

”Even if” statements

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.

即使 ... , 也 ... (even if)

■ A conceded case need not be a prediction

- You intend to go despite possible rain.
- 即使下雨，我还是要去。 – The decision remains even in the rain case.

■ Build the form

- The pattern in this lesson is 即使 ... , 也 ... (even if). 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.

即使下雨，我还是要去。

jí shǐ xià yǔ wǒ yě yào qù

Word guide: 即使 – even if; 下雨 – rain; 我 – I; 也 – still; 要 – will; 去 – go.

■ Read examples in context

- In the opening example, 即使下雨，我还是要去。 : The decision remains even in the rain case.
- Explain who acts, what is described and which time or group is relevant before choosing an English paraphrase.

■ Know the boundary

- The wording does not assert that rain will occur.
- 即使 can also concede an actual case in context, so hypothetical does not mean always unreal.

■ Use the distinction

- The decision remains even in the rain case.
- The wording does not assert that rain will occur. 即使 can also concede an actual case in context, so hypothetical does not mean always unreal.

■ Try it with help closed

You intend to go despite possible rain. 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: 即使下雨，我也要去。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- The wording does not assert that rain will occur.
- 即使 can also concede an actual case in context, so hypothetical does not mean always unreal.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.