

Nouns

HSK 6

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.

本 + Noun (this / our / one's own)

■ Identify who issued a notice

- A company writes a notice about its own opening hours.
- 本公司周一恢复营业。 – 本公司 points to the company issuing the notice.

Identify who issued a notice

SITUATION

A company writes a notice about its own opening hours.

SPEAKER MEANING

本公司 points to the company issuing the notice.

CHECK THE LIMIT

本 is also used for the current time or item: 本周、本次.

■ Locate the pattern in real examples

- 本 + Noun (this / our / one's own): 本公司成立于 1998 年。; 本次列车开往北京。
- Read the whole clause before choosing a translation. The examples show the pattern in use; the context below determines what the speaker claims.

■ Follow the speaker

本公司不接受退货。

běn gōng sī bù jiē shòu tuì huò

Word guide: 本 – our; 公司 – company; 不 – not; 接受 – accept; 退货 – returns.

- In the opening situation: 本公司周一恢复营业。
- 本公司 points to the company issuing the notice.

■ Check the limit of the explanation

- 本 is also used for the current time or item: 本周、本次.
- It is not the measure word 本 in 一本书, and 本公司 should not be used for an unrelated competitor.

■ Repair the form before interpreting it

- The form 本的公司恢复营业 needs repair here. Write 本公司恢复营业 instead; keep the word or frame in its demonstrated order.
- Form and meaning are separate checks. After the repair, explain the sentence in its situation rather than treating a familiar translation as a universal rule.

■ Keep the distinction

- 本公司 points to the company issuing the notice. Check the relevant speaker, time or group in the surrounding context.
- 本 is also used for the current time or item: 本周、本次. It is not the measure word 本 in 一本书, and 本公司 should not be used for an unrelated competitor.

■ Try it with help closed

A company writes a notice about its own opening hours. 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: 本公司周一恢复营业。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- 本 is also used for the current time or item: 本周、本次.
- It is not the measure word 本 in 一本书, and 本公司 should not be used for an unrelated competitor.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Word + 性 (-ness / -ity)

■ Name a property rather than describe a thing

- An evaluator compares how safe two products are.
- 我们需要比较两种产品的安全性。 – 安全性 names the property being compared.

Name a property rather than describe a thing

SITUATION

An evaluator compares how safe two products are.

SPEAKER MEANING

安全性 names the property being compared.

CHECK THE LIMIT

性 forms established words; do not attach it freely to every adjective.

■ Locate the pattern in real examples

- **Word + 性 (-ness / -ity):** 这个问题很有代表性。; 安全性是第一位的。
- Read the whole clause before choosing a translation. The examples show the pattern in use; the context below determines what the speaker claims.

■ Follow the speaker

这件事的重要性很高。

zhè jiàn shì de zhòng yào xìng hěn gāo

Word guide: 这 – this; 件 – (measure word); 事 – matter; 重要性 – importance; 很 – very; 高 – high.

- In the opening situation: 我们需要比较两种产品的安全性。
- 安全性 names the property being compared.

■ Check the limit of the explanation

- 性 forms established words; do not attach it freely to every adjective.
- 重要 describes importance directly in 这很重要; 重要性 names the concept in 它的重要性.

■ Repair the form before interpreting it

- The form 安全性性很高 needs repair here. Write 安全性很高 instead; keep the word or frame in its demonstrated order.
- Form and meaning are separate checks. After the repair, explain the sentence in its situation rather than treating a familiar translation as a universal rule.

■ Keep the distinction

- 安全性 names the property being compared. Check the relevant speaker, time or group in the surrounding context.
- 性 forms established words; do not attach it freely to every adjective. 重要 describes importance directly in 这很重要; 重要性 names the concept in 它的重要性.

■ Try it with help closed

An evaluator compares how safe two products are. 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: 我们需要比较两种产品的安全性。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- 性 forms established words; do not attach it freely to every adjective.
- 重要 describes importance directly in 这很重要; 重要性 names the concept in 它的重要性.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.