

Conjunctions

Ref Hsk5 Grammar

+ Suggestion + — “how about, or else”

floats an **alternative suggestion** — “how about ..., or else ..., why don’t we” It quietly seeks the listener’s consent, can open the sentence or follow the reason, and usually closes with .

Structure: Reason / Situation + Suggestion + + Suggestion
, Reason

{zh: |dà jiā|everyone / |dōu / |yǒu diǎn|a bit / |lèi|tired / |le / ,
|yào bù|how about / |xiū xi|rest / |yí huìr|a while / |ba / 。 }

Everyone’s a bit tired — how about we rest a while?

{zh: |zhè lǐ|here / |tài|too / |chǎo|noisy / |le / , |yào bù|how
about / |wǒ men|we / |huàn|change / |ge / |dì fang|place / |ba /
? }

It’s too loud here — how about we go somewhere else?

Remember: = “how about / or else...” — a gentle plan-B that asks for agreement, softer than a flat Read it as “if not (this), then...”. Don’t confuse it with (“if it weren’t for”) or (“otherwise”).

Watch out

- The is what makes it a *suggestion* rather than a demand — keep it.