Adverbs

HSK 6 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.

Verb + 得 + 倒 + Adj (a pointed note)

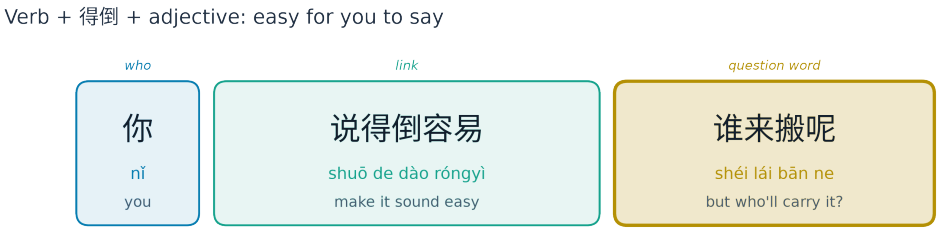
Easy for you to say

- Your flatmate says moving all the furniture will be easy, but he has no plans to help.
- **你说得倒容易，谁来搬呢？** – "That's easy for you to say – who's going to do the lifting?"

Verb + 得 + 倒 + Adj

- **V 得倒 + Adj** comments on how someone does or says something, with a pointed contrast: the claim is fine, but reality is different.
- Typical: 说得倒轻松, 想得倒美, 说得倒好听.

你想得倒美。
nǐ xiǎng de dào měi
Word guide: 你 – you; 想 – think; 倒 – (how nice); 美 – nicely.



Irony, and sincere surprise

- Ironic: **他想得倒美，以为不复习也能考满分。** – "Dream on – he thinks he can get full marks without revising."
- Sincere: **这孩子画得倒不错。** – "This child actually draws rather well." 倒 marks that it is better than expected.

这孩子画得倒不错。
zhè hái zi huà de dào bú cuò
Word guide: 这 – this; 孩子 – child; 画 – draws; 倒 – actually; 不错 – quite well.

倒 sits after 得

- Order: verb + 得 + 倒 + adjective: 说得倒容易, not 说倒得容易.
- Not every 倒 sentence is sarcastic; tone and context decide whether it is a jab or a pleasant surprise.

Versus a plain 得 complement

- 你说得很容易 just describes the manner.
- 你说得倒容易 implies "but it isn't really": the contrast with reality is the point.

你说得倒轻松。
nǐ shuō de dào qīng sōng
Word guide: 你 – you; 说 – say; 倒 – (how); 轻松 – easily.

Recap

- **V 得倒 + Adj** = it sounds / looks … (but reality differs), or "actually rather …".
- Order V + 得 + 倒 + Adj; tone decides irony or sincere surprise.

Practise this pattern step by step.

很是 + Adj (a formal "very")

A formal report

- A news report describes how residents feel about the new park.
- **居民们对新公园很是满意。** – "Residents are very satisfied with the new park."

很是 + Adj / feeling verb

- **很是** = "very, quite", a more formal or literary 很: 很是高兴, 很是满意, 很是担心.
- It goes before two-syllable adjectives or feeling verbs.

听到这个消息，他很是高兴。
tīng dào zhè ge xiāo xi tā hěn shì gāo xìng
Word guide: 听到 – hearing; 这个 – this; 消息 – news; 他 – he; 很是 – was very; 高兴 – pleased.



Writing and storytelling

- **老人一个人住，孩子们很是担心。** – “The old man lives alone, and his children are very worried.”
- It gives a measured, slightly old-fashioned tone suited to narratives and reports.

孩子们很是担心。
hái zi men hěn shì dān xīn
Word guide: 孩子们 – the children; 很是 – are very; 担心 – worried.

Two-syllable words, written tone

- 很是 prefers two-syllable predicates: 很是满意, not 很是好.
- In conversation, plain 很 or 非常 sounds more natural.

很是 versus 是 for emphasis

- 很是 = very (degree). Do not confuse it with 是 for emphasis: 他是很忙 – “He really is busy (I admit).”
- Here 很是 is one unit before the adjective.

他是很忙。
tā shì hěn máng
Word guide: 他 – he; 是 – (really); 很 – very; 忙 – busy.

Recap

- **很是 + two-syllable Adj / feeling verb** = very (formal, literary).
- Spoken Chinese prefers 很 / 非常.

Practise this pattern step by step.

足足 + Amount (a full / as much as)

A whole three hours

- The queue for the new museum exhibition was much longer than you expected.
- **我们足足排了三个小时的队。** – “We queued for a full three hours.”

足足 + amount = a full, fully

- **足足 + number + measure word** stresses that the amount is large, at least that much: 足足三个小时, 足足十公斤.
- It goes before the verb or directly before the amount.

这个箱子足足有二十公斤。
zhè ge xiāng zi zú zú yǒu èr shí gōng jīn
Word guide: 这个 – this; 箱子 – suitcase; 足足 – a full; 有 – has; 二十 – twenty; 公斤 – kilos.



Emphasising size, time or weight

- **他足足比我高了一个头。** – “He’s a full head taller than me.”
- **这顿饭足足花了五百块。** – “This meal cost a whole 500 yuan.”

这顿饭足足花了五百块。
zhè dùn fàn zú zú huā le wǔ bǎi kuài
Word guide: 这顿 – this; 饭 – meal; 足足 – a full; 花 – cost; 五百 – five hundred; 块 – yuan.

Large amounts only

- 足足 stresses a large amount; for “only” a small amount use 才 / 只: 才五分钟.
- It needs a number: 足足三天, not just 足足很久.

足足 versus 整整

- 整整 also means “a whole, exactly”: 整整一天 – “a whole day”. It stresses completeness.
- 足足 stresses that the amount is large, even more than expected.

他整整一天没吃东西。
tā zhěng zhěng yì tiān méi chī dōng xi
Word guide: 他 – he; 整整 – a whole; 一天 – day; 没 – didn’t; 吃 – eat; 东西 – anything.

Recap

- **足足 + amount** = a full / as much as (a large amount, stressed).
- Small amounts use 才 / 只; 整整 = a whole, exactly.

Practise this pattern step by step.

一再 + Verb (again and again)

Told him again and again

- Your brother kept forgetting his keys even though everyone reminded him.

