wishyou.today learning

day 29 in the kitchen

Talk about cooking and taste (ingredients, flavours, bland or sweet) and say how one thing slid into another with V著V著就……了.

Cooking with someone is the best Chinese lesson there is: you chat, you taste, and suddenly the water has boiled dry.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
材料	cáiliào	ingredients, material	做這道菜的材料很簡單。 The ingredients for this dish are simple.
倒	dǎo	fall over, topple; go bust	颱風來了，很多樹都倒{dao3-tw2}了。 The typhoon came and lots of trees fell down.
剩	shèng	be left (over)	家裡還剩了很多月餅。 There are still lots of mooncakes left at home.
月餅	yuèbǐng	mooncake	這個月餅裡面有蛋。 This mooncake has egg yolk inside.
蓋	gài	cover; build	菜做好了，先用盤子蓋起來。 When the food is ready, cover it with a plate.
蔬菜	shūcài	vegetables	多吃蔬菜對身體好。 Eating lots of vegetables is good for you.
玉米	yùmǐ	corn, maize	夜市的烤玉米很好吃。 The grilled corn at the night market is delicious.
淡	dàn	light, bland, weak	這個湯太淡了，加一點鹽吧。 This soup is too bland: add a bit of salt.
口味	kǒuwèi	flavour, taste (what you like)	這家店有很多種口味的冰淇淋。 This shop has lots of ice-cream flavours.
燒	shāo	burn; cook, braise; boil	我先去燒水。 I'll go and boil some water first.
咬	yǎo	bite	我被蚊子咬了。 I've been bitten by a mosquito.
廚師	chúshī	chef, cook	他是一位有名的廚師。 He's a well-known chef.
中餐	zhōngcān	Chinese food	你喜歡中餐還是日本菜？ Do you prefer Chinese food or Japanese food?
觀念	guānniàn	idea, way of thinking	這是很舊的觀念了。 That's a very old-fashioned idea.
架	jià	(measure word for planes, pianos, cameras)	天上有一架飛機。 There's a plane in the sky.

刻	kè	carve; a quarter (of an hour)	他在木頭上刻了一個字。 He carved a character into the wood.
破壞	pòhuài	damage, destroy, spoil	我們不應該破壞環境。 We shouldn't damage the environment.
水平	shuǐpíng	level, standard	他做菜的水平很高。 His cooking is of a very high standard.

pattern v著v著就……了: while doing it, before you know it

V著 **V著** **就** **what happened** **了**

Say the same verb twice with 著, then 就 + what happened + 了. It means you kept doing something, and without noticing, something else happened: 走著走著就到了 (we walked and walked and there we were).

奶奶說著說著就笑了。 **nǎinai shuō zhe shuō zhe jiù xiào le** Grandma was talking away and burst out laughing.

我看著看著就睡著了。 **wǒ kàn zhe kàn zhe jiù shuìzháo le** I was watching and nodded off.

他吃著吃著就把月餅吃完了。 **tā chī zhe chī zhe jiù bǎ yuèbǐng chī wán le** He kept eating and before he knew it the mooncakes were gone.

dialogue grandma's kitchen class

grandma lin 美玲，材料都準備好了嗎？今天奶奶教安娜做臺南菜。
Měilíng cáiliào dōu zhǔnbèi hǎo le ma jīntiān nǎinai jiāo Ānnà zuò Táinán cài · Meiling, are the ingredients ready? Today Grandma's teaching Anna a Tainan dish.

meiling 都準備好了，奶奶。肉、玉米和蔬菜都擺在這裡。
dōu zhǔnbèi hǎo le nǎinai ròu yùmǐ hé shūcài dōu bǎi zài zhèlǐ · All ready, Grandma. The meat, the corn and the vegetables are all laid out here.

anna 奶奶，肉要燒多久？
nǎinai ròu yào shāo duō jiǔ · Grandma, how long does the meat cook?

grandma lin 先燒半個小時，再用盤子蓋起來。我們臺南人的口味比較甜，不是很淡。
xiān shāo bàn ge xiǎoshí zài yòng pánzi gài qǐlai wǒmen Táinán rén de kǒuwèi bǐjiào tián bú shì hěn dàn · Half an hour first, then cover it with a plate. We Tainan people like things sweet, not bland.

anna 臺南菜甜甜的，很好吃！奶奶，您比廚師還厲害。
Táinán cài tián tián de hěn hǎochī nǎinai nín bǐ chúshī hái lìhài · Tainan food is sweet and delicious! Grandma, you're better than a chef.

grandma lin 哪裡！以前的觀念是女人都要當家庭主婦，一定要會做菜；現在不一樣了，誰做都可以。
nǎlǐ yǐqián de guānniàn shì nǚrén dōu yào dāng jiātíng zhǔfù yídìng yào huì zuò cài xiànzài bù yíyàng le shéi zuò dōu kěyǐ · Oh, go on! The old idea was that women all had to be housewives and had to cook; it's different now, anyone can.

meiling 啊，小黑！別咬那個玉米！
a Xiǎohēi bié yǎo nà ge yùmǐ · Ah, Xiaohei! Don't bite that corn!

anna 我們聊著聊著就忘了時間，水都燒乾了！
wǒmen liáo zhe liáo zhe jiù wàng le shíjiān shuǐ dōu shāo gān le · We were so busy chatting we forgot the time: the water's boiled dry!

grandma lin 沒關係，再加一點水就好了，味道不會變。
méiguānxi zài jiā yìdiǎn shuǐ jiù hǎo le wèidào bú huì biàn · Never mind, just add a bit more water: the flavour won't change.

meiling 吃完飯，我們吃月餅吧，家裡還剩了很多。奶奶，您再跟安娜說說您學做菜的經過。
chī wán fàn wǒmen chī yuèbǐng ba jiā lǐ hái shèng le hěn duō nǎinai nín zài gēn Ānnà shuō shuo nín xué zuò cài de jīngguò · After dinner, let's have mooncakes: there are still loads left. Grandma, tell Anna how you learnt to cook.

grandma lin 好啊。我十五歲就開始學做菜，直到現在，每天都還在廚房裡。
hǎo a wǒ shíwǔ suì jiù kāishǐ xué zuò cài zhídào xiànzài měi tiān dōu hái zài chúfáng lǐ · All right. I started learning to cook at fifteen, and to this day I'm still in the kitchen every day.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

笑 笑 笑 笑 笑 笑 笑 笑 笑 笑

笑
xiào
laugh, smile

適
shì
fit

應
yìng
respond

浪 浪 浪 浪 浪 浪 浪 浪 浪 浪

浪
làng
wave

good to know · In V著V著就……了 the 著 is the light zhe, as in 坐著 (sitting). Tainan really is famous for sweeter cooking: even its savoury snacks often have a touch of sugar. New meaning: 經過 as a noun, “how it happened, the story”: 事情的經過 what happened. You know it as “pass by” and “after (a process)”.

