

# 高级中学汉语



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# 高等中学汉语



COMBERTON  
VILLAGE COLLEGE

**EXCELLENCE FOR ALL**

# A LEVEL CHINESE

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Based on Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Chinese

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## 书本指南 (About this booklet)

### ➤ Themes

The four themes address a range of social issues and trends, as well as aspects of the political and artistic culture of the Chinese-speaking world.

### ➤ Assessments

This section gives clear information of the assessment objective and the details of three papers.

### ➤ Vocabulary

Each unit has a list of Chinese characters with English meaning and Pinyin support. The lists of vocabulary are based on the requirement of **Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Chinese** and 现代汉语常用词表。

### ➤ Grammar

The grammar structures introduced in this booklet help students to progressively develop and use their knowledge and Chinese grammar throughout their course. The grammar list is based on **Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Chinese** and the grammar explanation is mainly based on **Chinese Grammar Wiki**.

### ➤ Literary Text and Films

Students are required to study either two literary texts or one literary text and one film from the list of literary texts and films provided, which are related to two essays in the writing assessment.

### ➤ Strategies of Writing an Essay

Strategies of writing an essay such as the P-E-E Technique, Analysis of characters and Using De Bono's PMI help students to improve their writing skills. The list of common question words help students understand the questions being asked.

### ➤ Independent research Project (IRP)

This section gives students the guidance of preparing Independent research project (IRP). Content for this task will be based on the subject of interest that students have chosen and it must relate to the cultural and social context of the Chinese-speaking world

## 主题 (Themes)

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Chinese is designed to enable learners to develop an advanced level knowledge and understanding of the Chinese language, the culture of China and other Chinese-speaking countries.

主题 (Themes)	话题(Topics)
<b>Theme 1:</b> 当代华人社会变迁 (Changes in contemporary Chinese society)	<b>sub-themes: 家庭 (family)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 家庭结构和代沟 (Family structure and the generation gap)</li> <li>➤ 家庭计划和人口老龄化 (Family planning and ageing population)</li> </ul>
	<b>sub-themes: 教育和工作 (Education and the world of work)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 学校生活和学生议题 (School life and student issues)</li> <li>➤ 工作机会 (Work opportunities)</li> <li>➤ 工作和生活的平衡 (Work-life balance)</li> </ul>
<b>Theme 2:</b> 中国文化 (Chinese culture)	<b>sub-themes: 传统 (Traditions)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 春节 (Spring Festival)</li> <li>➤ 端午节 (Dragon Boat Festival)</li> <li>➤ 中秋节 (Mid-autumn Festival)</li> <li>➤ 清明节 (Qing Ming Festival)</li> <li>➤ 习俗 (Customs)</li> </ul>
	<b>sub-themes: 文化活动 (Cultural activities)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 电影 (Film)</li> <li>➤ 电视 (Television)</li> <li>➤ 音乐 (Music)</li> <li>➤ 阅读 (Reading)</li> </ul>
<b>Theme 3:</b> 演变中的华人社会 (Evolving Chinese Society)	<b>sub-themes: 通讯与科技 (Communications and technology)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 互联网 (Internet)</li> <li>➤ 社交媒体 (Social media)</li> </ul>
	<b>sub-themes: 经济与环境 (Economy and environment)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 经济发展 (Economic developments)</li> <li>➤ 环境保护 (Environmental protection)</li> </ul>
<b>Theme 4:</b> 1978 年改革开放对中国的影响 (The impact of reform and opening up in 1978 on China)	<b>sub-themes: 变革 (Reform)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 贫富差距 (Rich-poor gap)</li> <li>➤ 超级大都市 (Super-cities)</li> <li>➤ 城市移民 (Urban migration)</li> </ul>
	<b>sub-themes: 中英关系 (China-United Kingdom relations)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 贸易 (Trade)</li> <li>➤ 文化交流 (Cultural exchanges)</li> <li>➤ 教育交流 (Educational exchanges)</li> </ul>

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## 考试要求 (Assessments)

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Chinese consists of two externally-examined papers assessing listening, reading and writing and a speaking assessment.

### ◆ Assessment Objective

Test Paper	Time	Component	Raw Mark	Weighting	Weighting Factor	Scaled mark
<b>Paper 1</b>	2 hours	Section A: Listening (30 marks)	80 marks	40%	2	160 marks
		Section B: Reading (30 marks)				
		Section C: Translation into English (20 marks)				
<b>Paper 2</b>	2 hours & 40 minutes	Section A: Translation into Chinese (20 marks)	120 marks	30%	1	120 marks
		Section B: Written response to literary text (50 marks)				
		Section C: Written response to literary text or film (50 marks)				
<b>Paper 3</b>	21-23 minutes	Task 1: Discussion on a Theme (30 marks)	72 marks	30 %	1.667	120 marks
		Task 2, Part 1: Independent research presentation Task 2, Part 2: Discussion on independent research (42 marks)				
				100%		400 marks

**Note:** scaling is needed as the raw mark for one or more components does not reflect the percentage contribution.

## ◆ Three Papers

### ➤ Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation (40% of A Level of A Level qualification)

Paper	Assessment Information
<b>Section A: Listening (30 marks)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Three questions made up of multiple-choice and open-response questions, including questions testing summary skills.</li> <li>✦ All questions are set in Chinese and must be answered in Chinese.</li> <li>✦ Q3 (b) specifically assesses the student's ability to summarise in the target language.</li> <li>✦ Students will have individual control of the recording and may stop, revisit and replay sections of the recording as they wish.</li> </ul>
<b>Section B: Reading (30 marks)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Four questions comprising both multiple-choice questions and open-response questions based on texts provided.</li> <li>✦ All questions are set in Chinese and must be answered in Chinese.</li> </ul>
<b>Section C: Translation (20 marks)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Students must translate one unseen text from Chinese into English.</li> </ul>

### ➤ Paper 2: Written response to works and translation (30% of A Level qualification)

Paper	Assessment Information
<b>Section A: Translation (20 marks)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Students must translate one unseen text from English into Chinese.</li> </ul>
<b>Section B and C: Written response to works (100 marks)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Students respond to two questions about two works, <b>either</b> two selected from Section B (literary texts) <b>or</b> one selected from Section B (literary texts) and one from Section C (films).</li> <li>✦ It is recommended that students write between 250-300 Chinese characters for each essay.</li> <li>✦ Students <b>must</b> respond to one literary work at A level.</li> </ul>

### ➤ Paper 3: Speaking (30% of A Level qualification)

Paper	Assessment Information
<b>Task 1: Discussion on a theme (30 marks)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ 5 minutes' preparation time</li> <li>✦ 6-7 minutes' discussion</li> <li>✦ Students will choose one out of two sub-themes on the day</li> <li>✦ Students will be permitted five minutes' supervised preparation time to consider the stimulus card and may make notes for this task.</li> </ul>
<b>Task 2: Individual research presentation and follow-on questions (42 marks)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ 10-11 minutes (including 2-minute presentation)</li> <li>✦ Students select an area of interest that is related to the Chinese culture.</li> <li>✦ Students complete a RP3 form and send to Pearson three weeks in advance of the assessment with 6-10 bullets about their chosen research.</li> <li>✦ Students will be permitted to refer to their RP3 form or this task but may not make further notes for this task.</li> <li>✦ Students must refer to at least two different written sources in the task in the original assessed language.</li> </ul>

Source: [https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Chinese/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/Specification\\_GCE\\_A\\_level\\_L3\\_in\\_Chinese.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Chinese/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/Specification_GCE_A_level_L3_in_Chinese.pdf)

# 1. 家庭结构 (Family Structure)

Theme 1: Changes in contemporary Chinese society  
Sub-themes: Family

## 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
气氛	qì fēn	atmosphere
热闹	rè nào	bustling with noise, lively
亲密	qīn mì	close
体贴	tǐ tiē	considerate
美满	měi mǎn	satisfactory (life)
温暖	wēn nuǎn	warm
关心	guān xīn	to be concerned about
原谅	yuán liàng	to forgive
了解	liǎo jiě	to understand
沟通	gōu tōng	communication
相处	xiāng chù	to get on (with someone)
娱乐	yú lè	entertainment
设备	shè bèi	facilities
设施	shè shī	
家庭	jiā tíng	household
住户	zhù hù	
核心家庭	hé xīn jiā tíng	nuclear family
家庭规模	jiā tíng guī mó	family size
平民	píng mín	ordinary people

Character	Pinyin	English
居民	jū mín	residents
主妇	zhǔ fù	housewife
夫妇	fū fù	husband and wife/ a couple
夫妻	fū qī	
亲人	qīn rén	relative
亲戚	qīn qī	
保姆	bǎo mǔ	nanny
佣工	yōng gōng	helper
三代同堂	sān dài tóng táng	Three generations under the same roof
陪伴	péi bàn	to accompany
问候	wèn hòu	to greet
问好	wèn hǎo	

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘只要...就...’

只要.....就..... (zhǐ yào... jiù...) means ‘as long as... then...’ In other words, whenever A happens, B (always) results. In logic, this is referred to as a ‘sufficient condition,’ meaning that it may not be the only way to bring about the specific consequences, but it is one reliable way.

**只要 + Condition , 就 + Result**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
只要你真的喜欢这件大衣，我就给你买。	As long as you really like this coat, I will buy it for you.
只要你不生气，我就告诉你。	As long as you won't get mad, I'll tell you.

➤ **The use of ‘为了’**

为了(wèi le) is most often used to indicate the purpose of an action or the person that will benefit from some act of kindness. In the ‘purpose’ sense, it almost exactly corresponds to "in order to" or "for the purpose of" in English.

为了 …… , **Subj.** ……

When 为了 indicates the purpose of an action, it's usually acting as a preposition. In this role, the whole ‘为了 phrase’ should come before the verb.

**For example:**

Chinese	English
为了这个面试，他买了一套很贵的西服。	He bought a very expensive suit for this job interview.
为了赚很多钱，他每天都工作十个小时。	He works 10 hours each day in order to earn more money.

➤ **The use of ‘不得不’**

不得不(bù dé bù) has a stronger tone than 必须(bì xū) meaning ‘someone cannot help but do something.’

