HSK 6 Grammar

Chinese grammar · bilingual edition

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1 Adverbs

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.

1.1 ■ Verb + 得 + 倒 + Adj (a pointed note)

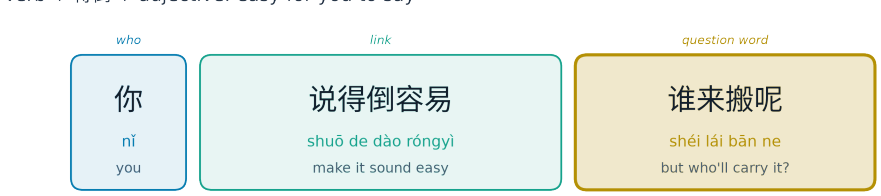
1.1.1 Easy for you to say

- 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?"

1.1.2 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.



1.1.3 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.

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1.1.4 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.

1.1.5 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.

1.1.6 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.

1.2 ■ 很是 + Adj (a formal "very")

1.2.1 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."

1.2.2 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.



1.2.3 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.

1.2.4 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.

1.2.5 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.

1.2.6 Recap

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

Practise this pattern step by step.

1.3 ■ 足足 + Amount (a full / as much as)

1.3.1 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.”

1.3.2 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.

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1.3.3 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.

1.3.4 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.

1.3.5 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.

1.3.6 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.

1.4 ■ 一再 + Verb (again and again)

1.4.1 Told him again and again

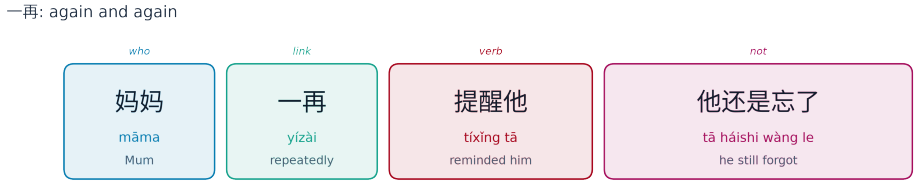
- Your brother kept forgetting his keys even though everyone reminded him.
- **妈妈一再提醒他，他还是忘了。** – “Mum reminded him again and again, but he still forgot.”

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1.4.2 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.



1.4.3 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.

1.4.4 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.

1.4.5 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.

1.4.6 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.

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1.5 ■ 凡是 … 都 (all / any without exception)

1.5.1 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."

1.5.2 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.



1.5.3 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.

1.5.4 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.

1.5.5 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.

1.5.6 Recap

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

Practise this pattern step by step.

1.6 ■ 向来 (always / all along)

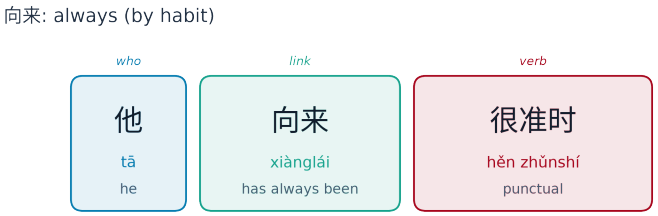
1.6.1 Always punctual

- 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."

1.6.2 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.



1.6.3 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.

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1.6.4 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.

1.6.5 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.

1.6.6 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.

1.7 ■ 果然 (sure enough / as expected)

1.7.1 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."

1.7.2 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.



1.7.3 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.

1.7.4 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.

1.7.5 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.

1.7.6 Recap

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

Practise this pattern step by step.

1.8 ■ 似乎 (it seems / as if)

1.8.1 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.”

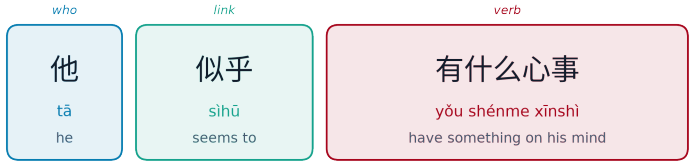
1.8.2 似乎 + guess = it seems, apparently

- **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.

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似乎: seemingly



1.8.3 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.

1.8.4 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.

1.8.5 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.

1.8.6 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.

1.9 ■ 偏偏 (of all things / just had to)

1.9.1 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.”

1.9.2 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.



1.9.3 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.

1.9.4 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.

1.9.5 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.

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1.9.6 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.

1.10 ■ 再 + Adj + 也 (however …, still …)

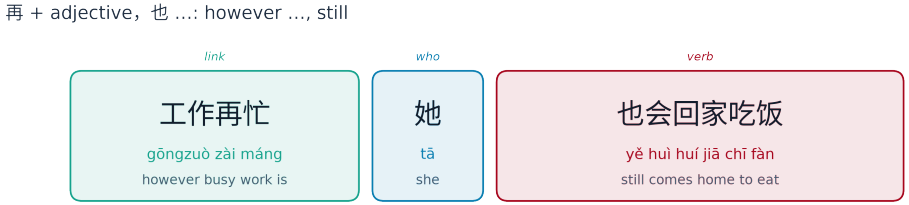
1.10.1 However busy

- 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."

1.10.2 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.



1.10.3 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.

1.10.4 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.

1.10.5 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.

1.10.6 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.

1.11 ■ 一律 (uniformly / without exception)

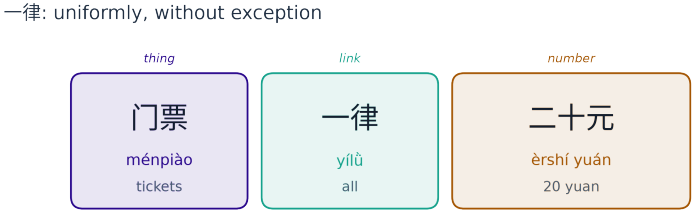
1.11.1 Same price for everyone

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

1.11.2 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.



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1.11.3 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.

1.11.4 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 ….

1.11.5 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.

1.11.6 Recap

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

Practise this pattern step by step.

1.12 ■ 无非 (nothing but / merely)

1.12.1 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."

1.12.2 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.



1.12.3 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.

1.12.4 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 ….

1.12.5 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.

1.12.6 Recap

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

Practise this pattern step by step.

1.13 ■ 一向 (all along / consistently)

1.13.1 Consistently careful

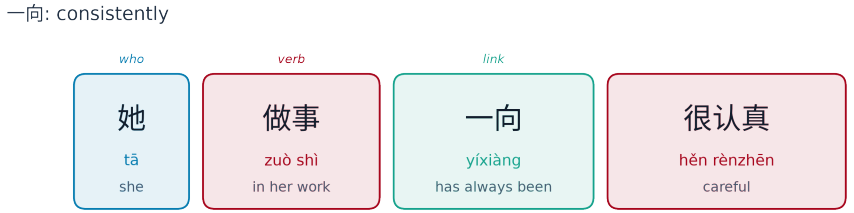
- Your colleague has always double-checked every document, ever since she joined.
- **她做事一向很认真。** – "She has always been very conscientious in her work."

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1.13.2 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.



1.13.3 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.

1.13.4 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).

1.13.5 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.

1.13.6 Recap

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

Practise this pattern step by step.

1.14 ■ 到时候 (when the time comes)

1.14.1 We'll decide then

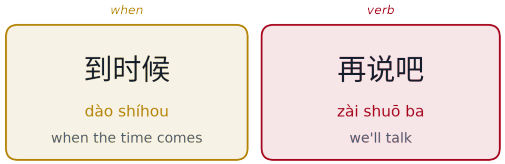
- Your friend asks what you'll do if the flight is cancelled next month.
- **到时候再说吧。** – "Let's deal with it when the time comes."

1.14.2 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



1.14.3 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.

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1.14.4 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.

1.14.5 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.

1.14.6 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.

1.15 ■ 何必 (why bother / no need)

1.15.1 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."

1.15.2 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.

何必 …? : why bother …?



1.15.3 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.

1.15.4 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?”

1.15.5 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.

1.15.6 Recap

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

Practise this pattern step by step.

1.16 ■ Practice without the models

1.16.1 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.

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1.16.2 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.

1.16.3 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.

1.16.4 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.

1.16.5 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.

1.16.6 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?

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- 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.

1.16.7 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.

1.16.8 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.

1.16.9 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.

1.16.10 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.”

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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.

1.16.11 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.

1.16.12 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.

1.16.13 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.

1.16.14 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.

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Write or say your own response before reading the key.

1.16.15 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.

1.17 ■ Answers and explanations

1.17.1 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.

1.17.2 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.

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- 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.

1.17.3 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.

1.17.4 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.

1.17.5 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.

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1.17.6 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.

1.17.7 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.

1.17.8 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.

1.17.9 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:

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- 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.

1.17.10 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.

1.17.11 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.

1.17.12 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.

1.17.13 一向 (all along / consistently)

0113.1 一向

一向 = consistently.

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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.

1.17.14 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.

1.17.15 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.

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2 Auxiliary Words

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.

2.1 ■ Sentence + 来着 (recalling the recent past)

2.1.1 What was his name again?

- You met someone at a party last week and can't recall his name.
- **他叫什么名字来着?** – "What was his name again?"

2.1.2 Question + 来着 = what was it again?

- **来着** at the end of a sentence asks someone to remind you of something you knew: 你刚才说什么来着?
- It refers to the recent past and is very colloquial.

你刚才说什么来着?
nǐ gāng cái shuō shén me lái zhe
Word guide: 你 – you; 刚才 – just now; 说 – said; 什么 – what; 来着 – (again).



2.1.3 Statements too

- **我昨天还看见他来着。** – "I saw him only yesterday, I'm sure."
- In statements it recalls a recent event as a reminder or confirmation.

我昨天还看见他来着。
wǒ zuó tiān hái kàn jiàn tā lái zhe
Word guide: 我 – I; 昨天 – yesterday; 还 – even; 看见 – saw; 他 – him; 来着 – (I recall).

2.1.4 Recent past, spoken only

- 来着 is for things in the recent past; it cannot describe the future.
- Keep it out of formal writing; 他说什么来着 is the basic form, and 了 may also appear (他说了什么来着) depending on the sentence.

2.1.5 Versus a plain question

- 他叫什么名字? asks for new information.
- 他叫什么名字来着? admits you knew it and have forgotten.

他叫什么名字?
tā jiào shén me míng zi
Word guide: 他 – he; 叫 – is called; 什么 – what; 名字 – name.

2.1.6 Recap

- **Question + 来着** = what was it again? (asking to be reminded).
- Colloquial recollection of an earlier situation. Whether 了 also appears depends on the complete sentence; do not use a blanket ban.

Practise this pattern step by step.

2.2 ■ Practice without the models

2.2.1 Sentence + 来着 (recalling the recent past)

0201.1 Complete: "What did you say just now?" 你刚才说什么 ……?

0201.2 What does 他叫什么名字来着? suggest?

- A. The speaker is being formal.
- B. The speaker never knew the name.
- C. The speaker knew it but has forgotten.
- D. The speaker is asking about the future.

0201.3 Build: "I saw him only yesterday."

Arrange all chunks: 还看见他 / 来着。/ 我昨天

0201.4 来着 suits formal writing.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0201.5 You met someone at a party last week and can't recall his name. 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.

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2.3 ■ Answers and explanations

2.3.1 Sentence + 来着 (recalling the recent past)

0201.1 来着

来着 = what was it again?

0201.2 C. The speaker knew it but has forgotten.

来着 at the end of a question shows that the speaker once knew the answer but has forgotten it: 他叫什么名字来着? "What was his name again?"

0201.3 我昨天还看见他来着。

Statement + 来着 recalls the recent past.

0201.4 False.

False. 来着 is colloquial and belongs in conversation. In formal writing you would simply ask 他叫什么名字? or restate the information.

0201.5 One possible response: 他叫什么名字来着?

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.
- 来着 is for things in the recent past; it cannot describe the future.
- Keep it out of formal writing; 他说什么来着 is the basic form, and 了 may also appear (他说了什么来着) depending on the sentence.
- 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.

3 Conjunctions

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.

3.1 ■ 以免 (so as to avoid)

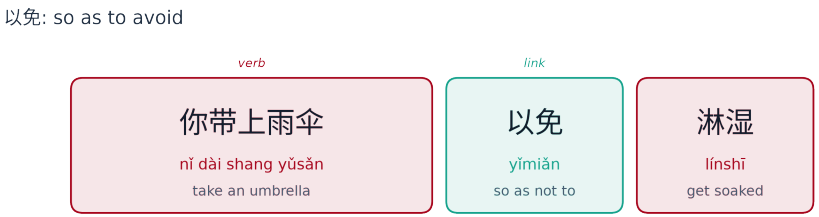
3.1.1 Just in case

- The forecast is uncertain, and you're heading out for the whole day.
- **你带上雨伞，以免淋湿。** – "Take an umbrella so you don't get soaked."

3.1.2 Action，以免 + unwanted result

- **以免** = "so as to avoid, lest": the first clause is a precaution, the second the result you want to avoid.
- It starts the second clause: 请保存好收据，以免丢失.

请保存好收据，以免丢失。
qǐng bǎo cún hǎo shōu jù yǐ miǎn diū shī
Word guide: 请 – please; 保存 – keep; 好 – safely; 收据 – the receipt; 以免 – so as to avoid; 丢失 – losing it.



3.1.3 Warnings and instructions

- **开车时不要看手机，以免发生事故。** – "Don't look at your phone while driving, to avoid accidents."
- **把药放在高处，以免孩子拿到。** – "Put the medicine up high so children can't reach it."

把药放在高处，以免孩子拿到。
bǎ yào fàng zài gāo chù yǐ miǎn hái zi ná dào
Word guide: 药 – the medicine; 放 – put; 在 – at; 高处 – a high place; 以免 – so that … not; 孩子 – children; 拿到 – reach it.

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3.1.4 Only unwanted results

- What follows 以免 is something bad you want to avoid; for a positive goal use 以便: 早点儿出发，以便准时到.
- Do not add 不 after 以免: 以免迟到, not 以免不迟到 (that would mean the opposite).

3.1.5 以免 versus 免得 and 省得

- 免得 / 省得 mean the same in speech: 早点儿走，免得堵车.
- 以免 is more formal and common in instructions and notices.

早点儿走，免得堵车。
zǎo diǎnr zǒu miǎn de dǔ chē
Word guide: 早 – early; 点儿 – a bit; 走 – leave; 免得 – to avoid; 堵车 – traffic jams.

3.1.6 Recap

- **Precaution，以免 + unwanted result** = so as to avoid (formal).
- Positive goals take 以便; spoken equivalents 免得 / 省得; no 不 after 以免.

Practise this pattern step by step.

3.2 ■ 以及 (as well as / and)

3.2.1 A formal list

- A company report lists everyone who took part in a project.
- **参加会议的有经理、工程师以及部分客户。** – "Attending the meeting were the manager, the engineers, and some of the clients."

3.2.2 A、B 以及 C = and, as well as

- **以及** joins the last item of a list in formal writing, like a formal 和.
- It often adds an item of a slightly different kind or lower importance.

学生、老师以及家长都参加了。
xué sheng lǎo shī yǐ jí jiā zhǎng dōu cān jiā le
Word guide: 学生 – students; 老师 – teachers; 以及 – as well as; 家长 – parents; 都 – all; 参加 – took part.



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3.2.3 Joining phrases and clauses

- It can join larger units: **大家讨论了活动的时间、地点以及费用。** – "Everyone discussed the time, place and cost of the event."
- Questions too: 怎么去以及什么时候去，还没决定.

讨论了时间、地点以及费用。
tǎo lùn le shí jiān dì diǎn yǐ jí fèi yong
Word guide: 讨论 – discussed; 时间 – the time; 地点 – place; 以及 – and; 费用 – cost.

3.2.4 Formal, and before the last item

- In casual speech, 和 sounds more natural: 我买了苹果和香蕉.
- Put 以及 before the last item only: A、B 以及 C, not A 以及 B 以及 C.

3.2.5 以及 versus 和 and 及

- 和 = and (everyday).
- 及 is an even more compact written form: 学生及家长. 以及 can join longer phrases than 及.

学生及家长。
xué sheng jí jiā zhǎng
Word guide: 学生 – students; 及 – and; 家长 – parents.

3.2.6 Recap

- **A、B 以及 C** = A, B, and (also) C (formal writing).
- Everyday 和; compact written 及; 以及 can join phrases and clauses.

Practise this pattern step by step.

3.3 ■ 总之 (in short / in a word)

3.3.1 Wrapping it up

- At the end of a long discussion about holiday plans, you sum up.
- **总之，我们下周五出发。** – "In short, we leave next Friday."

3.3.2 总之，+ summary = in short, in a word

- **总之** introduces a conclusion or summary after several points.
- It usually starts the sentence, followed by a comma.

总之，这次活动很成功。
zǒng zhī zhè cì huó dòng hěn chéng gōng
Word guide: 总之 – in short; 这次 – this; 活动 – event; 很 – very; 成功 – successful.

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3.3.3 After a list of reasons

- **价格太高，质量一般，服务也不好。总之，我不推荐。** – "The price is too high, the quality average, the service poor. In short, I don't recommend it."
- It pulls everything together into one point.

总之，我不推荐。
zǒng zhī wǒ bù tuī jiàn
Word guide: 总之 – in short; 我 – I; 不 – don't; 推荐 – recommend it.

3.3.4 After the details, not before

- 总之 comes after the points it sums up; it cannot open a conversation.
- It closes a discussion; for "for example" use 比如.

3.3.5 总之 versus 总而言之 and 反正

- 总而言之 = the full, more formal form.
- 反正 = anyway, whatever happens: 反正我不去 – the speaker's mind is made up.

反正我不去。
fǎn zhèng wǒ bú qù
Word guide: 反正 – anyway; 我 – I; 不 – won't; 去 – go.

3.3.6 Recap

- **总之，...** = in short, in a word (a summary after several points).
- Formal 总而言之; 反正 = anyway (mind made up).

Practise this pattern step by step.

3.4 ■ 则 (while / whereas – formal contrast)

3.4.1 North and south

- An essay compares eating habits across China.
- **北方人爱吃面，南方人则爱吃米饭。** – "Northerners love noodles, whereas southerners love rice."

3.4.2 A …, B 则 … = whereas, while (formal contrast)

- **则** follows the subject of the second clause and marks a contrast with the first: 他喜欢安静，我则喜欢热闹.
- It is written and formal.

他喜欢安静，我则喜欢热闹。
tā xǐ huan ān jìng wǒ zé xǐ huan rè nao
Word guide: 他 – he; 喜欢 – likes; 安静 – quiet; 我 – I; 则 – whereas; 喜欢 – like; 热闹 – bustle.



3.4.3 Consequence: then

- 则 can also mean "then" in a condition: **欲速则不达。** – "More haste, less speed."
- **如果 …，则 …** in formal writing: 如果温度超过一百度，则水会沸腾.

欲速则不达。
yù sù zé bù dá
Word guide: 欲 – wanting; 速 – speed; 则 – then; 不 – not; 达 – arriving.

3.4.4 After the subject

- 则 follows the subject: 南方人则 …, not 则南方人 ….
- It is formal; in speech, 而 or 但是 / 可是 are more natural.

3.4.5 则 versus 而

- 而 starts the contrasting clause: 北方冷，而南方暖和.
- 则 sits inside it, after the subject: 北方冷，南方则暖和.

北方冷，而南方暖和。
běi fāng lěng ér nán fāng nuǎn huo
Word guide: 北方 – the north; 冷 – is cold; 而 – whereas; 南方 – the south; 暖和 – is warm.

3.4.6 Recap

- **…，B 则 …** = whereas (formal contrast, after the subject); in conditions, 则 = then.
- 而 starts the clause; speech uses 但是 / 可是.

Practise this pattern step by step.

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3.5 ■ Practice without the models

3.5.1 以免 (so as to avoid)

0301.1 Complete: "Keep the receipt so you don't lose it." 请保存好收据，…… 丢失。

0301.2 "Leave early so you arrive on time." Which fits? 早点儿出发，_____ 准时到达。

- A. 免得
- B. 以便
- C. 省得
- D. 以免

0301.3 Build: "Put the medicine up high so children can't reach it."

Arrange all chunks: 以免 / 把药放在高处 / ， / 孩子拿到。

0301.4 免得 is a spoken equivalent of 以免.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0301.5 The forecast is uncertain, and you're heading out for the whole 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.

3.5.2 以及 (as well as / and)

0302.1 Complete (formal): "Students, teachers and parents all took part." 学生、老师 …… 家长都参加了。

0302.2 Which suits casual speech? "I bought apples and bananas."

- A. 我买了苹果以及香蕉。
- B. 我买了苹果和香蕉。
- C. 我买了以及苹果香蕉。
- D. 我买了苹果及香蕉。

0302.3 Build: "We discussed the time, place and cost."

Arrange all chunks: 时间、地点 / 以及 / 费用。/ 我们讨论了

0302.4 以及 can join longer phrases than 及.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0302.5 A company report lists everyone who took part in a project. 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.

