Verb phrases

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 / 并且 (combining verbs: and)

What the meeting did

- You are writing the minutes of a school meeting.
- **会议讨论并通过了新的计划。** – "The meeting discussed and approved the new plan."

Verb phrase 1 + 并 / 并且 + Verb phrase 2

- **并 / 并且** join two actions done by the same subject, often in sequence: "and (also)".
- It is written style, common in reports and formal notices.

他学习了新方法，并用在工作中。
tā xué xí le xīn fāng fǎ bìng yòng zài gōng zuò zhōng
Word guide: 他 – he; 学习 – studied; 新 – the new; 方法 – method; 并 – and; 用 – used; 在 – in; 工作 – work; 中 – (in).

并: and (joining two verbs, written)



Two steps by one subject

- **请填写这张表，并交给前台。** – "Please fill in this form and hand it to reception."
- **公司调查了这个问题，并且找到了原因。** – "The company investigated the problem and found the cause."

请填写这张表，并交给前台。
qǐng tián xiě zhè zhāng biǎo bìng jiāo gěi qián tái
Word guide: 请 – please; 填写 – fill in; 这张 – this; 表 – form; 并 – and; 交给 – hand to; 前台 – reception.

Verbs, not nouns

- 并 / 并且 join verb phrases; to join nouns use 和: 老师和学生, not 老师并学生.
- Keep one subject: the same person or group does both actions.

并 + verb versus 并 + 不

- 并 + verb phrase = "and": 讨论并通过.
- 并 + 不 / 没 = "actually not": 他并不知道. Check whether a negative follows.

他并不知道。
tā bìng bù zhī dào
Word guide: 他 – he; 并 – actually; 不 – not; 知道 – know.

Recap

- **VP1 + 并 / 并且 + VP2** = and (also), same subject, written style.
- Nouns take 和; 并 + 不/没 = actually not.

Practise this pattern step by step.

少 + Verb (do less)

Doctor's orders

- Your doctor looks at your test results and gives you some advice.
- **你应该少吃甜的，多运动。** – "You should eat less sugar and exercise more."

少 + Verb = do less

- **少 + Verb** = do less of it: 少吃, 少喝, 少说.
- 少 goes directly before the verb, like an adverb.

晚上少喝咖啡。
wǎn shang shǎo hē kā fēi
Word guide: 晚上 – in the evening; 少 – less; 喝 – drink; 咖啡 – coffee.

少 / 多 + verb: do less / more of



Advice and quantity

- With an amount: **少放一点儿盐。** – “Put in a little less salt.”
- **你少说两句吧！** – “Say less (stop talking)!” – a firm request.

少放一点儿盐。
shǎo fàng yì diǎnr yán
Word guide: 少 – less; 放 – put in; 一点儿 – a little; 盐 – salt.

Before the verb

- “Eat less” is 少吃, not 吃少: 吃少了 means “ate too little”.
- An amount comes after the verb: 少吃一点儿, 少喝两杯.

少 + Verb versus 不 + Verb

- 少吃肉 = eat less meat (some is fine).
- 不吃肉 = don’t eat meat at all.

他不吃肉。
tā bù chī ròu
Word guide: 他 – he; 不 – doesn’t; 吃 – eat; 肉 – meat.

Recap

- **少 + Verb (+ amount)** = do less: 少吃, 少放一点儿.
- 少 goes before the verb; 吃少了 = ate too little; 不 + Verb = not at all.

Practise this pattern step by step.

多 + Verb (do more)

Getting fitter

- Your PE teacher gives the class some advice before the fitness test.
- **大家要多喝水，多休息。** – “Everyone should drink more water and rest more.”

多 + Verb = do more

- **多 + Verb** = do more of it: 多练习, 多吃水果, 多看书.
- 多 goes directly before the verb, like an adverb.

你应该多吃水果。
nǐ yīng gāi duō chī shuǐ guǒ
Word guide: 你 – you; 应该 – should; 多 – more; 吃 – eat; 水果 – fruit.

要 + 多 + verb: should do more



With an amount after the verb

- **我多买了两个。** – “I bought two extra.”
- **多穿一件衣服，外面很冷。** – “Put on an extra layer; it’s cold outside.”

