

LESSON 8

第八课

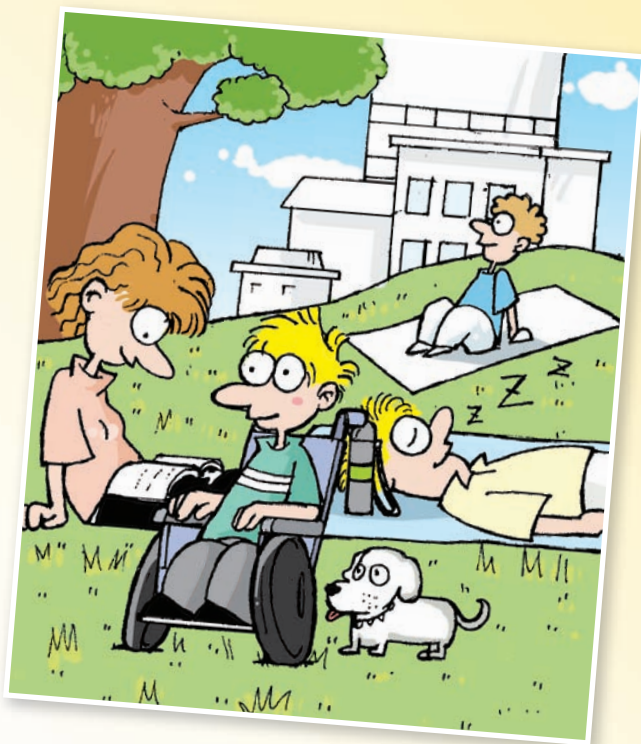
Dì bā kè

School Life

学校生活

Xuéxiào shēnghuó

8



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this lesson, you will learn to use Chinese to

- Describe the routine of a student's life on campus;
- Write a simple diary entry;
- Write a brief letter in the proper format;
- Express your modesty in terms of your foreign language ability;
- Invite friends to go on an outing.

RELATE AND GET READY

In your own culture/community—

1. Is there a fixed format for diary entries?
2. Do people follow a certain format in writing a letter?
3. Are expressions of modesty considered culturally appropriate?

A Diary: A Typical School Day



An Entry from Li You's Diary

李友的一篇日记

十一月三日 星期二

今天我很忙，很累。早上七点半起床^①，洗了澡以后就^②吃早饭。我一边吃饭，一边^③听录音。九点到教室去上课^④。

第一节课是中文，老师教我们发音、生词和语法，也教我们写字，还给了^⑤我们一篇新课文^⑥，这篇课文很有意思。第二节是电脑^①课，很难。

LANGUAGE NOTE

- ① The usual colloquial term for a computer is 电脑 (diànnǎo), literally, "electric brain." A more formal term, especially in mainland China, is 电子计算机 (diànzǐ jìsuànjī) or "electronic computing machine," or simply 计算机 (jìsuànjī). But in Taiwan 计算机 (jìsuànjī) means a calculator. In mainland China, a calculator is called 计算器 (jìsuànqì).

中午我和同学们一起到餐厅去吃午饭。我们一边吃，一边练习说中文。下午我到图书馆去上网。四点王朋来找我打球。五点三刻吃晚饭。七点半我去白英爱的宿舍跟她聊天(儿)。到那儿的时候，她**正在**⑦做功课。我八点半回家。睡觉以前，高文中给我打了一个电话，告诉我明天要考试，我说我已经知道了。

Lǐ Yǒu de yì piān rìjì

Shíyīyuè sānrì, xīngqīèr

Jīntiān wǒ hěn máng, hěn lèi. Zǎoshang qī diǎn bàn qǐ chuáng^①, xǐ le zǎo yǐhòu jiù^② chī zǎofàn. Wǒ yìbiān chī fàn, yìbiān^③ tīng lùyīn. Jiǔ diǎn dào jiàoshì qù shàng kè^④.

Dì yī jié kè shì Zhōngwén, lǎoshī jiāo wǒmen fāyīn, shēngcí hé yǔfǎ, yě jiāo wǒmen xiě zì, hái gěi le^⑤ wǒmen yì piān xīn kèwén^⑥, zhè piān kèwén hěn yǒu yìsi. Dì èr jié shì diànnǎo^⑦ kè, hěn nán.

Zhōngwǔ wǒ hé tóngxué men yìqǐ dào cāntīng qù chī wǔfàn. Wǒmen yìbiān chī, yìbiān liànxí shuō Zhōngwén. Xiàwǔ wǒ dào túshūguǎn qù shàng wǎng. Sì diǎn Wáng Péng lái zhǎo wǒ dǎ qiú. Wǔ diǎn sān kè chī wǎnfàn. Qī diǎn bàn wǒ qù Bái Yīng'ài de sùshè gēn tā liáo tiān(r). Dào nàr de shíhou, tā zhèngzài^⑦ zuò gōngkè. Wǒ bā diǎn bàn huí jiā. Shuì jiào yǐqián, Gāo Wénzhōng gěi wǒ dǎ le yí ge diànhuà, gàosu wǒ míngtiān yào kǎoshì, wǒ shuō wǒ yǐjīng zhīdao le.