3.5.3 总之 (in short / in a word)

0303.1 Sum up: “In short, the event was a success.” ……，这次活动很成功。

0303.2 “Whatever you say, I’m not going anyway.” Which fits? _____ 我不去。

- A. 然后
- B. 比如
- C. 总之
- D. 反正

0303.3 Build: “In short, I don’t recommend it.”

Arrange all chunks: 不推荐。/ 总之 / ， / 我

0303.4 总之 can open a conversation before any points are made.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0303.5 At the end of a long discussion about holiday plans, you sum up. 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.

3.5.4 则 (while / whereas – formal contrast)

0304.1 Complete (written): “He likes quiet, whereas I like bustle.” 他喜欢安静，我 …… 喜欢热闹。

0304.2 Which is correct?

- A. 则北方冷，南方暖和。
- B. 北方冷，南方则暖和。
- C. 北方冷，则南方暖和。
- D. 北方则冷，南方暖和则。

0304.3 Build: “More haste, less speed.”

Arrange all chunks: 则 / 不达。/ 欲速

0304.4 而 starts the contrasting clause; 则 follows its subject.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0304.5 An essay compares eating habits across China. 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.

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3.6 ■ Answers and explanations

3.6.1 以免 (so as to avoid)

0301.1 以免

以免 + unwanted result.

0301.2 B. 以便

A positive goal takes 以便.

0301.3 把药放在高处，以免孩子拿到。

Precaution，以免 + unwanted result.

0301.4 True.

Both introduce something to avoid.

0301.5 One possible response: 你带上雨伞，以免淋湿。

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 以免 is something bad you want to avoid; for a positive goal use 以便: 早点儿出发，以便准时到.
- Do not add 不 after 以免: 以免迟到, not 以免不迟到 (that would mean the opposite).
- 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.

3.6.2 以及 (as well as / and)

0302.1 以及

以及 joins the last item.

0302.2 B. 我买了苹果和香蕉。

以及 and 及 are formal connectors used in writing and announcements. In casual speech two nouns are joined with 和: 我买了苹果和香蕉.

0302.3 我们讨论了时间、地点以及费用。

A、B 以及 C.

0302.4 True.

以及 can link phrases and clauses.

0302.5 One possible response: 参加会议的有经理、工程师以及部分客户。

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.

- In casual speech, 和 sounds more natural: 我买了苹果和香蕉.
- Put 以及 before the last item only: A、B 以及 C, not A 以及 B 以及 C.
- 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.

3.6.3 总之 (in short / in a word)

0303.1 总之

总之 introduces the summary.

0303.2 D. 反正

A mind already made up = 反正.

0303.3 总之，我不推荐。

总之，+ summary.

0303.4 False.

It sums up points already made.

0303.5 One possible response: 总之，我们下周五出发。

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.
- 总之 comes after the points it sums up; it cannot open a conversation.
- It closes a discussion; for “for example” use 比如.
- 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.

3.6.4 则 (while / whereas – formal contrast)

0304.1 则

Subject + 则 marks the contrast.

0304.2 B. 北方冷，南方则暖和。

则 follows the subject of the second clause.

0304.3 欲速则不达。

A fixed saying with 则 = then.

0304.4 True.

That is their difference in position.

0304.5 One possible response: 北方人爱吃面，南方人则爱吃米饭。

Check meaning and form:

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- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- 则 follows the subject: 南方人则 …, not 则南方人 ….
- It is formal; in speech, 而 or 但是 / 可是 are 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.

4 Nouns

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.

4.1 ■ 本 + Noun (this / our / one's own)

4.1.1 This shop, our school

- A notice at a shop door announces new opening hours.
- **本店营业时间为早上九点到晚上十点。** – "This shop's opening hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m."

4.1.2 本 + noun = this / our (formal)

- **本** refers to the speaker's own place or organisation in formal notices: 本店 (this shop), 本校 (this school), 本公司 (our company).
- With time words it means "this, the current": 本周 (this week), 本月, 本次.

本周五停电。
běn zhōu wǔ tíng diàn
Word guide: 本周 – this week; 五 – Friday; 停电 – power cut.



4.1.3 One's own

- **本人** = I myself, the person concerned: 需要本人签字 – "Requires the signature of the person themselves."
- **本地** = local: 本地人, 本地菜.

需要本人签字。
xū yào běn rén qiān zì
Word guide: 需要 – requires; 本人 – the person themself; 签字 – to sign.

4.1.4 Formal register

- 本店 / 本校 belong to notices and announcements; in conversation, say 我们店 / 我们学校.
- 本 + noun needs no 的 or measure word: 本公司, not 本个公司.

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4.1.5 本 the measure word

- 本 is also the measure word for books: 一本书.
- Before an organisation or time word, it means "this / our".

我买了一本书。
wǒ mǎi le yì běn shū
Word guide: 我 – I; 买 – bought; 一本 – a; 书 – book.

4.1.6 Recap

- **本 + noun** = this / our / one's own (formal): 本店, 本校, 本周, 本人, 本地.
- Speech prefers 我们 …; 本 is also the book measure word.

Practise this pattern step by step.

4.2 ■ Word + 性 (-ness / -ity)

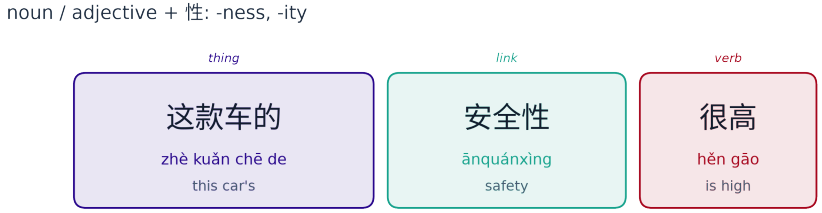
4.2.1 How safe is it?

- A report compares two electric cars on several qualities.
- **这款车的安全性很高。** – "This car's safety is very high."

4.2.2 Word + 性 = -ness, -ity

- **性** turns a word into an abstract quality noun: 安全 → 安全性 (safety), 重要 → 重要性 (importance), 可能 → 可能性 (possibility).
- It is common in formal writing, reports and science.

这件事的重要性。
zhè jiàn shì de zhòng yào xìng
Word guide: 这件事 – this matter's; 重要性 – importance.



4.2.3 Describing and comparing qualities

- **下雨的可能性很大。** – "The chance of rain is high."
- **这个工作的灵活性比较强。** – "This job is fairly flexible."

下雨的可能性很大。
xià yǔ de kě néng xìng hěn dà

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Word guide: 下雨 – rain; 可能性 – possibility; 很 – very; 大 – big.

4.2.4 A noun, not an adjective

- Word + 性 is a noun: describe it with 高 / 大 / 强: 安全性很高, not 很安全性.
- Not every word takes 性; learn the common ones: 积极性, 重要性, 必要性, 可能性.

4.2.5 性 versus 度

- 度 also forms quality nouns, often measurable: 速度 (speed), 难度 (difficulty), 温度 (temperature).
- 性 is for abstract properties: 安全性, 必要性.

这道题的难度很大。
zhè dào tí de nán dù hěn dà
Word guide: 这 – this; 道 – (measure word); 题 – question; 难度 – difficulty; 很 – very; 大 – high.

4.2.6 Recap

- **Word + 性** = an abstract quality noun (安全性, 重要性, 可能性); describe it with 高 / 大 / 强.
- 度 forms measurable qualities (速度, 难度).

Practise this pattern step by step.

4.3 ■ Practice without the models

4.3.1 本 + Noun (this / our / one's own)

0401.1 Complete the notice: "This shop is closed on Mondays." …… 店周一休息。

0401.2 Which suits casual conversation?

- A. 我们学校的老师很好。
- B. 本个学校的老师很好。
- C. 本校的老师很好。
- D. 本的学校老师很好。

0401.3 Match each word to its meaning.

- 1. 本周
- 1. 本人
- 1. 本地
- 1. 本公司
- A. this week
- B. local
- C. our company
- D. the person themself

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0401.4 In 一本书, 本 means "this".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0401.5 A notice at a shop door announces new opening hours. 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.

4.3.2 Word + 性 (-ness / -ity)

0402.1 Complete: "the importance of this matter" 这件事的重要 ……

0402.2 Which is correct?

- A. 这款车很安全性。
- B. 这款车的安全性很高。
- C. 这款车安全性的很。
- D. 这款车的安全很性。

0402.3 Match each word to its meaning.

- 1. 可能性
- 1. 必要性
- 1. 难度
- 1. 速度
- A. speed
- B. difficulty
- C. possibility
- D. necessity

0402.4 下雨的可能性很大 means "rain is very likely".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0402.5 A report compares two electric cars on several qualities. 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.

4.4 ■ Answers and explanations

4.4.1 本 + Noun (this / our / one's own)

0401.1 本

本店 = this shop (formal).

0401.2 A. 我们学校的老师很好。

In speech, 我们学校 is natural.

0401.3 1–A: 本周 = this week; 2–D: 本人 = the person themself; 3–B: 本地 = local; 4–C: 本公司 = our company

本 + noun = this / our / one's own.

0401.4 False.

Here it is the measure word for books.

0401.5 One possible response: 本店营业时间为早上九点到晚上十点。

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.
- 本店 / 本校 belong to notices and announcements; in conversation, say 我们店 / 我们学校.
- 本 + noun needs no 的 or measure word: 本公司, not 本个公司.
- 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.

4.4.2 Word + 性 (-ness / -ity)

0402.1 性

重要 + 性 = importance.

0402.2 B. 这款车的安全性很高。

Word + 性 is a noun, described with 高.

0402.3 1–C: 可能性 = possibility; 2–D: 必要性 = necessity; 3–B: 难度 = difficulty; 4–A: 速度 = speed

性 forms abstract properties; 度 measurable ones.

0402.4 True.

可能性很大 = high probability.

0402.5 One possible response: 这款车的安全性很高。

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.

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- Word + 性 is a noun: describe it with 高 / 大 / 强: 安全性很高, not 很安全性.
- Not every word takes 性; learn the common ones: 积极性, 重要性, 必要性, 可能性.
- 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.

5 Particles

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.

5.1 ■ 是否 (whether or not)

5.1.1 An application form

- The form asks a yes-or-no question about your previous applications.
- **请说明您是否申请过本项目。** – "Please state whether you have applied for this programme before."

5.1.2 是否 + verb = whether or not

- **是否** = "whether (or not)", the formal form of 是不是: 是否同意, 是否参加, 是否需要.
- It goes before the verb or adjective.

请告诉我们您是否参加。
qǐng gào su wǒ men nín shì fǒu cān jiā
Word guide: 请 – please; 告诉 – tell; 我们 – us; 您 – you; 是否 – whether; 参加 – will attend.

是否: whether (formal 是不是)



5.1.3 Questions and embedded questions

- Direct: **您是否同意这个方案?** – "Do you agree with this proposal?"
- Embedded: **我不知道他是否会来。** – "I don't know whether he'll come."

我不知道他是否会来。
wǒ bù zhī dào tā shì fǒu huì lái
Word guide: 我 – I; 不 – don't; 知道 – know; 他 – he; 是否 – whether; 会 – will; 来 – come.

5.1.4 No 吗, no second negative

- 是否 already makes it a question: 您是否同意? , not 您是否同意吗?
- Do not add 不 after it: 是否同意, not 是否不同意 (unless you really mean "whether you disagree").

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5.1.5 是否 versus 是不是 and 能否

- 是不是 is the spoken form: 你是不是累了?
- 能否 = whether (one) can, also formal: 能否按时完成还不确定.

能否按时完成还不确定。
néng fǒu àn shí wán chéng hái bú què dìng
Word guide: 能否 – whether we can; 按时 – on time; 完成 – finish; 还 – still; 不 – not; 确定 – certain.

5.1.6 Recap

- **是否 + verb** = whether (or not) (formal 是不是); no 吗 with it.
- 能否 = whether one can.

Practise this pattern step by step.

5.2 ■ ... 与否 (whether ... or not)

5.2.1 Success depends on it

- A coach explains what really decides a match.
- **比赛成功与否,取决于平时的训练。** – "Whether the match succeeds or not depends on everyday training."

5.2.2 Verb / Adj + 与否 = whether ... or not

- **X 与否** = whether X or not, placed after the word: 成功与否, 同意与否, 合适与否.
- It is formal and usually works as a topic or object.

同意与否，请尽快回复。
tóng yì yǔ fǒu qǐng jǐn kuài huí fù
Word guide: 同意 – agree; 与否 – or not; 请 – please; 尽快 – soon; 回复 – reply.

A 与否: whether or not A



5.2.3 With 取决于, 关系到, 不管

- **方法正确与否，关系到结果。** – "Whether the method is correct affects the result."
- **不管你喜欢与否，都要完成。** – "Whether you like it or not, you have to finish."

不管你喜欢与否，都要完成。
bù guǎn nǐ xǐ huan yǔ fǒu dōu yào wán chéng

Word guide: 不管 – regardless of; 你 – you; 喜欢 – like it; 与否 – or not; 都 – still; 要 – must; 完成 – finish.

5.2.4 Placement and formal style

- 与否 follows the predicate or issue being considered. Two-syllable examples are common, but syllable count alone does not decide whether the phrase is grammatical.
- In speech, use A-not-A: 成不成功 / 喜不喜欢.

5.2.5 与否 versus 是否

- 是否 goes before the verb: 是否成功.
- 与否 goes after it: 成功与否. Both mean "whether or not"; 与否 often makes a noun-like topic.

是否成功还不知道。
shì fǒu chéng gōng hái bù zhī dào
Word guide: 是否 – whether; 成功 – succeed; 还 – still; 不 – not; 知道 – known.

5.2.6 Recap

- **X 与否** = whether X or not, following the predicate or issue; common in formal topics.
- 是否 goes before the verb; speech uses A-not-A.

Practise this pattern step by step.

5.3 ■ Noun + 之 + Noun (a literary 的)

5.3.1 A literary title

- You see a museum banner introducing a famous city.
- **西安是中国的古都之一，有“世界四大古都之一”之称。** – "Xi'an is one of China's ancient capitals and is called one of the world's four great ancient capitals."

5.3.2 Noun + 之 + Noun = a literary 的

- **之** links a modifier to a noun in formal or classical style: 中国之最 (China's greatest), 成功之路 (the road to success).
- It appears in fixed phrases and titles more than in everyday speech.

成功之路。
chéng gōng zhī lù
Word guide: 成功 – success; 之 – of; 路 – the road.

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... 之一: one of (a literary title)



5.3.3 Fixed phrases you'll meet

- **之一** = one of; **之间** = between; **之前 / 之后** = before / after; **之所以** = the reason why.
- **原因之一** – "one of the reasons"; **朋友之间** – "between friends".

朋友之间要互相帮助。
péng you zhī jiān yào hù xiāng bāng zhù
Word guide: 朋友 – friends; 之间 – between; 要 – should; 互相 – each other; 帮助 – help.

5.3.4 Written style

- Do not replace every 的 with 之 in speech; 我之书 sounds archaic. Say 我的书.
- 之 often sits between two-syllable words or in four-character set phrases: 一年之计在于春.

5.3.5 之 versus 的

- 的 is the everyday link: 中国的首都.
- 之 is the literary one, kept in titles and set phrases: 中国之窗 – "Window on China".

一年之计在于春。
yì nián zhī jì zài yú chūn
Word guide: 一年 – the year's; 之 – of; 计 – plan; 在于 – lies in; 春 – spring.

5.3.6 Recap

- **Noun + 之 + Noun** = literary 的, in titles and set phrases.
- Fixed: 之一, 之间, 之前, 之后; everyday speech uses 的.

Practise this pattern step by step.

5.4 ■ Statement + 嘛 (self-evident)

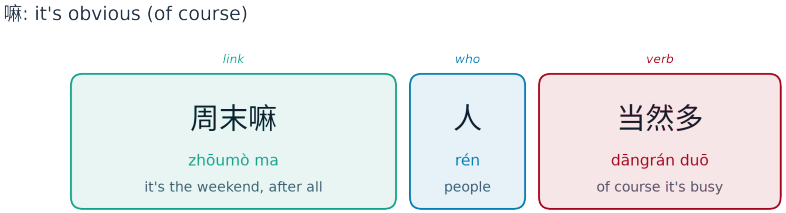
5.4.1 Of course it's crowded

- Your friend complains about the crowds at the shopping mall on a Saturday.
- **周末嘛，人当然多。** – "Well, it's the weekend – of course it's crowded."

5.4.2 Statement + 嘛 = it's obvious

- **嘛** at the end of a statement presents it as obvious, a reason the listener should accept.
- It can also follow a topic before the comment: 周末嘛，….

他是新来的嘛，不熟悉很正常。
tā shì xīn lái de ma bù shú xī hěn zhèng cháng
Word guide: 他 – he; 是 – is; 新 – new; 来 – arrived; 嘛 – (after all); 不 – not; 熟悉 – familiar; 很 – very; 正常 – normal.



5.4.3 Explaining and gentle urging

- Explaining: **手工做的嘛，贵一点儿很正常。** – "It's handmade, after all – of course it's a bit pricey."
- Urging: **快点儿嘛！** – "Come on, hurry up!" (softly insistent)

手工做的嘛，贵一点儿很正常。
shǒu gōng zuò de ma guì yì diǎnr hěn zhèng cháng
Word guide: 手工 – by hand; 做 – made; 嘛 – (after all); 贵 – expensive; 一点儿 – a bit; 很 – very; 正常 – normal.

5.4.4 嘛 is not 吗

- 吗 asks a yes/no question; 嘛 states something obvious. 你知道吗? asks; 你知道嘛 means "you know that, obviously".
- 嘛 is casual; leave it out of formal writing.

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5.4.5 嘛 versus 吧 and 呗

- 吧 suggests or guesses: 走吧 / 他是老师吧?
- 呗 shrugs: "that's all there is to it": 不会就学呗.

不会就学呗。
bú huì jiù xué bei
Word guide: 不 – don't; 会 – know how; 就 – then; 学 – learn; 呗 – (simple).

5.4.6 Recap

- **Statement + 嘛** = it's obvious, after all; also gentle urging (快点儿嘛).
- Not a question (吗); casual only.

Practise this pattern step by step.

5.5 ■ Sentence + 呗 (a casual shrug)

5.5.1 Simple as that

- Your friend worries she doesn't know how to cook the dish for the party.
- **不会就学呗，又不难。** – "If you don't know how, just learn – it's not hard."

5.5.2 Sentence + 呗 = obviously, that's all

- **呗** (bei) ends a sentence with a shrug: the answer is simple, no big deal.
- Common with 就: 不想去就别去呗.

不想去就别去呗。
bù xiǎng qù jiù bié qù bei
Word guide: 不 – don't; 想 – want to; 去 – go; 就 – then; 别 – don't; 去 – go; 呗 – (simple).



5.5.3 Casual answers

- A: 我们去哪儿吃? B: **随便呗。** – "Wherever, doesn't matter."
- **他不来就算了呗。** – "If he's not coming, so be it."

随便呗。
suí biàn bei

Word guide: 随便 – whatever; 呗 – (no big deal).

5.5.4 Very casual, can sound dismissive

- 呗 can sound careless or impatient; avoid it with teachers or in formal situations.
- It is a statement, never a question: no question mark.

5.5.5 呗 versus 嘛 and 吧

- 嘛 = it's obvious (explaining): 周末嘛，人多.
- 呗 = no big deal (shrugging): 人多就人多呗. 吧 = suggestion: 走吧.

人多就人多呗。
rén duō jiù rén duō bei
Word guide: 人 – people; 多 – many; 就 – (so be it); 人 – people; 多 – many; 呗 – (whatever).

5.5.6 Recap

- **Sentence + 呗** = no big deal, that's all there is to it (casual shrug).
- Often with 就; can sound dismissive; 嘛 explains, 吧 suggests.

Practise this pattern step by step.

5.6 ■ Practice without the models

5.6.1 是否 (whether or not)

0501.1 Complete (form): "Please state whether you need a receipt." 请说明您 …… 需要发票。

0501.2 Which is correct?

- A. 您同意是否?
- B. 是否您同意吗?
- C. 您是否同意?
- D. 您是否同意吗?

0501.3 Build: "I don't know whether he'll come."

Arrange all chunks: 会来。/ 我不知道 / 他 / 是否

0501.4 是不是 is the spoken equivalent of 是否.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0501.5 The form asks a yes-or-no question about your previous applications. 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.

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5.6.2 ... 与否 (whether ... or not)

0502.1 Complete: "Whether it succeeds or not depends on training." 成功 ……，取决于训练。

0502.2 Which word order is correct for 是否?

- A. 成功是否与
- B. 是否成功与否
- C. 成功是否
- D. 是否成功

0502.3 Build: "Whether you like it or not, you must finish."

Arrange all chunks: ， / 都要 / 不管你喜欢与否 / 完成。

0502.4 In speech, 喜不喜欢 is more natural than 喜欢与否.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0502.5 A coach explains what really decides a match. 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.