多穿一件衣服，外面很冷。
duō chuān yí jiàn yī fu wài miàn hěn lěng
Word guide: 多 – more; 穿 – wear; 一件 – one; 衣服 – layer; 外面 – outside; 很 – very; 冷 – cold.

Before the verb

- “Practise more” is 多练习, not 练习多: 练习多了 suggests “practised a lot”.
- The extra amount goes after the verb: 多住几天 – “stay a few more days”.

多 + Verb versus 很多

- 多 + Verb = do more (advice): 多看.
- 很多 + noun = a lot of: 看了很多书 – “read a lot of books”.

他看了很多书。
tā kàn le hěn duō shū
Word guide: 他 – he; 看 – read; 很多 – many; 书 – books.

Recap

- **多 + Verb (+ amount)** = do more / extra: 多练习, 多买两个.
- 多 before the verb; 很多 + noun = a lot of.

Practise this pattern step by step.

由 + Person + Verb (done by)

Who’s in charge?

- Your teacher divides the work for the class trip.
- **这次活动由小王负责。** – “Xiao Wang is in charge of this event.”

Task + 由 + person + Verb

- **由 + person + Verb** = "by, (is done) by": it names who is responsible for a task.
- The task comes first as the topic: 晚饭由我做 – "Dinner will be made by me."

晚饭由我来做。
wǎn fàn yóu wǒ lái zuò
Word guide: 晚饭 – dinner; 由 – by; 我 – me; 来 – (to); 做 – make.

由 + person + 负责: handled by



Responsibility and composition

- **会议由校长主持。** – "The meeting is chaired by the head teacher."
- 由 … 组成 = be made up of: **这个队由十个人组成。** – "The team is made up of ten people."

这个队由十个人组成。
zhè ge duì yóu shí gè rén zǔ chéng
Word guide: 这个 – this; 队 – team; 由 – of; 十个 – ten; 人 – people; 组成 – is made up.

由 is not 被

- 由 names who is responsible; 被 reports something done to the subject, often unwelcome: 他被批评了.
- 由 sentences usually need no 了 or result complement: 由他负责.

由 = from (a starting point)

- 由 can also mean "from" in writing: 由北京出发 – "set off from Beijing".
- 由于 is a different word: "due to, because of".

我们由北京出发。
wǒ men yóu Běi jīng chū fā
Word guide: 我们 – we; 由 – from; 北京 – Beijing; 出发 – set off.

Recap

- **Task + 由 + person + Verb** = done by / in the charge of; **由 … 组成** = made up of.
- 由 names responsibility; 被 is the passive of something done to someone.

Practise this pattern step by step.

并且 (moreover / and also)

Good, and good value too

- In your review of a hotel, you want to add a second, separate strength.
- **这家酒店很干净，并且价格也不贵。** – "This hotel is clean, and moreover the price isn't high."

Clause，并且 + clause = moreover

- **并且** adds a further point, often building on the first: "and moreover, and also".
- It starts the second clause; 也 / 还 often follow in that clause.

他会说英语，并且说得很好。
tā huì shuō Yīng yǔ bìng qiě shuō de hěn hǎo
Word guide: 他 – he; 会 – can; 说 – speak; 英语 – English; 并且 – and moreover; 说 – speaks; 很 – very; 好 – well.

并且: and also (adds a point)



Adding a stronger point

- **他按时完成了任务，并且做得非常好。** – "He finished the task on time, and did it very well too."
- It is close to 而且, a little more written.

他按时完成了任务，并且做得很好。
tā àn shí wán chéng le rèn wu bìng qiě zuò de hěn hǎo
Word guide: 他 – he; 按时 – on time; 完成 – finished; 任务 – the task; 并且 – and moreover; 做 – did it; 很 – very; 好 – well.

Same direction

- Both points must point the same way (both good or both bad); for a contrast use 但是.
- 并且 does not join two nouns: 苹果和香蕉, not 苹果并且香蕉.

并且 versus 而且

- 而且 is very common in speech and pairs with 不但: 不但便宜，而且好吃.
- 并且 suits writing and lists of actions or facts; both mean “moreover”.