VOCABULARY

- | | | | |
|-------|-----------|-----|---|
| 1. 篇 | piān | m | (measure word for essays, articles, etc.) |
| 2. 日记 | rìjì | n | diary |
| 3. 累 | lèi | adj | tired |
| 4. 起床 | qǐ chuáng | vo | to get up |
| 床 | chuáng | n | bed |

VOCABULARY

5.	洗澡	xǐ zǎo	vo	to take a bath/shower
6.	早饭	zǎofàn	n	breakfast
7.	一边	yìbiān	adv	simultaneously; at the same time [See Grammar 3.]
8.	教室	jiàoshì	n	classroom
9.	发音	fāyīn	n	pronunciation
10.	新	xīn	adj	new
11.	电脑	diànnǎo	n	computer
	脑	nǎo	n	brain
12.	中午	zhōngwǔ	n	noon
13.	餐厅	cāntīng	n	dining room, cafeteria
14.	午饭	wǔfàn	n	lunch, midday meal
15.	上网	shàng wǎng	vo	to go online; to surf the internet
16.	宿舍	sùshè	n	dormitory
17.	那儿	nàr	pr	there
18.	正在	zhèngzài	adv	in the middle of (doing something) [See Grammar 7.]
19.	以前	yǐqián	t	before
20.	告诉	gàosu	v	to tell
21.	已经	yǐjīng	adv	already
22.	知道	zhīdao	v	to know



同学们在餐厅吃午饭。
Tóngxué men zài cāntīng chī wǔfàn.



学生已经起床去上课了。
Xuésheng yǐjīng qǐ chuáng qù shàng kè le.

Grammar

1. The Position of Time-When Expressions

Time-when expressions come before the verb. They often appear after the subject. However, they sometimes precede the subject under certain discourse conditions. In this lesson, we focus on practicing the ones positioned after the subject.

- ① 我们十点上课。
Wǒmen shí diǎn shàng kè.
(We start the class at ten.)
- ② 我们几点去？
Wǒmen jǐ diǎn qù?
(What time are we going?)
- ③ 你什么时候睡觉？
Nǐ shénme shíhou shuì jiào?
(What time do you go to bed?)
- ④ 他明天上午八点来。
Tā míngtiān shàngwǔ bā diǎn lái.
(He will come at eight tomorrow morning.)



This is a sign outside a student cafeteria. What is the sign for? Can you answer the following questions after reading the sign?

学生什么时候吃早饭？什么时候吃午饭？什么时候吃晚饭？

Xuésheng shénme shíhou chī zǎofàn? Shénme shíhou chī wǔfàn?
Shénme shíhou chī wǎnfàn?

2. The Adverb 就 (jiù) (II)

[See also Grammar 3 in Lesson 7.]

The adverb 就 (jiù) connecting two verbs or verb phrases indicates that the second action happens as soon as the first one is completed.

1 他今天早上起床以后就听中文录音了。

Tā jīntiān zǎoshang qǐ chuáng yǐhòu jiù tīng Zhōngwén lùyīn le.

(He listened to the Chinese recordings right after he got up this morning.)

2 王朋写了信以后就去睡觉了。

Wáng Péng xiě le xìn yǐhòu jiù qù shuì jiào le.

(Wang Peng went to bed right after he had finished writing the letter.)

③ 我做了功课以后就去朋友家玩儿。

Wǒ zuò le gōngkè yǐhòu jiù qù péngyou jiā wánr.

(I will go to my friend's for a visit right after I finish my homework.)

3. 一边...一边... (yìbiān...yìbiān...)

This structure denotes the simultaneity of two ongoing actions. In general, the word or phrase for the action that started earlier follows the first 一边 (yìbiān), while that for the action that started later follows the second 一边 (yìbiān).

① 我们一边吃饭，一边练习说中文。

Wǒmen yìbiān chī fàn, yìbiān liànxí shuō Zhōngwén.

(We practiced speaking Chinese while having dinner.)

② 他常常一边吃饭一边看电视。

Tā chángcháng yìbiān chī fàn yìbiān kàn diànshì.

(He often eats and watches TV at the same time.)

Generally, the verb that follows the first 一边 (yìbiān) indicates the principal action for the moment, while the one that follows the second 一边 (yìbiān) denotes an accompanying action.