5.6.3 Noun + 之 + Noun (a literary 的)

0503.1 Complete: "one of the reasons" 原因 …… 一

0503.2 Which sounds most natural in conversation?

- A. 这是我之书。
- B. 这是之我书。
- C. 这是书之我。
- D. 这是我的书。

0503.3 Match each phrase to its meaning.

- 1. 之间
- 1. 之前
- 1. 之后
- 1. 之一
- A. one of
- B. before
- C. after
- D. between

0503.4 之 is common in titles and set phrases.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0503.5 You see a museum banner introducing a famous city. 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.

5.6.4 Statement + 嘛 (self-evident)

0504.1 Complete: "It's handmade, after all – of course it's pricey." 手工做的 ……, 贵一点儿很正常。

0504.2 Which is a yes/no question?

- A. 你知道嘛。
- B. 你知道呗。
- C. 你知道吗?
- D. 周末嘛。

0504.3 Build: "It's the weekend – of course it's crowded."

Arrange all chunks: 周末嘛 / 当然多。/ , / 人

0504.4 快点儿嘛! is a soft, insistent urging.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0504.5 Your friend complains about the crowds at the shopping mall on a Saturday. 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.

5.6.5 Sentence + 呗 (a casual shrug)

0505.1 Shrug: "If you don't want to go, just don't." 不想去就别去 ……。

0505.2 In which situation is 呗 least appropriate?

- A. Chatting with a close friend
- B. Replying to a classmate's text
- C. Answering a question from your teacher in class
- D. Joking with a sibling

0505.3 Build: "If he's not coming, so be it."

Arrange all chunks: 呗。/ 就算了 / 他不来

0505.4 呗 can end a question.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0505.5 Your friend worries she doesn't know how to cook the dish for the party. 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.

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5.7 ■ Answers and explanations

5.7.1 是否 (whether or not)

0501.1 是否

是否 + verb.

0501.2 C. 您是否同意?

是否 already makes the question; no 吗.

0501.3 我不知道他是否会来。

Embedded question with 是否.

0501.4 True.

True. 是否 ("whether") is formal and written: 是否参加. In speech the same meaning is expressed by the affirmative-negative form 是不是 (or 参加不参加).

0501.5 One possible response: 请说明您是否申请过本项目。

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.
- 是否 already makes it a question: 您是否同意? , not 您是否同意吗?
- Do not add 不 after it: 是否同意, not 是否不同意 (unless you really mean "whether you disagree").
- 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.

5.7.2 ... 与否 (whether ... or not)

0502.1 与否

X 与否 = whether X or not.

0502.2 D. 是否成功

是否 goes before the verb; 与否 goes after.

0502.3 不管你喜欢与否，都要完成。

不管 X 与否，都 ….

0502.4 True.

True. 与否 ("or not") is formal and written (成功与否). In speech you use the affirmative-negative question: 你喜不喜欢?

0502.5 One possible response: 比赛成功与否，取决于平时的训练。

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.

- 与否 follows the predicate or issue being considered. Two-syllable examples are common, but syllable count alone does not decide whether the phrase is grammatical.
- In speech, use A-not-A: 成不成功 / 喜不喜欢.
- 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.

5.7.3 Noun + 之 + Noun (a literary 的)

0503.1 之

之一 = one of.

0503.2 D. 这是我的书。

之 is the classical, written equivalent of 的. In conversation you say 这是我的书; 之 survives mainly in titles and set phrases.

0503.3 1–D: 之间 = between; 2–B: 之前 = before; 3–C: 之后 = after; 4–A: 之一 = one of

Fixed phrases with literary 之.

0503.4 True.

True. 之 appears in titles, slogans and fixed expressions: 成功之路, 一年之计在于春. In ordinary sentences 的 is used.

0503.5 One possible response: 西安是中国的古都之一，有“ 世界四大古都之一 ”之称。

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 replace every 的 with 之 in speech; 我之书 sounds archaic. Say 我的书.
- 之 often sits between two-syllable words or in four-character set phrases: 一年之计在于春.
- 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.

5.7.4 Statement + 嘛 (self-evident)

0504.1 嘛

嘛 presents the reason as obvious.

0504.2 C. 你知道吗?

吗 asks; 嘛 states the obvious.

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0504.3 周末嘛，人当然多。

Topic + 嘛, then the comment.

0504.4 True.

True. After a request, 嘛 makes it softer and slightly coaxing while still insistent: 快点儿嘛！“Come on, hurry up!”

0504.5 One possible response: 周末嘛，人当然多。

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.
- 吗 asks a yes/no question; 嘛 states something obvious. 你知道吗? asks; 你知道嘛 means “you know that, obviously”.
- 嘛 is casual; leave it out of formal writing.
- 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.

5.7.5 Sentence + 呗 (a casual shrug)

0505.1 呗

呗 = no big deal.

0505.2 C. Answering a question from your teacher in class

呗 can sound careless with superiors.

0505.3 他不来就算了呗。

Sentence + 呗.

0505.4 False.

False. 呗 ends a statement, often a suggestion or an “obviously” remark: 不会就学呗 “If you can’t, just learn it.” It is not a question particle.

0505.5 One possible response: 不会就学呗，又不难。

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.
- 呗 can sound careless or impatient; avoid it with teachers or in formal situations.
- It is a statement, never a question: no question mark.
- 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.

6 Prepositions

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.

6.1 ■ 鉴于 (in light of / given)

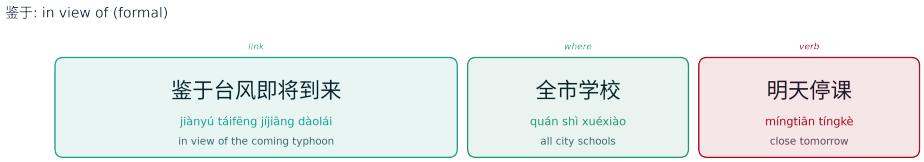
6.1.1 Given the storm warning

- The city government announces closures as a typhoon approaches.
- **鉴于台风即将到来，全市学校明天停课。** – "In view of the approaching typhoon, all schools in the city will close tomorrow."

6.1.2 鉴于 + situation，decision

- **鉴于** = "in view of, given, considering": it states the situation behind a decision.
- It opens the sentence; the second clause states what will be done.

鉴于天气原因，比赛推迟。
jiàn yú tiān qì yuán yīn bǐ sài tuī chí
Word guide: 鉴于 – in view of; 天气 – the weather; 原因 – reasons; 比赛 – the match; 推迟 – is postponed.



6.1.3 Official decisions

- **鉴于他的表现，公司决定给他升职。** – "In view of his performance, the company decided to promote him."
- Common in notices, reports and formal letters.

鉴于他的表现，公司决定给他升职。
jiàn yú tā de biǎo xiàn gōng sī jué dìng gěi tā shēng zhí
Word guide: 鉴于 – in view of; 他 – his; 表现 – performance; 公司 – the company; 决定 – decided; 给 – to; 他 – him; 升职 – promote.

6.1.4 Formal and forward-looking

- 鉴于 introduces the basis for a decision or measure; it is not for casual causes (use 因为).
- A 鉴于 phrase often comes first to state the basis. Its position can vary; check that the main decision remains a complete clause.

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6.1.5 鉴于 versus 由于 and 因为

- 由于 / 因为 explain why something happened: 由于下雨，比赛取消了.
- 鉴于 explains why a decision is being made: 鉴于天气，我们决定推迟.

由于下雨，比赛取消了。
yóu yú xià yǔ bǐ sài qǔ xiāo le
Word guide: 由于 – due to; 下雨 – rain; 比赛 – the match; 取消 – was cancelled.

6.1.6 Recap

- **鉴于 + situation，decision** = in view of / given … (formal, official).
- 由于 / 因为 explain causes of events; 鉴于 justifies decisions.

Practise this pattern step by step.

6.2 ■ Practice without the models

6.2.1 鉴于 (in light of / given)

0601.1 Complete (notice): "In view of the weather, the match is postponed." ……
天气原因，比赛推迟。

0601.2 Which suits a casual explanation to a friend?

- A. 我饿了鉴于。
- B. 因为我饿了，我们去吃饭吧。
- C. 鉴于饿，吃饭。
- D. 鉴于我饿了，我们去吃饭吧。

0601.3 Build: "In view of his performance, the company promoted him."

Arrange all chunks: 鉴于他的表现 / 公司决定 / 给他升职。/ ，

0601.4 鉴于 typically justifies a decision.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0601.5 The city government announces closures as a typhoon approaches. 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.

6.3 ■ Answers and explanations

6.3.1 鉴于 (in light of / given)

0601.1 鉴于

鉴于 + situation, decision.

0601.2 B. 因为我饿了，我们去吃饭吧。

鉴于 ("in view of") is formal and used in official writing. When explaining something casually to a friend, 因为 is the natural choice.

0601.3 鉴于他的表现，公司决定给他升职。

鉴于 + basis, then the decision.

0601.4 True.

It states the basis for what will be done.

0601.5 One possible response: 鉴于台风即将到来，全市学校明天停课。

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.
- 鉴于 introduces the basis for a decision or measure; it is not for casual causes (use 因为).
- A 鉴于 phrase often comes first to state the basis. Its position can vary; check that the main decision remains a complete clause.
- 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.

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7 Sentence patterns

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.

7.1 ■ 岂不是 (wouldn't that be …?)

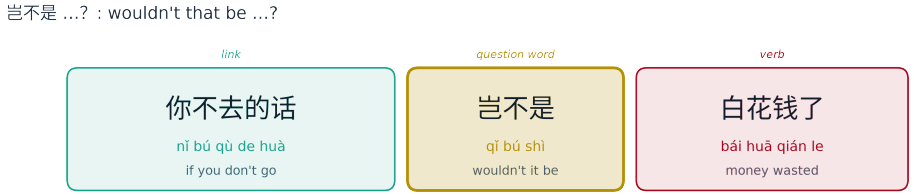
7.1.1 An unused gym card

- Your friend bought a gym membership but never goes.
- **你不去的话，岂不是白花钱了？** – "If you don't go, wouldn't that be money wasted?"

7.1.2 岂不是 + conclusion? = wouldn't that be …?

- **岂不是** asks a rhetorical question: the conclusion is obvious, so it means "that would be …, wouldn't it?".
- It usually follows a condition: 如果 …，岂不是 …?

这样岂不是更麻烦?
zhè yàng qǐ bú shì gèng má fan
Word guide: 这样 – this way; 岂不是 – wouldn't it be; 更 – even more; 麻烦 – troublesome.



7.1.3 Pointing out a consequence

- **现在去的话，岂不是要迟到？** – "If we go now, won't we be late?"
- **你这么说，岂不是承认自己错了？** – "Saying that, aren't you admitting you were wrong?"

你这么说，岂不是承认自己错了?
nǐ zhè me shuō qǐ bú shì chéng rèn zì jǐ cuò le
Word guide: 你 – you; 这么 – like this; 说 – say; 岂不是 – aren't you; 承认 – admitting; 自己 – yourself; 错 – wrong.

7.1.4 Rhetorical only

- 岂不是 does not ask for information; the speaker is sure of the answer.
- It is a bit literary; in casual speech, 那不就 … 了吗? is common: 那不就白花钱了吗?

7.1.5 岂不是 versus 难道

- 难道 … 吗? challenges a belief: 难道你不知道吗?
- 岂不是 draws out a consequence: 那岂不是白跑一趟? – "Wouldn't that be a wasted trip?"

那不就白花钱了吗?
nà bú jiù bái huā qián le ma
Word guide: 那 – then; 不 – not; 就 – just; 白 – in vain; 花钱 – spent money.

7.1.6 Recap

- **(Condition,) 岂不是 + consequence?** = wouldn't that be …? (rhetorical).
- Spoken 那不就 … 了吗; 难道 challenges a belief.

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.2 ■ 非 (要) … 不可 (simply must / insist on)

7.2.1 He simply must go

- Your little brother wants to go to the amusement park in the rain and won't take no for an answer.
- **下这么大的雨，他非要去不可。** – "It's pouring, and he simply insists on going."

7.2.2 非 (要) + verb + 不可 = must, insist on

- **非 … 不可** is a double negative: "not doing it is not allowed" → must, absolutely have to.
- With 要, it often shows insistence: 他非要去不可.

这件事非他去不可。
zhè jiàn shì fēi tā qù bù kě
Word guide: 这件事 – this matter; 非 – (must); 他 – he; 去 – go; 不可 – (must).

非 … 不可: absolutely must



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7.2.3 Necessity and stubbornness

- Necessity: **这个问题非解决不可。** – "This problem absolutely must be solved."
- Stubbornness: **我说不用，她非要请客不可。** – "I said there was no need, but she insisted on paying."

这个问题非解决不可。
zhè ge wèn tí fēi jiě jué bù kě
Word guide: 这个 – this; 问题 – problem; 非 – (must); 解决 – be solved; 不可 – (must).

7.2.4 Keep both parts

- In careful style, keep 不可 (or 不行 / 不成) at the end: 非去不可. In speech 不可 is sometimes dropped: 他非要去.
- 非 + verb, then 不可: not 非不可去.

7.2.5 非 … 不可 versus 必须 and 一定要

- 必须 / 一定要 = must (plain).
- 非 … 不可 is more emphatic, often with a sense of insistence or "no other way".

你必须按时完成。
nǐ bì xū àn shí wán chéng
Word guide: 你 – you; 必须 – must; 按时 – on time; 完成 – finish.

7.2.6 Recap

- **非 (要) + verb + 不可** = absolutely must / insist on (emphatic double negative).
- Plainer: 必须 / 一定要.

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.3 ■ 兼 (doubling as / concurrently)

7.3.1 Two jobs in one

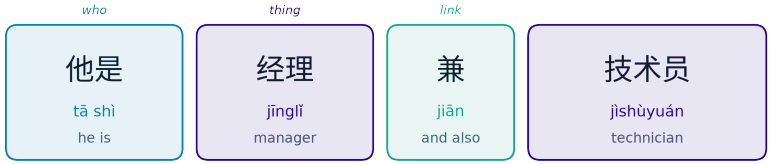
- In a small start-up, one person often has several roles.
- **他是我们公司的经理兼技术员。** – "He's our company's manager and also its technician."

7.3.2 A 兼 B = A and concurrently B

- **兼** joins two roles or functions held by the same person or thing at the same time: 老师兼翻译, 客厅兼餐厅.
- It is formal and compact.

这间屋子是客厅兼书房。
zhè jiān wū zi shì kè tīng jiān shū fáng
Word guide: 这 – this; 间 – (measure word); 屋子 – room; 是 – is; 客厅 – a living room; 兼 – and also; 书房 – a study.

A 兼 B: also serving as



7.3.3 As a verb: hold concurrently

- **他兼了两份工作。** – "He holds two jobs at the same time."
- **兼职** = part-time job: 她在咖啡馆做兼职.

她在咖啡馆做兼职。
tā zài kā fēi guǎn zuò jiān zhí
Word guide: 她 – she; 在 – at; 咖啡馆 – a café; 做 – does; 兼职 – a part-time job.

7.3.4 Same person, same time

- 兼 is for roles held at the same time by one person or thing; two different people take 和.
- It joins nouns of roles or functions: 经理兼技术员, not 很好兼很便宜 (use 又 … 又 …).

7.3.5 兼 versus 又 … 又 … and 既 … 又 …

- 又便宜又好 / 既 … 又 … join qualities.
- 兼 joins roles: 司机兼导游 – "driver and guide in one".

司机兼导游。
sī jī jiān dǎo yóu
Word guide: 司机 – driver; 兼 – and also; 导游 – tour guide.

7.3.6 Recap

- **A 兼 B** = A and concurrently B (two roles of one person or thing); 兼职 = part-time job.
- Qualities take 又 … 又 … / 既 … 又 …; different people take 和.

Practise this pattern step by step.

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7.4 ■ 莫非 (could it be that …?)

7.4.1 A dark office at nine

- The office is dark at nine in the morning and nobody is answering the phone.
- **莫非今天放假?** – "Could it be that today is a holiday?"

7.4.2 莫非 + guess? = could it be that …?

- **莫非** introduces a surprised guess, often as a question: "Can it be that …?"
- It is literary; the speaker suspects but isn't sure.

莫非他生病了?
mò fēi tā shēng bìng le
Word guide: 莫非 – could it be; 他 – he; 生病 – is ill.

莫非 …? : could it be that …?



7.4.3 Surprise and suspicion

- **他一直不接电话，莫非出了什么事?** – "He hasn't answered all day – could something have happened?"
- Often with 不成 at the end: 莫非你忘了不成? – "Don't tell me you've forgotten?"

他一直不接电话，莫非出了什么事?
tā yì zhí bù jiē diàn huà mò fēi chū le shén me shì
Word guide: 他 – he; 一直 – all along; 不 – not; 接 – answer; 电话 – the phone; 莫非 – could it be; 出 – happened; 什么 – something; 事 – matter.

7.4.4 A guess, not a statement

- 莫非 marks an uncertain guess; it does not state a fact.
- It is literary; in speech, 难道 or 是不是 is more common: 是不是今天放假?

7.4.5 莫非 versus 难道

- 难道 often challenges (the speaker thinks the answer is "no"): 难道你不知道吗?
- 莫非 is closer to a suspicious guess (the speaker thinks it might be "yes").

是不是今天放假?
shì bu shì jīn tiān fàng jià

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Word guide: 是不是 – could it be; 今天 – today; 放假 – is a holiday.

7.4.6 Recap

- **莫非 + guess (不成)?** = could it be that …? (literary suspicion).
- Spoken 是不是 …? ; 难道 challenges.

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.5 ■ 由此 (from this / hence)

7.5.1 What the data shows

- A researcher presents a survey on how much students sleep.
- **大多数学生每天睡不到七个小时，由此可见，学习压力很大。** – "Most students sleep less than seven hours a day; from this we can see that study pressure is high."

7.5.2 由此 + verb = from this, hence

- **由此** = "from this": it draws a conclusion or consequence from what was just said.
- Common fixed forms: 由此可见 (it can be seen from this), 由此看来 (judging from this), 由此产生 (arise from this).

由此可见，他很努力。
yóu cǐ kě jiàn tā hěn nǔ lì
Word guide: 由此 – from this; 可见 – it can be seen; 他 – he; 很 – very; 努力 – hard-working.



7.5.3 Consequences that follow

- **工厂关闭了，由此产生了很多失业问题。** – "The factory closed, and many unemployment problems arose from this."
- It links a fact to its result in argument or analysis.

由此产生了很多问题。
yóu cǐ chǎn shēng le hěn duō wèn tí

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Word guide: 由此 – from this; 产生 – arose; 很多 – many; 问题 – problems.

7.5.4 After the evidence

- 由此 needs the evidence or event first; it cannot start a text.
- It is written and analytical; in speech, 所以 / 看来 do the job.

7.5.5 由此 versus 因此

- 因此 = therefore (a logical result): 他病了，因此没来.
- 由此 often precedes a verb of seeing or arising: 由此可见, 由此产生.

他病了，因此没来。
tā bìng le yīn cǐ méi lái
Word guide: 他 – he; 病 – was ill; 因此 – therefore; 没 – didn't; 来 – come.

7.5.6 Recap

- **由此 + verb** = from this (由此可见, 由此看来, 由此产生).
- After the evidence; written style; 因此 = therefore.

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.6 ■ 莫过于 (nothing is more … than)

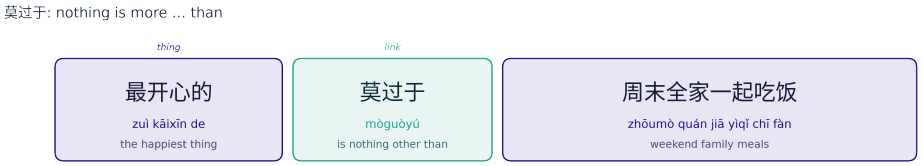
7.6.1 Nothing better

- Asked about the happiest moment of the week, your grandmother smiles.
- **最开心的莫过于周末全家一起吃饭。** – "Nothing makes me happier than the whole family eating together at the weekend."

7.6.2 … 莫过于 + X = nothing is more … than X

- **(最) Adj 的莫过于 X** = the most Adj thing is X; nothing beats X.
- It singles out the top example in a formal, emphatic way.

最重要的莫过于健康。
zuì zhòng yào de mò guò yú jiàn kāng
Word guide: 最 – most; 重要 – important; 的 – (thing); 莫过于 – nothing beats; 健康 – health.



7.6.3 Superlatives in essays

- **人生最大的幸福莫过于做自己喜欢的事。** – "The greatest happiness in life is doing what you love."
- **学习语言最好的方法莫过于多说多练。** – "The best way to learn a language is to speak and practise a lot."

最好的方法莫过于多练习。
zuì hǎo de fāng fǎ mò guò yú duō liàn xí
Word guide: 最好 – the best; 方法 – method; 莫过于 – nothing beats; 多 – plenty of; 练习 – practice.