- **妈妈一再提醒他，他还是忘了。** – “Mum reminded him again and again, but he still forgot.”

■ 一再 + verb = repeatedly, time and again

- **一再** means an action was repeated several times, often with insistence: 一再强调, 一再要求, 一再推迟.
- It goes before the verb.

老师一再强调安全。
lǎo shī yí zài qiáng diào ān quán
Word guide: 老师 – the teacher; 一再 – repeatedly; 强调 – stressed; 安全 – safety.



■ Delays and insistence

- **会议一再推迟。** – “The meeting was postponed again and again.”
- **他一再表示感谢。** – “He thanked us repeatedly.”

会议一再推迟。
huì yì yí zài tuī chí
Word guide: 会议 – the meeting; 一再 – repeatedly; 推迟 – postponed.

■ Past repetitions, formal tone

- 一再 mostly reports actions already repeated; for advice about the future, 再三 often fits better: 请你再三考虑.
- It sounds formal; in chat, 好几次 is more natural: 我跟他说了好几次.

■ 一再 versus 再三 and 屡次

- 再三 = again and again, often for thinking or asking: 再三考虑, 再三请求.
- 屡次 is more written: “on many occasions”: 屡次获奖.

他再三考虑。
tā zài sān kǎo lǜ
Word guide: 他 – he; 再三 – again and again; 考虑 – considered.

■ Recap

- **一再 + verb** = repeatedly, time and again (often insistent, formal).
- 再三 for thinking / asking; 屡次 written; 好几次 in chat.

Practise this pattern step by step.

凡是 … 都 (all / any without exception)

■ No exceptions

- The school rules are read out on the first day.
- **凡是迟到的学生，都要写说明。** – “Every student who is late, without exception, must write an explanation.”

■ 凡是 + category，都 …

- **凡是 X，都 …** = “all X, any X without exception”: every member of the category is included.
- 都 is needed in the second part: 凡是 … 都 ….

凡是去过那里的人，都说好。
fán shì qù guo nà li de rén dōu shuō hǎo
Word guide: 凡是 – all; 去过 – who have been to; 那里 – there; 人 – people; 都 – all; 说 – say; 好 – it’s good.



■ Rules and generalisations

- **凡是他答应的事，都会做到。** – “Whatever he promises, he always does.”
- **凡是有问题的，请举手。** – “Anyone with questions, please raise your hand.”

凡是他答应的事，都会做到。
fán shì tā dā ying de shì dōu huì zuò dào
Word guide: 凡是 – whatever; 他 – he; 答应 – promises; 事 – things; 都 – all; 会 – will; 做到 – be done.

凡是 needs 都

- Do not drop 都: 凡是学生都要参加, not 凡是学生要参加.
- 凡是 introduces a category, usually with 的: 凡是 … 的人 / 凡是 … 的事.

凡是 versus 所有 and 每

- 所有的学生都 … = all the students.
- 凡是 … 都 … stresses "any, without exception", often for rules and strong generalisations.

所有的学生都来了。
suǒ yǒu de xué sheng dōu lái le
Word guide: 所有 – all; 学生 – students; 都 – all; 来 – came.

Recap

- **凡是 + category (的 …)，都 …** = all / any … without exception.
- Needs 都; used for rules and firm generalisations.

Practise this pattern step by step.

向来 (always / all along)

Always punctual

- Your colleague has never been late in ten years.
- **他向来很准时，今天没来，肯定有事。** – "He's always been punctual; if he hasn't come today, something must be up."

向来 + verb / adj = always, all along

- **向来** describes a long-standing habit or character, from the past until now: 向来很节约, 向来不喝酒.
- It goes after the subject, before the predicate.

她向来不喝酒。
tā xiàng lái bù hē jiǔ
Word guide: 她 – she; 向来 – always; 不 – not; 喝 – drink; 酒 – alcohol.

向来: always (by habit)



Character and habits

- **这家店向来以服务好出名。** – "This shop has always been known for its good service."
- **我向来不相信这种广告。** – "I've never believed adverts like this."

这家店向来以服务好出名。
zhè jiā diàn xiàng lái yǐ fú wù hǎo chū míng
Word guide: 这家 – this; 店 – shop; 向来 – has always; 以 – for; 服务 – service; 好 – good; 出名 – been famous.

Long-term only

- 向来 describes long-standing patterns, not one recent stretch: for "all morning", use 一直.
- It sounds formal; in speech 一向 or 从来 (with negatives) are common.

向来 versus 一直 and 从来

- 一直 = continuously over a period: 今天一直下雨.
- 从来 mostly with 不 / 没: 从来不迟到. 向来 works with positive and negative predicates.

今天一直下雨。
jīn tiān yì zhí xià yǔ
Word guide: 今天 – today; 一直 – all day; 下雨 – raining.

Recap

- **向来 + predicate** = always, all along (long-standing character or habit).
- 一直 = continuously over a stretch; 从来 mostly with negatives.

Practise this pattern step by step.

果然 (sure enough / as expected)

Just as the forecast said

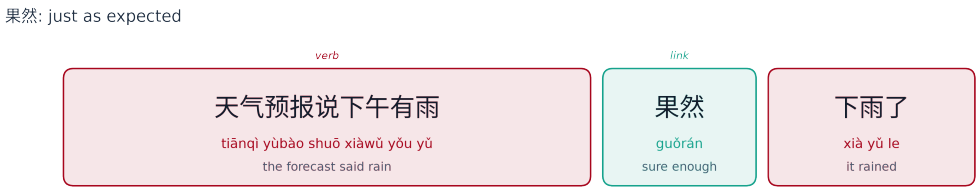
- The weather app warned of afternoon storms. At three o'clock, thunder rolls in.
- **天气预报说下午有雨，果然下雨了。** – "The forecast said it would rain this afternoon, and sure enough, it did."

果然 + result = sure enough, as expected

- **果然** confirms that something happened as predicted or expected.
- It goes after the subject (or at the start of the clause): 他果然来了 / 果然，他来了.

他说会来，果然来了。
tā shuō huì lái guǒ rán lái le

Word guide: 他 – he; 说 – said; 会 – would; 来 – come; 果然 – sure enough; 来 – came.