③ 我一边洗澡一边唱歌。

Wǒ yìbiān xǐ zǎo, yìbiān chàng gē.

(I sang while taking a shower.)

④ 我妹妹喜欢一边看书一边听音乐。

Wǒ mèimei xǐhuan yìbiān kàn shū, yìbiān tīng yīnyuè.

(My younger sister loves listening to music while she reads.)

4. Series of Verbs/Verb Phrases

A number of verbs or verb phrases can be used in succession to represent a series of actions. The sequential order of these verbs or verb phrases usually coincides with the temporal order of the actions.

① 他常常去高小音家吃饭。

Tā chángcháng qù Gāo Xiǎoyīn jiā chī fàn.

(He often goes to eat at Gao Xiaoyin's place.)

② 下午我要到图书馆去看书。

Xiàwǔ wǒ yào dào túshūguǎn qù kàn shū.

(This afternoon I will go to the library to read.)

③ 我明天想找同学去打球。

Wǒ míngtiān xiǎng zhǎo tóngxué qù dǎ qiú.

(I'd like to find some classmates to play ball with me tomorrow.)

④ 你明天来我家吃晚饭吧。

Nǐ míngtiān lái wǒ jiā chī wǎnfàn ba.

(Come and have dinner at my house tomorrow.)

5. The Particle 了 (le) (II)

[See also Lesson 5 Grammar 5 and Lesson 11 Grammar 2.]

If a statement enumerates a series of realized actions or events, 了 (le) usually appears at the end of the series, rather than after each of the verbs.

昨天第一节课是中文。老师教我们发音、
生词和语法，也教我们写字，还给了我们
一篇新课文。那篇课文很有意思。

Zuótiān dì yī jié kè shì Zhōngwén. Lǎoshī jiāo wǒmen fāyīn,

shēngcí hé yǔfǎ, yě jiāo wǒmen xiě zì, hái gěi le wǒmen

yì piān xīn kèwén. Nà piān kèwén hěn yǒu yìsi.

(Yesterday the first class was Chinese. Our teacher taught us pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar, taught us how to write characters, and gave us a new text. That text was very interesting.)

6. The Particle 的 (III)

When a disyllabic or polysyllabic adjective modifies a noun, the particle 的 (de) is usually inserted between the adjective and the noun, e.g. 漂亮的学校 (piàoliang de xuéxiào, beautiful schools), 容易的汉字 (róngyì de Hànzì, easy characters), 有意思的电影 (yǒu yìsi de diànyǐng, interesting movies). However, with monosyllabic adjectives, 的 (de) is often omitted, e.g., 新课文 (xīn kèwén, new lesson texts), 新电脑 (xīn diànnǎo, new computers), 大教室 (dà jiàoshì, big classrooms); 好老师 (hǎo lǎoshī, good teachers). If the adjective is preceded by 很 (hěn), however, 的 (de) cannot be dropped, e.g., 很新的电脑 (hěn xīn de diànnǎo, very new computers); 很大的教室 (hěn dà de jiàoshì, very big classrooms); 很好的老师 (hěn hǎo de lǎoshī, very good teachers).

7. The Adverb 正在 (zhèngzài, be doing...)

The adverb 正在 (zhèngzài) denotes an ongoing or progressive action at a certain point of time. It is more emphatic than 在 (zài) when it serves the same function.

① A: 李友，你在做什么？

Lǐ Yǒu, nǐ zài zuò shénme?
(Li You, what are you doing?)

B: 我在练习写汉字。

Wǒ zài liànxí xiě Hànzì.
(I'm practicing writing Chinese characters.)

② 我们现在正在上课，你别打电话。

Wǒmen xiànzài zhèngzài shàng kè, nǐ bié dǎ diànhuà.
(We are having a class right now. Don't make phone calls.)



- ③ 我昨天到他宿舍的时候，他正在练习发音。

Wǒ zuótiān dào tā sùshè de shíhòu, tā zhèngzài liànxí fāyīn.

(When I got to his dorm yesterday, he was in the middle of practicing pronunciation.)

- ④ A: 你知道不知道王老师在哪儿？

Nǐ zhīdao bù zhīdao Wáng lǎoshī zài nǎr?

(Do you know where Teacher Wang is?)

- B: 他正在办公室开会。

Tā zhèngzài bàngōngshì kāi huì.


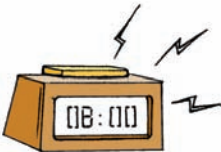


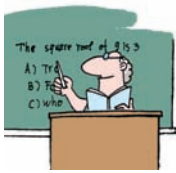



(He is having a meeting in his office.)

Language Practice

A. Time Expression + V

The following is a record of what Little Gao did yesterday. Practice how to recap what happened using the appropriate time expressions.

