

Auxiliary Words

Ref Hsk6 Grammar

Sentence + — “(was just) ..., what was it again?”

tags onto a sentence to recall **what was happening or said a moment ago** — “(someone) was just ..., what was it again?” It’s casual and spoken. It has **no negative form** (never /), and in a question it appears only with , , or .

Structure: Sentence +

{zh: |zuó tiān|yesterday / |yǒu|someone / |rén / |lái|came / |zhǎo|looking for / |nǐ|you / |lái zhe / 。 }

Someone came looking for you yesterday.

{zh: |nǐ|you / |gāng cái|just now / |shuō|were saying / |shén me|what / |lái zhe / ? }

What were you just saying again?

Remember: = “...what was it again?” — a casual tag for recalling the just-past (?). Two limits: **no negative** (never), and in questions only with / / .

Watch out

- It’s purely for the *recent* past — not the distant past, and not future.