

Prepositions

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.

鉴于 (in light of / given)

■ A notice explains why an event changed

- A venue is closed for repairs, so the organiser postpones the event.
- 鉴于场地正在维修，活动延期。** – The notice gives a circumstance as the basis for a decision.

A notice explains why an event changed

SITUATION

A venue is closed for repairs, so the organiser postpones the event.

SPEAKER MEANING

The notice gives a circumstance as the basis for a decision.

CHECK THE LIMIT

鉴于 fits formal explanations; 因为 is often simpler in conversation.

■ Locate the pattern in real examples

- 鉴于 (in light of / given):** 鉴于天气原因，比赛推迟举行。; 鉴于情况特殊，我们决定延期。
- 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

鉴于天气不好，活动取消。

jiàn yú tiān qì bù hǎo huó dòng qǔ xiāo

Word guide: 鉴于 – in light of; 天气 – weather; 不 – not; 好 – good; 活动 – event; 取消 – cancel.

- In the opening situation: **鉴于场地正在维修，活动延期。**
- The notice gives a circumstance as the basis for a decision.

■ Check the limit of the explanation

- 鉴于 fits formal explanations; 因为 is often simpler in conversation.
- It does not prove the reason is sufficient, and the decision still needs to be clearly stated.

■ Repair the form before interpreting it

- The form **鉴于于场地正在维修** needs repair here. Write **鉴于场地正在维修** 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

- The notice gives a circumstance as the basis for a decision. Check the relevant speaker, time or group in the surrounding context.
- 鉴于 fits formal explanations; 因为 is often simpler in conversation. It does not prove the reason is sufficient, and the decision still needs to be clearly stated.

■ Try it with help closed

A venue is closed for repairs, so the organiser postpones the event. 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: 鉴于场地正在维修，活动延期。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- 鉴于 fits formal explanations; 因为 is often simpler in conversation.
- It does not prove the reason is sufficient, and the decision still needs to be clearly stated.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.