EXAMPLE: 小高早上八点起床。 Xiǎo Gāo zǎoshang bā diǎn qǐ chuáng.

	8:00am	
1.		
2.	8:30am	
3.	9:15am	
4.	12:00pm	
5.		

B. 一边...一边... (yìbiān...yìbiān...)

Look at the pictures given, and practice how to describe two simultaneous actions.

EXAMPLE:

他们



Tāmen

→ 他们一边聊天儿，
一边喝茶。

Tāmen yìbiān liáo tiānr,

yìbiān hē chá.

1. 王小姐



Wáng xiǎojiě

2. 高先生



Gāo xiānsheng

3. 小李



Xiǎo Lǐ

4. 小白



Xiǎo Bái

C. Subject + Verb 1 + Verb 2

Turn the following words into sentences.

EXAMPLE: 王朋 ◇ 小高家 ◇ 吃饭

Wáng Péng ◇ Xiǎo Gāo jiā ◇ chī fàn

→ 王朋到小高家去
吃饭。

Wáng Péng dào Xiǎo Gāo jiā qù
chī fàn.

or 王朋去小高家吃饭。

or Wáng Péng qù Xiǎo Gāo jiā chī fàn.

1. 我弟弟 ◇ 图书馆 ◇ 看书

1. Wǒ dìdi ◇ túshūguǎn ◇ kàn shū

2. 他 ◇ 教室 ◇ 练习发音

2. Tā ◇ jiàoshì ◇ liànxí fāyīn

3. 李友 ◇ 同学的宿舍
◇ 聊天儿

3. Lǐ Yǒu ◇ tóngxué de sùshè
◇ liáo tiānr

4. 小白 ◇ 学校 ◇ 听录音

4. Xiǎo Bái ◇ xuéxiào ◇ tīng lùyīn

5. 小王 ◇ 老师的办公室 ◇ 问问题

5. Xiǎo Wáng ◇ lǎoshī de bàngōngshì
◇ wèn wèntí

D. Verb + Object 1 + Object 2

D1: What does your teacher teach you in your Chinese class?

EXAMPLE: 学生 ◇ 生词

xuésheng ◇ shēngcí

→ 老师教学生生词。

→ Lǎoshī jiāo xuésheng shēngcí.

1. 学生 ◇ 汉字
2. 大家 ◇ 语法
3. 我们 ◇ 中文发音
4. 大家 ◇ 课文

1. xuésheng ◇ Hànzì
2. dàjiā ◇ yǔfǎ
3. wǒmen ◇ Zhōngwén fāyīn
4. dàjiā ◇ kèwén

D2: What kinds of questions do the students often ask their teachers in a language classroom?

EXAMPLE: 发音

fāyīn

→ 学生常常问老师
发音的问题。

Xuésheng chángcháng wèn lǎoshī

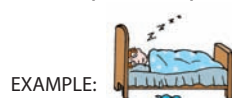
fāyīn de wèntí.

1. 生词
2. 语法
3. 课文
4. 汉字

1. shēngcí
2. yǔfǎ
3. kèwén
4. Hànzì

E. 正在... (zhèngzài ...)

Practice with your partner how to ask and describe what they are doing based on the pictures provided.

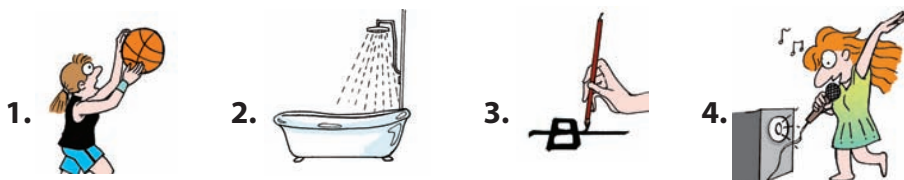


→ A: 他正在做什么？

A: Tā zhèngzài zuò shénme?

B: 他正在睡觉。

B: Tā zhèngzài shuì jiào.



F. Pair Activity

Find out your partner's daily routine:

你平常几点起床？
 你平常几点吃早饭？
 你平常几点去上课？
 你平常几点吃午饭？
 你平常几点吃晚饭？
 你平常什么时候洗澡？
 起床以后洗还是睡觉
 以前洗？

Nǐ píngcháng jǐ diǎn qǐ chuáng?
 Nǐ píngcháng jǐ diǎn chī zǎofàn?
 Nǐ píngcháng jǐ diǎn qù shàng kè?
 Nǐ píngcháng jǐ diǎn chī wǔfàn?
 Nǐ píngcháng jǐ diǎn chī wǎnfàn?
 Nǐ píngcháng shénme shíhòu xǐ zǎo?
 Qǐ chuáng yǐhòu xǐ háishi shuì jiào
 yǐqián xǐ?

