day 102 tidying up

Talk about tidying, cleaning and home appliances, and say “all the same, as usual” with 照 + verb.

Sharing a home means sharing the chores, and 照 lets you say that some things happen whatever the weather.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
掃	sǎo	sweep	我每天早上掃地。 I sweep the floor every morning.
鏡子	jìngzi	mirror	浴室的鏡子太小了。 The bathroom mirror is too small.
日常	rìcháng	daily, everyday	日常生活中，我常常用中文。 I use Chinese a lot in daily life.
倆	liǎng	two (people), the two of	我們倆是好朋友。 The two of us are good friends.
收拾	shōushí	tidy up, put in order	出門以前，先把房間收拾好。 Tidy your room before you go out.
電器	diànqì	electrical appliance	這家店賣各種電器。 This shop sells all kinds of electrical goods.
家電	jiādiàn	home appliance	冰箱、洗衣機都是家電。 Fridges and washing machines are home appliances.
社區	shèqū	community, neighbourhood	我們社區有一個小公園。 Our neighbourhood has a little park.
裝飾	zhuāngshì	decorate; decoration	我們用花裝飾客廳。 We decorated the living room with flowers.
保存	bǎocún	keep, preserve; save (a file)	這些老照片要好好保存。 These old photos should be kept carefully.
插	chā	insert, stick in; plug in	冰箱的電插好了嗎？ Is the fridge plugged in?
擋	dǎng	block, keep off	你的車擋住我的路了。 Your car is blocking my way.
安裝	ānzhuāng	install, put in	新的冷氣明天來安裝。 The new air conditioner is being installed tomorrow.
完整	wánzhěng	complete, intact	這本書很舊，可是很完整。 This book is old, but it’s all there.
迅速	xùnsù	fast, rapid	他的中文進步得很迅速。 His Chinese is improving fast.
用處	yòngchù	use, usefulness	這個東西沒什麼用處。 This thing is not much use.
重大	zhòngdà	major, significant	這是一個重大的決定。 This is a major decision.

徹底	chèdǐ	thorough	我們把廚房徹底打掃了一次。 We gave the kitchen a thorough clean.

pattern 照 + verb: all the same, as usual

a condition (rain, illness, no one there) **照** **verb**

照 + verb says that something carries on as normal, whatever happens: 照付 pay all the same, 照去 go anyway, 照開 open as usual. A condition usually comes first: 下雨，我們照去 (it's raining, but we're going anyway).

雖然生病了，他照去上班。 **suīrán shēngbìng le tā zhào qù shàngbān** He was ill, but he went to work all the same.

房東出國了，房租我們照付。 **fángdōng chū guó le fángzū wǒmen zhào fù** The landlord's abroad, but we pay the rent as usual.

你說什麼都沒用，他照做他的。 **nǐ shuō shénme dōu méi yòng tā zhào zuò tā de** Whatever you say, he'll just carry on doing his own thing.

dialogue grandma is coming

meiling 好消息！我奶奶下個月要來臺北，在我們家住一個星期。
hǎo xiāoxí wǒ nǎinai xià ge yuè yào lái Táiběi zài wǒmen jiā zhù yí ge xīngqí · Good news! My grandma is coming to Taipei next month to stay with us for a week.

anna 太好了！可是你看客廳……大衛的東西到處都是，連門都擋住了。
tài hǎo le kěshì nǐ kàn kètīng Dàwèi de dōngxi dàochù dōu shì lián mén dōu dǎng zhù le · Brilliant! But look at the living room… David's things are everywhere: they're even blocking the door.

david 好啦，我會收拾的。奶奶來，我們得好好接待她。
hǎo la wǒ huì shōushí de nǎinai lái wǒmen děi hǎohǎo jiēdài tā · OK, OK, I'll tidy up. With Grandma coming, we've got to host her properly.

meiling 可不是！我看，我們得來一次大掃除了。
kěbúshì wǒ kàn wǒmen děi lái yí cì dàsǎochú le · You can say that again! I think it's time for a big clean.

david 所謂大掃除，就是把所有的東西都收拾一遍嗎？
suǒwèi dàsǎochú jiùshì bǎ suǒyǒu de dōngxi dōu shōushí yí biàn ma · So a "big clean" means tidying absolutely everything?

meiling 對，要徹底打掃。我奶奶最愛乾淨了，不收拾好，她就沒地方睡。
duì yào chèdǐ dǎsǎo wǒ nǎinai zuì ài gānjìng le bù shōushí hǎo tā jiù méi dìfāng shuì · Yes, a thorough one. My grandma loves things spotless: if we don't tidy up, she'll have nowhere to sleep.

david 可是這個週末我要去爬山，而且我的日常用品太多了，放不下……
kěshì zhè ge zhōumò wǒ yào qù pá shān érqiě wǒ de rìcháng yòngpǐn tài duō le fàng bu xià · But I'm going hiking this weekend, and anyway I've got too much everyday stuff: it doesn't fit…

meiling 爬山可以，房間照收拾！
pá shān kěyǐ fángjiān zhào shōushí · Hiking's fine, but you're tidying your room all the same!

anna 那我們分一下：由你負責客廳的電器，我負責掃地和擦鏡子。
nà wǒmen fēn yíxià yóu nǐ fùzé kètīng de diànqì wǒ fùzé sǎo dì hé cā jìngzi · Let's split it up, then: you take care of the appliances in the living room, and I'll sweep and do the mirrors.

david 沒問題，我動作很迅速。這可是一個重大的決定！
méi wèntí wǒ dòngzuò hěn xùnsù zhè kěshì yí ge zhòngdà de juédìng · No problem, I'm quick. This is a major decision, you know!

meiling 我來裝飾奶奶的房間。還有，我的房間由我自己收拾，你們倆千萬別進來！
wǒ lái zhuāngshì nǎinai de fángjiān háiyǒu wǒ de fángjiān yóu wǒ zìjǐ shōushí nǐmen liǎng qiānwàn bié jìn lái · I'll decorate Grandma's room. And my room I'll tidy myself: whatever you two do, don't come in!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

速
sù
speed

周
zhōu
circuit, lap (measure word)

圍
wéi
surround, gather round



迷
mí
be crazy about; be lost

good to know · 大掃除 (dàsǎochú) is the big clean before Lunar New Year: the whole home is scrubbed to sweep out the old year. Any big clean-up gets the name too. 日常 goes before a noun: 日常生活 daily life, 日常用品 everyday things. 倆 means “two (people)” and comes after 我們, 你們, 他們: 我們倆 the two of us.

Rain or shine, you keep learning all the same: 照學! Now you can talk your way through the chores. Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 103 glass, quilts and sheets

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 16 · house & home

Sort the recycling, talk about quilts, sheets and glass, and react to surprises with 居然.

