

Conjunctions

Ref Hsk6 Grammar

+ — “so as to avoid, lest”

introduces an **unwanted outcome to prevent** — “so as to avoid, in order not to, lest.” (It’s a shortened .) The first clause gives a warning; the clause names the bad result. It needs a **complete verb phrase**, not a bare word.

Structure: Action , + Undesirable Result

{zh: |zhèr|there are / |yǒu / |gāo yā diàn xiàn|high-voltage wires here / , |qǐng|please / |bú yào|don’t / |kào jìn|go near / , |yǐ miǎn|lest / |fā shēng|something / |wēi xiǎn|dangerous happen / 。 }

There are high-voltage wires — please keep away, lest something dangerous happen.

{zh: |nǐ|you / |gǎn jǐn|hurry up and / |zǒu|go / , |yǐ miǎn|so as not to / |wǎn|be late / |le / 。 }

Hurry up and go, so you’re not late.

Remember: = (“so as to”) + (“avoid”) = “lest / so as to avoid.” The clause names the *bad* thing you’re heading off (). It needs a full verb phrase: ✓, not .

Watch out

- It always introduces the *unwanted* outcome — for a *wanted* purpose, use (“so as to”).

— “as well as, and”

links **nouns or phrases** (chiefly in writing), often appending less-central items at the end — “as well as, along with, and.” The part **before** is usually the main one. It can also join clauses. It’s more formal than .

Structure: A、B C

{zh: |tīng jué|hearing / 、 |shì jué|sight / |yǐ jí|as well as / |chù jué|touch / |dōu|are all / |shǔ yú / |gǎn guān|senses / 。 }

Hearing, sight, as well as touch are all senses.

{zh: |yuàn zi lǐ|the yard / |zhòng zhe|has growing / |méi gui|roses / 、 |mò lì|jasmine / |yǐ jí|and / |qí tā|other / |huā cǎo|plants / }

。 }

The yard has roses, jasmine, and other plants.

Remember: = a formal “and / as well as,” with the **MAIN** items **before it** and secondary ones after (,). More formal than , and it can also join clauses.

Watch out

- Put the central items *before* — what follows reads as an add-on.

— “in short, in a word”

sums up what came before — “in short, in a word, all in all.” It introduces a wrapping-up conclusion.

Structure: (.....,) ,

{zh: |tā|he / |jīng cháng|often / |chí dào|late / , |gōng zuò|with work / |yě|also / |bù|not / |fù zé|responsible / , |zǒng zhī|in short / , |gōng sī|the firm / |bì xū|must / |jiě gù|let go of / |tā|him / 。 }

He's often late and not responsible — in short, the firm has to let him go.

{zh: |bù guǎn|whatever / |lǐ yóu|reason / |shì / |shén me / , |zǒng zhī|in short / |wǒ|I / |bú huì|won't / |zài|again / |xiāng xìn|trust / |tā|him / |le / 。 }

Whatever his reasons, in short I won't trust him again.

Remember: = (“sum up”) + = “in a word, to sum up.” It gathers the scattered points into one bottom line — the verbal “long story short.”

Watch out

- It needs preceding points to gather — it caps an argument, it doesn't open one.

— “whereas, while (contrast)”

marks a **contrast between two clauses** — “whereas, while” (the same idea as). It's formal and written, sits at the head of the second clause's predicate, and often appears with .

Structure: Clause 1 , () + Subject + + Predicate

{zh:	nán fāng rén	southerners /	xǐ huan	like /	chī	eating /
tián	sweet /	de / ,	běi fāng rén	northerners /	zé	whereas /
xǐ huan	like /	chī	eating /	xián	salty /	de / 。 }

Southerners like sweet food, whereas northerners like salty.

{zh: |wǒ|my / |lǎo po|wife / |xí guàn|is used to / |xiāng cūn|country
/ |shēng huó|life / , |wǒ|I / |zé|whereas / |xí guàn|am used to /
|chéng shì|city / |shēng huó|life / 。 }

My wife is used to country life, whereas I'm used to the city.

Remember: = formal “whereas” — it heads the *second* clause’s predicate (...) to set two cases side by side. It often pairs with (... ...). Same contrast as , dressier register.

Watch out

- It sits after the second subject, before the verb — ..., not ...