Verb phrases

HSK 5 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.

难免 (hard to avoid / bound to)

Reassure a beginner, then help

- A teacher says **新手难免出错。** – mistakes are hard for beginners to avoid. The teacher is recognising a common difficulty.
- The next step can still be to check and correct the work. Recognising the difficulty does not mean every error should stay.

Name the difficult-to-avoid result

- Use **难免 + result or action phrase**: **第一次上台，难免紧张。** – feeling nervous on a first stage appearance is hard to avoid.
- Keep the situation in view: first-time performing supplies a reason for the expectation. 难免 itself supplies no number or percentage.

新手难免出错。
xīn shǒu nán miǎn chū cuò
Word guide: 新手 – beginners; 难免 – bound to; 出错 – make mistakes.

Keep expectation separate from a count

- In a fictional practice record, twelve beginners try a task and three make an error; nine do not. Those numbers come from the record.
- The teacher can acknowledge mistakes as hard to avoid without claiming that all twelve must fail. A learner who succeeds does not turn the phrase into a numerical rule.

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Keep expectation separate from a count

Fictional practice record: 12 beginners

3 made an error; 9 did not

新手难免出错。

A difficulty expectation, not a count

请检查并改正错误。

Check and correct; difficulty remains acknowledged

Keep the stated situation and evidence together.

Use the named situation

- **路上车很多，难免会晚一点。** presents heavy traffic as a reason to expect some lateness. It does not specify ten minutes.
- A different route with little traffic needs its own assessment. Do not transfer the first route's reason to every journey.

Difficulty does not remove responsibility

- **难免出错** describes an expectation. **请检查并改正错误。** asks for checking and correction; the two ideas can fit together.
- A speaker may reassure someone or acknowledge a problem. The phrase alone does not prove the mistake was harmless or that correction is forbidden.

Read a bounded expectation

- Name the circumstances and the result treated as difficult to avoid. Keep actual counts and waiting times tied to explicit evidence.
- Do not turn 难免 into every person, every time, a fixed probability or permission to ignore the result.

Practise this pattern step by step.

受 (receive / be affected)

Identify who receives the welcome

- Students like a teacher: **这位老师很受欢迎。** – this teacher is popular. The teacher is the person receiving a favourable response.
- The sentence does not say the teacher welcomes someone else. It also does not prove that every student likes the teacher.

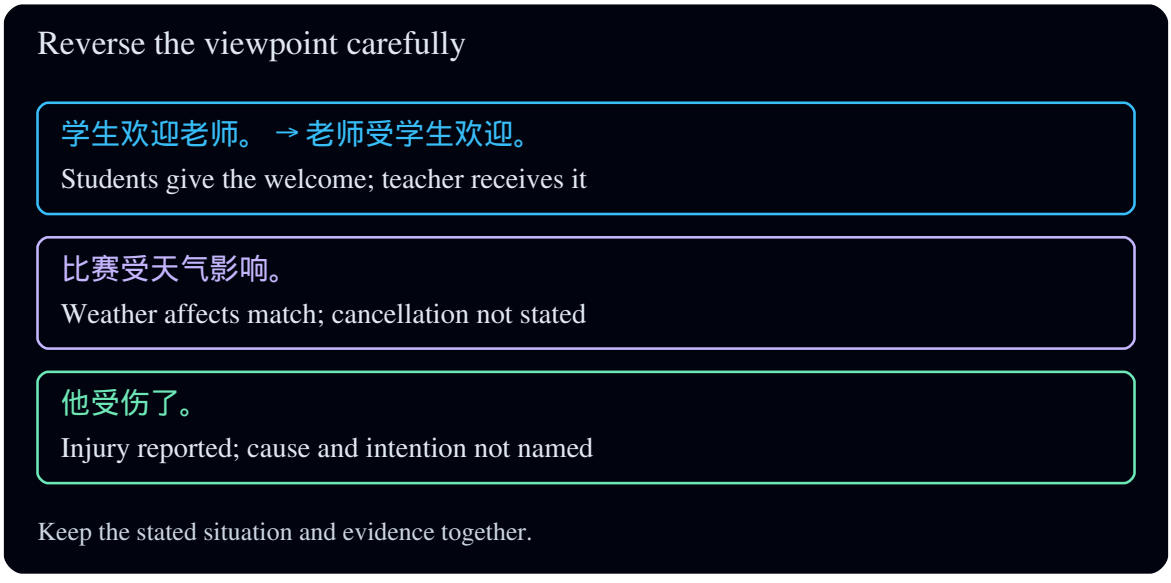
Learn established combinations

- **受欢迎** describes being welcomed or popular; **受影响** describes being affected; **受伤** describes getting hurt.
- Learn these combinations as words or phrases. 受 is not a slot that can replace 被 before every verb.

他很受欢迎。
tā hěn shòu huān yíng
Word guide: 他 – he; 很 – very; 受 – be; 欢迎 – welcomed.

Reverse the viewpoint carefully

- **学生欢迎老师。** makes students the people giving the welcome. **老师受学生欢迎。** keeps the teacher as its recipient.
- Both describe a favourable response in this example. 受 does not mean every affected person suffers something bad.



Follow the named effect

- **比赛受天气影响。** says the match is affected by the weather. The weather is the source of the effect; the match is affected.
- The sentence alone does not report cancellation. A delay, changed conditions or cancellation needs further information.

Separate a condition from its cause

- **他受伤了。** reports that he got hurt. It does not name an attacker, a cause or an intention.
- A fictional report says three of eight players were injured. That leaves five not reported injured; the numbers come from the report, not from 受.