Taiwan sorts its rubbish with real care, and every flat has someone who keeps far too many boxes.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
剪刀	jiǎndāo	scissors	可以借我一把剪刀嗎？ Could I borrow a pair of scissors?
玻璃	bōlí	glass	小心，地上有玻璃。 Careful, there's glass on the floor.
回收	huíshōu	recycle; recycling	這些紙都可以回收。 All this paper can be recycled.
被子	bèizi	quilt, duvet	晚上很冷，多蓋一條被子吧。 It's cold at night: put another quilt on.
光線	guāngxiàn	light (in a room)	這個房間的光線很好。 This room gets lovely light.
建築	jiànzhú	building, architecture; build	這棟建築有一百年了。 This building is a hundred years old.
握	wò	grip, hold (in the hand)	他握著我的手說謝謝。 He held my hand and said thank you.
床單	chuángdān	bed sheet	床單要常常洗。 Sheets need washing often.
扇子	shànzi	(hand) fan	這把扇子是奶奶送我的。 Grandma gave me this fan.
場所	chǎngsuǒ	place, venue	公共場所要保持安靜。 Public places should be kept quiet.
拆	chāi	take apart, tear open	他拆開了禮物。 He unwrapped the present.
澆	jiāo	water (plants), pour on	我去給花澆水。 I'm going to water the flowers.
居然	jūrán	to my surprise, actually	他居然忘了我的生日！ He actually forgot my birthday!
嚴	yán	strict, tight	他爸爸管得很嚴。 His dad is very strict with him.
原則	yuánzé	principle	我的原則是不借錢給別人。 My principle is never to lend people money.
紫	zǐ	purple	她穿了一件紫的衣服。 She was wearing something purple.
比例	bǐlì	proportion, ratio	我們班上男生的比例比較高。 Our class has a higher proportion of boys.

沉	chén	sink; heavy	石頭放進水裡就沉下去了。 Put a stone in water and it sinks.

pattern 居然: to my surprise, actually

someone **居然** **something you didn't expect**

居然 goes before the verb and shows surprise: what happened is not what you expected. 他居然來了 means "he actually came (and I never thought he would)". It is often followed by 了 or an exclamation mark.

這麼重要的事，你居然忘了！ **zhème zhòngyào de shì nǐ jūrán wàng le** Something this important, and you actually forgot!

這個舊箱子裡居然有一把扇子。 **zhè ge jiù xiāngzi lǐ jūrán yǒu yì bǎ shànzi** There was a fan in this old box, of all things.

你千萬別把玻璃丟進一般垃圾。 **nǐ qiānwàn bié bǎ bōlí diū jìn yìbān lèsè** Whatever you do, don't throw glass in with the general rubbish.

dialogue david's treasures

anna 大衛，你的房間裡居然有這麼多箱子！
Dàwèi nǐ de fángjiān lǐ jūrán yǒu zhème duō xiāngzi · David, there are so many boxes in your room!

david 它們都有用！我有一個原則：好的箱子不丟。
tāmen dōu yǒuyòng wǒ yǒu yí ge yuánzé hǎo de xiāngzi bù diū · They're all useful! I have a principle: never throw away a good box.

anna 可是都堆到窗戶了，房間的光線都沒了。這個好沉，裡面是什麼？
kěshì dōu duī dào chuānghu le fángjiān de guāngxiàn dōu méi le zhè ge hǎo chén lǐmiàn shì shénme · But they're piled up to the window: there's no light left in here. This one's so heavy: what's in it?

david 我看一下……居然是我去年買的玻璃杯！還有一把扇子，是在一個老建築裡的小店買的。
wǒ kàn yíxià jūrán shì wǒ qùnián mǎi de bōlí bēi háiyǒu yì bǎ shànzi shì zài yí ge lǎo jiànzhú lǐ de xiǎo diàn mǎi de · Let me see... It's the glasses I bought last year! And a fan, from a little shop in an old building.

meiling 明天是回收的日子。紙箱要拆開，玻璃要另外放。臺北的垃圾分類很嚴，你們千萬別放錯。
míngtiān shì huíshōu de rìzi zhǐ xiāng yào chāi kāi bōlí yào lìngwài fàng Táiběi de lèsè fēn lèi hěn yán nǐmen qiānwàn bié fàng cuò · Tomorrow's recycling day. Flatten the boxes and put the glass out separately. Taipei is strict about sorting: whatever you do, don't get it wrong.

david 好啦，別催我，我去拿剪刀。
hǎo la bié cuī wǒ wǒ qù ná jiǎndāo · OK, don't rush me, I'll get the scissors.

anna 美玲，你在洗什麼？
Měilíng nǐ zài xǐ shénme · Meiling, what are you washing?

meiling 奶奶的被子和床單。她喜歡紫的，所以我買了新的紫床單。洗完了，我還要去給花澆水。
nǎinai de bèizi hé chuángdān tā xǐhuān zǐ de suǒyǐ wǒ mǎi le xīn de zǐ chuángdān xǐ wán le wǒ hái yào qù gěi huā jiāo shuǐ · Grandma's quilt and sheets. She likes purple, so I bought new purple sheets. When this is done I still have to water the flowers.

anna 顏色很漂亮！我可以幫你一起裝飾奶奶的房間。
yánsè hěn piàoliàng wǒ kěyǐ bāng nǐ yìqǐ zhuāngshì nǎinai de fángjiān · What a lovely colour! I can help you decorate Grandma's room.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



背
bèi
back (of the body)

偉
wěi
great

簡
jiǎn
simple

鐵
tiě
iron

good to know · 居然 sounds surprised, sometimes a little shocked. 竟然 means the same and is a bit more written. 紫 is an adjective here: 紫的 purple (one), 紫床單 purple sheets. 握 is to grip or hold in your hand: 握手 shake hands, 握好 hold tight.

You actually made it through a whole box of words: 你居然都學會了!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 104 heating and tap water

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 16 · house & home

Talk about heating, walls and tap water, compare homes in the city and the suburbs, and say "anyway, in any case" with 反正.

Taipei winters are damp and chilly indoors, and 反正 is how Taiwanese people shrug and get on with it.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
暖氣	nuǎnqì	heating	這家旅館有暖氣嗎？ Does this hotel have heating?
文具	wénjù	stationery	學校旁邊有一家文具店。 There's a stationery shop next to the school.
搖	yáo	shake, wave	喝以前，先搖一搖。 Shake well before drinking.
自來水	zìláishuǐ	tap water	臺北的自來水要煮開了再喝。 In Taipei, boil the tap water before you drink it.
郊外	jiāowài	suburbs, outskirts	週末我們去郊外走走。 Let's go for a walk out of town at the weekend.
角落	jiǎoluò	corner	房間的角落有一張小桌子。 There's a little table in the corner of the room.
牆壁	qiángbì	wall	牆壁上掛著一張照片。 There's a photo on the wall.
住宅	zhùzhái	residence, housing	這裡都是住宅，很安靜。 It's all housing round here: very quiet.
鋪	pū	spread, lay (out)	請把床單鋪好。 Please put the sheet on the bed properly.
倉庫	cāngkù	storeroom, warehouse	舊東西都放在倉庫裡。 The old things are all in the storeroom.
火柴	huǒchái	match (for fire)	家裡有火柴嗎？ Are there any matches in the house?
反正	fǎnzhèng	anyway, in any case	反正我沒事，我陪你去。 I've nothing on anyway: I'll come with you.
下降	xiàjiàng	fall, drop, go down	晚上溫度會下降。 The temperature drops at night.
增長	zēngzhǎng	grow, increase	這個城市的人口一直增長。 This city's population keeps growing.
作為	zuòwéi	as (a role); use as	作為學生，我們應該好好學習。 As students, we should study hard.
薄	bó	thin	這件衣服太薄了，不夠暖和。 This top is too thin: it isn't warm enough.
差距	chājù	gap, disparity	城市和鄉下的差距很大。 The gap between city and countryside is big.

充分	chōngfèn	ample, full; fully	考試以前要有充分的準備。 You need to be fully prepared before an exam.

pattern 反正: anyway, in any case

whatever the situation **反正** **the fact that doesn't change**

反正 means "anyway, whatever happens": the situation may vary, but this fact stays the same, so there's nothing to worry about. It usually starts the clause: 反正我們不急 (we're not in a hurry anyway).

