Sentence Patterns

HSK 4 Grammar

Original teaching practice. Read one pattern, cover its model and try the questions before checking the separate answer section. Examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA) retain the course-reference provenance.

并 + 不 / 没 (emphatic denial)

That's not true at all

- Everyone assumes the exam was hard because the class looks tired. In fact it was easy.
- **这次考试并不难。** – "This exam actually wasn't hard (contrary to what you think)."

并 + 不 / 没 = not at all, actually not

- **并不 / 并没 (有)** strengthens a negative to correct a mistaken belief.
- 并 goes right before 不 / 没: 他并没有生气 – "He isn't actually angry."

他并没有生气。
tā bìng méi yǒu shēng qì
Word guide: 他 – he; 并 – actually; 没有 – not; 生气 – angry.



Correcting an assumption

- **大家都以为他是老师，其实他并不是。** – "Everyone thought he was a teacher, but actually he isn't."
- **我并没说过这句话。** – "I never said that."

我并没说过这句话。
wǒ bìng méi shuō guo zhè jù huà
Word guide: 我 – I; 并 – actually; 没 – not; 说 – say; 过 – (ever); 这句话 – this.

A correction, not a plain negative

- Use 并不 / 并没 when someone believes the opposite; for a plain "no", 不 / 没 is enough.
- 并 never stands alone in this sense: 并不难, not 并难.

并不 versus 又不

- 并不 is calm and fits writing: 这个问题并不复杂.
- 又不 is emotional speech: 我又不是你的服务员!

这个问题并不复杂。
zhè ge wèn tí bìng bú fù zá
Word guide: 这个 – this; 问题 – problem; 并 – actually; 不 – not; 复杂 – complicated.

Recap

- **并 + 不 / 没** = actually not, not at all, correcting a mistaken idea.
- Calm and written; the emotional spoken version is 又不.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Practice without the models

并 + 不 / 没 (emphatic denial)

1001.1 Correct an assumption: "Learning Chinese isn't actually that hard." 学中文 …… 不那么难。

1001.2 Everyone thinks he's angry, but he isn't. Which fits best?

- A. 他没并有生气。
- B. 他很生气。
- C. 他并没有生气。
- D. 他并生气。

1001.3 Build: "I never said that."

Arrange all chunks: 我 / 说过 / 并没 / 这句话。

1001.4 并不 sounds calmer than 又不.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1001.5 Everyone assumes the exam was hard because the class looks tired. In fact it was easy. 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.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

Answers and explanations

■ 并 + 不 / 没 (emphatic denial)

1001.1 并

并 + 不 corrects a mistaken belief.

1001.2 C. 他并没有生气。

并没有 corrects the assumption.

1001.3 我并没说过这句话。

并 + 没 + verb + 过.

1001.4 True.

并不 is calm and written; 又不 is emotional speech.

1001.5 One possible response: 这次考试并不难。

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- Use 并不 / 并没 when someone believes the opposite; for a plain "no", 不 / 没 is enough.
- 并 never stands alone in this sense: 并不难, not 并难.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.