You can now cook with a Taiwanese grandma: ask how long, talk about taste and laugh when it boils dry.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 30 eastern and western food

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 5 · food & shopping

Talk about Eastern and Western food and healthy eating, give a formal warning with 否則 (otherwise) and set a limit with ……内 / 以内 (within).

Mixing food cultures is half the fun of living abroad, and 否則 and 以内 are everywhere in instructions and notices.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
煮	zhǔ	boil, cook (in water)	我煮了一些麵。 I've cooked some noodles.
嘗試	chángshì	try (out)	我想嘗試做西餐。 I want to try cooking Western food.
酒吧	jiǔbā	bar	週末那家酒吧有人唱歌。 At weekends there's live singing in that bar.
鴨子	yāzi	duck	湖上有兩隻鴨子。 There are two ducks on the lake.
醋	cù	vinegar	吃餃子要加一點醋。 Dumplings need a dash of vinegar.
醬油	jiàngyóu	soy sauce	這道菜要加醬油。 This dish needs soy sauce.
餅	bǐng	flatbread, pancake, biscuit	早上我常常吃蛋餅。 I often have an egg pancake in the morning.
營養	yíngyǎng	nutrition	這個湯很有營養。 This soup is very nourishing.
西餐	xīcān	Western food	這家餐廳的西餐很有名。 This restaurant is known for its Western food.
摘	zhāi	pick, pluck; take off	我們在花園裡摘了一些花。 We picked some flowers in the garden.
慢用	mànyòng	enjoy (your meal)	菜來了，請慢用。 Here's your food: enjoy!
米飯	mǐfàn	cooked rice	我要一碗米飯。 I'd like a bowl of rice.
否則	fǒuzé	otherwise (formal)	你要多吃蔬菜，否則營養不夠。 You need to eat more vegetables, otherwise you won't get enough nutrition.
恢復	huīfù	recover, get back	感冒好了，可是身體還沒恢復。 My cold's gone, but I haven't got my strength back yet.
降低	jiàngdī	lower, reduce	多運動可以降低生病的機會。 Exercising more lowers your chances of getting ill.
肯定	kěndìng	definite, sure; certainly	他肯定會遲到。 He's bound to be late.

確定	quèdìng	sure, certain; confirm	你確定嗎？ Are you sure?
隨時	suíshí	at any time	有問題隨時打電話給我。 If there's a problem, call me any time.

pattern 否則 (otherwise) and .....内 / 以内 / 之内 (within)

what you must do **，否則** **what happens if not**

否則 is the formal 要不然: advice first, then 否則 + what goes wrong. After a time or an amount, 内 (or the longer 以内, 之内) means "within": 三天内 (within three days).

你要早點睡，否則明天起不來。 **nǐ yào zǎodiǎn shuì fǒuzé míngtiān qǐ bù lái** Go to bed early, or you won't be able to get up tomorrow.

這件事要在一個星期內做完。 **zhè jiàn shì yào zài yí ge xīngqí nèi zuò wán** This has to be finished within a week.

三天內，我一定還你錢。 **sān tiān nèi wǒ yídìng huán nǐ qián** I'll pay you back within three days, I promise.

拿這道菜來說，甚至連小孩都喜歡吃。 **ná zhè dào cài lái shuō shènzhì lián xiǎohái dōu xǐhuān chī** Take this dish: even kids love it.

dialogue western night

anna 今天晚上我想嘗試做西餐，請大家吃。
jīntiān wǎnshàng wǒ xiǎng chángshì zuò xīcān qǐng dàjiā chī · Tonight I want to try cooking you all a Western dinner.

zhiming 西餐？我肯定吃不飽。我們臺灣人每餐都要有米飯！
xīcān wǒ kěndìng chī bu bǎo wǒmen Táiwān rén měi cān dōu yào yǒu mǐfàn · Western food? I'll definitely still be hungry. We Taiwanese need rice at every meal!

anna 你確定？我煮了很多湯，還烤了鴨子。
nǐ quèdìng wǒ zhǔ le hěn duō tāng hái kǎo le yāzi · Are you sure? I've made loads of soup, and roasted a duck.

david 烤鴨子？我最喜歡了！
kǎo yāzi wǒ zuì xǐhuān le · Roast duck? My favourite!

meiling 我感冒剛好，身體還沒恢復，可以吃嗎？
wǒ gǎnmào gāng hǎo shēntǐ hái méi huīfù kěyǐ chī ma · I've only just got over a cold and I'm not back to normal yet: can I eat it?

anna 當然可以，湯很有營養。我還做了一些餅，配湯吃。大家慢用。
dāngrán kěyǐ tāng hěn yǒu yíngyǎng wǒ hái zuò le yìxiē bǐng pèi tāng chī dàjiā mànyòng · Of course, the soup is very nourishing. I've made some flatbreads too, to go with the soup. Enjoy, everyone.

meiling 湯的味道很淡，很適合我。
tāng de wèidào hěn dàn hěn shìhé wǒ · The soup tastes light: just right for me.

zhiming 嗯……湯裡有醋和醬油？你做的是中餐還是西餐？
en tāng lǐ yǒu cù hé jiàngyóu nǐ zuò de shì zhōngcān háishì xīcān · Mm… there's vinegar and soy sauce in the soup? Is this Chinese food or Western food?

anna 都是！我拿中餐的材料來做西餐。
dōu shì wǒ ná zhōngcān de cáiliào lái zuò xīcān · Both! I used Chinese ingredients to make Western food.

david 吃完飯，我們去樓下的酒吧聽音樂吧？
chī wán fàn wǒmen qù lóuxià de jiǔbā tīng yīnyuè ba · After dinner, shall we go to the bar downstairs and listen to some music?