你去不去都可以，反正我要去。 **nǐ qù bu qù dōu kěyǐ fǎnzhèng wǒ yào qù** Come or don't, it's up to you: I'm going anyway.

反正冷的日子不多，多穿一點就好了。 **fǎnzhèng lěng de rìzi bù duō duō chuān yìdiǎn jiù hǎo le** There aren't many cold days anyway: just wear an extra layer.

牆壁的顏色變了，這跟房子太老有關。 **qiángbì de yánsè biàn le zhè gēn fángzi tài lǎo yǒuguān** The walls have changed colour: that's to do with the building being old.

dialogue a cold day indoors

zhiming 好冷！你們家居然沒有暖氣？
hǎo lěng nǐmen jiā jūrán méiyǒu nuǎnqì · It's freezing! You don't have heating?

david 拜託，別說了，我們都快冷死了！
bàituō bié shuō le wǒmen dōu kuài lěng sǐ le · Please, don't remind us: we're freezing!

meiling 臺灣的住宅很少有暖氣。反正冷的日子不多，多穿一點就好了。
Táiwān de zhùzhái hěn shǎo yǒu nuǎnqì fǎnzhèng lěng de rìzi bù duō duō chuān yìdiǎn jiù hǎo le · Hardly any homes in Taiwan have heating. There aren't many cold days anyway: just wear more layers.

david 可是你們看，角落的牆壁好濕，顏色都變了。
kěshì nǐmen kàn jiǎoluò de qiángbì hǎo shī yánsè dōu biàn le · But look: the wall in the corner is really damp, and it's changed colour.

zhiming 這跟房子太老有關，也跟臺北冬天常下雨有關。你們再不處理，奶奶來了就要生病了。
zhè gēn fángzi tài lǎo yǒuguān yě gēn Táiběi dōngtiān cháng xiàyǔ yǒuguān nǐmen zài bù chǔlǐ nǎinai lái le jiù yào shēngbìng le · That's to do with the building being old, and with Taipei raining so much in winter. If you don't deal with it now, your grandma will get ill when she comes.

meiling 我知道。奶奶的床我已經鋪好了，床單也是新的，可是被子太薄，我再加一條。
wǒ zhīdào nǎinai de chuáng wǒ yǐjīng pū hǎo le chuángdān yě shì xīn de kěshì bèizi tài bó wǒ zài jiā yì tiáo · I know. I've already made Grandma's bed, with new sheets, but the quilt is too thin, so I'll add another one.

anna 對了，自來水可以直接喝嗎？
duìle zìláishuǐ kěyǐ zhíjiē hē ma · Oh, by the way, can you drink the tap water straight?

meiling 最好煮開了再喝。郊外有的老住宅，水管更舊。
zuìhǎo zhǔ kāi le zài hē jiāowài yǒude lǎo zhùzhái shuǐ guǎn gèng jiù · Best to boil it first. In some of the old houses in the suburbs, the pipes are even older.

zhiming 說到郊外，我想搬到新北。那裡的房子比較便宜。這幾年新北的人口一直增長，跟臺北的差距越來越小了。
shuō dào jiāowài wǒ xiǎng bān dào Xīnběi nàlǐ de fángzi bǐjiào piányí zhè jǐ nián Xīnběi de rénkǒu yìzhí zēngzhǎng gēn Táiběi de chājù yuèláiyuè xiǎo le · Speaking of out of town, I'd like to move to New Taipei. Houses are cheaper there. Its population keeps growing, and the gap with Taipei gets smaller every year.

david 搬家以前要有充分的準備。我們先把這個倉庫一樣的客廳收拾好吧！
bānjiā yǐqián yào yǒu chōngfèn de zhǔnbèi wǒmen xiān bǎ zhè ge cāngkù yíyàng de kètīng shōushí hǎo ba · You need to prepare properly before you move. Let's tidy up this storeroom of a living room first!

write it trace the grey, then write your own

市
shì
city (in addresses)

卡
kǎ
card; get stuck

碼
mǎ
pile, stack



未
wèi
not yet, not (written)

good to know · 反正 shrugs: “whatever happens, it doesn’t matter, because…”. Don’t confuse it with 其實 (actually, in fact), which corrects what someone thinks. 作為 + a role means “as”: 作為室友 as a flatmate, 作為老師 as a teacher. It also means “use as”: 把這個房間作為倉庫 use this room as a storeroom.

Cold outside, warm words inside. 反正 you’re here: one more day of Chinese done!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 105 drawers and candles

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 16 · house & home

Get through a power cut with candles, blankets and string, and say "just won't, simply" with 就是 + verb or adjective.

Things break at the worst moment, and 就是 is how you say a drawer, a cat or a person simply won't cooperate.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
移動	yídòng	move, shift	請不要移動桌子。 Please don't move the tables.
場地	chǎngdì	venue, site	比賽的場地在學校裡。 The match venue is at the school.
住戶	zhùhù	resident, household	這棟大樓有五十個住戶。 This building has fifty households.
抽屜	chōutì	drawer	鑰匙在第二個抽屜裡。 The key is in the second drawer.
墊	diàn	put under, pad; pay for (sb.) for now	椅子太低，下面墊一本書吧。 The chair's too low: put a book under it.
蠟燭	làzhú	candle	停電了，快點蠟燭。 The power's gone: light a candle, quick.
毯子	tǎnzi	blanket	冷的話，這裡有毯子。 If you're cold, there's a blanket here.
繩子	shéngzi	rope, string	這條繩子不夠長。 This rope isn't long enough.
縫	féng	sew, stitch	奶奶會縫衣服。 Grandma can sew clothes.
凳子	dèngzi	stool	這張凳子太高了。 This stool is too high.
地毯	dìtǎn	rug, carpet	客廳鋪了一塊地毯。 There's a rug on the living-room floor.
相互	xiānghù	mutually, each other	鄰居應該相互幫忙。 Neighbours should help one another.
者	zhě	-er, one who (suffix)	這個網站的使用者很多。 This website has lots of users.
作用	zuòyòng	effect, function	這個藥沒什麼作用。 This medicine doesn't do much.
不然	bùrán	otherwise, or else	快走吧，不然要遲到了。 Let's go, or we'll be late.
長度	chángdù	length	這條褲子的長度剛好。 These trousers are just the right length.

充足	chōngzú	plentiful, ample	時間很充足，不用急。 There's plenty of time: no need to hurry.
當初	dāngchū	at that time, originally	當初我不想來，現在很喜歡這裡。 At first I didn't want to come; now I love it here.

pattern 就是 + verb / adjective: just, simply

someone or something | **就是** | **(不/沒) verb, or adjective**

就是 before a verb stresses that something simply is so, often stubbornly: 他就是不聽 (he just won't listen), 抽屜就是打不開 (the drawer just won't open). Before an adjective it points to the one weak spot: 就是小了一點 (it's just a bit small).

我跟他說了很多次，他就是不聽。 **wǒ gēn tā shuō le hěn duō cì tā jiùshì bù tīng** I've told him again and again, but he just won't listen.

這件衣服很好看，就是貴了一點。 **zhè jiàn yīfú hěn hǎokàn jiùshì guì le yìdiǎn** This top looks great: it's just a bit expensive.

我並不是不想幫忙，是真的沒有時間。 **wǒ bìng bú shì bù xiǎng bāngmáng shì zhēnde méiyǒu shíjiān** It's not that I don't want to help: I really don't have the time.