Predictions and reputations

- **大家都说这家的菜好吃，果然名不虚传。** – “Everyone said the food here was good, and it really lives up to its name.”
- **我就知道他会迟到，他果然迟到了。** – “I knew he’d be late, and sure enough he was.”

我就知道他会迟到，他果然迟到了。
wǒ jiù zhī dào tā huì chí dào tā guǒ rán chí dào le
Word guide: 我 – I; 就 – just; 知道 – knew; 他 – he; 会 – would; 迟到 – be late; 他 – he; 果然 – sure enough; 迟到 – was late.

Needs an earlier expectation

- 果然 only makes sense after a prediction, warning or reputation; without one, it sounds odd.
- For a surprise (against expectation), use 竟然 / 居然, the opposite of 果然.

果然 versus 竟然

- 果然 = just as expected: 他果然考上了.
- 竟然 = unexpectedly: 他竟然没考上 – “Surprisingly, he didn’t get in.”

他竟然没考上。
tā jìng rán méi kǎo shàng
Word guide: 他 – he; 竟然 – unexpectedly; 没 – didn’t; 考上 – get in.

Recap

- **果然** = sure enough, as expected (after a prediction or reputation).
- Opposite: 竟然 / 居然 (unexpectedly).

Practise this pattern step by step.

似乎 (it seems / as if)

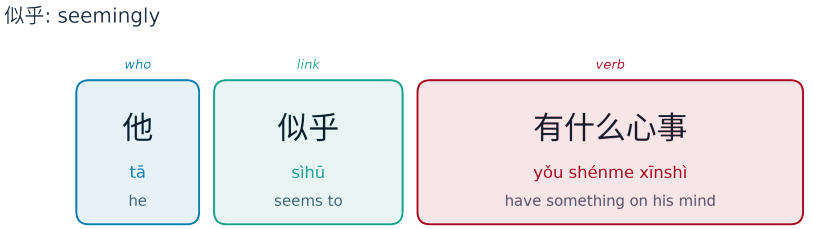
Something seems off

- Your usually cheerful colleague is quiet in the meeting and avoids eye contact.
- **他似乎有什么心事。** – “He seems to have something on his mind.”

似乎 + guess = it seems, apparently

- **似乎** gives a tentative impression or guess, a more formal 好像: 似乎不太高兴, 似乎明白了.
- It goes after the subject or at the start of the clause.

她似乎不太高兴。
tā sì hū bú tài gāo xìng
Word guide: 她 – she; 似乎 – seems; 不太 – not very; 高兴 – happy.



Writing and careful speech

- **问题似乎比我们想的更复杂。** – “The problem seems more complicated than we thought.”
- **似乎 ... 一样** = as if: 他似乎什么都知道一样.

问题似乎比我们想的更复杂。
wèn tí sì hū bǐ wǒ men xiǎng de gèng fù zá
Word guide: 问题 – the problem; 似乎 – seems; 比 – than; 我们 – we; 想 – thought; 更 – more; 复杂 – complicated.

Tentative, so not with 一定

- 似乎 is soft; do not pair it with 一定 / 肯定: 他似乎病了, not 他似乎肯定病了.
- It sounds formal; in conversation 好像 is more common.

似乎 versus 好像 and 看来

- 好像 = it seems (spoken): 他好像走了.
- 看来 draws a conclusion from evidence: 他没来，看来是病了.

他好像走了。
tā hǎo xiàng zǒu le
Word guide: 他 – he; 好像 – seems to; 走 – have left.

Recap

- **似乎** = it seems / apparently (formal, tentative); 似乎 … 一样 = as if.
- Spoken 好像; conclusion from evidence 看来; not with 一定.

Practise this pattern step by step.

偏偏 (of all things / just had to)

Of all days

- You planned the class picnic for weeks. It has been sunny all month – until today.
- **我们好不容易定了野餐的日子，偏偏那天下雨。** – "We finally fixed a date for the picnic, and of all days, it rained."

偏偏 = of all things, just had to

- **偏偏** marks that something happened against what was wanted or expected, often annoyingly: 偏偏那天下雨.
- It can also mean "insist on (doing the opposite)": 让他别去，他偏偏要去.

让他别去，他偏偏要去。
ràng tā bié qù tā piān piān yào qù
Word guide: 让 – told; 他 – him; 别 – not to; 去 – go; 他 – he; 偏偏 – insisted; 要 – on; 去 – going.



Bad luck and stubbornness

- Bad luck: **我急着出门，钥匙偏偏找不到了。** – "I was in a hurry, and of course I couldn't find my keys."
- Stubbornness: **大家都劝他，他偏偏不听。** – "Everyone tried to persuade him, but he just wouldn't listen."

我急着出门，钥匙偏偏找不到了。
wǒ jí zhe chū mén yào shi piān piān zhǎo bu dào le
Word guide: 我 – I; 急着 – in a hurry; 出门 – to go out; 钥匙 – the keys; 偏偏 – of all times; 找不到 – couldn't find.

It needs a contrast

- 偏偏 only works when the event goes against a wish or advice; for a neutral fact, leave it out.
- As an adverb it follows the subject: 他偏偏不听. Before 是 + noun it means "of all people / things": 偏偏是他.

偏偏 versus 竟然

- 竟然 = surprisingly (any surprise).
- 偏偏 = contrary to what was wanted – frustrating timing or stubborn behaviour.

他竟然来了。
tā jìng rán lái le
Word guide: 他 – he; 竟然 – surprisingly; 来 – came.

Recap

- **偏偏** = of all things / just had to (against a wish), or stubbornly insist on the opposite.
- Needs a contrast; 竟然 = any surprise.

Practise this pattern step by step.

