes mistakes at work. Saying "it was only a small slip" and owning up gracefully is a skill in any language.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
英雄	yīngxióng	hero	他救了那個孩子，大家都說他是英雄。 He saved the child, and everyone calls him a hero.
堅定	jiāndìng	firm, determined	她的想法很堅定，誰也改變不了。 Her mind is made up: nobody can change it.
天才	tiāncái	genius	他五歲就會畫畫，真是天才！ He could paint at five: a real genius!
自私	zìsī	selfish	他很自私，從來不幫別人。 He's selfish and never helps anyone.
風趣	fēngqù	witty, humorous	我們的教授很風趣，上課一點也不無聊。 Our professor is witty: his classes are never boring.
高明	gāomíng	brilliant, clever	這個辦法真高明！ What a brilliant idea!
馬虎	mǎhū	careless, sloppy	寫報告不能馬虎。 You can't be sloppy when you write a report.
勤勞	qínláo	hard-working	我外婆很勤勞，每天五點就起床。 My grandma (Mum's mum) is so hard-working: she's up at five every day.
誠懇	chéngkěn	sincere	他很誠懇地{de-tw3}向我道歉。 He apologised to me sincerely.
誠意	chéngyì	sincerity, good faith	我看得出來，他很有誠意。 I can tell he means it.
和氣	héqì	friendly, kindly	那家店的老闆很和氣。 The owner of that shop is really friendly.
暴躁	bàozào	hot-tempered, irritable	他的脾氣很暴躁，一點小事就生氣。 He's hot-tempered: the smallest thing makes him angry.
盲目	mángmù	blind (unthinking)	別盲目地{de-tw3}相信網路上的消息。 Don't blindly believe what you read online.
任性	rènxìng	wilful, headstrong	你別這麼任性，大家都在等你。 Don't be so headstrong: everyone's waiting for you.
疏忽	shūhū	neglect, overlook	對不起，這是我的疏忽。 Sorry, that was my oversight.
如果說	rúguǒshuō	if (we say that)	如果說他是天才，那我就|是笨蛋了！ If he's a genius, then I must be an idiot!

差	chā	difference, gap	這兩個價錢的差{cha1-tw}很大。 There's a big difference between the two prices.
而已	éryǐ	that's all, merely	我只是有點累而已，沒事。 I'm just a bit tired, that's all. I'm fine.

pattern .....而已: that's all, merely

只(是) / 才 / 不過 | a small thing or amount | 而已

而已 goes at the very end and plays something down: "that's all, nothing more". It usually pairs with 只(是), 才 or 不過 earlier in the sentence: 只是一個小錯而已 (just a small mistake).

這只是一個小錯而已，改一下就好了。 **zhè zhǐshì yí ge xiǎo cuò éryǐ gǎi yíxià jiù hǎo le** It's just a small mistake: fix it and that's that.

我們才認識三個月而已。 **wǒmen cái rènshì sān ge yuè éryǐ** We've only known each other three months.

他只是看起來嚴肅而已。 **tā zhǐshì kànqǐlái yánsù éryǐ** He only looks serious, that's all.

dialogue a mistake in the price

manager li 安娜，這份設計的價錢跟客人說的不一樣，差很多。
Ānnà zhè fèn shèjì de jiàqián gēn kèrén shuō de bù yíyàng chà hěn duō · Anna, the price on this design isn't what the client told us: there's a big difference.

anna 對不起，這是我的疏忽，我太馬虎了。
duìbùqǐ zhè shì wǒ de shūhū wǒ tài mǎhū le · I'm sorry, that was my oversight. I was too careless.

manager li 沒關係，只是一個小錯而已。改一下就好了。
méiguānxi zhǐshì yí ge xiǎo cuò éryǐ gǎi yíxià jiù hǎo le · Never mind, it's only a small mistake. Just fix it and that's that.

anna 您不生氣嗎？我以為經理的脾氣很暴躁。
nín bù shēngqì ma wǒ yǐwéi jīnglǐ de píqì hěn bàozào · You're not angry? I thought you had a terrible temper.

manager li 我？我只是看起來嚴肅而已。其實我很和氣的！
wǒ wǒ zhǐshì kànqǐlái yánsù éryǐ qíshí wǒ hěn héqì de · Me? I only look serious, that's all. I'm actually very easy-going!

anna 真的？我太膽小了，平時都不太敢跟您說話。經理，您可真風趣。
zhēnde wǒ tài dǎnxiǎo le píngshí dōu bú tài gǎn gēn nín shuōhuà jīnglǐ nín kě zhēn fēngqù · Really? I'm such a coward: I usually hardly dare talk to you. Manager, you really are funny.

