

Nouns

Ref Hsk6 Grammar

+ — “this, one’s own”

In formal written Chinese, means “**this (very) / one’s own**” — always the speaker’s own side. It pairs with single-syllable nouns (, , , , , ,) and a few two-syllable ones (,). = “I, myself” (common on résumés).

Structure: + Noun

{zh: |gù kè zhì shàng|customer-first / |shì|is / |běn|our / |gōng sī|company’s / |de / |lǐ niàn|ethos / 。 }

“Customer first” is our company’s ethos.

{zh: |běn|this / |xiào|school / |bù|doesn’t / |yǔn xǔ|allow / |wài xiào|outside / |xué shēng|students / |suí biàn|to freely / |jìn chū|come and go / 。 }

This school doesn’t allow outside students to come and go freely.

Remember: = “**this very / our own (side)**” — the voice of notices and officialese: (“our company”), (“this school”), (“I, myself”). It always speaks from the in-group.

Watch out

- It’s self-referential and formal — for a plain “this,” use .

+ — “-ness, -ity” (a quality)

The suffix turns a word into an **abstract quality** — “-ness, -ity, -ability” (also “-ic”). Like , it’s a productive suffix: , , , .

Structure: Word +

{zh: |zhè ge|this / |fāng àn|plan / |méi yǒu|has no / |kě xíng xìng|feasibility / 。 }

This plan isn’t feasible.

{zh: |nǐ|your / |de / |zuò pǐn|work / |yuè lái yuè|more and more / |yǒu|has / |chuàng zào xìng|creativity / 。 }

Your work is more and more creative.

Remember: = “**-ness / -ity**” — turns a word into an abstract *quality*: (possibility), (importance), (feasibility), (creativity). It’s the noun-making sibling of the verb-making .

Watch out

- It builds a *noun of quality* — pair it with / (), not used like an adjective.