桌子腳就是短了一點，下面墊一本書吧。 **zhuōzi jiǎo jiùshì duǎn le yìdiǎn xiàmiàn diàn yì běn shū ba** The table leg is just a little short: put a book under it.

dialogue lights out

david 怎麼突然停電了？
zěnme túrán tíng diàn le · Why has the power suddenly gone off?

anna 反正我們本來就沒有暖氣。
fǎnzhèng wǒmen běnlái jiù méiyǒu nuǎnqì · Well, we never had any heating anyway.

meiling 王阿姨剛才打電話來說，這次停電是受了大雨的影響，所有的住戶都沒電了。
Wáng āyí gāngcái dǎdiànhuà lái shuō zhè cì tíng diàn shì shòu le dà yǔ de yǐngxiǎng suǒyǒu de zhùhù dōu méi diàn le · Auntie Wang just rang: the heavy rain caused it, and every flat in the building is without power.

anna 蠟燭在哪裡？我記得放在抽屜裡。
làzhú zài nǎlǐ wǒ jìde fàng zài chōutì lǐ · Where are the candles? I remember putting them in a drawer.

david 找到了，可是這個抽屜就是打不開！
zhǎo dào le kěshì zhè ge chōutì jiùshì dǎ bu kāi · Found it, but this drawer just won't open!

meiling 你先把凳子移動到這邊，站上去，用那條繩子拉一下。
nǐ xiān bǎ dèngzi yídòng dào zhè biān zhàn shàng qù yòng nà tiáo shéngzi lā yíxià · Move the stool over here first, stand on it and pull with that bit of string.

david 開了！蠟燭和火柴都在。蠟燭的光多少有點作用。
kāi le làzhú hé huǒchái dōu zài làzhú de guāng duōshǎo yǒudiǎn zuòyòng · It's open! The candles and matches are both here. Candlelight helps a bit, at least.

anna 反正停電了也不能打掃，我們休息一下吧。我去拿毯子，不然大家會感冒。
fǎnzhèng tíng diàn le yě bù néng dǎsǎo wǒmen xiūxí yíxià ba wǒ qù ná tǎnzi bùrán dàjiā huì gǎnmào · We can't clean in a power cut anyway, so let's take a break. I'll get some blankets, or we'll all catch cold.

meiling 當初搬進來的時候，我們並沒想到這棟大樓這麼老。
dāngchū bān jìn lái de shíhòu wǒmen bìng méixiǎngdào zhè dòng dàlóu zhème lǎo · When we first moved in, we had no idea this building was so old.

david 老大樓也有好處：住戶都認識，大家會相互幫忙。
lǎo dàlóu yě yǒu hǎochù zhùhù dōu rènshi dàjiā huì xiānghù bāngmáng · Old buildings have their good side: all the residents know each other and help each other out.

meiling 對了，王阿姨說下個月的住戶大會還沒有場地。等電來了，我們的客廳光線充足，可以借給她用。
duìle Wáng āyí shuō xià ge yuè de zhùhù dàhuì hái méiyǒu chǎngdì děng diàn lái le wǒmen de kètīng guāngxiàn chōngzú kěyǐ jiè gěi tā yòng · Oh, and Auntie Wang says next month's residents' meeting still has no venue. Once the power's back, our living room is nice and bright: we could lend it to her.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

景
jǐng
scene, view

種
zhǒng
kind, type

羊
yáng
sheep, goat



晴 qíng sunny, clear											

good to know · 不然 means “otherwise, or else”: 快走，不然要遲到了 (hurry, or we’ll be late). 要不然 is the same, a little more emphatic. 者 makes “one who…” in written words: 使用者 user, 讀者 reader, 記者 reporter. 當初 is “back then, at the start”, often with regret or surprise.

The lights may go out, but your Chinese just won’t stop: 就是不停!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 106 gas, fans and alleys

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 16 · house & home

Talk about gas, fans, alleys and roadworks, and say “just as expected” with 果然.

In a Taipei alley, the neighbours always know what’s coming, and 果然 is how you say “told you so”.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
罐子	guànzi	jar, tin, can	糖放在那個罐子裡。 The sugar is in that jar.
電風扇	diànfēngshàn	electric fan	天氣好熱，把電風扇打開吧。 It’s so hot: turn the fan on.
家事	jiāshì	housework, chores	我們家的家事大家一起做。 In our home, everyone shares the chores.
瓦斯	wǎsī	(cooking) gas	出門以前，記得關瓦斯。 Remember to turn the gas off before you go out.
巷子	xiàngzi	lane, alley	我家在這條巷子裡。 My home is down this lane.
公用	gōngyòng	shared, public (use)	這是大家公用的洗衣機。 This is the shared washing machine.
遷	qiān	move (home, offices)	公司下個月要遷到臺中。 The company is moving to Taichung next month.
旗子	qízi	flag	學校門口有很多旗子。 There are lots of flags at the school gate.
用具	yòngjù	tools, utensils	打掃用具在門後面。 The cleaning things are behind the door.
施工	shīgōng	carry out building work	前面的路在施工，請小心。 There’s roadwork ahead: please be careful.
果然	guǒrán	as expected, sure enough	他說會下雨，果然下了。 He said it would rain, and sure enough, it did.
消失	xiāoshī	disappear, vanish	小貓一下就消失了。 The kitten vanished in a flash.
應當	yīngdāng	should, ought to	做錯了事，應當說對不起。 When you’ve done something wrong, you ought to say sorry.
整體	zhěngtǐ	the whole; overall	整體來說，這次考試不難。 Overall, this exam wasn’t hard.
傍晚	bāngwǎn	early evening, dusk	我們傍晚去河邊走走。 Let’s walk by the river in the early evening.
彩色	cǎisè	colour, in colour	以前的電視不是彩色的。 Televisions used to be black and white.
長久	chángjiǔ	long-lasting, lasting	這不是長久的辦法。 That’s not a long-term solution.

出色	chūsè	outstanding, excellent	她的表現很出色。 She did brilliantly.

pattern 果然: just as expected, sure enough

what someone said or expected | **(someone) 果然** | **it happened**

果然 says that things turned out exactly as someone said or expected: 他果然來了 (sure enough, he came). It is the opposite of 居然, which is for surprises. Put it before the verb.

王阿姨上個星期就說巷子要施工，果然開始了。 **Wáng āyí shàng ge xīngqí jiù shuō xiàngzi yào shīgōng guǒrán kāishǐ le** Auntie Wang said last week the alley would be dug up, and sure enough, they've started.

大衛再累也要把家事做完。 **Dàwèi zài lèi yě yào bǎ jiāshì zuò wán** However tired David is, he finishes the housework.