manager li 你很勤勞，也很誠懇，我看得出來你很有誠意。不過，做設計不能盲目地相信別人給的數字。
nǐ hěn qínláo yě hěn chéngkěn wǒ kàn de chū lái nǐ hěn yǒu chéngyì búguò zuò shèjì bù néng mángmù de xiāngxìn biérén gěi de shùzì · You're hard-working and sincere, and I can see you mean well. But in design you can't blindly trust the figures other people give you.

anna 我明白了。首先，我會再檢查一次所有的數字。無論如何，今後我會更小心。
wǒ míngbái le shǒuxiān wǒ huì zài jiǎnchá yí cì suǒyǒu de shùzì wúlùnrúhé jīnhòu wǒ huì gèng xiǎoxīn · I understand. First of all, I'll check all the figures again. Whatever happens, I'll be more careful from now on.

manager li 你改的這個辦法很高明。如果說有什麼問題，就是你太累了。今天早點回家吧！
nǐ gǎi de zhè ge bànfǎ hěn gāomíng rúguǒshuō yǒu shénme wèntí jiù shì nǐ tài lèi le jīntiān zǎodiǎn huí jiā ba · Your fix is clever. If there's any problem at all, it's that you're too tired. Go home early today!

anna 謝謝經理！您簡直是我的英雄！
xièxie jīnglǐ nín jiǎnzhí shì wǒ de yīngxióng · Thank you! You're practically my hero!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



排
pái
line up, arrange in a row



醒
xǐng
wake up, be awake



響
xiǎng
ring, make a sound



根
gēn
(measure word for long thin things)



good to know · As a noun, “difference”, 差 is chā: 這兩個價錢的差很大. As a verb it is chà: 差很多 (there’s a big gap), and it also means “poor, short of”. 這是我的疏忽 (that was my oversight) is the polite, grown-up way to own a mistake at work.

Small slip? Own it, play it down with 而已, and fix it. That’s professional Chinese.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 78 haircuts and willpower

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 12 · looks & personality

Talk about haircuts, courage and ambition, and say “some, more or less” with 多少 before a verb.

A new haircut is the perfect excuse for a chat, and 多少 helps you sound modest about what you’ve done.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
中	zhòng	hit; win (a prize)	他一次就猜中{zhong4-tw3}了答案。 He guessed the answer right first time.
髮型	fǎxíng	hairstyle	你換了新的髮型，很好看！ You’ve got a new hairstyle: it looks great!
瘋子	fēngzi	madman; (joking) lunatic	冬天去海邊游泳？你這個瘋子！ Swimming in the sea in winter? You lunatic!
禿	tū	bald	我爸爸的頭有一點禿了。 My dad’s going a bit bald.
壯	zhuàng	strong, sturdy	他每天運動，身體很壯。 He exercises every day and is really strong.
口才	kǒucái	eloquence, way with words	她的口才很好，很適合當律師。 She’s very articulate: she’d make a good lawyer.
老大	lǎodà	eldest child; the boss	我是家裡的老大，下面還有兩個妹妹。 I’m the eldest: I have two younger sisters.
野心	yěxīn	ambition	他很有野心，想當公司的老闆。 He’s very ambitious: he wants to run the company.
自主	zìzhǔ	independent, your own master	孩子長大了，要讓他們自主。 When children grow up, you have to let them make their own decisions.
慎重	shènzhòng	careful, cautious	這是很大的決定，你要慎重。 This is a big decision: think it through.
正經	zhèngjīng	serious, proper	別開玩笑了，說正經的。 Stop joking: let’s be serious.
意志	yìzhì	will, willpower	學一個新的語言，要有很堅定的意志。 Learning a new language takes real willpower.
膽量	dǎnliàng	courage, guts	一個人去爬那座山，真有膽量！ Climbing that mountain on your own takes real guts!
志氣	zhìqì	ambition, aspiration	年輕人要有志氣。 Young people should aim high.
神氣	shénqì	cocky, full of oneself; spirited	他贏了比賽，現在好神氣！ He won the match, and now he’s so full of himself!

來自	láizì	come from	我們班的同學來自十個國家。 Our classmates come from ten countries.
桌	zhuō	(measure word for tables of food or guests)	媽媽做了一桌{zhuo1-tw2}菜。 Mum made a whole table of dishes.
粗	cū	thick; rough	這支筆太粗了，不好寫。 This pen is too thick: it's hard to write with.

pattern 多少 (some, more or less)

someone | **多少** | **(也) + verb + 一點 / 一些**

多少 before a verb isn't a question: it means "to some extent, at least a little". It often comes with 一點 or 一些 after the verb: 多少吃一點 (eat at least a little). It sounds modest or encouraging.

你多少吃一點吧！ **nǐ duōshǎo chī yìdiǎn ba** Eat at least a little!

學了一年，我多少會說一點中文了。 **xué le yì nián wǒ duōshǎo huì shuō yìdiǎn zhōngwén le** After a year, I can speak a bit of Chinese.