**Subj. + 不得不 + Verb**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
为了将来有一个好工作，我不得不努力学习。	I must study hard in order to get a good job in the future
因为生病的原因，我不得不放弃这次旅行。	Because I was sick, I had no choice but to give up this trip.

➤ **The use of ‘才’**

To express that something happened later than expected, you can use 才 (cái). In English, this might be expressed with ‘as late as’ or ‘not until.’ This form is often used with a time of some sort, like a specific time of day, age, etc. This pattern is essentially the opposite of using 就 (jiù) to express earliness.

**Subj. + Time + 才 + Verb**

For example:

Chinese	English
我昨天晚上十一点才到家。	I didn't arrive at home until eleven o'clock last night.
她四十岁才结婚。	She didn't get married until she was forty.
飞机刚刚才起飞，晚了两个小时。	The airplane just took off. It was delayed for two hours.

➤ **The use of '好像'**

To express 'seems,' the word 好像 (hǎo xiàng) can be used. If this structure is used without a subject, it has the meaning of 'it seems like...' or 'it seems that...' in English. This could then be followed by an entire statement.

**Subj. + 好像 ……**

For example:

Chinese	English
她好像生病了。	It seems like she's sick.
他好像是英国人。	He seems to be British.
好像有人来过。	It seems that someone has been here.

➤ **Approximating with sequential numbers**

Expressing approximate numbers in Chinese is quite simple, and this article introduces one of the most basic ways to do so. An easy way to express approximate numbers is to use two sequential numbers in a row.

**Number + (Number + 1) + measure word + noun**

For example:

Chinese	English
我们七八年没有见面了。	They haven't seen each other for seven or eight years.
今天我喝了四五瓶啤酒。	I drank four or five bottles of fizzy water yesterday.
我需要一两个月看完这本书。	I need one or two months to finish reading this book.

## 2. 代沟 (Generation Gap)

Theme 1: Changes in contemporary Chinese society  
Sub-themes: Family

### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
婚姻	hūn yīn	marriage
媒人	méi rén	matchmaker
做媒	zuò méi	intermediary
结婚	jié hūn	get married
离婚	lí hūn	divorce
晚婚	wǎn hūn	late marriage
迟婚	chí hūn	
未婚	wèi hūn	unmarried
单身	dān shēn	single
安排	ān pái	to arrange
孝顺	xiào shùn	filial obedience
摩擦	mó cā	friction
幸福	xìng fú	happiness
和谐	hé xié	harmonious
包容	bāo róng	to be tolerant
长辈	zhǎng bèi	older generation
晚辈	wǎn bèi	younger generation
亲子关系	qīn zǐ guān xì	parent-child relationship
父母子女关系	fù mǔ zǐ nǚ guān xì	

Character	Pinyin	English
财务	cái wù	finances
财产	cái chǎn	property
物业	wù yè	
改善	gǎi shàn	to improve
居住	jū zhù	to live (dwell)
面积	miàn jī	area
价值观	jià zhí guān	values
人生观	rén shēng guān	philosophy
世界观	shì jiè guān	worldview
需要	xū yào	to need
认为	rèn wéi	to think
只有	zhǐ yǒu	only

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘自(从)…后, 便/就…’

自从 (zì cóng) means ‘ever since’ in English, and is used to express the starting point of time or an event in the past.

自(从) + Time / Event + 后, Subj. + 便/就……

For example:

Chinese	English
自从他跟我分手后, 他就没有联系过我。	Ever since he broke up with me he hasn't contacted me.
自从用手机付款后, 我便很少带现金出门。	Ever since I've started using my phone to pay for stuff I rarely take cash when I go out.

## ➤ 分数 (Fractions)

分之 (fēn zhī) is used to express fractions in Chinese. When expressing a fraction, the denominator is always said before the numerator. This pattern is also the way percentages are expressed in Chinese.

So "½" is read 二分之一 (èr fēn zhī yī), literally "1 of 2 portions." Note the order: **it's NOT 一分之二 (yī fēn zhī èr)**. So "¾" is 四分之三 (sì fēn zhī sān), and "⅝" is 六分之五 (liù fēn zhī wǔ).

### Denominator + 分之 + Numerator

Remember that the denominator is the bottom number in a fraction, but it comes first in spoken Chinese. Knowing that this order actually totally fits the overall 'big to small' Chinese cultural pattern might help you to remember.

**For example:**

Chinese	English
我们学校四分之三的老师都是男老师。	Three fourths of the teachers at our school are male teachers.
差不多三分之一的美国人有护照。	About one third of Americans have passports.

## ➤ 百分比 (Percentage)

To say a percentage, for example, 50 percent, you would say 百分之五十 (bǎi fēn zhī wǔshí), which is literally the same as how you would pronounce the equivalent fraction '50 hundredths.'

### 百分之 + Numerator

**For example:**

Chinese	English
期末考试成绩占总成绩的百分之三十。	The final exam grade accounts for 30% of the final grade.
我的手机电量只有百分之五了。	My phone only has 5% power left.

➤ **小数点 (Decimals)**

Fractions can also be stated as decimals quite easily in Chinese. This is because each digit of the decimal fraction is stated individually. So instead of remembering tens /hundredths /thousands etc... you just numerically list the numbers following a decimal point.

The decimal point in Mandarin decimal fractions is stated as 点 (diǎn). If the number begins with the decimal point, it can optionally be prefaced with zero or 零 (líng).

**Number (零) + 点 + Number**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
昨天 100 米跑步比赛我跑了十四点三七秒。	Yesterday 100 meter competition I run 14.37 second.
这个苹果很大，大约有零点四公斤。	This apple is very big, it is about 0.4 kg.

➤ **The use of ‘是…的’**

The 是…的 (shì... de) construction is used to draw attention to certain information in a sentence. It's often used to ask questions that seek specific information, or to explain a situation by emphasizing a particular detail. While not strictly tied to any ‘tense,’ the 是…的 construction is frequently used when asking or telling details about the past.

**Subj. + 是 + [Information to be Emphasized] + Verb + 的**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
A. 你们是什么时候到的? B. 我们是昨天到的。	A. When did you guys arrive? (Emphasizing ‘when’) B. We arrived yesterday. (‘Yesterday’ is emphasized).
A. 你是骑自行车来的吗? B. 我是走来的。	A. Did you come by bike? (Emphasizing ‘by bike’) B. I came by foot. (Emphasizing ‘by foot’)
A. 你是在哪儿出生的? B. 我是在上海出生的。	A. Where were you born?? (Emphasizing ‘where’) B. I was born in Shanghai. (Emphasizing ‘in Shanghai’)

➤ **The use of ‘被’**

被 (bèi) sentences are simply sentences which use a passive verb and the word 被. 被 sentences are not the only way to create the passive verb form in Chinese, but they are the most common and definitely the type to tackle first.

**Subj. + 被 (+ Doer) + Verb + 了**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
咖啡被我喝了。	The coffee was drunk by me.
他被警察抓了。	He was caught by the police.

➤ **The use of ‘难道’**

Rhetorical questions use the form of a question to emphasize a point, thus do not require an answer. A typical English rhetorical question might be: "you're not saying you actually believe him, are you?" or "just how stupid are you?" In Chinese, 难道 (nán dào) is used as a marker to form this kind of question. Since we don't 'mark' our rhetorical questions like this in English, this can take some getting used to in Chinese.

**难道 + [Rhetorical Question] + 吗?**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
难道你真的相信他吗?	You don't actually believe him, do you?
你父母这么关心你, 难道你一点都感觉不到吗?	Your parents care so much about you. Don't tell me that you don't feel it at all?

### 3. 家庭计划 (Family Planning)

Theme 1: Changes in contemporary Chinese society  
Sub-themes: Family

#### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
出生率	chū shēng lǜ	birth rate
负担	fù dān	burden
担子	dàn zi	
计划生育	jì huà shēng yù	family planning
家庭计划	jiā tíng jì huà	
孩子	hái zi	child/children
独立	dú lì	independent
独生子女	dú shēng zǐ nǚ	only child
政策	zhèng cè	policy
心理	xīn lǐ	psyche/mind
舍不得	shě bù de	reluctant
依靠	yī kào	to depend on/rely on
依赖	yī lài	
管教	guǎn jiào	to discipline (a child)
成长	chéng zhǎng	to grow up
长大	zhǎng dà	
提供	tí gòng	to provide
宠坏	chǒng huài	to spoil (a child)
溺爱	nì ài	

Character	Pinyin	English
对待	duì dài	treatment
教养	jiào yǎng	upbringing
影响	yǐng xiǎng	influence
感情	gǎn qíng	emotion/affection
情感	qíng gǎn	
已经	yǐ jīng	already
发生	fā shēng	to happen
必须	bì xū	must
出现	chū xiàn	to appear
情况	qíng kuàng	situation/circumstances
造成	zào chéng	to cause/create

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘不但…而且…’

不但……，而且…… (bù dàn..., ér qiě...) is a very commonly used pattern that indicates ‘not only, ... but also....’

The same subject should apply to both the first part and the second part (the part after 而且). The pattern can also be used omitting 而且, and instead using adverbs like 也 and 还 in its place:

**Subj. + 不但 …… , 而且/也/还 ……**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
在中国，有些独生子女不但非常自私，而且也很孤独。	In China, some only-children are not only extremely selfish, but also very lonely.
她不但离开我，还拿走了我所有的钱。	She not only left me, but also took all my money.

➤ **The use of ‘多’**

A number in excess of a certain amount is expressed by adding ‘多’ (duō) to the end of a number. This is usually translated as ‘more than...’ in English.

**Number + 多 + [Measure word] (+ Noun)**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
中国的独生子女政策已经有三十多年了。	Chinese one child policy has been more than thirteen years.
他在国外住了二十多年了。	He has been living abroad for more than twenty years.

➤ **The use of ‘由于’**

由于 (yóu yú) means ‘due to’ or ‘owing to’ and is formal in use. It indicates reason and often combines with 所以(suǒ yǐ).

**由于 + Cause, (所以) + Effect**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
由于人口的快速增加, 所以大城市的社会问题越来越严重。	Due to the rapid growth of the population, social problems in big cities are getting more and more serious.

➤ **The use of Verb + 不得**

A complement is a word or phrase following a verb (or sometimes an adjective) that provides additional meaning to the verb phrase. Complements are not the same as objects, and can be as short as one character, or practically as long as a sentence. Complements provide additional information associated with verbs, such as degree, result, direction or possibility, and are extremely common.