再 + Adj + 也 (however …, still …)

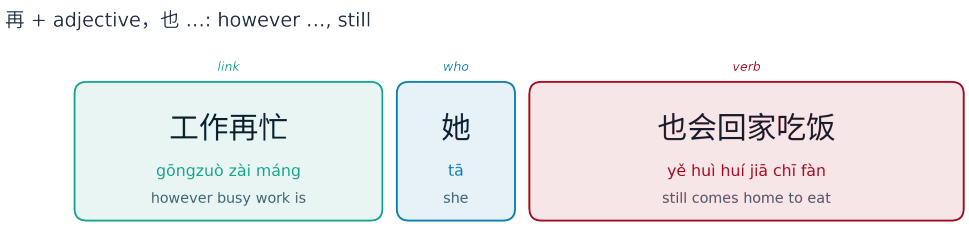
However busy

- Your mother works long hours but never misses family dinner on Sundays.
- **工作再忙，她也会回家吃饭。** – "However busy work gets, she still comes home for dinner."

再 + Adj，也 … = however …, still …

- **再 + Adj，(Subject) 也 + result** = no matter how Adj it is, the result stays the same.
- 再 here means "even more, however much"; 也 is needed in the second part.

天气再冷，他也去跑步。
tiān qì zài lěng tā yě qù pǎo bù
Word guide: 天气 – the weather; 再 – however; 冷 – cold; 他 – he; 也 – still; 去 – goes; 跑步 – running.



Determination and limits

- **再贵我也要买。** – "However expensive it is, I'm going to buy it."
- **你再解释也没用，他不会相信的。** – "However much you explain, it won't help; he won't believe it."

你再解释也没用。
nǐ zài jiě shì yě méi yòng
Word guide: 你 – you; 再 – however much; 解释 – explain; 也 – still; 没用 – no use.

也 is required

- Do not drop 也: 再忙也来, not 再忙来.
- 再 + Adj here is a condition, not "again": 再冷 = however cold.

Versus 无论多 / 不管多

- 无论多忙，她都会回家 = the same idea, more explicit.
- 再忙也 … is shorter, very common in speech.

无论多忙，她都会回家。
wú lùn duō máng tā dōu huì huí jiā
Word guide: 无论 – no matter; 多 – how; 忙 – busy; 她 – she; 都 – still; 会 – will; 回家 – come home.

Recap

- **再 + Adj / Verb，也 + result** = however …, still ….
- 也 is required; 无论多 … 都 … is the longer form.

Practise this pattern step by step.

一律 (uniformly / without exception)

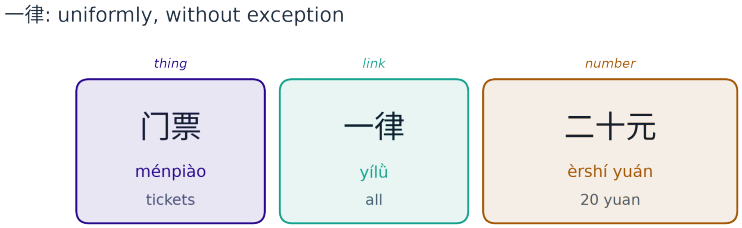
Same price for everyone

- At the museum entrance, a sign explains the ticket policy.
- **门票一律二十元。** – "Tickets are twenty yuan, without exception."

一律 + verb / predicate = uniformly, without exception

- **一律** applies a rule to everyone or everything in the same way: 一律免费, 一律不退.
- It is formal and common on signs, rules and notices.

本店商品一律八折。
běn diàn shāng pǐn yí lǜ bā zhé
Word guide: 本店 – this shop's; 商品 – goods; 一律 – all; 八折 – 20% off.



Rules and policies

- **学生一律穿校服。** – "All students must wear school uniform."
- **过期的票一律无效。** – "Expired tickets are invalid without exception."

学生一律穿校服。
xué sheng yí lǜ chuān xiào fú
Word guide: 学生 – students; 一律 – all; 穿 – wear; 校服 – school uniform.

Rules, not descriptions

- 一律 states a rule or uniform treatment; for "all" in a description, use 都: 学生都来了.
- It goes before the verb, after the group: 学生一律 …, not 一律学生 ….

一律 versus 都 and 全部

- 都 = all (neutral).
- 一律 = all, by rule, no exceptions: 外卖一律放门口 – “All deliveries go at the door.”

外卖一律放门口。
wài mài yí lǜ fàng mén kǒu
Word guide: 外卖 – deliveries; 一律 – all; 放 – go; 门口 – at the door.

Recap

- **Group + 一律 + predicate** = uniformly, by rule, no exceptions (formal).
- Plain “all” in descriptions = 都.

Practise this pattern step by step.

无非 (nothing but / merely)

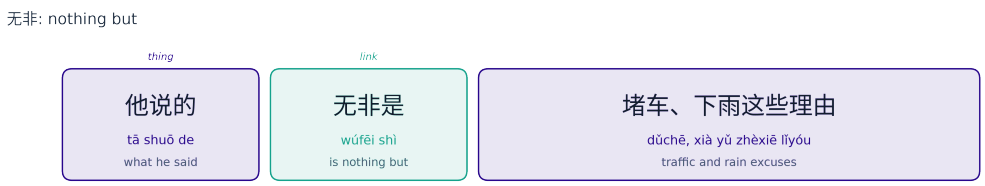
Just the usual excuses

- Your manager has heard your colleague’s reasons for being late many times before.
- **他说的无非是堵车、下雨这些理由。** – “What he says is nothing but the usual excuses – traffic, rain.”

无非 (是) + content = nothing but, merely

- **无非** says something is no more than the ordinary items mentioned: 无非是, 无非想.
- It often has a dismissive tone: “it’s just …”.

他无非是想多赚点儿钱。
tā wú fēi shì xiǎng duō zhuàn diǎnr qián
Word guide: 他 – he; 无非 – merely; 是 – is; 想 – wants; 多 – more; 赚 – earn; 点儿 – a bit; 钱 – money.



Summing up the obvious

- **大家讨论的无非是两个问题：时间和钱。** – “What everyone discussed boiled down to two issues: time and money.”
- **他这么做，无非是想引起注意。** – “He’s doing it merely to attract attention.”

他这么做，无非是想引起注意。
tā zhè me zuò wú fēi shì xiǎng yǐn qǐ zhù yì
Word guide: 他 – he; 这么 – like this; 做 – does it; 无非 – merely; 是 – is; 想 – wanting; 引起 – attract; 注意 – attention.

Ordinary, limited content

- What follows 无非 should be ordinary or limited; it is not for surprising facts.
- It often comes with 是 or 想 / 要: 无非是 …, 无非想 ….