他的話多少有一點道理。 **tā de huà duōshǎo yǒuyìdiǎn dàolǐ** There's something in what he says.

dialogue a new haircut

zhiming 大衛，你換了新髮型！看起來好神氣，好英俊！

Dàwèi nǐ huàn le xīn fǎxíng kànqǐlái hǎo shénqì hǎo yīngjùn · David, you've got a new haircut! You look so pleased with yourself, and so handsome!

david 頭髮太長了，爬山不方便。我爸爸四十歲就禿了，我要好好照顧我的頭髮！

tóufǎ tài cháng le pá shān bù fāngbiàn wǒ bàba sìshí suì jiù tū le wǒ yào hǎohǎo zhàogù wǒ de tóufǎ · My hair was too long for hiking. My dad went bald at forty, so I'm looking after mine!

zhiming 聽說你上個週末去爬玉山了？你真有膽量，也真有本領。

tīngshuō nǐ shàng ge zhōumò qù pá yù shān le nǐ zhēn yǒu dǎnliàng yě zhēn yǒu běnlǐng · I heard you climbed Yushan last weekend? You've got guts, and real ability too.

david 爬山最重要的是意志，身體壯不壯倒是其次。到了山上，那裡的風景美得幾乎讓我哭了！

pá shān zuì zhòngyào de shì yìzhì shēntǐ zhuàng bu zhuàng dàoshì qícì dào le shān shàng nàlǐ de fēngjǐng měi de jīhū ràng wǒ kū le · The main thing in climbing is willpower; whether you're strong comes second. When I got to the top, the view was so beautiful it almost made me cry!

zhiming 可不是！我多少也爬過幾座山，可是玉山我不敢。

kěbúshì wǒ duōshǎo yě pá guo jǐ zuò shān kěshì yù shān wǒ bù gǎn · Too right! I've climbed a few mountains myself, but I wouldn't dare do Yushan.

david 我們這些來自國外的學生，都很有志氣。可是我室友說我是瘋子！

wǒmen zhèxiē láizì guówài de xuéshēng dōu hěn yǒu zhìqì kěshì wǒ shìyǒu shuō wǒ shì fēngzi · Those of us from abroad all aim high. Mind you, my roommate says I'm a lunatic!

zhiming 你室友？你不是一個人住在美玲她們隔壁嗎？

nǐ shìyǒu nǐ bú shì yí ge rén zhù zài Měilíng tāmen gébì ma · Your roommate? Don't you live on your own, next door to Meiling and Anna?

david 上個月搬來一個室友，可是房東下個月要把房子賣了，我得搬出去。所謂「房東」，就是隨時可以叫你搬家的人！

shàng ge yuè bān lái yí ge shìyǒu kěshì fángdōng xià ge yuè yào bǎ fángzi mài le wǒ děi bān chū qù suǒwèi fángdōng jiù shì suíshí kěyǐ jiào nǐ bānjiā de rén · A roommate moved in last month, but now the landlord's selling the flat next month, so I have to move out. A landlord: someone who can make you move whenever they like!

zhiming 找房子要慎重一點，別只看照片。

zhǎo fángzi yào shènzhòng yìdiǎn bié zhǐ kàn zhàopiàn · Be careful when you look for a place: don't just go by the photos.

david 放心，我這次是正經的。我所看到的廣告說，要找喜歡貓的人。我最愛貓了！

fàngxīn wǒ zhè cì shì zhèngjīng de wǒ suǒ kàn dào de guǎnggào shuō yào zhǎo xǐhuān māo de rén wǒ zuì ài māo le · Don't worry, I'm serious this time. The ad I saw says they want someone who likes cats. I love cats!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

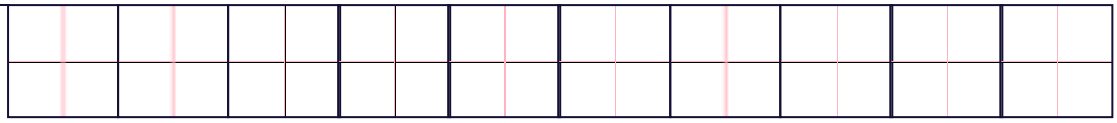
據
jù
rely on

永
yǒng
for ever

遠
yuǎn
far



確
què
certain



good to know · 多少 at the end of a question still asks “how much?”: 多少錢? Before a verb, it means “some, at least a little”. 瘋子 between friends is a joke (“you lunatic!”). Don’t use it about anyone who is really ill.

Modest but true: 我多少會說一點中文了. Actually, quite a lot more than a little!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 79 insiders and outsiders

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 12 · looks & personality

Talk about experts and beginners, character and looks, and say “less than, not even” with 不到 + an amount.

Before a big interview everyone needs a pep talk, and a friend who can say “it’s not even twenty minutes!”

