

Nouns

HSK 4

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.

其中 (among them / of which)

■ A subset stays inside the earlier group

- Thirty students are mentioned, five of whom are boys.
- 三十个学生，其中五个是男生。 – The five boys belong to the group of thirty.

■ Build the form

- The pattern in this lesson is 其中 (among them / of which). Locate it in the original interlinear examples below.
- Keep the words in their demonstrated positions; the pattern must fit the intended situation as well as the sentence form.

三十个学生，其中五个是男生。

sān shí ge xué sheng qí zhōng wǔ ge shì nán shēng

Word guide: 三十 – thirty; 个 – (measure word); 学生 – students; 其中 – among them; 五 – five; 是 – are; 男生 – boys.

■ Read examples in context

- In the opening example, 三十个学生，其中五个是男生。: The five boys belong to the group of thirty.
- Explain who acts, what is described and which time or group is relevant before choosing an English paraphrase.

■ Know the boundary

- 其中 needs a recoverable group, but it may start a new sentence referring to a preceding sentence.
- Do not add the five again to make thirty-five.

■ Use the distinction

- The five boys belong to the group of thirty.
- 其中 needs a recoverable group, but it may start a new sentence referring to a preceding sentence. Do not add the five again to make thirty-five.

■ Try it with help closed

Thirty students are mentioned, five of whom are boys. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson's pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

One possible response: 三十个学生，其中五个是男生。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- 其中 needs a recoverable group, but it may start a new sentence referring to a preceding sentence.
- Do not add the five again to make thirty-five.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.