A complement 不得 (bù dé) placed after a verb to express impossibility or inability; cannot; be unable to.

**Verb + 不得**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
现在的孩子听不得别人的批评。	Children nowadays can't accept others' criticism.

### ➤ 动词重叠—Verb Reduplication

In Chinese, verbs can be reduplicated to indicate that they happen briefly or ‘a little bit.’ Using this kind of structure lightens the mood and seriousness of the question. It also adds variety to sentence structure.

Occasionally, though, two-syllable verbs get reduplicated as well. When this happens, it's important to use the ‘ABAB’ pattern for verbs (meaning the entire word is repeated). Because these phrases are used colloquially, there is no set rule to which verbs this can be applied to.

#### Subj. + Verb + Verb

For example:

Chinese	English
说说你的想法。	Talk a little bit about your ideas.
我想出去走走。	I want to go out and walk for a bit.
吃吃我做的菜。	Try a little bit food I cooked.
你考虑考虑我刚才说的话。	You think it over about the words I said.
我走得太累了，想休息休息。	I am too tired to walk, I want to have a rest.

### ➤ 兼语句 (pivotal sentence)

A pivotal sentence has two predicates, the first of which has an object that serves as the subject for the second predicate. This object is called the pivot.

Some causative verbs such as 让/叫/请/使 (ràng/jiào/qǐng/shǐ) are used in the pivotal sentences to cause or influence people to do things. In English, these are verbs like ‘make,’ ‘let,’ ‘have,’ and ‘get,’ when used in a sentence like ‘get someone to do something’.

#### Subj. + 让/叫/请/使 (causative verb) + Person + to do something

For example:

Chinese	English
你说的话让我很感动。	I am very touched by the words you said.
这个调皮的孩子叫他父母很头疼。	This naughty child gives his parents quite a headache.
我想请你帮我一个忙。	I want to ask you to do me a favor.
经济危机使很多人失去了工作。	The financial crisis caused many people to lose their jobs.

## 4. 人口老龄化 (Ageing Population)

### Theme 1: Changes in contemporary Chinese society

#### Sub-themes: Family

#### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
老龄化	lǎo líng huà	ageing
老化	lǎo huà	
慈善机构	cí shàn jī gòu	charitable organisation
独居老人	dú jū lǎo rén	elderly person living alone
空巢	kōng cháo	'empty nest'
生命	shēng mìng	life
孤独	gū dú	lonely
孤单	gū dān	
长寿	cháng shòu	long life
医疗	yī liáo	medical care
记忆	jì yì	memories
回忆	huí yì	
退休金	tuì xiū jīn	pension
养老金	yǎng lǎo jīn	
老人院	lǎo rén yuàn	residential care home for the elderly
安老院	ān lǎo yuàn	
养老院	yǎng lǎo yuàn	
养老服务	yǎng lǎo fú wù	services for the aged
社会保障	shè huì bǎo zhàng	social security

Character	Pinyin	English
安享晚年	ān xiǎng wǎn nián	to enjoy late life
患病	huàn bìng	to fall ill
让座	ràng zuò	to give up one's seat
组织	zǔ zhī	to organise
尊敬	zūn jìng	to pay respect
福利制度	fú lì zhì dù	welfare system
为了	wèi le	for the sake of
由于	yóu yú	due to
如今	rú jīn	now/nowadays
帮助	bāng zhù	to help/assist
随着	suí zhe	along with/following

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘因为…所以…’

A common way to explain causes in Chinese is with 因为 (yīn wèi). This is equivalent to ‘because’ in English. Usually 因为 will begin a new phrase in a sentence.

Just as 因为 can be used to explain causes, 所以 (suǒ yǐ) can be used to explain results. This is the equivalent of ‘so…’ or ‘therefore…’ in English.

The full pattern 因为……所以…… is used to clearly indicate cause and effect. They could be thought of as equating to: ‘Since \_\_\_ happened, so \_\_\_ happened.’ It sounds weird to use both ‘since’ and ‘so’ in one sentence in English, but it makes everything crystal clear in Chinese.

**因为 + Cause, 所以 + Effect**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
因为中国三十多年的独生子女政策, 所以现在的老龄化问题越来越严重。	Because of more than thirty years one child policy, the aging problem in China is getting more and more serious.

➤ **The use of ‘一…就…’**

一…就… (yī…jiù…) is used to tell that soon as one thing happened, then another thing happened immediately afterwards. 一 and 就 are both followed by verbs, the pattern involves two different events, the first preceded by 一, and then the second event, which follows in quick succession, preceded by 就:

**一 + Event 1, 就 + Event 2**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
这个老人一进养老院就想回自己的家。	As soon as this old man went to nursing home, he wanted to go his own house.
他一出生就是一个孤儿。	As soon as he was born, he was an orphan.

➤ **The use of ‘却’**

却 (què) is used to indicate something was contrary to expectations, and is generally followed by a negative comment.

**Sentence , (但是 +) Subj. + 却 ……**

Common Mistake: Putting 却 Before the Subject:

It's also important to point out that 却 is not a conjunction; it's an adverb. Practically speaking, this means that rather than joining two statements, it goes inside a statement (within the second clause). Specifically, it needs to come after the subject and before the verb. (Note that when you use a conjunction like 但是 it comes before the subject! 却 is different in this respect.

**For example:**

Chinese	English
虽然他家有很多钱，但是他却活得不快乐。	Although his family is very rich, he lives unhappily.
他是一个独生子女，父母却不溺爱他。	He is a one child, but parents don't spoil him.

➤ **The use of ‘随着’**

随着 (suí zhe) means ‘along with,’ ‘following,’ or, more formally, ‘in the wake of.’ The idea is that one thing is ‘following’ another, reacting along with it.

**Subj. + 随着 + Noun + Verb Phrase**

随着 can also be used in the following structure to indicate that a change in the first part causes a respective change in the second part. In this case, the first part is typically a general trend, like economic development or rising prices.

**随着 + Trend, Subj. + Predicate**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
这些垃圾随着河水流到了大海。	The garbage flowed into the sea along with the river.
随着人口不断增加，大城市的社会问题 越来越多了。	Along with an ever-increasing population, the social problems in large cities become ever more numerous.

➤ **Positive and negative comparison— ‘比’(to compare) and ‘没有’(not have)**

- One of the most common words when making positive comparison in Chinese is to use 比 (bǐ). 比 has similarities to the English word ‘than,’ but it sits between the two things being compared. The word order will take a little getting used to, but aside from that, the pattern is quite easy.

**X + 比 + Y + adjective**

- 没有(méi yǒu) is used to make negative comparisons

**X + 没有 + Y + adjective**

**For example:**

Function	Chinese	English
<b>positive:</b> 比	母亲比父亲健康。	Mum is healthier than dad.
	现在的老人比以前的老人孤独。	Old people today are lonelier than their counterparts before.
<b>negative:</b> 没有	父亲没有母亲健康。	Dad isn’t as healthy as mum
	以前的老人没有现在的老人孤独。	Old people before were not as lonely as their counterparts now.

Note: 很 can't used in the comparison. ~~母亲比父亲很健康。~~

➤ **The use of ‘起来了’**

起来 (qǐ lái) comes up very frequently in Chinese and can be used both literally and figuratively. This is a little like the usage of ‘up’ in English, which can be used literally, as in ‘stand up,’ or figuratively, as in ‘add up.’ When used figuratively, 起来 often serves as a direction complement.

**Verb + 起来**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
请大家站起来。	Everyone, please stand up.
头抬起来。	Raise your head.

起来 can also be used to show that an action or state has started and is ongoing, which is served as a direction complement.

**Verb / Adj. + 起来了**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
结婚以后，她胖起来了。	After she got married, she has started to gain weight.
随着更多的年轻人去城市工作，中国农村的空巢老人多起来了。	Along with more young people work in the cities, there are more and more empty nesters in China’s countryside.

➤ **The use of ‘还是’ & ‘或者’**

Chinese has two words for or. 还是 (hái shì) is used in questions, and 或者 (huò zhě) is used in statements.

For example:

or	Chinese	English
<b>还是</b>	你想住在家里还是住在养老院?	Do you want to live at home or nursing home?
	你将来想要男孩还是女孩?	Do you want a boy or girl in the future?
<b>或者</b>	我可以住在家里或者养老院。	I can live at either home or nursing home.
	我们可以坐飞机或者坐火车去法国。	We can go to France either by a plane or a boat.

## 5. 学校生活 (School Life)

### Theme 1: Changes in contemporary Chinese society

#### Sub-themes: Education and the world of work

#### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
校园	xiào yuán	campus/school grounds
能力	néng lì	capability
本领	běn lǐng	
挑战	tiǎo zhàn	challenge
竞争	jìng zhēng	competition
课程	kè chéng	course/programme
好奇心	hào qí xīn	curiosity
讨论	tǎo lùn	discussion
流利	liú lì	fluent (in a language)
流畅	liú chàng	
幼儿园	yòu ér yuán	kindergarten
幼稚园	yòu zhì yuán	
知识	zhī shí	knowledge
有学问	yǒu xué wèn	learned (person)
博学	bó xué	
潜力	qiǎn lì	potential
潜能	qiǎn néng	
潜质	qiǎn zhì	
教授	jiào shòu	professor

Character	Pinyin	English
学者	xué zhě	scholar
填鸭方式	tián yā fāng shì	spoon-feeding approach
奋斗	fèn dòu	struggle
听讲座	tīng jiǎng zuò	to attend a lecture
上课	shàng kè	
精通	jīng tōng	to master (a subject)
掌握	zhǎng wò	
力量	lì liàng	power/strength
补习	bǔ xí	to receive private tuition
智慧	zhì huì	wisdom
根据	gēn jù	according to; on the basis of
灌输	guàn shū	to instill (knowledge)

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘虽然…但是/可是…’

The grammar pattern 虽然…… 但是/可是…… (suī rán...dàn shì/kě shì...) is one of the most common used patterns in Chinese, especially in written Chinese. You can think of it as meaning ‘although,’ but unlike in English, you still need to follow it with a ‘but’ word in Chinese.

虽然…… 但是…… expresses that while the former part of the sentence is true, there is an adverse reaction in the latter part.