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
高貴	gāoguì	noble, elegant	這件衣服看起來很高貴。 This dress looks very elegant.
內行	nèiháng	expert; know the trade	說到咖啡，她是內行。 When it comes to coffee, she’s an expert.
外行	wàiháng	amateur, layman	對電腦，我完全是外行。 When it comes to computers, I’m a complete amateur.
人格	réngé	character, integrity	我相信他的人格，他不會說假{jia3-tw}話。 I trust his character: he wouldn’t lie.
出身	chūshēn	come from (a family, background)	他出身很窮的家庭。 He comes from a very poor family.
面貌	miànmào	appearance, look (of a place)	十年來，這個城市的面貌改變了很多。 In ten years, the face of this city has changed a lot.
美容院	měiróngyuàn	beauty salon	媽媽每個月去一次美容院。 Mum goes to the beauty salon once a month.
小子	xiǎozi	lad, kid (casual)	你這個小子，又遲到了！ You rascal, late again!
光榮	guāngróng	glorious, honoured	能代表學校參加比賽，我覺得很光榮。 It’s an honour to represent the university in the competition.
崇高	chónggāo	lofty, noble	當醫生是很崇高的工作。 Being a doctor is a noble profession.
品德	pǐndé	moral character	找工作的時候，品德跟能力一樣重要。 When you look for a job, character matters as much as ability.
開明	kāimíng	open-minded, enlightened	我的父母很開明，讓我自己決定。 My parents are open-minded and let me decide for myself.
貼心	tiēxīn	sweet, thoughtful	你還記得我的生日，真貼心！ You remembered my birthday: that’s so sweet!
口紅	kǒuhóng	lipstick	這個顏色的口紅很適合你。 This shade of lipstick really suits you.
重	chóng	again, anew	這篇報告寫得太馬虎了，請你重{chong2-tw}寫。 This report is too sloppy: please write it again.

受到	shòudào	receive, be given	這本書受到很多讀者的喜愛。 This book is loved by many readers.
並且	bìngqiě	and, moreover	他很能幹，並且很誠懇。 He's capable, and sincere too.
不到	bùdào	less than, under	我們班不到十個人。 There are fewer than ten people in our class.

pattern 不到 + amount: less than, not even

something **不到** **an amount (time, money, people)**

不到 + a number or amount means "less than, not even": 不到十個人 (fewer than ten people), 不到五分鐘 (under five minutes). It stresses that the amount is small. Careful: in 找不到 (can't find), 不 and 到 belong to the verb.

面試的時間不到二十分鐘。 **miàn shì de shíjiān búdào èrshí fēnzhōng** The interview is under twenty minutes.

他來臺灣還不到一年，中文已經很好了。 **tā lái Táiwān hái búdào yì nián zhōngwén yǐjīng hěn hǎole** He's been in Taiwan less than a year, and his Chinese is already good.

對我來說，最重要的是工作要有意思。 **duì wǒ lái shuō zuì zhòngyào de shì gōngzuò yào yǒuyìsi** For me, the main thing is that the work is interesting.

dialogue before the interview

meiling 明天的面試很重要。我看，我得來美容院整理一下頭髮。

míngtiān de miàn shì hěn zhòngyào wǒ kàn wǒ děi lái měiróngyuàn zhěnglǐ yíxià tóufǎ · Tomorrow's interview really matters. I think I need to get my hair done at the salon.

anna 你要去面試的是什麼公司？

nǐ yào qù miàn shì de shì shénme gōngsī · What company is the interview with?

meiling 一家化妝品公司。我想換一個工作，可是說到化妝，我完全是外行。

yì jiā huàzhuāngpǐn gōngsī wǒ xiǎng huàn yí ge gōngzuò kěshì shuō dào huàzhuāng wǒ wánquán shì wàiháng · A cosmetics company. I want to change jobs, but when it comes to make-up, I'm a total amateur.

anna 別擔心。對他們來說，最重要的是你的品德和能力。

bié dānxīn duì tāmen lái shuō zuì zhòngyào de shì nǐ de pǐndé hé nénglì · Don't worry. For them, the main thing is your character and ability.

meiling 可是那裡的人都很內行，我又對化妝不感興趣，我怕他們看不起我。

kěshì nàlǐ de rén dōu hěn nèiháng wǒ yòu duì huàzhuāng bù gǎnxìngqù wǒ pà tāmen kànbùqǐ wǒ · But everyone there is an expert, and I'm not even interested in make-up. I'm afraid they'll look down on me.

anna 你的人格好，並且很開明、很貼心，誰會看不起你？

nǐ de réngé hǎo bìngqiě hěn kāimíng hěn tiēxīn shéi huì kànbùqǐ nǐ · You're a good person, open-minded and thoughtful too: who would look down on you?

