

State a destination and departure time

HSK 1

Use the examples with their context and limits. Recall a sentence before reading the model. Original teaching additions accompany examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA); see the course reference provenance. Say where you are going, when, and how.

Build the meaning

Put time before the main action in this simple pattern: 我明天八点去上海. Mandarin does not add an English-style future verb ending here.

坐火车 describes transport; 去上海 gives the destination. Asking 去哪里 needs a place; asking 怎么去 needs a method.

Useful words in context

- 去 qù – go. 我去学校。
- 火车 huǒchē – train. 我坐火车。
- 坐 zuò – travel by / sit. 我坐火车去上海。
- 上海 Shànghǎi – Shanghai. 我明天去上海。
- 八点 bā diǎn – eight o'clock. 我八点去。

Read for meaning

王力明天八点坐火车去上海。林安明天九点坐车去学校。王力今天在学校。

Tomorrow Wang Li takes a train to Shanghai at eight. Lin An goes to school by vehicle at nine. Wang Li is at school today.

Listen to a different passage

Ask a partner to read this with the script closed. Use the online practice for browser playback.

我明天九点坐火车去上海。

Tomorrow I take a train to Shanghai at nine.

Speak and write

Ask where a partner is going tomorrow and how. Give your own fictional departure plan.

Write a travel plan with a time, method, and destination. Change the time from the reading.

One speaking model: A: 你明天去哪里? B: 上海。A: 怎么去? B: 坐火车。

One writing model: 我明天十点坐火车去上海。

- Include a time before the action.
- Include 坐 plus transport.
- Include 去 plus a place.

Check the distinction: 在上海 gives a location; 去上海 gives a destination. Do not answer 去哪里 with only 坐火车.

Learn step by step · Practise and review.