你做的菜可真好吃！ **nǐ zuò de cài kě zhēn hǎochī** Your cooking really is delicious!

dialogue roadworks in the alley

david 王阿姨，巷子裡怎麼有這麼多旗子？
Wáng āyí xiàngzi lǐ zěnme yǒu zhème duō qízi · Auntie Wang, why are there so many flags in the alley?

auntie wang 瓦斯公司在施工。旗子上寫著「施工中」，大家走路要小心。今天晚上會停瓦斯。
wǎsī gōngsī zài shīgōng qízi shàng xiě zhe shīgōng zhōng dàjiā zǒulù yào xiǎoxīn jīntiān wǎnshàng huì tíng wǎsī · The gas company is doing work. The flags say "work in progress": everyone needs to watch their step. The gas goes off tonight.

anna 您上個星期就說巷子要施工，果然開始了。那今天晚上就沒有熱水了！
nín shàng ge xīngqí jiù shuō xiàngzi yào shīgōng guǒrán kāishǐ le nà jīntiān wǎnshàng jiù méiyǒu rèshuǐ le · You said last week they'd be digging up the alley, and sure enough, they've started. So no hot water tonight!

auntie wang 對。不過自來水還是有的。你們的大掃除呢？做完了嗎？
duì búguò zìláishuǐ háishì yǒude nǐmen de dàsǎochú ne zuò wán le ma · Right. You'll still have tap water, though. How's your big clean going? Finished?

meiling 快了。整體來說，家裡比以前乾淨多了。大衛的表現可真出色！
kuài le zhěngtǐ lái shuō jiā lǐ bǐ yǐqián gānjìng duō le Dàwèi de biǎoxiàn kě zhēn chūsè · Nearly. All in all, the flat is much cleaner than before. David has been really outstanding!

anna 他連角落都掃得很乾淨！
tā lián jiǎoluò dōu sǎo de hěn gānjìng · He even swept the corners clean!

david 我再累也要把家事做完。只是小黑消失了一個下午，最後在一個罐子後面找到了，可是她就是不肯出來。
wǒ zài lèi yě yào bǎ jiāshì zuò wán zhǐshì Xiǎohēi xiāoshī le yí ge xiàwǔ zuìhòu zài yí ge guànzi hòumiàn zhǎo dào le kěshì tā jiùshì bù kěn chū lái · However tired I am, I finish the chores. Only Xiaohei vanished for a whole afternoon: we found her behind a jar in the end, but she just wouldn't come out.

auntie wang 我的店也是這樣，三十年前從大馬路遷到巷子裡，客人一個也沒有少。
wǒ de diàn yě shì zhèyàng sānshí nián qián cóng dà mǎlù qiān dào xiàngzi lǐ kèrén yí ge yě méiyǒu shǎo · My shop's the same: thirty years ago it moved from the main road into the alley, and I didn't lose a single customer.

anna 為什麼？
wèishénme · How come?

auntie wang 做生意要長久，應當對客人好。鄰居也一樣，要相互幫忙。
zuò shēngyì yào chángjiǔ yīngdāng duì kèrén hǎo línjū yě yíyàng yào xiānghù bāngmáng · If you want a business to last, you should treat your customers well. Same with neighbours: you help each other.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

陰
yīn
cloudy, overcast



草
cǎo
grass

雲
yún
cloud



班
bān
class (group of students)

good to know · 果然 (as expected) and 居然 (surprisingly) look alike but mean opposite things: 他果然來了 he came, as I thought; 他居然來了 he came, which I didn't expect. 瓦斯 (wǎsī) is Taiwan's word for cooking gas, from Japanese gasu; the mainland says 煤氣 or 天然氣. 巷子 is a lane or alley, the heart of every Taipei neighbourhood.

You said you'd keep going, and 果然 here you are. Well done!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 107 yard and garden things

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 16 · house & home

Talk about yards, plants and things around the house, and say "… alone" with 光……就……

House-sitting for a friend means learning where everything is, and 光……就…… shows how much there is to do.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
止	zhǐ	stop	這個藥可以止痛。 This medicine stops pain.
保	bǎo	protect, keep; guarantee	這家店的牛肉麵，我保你喜歡。 I promise you'll love the beef noodles here.
棒子	bàngzi	stick, club	他用一根棒子把球打出去。 He hit the ball away with a stick.
帶子	dàizi	tape, strap, ribbon	這個包包的帶子太長了。 The strap on this bag is too long.
花盆	huāpén	flowerpot	門口放了兩個花盆。 There are two flowerpots by the door.
花瓶	huāpíng	vase	桌上的花瓶很漂亮。 The vase on the table is lovely.
看家	kānjiā	look after the house	我們出國的時候，鄰居幫我們看家。 When we're abroad, the neighbours look after the house.
夢到	mèngdào	dream of, dream about	我昨天夢到我在飛。 Last night I dreamt I was flying.
棉被	miánbèi	cotton quilt	冬天要蓋棉被。 In winter you need a thick quilt.
前院	qiányuàn	front yard	孩子們在前院玩。 The children are playing in the front yard.
手電筒	shǒudiàntǒng	torch, flashlight	爬山的時候要帶手電筒。 Take a torch when you go hiking.
後院	hòuyuàn	back yard	後院有一棵大樹。 There's a big tree in the back yard.
形狀	xíngzhuàng	shape	這朵雲的形狀像一隻貓。 This cloud is shaped like a cat.
因素	yīnsù	factor	天氣是一個很重要的因素。 The weather is a very important factor.
冊	cè	(measure word for volumes)	這套書一共有五冊。 This set of books has five volumes.
超出	chāochū	exceed, go beyond	這件事超出了我的能力。 This is beyond what I can do.
單	dān	only, solely	單靠一個人是不夠的。 One person alone isn't enough.

pattern 光……就……: just… alone

光 one part 就 already a lot

光 + one thing + 就 + a big amount says that this one part alone is already a lot, so the whole must be even more: 光房租就要兩萬塊 (the rent alone is twenty thousand). 光 here means “only, just”.

光房租就要兩萬塊。 **guāng fángzū jiù yào liǎng wàn kuài** The rent alone is twenty thousand dollars.

他光吃早餐就吃了一個小時。 **tā guāng chī zǎocān jiù chī le yí ge xiǎoshí** He spent an hour on breakfast alone.

我只是問一下而已，別擔心。 **wǒ zhǐshì wèn yíxià éryǐ bié dānxīn** I was only asking, that’s all: don’t worry.

dialogue house-sitting

teacher chen 謝謝你們來幫我看家。我下個星期要去國外開會，這個家就由你們照顧了。
xièxie nǐmen lái bāng wǒ kānjiā wǒ xià ge xīngqí yào qù guówài kāihuì zhè ge jiā jiù yóu nǐmen zhàogù le · Thank you for house-sitting. I’m off abroad for a conference next week, so the house is in your hands.

david 我就知道老師家很漂亮，果然沒錯！光前院就有二十個花盆。
wǒ jiù zhīdào lǎoshī jiā hěn piàoliàng guǒrán méi cuò guāng qiányuàn jiù yǒu èrshí ge huāpén · I knew your house would be lovely, and I was right! The front yard alone has twenty flowerpots.

teacher chen 後院還有更多，光澆水就要一個小時。單靠下雨是不夠的。
hòuyuàn hái yǒu gèng duō guāng jiāo shuǐ jiù yào yí ge xiǎoshí dān kào xiàyǔ shì bú gòu de · There are even more in the back yard: the watering alone takes an hour. You can’t rely on the rain.

anna 每天都要澆嗎？
měi tiān dōu yào jiāo ma · Do they need watering every day?

teacher chen 天氣是最大的因素。下雨就不用澆，太陽大的話，早上和傍晚都要澆。高的花要用棒子和帶子固定好。
tiānqì shì zuì dà de yīnsù xiàyǔ jiù búyòng jiāo tàiyáng dà dehuà zǎoshàng hé bāngwǎn dōu yào jiāo gāo de huā yào yòng bàngzi hé dàizi gùdìng hǎo · The weather is the main thing. When it rains, no need; when it’s sunny, water in the morning and early evening. Tie the tall flowers to sticks with tape.

david 這些花瓶也很漂亮，形狀都很特別。還有一個是紫的！
zhèxiē huāpíng yě hěn piàoliàng xíngzhuàng dōu hěn tèbié háiyǒu yí ge shì zǐ de · These vases are lovely too, and they’re all such unusual shapes. There’s even a purple one!