meiling 我不去，我要早點睡，否則明天上班起不來。你們去吧，兩個小時內回來！
wǒ bú qù wǒ yào zǎodiǎn shuì fǒuzé míngtiān shàngbān qǐ bù lái nǐmen qù ba liǎng ge xiǎoshí nèi huí lái · Not me: I need an early night, or I won't get up for work tomorrow. You go: back within two hours!

david 沒問題！安娜，鴨子還剩很多，明天我可以帶去學校吃嗎？
méi wèntí Ānnà yāzi hái shèng hěn duō míngtiān wǒ kěyǐ dài qù xuéxiào chī ma · No problem! Anna, there's lots of duck left: can I take some to uni tomorrow?

write it trace the grey, then write your own

氣
qì
air, breath; anger

理 理 理 理 理 理 理 理 理 理 理

理
lǐ
pay attention to, respond



解
jiě
untie; solve

過
guò
(have ever done; done already)

good to know · Say 慢用 when you serve someone food: it's the Taiwanese "enjoy your meal". 否則 is for writing, rules and serious advice; with friends, 不然 sounds friendlier. New meaning: 經驗 as a verb, "experience, go through": 經驗過 have been through. You know it as a noun, "experience".

You can now host a dinner, talk about healthy food and set a deadline with 內.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 31 prices and dumplings

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 5 · food & shopping

Shop for clothes and order noodles and dumplings, give a formal reason with 由於 and describe changing minds with 一會兒……一會兒…… / 一下……一下……

Prices, sizes and “I can’t decide!”: shopping talk you’ll use every week.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
襯衫	chènshān	shirt	這件白襯衫很好看。 This white shirt looks great.
免費	miǎnfèi	free (of charge)	這個活動是免費的。 This event is free.
價格	jiàgé	price	這家店的價格很便宜。 The prices in this shop are low.
價錢	jiàqián	price (spoken)	這件襯衫的價錢不貴。 This shirt isn’t expensive.
購買	gòumǎi	purchase, buy (formal)	你可以在網路上購買門票。 You can buy tickets online.
顧客	gùkè	customer	這家店的顧客很多。 This shop has lots of customers.
米粉	mǐfěn	rice noodles, rice vermicelli	我想吃一碗米粉。 I’d like a bowl of rice noodles.
白菜	báicài	Chinese cabbage	這個餃子裡面有白菜和豬肉。 These dumplings have cabbage and pork inside.
紅豆	hóngdòu	red bean(s)	冬天我喜歡喝紅豆湯。 In winter I love red bean soup.
奶	nǎi	milk	咖啡要加奶嗎？ Do you take milk in your coffee?
水餃	shuǐjiǎo	boiled dumplings	我要二十個水餃。 I’d like twenty dumplings.
麵條	miàntiáo	noodles	這家店的麵條是自己做的。 This shop makes its own noodles.
由於	yóuyú	owing to, because of (formal)	由於下大雨，今天的顧客很少。 Because of the heavy rain, there were few customers today.
或許	huòxǔ	perhaps, maybe	或許他忘了。 Maybe he forgot.
加強	jiāqiáng	strengthen, step up	我要加強練習。 I need to step up my practice.
寬	kuān	wide, loose	這條褲子太寬了。 These trousers are too loose.
實際	shíjì	real, actual, practical	這個辦法不太實際。 That idea isn’t very practical.

特色	tèsè	special feature, character	這家店的水餃很有特色。 This shop's dumplings are really distinctive.

pattern 一會兒……一會兒…… (now..., now...) and 由於 (owing to)

一會兒 | A | 一會兒 | B

一會兒 A 一會兒 B (or 一下 A 一下 B) describes something flipping back and forth: now A, now B. 由於 + reason is a formal 因為: you see it in news and notices, often with 因此 or 所以 after it.

小孩一會兒哭，一會兒笑。 **xiǎohái yìhuǐr kū yìhuǐr xiào** The child is crying one minute, laughing the next.

他一下說要米粉，一下說要水餃。 **tā yíxià shuō yào mǐfěn yíxià shuō yào shuǐjiǎo** First he says he wants rice noodles, then he says dumplings.

由於價格太高，購買的人不多。 **yóuyú jiàgé tài gāo gòumǎi de rén bù duō** Because the price is too high, not many people buy it.

dialogue the shirt and the dumplings

meiling 新公司下個星期要開會，我想買一件襯衫。
xīn gōngsī xià ge xīngqí yào kāihuì wǒ xiǎng mǎi yí jiàn chènshān · My new company has a big meeting next week, and I want to buy a shirt.

anna 這件白色的不錯，價錢也不貴。
zhè jiàn báisè de búcuò jiàqián yě bú guì · This white one's nice, and it's not expensive.

auntie wang 這件太寬了，美玲穿不好看。試一下藍色的吧。
zhè jiàn tài kuān le Měilíng chuān bù hǎokàn shì yíxià lánsè de ba · That one's too loose: it won't look good on Meiling. Try the blue one.

anna 阿姨，您確定嗎？我覺得白色的比較好看。
āyí nín quèdìng ma wǒ juéde báisè de bǐjiào hǎokàn · Auntie, are you sure? I think the white one looks better.

meiling 我一會兒覺得白色好，一會兒覺得藍色好，真難決定！
wǒ yìhuǐr juéde báisè hǎo yìhuǐr juéde lánsè hǎo zhēn nán juédìng · One minute I like the white, the next the blue: it's so hard to decide!

anna 由於這家店今天打折，你可以兩件都買。
yóuyú zhè jiā diàn jīntiān dǎzhé nǐ kěyǐ liǎng jiàn dōu mǎi · This shop has a sale on today, so you can buy both.

auntie wang 買完衣服，我請你們吃水餃。那家店的水餃很有特色，裡面有白菜。
mǎi wán yīfú wǒ qǐng nǐmen chī shuǐjiǎo nà jiā diàn de shuǐjiǎo hěn yǒu tèsè lǐmiàn yǒu báicài · After the clothes, dumplings on me. That shop's dumplings are special: they've got cabbage in them.

