

Not only... but also...

Ref Hsk4 Grammar

/ / ... / / ... — “not only ... but also ...”

Several near-identical frames all mean “**not only A, but also B**”: / / up front, paired with / / behind. Mix and match freely — they’re alike in meaning, and B should push *further* than A.

Structure: Subject + / / + A , / / + B

{zh: |Wáng shī fu|Master Wang / |bù dàn|not only / |huì|can / |kāi chē|drive / ,
|hái|but also / |huì|can / |xiū chē|fix cars / 。 }

Master Wang not only drives — he can repair cars too.

{zh: |wǒ men|we / |bù jǐn|not only / |wán chéng|finished / |le / |rèn wù|the task / ,
|ér qiě|but also / |tí qián|ahead of schedule / |le / |shí tiān|by ten days / 。 }

We not only finished the task, but did so ten days early.

Remember: front + back, pick any pair: / / ($\approx$ “not only”) with / / ($\approx$ “but also”). / ring a touch more formal; B must *escalate* past A. If the subject changes, put it **after** the conjunction: ...,

Watch out

- Keep both halves — Chinese says “not only... but also...” in full, where casual English might drop one.