

”No Matter” Statements

Ref Hsk4 Grammar

... / ... — “no matter” (spoken)

... / ... says the outcome holds **whatever** the case — “no matter (what / how) ..., still ...” The catch: the first clause must contain an **open variable** — a **choice** (A B / A-not-A) or a **question word** (, , ...). It’s the conversational option.

Structure: + (Question Word / choice) , (Subject +) / + Result

{zh: |bù guǎn|no matter / |nǐ|you / |chuān|wear / |shén me|what / , |dōu|all / |hǎo kàn|look good / 。 }

No matter what you wear, it looks good on you.

{zh: |bù guǎn|no matter / |zěnn me yàng|what happens / , |wǒ men|we / |dōu|all / |yào|must / |hǎo hǎo|properly / |zhǔn bèi|prepare / 。 }

No matter what, we must prepare properly.

Remember: needs something **OPEN after it** — a question word (/ /) or an “AB / A-not-A” choice — then / nails the result down regardless. = *spoken*; / = *formal* (next).

Watch out

- Without an open variable it’s wrong: ✓, but you can’t say

/ ... / ... — “no matter, regardless”

(or) is the more **formal** “no matter, regardless of” — grammatically identical to . The clause after it likewise holds a question word (, , ...) or a choice.

Structure: / + (Question Word / choice) , / + Result

{zh: |wú lùn|no matter / |duō me|how / |chéng gōng|successful / , |tā|he / |dōu|always / |jué de|feels / |zì jǐ|h himself / |bú gòu|not / |hǎo|good enough / 。 }

No matter how successful he is, he always feels he’s not good enough.

{zh: |wú lùn|no matter / |tiān|the weather / |duō|how / |rè|hot / , |dōu|always / |yào|must / |jiān chí|keep going / 。 }

No matter how hot it gets, we have to keep going.

Remember: / = **the written** — same grammar, same need for an open variable + / . Speech → ; writing → .

Watch out

- The same rule applies: the following clause needs a question word or a choice, never a flat statement.