anna 我想吃米粉……或許也來一碗麵條。
wǒ xiǎng chī mǐfěn huòxǔ yě lái yì wǎn miàntiáo · I fancy rice noodles... or maybe a bowl of noodles.

meiling 你一下要米粉，一下要麵條，到底要吃什麼？
nǐ yíxià yào mǐfěn yíxià yào miàntiáo dàodǐ yào chī shénme · First rice noodles, then noodles: what do you actually want?

auntie wang 都點吧！這家店很為顧客著想，買兩碗，免費送紅豆湯。
dōu diǎn ba zhè jiā diàn hěn wèi gùkè zhuó xiǎng mǎi liǎng wǎn miǎnfèi sòng hóngdòu tāng · Order both! This shop really looks after its customers: buy two bowls and you get free red bean soup.

anna 這樣算，實際的價格很便宜！
zhèyàng suàn shíjì de jiàgé hěn piányí · Work it out like that and it's actually really cheap!

auntie wang 對啊，而且他們的米粉很有名，你吃了肯定會喜歡。
duì a érqiě tāmen de mǐfěn hěn yǒumíng nǐ chī le kěndìng huì xǐhuān · That's right, and their rice noodles are famous: you're sure to love them.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

論
lùn
discuss; when it comes to



按
àn
according to, by



引
yǐn
pull



足
zú
full, a whole; enough

good to know · 一會兒 is yìhuǐ in Taiwan; you may also hear yíhuìr from mainland speakers. 價錢 is what you ask about in a shop; 價格 is the word on price tags, in news and in business. New meaning: 就 as a formal preposition, “on, regarding”: 就這個問題 on this question. It’s meeting and news language.

You can now shop with a picky friend, order noodles and dumplings, and explain why with 由於.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 32 brands and quality

Talk about brands, quality, prices and adverts, and draw a conclusion with 因此 (so, therefore).

Brand, quality, price: the words of every shopping decision and of a lot of jobs too.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
牌子	páizi	brand; sign	你的手機是什麼牌子的？ What make is your phone?
費用	fèiyòng	cost, expenses	這次旅行的費用是多少？ How much does this trip cost?
廣告	guǎnggào	advert, advertising	這個廣告很有意思。 This advert is really fun.
省	shěng	save, economise; leave out	坐捷運可以省很多時間。 Taking the MRT saves a lot of time.
提供	tígōng	provide, offer	這家飯店提供免費的早餐。 This hotel provides free breakfast.
牛仔褲	niúzǎikù	jeans	我每天都穿牛仔褲。 I wear jeans every day.
品質	pǐnzhí	quality	這個牌子的品質很好。 This brand's quality is very good.
商品	shāngpǐn	goods, products	這家店的商品都很便宜。 Everything in this shop is cheap.
服裝	fúzhuāng	clothing, fashion	她在一家服裝公司上班。 She works for a fashion company.
價值	jiàzhí	value	這本書很有價值。 This book is very valuable.
用品	yòngpǐn	(everyday) supplies, articles	我去買一些生活用品。 I'm going to buy some household bits.
物價	wùjià	prices, cost of living	臺北的物價越來越高。 The cost of living in Taipei keeps going up.
因此	yīncǐ	so, therefore	他每天練習，因此進步得很快。 He practises every day, so he's improving fast.
基礎	jīchǔ	foundation, basis	她的中文基礎很好。 She has a solid grounding in Chinese.
緊	jǐn	tight	這條牛仔褲太緊了。 These jeans are too tight.
理想	lǐxiǎng	ideal; dream, aim	這個工作很理想。 This job is ideal.
事實	shìshí	fact	這是事實，不是故事。 That's a fact, not a story.
挺	tǐng	quite, pretty (spoken)	這家店挺有名的。 This shop's pretty well known.

pattern 因此: so, therefore

a cause **，因此** **the result**

因此 starts the result after a cause: “A, so B”. It’s a little more formal than 所以, and you can’t use it with 因為 in front the way you can with 所以. Great for reports, emails and explaining a decision.

這個牌子的品質很好，因此價格也比較高。 **zhè ge páizi de pǐnzhí hěn hǎo yīncǐ jiàgé yě bǐjiào gāo** This brand’s quality is good, so the prices are higher too.

他每天練習，因此進步得很快。 **tā měi tiān liànxí yīncǐ jìnbù de hěn kuài** He practises every day, so he’s improving fast.

下大雨了，因此比賽改到明天。 **xià dà yǔ le yīncǐ bǐsài gǎi dào míngtiān** It’s pouring, so the match has moved to tomorrow.

dialogue the jeans advert

manager li 安娜，我們要為一個牛仔褲牌子做廣告。這是你的第一個大工作。
Ānnà wǒmen yào wèi yí ge niúzǎikù páizi zuò guǎnggào zhè shì nǐ de dì yī ge dà gōngzuò · Anna, we’re doing an advert for a jeans brand. It’s your first big job.

anna 太好了！他們的商品有什麼特色？
tài hǎo le tāmen de shāngpǐn yǒu shénme tèsè · Brilliant! What’s special about their products?

manager li 品質很好，價格卻不貴。根據他們的調查，購買的人大部分是大學生。
pǐnzhí hěn hǎo jiàgé què bú guì gēnjù tāmen de diàochá gòumǎi de rén dà bùfen shì dàxuéshēng · The quality is good, yet the prices are low. According to their survey, most of their buyers are university students.

anna 大學生都想省一點，因此廣告的重點或許應該是「便宜又好穿」。
dàxuéshēng dōu xiǎng shěng yìdiǎn yīncǐ guǎnggào de zhòngdiǎn huòxǔ yīnggāi shì piányí yòu hǎo chuān · Students all want to save money, so maybe the advert should focus on “cheap and comfy”.

manager li 不錯。可是別忘了，除了便宜以外，顧客也重視服裝的價值。
búcuò kěshì bié wàng le chúle piányí yǐwài gùkè yě zhòngshì fúzhuāng de jiàzhí · Good. But don’t forget: besides the price, customers also care about value.

anna 我明白了。廣告的費用是多少？
wǒ míngbái le guǎnggào de fèiyòng shì duōshǎo · I see. What’s the budget for the advert?

manager li 事實上，費用不多，因此我們要用很少的錢做出好廣告。
shìshí shàng fèiyòng bù duō yīncǐ wǒmen yào yòng hěn shǎo de qián zuò chū hǎo guǎnggào · To be honest, it’s small, so we need to make a good advert on very little money.