7.6.4 The top example follows

- X after 莫过于 is the single best example; do not put a list there.
- It is formal; in speech say 最 … 的是 ….

7.6.5 莫过于 versus 最 … 的是

- 最重要的是健康 – plain statement.
- 最重要的莫过于健康 – stronger: nothing is more important.

最重要的是健康。
zuì zhòng yào de shì jiàn kāng
Word guide: 最 – most; 重要 – important; 的 – (thing); 是 – is; 健康 – health.

7.6.6 Recap

- **(最) Adj 的莫过于 X** = nothing is more … than X (formal, emphatic).
- Spoken: 最 … 的是 ….

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.7 ■ 与其 A，宁可 / 宁愿 B (rather than … would rather)

7.7.1 Better to walk

- The traffic is completely stuck, and your office is only two kilometres away.
- **与其在车里等，我宁可走路去。** – "Rather than wait in the car, I'd rather walk."

7.7.2 与其 A，宁可 / 宁愿 B

- **与其 A，宁可 B** = rather than A, (I) would rather B: the speaker rejects A and chooses B firmly.
- 与其 introduces the rejected option; 宁可 / 宁愿 the chosen one.

与其在家等，我宁愿出去找。
yǔ qí zài jiā děng wǒ nìng yuàn chū qu zhǎo
Word guide: 与其 – rather than; 在家 – at home; 等 – wait; 我 – I; 宁愿 – would rather; 出去 – go out; 找 – look.

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7.7.3 Two versions

- **与其 … 不如 …** = rather than A, better B (recommending): 与其抱怨，不如想办法.
- **与其 … 宁可 …** = rather than A, I'd rather B (personal choice, often with sacrifice).

与其抱怨，不如想办法。
yǔ qí bào yuàn bù rú xiǎng bàn fǎ
Word guide: 与其 – rather than; 抱怨 – complaining; 不如 – better to; 想 – think of; 办法 – a solution.

7.7.4 Which option is chosen?

- The option after 与其 is the one rejected; the one after 宁可 / 不如 is chosen.
- 宁 in 宁可 / 宁愿 is read nìng.

7.7.5 Versus 宁可 … 也不 …

- 宁可 A，也不 B = I'd rather A than B (the rejected option second).
- 与其 B，宁可 A = the same choice with the rejected option first.

我宁可走路，也不坐这车。
wǒ nìng kě zǒu lù yě bú zuò zhè chē
Word guide: 我 – I; 宁可 – would rather; 走路 – walk; 也 – (and); 不 – not; 坐 – take; 这 – this; 车 – bus.

7.7.6 Recap

- **与其 A，宁可 / 宁愿 B** = rather than A, I'd rather B; **与其 A，不如 B** = better B.
- The 与其 option is rejected; 宁可 … 也不 … puts it second.

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.8 ■ 跟 … 似的 (just like / as if)

7.8.1 Cold as ice

- You come in from a winter walk and your hands are freezing.
- **我的手冷得跟冰似的。** – "My hands are as cold as ice."

7.8.2 跟 / 像 + X + 似的 = like X, as if

- **跟 X 似的** (shì de) compares something to X vividly: 跟孩子似的, 跟冰似的.
- It can describe a noun, a verb or an adjective: 他高兴得跟孩子似的.

他高兴得跟孩子似的。
tā gāo xìng de gēn hái zi shì de
Word guide: 他 – he; 高兴 – happy; 跟 – like; 孩子 – a child; 似的 – (as if).



7.8.3 As if: imagined situations

- **他说话的样子，好像什么都知道似的。** – "The way he talks, it's as if he knows everything."
- **外面跟下了一场大雪似的，到处都是白的。** – "Outside it's as if there'd been a heavy snowfall – everything is white."

他好像什么都知道似的。
tā hǎo xiàng shén me dōu zhī dào shì de
Word guide: 他 – he; 好像 – as if; 什么 – everything; 都 – all; 知道 – knows; 似的 – (as if).

7.8.4 Read it shì de

- 似的 is read shì de, not sì de.
- It is spoken and vivid; in writing, 像 … 一样 or 仿佛 are common.

7.8.5 跟 … 似的 versus 像 … 一样

- 像 X 一样 = like X (neutral, also written): 像冰一样冷.
- 跟 X 似的 = like X (spoken, lively): 冷得跟冰似的.

她像妈妈一样温柔。

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tā xiàng mā ma yí yàng wēn róu
Word guide: 她 – she; 像 – like; 妈妈 – her mum; 一样 – (the same); 温柔 – gentle.

7.8.6 Recap

- **跟 / 像 / 好像 + X + 似的 (shì de)** = like X, as if (spoken, vivid).
- Neutral / written: 像 … 一样.

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.9 ■ 不愧是 (truly worthy of)

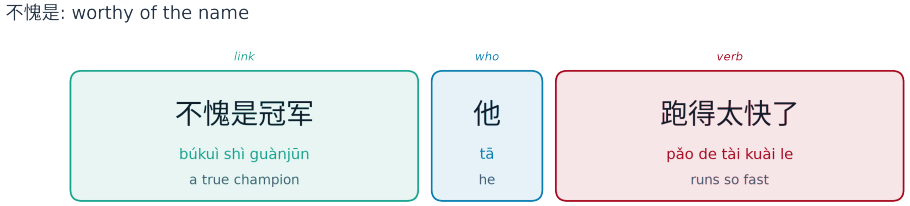
7.9.1 Living up to the name

- The national champion wins again, easily, in front of a huge crowd.
- **不愧是冠军，他跑得太快了！** – "He really lives up to being the champion – he's so fast!"

7.9.2 不愧 (是) + identity = truly worthy of

- **不愧是 X** praises someone for living up to their name, role or reputation.
- It often starts the sentence or follows the subject: 他不愧是老师.

你不愧是大厨，这菜太好吃了。
nǐ bú kuì shì dà chú zhè cài tài hǎo chī le
Word guide: 你 – you; 不愧 – truly; 是 – are; 大厨 – a master chef; 这 – this; 菜 – dish; 太 – so; 好吃 – delicious.



7.9.3 Praise with evidence

- **这本书不愧是畅销书，我一个晚上就看完了。** – "This book really deserves to be a bestseller; I finished it in one night."
- The evidence usually follows or comes before.

这本书不愧是畅销书。
zhè běn shū bú kuì shì chàng xiāo shū
Word guide: 这本书 – this book; 不愧 – truly; 是 – is; 畅销书 – a bestseller.

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7.9.4 Praise only

- 不愧 is positive; for “doesn’t deserve”, say 配不上 or 名不副实.
- Give the reason: 不愧是冠军 alone sounds unfinished without the achievement.

7.9.5 不愧 versus 果然

- 果然 = as expected: 他果然赢了.
- 不愧是 = truly worthy of a title: 他不愧是冠军. The two often appear together.

他果然赢了，不愧是冠军。
tā guǒ rán yíng le bú kuì shì guàn jūn
Word guide: 他 – he; 果然 – as expected; 赢 – won; 不愧 – truly; 是 – is; 冠军 – the champion.

7.9.6 Recap

- **不愧 (是) + identity** = truly worthy of, lives up to (praise with evidence).
- Positive only; 果然 = as expected.

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.10 ■ 由 … 做主 (for … to decide)

7.10.1 Who gets to decide?

- Your parents ask what you want to study at university.
- **这是你的人生，由你自己做主。** – “It’s your life – it’s up to you to decide.”

7.10.2 由 + person + 做主 = for … to decide

- **由 X 做主** = X has the right to decide: 由你做主, 由父母做主.
- **做主** = make the decision, be in charge.

这件事由你做主。
zhè jiàn shì yóu nǐ zuò zhǔ
Word guide: 这件事 – this matter; 由 – by; 你 – you; 做主 – decide.



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7.10.3 Who’s in charge

- **家里的大事都由爷爷做主。** – “All the big family decisions are made by Grandpa.”
- Asking: **这件事谁做主？** – “Who decides about this?”

家里的大事都由爷爷做主。
jiā li de dà shì dōu yóu yé ye zuò zhǔ
Word guide: 家里 – family; 大事 – big matters; 都 – all; 由 – by; 爷爷 – Grandpa; 做主 – decided.

7.10.4 由 marks the decider

- 由 + person comes before 做主; the matter decided is the topic in front: 这件事由你做主.
- Do not use 被: 被你做主 is wrong.

7.10.5 做主 versus 决定

- 决定 = to decide (any decision): 我决定明天走.
- 做主 = to have the authority to decide: 我做不了主 – “It’s not my decision to make.”

这件事我做不了主。
zhè jiàn shì wǒ zuò bu liǎo zhǔ
Word guide: 这件事 – this matter; 我 – I; 做不了 – can’t make; 主 – the decision.

7.10.6 Recap

- **(Matter) + 由 + person + 做主** = it’s up to that person to decide.
- 做主 = have the authority; 做不了主 = not my call; 决定 = decide.

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.11 ■ 非得 … 不可 (absolutely must)

7.11.1 You have to see a doctor

- Your friend has had a fever for three days but refuses to see a doctor.
- **你烧得这么厉害，非得去医院不可。** – “With a fever this bad, you absolutely have to go to hospital.”

7.11.2 非得 + verb (+ 不可) = must, have to

- **非得** (fēi děi) = must, absolutely have to; 不可 / 不行 can close the sentence for extra force.
- In speech, 非得 alone often works: 你非得今天去吗?

你非得今天去吗?
nǐ fēi děi jīn tiān qù ma
Word guide: 你 – you; 非得 – must; 今天 – today; 去 – go.

非得 … 不可: really have to



7.11.3 Necessity and insistence

- Necessity: **这份报告非得今天交不可。** – "This report absolutely must be handed in today."
- Insistence: **他非得自己做，谁帮忙都不要。** – "He insists on doing it himself and won't take help from anyone."

这份报告非得今天交不可。
zhè fèn bào gào fēi děi jīn tiān jiāo bù kě
Word guide: 这份 – this; 报告 – report; 非得 – must; 今天 – today; 交 – be handed in; 不可 – (absolutely).

7.11.4 Read it fēi děi

- 得 here is děi ("must"), not de.
- 非得 is spoken; in writing, 必须 is the neutral choice.

7.11.5 非得 versus 非 … 不可

- 非 … 不可 puts the verb in the middle: 非去不可.
- 非得 …(不可) is the spoken variant with 得: 非得去 / 非得去不可. Both are emphatic.

我非去不可。
wǒ fēi qù bù kě
Word guide: 我 – I; 非 – (must); 去 – go; 不可 – (must).

7.11.6 Recap

- **非得 (fēi děi) + verb (+ 不可 / 不行)** = absolutely must / insist on.
- Spoken; 非 … 不可 is the classic form; 必须 is neutral.

Practise this pattern step by step.

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7.12 ■ 一来 … ，二来 … (firstly …, secondly …)

7.12.1 Two good reasons

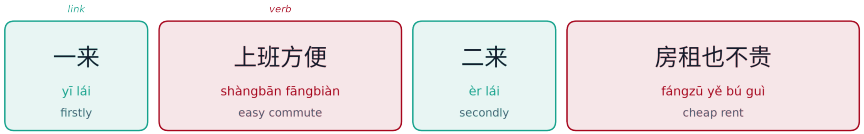
- A friend asks why you chose to live near your office.
- **一来上班方便，二来房租也不贵。** – "Firstly, it's convenient for work; secondly, the rent isn't high."

7.12.2 一来 A，二来 B = firstly …, secondly …

- **一来 …，二来 …** lists two reasons for a choice, usually in speech.
- Each reason is a short clause; a third can follow with 三来.

一来便宜，二来离家近。
yì lái pián yi èr lái lí jiā jìn
Word guide: 一来 – firstly; 便宜 – it's cheap; 二来 – secondly; 离 – from; 家 – home; 近 – close.

一来 …，二来 …: for one thing …, for another …



7.12.3 Explaining a decision

- **我坐地铁，一来快，二来不堵车。** – "I take the subway: firstly it's fast, secondly there are no traffic jams."
- **他学中文，一来是为了工作，二来是喜欢中国文化。** – "He's learning Chinese partly for work and partly because he likes Chinese culture."

一来是为了工作，二来是喜欢文化。
yì lái shì wèi le gōng zuò èr lái shì xǐ huan wén huà
Word guide: 一来 – firstly; 是 – is; 为了 – for; 工作 – work; 二来 – secondly; 是 – is; 喜欢 – liking; 文化 – culture.

7.12.4 Reasons, not steps

- 一来 … 二来 … gives reasons; for steps in a sequence, use 首先 … 然后 … or 第一 … 第二 ….
- Keep the two reasons parallel and short.

7.12.5 Versus 一方面 … 另一方面 …

- 一方面 … 另一方面 … weighs two aspects, sometimes in contrast.
- 一来 … 二来 … simply lists supporting reasons for one decision.

首先洗菜，然后切。
shǒu xiān xǐ cài rán hòu qiē
Word guide: 首先 – first; 洗 – wash; 菜 – the vegetables; 然后 – then; 切 – cut them.

7.12.6 Recap

- **一来 A，二来 B (三来 C)** = firstly …, secondly … (reasons for a choice).
- Steps take 首先 … 然后 …; contrasting aspects take 一方面 ….

Practise this pattern step by step.

7.13 ■ Practice without the models

7.13.1 岂不是 (wouldn't that be …?)

0701.1 Complete: "Wouldn't that be even more trouble?" 这样 …… 更麻烦?

0701.2 Which is the casual spoken equivalent of 岂不是白花钱了?

- A. 白花钱是不是?
- B. 岂白花钱?
- C. 那不就白花钱了吗?
- D. 花钱白了吗?

0701.3 Build: "If we go now, won't we be late?"

Arrange all chunks: 现在去的话 / 岂不是 / ， / 要迟到?

0701.4 岂不是 asks for information the speaker doesn't have.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0701.5 Your friend bought a gym membership but never goes. 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.

7.13.2 非 (要) … 不可 (simply must / insist on)

0702.1 Complete: "This problem absolutely must be solved." 这个问题非解决 ……。

0702.2 Which order is correct?

- A. 他非要去不可。
- B. 他不可非要去。
- C. 他要去非不可。
- D. 他非不可要去。

0702.3 Build: "She insisted on paying."

Arrange all chunks: 请客 / 非要 / 她 / 不可。

0702.4 非 … 不可 is more emphatic than 必须.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

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0702.5 Your little brother wants to go to the amusement park in the rain and won't take no for an answer. 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.

7.13.3 兼 (doubling as / concurrently)

0703.1 Complete: "He is the driver and also the guide." 他是司机 …… 导游。

0703.2 Which is wrong?

- A. 这间屋子是客厅兼书房。
- B. 她做兼职。
- C. 他是老师兼翻译。
- D. 这件衣服便宜兼好看。

0703.3 Build: "She does a part-time job at a café."

Arrange all chunks: 她 / 兼职。/ 在咖啡馆 / 做

0703.4 兼 joins roles held at the same time.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0703.5 In a small start-up, one person often has several roles. 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.

7.13.4 莫非 (could it be that …?)

0704.1 Complete: "Could it be that he's ill?" …… 他生病了?

0704.2 Which is the everyday spoken equivalent of 莫非今天放假?

- A. 今天放假吗不成?
- B. 是不是今天放假?
- C. 放假今天莫非?
- D. 今天莫非放假了。

0704.3 Build: "Could something have happened?"

Arrange all chunks: 莫非 / 什么事? / 出了

0704.4 莫非 states a fact.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0704.5 The office is dark at nine in the morning and nobody is answering the phone. 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.

7.13.5 由此 (from this / hence)

0705.1 Complete: “From this we can see that…” …… 可见 ……

0705.2 Where must 由此 come?

- A. Only in questions
- B. At the very start of a text
- C. After the evidence it refers to
- D. After 吗

0705.3 Build: “Many problems arose from this.”

Arrange all chunks: 由此 / 很多 / 问题。/ 产生了

0705.4 由此 is more written than 所以.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0705.5 A researcher presents a survey on how much students sleep. 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.

7.13.6 莫过于 (nothing is more … than)

0706.1 Complete: “Nothing is more important than health.” 最重要的 …… 健康。

0706.2 Which is the plainer spoken equivalent?

- A. 最重要的是健康。
- B. 健康莫过于重要。
- C. 重要莫过于最健康。
- D. 最健康莫过于。

0706.3 Build: “The best method is plenty of practice.”

Arrange all chunks: 莫过于 / 多练习。/ 最好的方法

0706.4 莫过于 is followed by a single top example.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0706.5 Asked about the happiest moment of the week, your grandmother smiles. 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.

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7.13.7 与其 A，宁可 / 宁愿 B (rather than … would rather)

0707.1 Complete: “Rather than complain, better find a solution.” 与其抱怨，…… 想办法。

0707.2 In 与其在家等，我宁愿出去找, which option does the speaker reject?

- A. both
- B. neither
- C. waiting at home
- D. going out to look

0707.3 Build: “Rather than wait in the car, I’d rather walk.”

Arrange all chunks: 我宁可 / 走路去。/ 与其在车里等 / ，

0707.4 In 宁可 A，也不 B, B is the rejected option.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0707.5 The traffic is completely stuck, and your office is only two kilometres away. 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.

7.13.8 跟 … 似的 (just like / as if)

0708.1 Complete: “He was as happy as a child.” 他高兴得跟孩子 ……。

0708.2 How is 似 read in 似的?

- A. shí
- B. sī
- C. sì
- D. shì

0708.3 Build: “It’s as if he knows everything.”

Arrange all chunks: 什么都知道 / 似的。/ 他好像

0708.4 像 … 一样 is more neutral than 跟 … 似的.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0708.5 You come in from a winter walk and your hands are freezing. 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.

7.13.9 不愧是 (truly worthy of)

0709.1 Praise: “You really are a master chef!” 你 …… 是大厨!

0709.2 Is 不愧 used for criticism?

- A. No, it is praise
- B. Only in questions
- C. Yes, often
- D. Only about places

0709.3 Build: “As expected he won; he truly is the champion.”

Arrange all chunks: ， / 冠军。/ 不愧是 / 他果然赢了

0709.4 不愧是畅销书 means the book deserves to be a bestseller.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0709.5 The national champion wins again, easily, in front of a huge crowd. 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.

7.13.10 由 … 做主 (for … to decide)

0710.1 Complete: “It’s up to you.” 由你自己 ……。

0710.2 What does 我做不了主 mean?

- A. I decided not to.
- B. I can’t decide quickly.
- C. It’s not my decision to make.
- D. I am the boss.

0710.3 Build: “Big family decisions are made by Grandpa.”

Arrange all chunks: 家里的大事 / 爷爷 / 都由 / 做主。

0710.4 被你做主 is correct.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0710.5 Your parents ask what you want to study at university. 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.

7.13.11 非得 … 不可 (absolutely must)

0711.1 Complete: “Do you really have to go today?” 你 …… 今天去吗?

0711.2 How is 得 read in 非得?

- A. dé
- B. dì
- C. děi
- D. de

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0711.3 Build: “This report must be handed in today.”

Arrange all chunks: 今天交 / 不可。/ 非得 / 这份报告

0711.4 非去不可 and 非得去 are both emphatic.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0711.5 Your friend has had a fever for three days but refuses to see a doctor. 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.

7.13.12 一来 … ，二来 … (firstly …, secondly …)

0712.1 Complete: “Firstly it’s cheap, secondly it’s close to home.” 一来便宜，…… 离家近。

0712.2 For steps in a recipe, which is better?

- A. 首先洗菜，然后切菜。
- B. 一方面洗菜，一方面切菜。
- C. 一来洗菜，二来切菜。
- D. 二来洗菜，一来切菜。

0712.3 Build: “I take the subway: firstly it’s fast, secondly there are no jams.”

Arrange all chunks: ，一来快 / 不堵车。/ 我坐地铁 / ，二来

0712.4 一来 … 二来 … lists reasons for one decision.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0712.5 A friend asks why you chose to live near your office. 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.

7.14 ■ Answers and explanations

7.14.1 岂不是 (wouldn't that be …?)

0701.1 岂不是

岂不是 + consequence.

0701.2 C. 那不就白花钱了吗?

那不就 … 了吗? is the spoken form.

0701.3 现在去的话，岂不是要迟到?

Condition, 岂不是 + consequence.

0701.4 False.

False. 岂不是 is rhetorical: it asks "wouldn't that be …?" to make a point the speaker already believes, as in 这样岂不是更好?

0701.5 One possible response: 你不去的话，岂不是白花钱了?

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.
- 岂不是 does not ask for information; the speaker is sure of the answer.
- It is a bit literary; in casual speech, 那不就 … 了吗? is common: 那不就白花钱了吗?
- 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.

7.14.2 非 (要) … 不可 (simply must / insist on)

0702.1 不可

非 … 不可.