meiling 你說得對。你看，這支口紅好看嗎？才不到兩百塊。

nǐ shuō de duì nǐ kàn zhè zhī kǒuhóng hǎokàn ma cái búdào liǎngbǎi kuài · You're right. Look, does this lipstick look nice? It's not even two hundred dollars.

anna 很好看！顏色很高貴，很有魅力。

hěn hǎokàn yánsè hěn gāoguì hěn yǒu mèilì · Lovely! It's a very elegant colour, really charming.

meiling 面試不到二十分鐘，可是我多少有點緊張。

miàn shì búdào èrshí fēnzhōng kěshì wǒ duōshǎo yǒudiǎn jǐnzhāng · The interview's under twenty minutes, but I'm still a bit nervous.

anna 別著急，你盼望這個機會很久了。放心！你一定會受到大家的歡迎。能去那麼好的公司，多光榮啊！

bié zhāojí nǐ pànwàng zhè ge jīhuì hěn jiǔ le fàngxīn nǐ yídìng huì shòudào dàjiā de huānyíng néng qù nàme hǎo de gōngsī duō guāngróng a · Don't worry: you've been hoping for a chance like this for ages. Relax! They're going to love you. Getting into such a good company: what an honour!

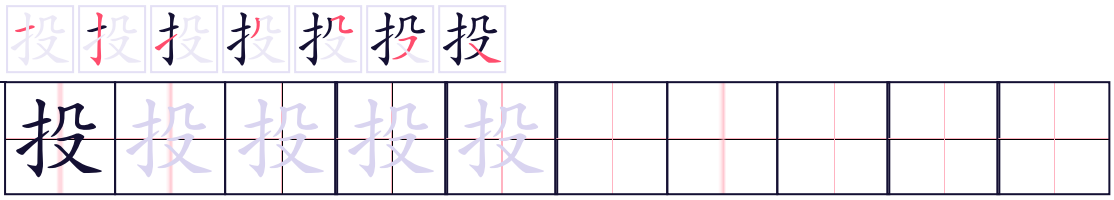
write it trace the grey, then write your own

摸
mō
touch, feel (with your hand)

碰
pèng
touch, bump



剪
jiǎn
cut (with scissors)



投
tóu
throw, drop in, post

good to know · Don’t mix it up with 找不到 (can’t find): there 不到 is part of the verb. 不到 + an amount is “less than”. 重 has two readings: zhòng (heavy) and chóng (again). 重寫 (chóngxiě) means write again.

Insider or outsider, it takes less than a day to learn the words. Good luck, Meiling!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 80 mission: the new flatmate

Read a flatmate's introduction email, follow a viewing, a house-rules chat and a moving day, and describe people's looks and personalities.

Choosing who you live with is all about character: everything from unit 12 comes back in one week.

chapter 1 an email

meiling 安娜，又有人回信了！是那個喜歡爬山的男生。我念給你聽。

Ānnà yòu yǒu rén huíxìn le shì nà ge xǐhuān pá shān de nánshēng wǒ niàn gěi nǐ tīng · Anna, someone else has replied! It's the guy who likes hiking. I'll read it to you.

meiling 「你們好！我看到你們的廣告了。首先，我介紹一下自己：我來自國外，在臺北念書，今年二十七歲。我的愛好是爬山、看電影，週末常常不在家。我的個性很活潑，也很獨立，並且很愛貓。我的長處是熱情、風趣，缺點是有一點懶。我不太會做菜，可是很勤勞，打掃一點也不馬虎。我現在住的地方，房東要賣了，所以我非搬家不可。房租多少都沒有關係，最重要的是室友脾氣好。希望能跟你們見面！」

nǐmen hǎo wǒ kàn dào nǐmen de guǎnggào le shǒuxiān wǒ jièshào yíxià zìjǐ wǒ láizì guówài zài Táiběi niànshū jīnnián èrshíqī suì wǒ de àihào shì pá shān kàn diànyǐng zhōumò chángcháng bú zài jiā wǒ de gèxìng hěn huópō yě hěn dúlì bìngqiě hěn ài māo wǒ de chángchù shì rèqíng fēngqù quēdiǎn shì yǒuyìdiǎn lǎn wǒ bú tài huì zuò cài kěshì hěn qínláo dǎsǎo yìdiǎn yě bù mǎhū wǒ xiànzài zhù de dìfāng fángdōng yào mài le suǒyǐ wǒ fēi bānjiā bù kě fángzū duōshǎo dōu méiyǒu guānxì zuì zhòngyào de shì shìyǒu píqì hǎo xīwàng néng gēn nǐmen jiànmiàn · "Hello! I saw your ad. First, a bit about me: I'm from abroad, studying in Taipei, 27 this year. My hobbies are hiking and films, and I'm often out at weekends. I'm lively and independent, and I love cats. My strengths: warm and funny. My weak point: a bit lazy. I'm not much of a cook, but I'm hard-working and I'm not sloppy about cleaning. The landlord is selling the place I live in now, so I simply have to move. The rent doesn't matter much: the main thing is good-tempered flatmates. I hope we can meet!"