anna 我的基礎還不夠好，可是我會努力。
wǒ de jīchǔ hái bú gòu hǎo kěshì wǒ huì nǔlì · My skills aren’t strong enough yet, but I’ll work hard.

manager li 你挺有想法的，我相信你。這個工作對你來說很理想。
nǐ tǐng yǒu xiǎngfǎ de wǒ xiāngxìn nǐ zhè ge gōngzuò duì nǐ lái shuō hěn lǐxiǎng · You’ve got plenty of ideas: I believe in you. This job is ideal for you.

anna 謝謝經理！我今天就開始，晚上還要去買一條他們的牛仔褲！
xièxie jīnglǐ wǒ jīntiān jiù kāishǐ wǎnshàng hái yào qù mǎi yì tiáo tāmen de niúzǎikù · Thank you! I’ll start today, and tonight I’m going to buy a pair of their jeans!

write it trace the grey, then write your own



幸
xìng
fortunate

運
yùn
fate



痛
tòng
painful, hurt



苦
kǔ
bitter

good to know · 挺 + adjective (+ 的) is a relaxed “quite, pretty”: 挺好的, 挺貴的. 品質 is read pǐnzhí in Taiwan; on the mainland it’s pǐnzhì, and 質量 is more common there. New meaning: 開始 as a noun, “the beginning”: 好的開始 a good start.

You can now talk about brands and quality and explain a decision with 因此, like a pro.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

day 33 at the street stall

Shop at a street stall (haggle, get your change and receipt), say "even if" with 就是……也……, and "once you start" with 一V起來 / V起N來.

Night markets are where Taiwan shops, eats and haggles: and where your Chinese gets its best workout.

words

word	pinyin	meaning	example
香水	xiāngshuǐ	perfume	這瓶香水很香。 This perfume smells lovely.
發票	fāpiào	receipt	買東西記得拿發票。 Remember to take your receipt when you buy something.
推銷	tuīxiāo	sell, promote (to people)	他在街上推銷新的手機。 He's promoting a new phone on the street.
金子	jīnzi	gold	這條皮帶又不是金子做的！ This belt isn't made of gold, you know!
海報	hǎibào	poster	牆上貼著一張電影海報。 There's a film poster on the wall.
地攤	dìtān	street stall (on the ground)	夜市有很多地攤。 There are lots of stalls at the night market.
講價	jiǎngjià	haggle, bargain	在百貨公司不能講價。 You can't haggle in a department store.
找錢	zhǎoqián	give change	老闆，你還沒找錢給我。 Excuse me, you haven't given me my change.
招牌	zhāopái	shop sign, signboard	這家店的招牌很大。 This shop has a huge sign.
皮帶	pídài	belt	我想買一條皮帶。 I want to buy a belt.
上街	shàngjiē	go out (shopping, into town)	週末我們上街買東西吧。 Let's go shopping in town at the weekend.
省錢	shěngqián	money-saving, economical	自己做飯比較省錢。 Cooking for yourself saves money.
激烈	jīliè	intense, fierce	這場比賽非常激烈。 This match is really fierce.
距	jù	from, away from (written)	本{=this (formal)}店距捷運站只|有五|分鐘。 Our shop is just five minutes from the MRT station.
哦	ó	oh? (surprise, realising)	哦，原來是這樣！ Oh, so that's how it is!
首	shǒu	(measure word for songs, poems)	我們來唱一首歌吧。 Let's sing a song.
就是	jiùshì	even if (with 也)	就是下雨，我們也要去夜市。 Even if it rains, we're going to the night market.

pattern 就是……也…… (even if) and —v起來 / v起n來 (once you start)

就是 even if this | 也 still that

就是 A 也 B: even if A, B still holds. — + verb + 起來 means "once you start": 一聊起來. With a verb and its object, the object goes between 起 and 來: 說起話來, 下起雨來.

就是很貴，我也要買。 **jiùshì hěn guì wǒ yě yào mǎi** Even if it's expensive, I'm buying it.

他們一聊起來就忘了時間。 **tāmen yì liáo qǐlai jiù wàng le shíjiān** Once they get chatting, they forget the time.

外面忽然下起雨來了。 **wàimiàn hūrán xià qǐ yǔ lái le** It suddenly started raining outside.

dialogue david haggles

zhiming 週末我們上街去夜市吧！就是人很多，也很好玩。
zhōumò wǒmen shàngjiē qù yèshì ba jiùshì rén hěn duō yě hěn hǎo wán · Let's go to the night market this weekend! Even with the crowds, it's great fun.

david 好！我要買一條皮帶。你看那個地攤，招牌上寫「全部一百塊」。
hǎo wǒ yào mǎi yì tiáo pídài nǐ kàn nà ge dìtān zhāopái shàng xiě quánbù yìbǎi kuài · Yes! I want to buy a belt. Look at that stall: the sign says "Everything 100 dollars".

zhiming 那邊還有賣牛仔褲的，東西真多！
nà biān hái yǒu mài niúzǎikù de dōngxi zhēn duō · There's a stall selling jeans over there too: so much stuff!

anna 一般來說，地攤可以講價。大衛，你試一下。
yìbānláishuō dìtān kěyǐ jiǎngjià Dàwèi nǐ shì yíxià · Generally you can haggle at a stall. David, give it a go.

david 老闆，這條皮帶又不是金子做的，算便宜一點吧？
lǎobǎn zhè tiáo pídài yòu bú shì jīnzi zuò de suàn piányí yìdiǎn ba · Excuse me, this belt isn't made of gold: how about a bit cheaper?

zhiming 哦，老闆說八十塊。大衛，你一講價就停不下來，比臺灣人還厲害！
ó lǎobǎn shuō bāshí kuài Dàwèi nǐ yì jiǎngjià jiù tíng bu xialai bǐ Táiwān rén hái lìhài · Oh, he says eighty. David, once you start haggling there's no stopping you: you're better than the Taiwanese!

david 我在加拿大也常常這樣省錢。我跟老闆一聊起天來，他就會算便宜一點。
wǒ zài Jiānádà yě chángcháng zhèyàng shěngqián wǒ gēn lǎobǎn yì liáo qǐ tiān lái tā jiù huì suàn piányí yìdiǎn · I save money like this in Canada too. Once I get chatting with the stallholder, he's always ready to knock a bit off.

anna 你們看，那兩個地攤在比賽推銷香水，好激烈啊！
nǐmen kàn nà liǎng ge dìtān zài bǐsài tuīxiāo xiāngshuǐ hǎo jīliè a · Look, those two stalls are competing to sell perfume: it's fierce!