0702.2 A. 他非要去不可。

The frame is 非 + (要) + verb + 不可, meaning "must, insist on": 他非要去不可. 非 comes before the verb phrase and 不可 closes the sentence.

0702.3 她非要请客不可。

非要 + verb + 不可.

0702.4 True.

It stresses there is no other way.

0702.5 One possible response: 下这么大的雨，他非要去不可。

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.

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- In careful style, keep 不可 (or 不行 / 不成) at the end: 非去不可. In speech 不可 is sometimes dropped: 他非要去.
- 非 + verb, then 不可: not 非不可去.
- 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.

7.14.3 兼 (doubling as / concurrently)

0703.1 兼

A 兼 B for two roles of one person.

0703.2 D. 这件衣服便宜兼好看。

Qualities take 又 … 又 …, not 兼.

0703.3 她在咖啡馆做兼职。

兼职 = part-time job.

0703.4 True.

True. 兼 links two roles or functions held at the same time: 经理兼技术员 "manager and also technician", both held by one person.

0703.5 One possible response: 他是我们公司的经理兼技术员。

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.
- 兼 is for roles held at the same time by one person or thing; two different people take 和.
- It joins nouns of roles or functions: 经理兼技术员, not 很好兼很便宜 (use 又 … 又 …).
- 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.

7.14.4 莫非 (could it be that …?)

0704.1 莫非

莫非 + guess.

0704.2 B. 是不是今天放假?

是不是 …? is the spoken form.

0704.3 莫非出了什么事?

莫非 + guess.

0704.4 False.

It introduces an uncertain guess.

0704.5 One possible response: 莫非今天放假?

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.
- 莫非 marks an uncertain guess; it does not state a fact.
- It is literary; in speech, 难道 or 是不是 is more common: 是不是今天放假?
- 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.

7.14.5 由此 (from this / hence)

0705.1 由此

由此可见 = it can be seen from this.

0705.2 C. After the evidence it refers to

由此 refers back to what was just said.

0705.3 由此产生了很多问题。

由此 + verb + result.

0705.4 True.

True. 由此 ("from this, hence") belongs to analytical and written style: 由此可见 "from this we can see". In speech 所以 is normal.

0705.5 One possible response: 大多数学生每天睡不到七个小时，由此可见，学习压力很大。

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.
- 由此 needs the evidence or event first; it cannot start a text.
- It is written and analytical; in speech, 所以 / 看来 do the job.
- 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.

7.14.6 莫过于 (nothing is more … than)

0706.1 莫过于

最 … 的莫过于 X.

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0706.2 A. 最重要的是健康。

最 … 的是 … ("the most … is …") is the plain spoken form: 最重要的是健康. 莫过于 is a written way to say "nothing is more … than", as in 最重要的莫过于健康.

0706.3 最好的方法莫过于多练习。

最 … 的 + 莫过于 + X.

0706.4 True.

True. 莫过于 means "nothing exceeds" and is followed by the single top example: 最大的快乐莫过于助人.

0706.5 One possible response: 最开心的莫过于周末全家一起吃饭。

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.
- X after 莫过于 is the single best example; do not put a list there.
- It is formal; in speech say 最 … 的是 ….
- 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.

7.14.7 与其 A，宁可 / 宁愿 B (rather than … would rather)

0707.1 不如

与其 A，不如 B.

0707.2 C. waiting at home

The 与其 option is rejected.

0707.3 与其在车里等，我宁可走路去。

与其 A，宁可 B.

0707.4 True.

The order is reversed compared with 与其.

0707.5 One possible response: 与其在车里等，我宁可走路去。

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.
- The option after 与其 is the one rejected; the one after 宁可 / 不如 is chosen.
- 宁 in 宁可 / 宁愿 is read nìng.
- 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.

7.14.8 跟 … 似的 (just like / as if)

0708.1 似的

跟 X 似的 = like X.

0708.2 D. shì

In 似的 ("as if, like"), 似 is read shì: 像 … 似的 xiàng … shìde. In other words such as 似乎 and 相似 it is read sì.

0708.3 他好像什么都知道似的。

好像 + clause + 似的.

0708.4 True.

跟 … 似的 is spoken and vivid.

0708.5 One possible response: 我的手冷得跟冰似的。

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.
- 似的 is read shì de, not sì de.
- It is spoken and vivid; in writing, 像 … 一样 or 仿佛 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.

7.14.9 不愧是 (truly worthy of)

0709.1 不愧

不愧是 + identity.

0709.2 A. No, it is praise

不愧 praises someone for living up to a name.

0709.3 他果然赢了，不愧是冠军。

果然 + result, 不愧是 + title.

0709.4 True.

It lives up to the title.

0709.5 One possible response: 不愧是冠军，他跑得太快了！

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.
- 不愧 is positive; for "doesn't deserve", say 配不上 or 名不副实.
- Give the reason: 不愧是冠军 alone sounds unfinished without the achievement.

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- 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.

7.14.10 由 … 做主 (for … to decide)

0710.1 做主

由 + person + 做主.

0710.2 C. It's not my decision to make.

做不了主 = lack the authority.

0710.3 家里的大事都由爷爷做主。

Matter + 由 + person + 做主.

0710.4 False.

False. 由 marks who is responsible for a decision: 由你做主 "It's up to you." 被 marks the passive and does not fit here.

0710.5 One possible response: 这是你的人生，由你自己做主。

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.
- 由 + person comes before 做主; the matter decided is the topic in front: 这件事由你做主.
- Do not use 被: 被你做主 is wrong.
- 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.

7.14.11 非得 … 不可 (absolutely must)

0711.1 非得

非得 = must (spoken).

0711.2 C. děi

In 非得 ("must, have to"), 得 is read děi, as in 你得去. It is not the structural particle de or dé "obtain".

0711.3 这份报告非得今天交不可。

非得 + verb + 不可.

0711.4 True.

Both mean "absolutely must go".

0711.5 One possible response: 你烧得这么厉害，非得去医院不可。

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.
- 得 here is děi (“must”), not de.
- 非得 is spoken; in writing, 必须 is the neutral choice.
- 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.

7.14.12 一来 … ，二来 … (firstly …, secondly …)

0712.1 二来

一来 …，二来 ….

0712.2 A. 首先洗菜，然后切菜。

Steps take 首先 … 然后 …; 一来 … 二来 … gives reasons.

0712.3 我坐地铁，一来快，二来不堵车。

Decision, then 一来 … 二来 ….

0712.4 True.

True. 一来 … 二来 … lists two reasons for one decision or situation: 一来天太晚，二来我很累，所以不去了.

0712.5 One possible response: 一来上班方便，二来房租也不贵。

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.
- 一来 … 二来 … gives reasons; for steps in a sequence, use 首先 … 然后 … or 第一 … 第二 ….
- Keep the two reasons parallel and short.
- 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.

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8 Verbs

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.

8.1 ■ 谅 (I bet / I'll wager …)

8.1.1 I bet he won't dare

- Your friend boasts he'll jump into the freezing lake. You doubt it.
- **谅他也不敢。** – “I bet he wouldn't dare.”

8.1.2 谅 + person + 也 / 不 … = I'm sure, I bet

- **谅** (liàng) expresses a confident, often dismissive guess about what someone can or will do, usually negative: 谅他不敢, 谅你也做不到.
- It is literary and old-fashioned but still heard in set phrases.

谅你也做不到。
liàng nǐ yě zuò bu dào
Word guide: 谅 – I bet; 你 – you; 也 – (even); 做不到 – can't do it.



8.1.3 Confident predictions

- **天这么晚了，谅他不会来了。** – “It's this late; I'm sure he won't come now.”
- **谅他一个人也搬不动。** – “I'll wager he can't move it on his own.”

天这么晚了，谅他不会来了。
tiān zhè me wǎn le liàng tā bú huì lái le
Word guide: 天 – it; 这么 – so; 晚 – late; 谅 – I'm sure; 他 – he; 不会 – won't; 来 – come.

8.1.4 Mostly negative, literary

- 谅 usually predicts what someone can't or won't do; positive uses are rare.
- In modern speech, 我看 / 我猜 / 肯定 are more natural: 我看他不敢.

8.1.5 谅 the verb: forgive

- 谅 also appears in 原谅 (forgive) and 谅解 (understand, make allowance): 请原谅我.
- Do not confuse the guess 谅 with these verbs.

请原谅我。
qǐng yuán liàng wǒ
Word guide: 请 – please; 原谅 – forgive; 我 – me.

8.1.6 Recap

- **谅 + person + 也 / 不 ...** = I bet / I'm sure (a confident, often dismissive negative guess).
- Literary; modern 我看 ...; 原谅 = forgive.

Practise this pattern step by step.

8.2 ■ Practice without the models

8.2.1 谅 (I bet / I'll wager ...)

0801.1 Complete: "I bet he wouldn't dare." …… 他也不敢。

0801.2 Which is the modern spoken equivalent of 谅他不敢?

- A. 他谅不敢。
- B. 谅解他不敢。
- C. 原谅他不敢。
- D. 我看他不敢。

0801.3 Build: "It's so late; I'm sure he won't come."

Arrange all chunks: 谅他 / ， / 天这么晚了 / 不会来了。

0801.4 In 请原谅我, 谅 means "I bet".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0801.5 Your friend boasts he'll jump into the freezing lake. You doubt it. 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.

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8.3 ■ Answers and explanations

8.3.1 谅 (I bet / I'll wager ...)

0801.1 谅

谅 + person + 不 / 也 ….

0801.2 D. 我看他不敢。

我看 … is the everyday guess.

0801.3 天这么晚了，谅他不会来了。

Situation, then 谅 + person + negative.

0801.4 False.

False. In 原谅谅 is part of the verb "forgive". The sense "I expect, surely" appears only in written patterns like 谅他不敢.

0801.5 One possible response: 谅他也不敢。

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.
- 谅 usually predicts what someone can't or won't do; positive uses are rare.
- In modern speech, 我看 / 我猜 / 肯定 are more natural: 我看他不敢.
- 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.

9 Verb phrases

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.

9.1 ■ 不屑 (于) (disdain to)

9.1.1 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."

9.1.2 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.



9.1.3 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.

9.1.4 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").

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9.1.5 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.

9.1.6 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.

9.2 ■ 以便 (so as to / in order to)

9.2.1 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."

9.2.2 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.



9.2.3 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.

9.2.4 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.

9.2.5 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.

9.2.6 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.

9.3 ■ Practice without the models

9.3.1 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.

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9.3.2 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.

9.4 ■ Answers and explanations

9.4.1 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.

9.4.2 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.

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- It starts the second clause, after the action.
- 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.

10 ”If” Statements

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.

10.1 ■ 假使 … ，就 … (if / supposing)

10.1.1 Supposing it happened

- In a philosophy class you imagine an unlikely situation.
- **假使人能活两百岁，生活会是什么样子？** – “Supposing people could live to two hundred, what would life be like?”

10.1.2 假使 A，(就) B = if, supposing

- **假使** = “if, supposing”, a literary 如果, often for hypothetical or unlikely situations.
- The result clause may take 就 / 便 / 也.

假使明天下雨，比赛就取消。
jiǎ shǐ míng tiān xià yǔ bǐ sài jiù qǔ xiāo
Word guide: 假使 – supposing; 明天 – tomorrow; 下雨 – it rains; 比赛 – the match; 就 – then; 取消 – is cancelled.



10.1.3 Imagined and formal conditions

- **假使没有你的帮助，我就不会成功。** – “Had it not been for your help, I would not have succeeded.”
- Common in essays, speeches and literature.

假使没有你的帮助，我就不会成功。
jiǎ shǐ méi yǒu nǐ de bāng zhù wǒ jiù bú huì chéng gōng
Word guide: 假使 – if; 没有 – without; 你 – your; 帮助 – help; 我 – I; 就 – then; 不会 – wouldn’t; 成功 – succeed.

10.1.4 Literary register

- In everyday speech, use 如果 / 要是: 要是明天下雨，….
- Put 就 after the subject of the result: 我就不会 …, not 就我不会 ….

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10.1.5 The “if” family

- 要是 (spoken) → 如果 (neutral) → 假如 / 假使 / 倘若 (literary).
- All pair with 就 in the result.

要是你有时间，就来吧。
yào shi nǐ yǒu shí jiān jiù lái ba
Word guide: 要是 – if; 你 – you; 有 – have; 时间 – time; 就 – then; 来 – come.

10.1.6 Recap

- **假使 A，(Subject) 就 B** = if / supposing A (literary, often hypothetical).
- Everyday: 如果 / 要是; literary relatives: 假如, 倘若.

Practise this pattern step by step.

10.2 ■ Practice without the models

10.2.1 假使 … ，就 … (if / supposing)

1001.1 Complete: “Supposing it rains, the match will be cancelled.” 假使下雨，比赛 …… 取消。

1001.2 Which “if” is the most spoken?

- A. 倘若
- B. 假如
- C. 要是
- D. 假使

1001.3 Build: “Had it not been for your help, I wouldn’t have succeeded.”

Arrange all chunks: ， / 假使没有你的帮助 / 我就 / 不会成功。

1001.4 假使 suits formal essays better than casual chat.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1001.5 In a philosophy class you imagine an unlikely situation. 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.

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10.3 ■ Answers and explanations

10.3.1 假使 … ，就 … (if / supposing)

1001.1 就

假使 …，就 ….

1001.2 C. 要是

要是 is the everyday spoken "if": 要是下雨就不去了. 如果 is neutral, while 假如, 假使 and 倘若 are more written or literary.

1001.3 假使没有你的帮助，我就不会成功。

假使 + condition, subject + 就 + result.

1001.4 True.

True. 假使 is literary and fits formal essays. In casual chat you would use 要是 or 如果.

1001.5 One possible response: 假使人能活两百岁，生活会是什么样子?

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.
- In everyday speech, use 如果 / 要是: 要是明天下雨，….
- Put 就 after the subject of the result: 我就不会 …, not 就我不会 ….
- 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.

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11 Cause/Effect Statements

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.

11.1 ■ 因为 … 而 … (because …, thereby …)

11.1.1 Famous for one dish

- A travel article explains why a small town became well known.
- **这个小镇因为一道菜而出名。** – "This small town became famous because of one dish."

11.1.2 因为 / 因 A 而 B = B because of A

- **因为 A 而 B** links a cause A to a result B within one clause, in formal style.
- The result after 而 is usually a verb or adjective: 因 … 而出名, 因 … 而改变, 因 … 而感动.

他因为生病而缺席。
tā yīn wèi shēng bìng ér quē xí
Word guide: 他 – he; 因为 – because of; 生病 – illness; 而 – (and so); 缺席 – was absent.



11.1.3 Feelings and changes

- **很多人因为这部电影而爱上了中国。** – "Many people fell in love with China because of this film."
- **会议因天气而推迟。** – "The meeting was postponed because of the weather."

会议因天气而推迟。
huì yì yīn tiān qì ér tuī chí
Word guide: 会议 – the meeting; 因 – because of; 天气 – the weather; 而 – (and so); 推迟 – was postponed.

11.1.4 One clause, no 所以

- Do not add 所以: 因为下雨而取消, not 因为下雨而所以取消.
- 而 is followed directly by the result (adverbs such as 更 may come first); no 所以.

11.1.5 Versus 因为 … 所以 …

- 因为 …, 所以 … uses two clauses (everyday).
- 因为 … 而 … packs cause and result into one tight clause (formal).

因为下雨，所以比赛取消了。
yīn wèi xià yǔ suǒ yǐ bǐ sài qǔ xiāo le
Word guide: 因为 – because; 下雨 – it rained; 所以 – so; 比赛 – the match; 取消 – was cancelled.

11.1.6 Recap

- **因 (为) A 而 B** = B because of A, in one formal clause.
- No 所以; everyday speech uses 因为 … 所以 ….

Practise this pattern step by step.

11.2 ■ Practice without the models

11.2.1 因为 … 而 … (because …, thereby …)

1101.1 Complete (written): "He was absent because of illness." 他因为生病 …… 缺席。

1101.2 Which is correct?

- A. 会议而因天气推迟。
- B. 会议因天气而推迟。
- C. 因天气会议推迟而。
- D. 会议因天气而所以推迟。

1101.3 Build: "Many people fell in love with China because of this film."

Arrange all chunks: 很多人 / 而 / 因为这部电影 / 爱上了中国。

1101.4 因为 … 而 … is more formal than 因为 … 所以 ….

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1101.5 A travel article explains why a small town became well known. 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.

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11.3 ■ Answers and explanations

11.3.1 因为 … 而 … (because …, thereby …)

1101.1 而

因为 A 而 B.

1101.2 B. 会议因天气而推迟。

因 + cause + 而 + result, no 所以.

1101.3 很多人因为这部电影而爱上了中国。

Subject + 因为 A + 而 + B.

1101.4 True.

It packs cause and result into one clause.

1101.5 One possible response: 这个小镇因为一道菜而出名。

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 add 所以: 因为下雨而取消, not 因为下雨而所以取消.
- 而 is followed directly by the result (adverbs such as 更 may come first); no 所以.
- 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.

12 Sentence Patterns

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.

12.1 ■ 借 … 之名 (under the guise of)

12.1.1 A scam in disguise

- A news report warns about fake charity callers.
- **有人借慈善之名骗钱。** – "Some people cheat others out of money under the guise of charity."

12.1.2 借 + X + 之名 = under the pretext / guise of X

- **借 … 之名** means using X as a cover for a different, usually bad, purpose.
- It is formal and critical, common in news and commentary.

他借出差之名去旅游。
tā jiè chū chāi zhī míng qù lǚ yóu
Word guide: 他 – he; 借 – using; 出差 – a business trip; 之名 – as a pretext; 去 – went; 旅游 – on holiday.



12.1.3 Exposing hidden motives

- **一些商家借环保之名提高价格。** – "Some businesses raise prices under the banner of environmental protection."
- The real purpose follows the 之名 phrase.

一些商家借环保之名提高价格。
yì xiē shāng jiā jiè huán bǎo zhī míng tí gāo jià gé
Word guide: 一些 – some; 商家 – businesses; 借 – using; 环保 – environmental protection; 之名 – as a pretext; 提高 – raise; 价格 – prices.

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12.1.4 Critical tone

- 借 … 之名 implies the stated reason is a cover; use it only when you mean to criticise.
- For a neutral "in the name of / on behalf of", use 以 … 的名义.

12.1.5 借 … 之名 versus 以 … 的名义

- 以公司的名义 = on behalf of the company (neutral or official).
- 借公司之名 = using the company as a cover (critical).

他以公司的名义发言。
tā yǐ gōng sī de míng yì fā yán
Word guide: 他 – he; 以 – in; 公司 – the company's; 名义 – name; 发言 – spoke.

12.1.6 Recap

- **借 X 之名 + real purpose** = under the guise / pretext of X (critical).
- Neutral "on behalf of" = 以 … 的名义.

Practise this pattern step by step.

12.2 ■ 通过 … 使 … (by …, bring about …)

12.2.1 A shorter wait

- A hospital report describes how a new booking system changed patients' waiting time.
- **医院通过新流程，使患者的等待时间缩短了一半。** – "Through a new procedure, the hospital cut patients' waiting time by half."

12.2.2 Subject + 通过 + means + 使 + result

- **A 通过 B 使 C …** = A, by means of B, makes C …: the subject A does the action, 通过 gives the means, 使 the result.
- The subject must be present: 医院 / 学校 / 我们 + 通过 ….

学校通过这次活动使学生更自信。
xué xiào tōng guò zhè cì huó dòng shǐ xué sheng gèng zì xìn
Word guide: 学校 – the school; 通过 – through; 这次 – this; 活动 – event; 使 – made; 学生 – students; 更 – more; 自信 – confident.

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12.2.3 The classic error: no subject

- **通过这次活动，使学生更自信了** has no subject: 通过 and 使 both lack a doer. This is a standard HSK 6 病句.
- Fix it by adding a subject before 通过 (学校通过 … 使 …) or by dropping 使 (通过这次活动，学生更自信了).

12.2.4 Two correct repairs

- Subject + 通过 … 使 …: **公司通过培训使员工提高了能力。** – "Through training, the company improved its staff's skills."
- 通过 …, subject + result: **通过培训，员工的能力提高了。** – "Through training, the staff's skills improved."

通过培训，员工的能力提高了。
tōng guò péi xùn yuán gōng de néng lì tí gāo le
Word guide: 通过 – through; 培训 – training; 员工 – the staff's; 能力 – skills; 提高 – improved.

12.2.5 Same trap with 经过 and 由于

- 经过大家的努力，使问题得到了解决 × – no subject.
- ✓ 经过大家的努力，问题得到了解决. Check every 通过 / 经过 / 由于 … 使 … sentence for a doer.

经过大家的努力，问题得到了解决。
jīng guò dà jiā de nǔ lì wèn tí dé dào le jiě jué
Word guide: 经过 – after; 大家 – everyone's; 努力 – efforts; 问题 – the problem; 得到 – got; 解决 – solved.