虽然 …… ， 但是 /可是 ……

For example:

Chinese	English
虽然我不喜欢学数学，但是/可是数学很重要。	Although I don't like learning math, but math is very important

➤ **The use of ‘首先…其次/然后…最后…’**

首先..., 其次/然后... (shǒu xiān...qí cì/rán hòu...) means ‘firstly..., secondly...’ or ‘first..., then...’ This structure is when addressing multiple points. A final point can be added with 最后 (zuì hòu: lastly). The structure can be found in a single sentence, but can also be spread across multiple paragraphs.

首先……，其次/然后……，最后……

**For example:**

Chinese	English
今天下午我有三节课。首先是中文课，其次(然后)是数学课。数学课以后我们可以休息十五分钟。最后是体育课。	I have three lessons this afternoon. First is the Chinese lesson, and then is the Math lesson. We will have 15 minutes break after Math lesson. The last lesson is P.E

➤ **The use of ‘像’**

像 (xiàng) is used as a verb, means [look like, seem], is used to express the similarity between two persons or things in some aspects, used in the comparative sentence.

**Noun 1 + 像 + Noun 2 (+ 一样 + Adj. / Verb)**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
你像你妈妈一样漂亮。	You are the same pretty as your mum

➤ **The use of ‘则’**

This grammar pattern takes two things and makes a comparison. The second clause of the sentence (which includes the 则) describes another thing with a contrasting characteristic. In this instance, 则 (zé) has the same meaning as 却.

**Subject + Predicate, Subject + 则+ Predicate**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
英国人喜欢吃甜的东西，中国人则喜欢吃咸的东西。	British people like sweet food, but Chinese people like salty food.
很多人都觉得数学和英文很重要，我则觉得外语也很重要。	Many people think math and English are very important, but I think foreign language is also important.

➤ **The use of ‘对’**

对 (duì) is used as a coverb to mean ‘to, for, towards’. As with all coverb phrases, the phrase with 对 comes before the main verb in the sentence.

Certain verbs, especially psychological verbs, are often used with 对, which means 对 is needed if you want to add an object into the structure. A good example is 对.....感兴趣 (‘to be interested in...’). In this case, 对 means ‘in,’ ‘on,’ ‘about,’ etc., and the object doesn't have to be a person. The short list below will give a few more verbs frequently paired with 对.

**For example:**

Chinese	Pinyin	English
对.....有兴趣	duì...yǒu xìng qù	to have an interest in...
对.....感兴趣	duì...gǎn xìng qù	to feel interested in...
对.....负责	duì...fù zé	to be responsible for...
对.....满意	duì...mǎn yì	to feel satisfied with...
对.....失望	duì...shī wàng	to be disappointed in/with...
对.....好奇	duì...hào qí	to be curious about...
对.....有信心	duì...yǒu xìn xīn	to have confidence in...

➤ **The use of ‘得多’**

As well as expressing that two things differ, you might want to go further and say that they differ a lot by adding 很多 (hěnn duō), 多了 (duō le), or 得多 (de duō). This is like saying that one thing is much more Adj. than another in English.

**Noun 1 + 比 + Noun 2 + Adj. + 很多/得多/多了**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
这个女老师比那个男老师严格得多。	This female teacher is much stricter than that male teacher.
上海好学区房的房价比其它地方贵很多。	The property prices in the good school catchment areas are much more expensive than others.

➤ **The use of ‘据/根据’**

据 (jù) is often used when referring to people. Often it is used with ‘someone 说’ or ‘someone 看来,’ just substitute the person you are referring to (or you can also refer to yourself).

**据 + someone + 说/看来**

If you use 根据 (gēn jù), you need to use that person's name along with a noun phrase. These set two-character phrases are often used in formal and written Chinese, especially in news reports., a law, an official investigation, etc

**根据 + noun phrase**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
据他说，上海的老齡化问题非常严重。	According to him, the ageing problem in Shanghai is very serious.
根据他的说法，上海的老齡化非常严重。	According to what he said, the ageing problem in Shanghai is very serious.
据我看来，中国需要改变独生子女政策。	In my opinion, China needs to change it's one child policy.
根据新闻报道，中国的独生子女政策将要改变。	According to the news, China's one child policy is going to be changed.

➤ **The use of ‘自己’**

When making reflexive sentences (sentences with himself, myself, etc.), you have to add 自己 (zì jǐ) after the personal pronoun. This is sort of the "self" marker, such as:

Chinese	Pinyin	English
我自己	wǒ zì jǐ	myself
你自己	nǐ zì jǐ	yourself
他自己	tā zì jǐ	himself
她自己	tā zì jǐ	herself
我们自己	wǒ men zì jǐ	ourselves
你们自己	nǐ men zì jǐ	yourselves
他们自己	tā men zì jǐ	themselves
她们自己	tā men zì jǐ	themselves

## 6. 学生议题 (Student Issues)

### Theme 1: Changes in contemporary Chinese society

#### Sub-themes: Education and the world of work

#### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
学历	xué lì	academic qualification
冒险精神	mào xiǎn jīng shén	adventurous
证书	zhèng shū	certificate
公务员	gōng wù yuán	civil servant
简历	jiǎn lì	curriculum vitae/CV
履历	lǚ lì	
毒品	dú pǐn	drugs
戒毒	jiè dú	to give up drugs
友谊	yǒu yì	friendship
友情	yǒu qíng	
创新	chuàng xīn	innovative
创意	chuàng yì	creative
空闲时间	kòng xián shí jiān	leisure time
闲暇时间	xián xiá shí jiān	
休闲时间	xiū xián shí jiān	
行业	háng yè	professions and trades
奖学金	jiǎng xué jīn	scholarship
校园欺凌	xiào yuán qī líng	school bullying
自信	zì xìn	self-confident/confidence

Character	Pinyin	English
专 业	zhuān yè	specialism
课外活动	kè wài huó dòng	extracurricular activities
实 践	shí jiàn	to practise/put into practice
责 骂	zé mà	to scold
应 该	yīng gāi	should
应 当	yīng dāng	
青 年	qīng nián	youth
是 否	shì fǒu	whether or not; is or isn't
各种各样	gè zhǒng gè yàng	all kinds of
努 力	nǔ lì	make great efforts/try hard
得 到	dé dào	to get
准 备	zhǔn bèi	to prepare

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘如果/要是...就...’

如果...就... (rú guǒ...jiù...) is an often-used pattern that is utilized in the same way that ‘If..., then...’ is in English. In English we sometimes drop then ‘then’ in the second half of the sentence, and you can do the same in Chinese, dropping the 就.

假如 (jiǎ rú) and 要是 (yào shì) also mean if. They are interchangeable with 如果.

如果/假如/要是……，就……

For example:

Chinese	English
如果你现在努力学习，将来就会有一个很好的工作。	If you study hard now, you will have a good job in the future.
假如我有空闲时间，我就去旅游。	If I have free time, I will go to travel.
要是你想申请上这个大学，现在就应该准备了。	If you want to apply this university, you need to start to prepare right away.

➤ **The use of ‘一点儿’**

一点儿 (yī diǎnr) means ‘a little bit’. It also used after adjectives to indicate comparison.

**Noun 1 + 比 + Noun 2 + Adj. + 一点儿**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
这个女老师比那个男老师严格一点儿。	This female teacher is a little bit stricter than that male teacher.
这个学区房的房价比那个学区房贵一点儿。	The property prices in this school catchment area are a little bit more expensive than that catchment area.

➤ **The use of ‘着 & 在’**

- The particle **着 (zhe) added onto the end of verbs** is one way of indicating the continuous aspect in Mandarin Chinese. The Chinese particle 着 might be similar to the use of -ing in English. This isn't particularly helpful, however, because the use of 着 in Chinese is not nearly so commonly used, and can also be quite idiomatic.

**Verb + 着**

**Verb 1 + 着 + Verb 2**

Note: that the first verb (followed by 着) describes the state; the second verb is the action verb. In this case, the "-ing" translation can be useful for the state.

**For example:**

Chinese	English
这个孩子抱着他的爸爸。	This Child is hugging his dad.
这个孩子抱着他爸爸哭了起来。	Hugging his daddy, the child started to cry. (hugging + cry = crying while hugging)

- **在 (zài) and 正在 (zhèng zài) added in front of verbs** can be used as auxiliary verbs to express that an action is ongoing or in progress. This is often the equivalent of present continuous in English, which is how we express that an activity is happening now.

**Subj. + 在/正在 + Verb + Obj.**

For example:

Chinese	English
请不要说话，我正在写作业。	Please stop talking, I am doing my homework.
昨天下午四点半，我们在学校踢足球。	We were playing football at school yesterday 4:30pm.

- The verbs most commonly used with 着 (but not 在) are the ones below:

character	English meaning	Function
开 (kāi)	to open/turn on	Adding 着 allows one to express that something 'is open' or 'is on.'
关 (guān)	to close/turn off	Adding 着 allows one to express that something 'is closed' or 'is off.'
穿 (chuān)	to wear	Adding 着 allows one to express that one 'is wearing' something (on one's person)
戴 (dài)	to wear (an accessory)	Adding 着 allows one to express that one 'is wearing' a hat, jewelry, or accessory (on one's person).
躺 (tǎng)	to lie on one's back	Adding 着 allows one to express that someone 'is lying down.'

**Note:** 'being open,' 'being closed,' 'being wearing,' 'lying down' indicate a state not an action, so using 着 is natural. **Don't use 在.**

➤ The use of '的时候'

To talk about events that happened at or during a particular time, 的时候 (de shí hòu) is often used. This is simply attached to the word or phrase indicating the time:

**(Subj.) + Verb / Adj. + 的时候, ....**

As time words can appear before or after the subject, you can also place the 'Time + 的时候' after the subject:

**Time Word + 的时候, ....**

For example:

Chinese	English
我上大学的时候交了很多朋友。	When I was in college, I had a lot of friends.
走路的时候不要玩手机。	Don't play with your phone while walking.
去年暑假的时候，我去了中国。	I went to China last summer holiday.

➤ **The use of ‘把’**

- The 把 (bǎ) sentence is a useful structure for constructing longer sentences which focus on the result or influence of an action. One of its key features is that it brings the object of the verb closer to the front of the sentence and precedes it with a 把.