G. Pair Activity

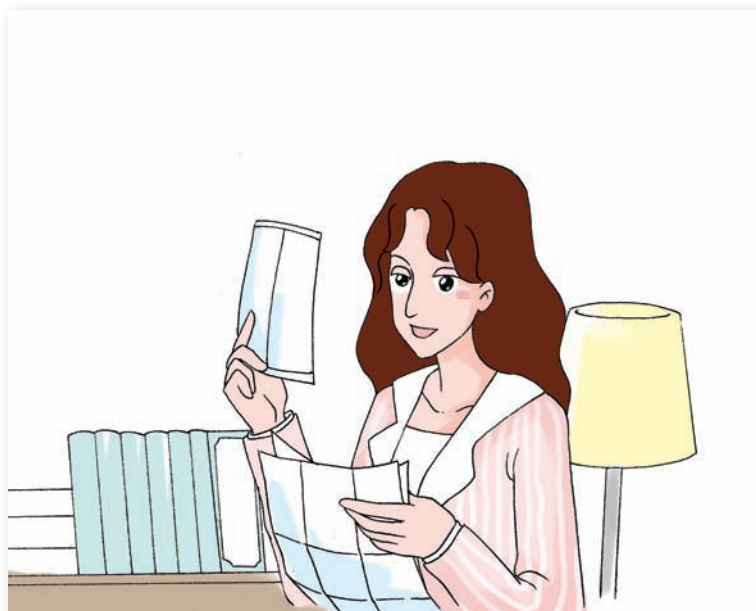
Take a look at Tom's daily schedule and ask each other the following questions:

12:30 have lunch
 1:30 go online
 2:00 study Chinese
 3:00 go to the library
 4:00 play basketball with friends
 5:00 shower
 6:30 have dinner

Tom 吃了午饭以后就
 做什么？
 Tom 学了中文以后就
 做什么？
 Tom 跟朋友打了球以后
 就做什么？

Tom chī le wǔfàn yǐhòu jiù zuò
 shénme?
 Tom xué le Zhōngwén yǐhòu jiù zuò
 shénme?
 Tom gēn péngyou dǎ le qiú yǐhòu jiù
 zuò shénme?

A Letter: Talking about Studying Chinese



A Letter

一封信

(The teacher asked the students to write their friends a letter in Chinese as a homework assignment. Here's what Li You wrote to Gao Xiaoyin.)

小音：

你好！好久不见，最近怎么样？

这个学期我很忙，除了专业课以外，还^⑧得学中文。我们的中文课很有意思。因为我们的中文老师只会^⑨说中文，不会说英文，所以上课的时候我们只说中文，不说英文。开始我觉得很难，后来^①，王朋常常帮我练习中文，就^⑩觉得不难了^②。

LANGUAGE NOTES

① 后来 (hòulái) is usually translated as "later," but it pertains only to an action or situation in the past.

② This sentence-final particle 了 usually indicates a change of status or the realization of a new situation. For more examples, please see Grammar 2 in Lesson 11 (Level 1 Part 2).

你喜欢听音乐吗？下个星期六，我们学校有一个音乐会，希望你^能来。我用中文写信写得很不好，请别笑我。祝

好

你的朋友
李友
十一月十八日

Yì fēng xìn

(The teacher asked the students to write their friends a letter in Chinese as a homework assignment. Here's what Li You wrote to Gao Xiaoyin.)

Xiǎoyīn:

Nǐ hǎo! Hǎo jiǔ bú jiàn, zuìjìn zěnmeyàng?

Zhè ge xuéqī wǒ hěn máng, **chú**le zhuānyè kè **yǐwài**, **hái**^⑧ děi xué Zhōngwén. Wǒmen de Zhōngwén kè hěn yǒu yìsi. Yīnwèi wǒmen de Zhōngwén lǎoshī zhǐ **huì**^⑨ shuō Zhōngwén, bú huì shuō Yīngwén, suǒyǐ shàng kè de shíhou wǒmen zhǐ shuō Zhōngwén, bù shuō Yīngwén. Kāishǐ wǒ juéde hěn nán, hòulái^①, Wáng Péng chángcháng bāng wǒ liànxí Zhōngwén, **jiù**^⑩ juéde bù nán le^②.

