

”But” Statements

Ref Hsk5 Grammar

..... , — “on the contrary, instead”

flags a result that runs **against expectation** — “on the contrary, instead, actually.” It’s an **adverb**, so it sits **after the subject and before the verb** (unlike the conjunction , which leads). It’s often the second half of a / + frame.

Structure: , Subject + + Unexpected Outcome

{zh: |chī|taking / |le / |yào|the medicine / , |bìng|the illness / |fǎn
ér|actually / |gèng|even / |yán zhòng|worse / |le / 。 }

After taking the medicine, the illness actually got worse.

{zh: |tā|he / |bú dàn|not only / |méi|didn’t / |fàng qì|give up / ,
|fǎn ér|but actually / |gèng|even / |nǚ lì|harder / |le / 。 }

Far from giving up, he actually worked even harder.

Remember: = “**instead, the opposite of what you’d expect**” — an adverb tucked *after the subject* (... , never ...). It often completes the frame / + / ... , ... (“far from ...ing, actually ...”).

Watch out

- Don’t lead the sentence with it like English “instead” — it sits before the verb, inside the clause.