**Subj. + 把 + Obj. + [Verb Phrase]**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
请你把书放在桌上。	Please may you put the book on the table.
我把自己的房间打扫干净了。	I cleared my room.

- **把 Sentences with Two Objects**

For certain verbs such as 送 (song; to deliver), 拿 (ná; to take), 递 (dì; to pass), 卖 (mài; to sell), 借 (jiè; to borrow), 还 (huán; to return), 介绍 (jiè shào; to introduce), you can have two objects in a 把 sentence. Their use in a 把 sentence will also involve prepositions 给 (gěi).

**Subj. + 把 + Obj. 1 + Verb + 给 + Obj. 2**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
我把手机送给我的妹妹了。	I gave my mobile phone to my younger sister.
他把这个房子卖给一个外国人了。	He sold his house to a foreigner.

- **Negating 把 Sentences**

To negate a 把 sentence, insert 不要 or 别 (present or future) or 没有 (past) directly in front of 把. You can't put it after 把, 'inside' the 把 construction, as this would break the rule about describing what actually happened to the object.

**Subj. + 不要/别/没有 + 把 + Obj. + [Verb Phrase]**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
你们不要把这件事告诉她。	Don't tell her about it.
别把你的车子停在这里。	Don't park your car in here.
银行没有把钱借给我。	The bank didn't lend me the money.

## 7. 工作机会 (Work Opportunities)

### Theme 1: Changes in contemporary Chinese society

#### Sub-themes: Education and the world of work

#### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
学徒	xué tú	apprentice
老板	lǎo bǎn	boss
上司	shàng si	
雇员	gù yuán	employee
秘书	mì shū	secretary
同事	tóng shì	colleague
同志	tóng zhì	comrade
顾客	gù kè	customer
专家	zhuān jiā	expert
沟通能力	gōu tōng néng lì	communication skills
工作满足感	gōng zuò mǎn zú gǎn	job satisfaction
体力劳动	tǐ lì láo dòng	manual labour
脑力劳动	nǎo lì láo dòng	mental labour
办公室	bàn gōng shì	office
招聘机构	zhāo pìn jī gòu	recruitment agency
招聘代理	zhāo pìn dài lǐ	
研究	yán jiū	research
人才	rén cái	talented/qualified people
就业	jiù yè	to obtain employment

Character	Pinyin	English
失业	shī yè	to be unemployed
经营生意	jīng yíng shēng yì	to operate a business
营商	yíng shāng	
开公司	kāi gōng sī	to run a company
关于	guān yú	about; regarding
其实	qí shí	actually; in fact
创业	chuàng yè	to set up a business
大学学位	dà xué xué wèi	university degree
经验	jīng yàn	experience
经历	jīng lì	
成功	chéng gōng	success
失败	shī bài	fail/to be defeated
可能	kě néng	possible/probable
继续	jì xù	to continue/go on (with)

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘又...又...’

The character 又 (yòu) means ‘and’ or ‘again’(for past tense). It can be used to give two qualities to something. Using the double 又 structure is like saying that something is ‘both... and...’ in English. The two words shouldn't contrast in feeling. It is important to note they must both be bad or both be good.

**Subj. + 又 + Adj. 1/Verb. 1 + 又 + Adj. 2/Verb. 2**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
我觉得你的老板又年轻又有钱。	I think that your boss is both young and rich.
昨天是我的生日，我和朋友们一起在家又唱歌又跳舞。	Yesterday was my birthday; my friends and I were singing and dancing at home.

➤ **The use of ‘地’**

- 地 (de) is used to turn adjectives into adverbs, and can be thought of as equivalent to the suffix -ly in English. You could call it the ‘adverb de’ or ‘adverbial de,’ since it precedes verbs like adverbs do.

**Adj. + 地 + Verb**

For example:

Chinese	English
妈妈高兴地打开我给她的生日礼物。	Mum happily opened the gift I gave to her.
爸爸严肃地告诉我应该少玩电脑游戏。	Dad told me seriously that I should play less video game.

This pattern is also the least common of the three; you'll be using 的 (de) and 得 (de) a lot more in everyday communication than this one.

- The structural particle "de" has three written forms in modern Chinese, each with its own uses:
  - ✦ 的 (de), most often used for modifying nouns
  - ✦ 得 (de), most often used with complements
  - ✦ 地 (de), most often used with adverbial phrases

The following is an example of using all three "de"s

Chinese	English
今天的作业你做得不好，因为你没认真地听课。	You didn't do today's homework well because you didn't listen attentively in class.

➤ **The use of ‘从...到...’**

从...到... (cóng...dào...) describes a starting and finishing point. The construction can be used either for time or physical location.

**从 + (time A/place A) + 到 + (time B/place B)**

For example:

time/location	Chinese	English
<b>Time</b>	他从昨天晚上一直工作到今天上午五点。	He has been working from last night till 5:00 this morning.
<b>Location</b>	我从家到学校要走四十五分钟。	I need to walk 45 minutes from home to school.

➤ **The use of ‘关于’**

关于 (guān yú) means ‘about.’ It can be used in a few ways, often marking a topic of a statement or modifying a noun.

- Used for Topic-Marking

As an adverb/adverbial clause, it can only be placed at the beginning of the sentence.

**关于 + Obj. , ……**

- Used as Part of a Modifier

As an attributive modifier, 关于 is placed before the noun phrase (rather than after, as in English), and you should always add a 的.

**关于 …… 的 + Noun**

For example:

Structure	Chinese	English
关于 + Obj. , ……	关于你的工作，老板还在考虑。	The boss is still thinking it over about you job.
	关于这次考试，我还有几个问题要问。	As for this exam, I still have a few questions that I need to ask.
关于…… 的+ Noun	我昨天看了一部关于中国历史的电影。	I saw a film about Chinese history yesterday.
	他写过很多关于老龄化问题的文章。	He wrote many articles about aging problem.

➤ **The use of ‘其实’**

其实 (qi shi) meaning ‘actually’ or ‘in fact,’ which is used before a subject or verb. It is used when you try to tell something true but others are not aware of it. In English it is equal to ‘but/while actually,’ ‘but/while the truth is,’ ‘but/while in fact,’ ‘but/while the fact is’

**其实 + Subj./ Verb**

For example:

Chinese	English
我妈妈要我学中文，其实我不想学。	My mother wants me to learn Chinese, in fact, I do not like to learn..
我以为开公司很容易，其实非常困难。	I thought running a company is very easy, but actually, it is extremely difficult.

➤ **The use of ‘更’**

- To express ‘even more’ (as in ‘even more expensive,’ ‘even more ridiculous,’ ‘even more badass’), you can use 更. 更 generally comes before adjectives, such as:

**更 + Adj.**

- Adding in 更 before the adjective to upgrade the basic 比 (bǐ) comparison pattern. 更 means "even more," so the idea is that while one thing is already quite [adjective], this other thing is even more [adjective].

**Noun 1 + 比 + Noun 2 + 更 + Adj.**

**For example:**

Structure	Chinese	English
<b>更+ Adj.</b>	我每次看见她都觉得自己更漂亮了。	She gets more beautiful every time I see her.
	我更喜欢自己创业因为我想赚很多钱。	I prefer to start my own business because I want to earn lots of money.
<b>A +比+B+更+Adj.</b>	春节比中秋节更热闹。	Spring Festival is even more boisterous than Mid-autumn Festival.
	我觉得脑力劳动比体力劳动更难。	I think that mental labour is more difficult than manual labour.

➤ **Collective nouns**

Collective nouns are often called group nouns. That is because they represent a number of things together. Examples are: government, family and team. Therefore, collective nouns in Chinese can only be used with collective measure words or unquantified measure words.

**For example:**

unquantified measure word	collective measure words	collective nouns	
		Chinese	English
一些 (some)	一对 (a pair of)	父母	parents
	一群/一组 (a group of)	师生	teachers and students
	一帮 (a bunch of)	男女老少	people regardless of age and sex
		人口	population
	一批 (a batch of)	纸张	paper
	一批 (a batch of)	车辆	vehicle

## 8. 工作和生活的平衡 (Work-Life Balance)

### Theme 1: Changes in contemporary Chinese society

#### Sub-themes: Education and the world of work

#### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
成就	chéng jiù	achievement
繁忙	fán máng	busy
事业	shì yè	career
效率	xiào lǜ	efficiency
自由	zì yóu	freedom
辛苦	xīn kǔ	hard/tough
宿舍	sù shè	hostel, formitory, hall of residence
管理	guǎn lǐ	management
升迁	shēng qiān	promotion (in a job)
辞职	cí zhí	resignation
适应	shì yìng	to fit in with
请假	qǐng jià	to ask for leave/holiday
主动	zhǔ dòng	to take initiative
要求	yāo qiú	to require
轮班工作	lún bān gōng zuò	to work shifts
空缺	kòng quē	vacancy
工作岗位	gōng zuò gǎng wèi	work position
职位	zhí wèi	
希望	xī wàng	to wish/hope

Character	Pinyin	English
特别	tè bié	especially; special; particular
对于	duì yú	regarding/towards
考虑	kǎo lǜ	to consider
是否	shì fǒu	whether (or not)/if
否则	fǒu zé	otherwise
不然	bù rán	
选择	xuǎn zé	to choose/select
感觉	gǎn jué	to feel
压力	yā lì	pressure/stress
巨大	jù dà	huge
保持	bǎo chí	to keep
面对	miàn duì	to face

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘先...再/然后...’

The word 再 (zài) actually has a lot of uses, beyond just ‘again,’ and in this pattern it means something like ‘and then.’ 先……，再…… (xiān..., zài...) is a pattern used for sequencing events, much like "first..., then..." in English. This pattern can also include 然后 (rán hòu), meaning ‘and after that.’

先……，再/然后……

For example:

Chinese	English
我总是先在学校踢一个小时的足球，再回家做作业	I always play one hour football at school first, and then go home to do homework.
每次上课我们先复习，然后上新课。	Each lesson, we do some review first and then study a new lesson.
今天早上我起床以后先去公园跑步，再和家人一起吃早饭，然后坐公共汽车去学校。	After I got up this morning, I first went to the park for running, and then ate breakfast with family. After that, I went to school by a bus.