Nǐ xǐhuan tīng yīnyuè ma? Xià ge xīngqīliù, wǒmen xuéxiào yǒu yí ge yīnyuèhuì, xīwàng nǐ **néng**^③ lái. Wǒ yòng Zhōngwén xiě xìn xiě de hěn bù hǎo, qǐng bié xiào wǒ. Zhù

Hǎo

Nǐ de péngyou

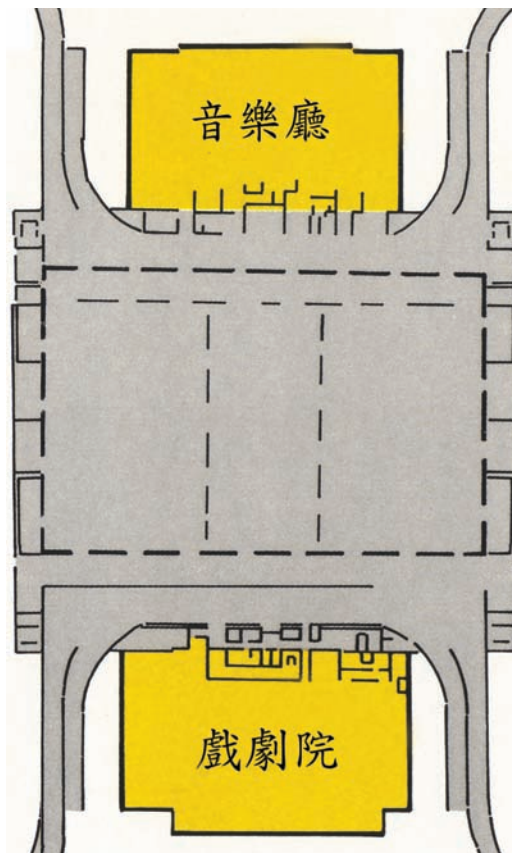
Lǐ Yǒu

Shíyīyuè shíbā rì



VOCABULARY

- | | | | |
|------------|---------------|------|--|
| 1. 封 | fēng | m | (measure word for letters) |
| 2. 信 | xìn | n | letter (correspondence) |
| 3. 最近 | zuìjìn | t | recently |
| 最 | zuì | adv | (of superlative degree; most, -est) |
| 近 | jìn | adj | close; near |
| 4. 学期 | xuéqī | n | school term; semester/quarter |
| 5. 除了...以外 | chúle...yǐwài | conj | in addition to; besides [See Grammar 8.] |
| 6. 专业 | zhuānyè | n | major (in college); specialty |
| 7. 会 | huì | av | can; know how to [See Grammar 9.] |
| 8. 后来 | hòulái | t | later |
| 9. 音乐会 | yīnyuèhuì | n | concert |
| 10. 希望 | xīwàng | v/n | to hope; hope |
| 11. 能 | néng | av | can; to be able to [See Grammar 9.] |
| 12. 用 | yòng | v | to use |
| 13. 笑 | xiào | v | to laugh at; to laugh; to smile |
| 14. 祝 | zhù | v | to wish (well) |



This is a floor plan of a performing arts facility. Circle the concert hall.

Grammar

8. 除了...以外, 还... (chúle...yǐwài, hái... in addition to..., also...)

- ① 我除了学中文以外, 还学专业课。

Wǒ chúle xué Zhōngwén yǐwài, hái xué zhuānyè kè.

(Besides Chinese, I also take courses in my major.)

- ② 上个周末我们除了看电影以外, 还听音乐了。

Shàng ge zhōumò wǒmen chúle kàn diànyǐng yǐwài, hái tīng yīnyuè le.

(Last weekend, besides seeing a movie, we also listened to music.)

③ 他除了喜欢听音乐以外，还喜欢打球。

Tā chúle xǐhuan tīng yīnyuè yǐwài, hái xǐhuan dǎ qiú.

(In addition to listening to music, he also likes to play ball.)

The activities in each of the three sentences above are performed by the same subject. But if activities are done by different subjects, the adverb 也 has to be used.

④ 除了小王以外，小李也喜欢唱歌、跳舞。

Chúle Xiǎo Wáng yǐwài, Xiǎo Lǐ yě xǐhuan chàng gē, tiào wǔ.

(In addition to Little Wang, Little Li also likes singing and dancing.)

9. 能 (néng) and 会 (huì) (I) Compared

Both 能 (néng) and 会 (huì) have several meanings. The basic meaning of 能 (néng) is “to be capable of (the action named by the following verb).” It can also be an indication of whether one’s own abilities or circumstances allow the execution of an action. Additional meanings will be introduced in later lessons.

① 我能喝十杯咖啡。

Wǒ néng hē shí bēi kāfēi.

(I can drink ten cups of coffee.)

② 今天下午我要开会，不能去听音乐会。

Jīntiān xiàwǔ wǒ yào kāi huì, bù néng qù tīng yīnyuèhuì.

(I have a meeting this afternoon. I cannot go to the concert.)

③ 我们不能在图书馆聊天儿。

Wǒmen bù néng zài túshūguǎn liáo tiānr.

(We cannot chat in the library.)

会 (huì), as used in this lesson, means having the skill to do something through learning or instruction.