无非 versus 只是 and 不过

- 只是 / 不过 = only, just (neutral).
- 无非 = nothing more than, often summarising and slightly dismissive.

这只是一个小问题。
zhè zhǐ shì yí gè xiǎo wèn tí
Word guide: 这 – this; 只是 – is only; 一个 – a; 小 – small; 问题 – problem.

Recap

- **无非 (是 / 想) + ordinary content** = nothing but, merely (often dismissive).
- Neutral “only” = 只是 / 不过.

Practise this pattern step by step.

一向 (all along / consistently)

Consistently careful

- Your colleague has always double-checked every document, ever since she joined.
- **她做事一向很认真。** – “She has always been very conscientious in her work.”

一向 + predicate = all along, consistently

- **一向** describes a consistent habit or character from the past until now: 一向很准时, 一向不爱说话.
- It goes after the subject, before the predicate.

他一向不爱说话。
tā yí xiàng bú ài shuō huà
Word guide: 他 – he; 一向 – always; 不 – not; 爱 – like; 说话 – to talk.

一向: consistently



Habits and reputations

- **这家公司一向重视质量。** – "This company has always valued quality."
- **我一向觉得他是个好人。** – "I've always thought he was a good person."

这家公司一向重视质量。
zhè jiā gōng sī yí xiàng zhòng shì zhì liàng
Word guide: 这家 – this; 公司 – company; 一向 – always; 重视 – values; 质量 – quality.

Habit, not a single stretch

- 一向 describes long-term character; for one continuous stretch use 一直: 他一直在等.
- It is not "towards": that is 向 alone (向前走).

一向 versus 向来 and 一直

- 一向 and 向来 are close synonyms; 向来 is a little more formal.
- 一直 = continuously, or all along with a specific stretch: 雨一直下.

雨一直下。
yǔ yì zhí xià
Word guide: 雨 – the rain; 一直 – continuously; 下 – falls.

Recap

- **一向 + predicate** = always, consistently (character or habit).
- Synonym 向来; one continuous stretch = 一直.

Practise this pattern step by step.

到时候 (when the time comes)

We'll decide then

- Your friend asks what you'll do if the flight is cancelled next month.
- **到时候再说吧。** – "Let's deal with it when the time comes."

到时候 = when the time comes, then

- **到时候** refers to a future moment already mentioned or understood: the trip, the exam, the meeting.
- It usually starts its clause: 到时候我给你打电话.

到时候我给你打电话。
dào shí hou wǒ gěi nǐ dǎ diàn huà
Word guide: 到时候 – when the time comes; 我 – I; 给 – to; 你 – you; 打电话 – will call.

到时候再说: we'll decide then



Plans and warnings

- **你现在不复习，到时候就来不及了。** – "If you don't revise now, it'll be too late when the time comes."
- **下周开会，到时候大家都要发言。** – "We have a meeting next week; everyone will have to speak then."

你现在不复习，到时候就来不及了。
nǐ xiàn zài bú fù xí dào shí hou jiù lái bu jí le
Word guide: 你 – you; 现在 – now; 不 – don't; 复习 – revise; 到时候 – when the time comes; 就 – then; 来不及 – too late.

Future only

- 到时候 points to a future moment; for a past "at that time", use 那时候 / 当时.
- The moment must be clear from context; 到时候 alone with no plan sounds vague.

到时候 versus 当时

- 当时 = at that time (past): 当时我还很小.
- 到时候 = then (future): 到时候你就知道了 – "You'll know when the time comes."

当时我还很小。
dāng shí wǒ hái hěn xiǎo
Word guide: 当时 – at that time; 我 – I; 还 – still; 很 – very; 小 – young.

Recap

- **到时候** = when the time comes (a known future moment); 到时候再说 = deal with it then.
- Past = 当时 / 那时候.

Practise this pattern step by step.

何必 (why bother / no need)

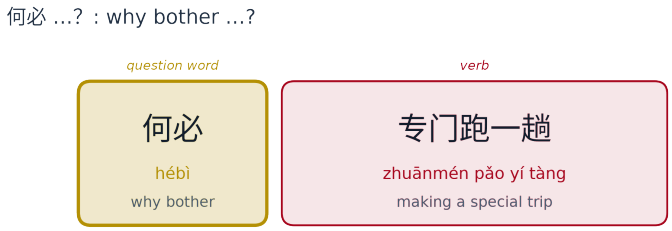
No need to go to the trouble

- Your friend is about to take a taxi across town to return a cheap pen you lent him.
- **何必专门跑一趟？下次见面再给我就行了。** – "Why bother making a special trip? Just give it back next time we meet."

何必 + verb (呢)? = why bother, there's no need to

- **何必** asks a rhetorical question meaning "there's no need to …": 何必生气呢?
- It gently advises against something unnecessary.

何必为这点儿小事生气呢?
hé bì wèi zhè diǎnr xiǎo shì shēng qì ne
Word guide: 何必 – why bother; 为 – over; 这 – this; 点儿 – little; 小事 – matter; 生气 – getting angry.



Advice and comfort

- **你何必这么客气？** – "No need to be so polite."
- **既然他不喜欢，你又何必勉强他？** – "Since he doesn't like it, why force him?"

既然他不喜欢，你又何必勉强他?
jì rán tā bù xǐ huan nǐ yòu hé bì miǎn qiǎng tā
Word guide: 既然 – since; 他 – he; 不 – doesn't; 喜欢 – like it; 你 – you; 又 – (then); 何必 – why; 勉强 – force; 他 – him.

A rhetorical question, not a real one

- 何必 does not ask for a reason; it means "you don't need to". The answer is built in.
- 呢 often ends the question: 何必呢? – "Why bother?"

何必 versus 不必

- 不必 states it plainly: 你不必担心 – "You needn't worry."
- 何必 says the same as a rhetorical question, softer and more persuasive.

你不必担心。
nǐ bú bì dān xīn
Word guide: 你 – you; 不必 – needn't; 担心 – worry.