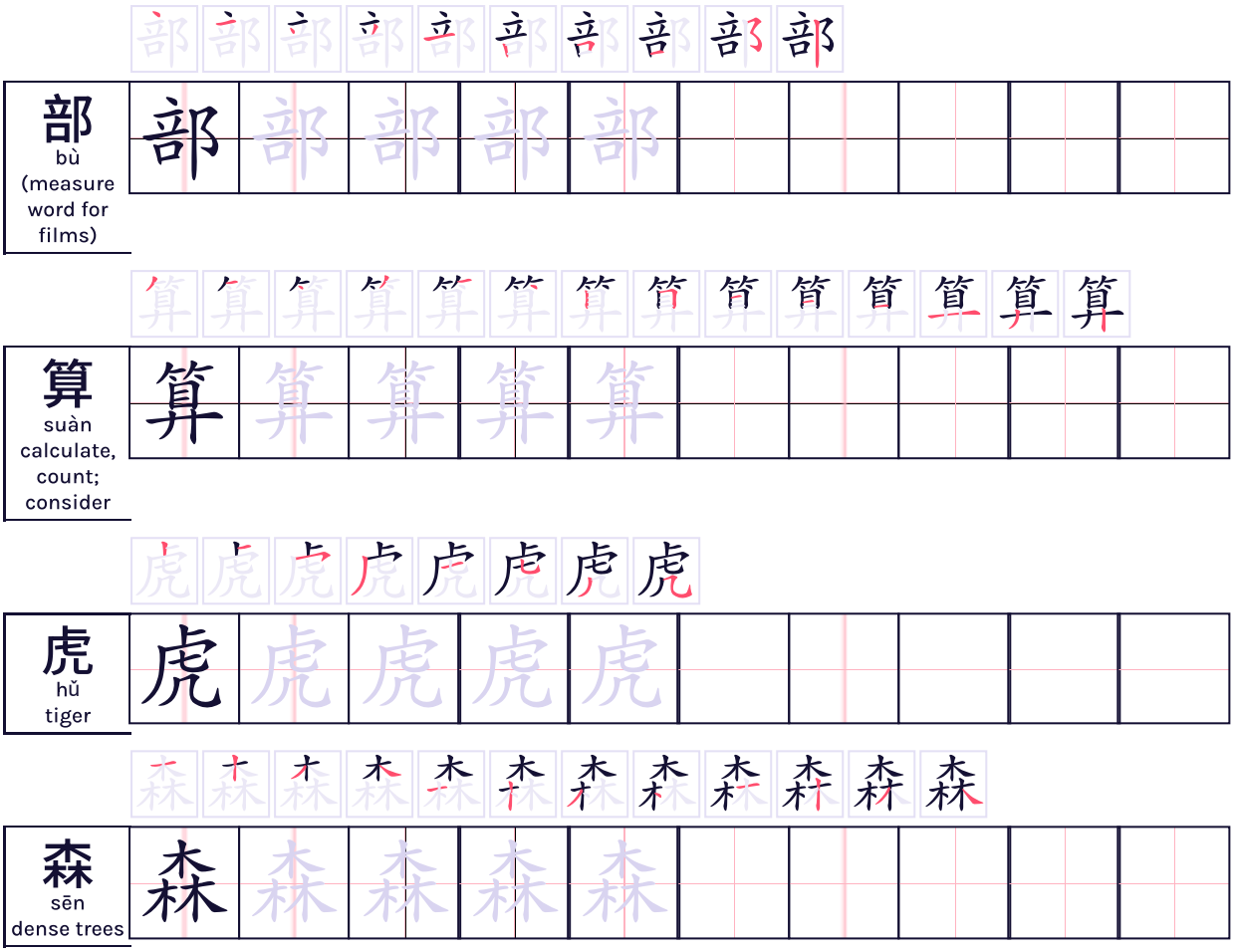
teacher chen 那是我先生做的。晚上院子裡很黑，手電筒在門口。客人的房間有新的棉被，冷的話抽屜裡還有毯子。
nà shì wǒ xiānshēng zuò de wǎnshàng yuànzi lǐ hěn hēi shǒudiàntǒng zài ménkǒu kèrén de fángjiān yǒu xīn de miánbèi lěng dehuà chōutì lǐ hái yǒu tǎnzi · My husband made those. The yard is very dark at night: the torch is by the door. There’s a new quilt in the guest room, and more blankets in the drawer if you’re cold.

anna 老師，您放心。這件事沒有超出我們的能力！
lǎoshī nín fàngxīn zhè jiàn shì méiyǒu chāochū wǒmen de nénglì · Don’t worry, Teacher. This isn’t beyond us!

teacher chen 我沒什麼煩惱，只是擔心這些花而已。書架上的書你們隨便看，一共十冊，我保你們喜歡！
wǒ méishénme fánnǎo zhǐshì dānxīn zhèxiē huā éryǐ shūjià shàng de shū nǐmen suíbiàn kàn yígòng shí cè wǒ bǎo nǐmen xǐhuān · I haven’t a care in the world: I just worry about the flowers, that’s all. Help yourselves to the books on the shelf: ten volumes, and I promise you’ll love them!

anna 老師，祝您開會愉快！拜拜！
lǎoshī zhù nín kāihuì yúkuài bàibài · Teacher, have a good conference! Bye!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · 看家 is kānjiā, with the first tone: “look after the house”. 看 is kān when it means “guard, look after”; in 看書 it is kàn. 冊 is the measure word for volumes of a set: 一共十冊 ten volumes. 單 before a verb means “only, by itself”: 單靠 relying only on.

Today’s words alone would fill a garden. Keep watering them!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 108 mission: spring cleaning

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 16 · house & home

Read a neighbourhood notice and follow a week of cleaning, house-sitting and getting a room ready for a guest.

A home is all the little things: the notice on the lift, the drawer that sticks, the quilt for a guest. Everything from unit 16 comes back in one week.

chapter 1 a notice by the lift

anna 美玲，電梯旁邊貼了一張社區通知，你念給我聽好嗎？
Měilíng diàntī pángbiān tiē le yì zhāng shèqū tōngzhī nǐ niàn gěi wǒ tīng hǎo ma · Meiling, there's a neighbourhood notice by the lift. Could you read it to me?

meiling 「各位住戶好！一、這個星期巷子裡的瓦斯施工會繼續進行。看到旗子的地方，請不要進去。星期四傍晚停瓦斯三個小時，也會停自來水一個小時。二、星期三是回收的日子：紙箱請拆開，玻璃瓶和罐子請另外放。舊家電和不用的電器，請放在一樓公用的倉庫，不要堆在樓梯旁邊，以免擋住路。三、下個月住戶大會的場地是五樓的客廳，謝謝林美玲小姐。感謝大家的配合！」
gèwèi zhùhù hǎo yī zhè ge xīngqí xiàngzi lǐ de wǎsī shīgōng huì jìxù jìnxíng kàn dào qízi de dìfāng qǐng bú yào jìn qù xīngqísì bāngwǎn tíng wǎsī sān ge xiǎoshí yě huì tíng zìláishuǐ yí ge xiǎoshí èr xīngqísān shì huíshōu de rìzi zhǐ xiāng qǐng chāi kāi bōlí píng hé guànzi qǐng lìngwài fàng jiù jiādiàn hé búyòng de diànqì qǐng fàng zài yì lóu gōngyòng de cāngkù bú yào duī zài lóutī pángbiān yǐmiǎn dǎng zhù lù sān xià ge yuè zhùhù dàhuì de chǎngdì shì wǔ lóu de kètīng xièxie Lín Měilíng xiǎojiě gǎnxiè dàjiā de pèihé · "Dear residents, 1. The gas works in the lane continue this week. Please keep out of the areas with flags. On Thursday early evening the gas will be off for three hours and the tap water for one hour. 2. Wednesday is recycling day: please flatten cardboard boxes and put glass bottles and jars out separately. Old appliances and electrical items go in the shared storeroom on the ground floor: please don't pile them up by the stairs, so the way isn't blocked. 3. Next month's residents' meeting will be held in the living room on the fifth floor: thank you, Ms Lin Meiling. Thank you all for your cooperation!"