④ 李友会说中文。

Lǐ Yǒu huì shuō Zhōngwén.

(Li You can speak Chinese.)

5 小白会唱很多美国歌。

Xiǎo Bái huì chàng hěn duō Měiguó gē.

(Little Bai can sing many American songs.)

6 我不会上网，请你教我。

Wǒ bú huì shàng wǎng. Qǐng nǐ jiāo wǒ.

(I don't know how to use the Internet. Please teach me how.)

10. The Adverb 就 (jiù) (III)

The adverb 就 (jiù) can heighten the close relationship between two actions or situations. In this usage, the action or situation indicated by the verb or adjective that follows 就 (jiù) is usually contingent upon the action or situation denoted by the verb or adjective in a preceding clause. The relationship is often causal, as seen in (1) and (2), or conditional, as (3) and (4).

1 (因为) 小高喜欢吃中国菜，(所以) 我们就吃中国菜。

(Yīnwèi) Xiǎo Gāo xǐhuan chī Zhōngguó cài, (suǒyǐ) wǒmen jiù chī Zhōngguó cài.

(Little Gao preferred Chinese food, so we went for Chinese food.)

2 (因为) 小王的专业是电脑，(所以) 我就请他教我怎么上网。

(Yīnwèi) Xiǎo Wáng de zhuānyè shì diànnǎo, (suǒyǐ) wǒ jiù qǐng tā jiāo wǒ zěnmē shàng wǎng.

(Little Wang's major is computer science, so I asked him to teach me how to use the Internet.)

3 要是同学帮我复习，我考试就考得很好。

Yàoshi tóngxué bāng wǒ fùxí, wǒ kǎoshì jiù kǎo de hěn hǎo.

(If my classmates help me review, I will do well on my test.)

4 要是你不能来，我就去你那儿。

Yàoshi nǐ bù néng lái, wǒ jiù qù nǐ nàr.

(If you can't come over, I will go to your place.)

5 写汉字，开始觉得难，常常练习，就觉得容易。

Xiě Hànzì, kāishǐ juéde nán, chángcháng liànxí, jiù juéde róngyì.

(When [you] first learn to write Chinese characters, [you] would find it difficult. If [you] practice often, [you] would find it easy.)

Language Practice

H. 除了…以外，还… (chúle ... yǐwài, hái...)

Use the words given to describe what Mr. Bai does.

EXAMPLE: 上音乐课 ◇ 上电脑课

→ 白先生除了上音乐课以外，还上电脑课。

shàng yīnyuè kè ◇ shàng diànnǎo kè

Bái xiānsheng chúle shàng yīnyuè kè
yǐwài, hái shàng diànnǎo kè.

1. 学英文 ◇ 学中文

xué Yīngwén ◇ xué Zhōngwén

2. 会说中文 ◇

huì shuō Zhōngwén ◇

会用中文写信

huì yòng Zhōngwén xiě xìn

3. 喜欢唱歌 ◇ 喜欢跳舞

xǐhuan chàng gē ◇ xǐhuan tiào wǔ

4. 能喝茶 ◇ 能喝咖啡

néng hē chá ◇ néng hē kāfēi

I. 用 + tool/method/means + V(O)

Describe the use of the means in the action.

EXAMPLE: 写日记 ◇ 中文

xiě rìjì ◇ Zhōngwén

→ 我们用中文写日记。

Wǒmen yòng Zhōngwén xiě rìjì.

1. 写信 ◇ 英文

1. xiě xìn ◇ Yīngwén

2. 做功课 ◇ 笔

2. zuò gōngkè ◇ bǐ

3. 练习发音 ◇ 电脑

4. 喝茶 ◇ 咖啡杯

3. liànxí fāyīn ◇ diànnǎo

4. hē chá ◇ kāfēi bēi

J. Pair Activity

Work with a partner, and take turns asking each other:

你写信吗？

你常常给谁写信？

你会用电脑写信吗？

你写日记吗？

你用中文写日记还是

用英文写日记？

Nǐ xiě xìn ma?

Nǐ chángcháng gěi shéi xiě xìn?

Nǐ huì yòng diànnǎo xiě xìn ma?

Nǐ xiě rìjì ma?

Nǐ yòng Zhōngwén xiě rìjì háishi

yòng Yīngwén xiě rìjì?