Recap

- **何必 + verb (呢)?** = why bother / there's no need to (rhetorical advice).
- Plain statement = 不必.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Practice without the models

Verb + 得 + 倒 + Adj (a pointed note)

0101.1 Retort: "That's easy for you to say!" 你说得 …… 容易!

0101.2 Which order is correct?

- A. 你得说倒轻松。
- B. 你说得倒轻松。
- C. 你倒说得轻松得。
- D. 你说倒得轻松。

0101.3 这孩子画得倒不错 can be sincere praise.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0101.4 Build: "Dream on – he thinks he can pass without revising."

Arrange all chunks: 他想得 / 倒美 / 也能通过。/ ， 以为不复习

0101.5 Your flatmate says moving all the furniture will be easy, but he has no plans to help. 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.

■ 很是 + Adj (a formal "very")

0102.1 Complete (formal): "The audience was very moved." 观众 …… 感动。

0102.2 Which is the least natural?

- A. 他很是满意。
- B. 大家很是担心。
- C. 她很是高兴。
- D. 天气很是好。

0102.3 Build: "His children are very worried."

Arrange all chunks: 很是 / 担心。/ 孩子们

0102.4 很是 sounds more formal than 很.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0102.5 A news report describes how residents feel about the new park. 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.

■ 足足 + Amount (a full / as much as)

0103.1 Complete: "We waited a full two hours." 我们 …… 等了两个小时。

0103.2 "It only took five minutes." Which fits?

- A. 足足才五分钟。
- B. 五分钟足足。
- C. 足足五分钟。
- D. 才五分钟。

0103.3 Build: "This meal cost a whole 500 yuan."

Arrange all chunks: 足足 / 这顿饭 / 花了五百块。

0103.4 整整一天 stresses a whole, complete day.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0103.5 The queue for the new museum exhibition was much longer than you expected. 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.

■ 一再 + Verb (again and again)

0104.1 Complete: "The doctor repeatedly told him to rest." 医生 …… 叮嘱他多休息。

0104.2 Which sounds most natural in casual chat? "I told him several times."

- A. 我跟他说了好几次。
- B. 我再三他告诉。
- C. 我屡次告诉他。
- D. 我一再告诉他。

0104.3 Build: "The meeting was postponed again and again."

Arrange all chunks: 一再 / 推迟。/ 会议

0104.4 一再 often carries a sense of insistence.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0104.5 Your brother kept forgetting his keys even though everyone reminded him. 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.

■ 凡是 ... 都 (all / any without exception)

0105.1 Complete: "Everyone who has been there says it's good." 凡是去过那里的人，…… 说好。

0105.2 Which sentence is complete?

- A. 学生凡是都要参加。
- B. 凡是学生都要参加。
- C. 都凡是学生要参加。
- D. 凡是学生要参加。

0105.3 Build: "Whatever he promises, he does."

Arrange all chunks: 都会 / 做到。/ 凡是他答应的事 / ，

0105.4 凡是 stresses "without exception".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0105.5 The school rules are read out on the first day. 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.

■ 向来 (always / all along)

0106.1 Complete: “He has always been very frugal.” 他 …… 很节约。

0106.2 “It’s been raining all day.” Which fits?

- A. 今天向来不下雨。
- B. 今天从来下雨。
- C. 今天向来下雨。
- D. 今天一直下雨。

0106.3 Build: “I’ve never believed adverts like this.”

Arrange all chunks: 这种广告。 / 向来 / 不相信 / 我

0106.4 向来 can be used with both positive and negative predicates.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0106.5 Your colleague has never been late in ten years. 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.

■ 果然 (sure enough / as expected)

0107.1 Complete: “He said he’d come, and sure enough he did.” 他说会来，…… 来了。

0107.2 “Everyone expected him to win, but surprisingly he lost.” Which word fits? 大家都以为他会赢，他 _____ 输了。

- A. 当然
- B. 竟然
- C. 果然
- D. 突然

0107.3 Build: “I knew he’d be late, and sure enough he was.”

Arrange all chunks: 迟到了。 / ， / 我就知道他会迟到 / 他果然

0107.4 果然 needs an earlier prediction or expectation.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0107.5 The weather app warned of afternoon storms. At three o’clock, thunder rolls in. 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.

■ 似乎 (it seems / as if)

0108.1 Complete (formal): “The plan seems to have problems.” 这个计划 …… 有问题。

0108.2 Which is unnatural?

- A. 他好像病了。
- B. 他似乎肯定病了。
- C. 看来他病了。
- D. 他似乎病了。

0108.3 Build: “The problem seems more complicated than we thought.”

Arrange all chunks: 问题似乎 / 复杂。 / 比我们想的 / 更

0108.4 好像 is more common than 似乎 in conversation.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0108.5 Your usually cheerful colleague is quiet in the meeting and avoids eye contact. 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.

■ 偏偏 (of all things / just had to)

0109.1 Complete: “Everyone told him not to, but he insisted on going.” 大家让他别去，他 …… 要去。

0109.2 Which sentence fits 偏偏 best?

- A. 天气很好，偏偏我们去爬山了。
- B. 偏偏今天星期一。
- C. 我们计划去海边，偏偏那天下雨了。
- D. 他偏偏是一个学生。

0109.3 Build: “Everyone persuaded him, but he just wouldn’t listen.”

Arrange all chunks: ， / 他偏偏 / 大家都劝他 / 不听。

0109.4 偏偏 is used for any kind of surprise.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0109.5 You planned the class picnic for weeks. It has been sunny all month – until today. 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.

■ 再 + Adj + 也 (however …, still …)

0110.1 Complete: “However tired I am, I’ll finish it.” 再累，我 …… 要做完。

0110.2 What does 再贵我也要买 mean?

- A. If it’s more expensive, I won’t buy it.
- B. However expensive it is, I’ll buy it.
- C. I’ll buy it again.
- D. It’s expensive again, so I’ll buy it.

0110.3 Build: “However much you explain, it’s no use.”

Arrange all chunks: 也 / 没用。/ 你再解释

0110.4 无论多忙 … 都 … expresses the same idea as 再忙 … 也 ….

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0110.5 Your mother works long hours but never misses family dinner on Sundays. 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.