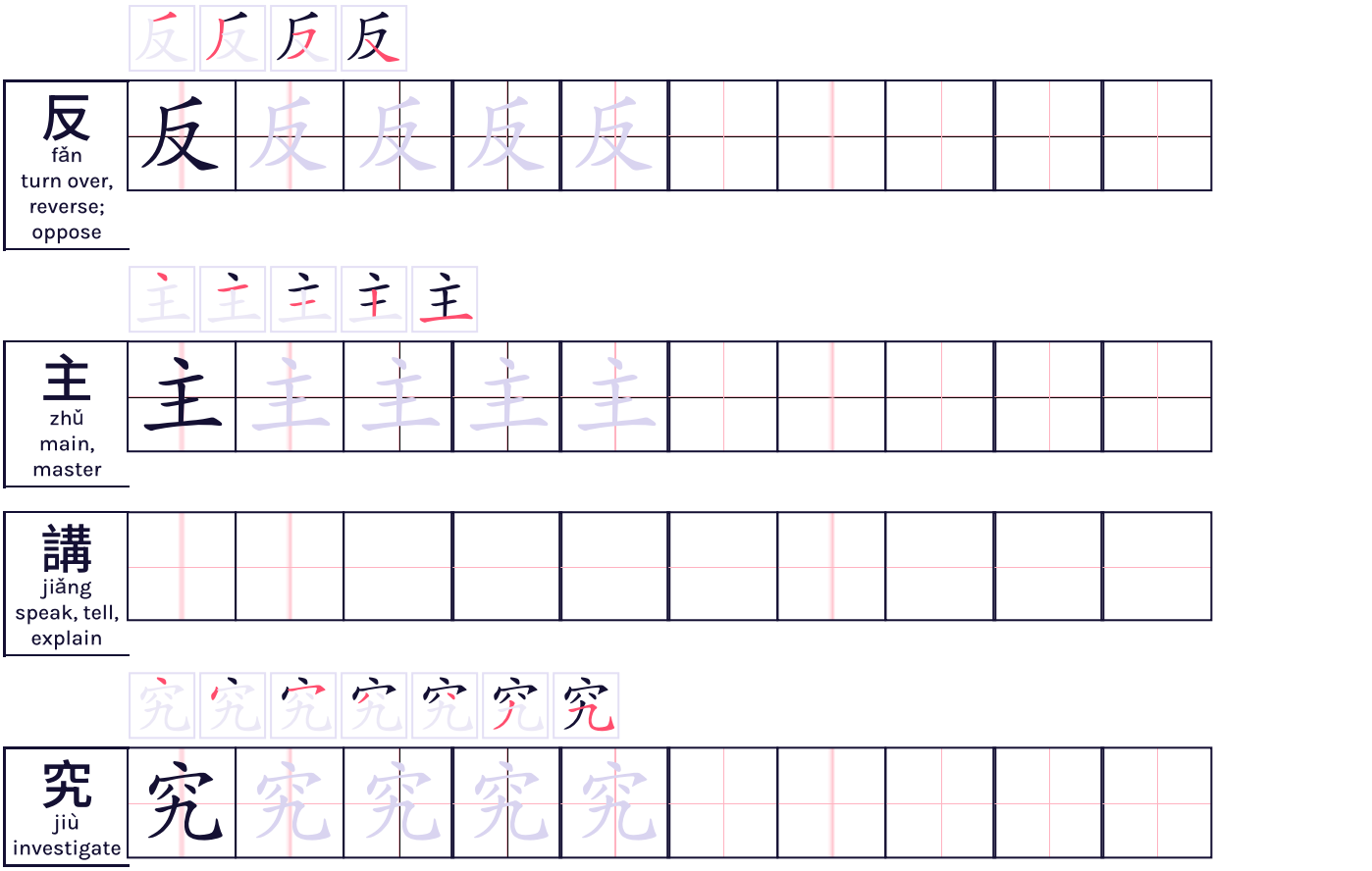
zhiming 別買，就是便宜，品質也不一定好。
bié mǎi jiùshì piányí pǐnzhí yě bù yídìng hǎo · Don't buy any: even if it's cheap, the quality isn't necessarily good.

david 老闆找錢給我了，可是沒有發票。
lǎobǎn zhǎoqián gěi wǒ le kěshì méiyǒu fāpiào · He's given me my change, but there's no receipt.

zhiming 地攤一般沒有發票。走吧，前面有人在唱歌，我們去聽一首！
dìtān yìbān méiyǒu fāpiào zǒu ba qiánmiàn yǒu rén zài chànggē wǒmen qù tīng yì shǒu · Stalls don't usually give receipts. Come on, someone's singing up ahead: let's go and hear a song!

anna 好啊！聽完歌，我還想吃一碗米粉。
hǎo a tīng wán gē wǒ hái xiǎng chī yì wǎn mǐfěn · OK! After the song, I want a bowl of rice noodles.

write it trace the grey, then write your own



good to know · Haggle at stalls and markets, not in shops with price tags or department stores. A smile and 算便宜一點吧 go a long way. 距 is the written 離: you'll see it on ads and signs (距捷運站 5 分鐘). New meaning: 還可以 = "not bad, OK": 可以 here means "acceptable", not "can".

You're ready for any night market: haggle, get your change and keep that lucky receipt.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

wishyou.today learning

day 34 mission: auntie wang's market morning

Chinese TOCFL B in 220 days
unit 5 · food & shopping

Follow a morning of shopping, cooking and selling at a breakfast shop, read a shopping message, and make a poster pitch.