HOW ABOUT YOU?**What is your major?**

1. 历史	lìshǐ	n	history
2. 经济	jīngjì	n	economics
3. 化学	huàxué	n	chemistry
4. 数学	shùxué	n	mathematics
5. 物理	wùlǐ	n	physics
6. 语言学	yǔyánxué	n	linguistics
7. 工商管理	gōngshāng guǎnlǐ	n	business management
8. 亚洲研究	Yàzhōu yánjiū	n	Asian studies

If your major is not listed above, please ask your teacher and make a note here:

我的专业是 _____

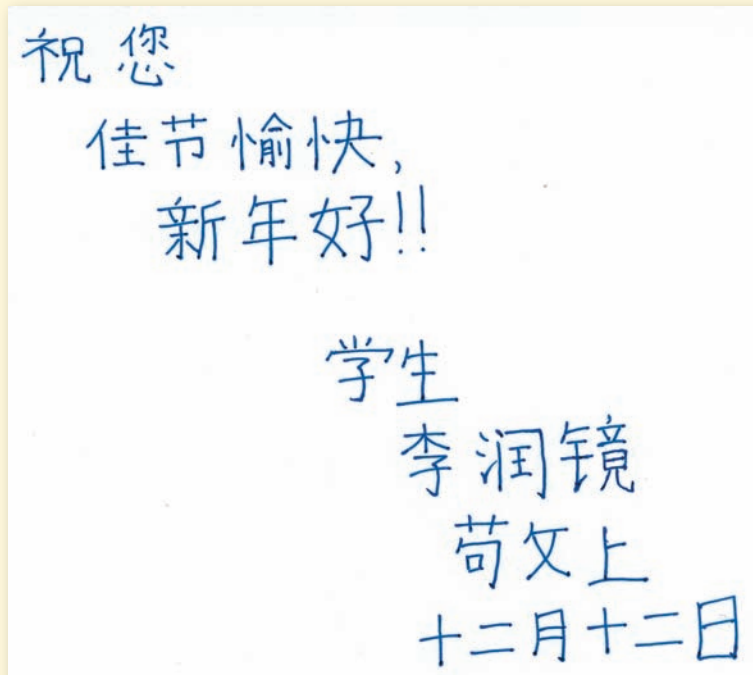
Wǒ de zhuānyè shì _____



Culture Highlights

- ① The most common form of closing at the end of a letter in Chinese is 祝好 (zhù hǎo, I wish you well), with the character 祝 (zhù, to wish) following the final sentence of the letter and the character 好 (hǎo) at the very beginning of the next line.

However, it is not an uncommon practice, especially among younger people, to keep the two characters 祝好 unseparated.



Here a student closes her note with her good wishes.

- ② Colleges and universities in both mainland China and Taiwan are on the semester system. Typically, the fall semester starts in late August or early September, and ends in mid-January. The winter break lasts about a month. Since the Chinese New Year usually falls in late January or early February, college students can take advantage of the break to go home and celebrate the most important holiday of the year with their families. The spring semester starts around mid-February and lasts until early July. A semester at a Chinese college is about three weeks longer than that a typical American college semester.

English Text

An Entry from Li You's Diary

November 3, Tuesday

I was very busy and tired today. I got up at seven-thirty this morning. After taking a shower, I had breakfast. While I was eating, I listened to the sound recording. I went to the classroom at nine o'clock.

The first period was Chinese. The teacher taught us pronunciation, new vocabulary, and grammar. The teacher also taught us how to write Chinese characters, and gave us a new text. The text was very interesting. The second period was Computer Science. It was very difficult.

At noon I went to the cafeteria with my classmates for lunch. While we were eating, we practiced speaking Chinese. In the afternoon I went to the library to go online. At four o'clock, Wang Peng came looking for me to play ball. I had dinner at a quarter to six. At seven-thirty, I went to Bai Ying'ai's dorm for a chat. When I got there, she was doing her homework. I got home at eight-thirty. Before I went to bed, Gao Wenzhong called. He told me there'd be an exam tomorrow. I said I already knew that.

A Letter

(The teacher asked the students to write a letter in Chinese as an assignment. Here's what Li You wrote to Gao Xiaoyin.)

November 18

Dear Xiaoyin,

How are you? Long time no see. How are things recently?

This semester I've been busy. Besides the classes required for my major, I also need to study Chinese. Our Chinese class is really interesting. Because our Chinese teacher can only speak Chinese and does not know how to speak English, in the class we speak only Chinese, no English. At the beginning I felt it was very difficult. Later, Wang Peng often helped me practice Chinese, and I don't feel it is hard anymore.

Do you like to listen to music? Next Saturday there will be a concert at our school. I hope you can come. I do not write well in Chinese. Please don't make fun of me.

Best wishes,

Your friend,

Li You

PROGRESS CHECKLIST

Before proceeding to Lesson 9, be sure you can complete the following tasks in Chinese:

I am able to—

- ☒ Describe my daily routine at school;
- ☒ Write a simple diary entry in the proper format;
- ☒ Write a simple letter in the proper format;
- ☒ Express my modesty about my language abilities.

Please review the lesson if any of these tasks seem difficult.