不但便宜，而且好吃。
bú dàn pián yi ér qiě hǎo chī
Word guide: 不但 – not only; 便宜 – cheap; 而且 – but also; 好吃 – tasty.

Recap

- **Clause，并且 + clause** = and moreover, adding a point in the same direction.
- Close to 而且 (more spoken); contrasts take 但是; nouns take 和.

Practise this pattern step by step.

从来 + 不 / 没 (never)

Planning a trip west

- Friends are planning a trip to Xinjiang and ask whether you know the region.
- **我从来没去过新疆。** – “I’ve never been to Xinjiang.”

从来没 + Verb + 过 = never (once)

- For experience, **从来没 (有) + Verb + 过** = “have never done”: 从来没见过, 从来没听说过.
- For habits or rules, **从来不 + Verb**: 他从来不喝咖啡.

我从来没听说过这个地方。
wǒ cóng lái méi tīng shuō guo zhè ge dì fang
Word guide: 我 – I; 从来 – ever; 没 – not; 听说 – hear of; 过 – (experience); 这个 – this; 地方 – place.



Never versus not yet

- **我还没去过。** – “I haven’t been yet (but I might).”
- **我从来没去过。** – “I’ve never once been.” 从来 stresses the whole of the past.

我还没去过。
wǒ hái méi qù guo
Word guide: 我 – I; 还 – yet; 没 – not; 去 – go; 过 – (experience).

Keep 过 and choose 没 or 不

- Experience: 从来没 + V + 过; habit: 从来不 + V. Do not mix: 从来不去过 is wrong.
- Use 过 for the experiential model here. Other predicates can form complete 从来没 statements without 过; there is no universal requirement.

从来没 versus 一直没

- 一直没 = “hasn’t … all this time” (up to now, a specific wait): 他一直没回我消息.
- 从来没 = “never, in one’s whole experience”: 他从来没迟到过.

他一直没回我消息。
tā yì zhí méi huí wǒ xiāo xi
Word guide: 他 – he; 一直 – all this time; 没 – hasn’t; 回 – replied to; 我 – my; 消息 – message.

Recap

- **从来没 + V + 过** = never (experience); **从来不 + V** = never (habit).
- 还没 = not yet; 一直没 = not during this whole stretch.

Practise this pattern step by step.

值得 + Verb (worth doing)

Is it worth visiting?

- A friend asks whether the Forbidden City is worth the long queue.
- **故宫很值得去。** – “The Forbidden City is well worth a visit.”

值得 + Verb = worth doing

- **A + 值得 + Verb** = A is worth doing: 值得看, 值得一去, 值得学习.
- 很 / 非常 can go before it: 很值得.

这本书值得一看。
zhè běn shū zhí de yí kàn
Word guide: 这 – this; 本 – (measure word); 书 – book; 值得 – is worth; 一看 – a read.

值得 + verb: worth doing



Worth it or not

- **这个问题值得我们讨论。** – “This question deserves our discussion.”
- Negative: **为这点儿小事生气，不值得。** – “It’s not worth getting angry over something so small.”

为这点儿小事生气，不值得。
wèi zhè diǎnr xiǎo shì shēng qì bù zhí de
Word guide: 为 – over; 这 – this; 点儿 – little; 小事 – matter; 生气 – get angry; 不 – not; 值得 – worth it.

The thing comes first

- Put what is worth it first: 这本书值得看, not 值得这本书看.
- The negative is 不值得, not 没值得.

值得 versus 值

- 值 + amount = be worth (money): 这块手表值一万块 – “This watch is worth 10,000 yuan.”
- 值得 + verb = worth doing.

这块手表值一万块。
zhè kuài shǒu biǎo zhí yí wàn kuài
Word guide: 这块 – this; 手表 – watch; 值 – is worth; 一万 – 10,000; 块 – yuan.

Recap

- **A + 值得 + Verb** = A is worth doing; negative 不值得.
- 值 + amount = worth (in money).

Practise this pattern step by step.

Verb + 到 + Time / Event (until)

Up all night

- Your roommate had a deadline and you could see her light under the door.
- **她昨天工作到凌晨三点。** – “She worked until three in the morning yesterday.”