anna 這個社區管得真嚴。
zhè ge shèqū guǎn de zhēn yán · This neighbourhood is really strict.

meiling 對啊。這裡住宅多，住戶也多，大家要相互配合。
duì a zhèlǐ zhùzhái duō zhùhù yě duō dàjiā yào xiānghù pèihé · It is. There are lots of homes and lots of residents here, so everyone has to cooperate.

anna 星期四傍晚停瓦斯？那天晚上奶奶要洗澡怎麼辦？
xīngqísì bāngwǎn tíng wǎsī nà tiān wǎnshàng nǎinai yào xǐzǎo zěnmebàn · No gas on Thursday evening? What if Grandma wants a bath that night?

meiling 奶奶星期五才到，反正沒關係。
nǎinai xīngqíwǔ cái dào fǎnzhèng méiguānxi · Grandma doesn't arrive till Friday, so it doesn't matter anyway.

anna 王阿姨說施工要做兩個星期，果然還沒做完。
Wáng āyí shuō shīgōng yào zuò liǎng ge xīngqí guǒrán hái méi zuò wán · Auntie Wang said the works would take two weeks, and sure enough, they're not finished yet.

chapter 2 the final push

anna 今天要徹底打掃。我先掃地，再擦鏡子和牆壁。
jīntiān yào chèdǐ dǎsǎo wǒ xiān sǎo dì zài cā jìngzi hé qiángbì · Today it's a thorough clean. I'll sweep first, then wipe the mirrors and walls.

david 我負責家電。冷氣和洗衣機都擦好了，電風扇也收拾好了。
wǒ fùzé jiādiàn lěngqì hé xǐyījī dōu cā hǎo le diànfēngshàn yě shōushí hǎo le · I'm on appliances. The air conditioner and washing machine are wiped, and the fan's been cleaned too.

anna 不用的電器別插著電，很危險。
búyòng de diànqì bié chā zhe diàn hěn wéixiǎn · Don't leave appliances plugged in when they're not in use: it's dangerous.

meiling 大衛，你的箱子呢？你居然都拿去回收了？
Dàwèi nǐ de xiāngzi ne nǐ jūrán dōu ná qù huíshōu le · David, where are your boxes? Did you actually take them all for recycling?

david 只留了一個，是裝玻璃杯的。我的原則改了：沒有用處的東西，就丟。
zhǐ liú le yí ge shì zhuāng bōlí bēi de wǒ de yuánzé gǎi le méiyǒu yòngchù de dōngxi jiù diū · I kept just one, for the glasses. I've changed my principle: if it's no use, it goes.

anna 可是這個抽屜就是打不開。上次停電，我們用繩子才拉開的。
kěshì zhè ge chōutì jiùshì dǎ bu kāi shàng cì tíng diàn wǒmen yòng shéngzi cái lā kāi de · But this drawer still just won't open. Last time, in the power cut, we had to pull it open with string.

david 我來看一下……裡面墊了一本舊書！拿出來就好了。
wǒ lái kàn yíxià lǐmiàn diàn le yì běn jiù shū ná chū lái jiù hǎo le · Let me have a look… There's an old book jammed underneath! Take it out and it's fine.

meiling 角落的地毯也要移動一下，下面的地板好髒。
jiǎoluò de dìtǎn yě yào yídòng yíxià xiàmiàn de dìbǎn hǎo zāng · The rug in the corner needs moving too: the floor under it is filthy.

meiling 剪刀和文具都放進抽屜裡。蠟燭和火柴也放在一起，不然停電又找不到。
jiǎndāo hé wénjù dōu fàng jìn chōutì lǐ làzhú hé huǒchái yě fàng zài yìqǐ bùrán tíng diàn yòu zhǎo bu dào · Put the scissors and stationery in the drawer. And keep the candles and matches together, or we won't find them in the next power cut.

david 好。凳子上的毯子破了，我也已經縫好了。
hǎo dèngzi shàng de tǎnzi pò le wǒ yě yǐjīng féng hǎo le · OK. And the blanket on the stool was torn, but I've already sewn it up.

chapter 3 watering day

david 光前院就澆了四十分鐘！後院還有十幾個花盆。
guāng qiányuàn jiù jiāo le sìshí fēnzhōng hòuyuàn hái yǒu shí jǐ ge huāpén · The front yard alone took forty minutes! There are another dozen pots in the back yard.

anna 昨天下了雨，今天太陽很大，我們照澆。陳老師說，太陽是最大的因素。
zuótiān xià le yǔ jīntiān tàiyáng hěn dà wǒmen zhào jiāo Chén lǎoshī shuō tàiyáng shì zuì dà de yīnsù · It rained yesterday, but today's sunny, so we're watering as usual. Teacher Chen says the sun is the main thing.

david 我昨天晚上夢到這些花都死了，嚇了一跳。
wǒ zuótiān wǎnshàng mèngdào zhèxiē huā dōu sǐ le xià le yí tiào · Last night I dreamt all these flowers had died. It gave me a fright.

anna 別擔心，它們都很好。高的那幾棵，我用棒子和帶子固定好了。
bié dānxīn tāmen dōu hěn hǎo gāo de nà jǐ kē wǒ yòng bàngzi hé dàizi gùdìng hǎo le · Don't worry, they're fine. I've tied the tall ones to sticks.

david 郊外的住宅真好，又安靜又有院子。
jiāowài de zhùzhái zhēn hǎo yòu ānjìng yòu yǒu yuànzi · Houses in the suburbs are great: quiet, and with a yard.

anna 可是交通不方便。作為看家的人，我們每天要坐一個小時的車。這些花對陳老師的作用很大，看到花，她的心情就好。
kěshì jiāotōng bù fāngbiàn zuòwéi kānjiā de rén wǒmen měi tiān yào zuò yí ge xiǎoshí de chē zhèxiē huā duì Chén lǎoshī de zuòyòng hěn dà kàn dào huā tā de xīnqíng jiù hǎo · But getting here isn't easy. As house-sitters, we spend an hour on the bus every day. Still, these flowers mean a lot to Teacher Chen: seeing them puts her in a good mood.

david 你看，這個花瓶的形狀很像小黑！我們拍一張照片給美玲看。
nǐ kàn zhè ge huāpíng de xíngzhuàng hěn xiàng Xiǎohēi wǒmen pāi yì zhāng zhàopiàn gěi Měilíng kàn · Look, this vase is shaped like Xiaohei! Let's take a photo for Meiling.

anna 好。天黑了，手電筒在門口。看家真不容易！
hǎo tiān hēi le shǒudiàntǒng zài ménkǒu kānjiā zhēn bù róngyì · OK. It's getting dark: the torch is by the door. House-sitting isn't easy!

david 書架上的書你看了幾冊？
shūjià shàng de shū nǐ kàn le jǐ cè · How many volumes of the books on the shelf have you read?

anna 三冊了，真的很好看。
sān cè le zhēnde hěn hǎokàn · Three. They're really good.