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12.2.6 Recap

- **Subject + 通过 + means + 使 + result** – the subject is required.
- 通过 …，使 … with no subject is a 病句; repair it with a subject or by dropping 使.

Practise this pattern step by step.

12.3 ■ 以 … 的名义 (in the name of)

12.3.1 On behalf of the class

- Your class wants to thank the teacher who is retiring, and you write the card.
- **我以全班同学的名义，向老师表示感谢。** – "On behalf of the whole class, I'd like to thank our teacher."

12.3.2 以 + X + 的名义 = in the name of, on behalf of

- **以 X 的名义** says whose name or authority an action is done under: 以个人的名义, 以公司的名义.
- It goes before the verb phrase.

他以个人的名义捐了一万块。
tā yǐ gè rén de míng yì juān le yí wàn kuài
Word guide: 他 – he; 以 – in; 个人 – his own; 名义 – name; 捐 – donated; 一万 – 10,000; 块 – yuan.



12.3.3 Official and personal capacity

- **这封信是以学校的名义发出的。** – "This letter was sent in the school's name."
- **我以朋友的名义劝你，别这么做。** – "As your friend, I'm telling you: don't do this."

我以朋友的名义劝你。
wǒ yǐ péng you de míng yì quàn nǐ
Word guide: 我 – I; 以 – as; 朋友 – a friend; 名义 – (capacity); 劝 – advise; 你 – you.

12.3.4 Neutral, not deceptive

- 以 … 的名义 is neutral or official; for using a name as a cover, use 借 … 之名.
- Both 以公司的名义 and the shorter 以公司名义 occur. Learn the full phrase first; the shorter form is also used in formal documents.

12.3.5 以 … 的名义 versus 代表

- 代表 + group = represent: 我代表全班感谢老师.
- 以 … 的名义 stresses whose name or authority the act carries.

我代表全班感谢老师。
wǒ dài biǎo quán bān gǎn xiè lǎo shī
Word guide: 我 – I; 代表 – on behalf of; 全班 – the whole class; 感谢 – thank; 老师 – the teacher.

12.3.6 Recap

- **以 X 的名义 + verb** = in the name of / on behalf of X (neutral, official).
- A cover story = 借 … 之名; 代表 = represent.

Practise this pattern step by step.

12.4 ■ 势必 (be bound to / inevitably)

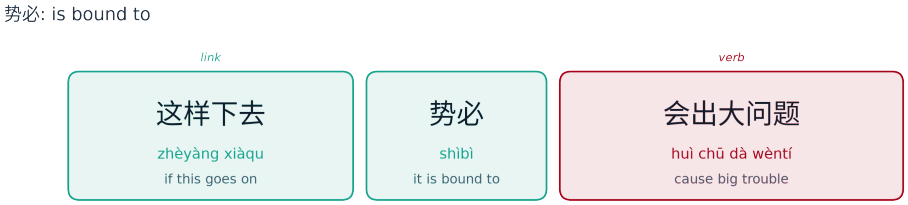
12.4.1 Where this leads

- An economist comments on a factory that keeps cutting corners on safety.
- **这样下去，势必会出大问题。** – "If this continues, serious problems are bound to occur."

12.4.2 势必 + verb = be bound to, inevitably

- **势必** predicts a result that follows necessarily from the situation: 势必影响, 势必导致, 势必会 ….
- It is formal and analytical.

价格上涨势必影响消费。
jià gé shàng zhǎng shì bì yǐng xiǎng xiāo fèi
Word guide: 价格 – prices; 上涨 – rising; 势必 – is bound to; 影响 – affect; 消费 – spending.



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12.4.3 Warnings and forecasts

- **长期熬夜势必损害健康。** – "Staying up late for long periods is bound to harm your health."
- It usually follows a cause or condition stated first.

长期熬夜势必损害健康。
cháng qī áo yè shì bì sǔn hài jiàn kāng
Word guide: 长期 – long-term; 熬夜 – staying up late; 势必 – is bound to; 损害 – harm; 健康 – health.

12.4.4 A strong, reasoned prediction

- 势必 means the result is practically certain because of the situation; for a guess, use 可能 / 恐怕.
- It is written style; in speech, 肯定会 / 一定会 are more natural.

12.4.5 势必 versus 必然 and 一定

- 必然 = necessarily (also an adjective: 必然的结果).
- 势必 stresses the momentum of the situation: "the way things are going, it will…".

这是必然的结果。
zhè shì bì rán de jié guǒ
Word guide: 这 – this; 是 – is; 必然 – an inevitable; 结果 – result.

12.4.6 Recap

- **势必 + verb** = be bound to (a reasoned, near-certain prediction; formal).
- Guesses use 可能; speech uses 肯定会; 必然 = necessarily.

Practise this pattern step by step.

12.5 ■ 倘若 (if / should – literary)

12.5.1 A formal condition

- A contract sets out what happens if a delivery is late.
- **倘若货物延迟送达，买方有权取消订单。** – "Should the goods be delivered late, the buyer has the right to cancel the order."

12.5.2 倘若 A，(就 / 便) B = if, should

- **倘若** = "if, should", a literary 如果, common in contracts, essays and literature.
- The result clause often takes 就 / 便 / 则.

倘若你有问题，请随时联系我们。
tǎng ruò nǐ yǒu wèn tí qǐng suí shí lián xì wǒ men
Word guide: 倘若 – if; 你 – you; 有 – have; 问题 – questions; 请 – please; 随时 – any time; 联系 – contact; 我们 – us.



12.5.3 Hypotheses and regrets

- **倘若当时我听了你的话，就不会这样了。** – "Had I listened to you at the time, it wouldn't have come to this."
- It suits careful, considered language.

倘若当时我听了你的话，就不会这样了。
tǎng ruò dāng shí wǒ tīng le nǐ de huà jiù bú huì zhè yàng le
Word guide: 倘若 – if; 当时 – at the time; 我 – I; 听 – had listened; 你 – to you; 话 – words; 就 – then; 不会 – wouldn't; 这样 – be like this.

12.5.4 Literary only

- In conversation, 如果 / 要是 are natural; 倘若 sounds bookish.
- Keep 就 / 便 after the subject of the result: 我就 …, not 就我 ….

12.5.5 倘若 versus 假如 and 万一

- 假如 is close to 倘若, slightly less formal.
- 万一 = in case (an unlikely, unwelcome event): 万一下雨怎么办?

万一下雨怎么办?
wàn yī xià yǔ zěn me bàn
Word guide: 万一 – in case; 下雨 – it rains; 怎么办 – what do we do.

12.5.6 Recap

- **倘若 A，(就 / 便) B** = if / should A (literary, contracts and essays).
- Speech: 如果 / 要是; unlikely bad events: 万一.

Practise this pattern step by step.

12.6 ■ 所 + Verb + 的 (that which is V-ed)

12.6.1 What you said

- In a formal letter you respond to a complaint point by point.
- **您所提出的问题，我们会认真考虑。** – "We will carefully consider the issues you have raised."

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12.6.2 (Subject +) 所 + verb + 的 (+ noun) = that which … V

- **所 + verb + 的** marks the object of the verb: 我所知道的 (what I know), 他所说的话 (the words he said).
- 所 is formal; the meaning is the same without it: 他说的话.

这就是我所知道的。
zhè jiù shì wǒ suǒ zhī dào de
Word guide: 这 – this; 就是 – is exactly; 我 – I; 所 – (that which); 知道 – know.



12.6.3 Formal writing

- **我们所做的一切都是为了孩子。** – "Everything we do is for the children."
- **正如大家所看到的，情况已经好转。** – "As everyone can see, the situation has improved."

正如大家所看到的，情况好转了。
zhèng rú dà jiā suǒ kàn dào de qíng kuàng hǎo zhuǎn le
Word guide: 正如 – just as; 大家 – everyone; 所 – (that which); 看到 – has seen; 情况 – the situation; 好转 – has improved.

12.6.4 所 goes right before the verb

- Order: subject + 所 + verb + 的: 他所说的, not 所他说的.
- It needs a transitive verb (one with an object): 所说, 所做, 所看到; not 所去 / 所来.

12.6.5 所 versus plain 的

- 他说的话 (everyday) = 他所说的话 (formal).
- 所 adds weight and precision; it is common in speeches, reports and set phrases (众所周知).

众所周知，地球是圆的。
zhòng suǒ zhōu zhī dì qiú shì yuán de
Word guide: 众所周知 – as everyone knows; 地球 – the Earth; 是 – is; 圆 – round.

12.6.6 Recap

- **Subject + 所 + verb + 的 (+ noun)** = that which … (formal; 所 marks the object).
- Subject before 所; transitive verbs; 众所周知 = as everyone knows.

Practise this pattern step by step.

12.7 ■ Practice without the models

12.7.1 借 … 之名 (under the guise of)

1201.1 Complete: "under the guise of charity" 借慈善之 ……

1201.2 Which is neutral, without criticism?

- A. 他借出差之名去旅游。
- B. 他以公司的名义发言。
- C. 他借环保之名涨价。
- D. 他借公司之名谋私利。

1201.3 Build: "Some businesses raise prices under the banner of environmental protection."

Arrange all chunks: 一些商家 / 提高 / 借环保之名 / 价格。

1201.4 借 … 之名 implies the stated reason is a cover.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1201.5 A news report warns about fake charity callers. 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.

12.7.2 通过 … 使 … (by …, bring about …)

1202.1 Which sentence is grammatically correct?

- A. 使通过这次讲座，大家了解了环保。
- B. 通过这次讲座，使了解了大家环保的重要性。
- C. 这次讲座使大家了解了环保的重要性。
- D. 通过这次讲座，使大家了解了环保的重要性。

1202.2 Repair the error: 通过新流程，使等待时间缩短了。

- A. 通过新流程，使等待时间缩短了吗?
- B. 医院通过新流程，使等待时间缩短了。
- C. 新流程通过，使等待时间缩短了。
- D. 通过新流程，使医院等待时间缩短了。

1202.3 Build the correct sentence: "Through training, the staff's skills improved."

Arrange all chunks: 提高了。/ ， / 员工的能力 / 通过培训

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1202.4 经过大家的努力，使问题得到了解决 is correct.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1202.5 A hospital report describes how a new booking system changed patients' waiting time. 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.

12.7.3 以 … 的名义 (in the name of)

1203.1 Complete: "He donated in his own name." 他以个人的 …… 捐了钱。

1203.2 Which suggests the name is used as a cover?

- A. 以个人的名义捐款。
- B. 以公司的名义发信。
- C. 代表公司发言。
- D. 借公司之名谋私利。

1203.3 Build: "On behalf of the whole class, I thank the teacher."

Arrange all chunks: ， / 向老师 / 我以全班同学的名义 / 表示感谢。

1203.4 代表 can also mean "on behalf of".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1203.5 Your class wants to thank the teacher who is retiring, and you write the card. 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.

12.7.4 势必 (be bound to / inevitably)

1204.1 Complete: "This is bound to affect sales." 这 …… 影响销量。

1204.2 Which sounds most natural in casual speech?

- A. 这样势必地出问题。
- B. 这样肯定会出问题。
- C. 这样势必会出问题。
- D. 这样必然会出问题。

1204.3 Build: "Staying up late long-term is bound to harm your health."

Arrange all chunks: 势必 / 长期熬夜 / 健康。/ 损害

1204.4 势必 expresses a weak guess.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1204.5 An economist comments on a factory that keeps cutting corners on safety. 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.

12.7.5 倘若 (if / should – literary)

1205.1 Complete (contract): "Should the goods arrive late, the buyer may cancel." …… 货物延迟送达，买方可以取消订单。

1205.2 "What if it rains?" (an unlikely, unwelcome event). Which fits? _____ 下雨怎么办?

- A. 因为
- B. 万一
- C. 既然
- D. 倘若

1205.3 Build: "Had I listened to you, it wouldn't have come to this."

Arrange all chunks: 就不会 / ， / 倘若当时我听了你的话 / 这样了。

1205.4 倘若 sounds natural in casual conversation.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1205.5 A contract sets out what happens if a delivery is late. 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.

12.7.6 所 + Verb + 的 (that which is V-ed)

1206.1 Complete (formal): "the words he said" 他 …… 说的话

1206.2 Which order is correct?

- A. 所我知道的
- B. 我知道所的
- C. 我所知道的
- D. 我的所知道

1206.3 Build: "Everything we do is for the children."

Arrange all chunks: 我们所做的 / 都是为了 / 孩子。/ 一切

1206.4 众所周知 means "as everyone knows".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1206.5 In a formal letter you respond to a complaint point by point. 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.

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Write or say your own response before reading the key.

12.8 ■ Answers and explanations

12.8.1 借 … 之名 (under the guise of)

1201.1 名

借 X 之名.

1201.2 B. 他以公司的名义发言。

以 … 的名义 ("in the name of") is neutral: 他以公司的名义发言 simply says whom he represents. 借 … 之名 suggests the name is used as a cover for something else.

1201.3 一些商家借环保之名提高价格。

Subject + 借 X 之名 + real purpose.

1201.4 True.

True. 借 … 之名 is critical: the stated reason is a pretext, as in 借出差之名去旅游 "travel on the pretext of a business trip".

1201.5 One possible response: 有人借慈善之名骗钱。

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.
- 借 … 之名 implies the stated reason is a cover; use it only when you mean to criticise.
- For a neutral "in the name of / on behalf of", use 以 … 的名义.
- 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.

12.8.2 通过 … 使 … (by …, bring about …)

1202.1 C. 这次讲座使大家了解了环保的重要性。

The first has no subject. The second has one: 这次讲座 is the subject of 使.

1202.2 B. 医院通过新流程，使等待时间缩短了。

Add the doer (医院) before 通过.

1202.3 通过培训，员工的能力提高了。

通过 …，subject + result (no 使).

1202.4 False.

It lacks a subject; drop 使 or add a doer.

1202.5 One possible response: 医院通过新流程，使患者的等待时间缩短了一半。

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.

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- Subject + 通过 … 使 …: **公司通过培训使员工提高了能力。** – "Through training, the company improved its staff's skills."
- 通过 …，subject + result: **通过培训，员工的能力提高了。** – "Through training, the staff's skills improved."
- 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.

12.8.3 以 … 的名义 (in the name of)

1203.1 名义

以 X 的名义.

1203.2 D. 借公司之名谋私利。

借公司之名谋私利 uses the company's name as a cover for personal gain, so it is critical. 以 … 的名义 and 代表 are neutral ways to say whom you speak or act for.

1203.3 我以全班同学的名义，向老师表示感谢。

以 X 的名义 + verb phrase.

1203.4 True.

True. 代表 can mean "on behalf of": 我代表全班感谢老师 "On behalf of the class, I thank the teacher."

1203.5 One possible response: 我以全班同学的名义，向老师表示感谢。

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 … 的名义 is neutral or official; for using a name as a cover, use 借 … 之名.
- Both 以公司的名义 and the shorter 以公司名义 occur. Learn the full phrase first; the shorter form is also used in formal documents.
- 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.

12.8.4 势必 (be bound to / inevitably)

1204.1 势必

势必 + verb.

1204.2 B. 这样肯定会出问题。

肯定会 is the spoken choice.

1204.3 长期熬夜势必损害健康。

Cause + 势必 + verb.

1204.4 False.

It is a strong, reasoned prediction.

1204.5 One possible response: 这样下去，势必会出大问题。

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.
- 势必 means the result is practically certain because of the situation; for a guess, use 可能 / 恐怕.
- It is written style; in speech, 肯定会 / 一定会 are 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.

12.8.5 倘若 (if / should – literary)

1205.1 倘若

倘若 = if (literary).

1205.2 B. 万一

万一 = in case of something unlikely and unwelcome.

1205.3 倘若当时我听了你的话，就不会这样了。

倘若 + condition, 就 + result.

1205.4 False.

It is literary; speech uses 如果 / 要是.

1205.5 One possible response: 倘若货物延迟送达，买方有权取消订单。

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.
- In conversation, 如果 / 要是 are natural; 倘若 sounds bookish.
- Keep 就 / 便 after the subject of the result: 我就 …, not 就我 ….
- 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.

12.8.6 所 + Verb + 的 (that which is V-ed)

1206.1 所

Subject + 所 + verb + 的.

1206.2 C. 我所知道的

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所 stands before the verb in the pattern subject + 所 + verb + 的: 我所知道的 “what I know”. It never comes before the subject or after the verb.

1206.3 我们所做的一切都是为了孩子。

所 + verb + 的 + noun.

1206.4 True.

True. 众所周知 is a set phrase with 所 meaning “as is well known to all”.

1206.5 One possible response: 您所提出的问题，我们会认真考虑。

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: subject + 所 + verb + 的: 他所说的, not 所他说的.
- It needs a transitive verb (one with an object): 所说, 所做, 所看到; not 所去 / 所来.
- 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.

13 Let alone

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.

13.1 ■ 连 … 都 … ，何况 … (even …, let alone …)

13.1.1 Even adults struggle

- Your little cousin wants to read a university textbook.
- **这本书连大人都看不懂，何况小孩子呢？** – “Even adults can’t understand this book, let alone a small child.”

13.1.2 连 A 都 …，何况 B (呢)?

- **连 A 都 …，何况 B** = even A …, let alone B: if it holds (or fails) for A, it is even more so for B.
- 何况 often ends with 呢 as a rhetorical question.

连专家都不知道，何况我们呢?
lián zhuān jiā dōu bù zhī dào hé kuàng wǒ men ne
Word guide: 连 – even; 专家 – experts; 都 – (even); 不 – don’t; 知道 – know; 何况 – let alone; 我们 – us.



13.1.3 Positive too

- **他连最难的题都会做，何况这么简单的？** – “He can do even the hardest questions, let alone such an easy one.”
- The logic runs from the harder case to the easier one.

他连最难的题都会做，何况这么简单的?
tā lián zuì nán de tí dōu huì zuò hé kuàng zhè me jiǎn dān de
Word guide: 他 – he; 连 – even; 最难 – the hardest; 题 – questions; 都 – (even); 会 – can; 做 – do; 何况 – let alone; 这么 – such; 简单 – easy; 的 – ones.

13.1.4 Get the direction right

- The 连 item is the stronger test; the 何况 item follows more obviously.
- 何况 can also add a reason: “besides”: 太远了，何况天也晚了 – “It’s too far; besides, it’s late.”

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13.1.5 何况 versus 更不用说

- 更不用说 … 了 is a statement: 大人都看不懂，更不用说孩子了.
- 何况 … 呢? is often a rhetorical question and a little more literary.

太远了，何况天也晚了。
tài yuǎn le hé kuàng tiān yě wǎn le
Word guide: 太 – too; 远 – far; 何况 – besides; 天 – it; 也 – also; 晚 – late.

13.1.6 Recap

- **连 A 都 …，何况 B (呢)?** = even A …, let alone B.
- 何况 can also mean “besides”; 更不用说 is the statement form.

Practise this pattern step by step.

13.2 ■ Practice without the models

13.2.1 连 … 都 … ，何况 … (even …, let alone …)

1301.1 Complete: “Even experts don’t know, let alone us.” 连专家都不知道，…… 我们呢?

1301.2 In 太远了，何况天也晚了, what does 何况 mean?

- A. therefore
- B. besides
- C. although
- D. let alone

1301.3 Build: “He can do even the hardest questions, let alone easy ones.”

Arrange all chunks: 何况 / 他连最难的题都会做 / ， / 这么简单的?

1301.4 更不用说 … 了 is the statement form of the same idea.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1301.5 Your little cousin wants to read a university textbook. 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.

13.3 ■ Answers and explanations

13.3.1 连 … 都 … ，何况 … (even …, let alone …)

1301.1 何况

连 A 都 …，何况 B.

1301.2 B. besides

何况 can add a further reason.

1301.3 他连最难的题都会做，何况这么简单的?

连 … 都 …，何况 ….

1301.4 True.

何况 … 呢? is often rhetorical.

1301.5 One possible response: 这本书连大人都看不懂，何况小孩子呢?

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.
- The 连 item is the stronger test; the 何况 item follows more obviously.
- 何况 can also add a reason: "besides": 太远了，何况天也晚了 – "It's too far; besides, it's late."
- 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.

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14 Comparing similar adverbs

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.