anna 聽起來很不錯！他的中文寫得很好，看起來很誠懇，也很有誠意。

tīngqǐlái hěn búcuò tā de zhōngwén xiě de hěn hǎo kànqǐlái hěn chéngkěn yě hěn yǒu chéngyì · He sounds great! His Chinese is very good, and he seems sincere and serious about it.

meiling 奇怪，這個人跟大衛好像有點像……爬山、電影、愛貓、房東要賣房子……

qíguài zhè ge rén gēn Dàwèi hǎoxiàng yǒudiǎn xiàng pá shān diànyǐng ài māo fángdōng yào mài fángzi · Funny, he sounds a bit like David… hiking, films, cats, a landlord selling up…

anna 如果說他是大衛，那也太有意思了吧！我們請他星期三來看房子。

rúguǒshuō tā shì Dàwèi nà yě tài yǒuyìsi le ba wǒmen qǐng tā xīngqísān lái kàn fángzi · If that's David, that would be too funny! Let's invite him over on Wednesday.

chapter 2 guess who

david 你們好，我是來看房子的……安娜？美玲？

nǐmen hǎo wǒ shì lái kàn fángzi de Ānnà Měilíng · Hello, I've come to see the flat... huh? Anna? Meiling?

anna 大衛！原來是你！美玲幾乎猜中了！

Dàwèi yuánlái shì nǐ Měilíng jīhū cāi zhòng le · David! So it's you! Meiling practically guessed it!

meiling 你就是那個「個性活潑、愛貓」的人？你換了髮型，表情又這麼神氣，我差點認不出來。

nǐ jiù shì nà ge gèxìng huópō ài māo de rén nǐ huàn le fǎxíng biǎoqíng yòu zhème shénqì wǒ chàdiǎn rèn bu chū lái · So you're the "lively cat-lover"? With your new haircut and that cocky look, I almost didn't recognise you.

david 我在網路上只看到廣告，不知道是你們寫的！這可算是今年最好的消息了！

wǒ zài wǎnglù shàng zhǐ kàn dào guǎnggào bù zhīdào shì nǐmen xiě de zhè kě suàn shì jīnnián zuìhǎo de xiāoxí le · I only saw the ad online: I didn't know you'd written it! That really is the best news of the year!

anna 從你家到我們家，走路不到一分鐘！你可真好命。

cóng nǐ jiā dào wǒmen jiā zǒulù búdào yì fēnzhōng nǐ kě zhēn hǎo mìng · From your place to ours is less than a minute's walk! You really are lucky.

david 對我來說，搬家只要過一個門而已，太方便了！

duì wǒ lái shuō bānjiā zhǐyào guò yí ge mén éryǐ tài fāngbiàn le · For me, moving just means going through one door: so convenient!

chapter 3 living together

meiling 好，我們要正經一點。首先，房東很嚴格，不能養狗。
hǎo wǒmen yào zhèngjīng yìdiǎn shǒuxiān fángdōng hěn yángé bù néng yǎng gǒu · Right, let's be serious. First, the landlord is strict: no dogs.

david 沒問題。我膽小，最怕狗了。我只是看起來壯而已！
méi wèntí wǒ dǎnxiǎo zuì pà gǒu le wǒ zhǐ shì kànqǐlái zhuàng éryǐ · No problem. I'm a coward with dogs. I only look tough, that's all!

anna 第二，大家都很重視私人的空間。房東歲數大了，可是頭腦很清楚，什麼都看得很仔細。進別人的房間以前，要先問一下。
dì èr dàjiā dōu hěn zhòngshì sīrén de kōngjiān fángdōng suìshù dà le kěshì tóunǎo hěn qīngchǔ shénme dōu kàn de hěn zǐxì jìn biérén de fángjiān yǐqián yào xiān wèn yíxià · Second, we all value our personal space. The landlord's getting on, but he's sharp and notices everything. Ask before going into someone's room.

david 當然。我很獨立，也很冷靜，不會隨便發脾氣。我也不留鬍子，早上用浴室很快！
dāngrán wǒ hěn dúlì yě hěn lěngjìng bú huì suíbiàn fāpíqì wǒ yě bù liú húzi zǎoshàng yòng yùshì hěn kuài · Of course. I'm independent and calm, and I don't lose my temper easily. And I don't have a beard, so I'm quick in the bathroom in the morning!

meiling 第三，小黑很淘氣，常常跳到桌子上。你受得了嗎？
dì sān Xiǎohēi hěn táoqì chángcháng tiào dào zhuōzi shàng nǐ shòudeliǎo ma · Third, Xiaohei is naughty and keeps jumping on the table. Can you put up with that?