chapter 4 getting the room ready

meiling 床單和棉被都換好了，床我也鋪好了。奶奶喜歡紫的，我用紫的花裝飾房間，還把我們的彩色照片掛在牆上。

chuángdān hé miánbèi dōu huàn hǎo le chuáng wǒ yě pū hǎo le nǎinai xǐhuān zǐ de wǒ yòng zǐ de huā zhuāngshì fángjiān hái bǎ wǒmen de cǎisè zhàopiàn guà zài qiáng shàng · The sheets and quilt are changed, and I've made the bed. Grandma likes purple, so I've decorated the room with purple flowers and hung our colour photos on the wall.

anna 這個房間的光線很好。還要什麼嗎？

zhè ge fángjiān de guāngxiàn hěn hǎo hái yào shénme ma · This room gets lovely light. Anything else we need?

meiling 晚上會冷，我們又沒有暖氣，棉被也太薄，所以我多放了一條毯子。她以前送我的那把扇子，我也放在桌上了。

wǎnshàng huì lěng wǒmen yòu méiyǒu nuǎnqì miánbèi yě tài bó suǒyǐ wǒ duō fàng le yì tiáo tǎnzi tā yǐqián sòng wǒ de nà bǎ shànzi wǒ yě fàng zài zhuō shàng le · It gets cold at night, we don't have heating and the quilt is too thin, so I've put out an extra blanket. And the fan she gave me years ago is on the table.

david 我安裝了一個新的燈，奶奶晚上起來也看得到。

wǒ ānzhuāng le yí ge xīn de dēng nǎinai wǎnshàng qǐlái yě kàn de dào · I've put in a new lamp, so Grandma can see if she gets up in the night.

anna 打掃用具都收進倉庫了。奇怪，小黑又消失了！……原來在棉被下面。

dǎsǎo yòngjù dōu shōu jìn cāngkù le qíguài Xiǎohēi yòu xiāoshī le yuánlái zài miánbèi xiàmiàn · The cleaning things are all back in the storeroom. Hey, Xiaohei has vanished again! ...Oh, she's under the quilt.

meiling 你們倆真好！當初我還擔心大衛會把家弄得更亂。

nǐmen liǎng zhēn hǎo dāngchū wǒ hái dānxīn Dàwèi huì bǎ jiā nòng de gèng luàn · You two are wonderful! At first I was worried David would make the place even messier.

david 我可算是一個出色的室友吧？

wǒ kě suàn shì yí ge chūsè de shìyǒu ba · I really am an outstanding flatmate, wouldn't you say?

chapter 5 the inspection

grandma lin 哎呀，美玲！你們家居然這麼乾淨！整體來說，比上次好太多了。
āiyā Měilíng nǐmen jiā jūrán zhème gānjìng zhěngtǐ lái shuō bǐ shàng cì hǎo tài duō le · Oh my, Meiling! Your flat is actually spotless! All in all, it's far better than last time.

meiling 奶奶，我就知道您會這麼說。您果然一進門就先看角落！
nǎinai wǒ jiù zhīdào nín huì zhème shuō nín guǒrán yí jìn mén jiù xiān kàn jiǎoluò · Grandma, I knew you'd say that. Sure enough, the first thing you looked at was the corners!

grandma lin 我是老人了，就是愛乾淨。這面鏡子也擦得好亮。
wǒ shì lǎorén le jiùshì ài gānjìng zhè miàn jìngzi yě cā de hǎo liàng · I'm an old woman: I just love things clean. And this mirror is so shiny.

grandma lin 這張老照片保存得真完整！是我年輕的時候在臺南拍的。來，讓奶奶握一下你的手。
zhè zhāng lǎo zhàopiàn bǎocún de zhēn wánzhěng shì wǒ niánqīng de shíhòu zài Táinán pāi de lái ràng nǎinai wò yíxià nǐ de shǒu · This old photo has been kept in perfect condition! It was taken in Tainan when I was young. Come here, let me hold your hand.

david 奶奶，我們的動作很迅速吧？光這個星期就打掃了五天！
nǎinai wǒmen de dòngzuò hěn xùnsù ba guāng zhè ge xīngqí jiù dǎsǎo le wǔ tiān · Grandma, we were quick, weren't we? We cleaned on five days this week alone!

grandma lin 你們辛苦了！一個家要長久，大家應當相互照顧。我這次就像來度假一樣。
nǐmen xīnkǔ le yí ge jiā yào chángjiǔ dàjiā yīngdāng xiānghù zhàogù wǒ zhè cì jiù xiàng lái dù jià yíyàng · You've worked so hard! For a home to last, everyone should look after each other. This visit is like a holiday for me.

anna 奶奶，您坐一下，我去泡茶。
nǎinai nín zuò yíxià wǒ qù pào chá · Grandma, have a seat: I'll make some tea.

chapter 6 weather for the weekend

meiling 以下是週末的天氣報告。星期五，全臺灣大部分的地方都是多雲，白天最高二十八度，晚上會變涼，大約二十二度。
yǐxià shì zhōumò de tiānqì bàogào xīngqíwǔ quán Táiwān dà bùfen de dìfāng dōu shì duō yún báitiān zuì gāo èrshíbā dù wǎnshàng huì biàn liáng dàyuē èrshíèr dù · Here is the weekend weather report. On Friday most of Taiwan will be cloudy, with a daytime high of twenty-eight degrees, cooling to about twenty-two at night.

meiling 星期六，冷空氣會從北方過來，臺北從早上開始下雨，下午雨會越來越大，出門的人請帶傘，路上要小心。
xīngqíliù lěng kōngqì huì cóng běifāng guò lái Táiběi cóng zǎoshàng kāishǐ xiàyǔ xiàwǔ yǔ huì yuèláiyuè dà chūmén de rén qǐng dài sǎn lù shàng yào xiǎoxīn · On Saturday cold air will arrive from the north. Taipei will have rain from the morning, getting heavier in the afternoon, so please take an umbrella and be careful on the roads.

meiling 星期六晚上，雨會更大，還會有大風，沒有事的話，最好不要出門。要出門的人，請多帶一件衣服，因為晚上會比較冷。
xīngqíliù wǎnshàng yǔ huì gèng dà hái huì yǒu dà fēng méiyǒu shì dehuà zuìhǎo bú yào chūmén yào chūmén de rén qǐng duō dài yí jiàn yīfú yīnwèi wǎnshàng huì bǐjiào lěng · On Saturday night the rain will get heavier and there will be strong winds, so if you don't have to go out, it's best to stay in. If you do, please bring an extra layer, as the evening will be colder.

meiling 南部的天氣比較好，星期六大部分時間都是晴天，只是比較熱，要多喝水。
nánbù de tiānqì bǐjiào hǎo xīngqíliù dà bùfen shíjiān dōu shì qíngtiān zhǐshì bǐjiào rè yào duō hē shuǐ · The weather in the south is better, mostly sunny on Saturday but hotter, so drink plenty of water.

meiling 星期日雨會停，天氣慢慢變好，白天二十四度，很適合出去走走。謝謝大家收聽。
xīngqí rì yǔ huì tíng tiānqì mànmàn biàn hǎo báitiān èrshísì dù hěn shìhé chū qù zǒuzǒu xièxie dàjiā shōu tīng · On Sunday the rain will stop and the weather will slowly improve, with a daytime temperature of twenty-four degrees, perfect for a stroll. Thanks for listening.

A clean home and a full head of new words: the whole unit is yours. Grandma Lin would approve!
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