14.1 ■ 按照 vs 根据 (in accordance with vs based on)

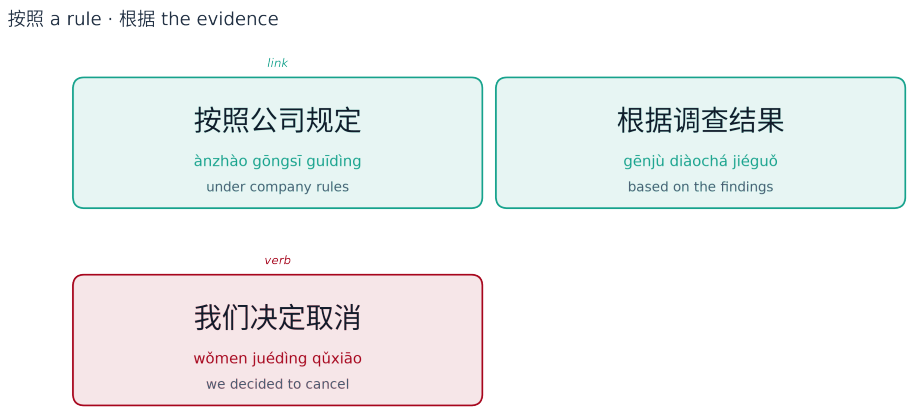
14.1.1 Rules and evidence

- A company memo explains how a decision was made.
- **按照公司规定，根据调查结果，我们决定取消这次活动。** – "In accordance with company rules, and based on the survey results, we've decided to cancel the event."

14.1.2 按照 = according to (follow a rule or plan)

- **按照 + rule / plan / order** = do something as the rule says: 按照计划, 按照规定, 按照顺序.
- The focus is on following a standard.

请按照顺序排队。
qǐng àn zhào shùn xù pái duì
Word guide: 请 – please; 按照 – according to; 顺序 – the order; 排队 – queue.



14.1.3 根据 = based on (evidence or source)

- **根据 + data / facts / source** = draw a conclusion from: 根据调查, 根据天气预报, 根据他的说法.
- The focus is on what a judgement rests on.

根据天气预报，明天有雨。
gēn jù tiān qì yù bào míng tiān yǒu yǔ

Word guide: 根据 – based on; 天气 – the weather; 预报 – forecast; 明天 – tomorrow; 有 – there'll be; 雨 – rain.

14.1.4 Follow versus base on

- To follow a rule, plan or order, use 按照: 按照计划进行. 根据规定 is also correct, but it justifies a decision: "on the basis of the rules".
- Evidence for a conclusion: 根据研究, not 按照研究.

14.1.5 根据 as a noun

- 根据 can be a noun: "basis, grounds": 你这么说有什么根据? – "What grounds do you have for saying that?"
- 按照 is only a preposition.

你这么说有什么根据?
nǐ zhè me shuō yǒu shén me gēn jù
Word guide: 你 – you; 这么 – so; 说 – say; 有 – have; 什么 – what; 根据 – grounds.

14.1.6 Recap

- **按照** = according to (follow a rule, plan, order); **根据** = based on (evidence, data, source).
- 根据 can also be a noun (grounds); 按照 cannot.

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.2 ■ 不得不 vs 只好 (forced to vs only option)

14.2.1 Forced or resigned?

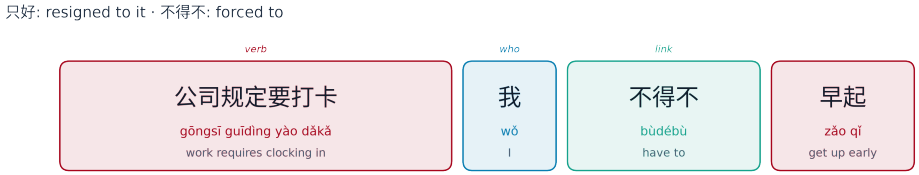
- The last train has been cancelled and there are no taxis.
- **没有车了，我们只好走回去。公司规定要打卡，我不得不早起。** – "No transport left, so we'll just have to walk back. The company makes us clock in, so I have no choice but to get up early."

14.2.2 只好 = the only option left (resigned)

- **只好 + verb** = "have no choice but to", after other options have disappeared; it sounds resigned, matter-of-fact.
- 商店都关门了，我只好明天再买.

商店都关门了，我只好明天再买。
shāng diàn dōu guān mén le wǒ zhǐ hǎo míng tiān zài mǎi
Word guide: 商店 – the shops; 都 – all; 关门 – closed; 我 – I; 只好 – had to; 明天 – tomorrow; 再 – then; 买 – buy.

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14.2.3 不得不 = forced (pressure, duty)

- **不得不 + verb** = be forced to, by rules, duty or pressure: 我不得不承认, 他病了, 不得不住院.
- It stresses the force of the situation and is a bit more formal.

他病得很重，不得不住院。
tā bìng de hěn zhòng bù dé bú zhù yuàn
Word guide: 他 – he; 病 – was ill; 很 – very; 重 – seriously; 不得不 – had to; 住院 – be hospitalised.

14.2.4 Choosing by the force

- Options ran out and you accept it → 只好. Something forces you (law, health, duty) → 不得不.
- Both go after the subject: 我只好 …, 我不得不 …; neither takes 吗 in a statement.

14.2.5 Often interchangeable

- 下雨了，我们只好 / 不得不待在家里 – both possible; 不得不 sounds more forced.
- 不得不承认 is a fixed expression: "I have to admit".

我不得不承认他说得对。
wǒ bù dé bù chéng rèn tā shuō de duì
Word guide: 我 – I; 不得不 – have to; 承认 – admit; 他 – he; 说 – said; 对 – right.

14.2.6 Recap

- **只好** = no other option, resigned; **不得不** = forced by rules, duty or pressure.
- Often interchangeable; 不得不承认 is fixed.

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.3 ■ 不断 vs 不停 (continually vs non-stop)

14.3.1 Steady growth versus non-stop

- A news report and a neighbour's complaint describe two kinds of "continually".
- **城市在不断发展。楼上的狗叫个不停。** – "The city keeps developing. The dog upstairs barks non-stop."

14.3.2 不断 = continually, ongoing (development)

- **不断 + verb** = keep on, with progress or repetition over time: 不断进步, 不断提高, 不断变化.
- It goes before the verb and suits formal contexts.

我们要不断学习。
wǒ men yào bú duàn xué xí
Word guide: 我们 – we; 要 – must; 不断 – continually; 学习 – learn.



14.3.3 不停 = without stopping (an action)

- **不停 (地) + verb** = keep doing an action with no pause: 不停地说, 不停地下雨.
- **V + 个不停** = keep V-ing: 说个不停, 哭个不停.

孩子哭个不停。
hái zi kū ge bù tíng
Word guide: 孩子 – the baby; 哭 – cry; 个 – (on and); 不停 – non-stop.

14.3.4 Progress versus repetition

- Development or improvement over time → 不断: 不断提高, not 不停提高.
- A physical action that won't stop → 不停: 雨不停地下, 说个不停.

14.3.5 个不停 only with 不停

- 说个不停 ✓, 说个不断 ×.
- 不断 can describe things: 不断的努力 – "constant effort"; 不停 is mostly for actions.

经过不断的努力，他成功了。
jīng guò bú duàn de nǔ lì tā chéng gōng le
Word guide: 经过 – after; 不断 – constant; 努力 – effort; 他 – he; 成功 – succeeded.

14.3.6 Recap

- **不断** = continually (development, improvement, formal); **不停** = non-stop (an action).
- V 个不停 only with 不停; 不断的努力 = constant effort.

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Practise this pattern step by step.

14.4 ■ 反而 vs 却 (instead vs however)

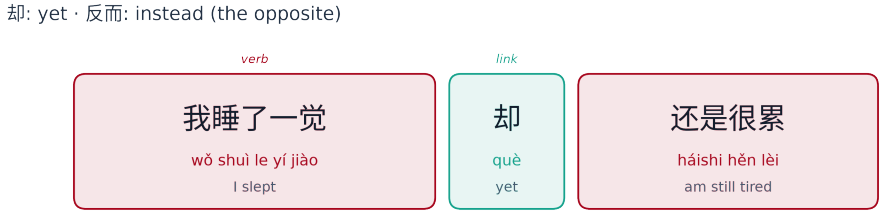
14.4.1 Yet versus instead

- You took a nap to feel better, but woke up even more tired.
- **我睡了一觉，却还是很累；不但没好，反而更累了。** – "I took a nap, yet I'm still tired; far from better, I'm actually more tired."

14.4.2 却 = but, yet (a contrast)

- **却** marks a contrast with the first clause; it goes after the subject: 他很累，却睡不着.
- The second part simply goes against what you'd expect, without being the opposite.

已经春天了，天气却还很冷。
yǐ jīng chūn tiān le tiān qì què hái hěn lěng
Word guide: 已经 – already; 春天 – spring; 天气 – the weather; 却 – yet; 还 – still; 很 – very; 冷 – cold.



14.4.3 反而 = instead, the opposite happened

- **反而** says the result went the opposite way: 吃了药，病反而更重了.
- It often follows 不但不 / 不但没: 他不但没生气，反而笑了.

吃了药，病反而更重了。
chī le yào bìng fǎn ér gèng zhòng le
Word guide: 吃 – took; 药 – medicine; 病 – the illness; 反而 – instead; 更 – more; 重 – serious.

14.4.4 Contrast or reversal?

- A plain "but": 却. The opposite of the expected result: 反而.
- Both follow the subject: 他却 …, 他反而 …; neither starts the clause.

14.4.5 Side by side

- 他很有钱，却不快乐 – rich but not happy (contrast).
- 他有钱了，反而不快乐了 – he got rich and became unhappier (reversal).

他有钱了，反而不快乐了。
tā yǒu qián le fǎn ér bú kuài lè le
Word guide: 他 – he; 有钱 – got rich; 反而 – instead; 不 – not; 快乐 – happy.

14.4.6 Recap

- **却** = but, yet (contrast); **反而** = instead (the opposite of the expected result).
- Both after the subject; 不但不 … 反而 … is the classic reversal frame.

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.5 ■ 根本 vs 到底 (at all vs on earth)

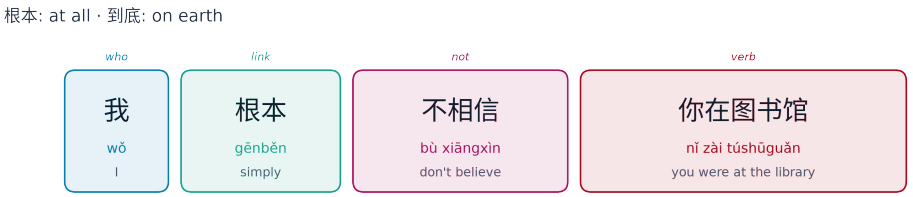
14.5.1 At all, or on earth?

- Your friend keeps changing his story about where he was last night.
- **你到底去哪儿了？我根本不相信你在图书馆。** – “Where on earth did you go? I don’t believe at all that you were in the library.”

14.5.2 根本 = at all, simply (negatives) / fundamentally

- **根本 + 不 / 没** = not at all: 根本不知道, 根本没去. It strongly rejects an idea.
- As a noun / adjective: “root, fundamental”: 根本原因 – “the root cause”.

我根本不认识他。
wǒ gēn běn bú rèn shi tā
Word guide: 我 – I; 根本 – at all; 不 – not; 认识 – know; 他 – him.



14.5.3 到底 = on earth (questions) / after all

- **到底 + question** = on earth, exactly: 你到底想怎么样?
- In statements, 到底 = after all, in the end: 他到底还是来了.

你到底想怎么样?
nǐ dào dǐ xiǎng zěn me yàng
Word guide: 你 – you; 到底 – on earth; 想 – want; 怎么样 – what.

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14.5.4 Different jobs

- 根本 strengthens a negative statement; it does not go in questions as “on earth”: 你根本去哪儿了 ×.
- 到底 strengthens a question; it does not mean “not at all”: 我到底不知道 × → 我根本不知道.

14.5.5 Together in an argument

- **问题到底在哪儿？根本原因是缺少沟通。** – “Where exactly is the problem? The root cause is a lack of communication.”
- 到底 asks; 根本 answers at the deepest level.

根本原因是缺少沟通。
gēn běn yuán yīn shì quē shǎo gōu tōng
Word guide: 根本 – the root; 原因 – cause; 是 – is; 缺少 – a lack of; 沟通 – communication.

14.5.6 Recap

- **根本 + 不/没** = not at all; 根本原因 = root cause.
- **到底 + question** = on earth / exactly; in statements = after all.

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.6 ■ 根据 vs 据 (based on vs formal shorthand)

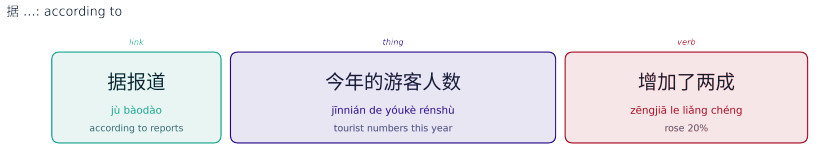
14.6.1 According to reports

- You read a news story citing an official source.
- **据报道，今年的游客人数增加了两成。** – “According to reports, the number of tourists has risen by 20% this year.”

14.6.2 根据 = based on (any source)

- **根据 + source / evidence** = on the basis of: 根据调查, 根据他的说法, 根据规定.
- It is used in speech and writing.

根据调查，大多数人同意。
gēn jù diào chá dà duō shù rén tóng yì
Word guide: 根据 – based on; 调查 – the survey; 大多数 – most; 人 – people; 同意 – agree.



14.6.3 据 = according to (formal shorthand)

- **据 + verb of reporting** in fixed formal phrases: 据报道 (according to reports), 据说 (it is said), 据统计 (according to statistics), 据了解 (it is understood).
- **据说他要出国了。** – "Word is he's going abroad."

据说他要出国了。
jù shuō tā yào chū guó le
Word guide: 据说 – it is said; 他 – he; 要 – is going to; 出国 – go abroad.

14.6.4 据 mostly before a reporting verb

- 据 usually takes a reporting verb directly: 据报道, 据统计. Before a plain noun phrase, 根据 is safer: 根据这份报告.
- 据说 is common even in speech; the other 据 phrases are formal.

14.6.5 根据 as a noun

- 根据 can also mean "grounds, basis": 你有什么根据?
- 据 cannot be a noun.

据统计，人口增加了。
jù tǒng jì rén kǒu zēng jiā le
Word guide: 据 – according to; 统计 – statistics; 人口 – the population; 增加 – increased.

14.6.6 Recap

- **根据 + source** = based on (general; also a noun "grounds").
- **据 + reporting verb** = according to (据报道, 据说, 据统计; formal shorthand).

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.7 ■ 恢复 vs 还原 (recover vs restore to original)

14.7.1 Back to normal

- After a week in hospital, your grandfather is walking again; meanwhile, technicians restore an old photo.
- **爷爷的身体慢慢恢复了。他们把老照片还原成了彩色的样子。** – "Grandpa's health has slowly recovered. They restored the old photo to its colour form."

14.7.2 恢复 = recover, resume (a normal state)

- **恢复** = return to a previous normal condition: 恢复健康, 恢复正常, 恢复交通.
- Often for health, order, activity or relationships.

交通已经恢复正常了。
jiāo tōng yǐ jīng huī fù zhèng cháng le
Word guide: 交通 – traffic; 已经 – already; 恢复 – returned to; 正常 – normal.

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14.7.3 还原 = restore to the original form

- **还原** = put something back to its original form or state: 还原现场 (reconstruct the scene), 还原历史 (recreate history as it was).
- It stresses getting back the original version.

这部电影还原了当时的历史。
zhè bù diàn yǐng huán yuán le dāng shí de lì shǐ
Word guide: 这部 – this; 电影 – film; 还原 – recreated; 当时 – that time's; 历史 – history.

14.7.4 Normal state versus original form

- Health, order, activity → 恢复: 恢复健康, not 还原健康.
- A scene, picture or story back to its original → 还原: 还原历史真相.

14.7.5 Both with places

- 恢复营业 = (a shop) reopens for business.
- 还原老城区的样子 = restore the old town to how it originally looked.

商店下周恢复营业。
shāng diàn xià zhōu huī fù yíng yè
Word guide: 商店 – the shop; 下周 – next week; 恢复 – resumes; 营业 – business.

14.7.6 Recap

- **恢复** = recover / resume a normal state (health, order, business).
- **还原** = restore to the original form (scene, history, appearance).

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.8 ■ 居然 vs 反而 (surprisingly vs instead)

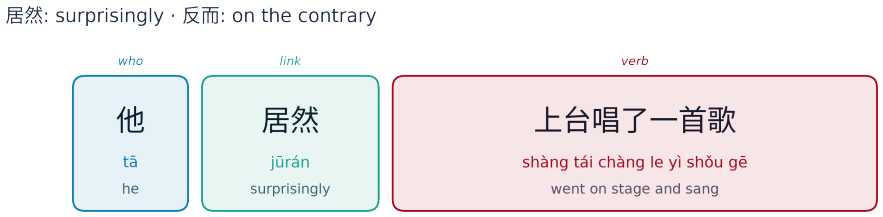
14.8.1 Surprise or reversal?

- Your shy classmate surprised everyone at the talent show.
- **他居然上台唱了一首歌！大家以为他会紧张，他反而很放松。** – "He actually went on stage and sang! Everyone thought he'd be nervous, but he was relaxed instead."

14.8.2 居然 = surprisingly, actually

- **居然** marks any unexpected event: 他居然忘了, 她居然会说日语.
- It just signals surprise; the event need not be the opposite of anything.

这么简单的题，他居然做错了。
zhè me jiǎn dān de tí tā jū rán zuò cuò le
Word guide: 这么 – such; 简单 – an easy; 题 – question; 他 – he; 居然 – actually; 做错 – got wrong.



14.8.3 反而 = instead, the opposite

- **反而** says the result went in the opposite direction from expected: 吃了药，反而更不舒服了.
- It needs a clear expectation to reverse.

休息了一天，他反而更累了。
xiū xi le yì tiān tā fǎn ér gèng lèi le
Word guide: 休息 – after resting; 一天 – a day; 他 – he; 反而 – instead; 更 – more; 累 – tired.

14.8.4 Surprise versus opposite

- Any surprise → 居然 / 竟然. A result opposite to the expected one → 反而.
- 居然 can describe good or bad surprises; 反而 always reverses an expectation.

14.8.5 Can they combine?

- Yes: 他不但没生气，居然还笑了 / 反而笑了 – both possible; 反而 stresses the reversal, 居然 the surprise.
- Choose by what you want to highlight.

他不但没生气，反而笑了。
tā bú dàn méi shēng qì fǎn ér xiào le
Word guide: 他 – he; 不但 – not only; 没 – didn't; 生气 – get angry; 反而 – instead; 笑 – laughed.

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14.8.6 Recap

- **居然** = surprisingly (any unexpected event); **反而** = instead (the opposite of what was expected).
- Pick by focus: surprise or reversal.

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.9 ■ 一度 vs 一时 (at one time vs for the moment)

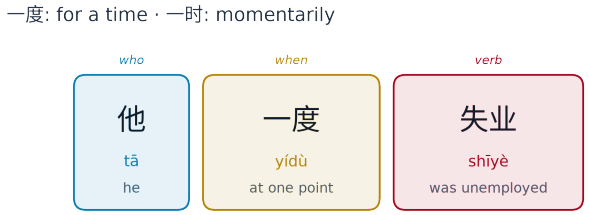
14.9.1 Once, for a while

- Your uncle talks about a difficult period in his life and a moment of panic.
- **他一度失业，那时他一时不知道该怎么办。** – "He was unemployed for a time, and at that moment he didn't know what to do."

14.9.2 一度 = at one time, for a period (in the past)

- **一度 + verb / adj** = once, for a while in the past (and it is no longer so): 一度很流行, 一度中断.
- It describes a past phase.

这首歌一度非常流行。
zhè shǒu gē yí dù fēi cháng liú xíng
Word guide: 这 – this; 首 – (measure word); 歌 – song; 一度 – at one time; 非常 – very; 流行 – popular.



14.9.3 一时 = for the moment, temporarily

- **一时 + verb** = at that moment, for a short time: 一时想不起来 (can't remember just now), 一时冲动 (a moment's impulse).
- It is about a brief moment, often a temporary failure.

他的名字我一时想不起来。
tā de míng zi wǒ yì shí xiǎng bu qǐ lái
Word guide: 他 – his; 名字 – name; 我 – I; 一时 – for the moment; 想不起来 – can't recall.

14.9.4 A phase versus a moment

- A past period that has ended → 一度: 他一度住在国外.
- A brief moment or impulse → 一时: 一时生气说错了话.

14.9.5 一时 in set phrases

- 一时半会儿 = in a short while: 这个问题一时半会儿解决不了.
- 一度 can also be a count: 一年一度 – "once a year": 一年一度的春节.

一年一度的春节。
yì nián yí dù de Chūn jié
Word guide: 一年 – once a year; 一度 – (once); 春节 – Spring Festival.

14.9.6 Recap

- **一度** = at one time (a past phase); also 一年一度 = once a year.
- **一时** = for the moment, temporarily (一时想不起来, 一时冲动, 一时半会儿).

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.10 ■ 一直 vs 一向 (continuously vs habitually)

14.10.1 All day, or always?

- Your neighbour has been practising piano all morning; she has always been hard-working.
- **她一直在练琴，她一向很努力。** – "She's been practising the piano all along; she's always been hard-working."