david 我從小就受我奶奶的影響，最愛貓了。小黑可真可愛！
wǒ cóngxiǎo jiù shòu wǒ nǎinai de yǐngxiǎng zuì ài māo le Xiǎohēi kě zhēn kěài · My grandma got me hooked on cats when I was little. Xiaohei is really adorable!

anna 還有，你很粗心，常常忘了帶鑰匙。今後一定要慎重一點。
háiyǒu nǐ hěn cūxīn chángcháng wàng le dài yàoshi jīnhòu yídìng yào shènzhòng yìdiǎn · And also, you're careless: you're always forgetting your keys. From now on, be more careful.

david 好，我保證！你們放心，我很自主，也很有意志，不會任性，也不會自私。如果說我又忘了，我就請你們吃一桌菜。
hǎo wǒ bǎozhèng nǐmen fàngxīn wǒ hěn zìzhǔ yě hěn yǒu yìzhì bú huì rènxìng yě bú huì zìsī rúguǒshuō wǒ yòu wàng le wǒ jiù qǐng nǐmen chī yì zhuō cài · OK, I promise! Don't worry: I'm my own man, I've got willpower, and I'm neither headstrong nor selfish. If I forget again, I'll treat you to a whole table of dishes.

chapter 4 through one door

zhiming 大衛，你的東西也太多了吧！這些書比我還重！
Dàwèi nǐ de dōngxi yě tài duō le ba zhèxiē shū bǐ wǒ hái zhòng · David, you've got way too much stuff! These books weigh more than I do!

david 大部分是電影和爬山的書，跟我的夢想有關。我瘋狂地愛電影，想當一個導演！
dà bùfen shì diànyǐng hé pá shān de shū gēn wǒ de mèngxiǎng yǒuguān wǒ fēngkuáng de ài diànyǐng xiǎng dāng yí ge dǎoyǎn · Mostly books on films and hiking: they're to do with my dream. I'm crazy about films and I want to be a director!

zhiming 你很有野心，也很有志氣嘛。好，我幫你搬。我是家裡的老大，身材又壯，搬東西是我的本領！
nǐ hěn yǒu yěxīn yě hěn yǒu zhìqì ma hǎo wǒ bāng nǐ bān wǒ shì jiā lǐ de lǎodà shēncái yòu zhuàng bān dōngxi shì wǒ de běnlǐng · You're ambitious, and you aim high. OK, I'll help you carry it. I'm the eldest at home, and I'm built for it: carrying things is my speciality!

auntie wang 你們辛苦了！我做了一桌菜，搬完了大家一起吃。大衛，你外表看起來很嚴肅，其實很溫和嘛。
nǐmen xīnkǔ le wǒ zuò le yì zhuō cài bān wán le dàjiā yìqǐ chī Dàwèi nǐ wàibiǎo kànqǐlái hěn yánsù qíshí hěn wēnhé ma · You've worked so hard! I've made a whole table of food: when you're done, let's all eat together. David, you look so serious, but you're really a softie.

david 王阿姨，您可真熱心，又很好客！
Wáng āyí nín kě zhēn rèxīn yòu hěn hàokè · Auntie Wang, you're so kind, and so hospitable!

auntie wang 你這個小子，嘴巴真甜。你的口才那麼好，以後一定是個能幹的導演。
nǐ zhè ge xiǎozi zuǐba zhēn tián nǐ de kǒucái nàme hǎo yǐhòu yídìng shì ge nénggàn de dǎoyǎn · You rascal, what a sweet talker. With a tongue like that, you'll make a fine director one day.

chapter 5 two pieces of good news

meiling 我也有好消息：我被那家化妝品公司錄取了！面試不到二十分鐘，他們就說要我了。
wǒ yě yǒu hǎo xiāoxí wǒ bèi nà jiā huàzhuāngpǐn gōngsī lùqǔ le miàn shì búdào èrshí fēnzhōng tāmen jiù shuō yào wǒ le · I've got good news too: I got the job at the cosmetics company! The interview was under twenty minutes, and they said yes on the spot.

anna 太好了！他們一定受到你的魅力影響了。那家公司的形象很高貴，你這麼有活力，一定很適合。你可真厲害！
tài hǎo le tāmen yídìng shòudào nǐ de mèilì yǐngxiǎng le nà jiā gōngsī de xíngxiàng hěn gāoguì nǐ zhème yǒu huólì yídìng hěn shìhé nǐ kě zhēn lìhài · Brilliant! They must have fallen for your charm. That company has such an elegant image, and you're so full of energy: you'll fit right in. You really are amazing!

meiling 經理是個內行。她說，對化妝我雖然是外行，可是我的品德和人格最重要。她還送了我一支口紅！能在那裡工作，很光榮。
jīnglǐ shì ge nèiháng tā shuō duì huàzhuāng wǒ suīrán shì wàiháng kěshì wǒ de pǐndé hé réngé zuì zhòngyào tā hái sòng le wǒ yì zhī kǒuhóng néng zài nàlǐ gōngzuò hěn guāngróng · The manager is an expert. She said that although I'm an amateur at make-up, my character matters most. She even gave me a lipstick! It's an honour to work there.