Verb + 到 + time / event

- **Verb + 到 + end point** = do something until then: 睡到十点, 等到明天, 学到晚上.
- The end point goes after 到, right after the verb.

他周末常常睡到中午。
tā zhōu mò cháng cháng shuì dào zhōng wǔ
Word guide: 他 – he; 周末 – at weekends; 常常 – often; 睡 – sleep; 到 – until; 中午 – noon.

Verb + 到 + time: until



Until an event

- **我们等到雨停了才出发。** – “We waited until the rain stopped before setting off.”
- **他一直工作到退休。** – “He kept working until he retired.”

我们等到雨停了才出发。
wǒ men děng dào yǔ tíng le cái chū fā
Word guide: 我们 – we; 等 – wait; 到 – until; 雨 – the rain; 停 – stop; 才 – only then; 出发 – set off.

Verb first, then 到

- Say 睡到十点, not 到十点睡 (that means “go to bed at ten”).
- With an object, repeat the verb or put the object first: 看书看到很晚 / 书看到很晚.

Verb + 到 versus 直到 … 才

- Verb + 到 gives the end point neutrally: 玩到十点.
- 直到 … 才 … stresses that something happened only at that late point: 直到十点他才回家.

直到十点他才回家。
zhí dào shí diǎn tā cái huí jiā
Word guide: 直到 – not until; 十点 – ten; 他 – he; 才 – only then; 回家 – went home.

Recap

- **Verb + 到 + time / event** = do it until then: 工作到三点, 等到雨停.
- Verb before 到; with an object, repeat the verb. 直到 … 才 stresses lateness.

Practise this pattern step by step.

害得 (cause sb to suffer)

All because of you

- Your brother hid your alarm clock as a joke, and you missed your train.
- **你害得我迟到了！** – "You made me late!" 害得 blames someone for a bad result.

A + 害得 + B + bad result

- **害得** = "cause someone to suffer, make (something bad) happen to": the result is always unwelcome.
- The result comes after the person: 害得我没赶上车.

他害得我没赶上车。
tā hài de wǒ méi gǎn shàng chē
Word guide: 他 – he; 害得 – caused; 我 – me; 没 – not; 赶上 – catch; 车 – the bus.



Causes that are things

- **这场大雨害得我们在机场等了五个小时。** – "This rainstorm made us wait five hours at the airport."
- **你一直不回消息，害得我很担心。** – "You didn't reply all day, and it made me really worried."

这场大雨害得我们等了五个小时。
zhè chǎng dà yǔ hài de wǒ men děng le wǔ gè xiǎo shí
Word guide: 这场 – this; 大雨 – rainstorm; 害得 – caused; 我们 – us; 等 – wait; 五个 – five; 小时 – hours.

Only bad results

- Do not use 害得 for good outcomes; for neutral or good causes use 让 / 使: 他的话让我很高兴.
- Keep the person after 害得: 害得我迟到, not 害得迟到我.

害得 versus 让

- 让 is neutral: 这个消息让我很难过 – "This news made me sad."
- 害得 adds blame: 你害得我很难过 – "You made me so upset (it's your fault)."

这个消息让我很难过。
zhè ge xiāo xi ràng wǒ hěn nán guò
Word guide: 这个 – this; 消息 – news; 让 – made; 我 – me; 很 – very; 难过 – sad.

Recap

- **A + 害得 + B + bad result** = A caused B to suffer (with blame).
- Bad results only; neutral causes take 让 / 使.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Separable verbs (离合词)

A verb that splits in two

- You tell a friend you went swimming twice this week and had a haircut too.
- **我理了一次发，游了两次泳。** – "I had my hair cut once and went swimming twice."

Verb-object words (离合词)

- Some words are really **verb + object** in one word: 游泳 (swim), 见面 (meet: see + face), 睡觉 (sleep), 帮忙 (help: help + task).
- Words like 了, 过, amounts and 的 go **between** the two parts: 见了面, 睡了一个小时觉.

我们见过面。
wǒ men jiàn guo miàn

Word guide: 我们 – we; 见 – met; 过 – (before); 面 – face.