➤ The use of ‘和/跟...一样/不一样’

- 跟 (gēn) has the same meaning as 和, both of them mean ‘with’ or ‘and’.

- Along with 比 (bǐ) and 没有 (méi yǒu), 一样 (yī yàng) is another way to make basic comparisons. However, 一样 is used to express that two things are the same in some way.

Obviously, 跟...不一样 is to express the two things are not the same.

**Noun 1 + 和/跟 + Noun 2 + 一样/不一样 (+ Adj.)**

For example:

Structure	Chinese	English
和/跟...一样	虽然我跟我的老板一样忙，但是他赚到钱比我多得多。	Although I am the same busy as my boss, he earns much more than mine.
和/跟...不一样	我目前的工作和理想中的工作非常不一样。	My current job is extremely different from my ideal job.

➤ common noun suffix—‘家、师、者、员’

The Chinese language has a number of characters which, when added to end of various nouns, verbs or adjectives, can form a noun indicating a person. The following characters are common noun suffixes

suffix	function	Chinese	English
家	people engaged in some field of activity	画家 (huà jiā)	painter
		科学家 (kē xué jiā)	scientist
		艺术家 (yì shù jiā)	artist
		专家 (zhuān jiā)	expert
师	people skilled or specialised in a certain profession.	老师 (lǎo shī)	teacher
		设计师 (shè jì shī)	designer
		建筑师 (jiàn zhù shī)	architect
		厨师 (chú shī)	chef
员	people engaged in activity or group	演员 (yǎn yuán)	actor/actress
		球员 (qiú yuán)	player
		服务员 (fú wù yuán)	waiter/waitress
		售货员 (shòu huò yuán)	shop assistant
者	people with a certain feature	作者 (zuò zhě)	author
		学者 (xué zhě)	scholar
		患者 (huàn zhě)	patient
		长者 (zhǎng zhě)	eldership

➤ **The use of ‘连...都/也...’**

- 连……都…… (lián... dōu...) is used similarly to how "even" is used in English and can emphasize certain surprising pieces of information. The tricky part about using it is that you have to remember to use both parts of the pattern (rather than just throwing in one word, like 'even' in English).
- Sometimes 也 (yě) is used instead of 都, and the two are interchangeable for this pattern, but 都 is more commonly used with 连.

**连 + Subj. + 都/也 (+ 不/没) + Verb**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
这个问题太简单了，连三岁小孩都知道。	This question is so easy that even a three-year-old kid knows the answer.
经营生意非常难，连周末我也要在网上上班。	It is extremely difficult to operate a business; I even need to work online during weekends.
这个汉字太难了，连我的中文老师都不认识。	This Chinese character is so difficult that even my Chinese teacher doesn't know it.

- Used Before the Object

Note that for this pattern, the object moves to the front of the sentence instead of coming after the verb as it normally does. After you move the object to the front of the sentence, you can use 连 before the object and 都 before the verb or verb phrase.

**连 + Obj. + 都/也 (+ 不/没) + Verb**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
他什么都问，连我有多少钱都想知道。	He asks everything, even how much money I have
你连你最好的朋友都不相信？	You don't even trust your best friend?
她是你女朋友？你连人家姓什么也不知道。	She's your girlfriend? You don't even know what her last name is.

➤ **The use of ‘否则/(要)不然’**

This simplified construction using 否则(fǒu zé)/(要)不然 (yào bù rán) more directly maps to the basic English usage of ‘otherwise,’

**Condition, 否则/(要)不然 + Result**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
一个人不能一直工作或者学习，否则他的健康就会有问题。	A person cannot always work or study, otherwise, he will have health problem.
你应该努力提高沟通能力，不然老板不会给你升迁的机会。	You should work hard to improve your communication skill; otherwise the boss won't give you a chance of promotion.

➤ **The use of ‘特别’**

特别 (tè bié) can be either as an adjective that emphasizes something is ‘special’ or as an adverb that expresses ‘especially.’

**For example:**

Chinese	English
除了工作以外，你还有其它特别的爱好吗？	Do you have any special interest other than your job?
你的名字很特别。	You have a special name.
他喜欢很多体育运动，特别喜欢打乒乓球。	He likes lots of sports, especially Ping-Pong.
今年上海的冬天特别冷。	The winter in Shanghai this year is extremely cold.
我很喜欢学校的老师，特别是中文老师因为他又聪明又幽默。	I like school teachers very much, especially the Chinese teacher because he is both clever and humorous.

## 9. 春节 (Spring Festival)

### Theme 2: Chinese culture

#### Sub-themes: Traditions

#### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
农历	nóng lì	Chinese lunar calendar
贺年食品	hè nián shí pǐn	Chinese New Year food
正月初一	zhēng yuè chū yī	Chinese New Year's Day
除夕	chú xī	Chinese New Year's Eve
守岁	shǒu suì	to stay up all night on Chinese New Year's Eve
过年	guò nián	to celebrate the Chinese New Year
年夜饭	nián yè fàn	Chinese New Year's Eve family dinner
团年饭	tuán nián fàn	
生肖	shēng xiāo	Chinese zodiac animals
属相	shǔ xiàng	
糯米	nuò mǐ	glutinous rice
汤圆	tāng yuán	glutinous rice balls
财神	cái shén	God of Wealth
灯笼	dēng long	lantern
年糕	nián gāo	New Year cake
压岁钱	yā suì qián	red packet money/gift money
红封包	hóng fēng bāo	
利是钱	lì shì qián	

Character	Pinyin	English
春节联欢晚会	chūn jié lián huān wǎn huì	Spring Festival Gala
春晚	chūn wǎn	
大扫除	dà sǎo chú	to clean up the house (on Chinese New Year's Eve)
吉祥	jí xiáng	auspicious
恭喜	gōng xǐ	to congratulate/ congratulations
庆祝	qìng zhù	to celebrate
喜庆	xǐ qìng	joyous/festive
办年货	bàn nián huò	to do shopping for the Spring Festival
送礼	sòng lǐ	to give a present
祈福	qǐ fú	to pray for blessing (good fortune)
辞旧迎新	ci jiu ying xin	Say goodbye to the old and welcome the new
趋吉避凶	qū jí bì xiōng	to seek good fortune and avoid mishaps
兴高采烈	xìng gāo cǎi liè	in high spirits
放烟花	fàng yān huā	to set off fireworks
逛花市	guàng huā shì	to visit the flower fair
拜年	bài nián	to wish someone a happy Chinese New Year
写春联	xiě chūn lián	to write New Year's couplets
实际上	shí jì shàng	in reality
与	yǔ	and; with
总而言之	zǒng ér yán zhī	in short; in a word
总之	zǒng zhī	

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ the use of ‘无论/不论…… 都/也/还 ……’

- 无论 (wú lùn) means ‘no matter,’ and is generally used in the first part of the sentence. As with many other constructions, 都 and 也 can be used in the second part of the sentence to emphasize the action or decision will not change.
- 不论 (bú lùn) is equivalent to 无论 for this pattern.

#### 无论 + Circumstances + 都/也/还 + Inevitable Result

- Because 无论 means "no matter," the clause that follows 无论 is going to include phrases such as "how hard you try" or "wherever you go," and thus will normally include interrogative pronouns such as 怎么, 多(么), 什么, 谁, etc.

#### For example:

Chinese	English
无论中国人在哪儿，他们都特别重视过春节的习俗。	No matter where Chinese are, they all pay attention to the customs of Spring Festival.
不论我怎么证明，她也不相信我的话。	No matter how I proved, she didn't believe what I said.
无论多么成功，他还是认为自己做得不够好。	No matter how successful, he still thinks that he should do even better.

### ➤ The use of ‘有’

The verb 有 (yǒu), which means ‘to have,’ can also be used to express existence. This is similar to saying ‘there is’ or ‘there are’ in English.

#### Place + 有 + Obj.

Literally, this structure expresses that a place ‘has’ a thing, which is to say, that thing is in the place.

#### For example:

Chinese	English
教室里有二十个男学生和十八个女学生。	There are 20 male students and 18 female students.
床上有一只可爱的小猫。	There is a cut cat on top of the bed.

➤ **The use of ‘再’**

While 又 (yòu) is used for ‘again’ in the past, 再 (zài) is used for ‘again’ in the future. That is, 再 is used when something has happened once and it will happen again.

In fact, this structure is present in one of the most common Chinese phrases: ‘再见!’ (zài jiàn)

In this case, it literally means ‘see you again.’

**Subj. + 再 + [Verb Phrase]**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
这本书我要再看一遍。	I want to read this book again.
服务员，再来两瓶啤酒。	Waiter, two more bottles of beer, please.
你应该再问问老师这个问题。	You should keep asking the teacher about this question.

➤ **The use of ‘总而言之/总之’**

总而言之 (zǒng ér yán zhī) or 总之 (zǒng zhī) is to summarize what was said before.

(……,) 总之, ……

**For example:**

Chinese	English
他经常迟到，工作也不负责任，总之，公司必须要解雇他。	He is often late, also doesn't take his responsibility. In short, the company must dismiss him.
无论他有什么理由，总之，我不会再相信他了。	No matter what excuse he has, in a word, I won't believe him any more.

The following are common phrase which set the speaker's attitude or point of view before launching into the full comment:

Chinese	Pinyin	English
一般来说	yī bān lái shuō	generally speaking, ordinarily
总的来说	zǒng de lái shuō	generally speaking, generally
具体来说	jù tǐ lái shuō	specifically
相对来说	xiāng duì lái shuō	relatively speaking
由此可见	yóu cǐ kě jiàn	from this, it can be seen that

➤ **The use of ‘了’**

- When placed directly after a verb, 了 (le) indicates that an action has been completed.

**Subj. + Verb + 了**

- 了 can also be used at the end of a sentence to indicate a new situation, progression or a change of state. This is close to the English meaning now or any more. Usually, this usage of 了 implies that something has happened in the recent past which changed the situation. It can be added to both positive and negative sentences.

**Subj. + Adj. + 了 / Subj. + Verb phrase + 了**

- When you take the same ‘change of situation’ pattern and put a 不 (bù) before the verb, you're indicating that something already decided has changed. The ‘change of situation’ indicated by 了 (le) is still the same, although the change is often simply mental: it's a change of plans, or a change of intent.