Markets, kitchens, customers and adverts: today all of unit 5 comes back in one busy morning.

chapter 1 auntie wang's list

auntie wang 安娜、美玲，由於我的腳不舒服，今天要麻煩你們了。
Ānnà Měilíng yóuyú wǒ de jiǎo bù shūfu jīntiān yào máfan nǐmen le · Anna, Meiling: my foot's bad, so I'm going to have to trouble you today.

anna 阿姨，沒問題！我念一下您的留言：「要購買的材料：蔬菜五斤、白菜三顆、玉米十根、紅豆兩斤，米粉和麵條各五包。由於最近物價很高，請跟老闆講價，能省就省。費用大約三千塊，請記得拿發票。」
āyí méi wèntí wǒ niàn yíxià nín de liúyán yào gòumǎi de cáiliào shūcài wǔ jīn báicài sān kē yùmǐ shí gēn hóngdòu liǎng jīn mǐfěn hé miàntiáo gè wǔ bāo yóuyú zuìjìn wùjià hěn gāo qǐng gēn lǎobǎn jiǎngjià néng shěng jiù shěng fèiyòng dàyuē sānqiān kuài qǐng jìde ná fāpiào · No problem, Auntie! I'll read your message: "To buy: five catties of vegetables, three cabbages, ten corn cobs, two catties of red beans, five packs each of rice noodles and noodles. Prices are high at the moment, so please haggle with the stallholders and save where you can. It should cost about three thousand. Please remember to get receipts."

meiling 三千塊？物價真的越來越高了。你確定我們拿得動嗎？
sānqiān kuài wùjià zhēnde yuèláiyuè gāo le nǐ quèdìng wǒmen ná de dòng ma · Three thousand? Prices really do keep going up. Are you sure we can carry it all?

anna 老闆，白菜怎麼賣？我們買三顆，可以算便宜一點嗎？
lǎobǎn báicài zěnme mài wǒmen mǎi sān kē kěyǐ suàn piányí yìdiǎn ma · Excuse me, how much is the cabbage? We're buying three: could you make it a bit cheaper?

meiling 哦，老闆說可以，還免費送我們兩根玉米！你講價的水平越來越高了！
ó lǎobǎn shuō kěyǐ hái miǎnfèi sòng wǒmen liǎng gēn yùmǐ nǐ jiǎngjià de shuǐpíng yuèláiyuè gāo le · Oh, he says yes, and he's giving us two corn cobs free! Your haggling is getting better and better!

anna 是跟大衛學的！等一下，那個地攤的皮帶挺好看的……
shì gēn Dàwèi xué de děng yíxià nà ge dìtān de pídài tǐng hǎokàn de · I learnt it from David! Hang on, the belts on that stall look pretty nice…

meiling 安娜！我們不是上街買東西，是來買菜的！
Ānnà wǒmen bú shì shàngjiē mǎi dōngxi shì lái mǎi cài de · Anna! We're not out shopping, we're here to buy food!

chapter 2 cooking for a crowd

auntie wang 材料都買好了？太好了。安娜，你來煮麵條；美玲，你來做蛋餅。
cáiliào dōu mǎi hǎo le tài hǎo le Ānnà nǐ lái zhǔ miàntiáo Měilíng nǐ lái zuò dàn bǐng · Got everything? Brilliant. Anna, you do the noodles; Meiling, you make the egg pancakes.

anna 阿姨，醬油要加多少？我怕口味太淡。
āyí jiàngyóu yào jiā duōshǎo wǒ pà kǒuwèi tài dàn · Auntie, how much soy sauce? I'm worried it'll be too bland.

auntie wang 一點就夠了。現在的人重視健康，口味都喜歡淡一點。多吃蔬菜，還可以降低生病的機會。
yìdiǎn jiù gòu le xiànzài de rén zhòngshì jiànkāng kǒuwèi dōu xǐhuān dàn yìdiǎn duō chī shūcài hái kěyǐ jiàngdī shēngbìng de jīhuì · Just a little. People care about their health these days and like things lighter. And eating more veg lowers your chances of getting ill.

meiling 阿姨，我想嘗試一個新口味：蛋餅加玉米！
āyí wǒ xiǎng chángshì yí ge xīn kǒuwèi dàn bǐng jiā yùmǐ · Auntie, I want to try a new flavour: egg pancake with corn!

auntie wang 好啊！剩的玉米可以煮湯，很有營養。蓋起來，燒二十分鐘就好了。小心，別讓杯子倒了！
hǎo a shèng de yùmǐ kěyǐ zhǔ tāng hěn yǒu yíngyǎng gài qǐlai shāo èrshí fēnzhōng jiù hǎo le xiǎoxīn bié ràng bēizi dǎo le · Sure! The leftover corn can go in a soup: very nourishing. Put the lid on and simmer it for twenty minutes. Careful, don't knock the cups over!

anna 我們做著做著就六點半了！顧客隨時會來。
wǒmen zuò zhe zuò zhe jiù liù diǎn bàn le gùkè suíshí huì lái · We've been cooking away and it's already half six! Customers could arrive any minute.

auntie wang 你們做得真好，中餐、西餐，你們肯定都會做。
nǐmen zuò de zhēn hǎo zhōngcān xīcān nǐmen kěndìng dōu huì zuò · You're doing so well: Chinese, Western, I bet you can cook it all.

meiling 哪裡！阿姨，您做了三十年早餐，您才是真正的廚師。
nǎlǐ āyí nín zuò le sānshí nián zǎocān nín cái shì zhēnzhèng de chúshī · Not at all! Auntie, you've made breakfast for thirty years: you're the real chef.

chapter 3 breakfast rush

zhiming 阿姨早！今天怎麼是你們？
āyí zǎo jīntiān zěnme shì nǐmen · Morning, Auntie! Why is it you two today?

meiling 阿姨的腳還沒恢復，我們來幫忙。今天買兩樣，免費送一杯紅豆湯。
āyí de jiǎo hái méi huīfù wǒmen lái bāngmáng jīntiān mǎi liǎng yàng miǎnfèi sòng yì bēi hóngdòu tāng · Auntie's foot hasn't got better yet, so we're helping. Buy two things today and get a free red bean soup.

zhiming 太好了！我一會兒想吃蛋餅，一會兒想吃水餃……都要吧！
tài hǎo le wǒ yìhuǐr xiǎng chī dàn bǐng yìhuǐr xiǎng chī shuǐjiǎo dōu yào ba · Brilliant! I fancy an egg pancake, no, dumplings… I'll have both!