A split verb: the count goes in the middle



No second object

- Because they already contain an object, they cannot take another: **跟朋友见面**, not 见面朋友.
- Use a preposition for the person: **帮我一个忙** / **给他帮忙**, not 帮忙他.

我明天跟朋友见面。
wǒ míng tiān gēn péng you jiàn miàn
Word guide: 我 – I; 明天 – tomorrow; 跟 – with; 朋友 – a friend; 见面 – meet.

Two classic errors

- Do not add an object after them: 跟他见面, not 见面他; 给我帮忙, not 帮忙我.
- Put duration and 了 inside: 睡了八个小时觉 or 睡觉睡了八个小时, not 睡觉了八个小时.

Common separable verbs

- 结婚 (marry): 跟她结婚, 结过两次婚. 生气 (get angry): 生他的气 – "be angry with him".
- 上课, 毕业, 洗澡, 唱歌, 跳舞 work the same way: 唱了一首歌.

别生他的气。
bié shēng tā de qì
Word guide: 别 – don't; 生 – be; 他 – him; 的 – (at); 气 – angry.

Recap

- **离合词** = verb + object in one word (游泳, 见面, 帮忙, 睡觉): 了 / 过 / amounts go inside.
- No extra object: use 跟 / 给 + person, or 生 … 的气.

Practise this pattern step by step.

V 着 V 着就 … 了 (while …-ing, suddenly)

Asleep in front of the TV

- Your dad was watching a film after dinner. When you came back, he was snoring.
- **他看着看着就睡着了。** – "He was watching and watching, and then he fell asleep."

V 着 V 着就 + new event + 了

- **V 着 V 着，就 … 了** = while doing V (for a while), something new happened without planning.
- The first action continues; the second appears suddenly.

她说着说着就哭了。
tā shuō zhe shuō zhe jiù kū le
Word guide: 她 – she; 说 – talk; 着 – (ongoing); 说 – talk; 着 – (ongoing); 就 – then; 哭 – cry.

V着V着: while doing it, something else happens



Stories and surprises

- **我们走着走着，就迷路了。** – "We were walking along, and before we knew it we were lost."
- **孩子玩着玩着就笑了起来。** – "While playing, the child started laughing."

我们走着走着就迷路了。
wǒ men zǒu zhe zǒu zhe jiù mí lù le
Word guide: 我们 – we; 走 – walk; 着 – (ongoing); 走 – walk; 着 – (ongoing); 就 – then; 迷路 – get lost.

One-syllable verb, past events

- Use a one-syllable verb, repeated with 着 each time: 看着看着, not 看看着着.
- It describes what happened in the past (a story), so the second part ends with 了.

■ Versus 一边 … 一边 …

- 一边 … 一边 … = two actions at once, both planned: 一边吃一边看.
- V 着 V 着就 … = a new event slips in while one action goes on: 吃着吃着就睡着了.

他一边吃一边看电视。
tā yì biān chī yì biān kàn diàn shì
Word guide: 他 – he; 一边 – while; 吃 – eating; 一边 – (also); 看 – watches; 电视 – TV.

■ Recap

- **V 着 V 着，就 + new event + 了** = while doing V, (unexpectedly) …
- One-syllable verb, past story, 了 at the end. 一边 … 一边 … = two planned actions.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Practice without the models

■ 并 / 并且 (combining verbs: and)

1401.1 Complete (written): “Please read the notice and sign it.” 请阅读通知，…… 签名。

1401.2 Which sentence is correct?

- A. 我并买了苹果并香蕉。
- B. 我买了苹果并香蕉。
- C. 我买了并苹果和香蕉。
- D. 我买了苹果和香蕉。

1401.3 Build: “The meeting discussed and approved the plan.”

Arrange all chunks: 并通过了 / 讨论 / 会议 / 计划。

1401.4 In 他并不知道, 并 means “and”.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1401.5 You are writing the minutes of a school meeting. 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.

■ 少 + Verb (do less)

1402.1 Advise: “Play less on your phone.” …… 玩手机。

1402.2 What does 我吃少了 mean?

- A. I should eat less.
- B. I ate less than before on purpose.
- C. I ate too little.
- D. I don’t eat.