**Subj. + 不 + Verb phrase + 了**

**For example:**

function	Chinese	English
<b>action completed</b> <b>Subj.+Verb+了</b>	我去年坐飞机中国。	I went to China last year by plane.
	昨天我买了一个新手机。	I bought a new mobile phone yesterday.
<b>change of situation</b> <b>Subj.+Adj.+了</b>	你胖了。	You've gotten fat. (You used to not be fat)
	她老了。	She has gotten old. (I am not used to thinking of her as old, but she is now)
<b>change of situation</b> <b>Subj.+Verb phrase+了</b>	我有女朋友了。	I have a girlfriend. (This implies I didn't have a girlfriend before)
	我找到新工作了。	I have found a new job. (A big change for sure)
<b>change of situation</b> <b>Subj.+不+Verb phrase+了</b>	我不去买东西了。	I'm not going to shopping. (I had previously decided to go shopping)
	我不去看电影了。	I am not going to wath the film. (I had said I was going)

➤ **The use of ‘与’**

与 (yǔ) is a rather formal word that can be used in place of 和 (hé) or 跟 (gēn) to mean ‘with’ in many contexts.

## 10. 清明节 (Qing Ming Festival)

Theme 2: Chinese culture

Sub-themes: Traditions

### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
祖先	zǔ xiān	ancestors
扫墓	sǎo mù	grave sweeping
祭品	jì pǐn	sacrificial offerings
节气	jié qì	seasonal division points
烧香	shāo xiāng	to burn incense
烧纸钱	shāo zhǐ qián	to burn paper money (ritual money)
踏青	tà qīng	to go for a walk in the countryside
去世	qù shì	to pass away/die
死了	sǐ le	
怀念	huái niàn	to remember,
纪念	jì niàn	commemorate
坚持	jiān chí	to persist/insist on
一直	yī zhí	always
传统	chuán tǒng	tradition
成为	chéng wéi	to become
表示	biǎo shì	to show/express
始终	shǐ zhōng	from beginning to end
相信	xiāng xìn	to believe
大家	dā jiā	everybody

Character	Pinyin	English
后来	hòu lái	later
于是	yú shì	as a result/then
这些	zhè xiē	these
那些	nà xiē	those
某些	mǒu xiē	certain (things); some
一些	yī xiē	some
有些	yǒu xiē	
有的	yǒu de	

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘一些’, ‘几’ and ‘某些’

- In order to express ‘some’ or ‘a few,’ you can use 一些 (yī xiē). To use it in this way, 一些 is placed before the noun it modifies. 一些 can modify the subject or the object.

**一些 + Noun**

- One of the definitions of the common character 几 (jǐ) is ‘several,’ ‘a couple’ or ‘a few.’ It’s an uncertain number that is at least more than one, and probably less than five, but definitely less than ten. The simplest way to use 几 to mean ‘a few’ is to use it directly with a measure word.

**几 + Measure Word + Noun**

某些 (mǒu xiē) is placed before a noun, means certain things or certain objects

**某些 + Noun**

**For example:**

Words	Chinese	English
一些	最近我交了一些朋友。	I made a few new friends recently.
几	下课以后，学生们问了几个问题。	After class, the students asked some questions.
某些	在某些发达国家，骑自行车很流行。	In some developed countries, cycling is very popular.

➤ **The different between ‘大约/大概’ and ‘左右’**

- 大约(da yue)、大概(da gai) and 左右(zuo you) all mean ‘approximately’ or ‘about.’
- However, 大约/大概 is used to make a judgment, an estimation or an inference of something which is very likely to happen. 大约/大概 are placed before the number or time.

**大约/大概 + number**

- The use of 左右 is used to express “around an accurate number”, whether it’s money or time or the number of people present etc.. 左右 is placed after the number.

**number + 左右**

**For example:**

Words	Chinese	English
大约/大概	这个学校大约有两千个学生。	There are around 2000 students in this school.
	他爸爸大概有六十多岁。	His father is about sixty years old.
	经理大概明天去国外出差。	The manager might go abroad on business tomorrow.
左右	这个学校有两千个学生左右。	There are around 2000 students in this school.
	他爸爸有六十岁左右。	His father is about sixty years old.
	经理明天早上九点左右去国外出差。	The manager will go abroad on business about 9:00am tomorrow.

➤ **Common Time Phrases**

The following table shows a list of common time expressions in Mandarin, which can be placed either before or after the subject, but must be put before the verbs:

	Early	This	Last	Next	End
<b>Week</b>	周初	这个星期	上个星期	下个星期	周末
<b>Month</b>	月初	这个月	上个月	下个月	月底/末
<b>Year</b>	年初	今年	去年	明年	年底/末
<b>Day</b>	清晨	今天	昨天	明天	深夜

## ➤ The use of ‘的’

- Expressing possession with ‘de’

In Chinese, possession is marked with the particle 的 (de), placed after the ‘owner’ noun or noun phrase. This particle works in a similar way to apostrophe-"s" in English, but is used much more broadly in Chinese.

### **Noun 1 + 的 + Noun 2**

This means 'Noun 1's Noun 2' (where Noun 2 belongs to Noun 1).

- Modifying nouns with adjective + ‘de’

- ✦ A very common way to modify nouns is to attach an adjective to them using 的 (de).
- ✦ This structure comes up extremely frequently and is an easy way to attribute features to nouns. Occasionally you will see this 的 omitted, but note that if the adjective has two characters (e.g. 漂亮 (piào liàng) or 高兴 (gāo xìng), the 的 is generally required.

### **Adj. + 的 + Noun**

- ✦ In some cases, it is possible to drop the noun from the pattern, and just use the ‘adjective + 的.’ This is kind of like saying ‘the big one’ or ‘the red one’ in English. In Chinese the 的 serves the same purpose as the English word ‘one.’ By using this pattern, the listener is already clear about the ‘what’ the speaker referring to

### **Adj. + 的**

- Modifying nouns with phrase + "de"

- ✦ As well as attaching adjectives to nouns, 的 (de) can be used to attach whole phrases to nouns. In English this is often achieved with ‘who’ or ‘that.’ For example, ‘the man who went to Beijing’ or ‘the book that I bought yesterday.’

### **Phrase + 的 + Noun**

- ✦ In some cases, it is possible to drop the noun from the pattern, and just use the ‘Noun + 的.’ This is kind of like saying ‘what Mom made’ or ‘the big one’ in English. In Chinese the 的 serves the same purpose as the English word ‘what.’ By using this pattern, the listener is already clear about the ‘what’ the speaker referring to

### **Phrase + 的**

- Using 'de' as modal particle

The particle 的 (de) is most often a structural particle, but it can also be a sentence-final particle which indicates that the speaker is certain about what he is saying. When it serves this purpose, it's expressing a type of 'mood' and thus is called a 'modal particle.'

### Statement + 的

Frequently, the statement will include 会 (huì) or 一定会 (yī dìng huì) to emphasize the speaker's certainty.

For example:

Structure	Chinese	English
Noun 1+的+Noun 2	我的中文老师很聪明	My Chinese teacher is very clever.
	公司的经理非常友好。	The company's manager is extremely kind.
Adj.+的+Noun	我有一个可爱的妹妹。	I have a cute younger sister.
	昨天他买了一张便宜的火车票。	He bought a cheap train ticket yesterday.
Adj.+的	A. 你的大衣是什么颜色的? B. 红的。	A. What colour is your coat? B. red.
	A. 你喜欢吃什么样的食物? B. 甜的	A. What kind of food do you like? B. sweet ones.
Phrase+的+Noun	这是一张去英国的飞机票。	This is a plane ticket that goes to the UK
	我很喜欢上周我买的衣服。	I really like the clothes that I bought last week
Phrase+的	A. 这是去哪里的飞机票? B. 去英国的	A. This plane ticket is to go where? B. to the UK
	A. 这件衣服是谁买的? B. 我买的	A. Who bought this cloth? B. I bought
Statement+的	我一定会来的。	I am definitely coming.
	你将来会成功的。	You will succeed in the future.

## 11. 端午节 (Dragon Boat Festival)

Theme 2: Chinese culture  
Sub-themes: Traditions

### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
竹叶	zhú yè	bamboo leaves
赛龙舟	sài lóng zhōu	dragon boat races
历史悠久	lì shǐ yōu jiǔ	long history
屈原	qū yuán	Qu Yuan
香包	xiāng bāo	scented sachet (Dragon Boat Festival)
打鼓	dǎ gǔ	to beat drums
世代相传	shì dài xiāng chuán	to pass from generation to generation
来源于	lái yuán yú	to originate from
源于	yuán yú	
感到	dǎn dào	to feel/sense
永远	yǒng yuǎn	forever
充满	chōng mǎn	full of
开始	kāi shǐ	to start/begin
伟大	wěi dà	great/mighty
祖国	zǔ guó	motherland
许多	xǔ duō	many
决定	jué dìng	to decide
事实	shì shí	facts

Character	Pinyin	English
十分	shí fēn	very; fully; completely
证明	zhèng míng	to prove
正是	zhèng shì	exactly
形成	xíng chéng	to form/take shape
正确	zhèng què	correct/right
著名	zhù míng	famous
愿意	yuàn yì	willing (to do sth)
受到	shòu dào	to receive/be given
改变	gǎi biàn	to change
变成	biàn chéng	to become

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of '只有...才(能)...'

- 只有 (zhǐ yǒu) means "only if," and is used with 才 (cái) to emphasize that only one course of action will bring about the desired outcome.
- 才 is often followed by 能 (néng), but not always. This pattern is usually used for hypothetical situations, and is used what is in logic called a "necessary and sufficient condition," meaning "if and only if...."

只有 + Essential Condition + 才 (能) + Desired Outcome

For example:

Chinese	English
你只有现在努力学习，将来才能找一个好工作。	Only if you study hard now will you be possible to find a good job.
只有常常做运动，你的身体才会健康。	Only if you do exercise often can you have a healthy body.

- This is one of the simpler 才 (cái) patterns, providing a way to emphasize that it's THIS one (not THAT one). There's no 'only if' here, but the 只有 is still implied in Chinese (meaning 'it is only').

**Noun + 才 + Verb Phrase……**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
我现在才明白你是对的。	I just understand now that you are right.
我平时住在学校，周末才回家。	Ordinarily I stay at the school and goes home only at the weekend.

