

Comparing similar conjunctions

Ref Hsk5 Grammar

vs — “with” vs “to / towards”

With , both work (/). But they part ways elsewhere. also means “**and** / **with**” — it *joins or compares* two things (... , ...). marks the **one-way target** of an attitude or action (... , ...), and it **can’t** join two nouns.

{zh: |wǒ|I / |gēn|like / |nǐ men|you all / |bù|not / |yí yàng|the same / , |wǒ|I / |hái yǒu|still have / |hái zi|kids / |ne / 。 }

I’m not like you — I’ve still got kids.

{zh: |nǐ|you / |yào|going to / |gēn|with / |wǒ|me / |yì qǐ|together / |qù|go / |ma / ? }

Are you coming with me?

Remember: JOINS (two-way): “and / with / same as” (... , ...); AIMS (one-way): “to / towards” (,). Picture as a link between equals, as an arrow at a target.

Watch out

- can’t join two nouns — “A and B” is / , never .