1402.3 Build: “Put in a little less salt.”

Arrange all chunks: 一点儿 / 盐。/ 放 / 少

1402.4 少吃肉 means “don’t eat meat at all”.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1402.5 Your doctor looks at your test results and gives you some advice. 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.

■ 多 + Verb (do more)

1403.1 Advise: “Practise speaking more.” …… 练习口语。

1403.2 Which says “Stay a few more days”?

- A. 住几天多。
- B. 很多住几天。
- C. 住多几天。
- D. 多住几天。

1403.3 Build: “Put on an extra layer.”

Arrange all chunks: 一件 / 衣服。/ 多 / 穿

1403.4 In 看了很多书, 很多 describes the books.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1403.5 Your PE teacher gives the class some advice before the fitness test. 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.

■ 由 + Person + Verb (done by)

1404.1 Complete: “This matter will be handled by me.” 这件事 …… 我来处理。

1404.2 Which says “He was criticised by the teacher”?

- A. 他被老师批评了。
- B. 他由老师批评了。
- C. 他由批评老师。
- D. 老师由他批评。

1404.3 Build: “The team is made up of ten people.”

Arrange all chunks: 组成。/ 由十个人 / 这个队

1404.4 由北京出发 means “set off from Beijing”.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1404.5 Your teacher divides the work for the class trip. 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.

■ 并且 (moreover / and also)

1405.1 Complete (written): "The room is big, and moreover it is bright." 房间很大，…… 很亮。

1405.2 Which sentence is natural?

- A. 他很聪明，并且很努力。
- B. 他并且聪明很努力。
- C. 他很聪明，并且不聪明。
- D. 他很聪明，并且很懒。

1405.3 Build: "He finished on time, and did it very well too."

Arrange all chunks: ， / 并且 / 他按时完成了任务 / 做得很好。

1405.4 不但 pairs naturally with 而且.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1405.5 In your review of a hotel, you want to add a second, separate strength. 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.

■ 从来 + 不 / 没 (never)

1406.1 Complete: "I've never heard of this place." 我从来没听说 …… 这个地方。

1406.2 You plan to visit Xi'an next month but haven't been yet. Which fits?

- A. 我一直去西安。
- B. 我还没去过西安。
- C. 我从来没去过西安。
- D. 我从来不去西安。

1406.3 Build: "I've never been to Xinjiang."

Arrange all chunks: 新疆。/ 从来没 / 我 / 去过

1406.4 他从来不去过 is correct.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1406.5 Friends are planning a trip to Xinjiang and ask whether you know the region. 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.

■ 值得 + Verb (worth doing)

1407.1 Complete: "This film is worth seeing." 这部电影 …… 看。

1407.2 Which sentence is correct?

- A. 这个地方去值得。
- B. 值得这个地方去。
- C. 这个地方值得去。
- D. 这个地方没值得去。

1407.3 Build: "It's not worth getting angry."

Arrange all chunks: 生气 / 不 / 值得。/ ，

1407.4 这块手表值一万块 uses 值 for a money value.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1407.5 A friend asks whether the Forbidden City is worth the long queue. 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.

■ Verb + 到 + Time / Event (until)

1408.1 Complete: "I slept until ten." 我睡 …… 十点。

1408.2 Which says "He read until midnight"?

- A. 他看到书半夜。
- B. 他半夜到看书。
- C. 他看书看到半夜。
- D. 他到半夜看书。

1408.3 Build: "He kept working until he retired."

Arrange all chunks: 退休。/ 一直 / 工作到 / 他

1408.4 到十点睡 means "sleep until ten".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1408.5 Your roommate had a deadline and you could see her light under the door. 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.

■ 害得 (cause sb to suffer)

1409.1 Blame: “You made me miss the film!” 你 …… 我没看上电影!

1409.2 Which sentence is natural?

- A. 堵车害得我们迟到了。
- B. 老师的表扬害得我很高兴。
- C. 他害得我考了第一名。
- D. 好天气害得我们去爬山。

1409.3 Build: “You didn’t reply, and it made me worried.”

Arrange all chunks: 很担心。/ ， / 你不回消息 / 害得我

1409.4 害得 adds blame that 让 does not.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1409.5 Your brother hid your alarm clock as a joke, and you missed your train. 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.