■ Track the recipient and the claim

- Find who receives the response or effect. Check the established phrase and any explicitly named source, such as 学生 or 天气.
- Do not infer universal popularity, deliberate harm or cancellation. Use a separate complete sentence when you need to give that extra information.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Practice without the models

■ 难免 (hard to avoid / bound to)

1201.1 Use the lesson target 难免: Mistakes are hard for beginners to avoid: 新手 …… 出错。

1201.2 难免 treats the outcome as…

- A. Hard to avoid under the circumstances
- B. Easily prevented without effort

1201.3 新手难免出错 means a teacher is forbidden to ask beginners to correct mistakes.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1201.4 A teacher reassures beginners that mistakes are normal. What does 新手难免出错。communicate?

- A. The speaker treats mistakes as difficult to avoid.
- B. 难免 proves every beginner makes every possible mistake.

1201.5 新手难免出错 specifies that exactly half of the beginners will make an error.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1201.6 A fictional record has twelve beginners; three made an error. How many did not make an error in that task?

1201.7 Match each statement to what it does.

- 1. 新手难免出错。
- 1. 请检查并改正错误。
- 1. 十二个人中有三个人出错。
- A. Report an explicit count
- B. Ask for checking and correction
- C. Acknowledge a difficult-to-avoid outcome

1201.8 Heavy traffic on route A supports 难免会晚一点. Route B has little traffic. What follows about B?

- A. It must have exactly the same delay as A
- B. It needs its own assessment; A's traffic does not establish B's delay

1201.9 Recall the situation: Reassure a beginner, then help. Decide what the speaker wanted to communicate. 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.

■ 受 (receive / be affected)

1202.1 Using the lesson pattern in this demonstrated example: He's very popular: 他很 …… 欢迎。

1202.2 受伤 means…

- A. get injured / be hurt
- B. cause an injury to others

1202.3 受 gives the sentence a passive flavour (the subject undergoes it).

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1202.4 Many people like a particular teacher. What does 这位老师很受欢迎。communicate?

- A. The teacher receives a favourable response from others.
- B. 受 can replace 被 before every verb without changing the grammar.

1202.5 受 can replace 被 before every verb without changing the grammar.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1202.6 Match the complete sentence to its recipient or affected subject.

- 1. 老师受学生欢迎。
- 1. 比赛受天气影响。
- 1. 他受伤了。
- A. Match is affected by the weather
- B. He is the person injured
- C. Teacher receives the welcome

1202.7 比赛受天气影响 shows that the match was cancelled.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1202.8 A fictional report lists eight players and says three were injured. How many players are not reported injured?

1202.9 Recall the situation: Identify who receives the welcome. Decide what the speaker wanted to communicate. 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

■ 难免 (hard to avoid / bound to)

1201.1 难免

难免 + VP = bound to / hard to avoid: 新手难免出错.

1201.2 A. Hard to avoid under the circumstances

难免 presents an expectation of difficulty, not a guarantee that every possible instance must occur.

1201.3 False.

Acknowledging that mistakes are hard to avoid is compatible with asking for correction.

1201.4 A. The speaker treats mistakes as difficult to avoid.

The speaker treats mistakes as difficult to avoid. 难免 is an ordinary expectation, not a mathematical guarantee that every beginner must make a mistake in every task. A careful person can still avoid a particular error.

1201.5 False.

The expression supplies no numerical rate. Actual records are needed for a count.

1201.6 9

Twelve minus three is nine. The record supplies this count, not 难免.

1201.7 1–C: 新手难免出错。= Acknowledge a difficult-to-avoid outcome; 2–B: 请检查并改正错误。= Ask for checking and correction; 3–A: 十二个人中有三个人出错。= Report an explicit count

Expectation, an instruction and a measured count serve different purposes.

1201.8 B. It needs its own assessment; A's traffic does not establish B's delay

Keep the stated reason with its route. No exact number of minutes was supplied for either route.

1201.9 One possible response: 新手难免出错。

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.
- **路上车很多，难免会晚一点。** presents heavy traffic as a reason to expect some lateness. It does not specify ten minutes.
- A different route with little traffic needs its own assessment. Do not transfer the first route's reason to every journey.
- 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.

■ 受 (receive / be affected)

1202.1 受

受 + Verb / Noun = be subjected to / receive: 受欢迎.

1202.2 A. get injured / be hurt

受 marks the subject as the one affected: 受伤, 受影响.

1202.3 True.

Yes – 受欢迎 / 受伤 / 受影响.

1202.4 A. The teacher receives a favourable response from others.

The teacher receives a favourable response from others. Learn established combinations such as 受欢迎 and 受影响. 受 is not a universal replacement for 被 before any verb.

1202.5 False.

受欢迎, 受伤 and 受影响 are established combinations. Do not replace 被 with 受 before every verb.

1202.6 1–C: 老师受学生欢迎。= Teacher receives the welcome; 2–A: 比赛受天气影响。= Match is affected by the weather; 3–B: 他受伤了。= He is the person injured

Track the person or thing receiving the response or effect, rather than reversing the source and recipient.

1202.7 False.

An effect is reported; cancellation is one possible extra fact, not part of the phrase itself.

1202.8 5

Eight minus three is five. 受伤 reports injury without naming its cause or intention.

1202.9 One possible response: 这位老师很受欢迎。

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.
- **比赛受天气影响。** says the match is affected by the weather. The weather is the source of the effect; the match is affected.
- The sentence alone does not report cancellation. A delay, changed conditions or cancellation needs further information.
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