■ 一律 (uniformly / without exception)

0111.1 Complete (notice): “All goods are 20% off.” 本店商品 …… 八折。

0111.2 “All my classmates came to the party.” Which fits best?

- A. 同学们一律来了。
- B. 一律同学们来了。
- C. 同学们都来了。
- D. 同学们来了一律。

0111.3 Build: “All students must wear school uniform.”

Arrange all chunks: 校服。/ 穿 / 学生 / 一律

0111.4 一律 is common on signs and in rules.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0111.5 At the museum entrance, a sign explains the ticket policy. 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.

■ 无非 (nothing but / merely)

0112.1 Complete: “He merely wants to earn more money.” 他 …… 是想多赚点儿钱。

0112.2 What tone does 无非 often add?

- A. Dismissive summarising
- B. Politeness
- C. Surprise
- D. Admiration

0112.3 Build: “He’s doing it merely to attract attention.”

Arrange all chunks: 引起注意。/ 他这么做 / 无非是想 / ，

0112.4 只是 is more neutral than 无非.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0112.5 Your manager has heard your colleague’s reasons for being late many times before. 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.

■ 一向 (all along / consistently)

0113.1 Complete: “He has always been very punctual.” 他 …… 很准时。

0113.2 “He has been waiting the whole time.” Which fits?

- A. 他一向在等。
- B. 他一向等了。
- C. 他向来在等着。
- D. 他一直在等。

0113.3 Build: “This company has always valued quality.”

Arrange all chunks: 质量。/ 一向 / 这家公司 / 重视

0113.4 一向 and 向来 are close synonyms.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0113.5 Your colleague has always double-checked every document, ever since she joined. 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.

■ 到时候 (when the time comes)

0114.1 Complete: “Let’s deal with it when the time comes.” …… 再说吧。

0114.2 “At that time I was still very young.” Which fits? _____ 我还很小。

- A. 将来
- B. 到时候
- C. 当时
- D. 以后

0114.3 Build: “If you don’t revise now, it’ll be too late then.”

Arrange all chunks: ， / 你现在不复习 / 就来不及了。/ 到时候

0114.4 到时候 refers to the future.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0114.5 Your friend asks what you’ll do if the flight is cancelled next month. 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.

■ 何必 (why bother / no need)

0115.1 Complete: “Why get angry over such a small thing?” …… 为这点儿小事生气呢?

0115.2 What does 何必呢? mean?

- A. There’s no need for that.
- B. Where is it?
- C. What do you need?
- D. Why did you do it?

0115.3 Build: “Since he doesn’t like it, why force him?”

Arrange all chunks: 既然他不喜欢 / 勉强他? / ， / 你又何必

0115.4 你不必担心 states plainly what 你何必担心呢 suggests.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0115.5 Your friend is about to take a taxi across town to return a cheap pen you lent him. 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

■ Verb + 得 + 倒 + Adj (a pointed note)

0101.1 倒

V 得倒 + Adj = pointed contrast.

0101.2 B. 你说得倒轻松。

The pattern is verb + 得 + 倒 + adjective: 你说得倒轻松 (“You make it sound easy”, implying it is not). 倒 sits inside the complement, after 得 and before the adjective, and 得 appears only once.

0101.3 True.

倒 can mark that something is better than expected.

0101.4 他想得倒美，以为不复习也能通过。

想得倒美 = dream on.

0101.5 One possible response: 你说得倒容易，谁来搬呢?

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.
- Order: verb + 得 + 倒 + adjective: 说得倒容易, not 说倒得容易.
- Not every 倒 sentence is sarcastic; tone and context decide whether it is a jab or a pleasant surprise.
- 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.

■ 很是 + Adj (a formal “very”)

0102.1 很是

很是 + two-syllable feeling word.

0102.2 D. 天气很是好。

很是 prefers two-syllable predicates.

0102.3 孩子们很是担心。

Subject + 很是 + feeling.

0102.4 True.

It suits writing and narration.

0102.5 One possible response: 居民们对新公园很是满意。

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.

- 很是 prefers two-syllable predicates: 很是满意, not 很是好.
- In conversation, plain 很 or 非常 sounds more natural.
- 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.

■ 足足 + Amount (a full / as much as)

0103.1 足足

足足 stresses a large amount.

0103.2 D. 才五分钟。

才 marks an amount as small ("only five minutes"). 足足 does the opposite: it stresses that an amount is large (足足等了两个小时), so it cannot combine with 才 here.

0103.3 这顿饭足足花了五百块。

足足 + verb + amount.

0103.4 True.

True. 整整 stresses a full, complete amount (整整一天 "a whole day", 整整十年 "ten full years"), often with the feeling that it is a lot.

0103.5 One possible response: 我们足足排了三个小时的队。

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.
- 足足 stresses a large amount; for "only" a small amount use 才 / 只: 才五分钟.
- It needs a number: 足足三天, not just 足足很久.
- 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.

■ 一再 + Verb (again and again)

0104.1 一再

一再 + verb = repeatedly.

0104.2 A. 我跟他说了好几次。

好几次 is the casual choice.

0104.3 会议一再推迟。

Subject + 一再 + verb.

0104.4 True.

True. 一再 means "again and again" and usually carries insistence or emphasis: 他一再强调安全 "He stressed safety repeatedly." It often goes with verbs like 强调, 要求, 表示.

0104.5 One possible response: 妈妈一再提醒他，他还是忘了。

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.
- 一再 mostly reports actions already repeated; for advice about the future, 再三 often fits better: 请你再三考虑.
- It sounds formal; in chat, 好几次 is more natural: 我跟他说了好几次.
- 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.

■ 凡是 ... 都 (all / any without exception)

0105.1 都

凡是 … 都 ….

0105.2 B. 凡是学生都要参加。

凡是 introduces a whole category and needs 都 before the verb: 凡是学生都要参加 "All students, without exception, must attend." Without 都 the sentence is incomplete, and 凡是 must come first.

0105.3 凡是他答应的事，都会做到。

凡是 … 的事，都 ….

0105.4 True.

True. 凡是 means "every … without exception" and is stronger than 所有. It is usually followed by 都 in the main clause.