david 早！我剛才在樓下碰到一個人在推銷香水，他一說起話來就停不下來！
zǎo wǒ gāngcái zài lóuxià pèngdào yí ge rén zài tuīxiāo xiāngshuǐ tā yì shuō qǐ huà lái jiù tíng bu xialai · Morning! I just met a guy downstairs selling perfume: once he started talking he wouldn't stop!

anna 大衛，你的牛仔褲是我做廣告的那個牌子嗎？
Dàwèi nǐ de niúzǎikù shì wǒ zuò guǎnggào de nà ge páizi ma · David, are those jeans the brand I'm doing the advert for?

david 對！品質很好，只是有一點緊。
duì pǐnzhí hěn hǎo zhǐshì yǒuyìdiǎn jǐn · Yes! Great quality, just a bit tight.

anna 你的早餐一共八十塊，我找錢給你。請慢用！
nǐ de zǎocān yígòng bāshí kuài wǒ zhǎoqián gěi nǐ qǐng mànyòng · Your breakfast is eighty in all: here's your change. Enjoy!

david 這麼便宜？就是每天來吃，也不會花很多錢。
zhème piányí jiùshì měi tiān lái chī yě bú huì huā hěn duō qián · That cheap? Even if I came every day it wouldn't cost much.

auntie wang 大家都想省錢，因此我們的價格十年都沒有變。
dàjiā dōu xiǎng shěngqián yīncǐ wǒmen de jiàgé shí nián dōu méiyǒu biàn · Everyone wants to save money, so our prices haven't changed in ten years.

meiling 志明，時間很緊，十分鐘內吃完，否則上班要遲到了！
Zhìmíng shíjiān hěn jǐn shí fēnzhōng nèi chī wán fǒuzé shàngbān yào chídào le · Zhiming, time's tight: finish within ten minutes, or you'll be late for work!

chapter 4 a poster for auntie

anna 阿姨，我為您的店做了一張海報，是我的練習。
āyí wǒ wèi nín de diàn zuò le yì zhāng hǎibào shì wǒ de liànxí · Auntie, I've made a poster for your shop, as practice.

auntie wang 真的？我的招牌很舊了。事實上，我也想做一點廣告。這條街有五家早餐店，大家都在推銷，生意不好做。
zhēnde wǒ de zhāopái hěn jiù le shìshí shàng wǒ yě xiǎng zuò yìdiǎn guǎnggào zhè tiáo jiē yǒu wǔ jiā zǎocān diàn dàjiā dōu zài tuīxiāo shēngyì bù hǎo zuò · Really? My sign is very old. Actually, I've been wanting to advertise a bit. There are five breakfast shops on this street, all competing for customers: business is tough.

anna 根據我的調查，附近的大學生喜歡便宜又有特色的早餐，因此海報的重點是：「三十年的老店，品質好，價格不貴」。
gēnjù wǒ de diàochá fùjìn de dàxuéshēng xǐhuān piányí yòu yǒu tèsè de zǎocān yīncǐ hǎibào de zhòngdiǎn shì sānshí nián de lǎo diàn pǐnzhí hǎo jiàgé bú guì · According to my survey, students round here like cheap breakfasts with something special, so the poster says: "Thirty years old, great quality, low prices".

meiling 下面還寫了：「本店提供免費紅豆湯，距捷運站只有三分鐘」！
xiàmiàn hái xiě le běn diàn tígōng miǎnfèi hóngdòu tāng jù jiéyùn zhàn zhǐ yǒu sān fēnzhōng · And underneath it says: "Free red bean soup, just three minutes from the MRT"!

auntie wang 這張海報挺好看的！做海報的費用是多少？
zhè zhāng hǎibào tǐng hǎokàn de zuò hǎibào de fèiyòng shì duōshǎo · This poster's lovely! How much does it cost to make?

anna 免費！阿姨對我們那麼好，這是我們的一點心意。
miǎnfèi āyí duì wǒmen nàme hǎo zhè shì wǒmen de yìdiǎn xīnyì · Nothing! You're so good to us: it's a little thank-you.

auntie wang 你們這些孩子，比金子還有價值！
nǐmen zhèxiē háizi bǐ jīnzi hái yǒu jiàzhí · You kids are worth more than gold!

david 我們來唱一首歌，慶祝一下吧！
wǒmen lái chàng yì shǒu gē qìngzhù yíxià ba · Let's sing a song to celebrate!

auntie wang 好！唱完歌，我們把家裡剩的月餅吃完！
hǎo chàng wán gē wǒmen bǎ jiā lǐ shèng de yuèbǐng chī wán · Yes! And after the song, let's finish off the mooncakes I've got left!

chapter 5 please queue

anna 各位客人早安！王阿姨的店今天人很多，請大家排隊，不要急。
gèwèi kèrén zǎoān Wángāyí de diàn jīntiān rén hěn duō qǐng dàjiā páiduì bú yào jí · Good morning, everyone! Auntie Wang's shop is very busy today. Please queue and don't rush.

anna 對不起，熱豆漿賣完了。包子都有，請問您要幾個？
duìbùqǐ rè dòujiāng mài wán le bāozi dōu yǒu qǐngwèn nín yào jǐ ge · Sorry, the hot soy milk is sold out. We have all the buns: how many would you like?

anna 包子一個三十塊，兩個五十塊。要帶走的客人，請先付錢，再拿東西。
bāozi yí ge sānshí kuài liǎng ge wǔshí kuài yào dài zǒu de kèrén qǐng xiān fù qián zài ná dōngxi · Buns are thirty dollars each or fifty for two. If you're taking away, please pay first and then take your food.

anna 要發票的客人，請告訴我們。有小朋友的客人，請先坐在前面的位子。
yào fāpiào de kèrén qǐng gàosù wǒmen yǒu xiǎopéngyǒu de kèrén qǐng xiān zuò zài qiánmiàn de wèizi · If you want a receipt, please tell us. Customers with small children, please take the seats at the front first.

anna 謝謝大家的耐心，歡迎明天再來。
xièxie dàjiā de nàixīn huānyíng míngtiān zài lái · Thank you all for your patience, and please come again tomorrow.

Market, kitchen, customers, advert: you ran a Taiwanese breakfast shop for a morning. Unit 5 is done!
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**