

Sentence Patterns

Ref Hsk6 Grammar

+ Noun + — “in the name of, under the guise of”

... means doing one thing under the cover of another — “in the name of, under the pretext of, using ... as an excuse.” It usually hints that the stated name is just a **front** for a hidden motive.

Structure: Subject + + Noun + + Situation

{zh: |yǒu xiē|some / |rén|people / |jiè|in / |cí shàn|charity's / |zhī míng|name / |piàn qián|swindle money / 。 }

Some people swindle money in the name of charity.

{zh: |tā|he / |jiè|under the pretext / |kāi huì|of a meeting / |zhī míng| , |qù|went / |lǚ yóu|travelling / 。 }

Under the pretext of a meeting, he went off travelling.

Remember: X = “**borrowing X's name as a cover**” (= “borrow”) — it hints the name is a *front* masking the real aim (). Contrast the neutral ... (“in the name of,” below).

Watch out

- It implies a *pretext* — for a neutral “in the name of,” use

+ Action , + Result — “through ..., cause ...”

... , ... is a formal cause-and-effect pair: names the **means** (an action or process), and names the **effect** it brings about — “by means of ..., it makes / causes”

Structure: + Verb (situation) , + Result

{zh: |tōng guò|through / |duàn liàn|exercise / , |shǐ|the / |shēn tǐ|body / |gèng|becomes / |jiàn kāng|healthier / 。 }

Through exercise, the body is made healthier.

{zh: |tōng guò|through / |zhè|this / |jiàn / |shì|matter / , |shǐ|it made / |wǒ|me / |míng bai|understand / |le / |hěn duō|a great deal / 。 }

Through this affair, I came to understand a great deal.

Remember: = the **MEANS**, = the **EFFECT** — “by way of X, it brings about Y” (). Keep the two halves balanced: process first, result second.

Watch out

- Don't give *both* halves their own subject — it's the means-clause that acts on, not a new actor.

+ Body + — “in the name of, on behalf of”

... states the **authority or capacity** an act is carried out under — “in the name of, on behalf of.” Unlike ..., it's neutral: it simply names whose name is being used.

Structure: + Person / Body + + Action

{zh: |bié|don't / |yǐ|in / |wǒ|my / |de míng yì|name / |gěi / |gōng sī|the company / |xiě xìn|write to / 。 }

Don't write to the company in my name.

{zh: |fǎ yuàn|the court / |yǐ|in / |zhèng fǔ|the government's / |de míng yì|name / |qǐ sù|sued / |le / |tā|him / 。 }

He was sued in the name of the government.

Remember: ... = “in X's name / on behalf of” — **NEUTRAL**. It simply states the capacity an act is done under (). Its shady cousin is ... (“under the *pretext* of”): same idea, opposite tone.

Watch out

- No hidden agenda implied — for “under the guise of,” you want

— “inevitably, be bound to”

(literally “the situation must ...”) asserts that circumstances make an outcome **certain** — “is bound to, will inevitably.” It introduces the unavoidable result and is formal in tone.

Structure: , + inevitable result

{zh: |zhè yàng|carrying on / |xià qù|like this / , |shì bì|is bound to / |shī bài|fail / 。 }

Carry on like this and failure is inevitable.

{zh: |wù jià|prices / |shàng zhǎng|rising / , |shì bì|will inevitably / |yǐng xiǎng|affect / |rén men|people's / |de / |shēng huó|lives / 。 }

Rising prices are bound to affect people's lives.

Remember: = (the circumstances) + (must) = “the situation makes it inevitable.” Stronger than a plain — it claims the *circumstances themselves* force the result. Formal.

Watch out

- It pins the certainty on *circumstances* — for a personal “definitely will,” / fit better.

+ Condition , (/) — “if, supposing”

is a highly literary “if, supposing, in the event that.” Like , it opens a hypothetical, with the result clause often taking or . It belongs to formal prose and set polite phrases.

Structure: + Condition , (/) + Result

{zh: |tǎng ruò|if / |yǒu|there is / |bù|any- / |zhōu dào|thing overlooked / |zhī chù / , |qǐng|please / |duō / |bāo hán|bear with us / 。 }

If anything has been overlooked, please bear with us.

{zh: |tǎng ruò|if / |shī bài|it fails / , |wǒ men|we / |zài|will then / |xiǎng|think of / |bié de|another / |bàn fǎ|way / 。 }

If it fails, we'll think of another way.

Remember: = the most literary “if” — even dressier than , at home in formal prose and set courtesies (, “if anything’s been overlooked”). Result takes / .

Watch out

- Reserve it for writing and polite set phrases — in speech use / .

+ Verb + — the literary structure

The + **Verb** + frame turns a verb into a formal noun phrase — “that which is ...ed, what (one) ...s.” It names the **object** of the action in a measured, written tone. Dropping it () means the same thing more plainly.

Structure: (Subject +) + Verb + (+ Noun)

{zh: |zhè|this / |jiù shì|is exactly / |wǒ|what I / |suǒ / |xiǎng|want / |shuō|to say / |de / 。 }

This is exactly what I want to say.

{zh: |tā|he / |suǒ / |zuò|everything he / |de|does / |yí qiè / |dōu|is all / |shì / |wèi le|for / |nǐ|you / 。 }

Everything he does is for you.

Remember: + verb + = “that which is ...ed” — a formal dressing-up.
= (“what I want to say”), just more literary. flags the verb’s *object*, so the verb is transitive.

Watch out

- It adds formality, not meaning — the plain says the same thing in speech.