0105.5 One possible response: 凡是迟到的学生，都要写说明。

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.
- Do not drop 都: 凡是学生都要参加, not 凡是学生要参加.
- 凡是 introduces a category, usually with 的: 凡是 … 的人 / 凡是 … 的事.
- 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.

■ 向来 (always / all along)

0106.1 向来

向来 = always (long-standing).

0106.2 D. 今天一直下雨。

One stretch of time takes 一直.

0106.3 我向来不相信这种广告。

Subject + 向来 + 不 + verb.

0106.4 True.

True. 向来 ("always, all along") describes a long-standing habit and works with positive and negative predicates: 他向来很准时 / 他向来不喝酒.

0106.5 One possible response: 他向来很准时，今天没来，肯定有事。

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.
- 向来 describes long-standing patterns, not one recent stretch: for "all morning", use 一直.
- It sounds formal; in speech 一向 or 从来 (with negatives) are common.
- 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.

■ 果然 (sure enough / as expected)

0107.1 果然

果然 confirms an expectation.

0107.2 B. 竟然

Against expectation = 竟然.

0107.3 我就知道他会迟到，他果然迟到了。

Prediction, then 果然 + result.

0107.4 True.

It confirms what was expected.

0107.5 One possible response: 天气预报说下午有雨，果然下雨了。

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.
- 果然 only makes sense after a prediction, warning or reputation; without one, it sounds odd.
- For a surprise (against expectation), use 竟然 / 居然, the opposite of 果然.
- 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.

■ 似乎 (it seems / as if)

0108.1 似乎

似乎 gives a tentative impression.

0108.2 B. 他似乎肯定病了。

Tentative 似乎 does not combine with 肯定.

0108.3 问题似乎比我们想的更复杂。

Subject + 似乎 + comparison.

0108.4 True.

True. Both mean "seem", but 似乎 is more formal and written. In everyday speech 好像 is far more common: 他好像不太高兴.

0108.5 One possible response: 他似乎有什么心事。

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.
- 似乎 is soft; do not pair it with 一定 / 肯定: 他似乎病了, not 他似乎肯定病了.
- It sounds formal; in conversation 好像 is more common.
- 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.

■ 偏偏 (of all things / just had to)

0109.1 偏偏

偏偏 = stubbornly does the opposite.

0109.2 C. 我们计划去海边，偏偏那天下雨了。

偏偏 needs an event against a wish.

0109.3 大家都劝他，他偏偏不听。

Subject + 偏偏 + negative.

0109.4 False.

It stresses going against a wish; 竟然 covers any surprise.

0109.5 One possible response: 我们好不容易定了野餐的日子，偏偏那天下雨。

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.
- 偏偏 only works when the event goes against a wish or advice; for a neutral fact, leave it out.
- As an adverb it follows the subject: 他偏偏不听. Before 是 + noun it means "of all people / things": 偏偏是他.
- 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.

■ 再 + Adj + 也 (however …, still …)

0110.1 也

再 + Adj，也 ….

0110.2 B. However expensive it is, I'll buy it.

再 + adjective + 也 means "no matter how …": 再贵我也要买 "However expensive it is, I'll still buy it." Here 再 does not mean "again".

0110.3 你再解释也没用。

再 + verb，也 + result.

0110.4 True.

再 … 也 … is the shorter form.

0110.5 One possible response: 工作再忙，她也会回家吃饭。

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.
- Do not drop 也: 再忙也来, not 再忙来.
- 再 + Adj here is a condition, not "again": 再冷 = however cold.
- 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.

■ 一律 (uniformly / without exception)

0111.1 一律

一律 applies a rule uniformly.

0111.2 C. 同学们都来了。

A description takes 都; 一律 states a rule.

0111.3 学生一律穿校服。

Group + 一律 + verb.

0111.4 True.

It is formal and rule-like.

0111.5 One possible response: 门票一律二十元。

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.
- 一律 states a rule or uniform treatment; for "all" in a description, use 都: 学生都来了.
- It goes before the verb, after the group: 学生一律 …, not 一律学生 ….
- 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.

■ 无非 (nothing but / merely)

0112.1 无非

无非是 = nothing but.

0112.2 A. Dismissive summarising

It reduces something to the ordinary.

0112.3 他这么做，无非是想引起注意。

Action，无非是想 + purpose.

0112.4 True.

无非 often sounds dismissive.

0112.5 One possible response: 他说的无非是堵车、下雨这些理由。

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.
- What follows 无非 should be ordinary or limited; it is not for surprising facts.
- It often comes with 是 or 想 / 要: 无非是 …, 无非想 ….
- 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.

■ 一向 (all along / consistently)

0113.1 一向

一向 = consistently.

0113.2 D. 他一直在等。

A single stretch takes 一直.

0113.3 这家公司一向重视质量。

Subject + 一向 + verb.

0113.4 True.

向来 is a little more formal.

0113.5 One possible response: 她做事一向很认真。

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.
- 一向 describes long-term character; for one continuous stretch use 一直: 他一直在等.
- It is not "towards": that is 向 alone (向前走).
- 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.

■ 到时候 (when the time comes)

0114.1 到时候

到时候再说 = deal with it then.

0114.2 C. 当时

当时 refers to a particular moment in the past ("at that time"). 到时候 looks forward to a future moment ("when the time comes"), and 以后 / 将来 also point to the future.

0114.3 你现在不复习，到时候就来不及了。

Condition, then 到时候 + consequence.

0114.4 True.

It points to a future moment already known.

0114.5 One possible response: 到时候再说吧。

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.
- 到时候 points to a future moment; for a past "at that time", use 那时候 / 当时.
- The moment must be clear from context; 到时候 alone with no plan sounds vague.
- 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.

■ 何必 (why bother / no need)

0115.1 何必

何必 = why bother (rhetorical).

0115.2 A. There's no need for that.

It is rhetorical advice, not a request for a reason.

0115.3 既然他不喜欢，你又何必勉强他?

Reason, then 何必 + verb.

0115.4 True.

不必 is the plain statement.

0115.5 One possible response: 何必专门跑一趟？下次见面再给我就行了。

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.
- 何必 does not ask for a reason; it means "you don't need to". The answer is built in.
- 呢 often ends the question: 何必呢? – "Why bother?"
- 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.