14.10.2 一直 = continuously (a stretch of time)

- **一直** = without a break over a stretch, past or future: 一直在下雨, 我会一直等你.
- It can also mean "straight": 一直走.

我会一直等你。
wǒ huì yì zhí děng nǐ
Word guide: 我 – I; 会 – will; 一直 – always; 等 – wait for; 你 – you.



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14.10.3 一向 = habitually, consistently (character)

- **一向** describes long-standing habits or character from past to present: 他一向很准时.
- It does not look to the future: 我会一向等你 ×.

他一向很准时。
tā yí xiàng hěn zhǔn shí
Word guide: 他 – he; 一向 – has always been; 很 – very; 准时 – punctual.

14.10.4 Future and activities

- Future promises take 一直: 我会一直支持你. 一向 is past-to-present only.
- An ongoing activity (在 + verb) usually takes 一直: 一直在等; 一向 is about habits and traits.

14.10.5 Both possible

- 他一直 / 一向不喜欢吃辣 – both fine: a long-standing preference.
- 一向 sounds more like a character trait; 一直 more like continuity.

他一向不喜欢吃辣。
tā yí xiàng bù xǐ huan chī là
Word guide: 他 – he; 一向 – has always; 不 – not; 喜欢 – liked; 吃 – eating; 辣 – spicy food.

14.10.6 Recap

- **一直** = continuously (past or future; activities; also "straight ahead").
- **一向** = habitually, consistently (character, past to present, not future).

Practise this pattern step by step.

14.11 ■ Practice without the models

14.11.1 按照 vs 根据 (in accordance with vs based on)

1401.1 Complete: "Please queue in order." 请 …… 顺序排队。

1401.2 "Based on the survey, most students like online classes." Which fits? _____ 调查，大多数学生喜欢网课。

- A. 按照
- B. 关于
- C. 对于
- D. 根据

1401.3 Build: "What grounds do you have for saying that?"
Arrange all chunks: 根据? / 有什么 / 你这么说

1401.4 根据天气预报 means "based on the weather forecast".
True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1401.5 A company memo explains how a decision was made. 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.

14.11.2 不得不 vs 只好 (forced to vs only option)

1402.1 Complete: "I have to admit he was right." 我 …… 承认他说得对。

1402.2 "The restaurant was full, so we just had to eat at home." Which sounds most natural?

- A. 饭馆满了，我们不得不吗在家吃。
- B. 饭馆满了，我们只好在家吃。
- C. 饭馆满了，只好我们在家吃了吗。
- D. 饭馆满了，我们得不得在家吃。

1402.3 Build: "He was seriously ill and had to be hospitalised."

Arrange all chunks: ， / 他病得很重 / 住院。/ 不得不

1402.4 只好 and 不得不 can sometimes be used interchangeably.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1402.5 The last train has been cancelled and there are no taxis. 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.

14.11.3 不断 vs 不停 (continually vs non-stop)

1403.1 Complete (formal): "Our level keeps improving." 我们的水平在 …… 提高。

1403.2 Which is wrong?

- A. 技术不断进步。
- B. 他说个不断。
- C. 雨不停地下。
- D. 他说个不停。

1403.3 Build: "The baby cries non-stop."

Arrange all chunks: 不停。/ 孩子 / 个 / 哭

1403.4 不断的努力 means "constant effort".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1403.5 A news report and a neighbour's complaint describe two kinds of "continually". 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.

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Write or say your own response before reading the key.

14.11.4 反而 vs 却 (instead vs however)

1404.1 Complete: "After the medicine, the illness got worse instead." 吃了药，病 …… 更重了。

1404.2 "He's clever, but he doesn't work hard." Which fits? 他很聪明，_____ 不努力。

- A. 于是
- B. 却
- C. 因此
- D. 反而

1404.3 Build: "It's already spring, yet it's still cold."

Arrange all chunks: ， / 天气却 / 已经春天了 / 还很冷。

1404.4 反而 can start a clause before the subject.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1404.5 You took a nap to feel better, but woke up even more tired. 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.

14.11.5 根本 vs 到底 (at all vs on earth)

1405.1 Complete: "I don't know him at all." 我 …… 不认识他。

1405.2 "What on earth do you want?" Which fits? 你 _____ 想怎么样?

- A. 本来
- B. 根据
- C. 根本
- D. 到底

1405.3 Build: "The root cause is a lack of communication."

Arrange all chunks: 是 / 根本原因 / 沟通。/ 缺少

1405.4 他到底还是来了 means "In the end he came after all."

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1405.5 Your friend keeps changing his story about where he was last night. 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.

14.11.6 根据 vs 据 (based on vs formal shorthand)

1406.1 Complete: “It is said that he’s going abroad.” …… 说他要出国了。

1406.2 Which is safer before a plain noun phrase? “based on this report”

- A. 根这份报告
- B. 据这份报告
- C. 根据这份报告
- D. 据说这份报告

1406.3 Match each phrase to its meaning.

- 1. 据报道
- 1. 据统计
- 1. 据说
- A. according to statistics
- B. it is said
- C. according to reports

1406.4 据 can be used as a noun meaning “grounds”.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1406.5 You read a news story citing an official source. 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.

14.11.7 恢复 vs 还原 (recover vs restore to original)

1407.1 Complete: “He has recovered his health.” 他已经 …… 健康了。

1407.2 “The police reconstructed the accident scene.” Which fits? 警察 _____ 了事故现场。

- A. 恢复
- B. 回复
- C. 还原
- D. 复习

1407.3 Build: “The shop resumes business next week.”

Arrange all chunks: 商店 / 营业。/ 下周 / 恢复

1407.4 还原健康 is the usual phrase for recovering health.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1407.5 After a week in hospital, your grandfather is walking again; meanwhile, technicians restore an old photo. 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.

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Write or say your own response before reading the key.

14.11.8 居然 vs 反而 (surprisingly vs instead)

1408.1 Complete: “She can actually speak Japanese!” 她 …… 会说日语!

1408.2 “After a day of rest, he was even more tired.” Which fits best? 休息了一天，他 _____ 更累了。

- A. 反而
- B. 居然
- C. 当然
- D. 果然

1408.3 Build: “He actually got such an easy question wrong.”

Arrange all chunks: 这么简单的题 / 居然 / 做错了。/ ， 他

1408.4 反而 always reverses an expectation.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1408.5 Your shy classmate surprised everyone at the talent show. 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.

14.11.9 一度 vs 一时 (at one time vs for the moment)

1409.1 Complete: “I can’t recall his name just now.” 他的名字我 …… 想不起来。

1409.2 “This song was once very popular.” Which fits? 这首歌 _____ 非常流行。

- A. 一时
- B. 一度
- C. 一向
- D. 一直

1409.3 Build: “This problem can’t be solved in a short while.”

Arrange all chunks: 解决 / 这个问题一时半会儿 / 不了。

1409.4 一年一度 means “once a year”.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1409.5 Your uncle talks about a difficult period in his life and a moment of panic. 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.

14.11.10 一直 vs 一向 (continuously vs habitually)

1410.1 Promise: “I’ll always support you.” 我会 …… 支持你。

1410.2 Which is wrong?

- A. 他一向很准时。
- B. 我会一向等你。
- C. 雨一直在下。
- D. 他一直在练琴。

1410.3 Build: “I will wait for you all along.”

Arrange all chunks: 一直 / 等你。/ 我会

1410.4 他一直不喜欢吃辣 and 他一向不喜欢吃辣 are both acceptable.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1410.5 Your neighbour has been practising piano all morning; she has always been hard-working. 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.

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14.12 ■ Answers and explanations

14.12.1 按照 vs 根据 (in accordance with vs based on)

1401.1 按照

Following an order or rule = 按照.

1401.2 D. 根据

Evidence for a conclusion = 根据.

1401.3 你这么说有什么根据?

根据 as a noun = grounds.

1401.4 True.

根据 introduces the source of a judgement.

1401.5 One possible response: 按照公司规定，根据调查结果，我们决定取消这次活动。

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.
- To follow a rule, plan or order, use 按照: 按照计划进行. 根据规定 is also correct, but it justifies a decision: “on the basis of the rules”.
- Evidence for a conclusion: 根据研究, not 按照研究.
- 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.

14.12.2 不得不 vs 只好 (forced to vs only option)

1402.1 不得不

不得不承认 is fixed.

1402.2 B. 饭馆满了，我们只好在家吃。

Options ran out, so 只好 fits naturally.

1402.3 他病得很重，不得不住院。

Pressure of the situation = 不得不.

1402.4 True.

不得不 just sounds more forced.

1402.5 One possible response: 没有车了，我们只好走回去。公司规定要打卡，我不得不早起。

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.

- Options ran out and you accept it → 只好. Something forces you (law, health, duty) → 不得不.
- Both go after the subject: 我只好 …, 我不得不 …; neither takes 吗 in a statement.
- 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.

14.12.3 不断 vs 不停 (continually vs non-stop)

1403.1 不断

Improvement over time = 不断.

1403.2 B. 他说个不断。

Verb + 个 + 不停 means "non-stop" (他说个不停). 不断 does not fit this pattern; it works as an adverb before verbs like 进步 or 提高.

1403.3 孩子哭个不停。

V + 个不停.

1403.4 True.

True. 不断 can also describe a noun with 的: 不断的努力 "constant effort".

1403.5 One possible response: 城市在不断发展。楼上的狗叫个不停。

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.
- Development or improvement over time → 不断: 不断提高, not 不停提高.
- A physical action that won't stop → 不停: 雨不停地下, 说个不停.
- 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.

14.12.4 反而 vs 却 (instead vs however)

1404.1 反而

The opposite of the expected result = 反而.

1404.2 B. 却

却 marks a plain contrast after the subject: 他很聪明，却不努力. 反而 would mean the result goes against what was expected, and 因此 / 于是 show result or sequence.

1404.3 已经春天了，天气却还很冷。

Subject + 却 + predicate.

1404.4 False.

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False. 反而 is an adverb and goes after the subject, before the verb: 他反而笑了. It does not come before the subject.

1404.5 One possible response: 我睡了一觉，却还是很累；不但没好，反而更累了。

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.
- A plain "but": 却. The opposite of the expected result: 反而.
- Both follow the subject: 他却 …, 他反而 …; neither starts the clause.
- 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.

14.12.5 根本 vs 到底 (at all vs on earth)

1405.1 根本

根本 + 不 = not at all.

1405.2 D. 到底

到底 strengthens questions.

1405.3 根本原因是缺少沟通。

根本 as an adjective: root.

1405.4 True.

In statements, 到底 = after all.

1405.5 One possible response: 你到底去哪儿了？我根本不相信你在图书馆。

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.
- 根本 strengthens a negative statement; it does not go in questions as "on earth": 你根本去哪儿了 ×.
- 到底 strengthens a question; it does not mean "not at all": 我到底不知道 × → 我根本不知道.
- 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.

14.12.6 根据 vs 据 (based on vs formal shorthand)

1406.1 据

据说 = it is said.

1406.2 C. 根据这份报告

Before a noun phrase, 根据 is the safe choice.

1406.3 1–C: 据报道 = according to reports; 2–A: 据统计 = according to statistics; 3–B: 据说 = it is said

据 + reporting verb.

1406.4 False.

False. On its own 据 is a preposition, "according to" (据报道). The noun "grounds, basis" is 根据 (你有什么根据？); 据 has this meaning only inside compounds like 证据.

1406.5 One possible response: 据报道，今年的游客人数增加了两成。

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.
- 据 usually takes a reporting verb directly: 据报道, 据统计. Before a plain noun phrase, 根据 is safer: 根据这份报告.
- 据说 is common even in speech; the other 据 phrases are formal.
- 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.

14.12.7 恢复 vs 还原 (recover vs restore to original)

1407.1 恢复

Health returns to normal = 恢复.

1407.2 C. 还原

Reconstructing a scene as it originally was = 还原.

1407.3 商店下周恢复营业。

恢复营业 = resume business.

1407.4 False.

The usual phrase is 恢复健康.

1407.5 One possible response: 爷爷的身体慢慢恢复了。他们把老照片还原成了彩色的样子。

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.

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- Health, order, activity → 恢复: 恢复健康, not 还原健康.
- A scene, picture or story back to its original → 还原: 还原历史真相.
- 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.

14.12.8 居然 vs 反而 (surprisingly vs instead)

1408.1 居然

Surprise = 居然.

1408.2 A. 反而

The opposite of the expected result = 反而.

1408.3 这么简单的题，他居然做错了。

Subject + 居然 + verb.

1408.4 True.

True. 反而 always says the result goes against an expectation. 居然 only marks the speaker's surprise and does not need a reversal.

1408.5 One possible response: 他居然上台唱了一首歌！大家以为他会紧张，他反而很放松。

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.
- Any surprise → 居然 / 竟然. A result opposite to the expected one → 反而.
- 居然 can describe good or bad surprises; 反而 always reverses an expectation.
- 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.

14.12.9 一度 vs 一时 (at one time vs for the moment)

1409.1 一时

A brief moment = 一时.

1409.2 B. 一度

一度 marks a past phase that has since ended: 这首歌一度非常流行 "was once very popular". 一直 and 一向 describe continuity up to now.

1409.3 这个问题一时半会儿解决不了。

Topic + 一时半会儿 + verb + potential complement 不了.

1409.4 True.

True. In 一年一度, 度 counts occasions, so the phrase means “once a year”, as in 一年一度的春节.

1409.5 One possible response: 他一度失业，那时他一时不知道该怎么办。

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.
- A past period that has ended → 一度: 他一度住在国外.
- A brief moment or impulse → 一时: 一时生气说错了话.
- 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.

14.12.10 一直 vs 一向 (continuously vs habitually)

1410.1 一直

Future promises take 一直.

1410.2 B. 我会一向等你。

一向 does not look to the future.

1410.3 我会一直等你。

会 + 一直 + verb.

1410.4 True.

For a long-standing preference, both work.

1410.5 One possible response: 她一直在练琴，她一向很努力。

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.
- Future promises take 一直: 我会一直支持你. 一向 is past-to-present only.
- An ongoing activity (在 + verb) usually takes 一直: 一直在等; 一向 is about habits and traits.
- 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.

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15 Comparing similar nouns

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.

15.1 ■ 彼此 vs 对方 (each other vs the other party)

15.1.1 Respect on both sides

- Two companies sign a partnership agreement.
- **双方应该彼此尊重，并且尊重对方的文化。** – “Both sides should respect each other, and respect the other party’s culture.”

15.1.2 彼此 = each other, mutually

- **彼此** refers to both sides together: 彼此帮助, 彼此了解, 彼此彼此 (“same to you”).
- It goes before the verb, like 互相: 我们彼此信任.

我们彼此信任。
wǒ men bǐ cǐ xìn rèn
Word guide: 我们 – we; 彼此 – each other; 信任 – trust.



15.1.3 对方 = the other party

- **对方** points to the other person or side from one side’s view: 尊重对方, 对方的意见.
- It can be a subject or object, with 的 before nouns.

你应该听听对方的意见。
nǐ yīng gāi tīng ting duì fāng de yì jiàn
Word guide: 你 – you; 应该 – should; 听听 – listen to; 对方 – the other party’s; 意见 – opinion.

15.1.4 Both sides versus the other side

- Mutual action, both together → 彼此 (or 互相). One side looking at the other → 对方.

- 彼此 is not used as a simple object after 的: 对方的意见, not 彼此的意见 for "the other's opinion" (彼此的意见 = both sides' opinions).

15.1.5 彼此彼此

- **彼此彼此** = "same to you / we're in the same boat", a modest reply: A: 你辛苦了! B: 彼此彼此。
- 彼此 vs 互相: 互相 only before verbs; 彼此 can also be a noun: 不分彼此 – "make no distinction between us".

我们不分彼此。
wǒ men bù fēn bǐ cǐ
Word guide: 我们 – we; 不分 – don't distinguish; 彼此 – between each other.

15.1.6 Recap

- **彼此** = each other, mutually (before verbs, or as a noun); 彼此彼此 = same to you.
- **对方** = the other party (one side's view).

Practise this pattern step by step.

15.2 ■ 人家 vs 别人 (others – colloquial vs neutral)

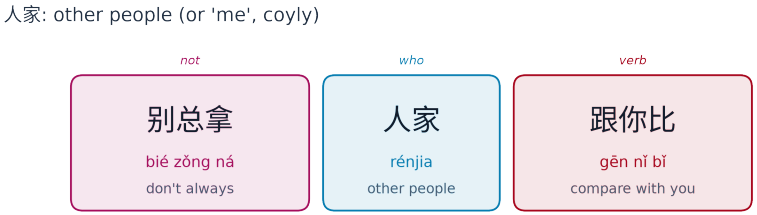
15.2.1 Other people, or "me"?

- Your sister complains that you keep comparing her with yourself.
- **别总拿人家跟你比。人家也有自己的难处嘛!** – "Stop always comparing me with you! I have my own difficulties too!"

15.2.2 别人 = other people (neutral)

- **别人** = others, other people in general: 别人的东西, 不要麻烦别人.
- It is neutral and fits any register.

不要随便拿别人的东西。
bú yào suí biàn ná bié ren de dōng xi
Word guide: 不要 – don't; 随便 – casually; 拿 – take; 别人 – other people's; 东西 – things.



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15.2.3 人家 = others, he / she, or even "me"

- **人家** (colloquial) can mean "other people", a specific third person (人家是专家 – "he's an expert"), or, said playfully, "I / me": 人家不想去嘛!
- The meaning depends on context and tone.

人家是专家，听他的吧。
rén jia shì zhuān jiā tīng tā de ba
Word guide: 人家 – he; 是 – is; 专家 – an expert; 听 – listen to; 他 – him.

15.2.4 Tone and register

- 人家 meaning "I" sounds coy or playful; avoid it in formal or professional settings.
- In writing, 别人 / 他人 are the neutral choices.

15.2.5 人家 (rén jia) versus 人家 (rén jiā)

- 人家 read rénjia = others / he / she / me.
- 人家 read rénjiā = household: 这个村子有一百户人家 – "This village has a hundred households."

村子里有一百户人家。
cūn zi li yǒu yì bǎi hù rén jiā
Word guide: 村子 – the village; 里 – in; 有 – has; 一百 – a hundred; 户 – (measure word); 人家 – households.

15.2.6 Recap

- **别人** = other people (neutral). **人家** (rénjia) = others / he, she / playful "me" (colloquial).
- 人家 (rénjiā) = household.

Practise this pattern step by step.

15.3 ■ Practice without the models

15.3.1 彼此 vs 对方 (each other vs the other party)

1501.1 Complete: "We trust each other." 我们 …… 信任。

1501.2 "Listen to the other party's opinion." Which fits? 听听 _____ 的意见。

- A. 彼此
- B. 对方
- C. 互相
- D. 双方

1501.3 Build: "You should listen to the other party's opinion."

Arrange all chunks: 对方的 / 听听 / 你应该 / 意见。

1501.4 彼此彼此 is a modest "same to you".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1501.5 Two companies sign a partnership agreement. 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.

15.3.2 人家 vs 别人 (others – colloquial vs neutral)

1502.1 Complete (neutral): "Don't take other people's things." 不要拿 …… 的东西。

1502.2 What does 人家不想去嘛! usually mean when a girl says it to her boyfriend?

- A. I don't want to go! (playful)
- B. The household doesn't want to go.
- C. The expert doesn't want to go.
- D. Other people don't want to go.

1502.3 Build: "He's an expert; listen to him."

Arrange all chunks: 人家是专家 / 听他的 / ， / 吧。

1502.4 In 一百户人家, 人家 means "households".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1502.5 Your sister complains that you keep comparing her with yourself. 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.

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15.4 ■ Answers and explanations

15.4.1 彼此 vs 对方 (each other vs the other party)

1501.1 彼此

Mutual action = 彼此.

1501.2 B. 对方

One side looking at the other = 对方.

1501.3 你应该听听对方的意见。

对方 + 的 + noun.

1501.4 True.

A reply when someone praises or thanks you.

1501.5 One possible response: 双方应该彼此尊重，并且尊重对方的文化。

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.
- Mutual action, both together → 彼此 (or 互相). One side looking at the other → 对方.
- 彼此 is not used as a simple object after 的: 对方的意见, not 彼此的意见 for "the other's opinion" (彼此的意见 = both sides' opinions).
- 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.

15.4.2 人家 vs 别人 (others – colloquial vs neutral)

1502.1 别人

Neutral "other people" = 别人.

1502.2 A. I don't want to go! (playful)

人家 can playfully mean "I".

1502.3 人家是专家，听他的吧。

人家 = he / she (a specific person).

1502.4 True.

True. Read rénjiā, 人家 means "household, family" and is counted with 户: 一百户人家. Read rénjia, it means "others" or "I".

1502.5 One possible response: 别总拿人家跟你比。人家也有自己的难处嘛!

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.

- 人家 meaning “I” sounds coy or playful; avoid it in formal or professional settings.
- In writing, 别人 / 他人 are the neutral choices.
- 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.

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