

# Complete a message with the right character

## HSK 2

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.

Use the sentence meaning and pronunciation to choose a character.

### Build the meaning

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Characters with similar sounds can have different meanings: 在 zài locates something; 再 zài can mean again or then.

To complete a message, check the whole sentence, the pinyin cue, and the role of the missing word. Guessing from sound alone is not enough.

### Useful words in context

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- 在 zài – at / in. 我在学校。
- 再 zài – again / then. 请再说一遍。
- 见 jiàn – see. 明天见。
- 这里 zhèlǐ – here. 我在这里。
- 字 zì – character. 这个字怎么读？

### Read for meaning

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林安写：“我在学校。请明天再来。明天下午三点见。”她检查了时间和地点，然后发出消息。

Lin An writes that she is at school and asks the reader to come again tomorrow, meeting at three in the afternoon. She checks the time and place before sending.

### Listen to a different passage

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

我在图书馆。明天下午四点见。

I am at the library. See you tomorrow at four in the afternoon.

## Speak and write

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Ask a partner how to read 在, then say a sentence with it. Explain in English how 再 differs.

Write a two-line message giving your location and tomorrow's meeting time. Check 在 and 再 carefully.

**One speaking model:** A: 这个字怎么读? B: zài。A: 我在学校。

**One writing model:** 我在学校。明天下午四点见。

- Use 在 for the current location.
- Give tomorrow's time.
- Check the characters, not only pinyin.

**Check the distinction:** A correct pinyin sound does not guarantee the correct character. This authored practice is separate from the official sample with quarantined writing-key numbering.

Learn step by step · Practise and review.