david 我們家有一個設計的天才、一個化妝品公司的新員工，還有一個瘋子導演！
wǒmen jiā yǒu yí ge shèjì de tiāncái yí ge huàzhuāngpǐn gōngsī de xīn yuángōng háiyǒu yí ge fēngzi dǎoyǎn · Our home has a design genius, a new cosmetics employee, and a crazy director!

anna 這個家的特點，就是每個人都很不一樣。可是大家都很貼心。
zhè ge jiā de tèdiǎn jiù shì měi ge rén dōu hěn bù yíyàng kěshì dàjiā dōu hěn tiēxīn · What makes this home special is that everyone is so different. But we all look out for each other.

david 謝謝你們這麼開明，讓一個來自國外的瘋子搬進來。我多少存了一點錢，下個月我請大家去吃大餐！
xièxie nǐmen zhème kāimíng ràng yí ge láizì guówài de fēngzi bān jìn lái wǒ duōshǎo cún le yìdiǎn qián xià ge yuè wǒ qǐng dàjiā qù chī dà cān · Thank you for being so open-minded and letting a lunatic from abroad move in. I've saved a bit, so next month dinner out is on me!

meiling 今後我們就是一家人了。小黑，你看，你有新的英雄了！
jīnhòu wǒmen jiù shì yì jiā rén le Xiǎohēi nǐ kàn nǐ yǒu xīn de yīngxióng le · From now on we're a family. Xiaohei, look: you've got a new hero!

chapter 6 flatmate wanted

anna 找室友！臺北市中心有一間舒服的公寓，離捷運站走路五分鐘。三個房間，現在有兩位女生住，還有一間空房。

zhǎo shìyǒu Táiběi shì zhōngxīn yǒu yì jiān shūfu de gōngyù lí jiéyùn zhàn zǒulù wǔ fēnzhōng sān ge fángjiān xiànzài yǒu liǎng wèi nǚshēng zhù háiyǒu yì jiān kōng fáng · Flatmate wanted! A comfortable flat in central Taipei, five minutes' walk from the MRT station. Three bedrooms, two women live here now and there is one empty room.

anna 房間大約五坪，有一張床、一個衣櫃和一張書桌。窗戶很大，早上很亮。房租一個月一萬兩千塊，水電另外算。

fángjiān dàyuē wǔ píng yǒu yì zhāng chuáng yí ge yīguì hé yì zhāng shūzhuō chuānghu hěn dà zǎoshàng hěn liàng fángzū yí ge yuè yí wàn liǎngqiān kuài shuǐ diàn lìngwài suàn · The room is about five ping, with a bed, a wardrobe and a desk. The window is big and the room is bright in the morning. Rent is twelve thousand a month, with water and electricity extra.

anna 樓下有便利商店，也有一家好吃的早點店，生活很方便。我們白天都要上班，晚上比較安靜。

lóuxià yǒu biànlìshāngdiàn yě yǒu yì jiā hǎochī de zǎodiǎn diàn shēnghuó hěn fāngbiàn wǒmen báitiān dōu yào shàngbān wǎnshàng bǐjiào ānjìng · There is a convenience store downstairs and a good breakfast shop too, so life is very convenient. We both work in the daytime, so it is quieter in the evening.

anna 我們希望你愛乾淨、人好，不要太吵。房東不讓養狗，可是我們有一隻很可愛的貓，叫小黑，所以愛貓的人更好。

wǒmen xīwàng nǐ ài gānjìng rén hǎo bú yào tài chǎo fángdōng bú ràng yǎng gǒu kěshì wǒmen yǒu yì zhī hěn kěài de māo jiào Xiǎohēi suǒyǐ ài māo de rén gèng hǎo · We hope you're tidy, kind and not too noisy. The landlord doesn't allow dogs, but we have a very cute cat called Xiaohei, so cat lovers are even better.

anna 我們喜歡聊天，週末常常一起做飯。如果你有興趣，請寫信告訴我們你是一個什麼樣的人，也說一說你的愛好。我們等你！

wǒmen xǐhuān liáotiān zhōumò chángcháng yìqǐ zuò fàn rúguǒ nǐ yǒu xìngqù qǐng xiě xìn gàosù wǒmen nǐ shì yí ge shénme yàng de rén yě shuō yi shuo nǐ de àihào wǒmen děng nǐ · We love chatting and often cook together at weekends. If you're interested, please write and tell us what kind of person you are and what your hobbies are. We look forward to hearing from you!

A new flatmate, a new job and a full table: you described them all, looks, quirks and kind hearts. Welcome home!
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