Verb phrases

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.

不屑 (于) (disdain to)

Beneath him

- A famous chef is asked whether he would ever cook instant noodles on TV.
- **他不屑于做这种简单的菜。** – "He disdains to cook such simple dishes."

不屑 (于) + verb = disdain to, think it beneath one

- **不屑 (于)** shows contempt: someone thinks an action is not worth doing: 不屑一顾 (not worth a glance), 不屑回答.
- 于 is optional before a verb: 不屑 (于) 解释.

他不屑回答这种问题。
tā bú xiè huí dá zhè zhǒng wèn tí
Word guide: 他 – he; 不屑 – disdains; 回答 – to answer; 这种 – such; 问题 – questions.



Attitude and set phrases

- **不屑一顾** = consider not worth a glance: 他对别人的建议不屑一顾.
- As an adjective-like word: **她露出不屑的表情。** – "She showed a look of disdain."

她露出不屑的表情。
tā lù chū bú xiè de biǎo qíng
Word guide: 她 – she; 露出 – showed; 不屑 – disdainful; 表情 – expression.

Contempt, not inability

- 不屑 means "won't, because it's beneath me", not "can't": 他不屑回答 ≠ 他不会回答.
- The character is 屑 (xiè), not 屡 (lǚ, "repeatedly").

不屑 versus 不愿意

- 不愿意 = unwilling (neutral): 他不愿意去.
- 不屑 = unwilling out of contempt: 他不屑跟这种人说话.

他不愿意去。
tā bú yuàn yi qù
Word guide: 他 – he; 不 – not; 愿意 – willing; 去 – to go.

Recap

- **不屑 (于) + verb** = disdain to (it's beneath one); 不屑一顾 = not worth a glance.
- Contempt, not inability; 不愿意 is neutral unwillingness.

Practise this pattern step by step.

以便 (so as to / in order to)

So we can reach you

- A hotel receptionist asks for your phone number at check-in.
- **请留下您的电话，以便我们联系您。** – "Please leave your phone number so that we can contact you."

Action，以便 + positive purpose

- **以便** = "so that, in order to (make it easier to)": the second clause is the purpose the action serves.
- It is formal, common in instructions and notices.

请提前报名，以便我们安排。
qǐng tí qián bào míng yǐ biàn wǒ men ān pái
Word guide: 请 – please; 提前 – in advance; 报名 – register; 以便 – so that; 我们 – we; 安排 – can arrange.



■ Practical arrangements

- **我们把时间提前了，以便大家早点儿回家。** – “We moved the time earlier so everyone can get home sooner.”
- **请保留收据，以便日后查询。** – “Please keep the receipt for future reference.”

请保留收据，以便日后查询。
qǐng bǎo liú shōu jù yǐ biàn rì hòu chá xún
Word guide: 请 – please; 保留 – keep; 收据 – the receipt; 以便 – so that; 日后 – later; 查询 – to check.

■ Positive goals only

- 以便 introduces a goal you want; to avoid something bad, use 以免: 带伞，以免淋湿.
- It starts the second clause, after the action.

■ 以便 versus 为了 and 好

- 为了 + goal usually comes first: 为了方便联系，请留下电话.
- 以便 / 好 come after the action; 好 is the spoken one: 留个电话，好联系你.

为了方便联系，请留下电话。
wèi le fāng biàn lián xì qǐng liú xià diàn huà
Word guide: 为了 – in order to; 方便 – make easier; 联系 – contact; 请 – please; 留下 – leave; 电话 – a number.

■ Recap

- **Action，以便 + positive purpose** = so that (formal).
- Avoiding something = 以免; 为了 goes first; spoken 好.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Practice without the models

■ 不屑 (于) (disdain to)

0901.1 Complete: “He disdains to answer such questions.” 他 …… 回答这种问题。

0901.2 What does 他不屑回答 suggest?

- A. He is shy.
- B. He thinks the question isn’t worth answering.
- C. He doesn’t know the answer.
- D. He answered repeatedly.

0901.3 Build: “He thought others’ advice not worth a glance.”

Arrange all chunks: 不屑 / 一顾。/ 他对别人的建议

0901.4 不愿意 always implies contempt.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0901.5 A famous chef is asked whether he would ever cook instant noodles on TV. 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.

■ 以便 (so as to / in order to)

0902.1 Complete (notice): “Register in advance so we can make arrangements.” 请提前报名，…… 我们安排。

0902.2 “Take a coat so you don’t catch a cold.” Which fits? 带件外套，_____ 感冒。

- A. 为了
- B. 以免
- C. 以便
- D. 所以

0902.3 Build: “Keep the receipt for future reference.”

Arrange all chunks: ， / 以便 / 日后查询。/ 请保留收据

0902.4 为了 usually comes before the action, 以便 after it.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0902.5 A hotel receptionist asks for your phone number at check-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.

Answers and explanations

■ 不屑 (于) (disdain to)

0901.1 不屑

不屑 + verb = think it beneath one.

0901.2 B. He thinks the question isn't worth answering.

不屑 = contempt, not inability.

0901.3 他对别人的建议不屑一顾。

对 + thing + 不屑一顾.

0901.4 False.

不愿意 is neutral; 不屑 implies contempt.

0901.5 One possible response: 他不屑于做这种简单的菜。

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.
- 不屑 means "won't, because it's beneath me", not "can't": 他不屑回答 ≠ 他不会回答.
- The character is 屑 (xiè), not 屡 (lǚ, "repeatedly").
- 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.

■ 以便 (so as to / in order to)

0902.1 以便

以便 + positive purpose.

0902.2 B. 以免

Avoiding something takes 以免.

0902.3 请保留收据，以便日后查询。

Action，以便 + purpose.

0902.4 True.

That is their typical order.

0902.5 One possible response: 请留下您的电话，以便我们联系您。

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.
- 以便 introduces a goal you want; to avoid something bad, use 以免: 带伞，以免淋湿.
- It starts the second clause, after the action.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

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