■ Separable verbs (离合词)

1410.1 Complete: “We have met before.” 我们见 …… 面。

1410.2 Which sentence is correct?

- A. 我想见面你。
- B. 我想跟你见面。
- C. 我想见你面。
- D. 我想面见你了。

1410.3 Build: “Could you do me a favour?”

Arrange all chunks: 你能 / 一个 / 帮我 / 忙吗?

1410.4 他结过两次婚 puts the amount inside 结婚.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1410.5 You tell a friend you went swimming twice this week and had a haircut too. 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.

■ V 着 V 着就 ... 了 (while ...-ing, suddenly)

1411.1 Complete: “While reading, she fell asleep.” 她看着看着 …… 睡着了。

1411.2 Which form is correct?

- A. 他走着走着就到了。
- B. 他着走着走就到了。
- C. 他走走着着就到了。
- D. 他走着就走着到了。

1411.3 Build: “We were walking, and before we knew it we were lost.”

Arrange all chunks: 我们 / 就 / 迷路了。/ 走着走着

1411.4 V 着 V 着就 … describes two planned actions done together.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1411.5 Your dad was watching a film after dinner. When you came back, he was snoring. 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 / 并且 (combining verbs: and)

1401.1 并

并 joins two actions by the same subject.

1401.2 D. 我买了苹果和香蕉。

我买了苹果和香蕉 is right: 和 joins nouns. 并 joins verbs or clauses ("and also"), so it cannot join 苹果 and 香蕉.

1401.3 会议讨论并通过了计划。

VP1 + 并 + VP2.

1401.4 False.

False. Before a negative, 并 strengthens it and corrects an assumption: 他并不知道 "He actually doesn't know (as you might think)." It does not mean "and" here.

1401.5 One possible response: 会议讨论并通过了新的计划。

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.
- 并 / 并且 join verb phrases; to join nouns use 和: 老师和学生, not 老师并学生.
- Keep one subject: the same person or group does both actions.
- 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.

■ 少 + Verb (do less)

1402.1 少

少 + verb = do less.

1402.2 C. I ate too little.

Verb + 少了 = did too little; advice is 少 + verb.

1402.3 少放一点儿盐。

少 + verb + amount + object.

1402.4 False.

少吃 = eat less; 不吃 = not at all.

1402.5 One possible response: 你应该少吃甜的，多运动。

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.
- "Eat less" is 少吃, not 吃少: 吃少了 means "ate too little".
- An amount comes after the verb: 少吃一点儿, 少喝两杯.
- 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.

■ 多 + Verb (do more)

1403.1 多

多 + verb = do more.

1403.2 D. 多住几天。

多 goes before the verb, then the amount: 多住几天 "stay a few more days". Putting 多 after the verb (住多几天) is a common error from English word order.

1403.3 多穿一件衣服。

多 + verb + amount + noun.

1403.4 True.

很多 + noun = many / a lot of.

1403.5 One possible response: 大家要多喝水，多休息。

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.
- "Practise more" is 多练习, not 练习多: 练习多了 suggests "practised a lot".
- The extra amount goes after the verb: 多住几天 – "stay a few more days".
- 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.

■ 由 + Person + Verb (done by)

1404.1 由

Task + 由 + person + verb.

1404.2 A. 他被老师批评了。

Something done to someone (often unwelcome) takes 被.

1404.3 这个队由十个人组成。

由 … 组成 = be made up of.

1404.4 True.

In writing, 由 can mean "from".

1404.5 One possible response: 这次活动由小王负责。

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.
- 由 names who is responsible; 被 reports something done to the subject, often unwelcome: 他被批评了.
- 由 sentences usually need no 了 or result complement: 由他负责.
- 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.

■ 并且 (moreover / and also)

1405.1 并且

并且 adds a point in the same direction.

1405.2 A. 他很聪明，并且很努力。

Both points should point the same way.

1405.3 他按时完成了任务，并且做得很好。

Clause, 并且 + further point.

1405.4 True.

不但 … 而且 … is the standard pair.

1405.5 One possible response: 这家酒店很干净，并且价格也不贵。

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.
- Both points must point the same way (both good or both bad); for a contrast use 但是.
- 并且 does not join two nouns: 苹果和香蕉, not 苹果并且香蕉.
- 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.

■ 从来 + 不 / 没 (never)

1406.1 过

从来没 + verb + 过.

1406.2 B. 我还没去过西安。

Not yet (but planned) = 还没.

1406.3 我从来没去过新疆。

从来没 + verb + 过 + place.

1406.4 False.

Experience takes 从来没 … 过; habit takes 从来不.

1406.5 One possible response: 我从来没去过新疆。

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.
- Experience: 从来没 + V + 过; habit: 从来不 + V. Do not mix: 从来不去过 is wrong.
- Use 过 for the experiential model here. Other predicates can form complete 从来没 statements without 过; there is no universal requirement.
- 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.

■ 值得 + Verb (worth doing)

1407.1 值得

A + 值得 + verb.

1407.2 C. 这个地方值得去。

这个地方值得去 is right: the thing comes first, then 值得 + verb. The negative is 不值得, not 没值得, and the verb cannot come before 值得.

1407.3 生气，不值得。

Action, then 不值得.

1407.4 True.

值 + amount = worth in money.

1407.5 One possible response: 故宫很值得去。

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.
- Put what is worth it first: 这本书值得看, not 值得这本书看.
- The negative is 不值得, not 没值得.
- 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.

■ Verb + 到 + Time / Event (until)

1408.1 到

Verb + 到 + end point.

1408.2 C. 他看书看到半夜。

With an object, repeat the verb: 看书看到半夜.

1408.3 他一直工作到退休。

一直 + verb + 到 + event.

1408.4 False.

That means "go to bed at ten"; "sleep until ten" is 睡到十点.

1408.5 One possible response: 她昨天工作到凌晨三点。

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.
- Say 睡到十点, not 到十点睡 (that means "go to bed at ten").
- With an object, repeat the verb or put the object first: 看书看到很晚 / 书看到很晚.
- 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.

■ 害得 (cause sb to suffer)

1409.1 害得

害得 + person + bad result.

1409.2 A. 堵车害得我们迟到了。

害得 is for unwelcome results.

1409.3 你不回消息，害得我很担心。

Cause, 害得 + person + result.

1409.4 True.

让 is neutral; 害得 blames the cause.

1409.5 One possible response: 你害得我迟到了!

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.
- Do not use 害得 for good outcomes; for neutral or good causes use 让 / 使: 他的话让我很高兴.
- Keep the person after 害得: 害得我迟到, not 害得迟到我.
- 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.

■ Separable verbs (离合词)

1410.1 过

过 goes inside the verb-object word: 见过面.

1410.2 B. 我想跟你见面。

见面 cannot take another object; use 跟 + person.

1410.3 你能帮我一个忙吗?

帮 + person + 一个 + 忙.

1410.4 True.

Separable verbs take 过 and amounts in the middle.

1410.5 One possible response: 我理了一次发，游了两次泳。

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.
- Do not add an object after them: 跟他见面, not 见面他; 给我帮忙, not 帮忙我.
- Put duration and 了 inside: 睡了八个小时觉 or 睡觉睡了八个小时, not 睡觉了八个小时.
- 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.

■ V 着 V 着就 ... 了 (while ...-ing, suddenly)

1411.1 就

V 着 V 着就 + new event + 了.

1411.2 A. 他走着走着就到了。

Verb + 着 + verb + 着 + 就 shows that while doing one thing, something else happened: 他走着走着就到了 "He kept walking and before he knew it he had arrived."

1411.3 我们走着走着就迷路了。

Subject + V 着 V 着 + 就 + result + 了.

1411.4 False.

That is 一边 … 一边 …; V 着 V 着就 has an unplanned new event.

1411.5 One possible response: 他看着看着就睡着了。

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 a one-syllable verb, repeated with 着 each time: 看着看着, not 看看着着.
- It describes what happened in the past (a story), so the second part ends with 了.
- 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.