➤ **The use of '别'**

Besides using 不要 (bù yào), negative commands can also be formed with 别 (bié). You could think of 别 as a contraction of 不要, as the structure is the same for both:

**别 + Verb (+ Obj.)**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
吃饭的时候别玩手机。	When eating, don't play with your cell phone.
喝酒以后别开车。	After drinking alcohol, don't drive.

➤ **The use of '十分'**

十分 (shí fēn) means 'very,' 'fully' or 'completely' as it came from 10/10. It has the same meaning as 非常 (fēi cháng). 十分 is usually used in the written language while 非常 is widely used both in written texts and oral speeches. In other words, 十分 is a very formal adv.

**For example:**

Chinese	English
手机在我们生活中正起着十分重要的作用。	Television is now playing a very important part in our life.
大家都十分喜欢中国的大熊猫。	Everyone extremely likes Chinese panda.
你说的话让她十分开心。	What you said made her very happy.

➤ **The use of ‘比较’**

- The word 比较 (bǐ jiào) can be a verb which means ‘to compare.’ But it can also be an adverb meaning ‘comparatively,’ ‘quite’ or ‘rather.’

**Subj. + 比较 + Adj.**

- 比较 can also be used with psychological verbs such as 喜欢 (xǐ huān: to like); 讨厌 (tǎo yàn; to hate); 担心 (dān xīn: to worry); 希望 (xī wàng: to hope), etc.

**Subj. + 比较 + [Verb Phrase]**

**For example:**

Structure	Chinese	English
<b>Subj.+比较+ Adj.</b>	在我看来, 在大城市里工作的压力比较大。	In my point of view, working in big cities has quite a lot of pressure.
	我觉得坐火车比较方便。	I think taking a train is quite convenient
<b>Subj.+比较+[Verb Phrase]</b>	我比较喜欢在网上买东西因为又方便又便宜。	I prefer to shop online as it is both cheap and convenient.
	妈妈比较反对我晚上常常出去玩。	My mum rather objects to me to go out often at night.

➤ **The use of ‘以前’ and ‘以后’**

- 以前 is used to talk about things that happened before a specific time.
- 以后 can be used to describe the events after a specific time.
- The time can be a specific time, or an action (technically, ‘when the action was done’).

**Time / Verb + 以前/以后 , ……**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
这个周末以前, 你要做完这些作业。	You need to finish homework before this weekend.
昨天下午三点半以后, 我去了市中心买东西。	I went to city center for shopping after 3:30 pm yesterday.
我想在大学毕业以前找到一个好工作。	I would like to find a good job before graduation.

➤ **The use of ‘跟/和/与...有关’**

When you need to express one thing in relation to another, the word 有关 (yǒu guān) can be a useful way of making a noun more specific. It comes in two flavors: the ‘跟/和.....有关’ structure, which is informal, and the ‘与.....有关’ structure, which is formal.

**跟/和/与 + Topic + 有关 (+的+ Noun)**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
端午节的习俗跟屈原的故事有关。	The Dragon Boat Festival is related to Qu Yuan's story.
他对中国文化很感兴趣, 和中国有关的节日他都参加。	He is very interested in Chinese culture. He attends all the festivals related to China.
我很喜欢玩儿游戏, 与游戏有关的活动我都要参加。	I like playing games very much. I would like to participate in any activity related to the games.

➤ **The use of ‘来’ and ‘去’**

来 (lái) and 去 (qù) are both words that help to express direction from the perspective of the speaker. 来 means ‘come’ (towards the speaker), while 去 means ‘go’ (away from the speaker). For example, if you are in the UK, a local person might ask you: ‘When did you come to the UK?’ using 来. Another example is if you want to go from the UK to China, your friends might ask you: ‘When are you going to China?’ using 去.

**Subject + 来/去 + (somewhere) + action**

**For example:**

words	Chinese	English
来	今天我女朋友要来我家吃晚饭。	My girl friend will come to my home to eat dinner tonight.
	上个星期老板没来公司上班。	The boss didn't come to work last week.
去	明天我要去参加龙舟比赛。	I am going to participate in the dragon boat race tomorrow.
	昨天我去了公园遛狗。	I walked my dog in the park yesterday.

**Note:** If the speaker uses 去, then he/she is not at the place mentioned now. If the speaker uses 来, he/she must already be at the place mentioned.

## 12. 中秋节 (Mid-autumn Festival)

### Theme 2: Chinese culture

#### Sub-themes: Traditions

#### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
嫦娥奔月	cháng é bēn yuè	Chang E goes to the moon
民间	mín jiān	folk
传说	chuán shuō	legend
神仙	shén xiān	god/goddess/supernatural/ being immortal
神话	shén huà	myth
习惯	xí guàn	habit/be accustomed to
赏月	shǎng yuè	to admire the full moon
欣赏	xīn shǎng	to enjoy, appreciate
团聚	tuán jù	to get together as a family
团圆	tuán yuán	
思念	sī niàn	to think about, long for
全国	quán guó	nationwide/entire country
心里	xīn lǐ	in the heart/mind
来自	lái zì	come from
关于	guān yú	about/regarding
主要	zhǔ yào	main
原因	yuán yīn	reason
如何	rú hé	how, what
几乎	jǐ hū	almost; nearly

Character	Pinyin	English
不断	bú duàn	unceasing/continuous
再三	zai san	over and over again
倍	bèi	times (multiplier)
真	zhēn	really; truly
完全	wán quán	entirely
发现	fā xiàn	to find/discover
同时	tóng shí	at the same time
知道	zhī dào	to know
最后	zuì hòu	finally
一般	yī bān	general/ordinary
象征	xiàng zhēng	symbolize
然而	rán ér	however

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of '倍'

The word 倍 (bèi) is used to express the idea of multiples, as in '3 times as many' or '5 times more.' The pattern below shows that how many times more amount A is compared to amount B.

**A + 是 + B + 的 + Number + 倍**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
中国的 GDP 四十年增长了二百二十五倍。	The current GDP in China is 225 times what it was 40 years ago.
公司现在的规模是十年前的五倍。	The company's current scope is five times what it was 10 years ago.
我家的花园比邻居家的大一倍。	The garden in my house is double the size of my neighbor's.

**Note:** in here, 大一倍 is 'x + 1x,' in other words 'double' the original amount. Naturally, 多两倍 would be triple the original amount (x + 2x).

➤ **The use of ‘除了...以外...’**

- 除了(chú le)-- often with 以外(yǐ wài)— is to express the meanings of ‘except,’ ‘besides,’ or ‘in addition.’
- 除了…… (以外), 都…… is a pattern used to express ‘except.’ Make a special note of the 都 (dōu)! 以外 can be omitted from the pattern without changing its meaning.

**除了 …… (+ 以外) , Subj. + 都 ……**

- 除了…… (以外), 也/还…… is used to express ‘in addition.’ Make a special note of the 也 or 还!

**除了 …… (+ 以外) , Subj. + 也 / 还 ……**

**For example:**

Structure	Chinese	English
除了…(以外)…	这里除了你和我没有其他人。	There is no one in here except you and me.
	除了跑步以外, 我没有什么爱好。	I don't have any hobbies except running.
除了…(+以外), Subj.+都…	这里除了你, 其他的人我都不认识。	I don't know anyone in here except you.
	除了跑步以外, 其他的运动我都不喜欢。	I don't like any sports except running.
除了…(+以外), Subj.+也/还…	这里除了你, 我还认识其他人。	In addition you, I also know others in there.
	除了跑步以外, 我也喜欢其他运动。	Except running, I also like other sports.

➤ **The use of ‘几乎’**

几乎(jī hū) means ‘nearly’ or ‘almost,’ and is used to emphasize that someone or something is very close to doing something. 几乎 is often used together with words that mean ‘all,’ such as 每, 所有, or 全. It can also be used with words that mean ‘none’ such as 没有.

**几乎 + Noun Phrase + 都 ……**

**几乎 + 没有 + Noun Phrase ……**

**For example:**

structure	Chinese	English
几乎+ Noun Phrase+都…	我们学校几乎每个人都有手机。	Almost everyone in our school has a mobile phone.
	在中国几乎所有人都用微信。	Almost all Chinese use Weichat.
几乎+没有+ Noun Phrase…	我几乎没有钱了。	I almost have no money.
	这里几乎没有坐的地方。	There is almost no place to sit here.

➤ **The use of ‘真’**

- As an adverb, the word 真 (zhēn) means ‘really’ or ‘truly.’ It is used only in exclamatory sentences and comes before an adjective.

**真 + Adj.**

- There are certain auxiliary verbs, like 能 (néng) and 会 (huì) and psychological verbs like 喜欢 (xǐ huān) and 讨厌 (tǎo yàn) can be jazzed up with 真.

**真 + Auxiliary Verb/Psychological Verbs**

For example:

structure	Chinese	English
真+Adj.	你弟弟真聪明!	Your younger brother is really clever.
	你家的房子真漂亮。	Your house is really pretty!
真+Auxiliary Verb	你真会说笑话。	You are so good with jokes.
	他真能吃，所以是一个大胖子。	He really can eat. Therefore, he is a big fat man.
真+Psychological Verb	我真讨厌下雨天	I really hate rainy day.
	我真喜欢你写的中文字。	I really like the Chinese characters you wrote.

➤ **The use of ‘不断’ and ‘再三’**

- 不断 (bù duàn) means ‘continuous’ or ‘incessant.’ It is to describe that something keeps happening and won't stop happening. 不断 is usually placed before the verb it modifies, and it often requires the particle "地" to show that it is an adverb.

**Subj. + 不断 (+地) + Verb**

- 再三(zài sān) means ‘repeatedly’ or ‘time and again’ in a formal way, and is usually placed before a two-syllable verb. Although the verb phrase in the pattern is usually referring to past events, 了 and 过 are generally not used with 再三.

**再三 + Verb Phrase**

For example:

Words	Chinese	English
不断	他不断地改变想法。	He won't stop changing his mind.
	妹妹不断要求我帮她做作业。	Younger sister keeps asking me to help her homework.
再三	我再三考虑以后，决定放弃比赛。	After thinking it over many times, I have decided to give up the competition.
	妈妈再三告诉我放学后马上回家。	Mum told me again and again to come back home immediately after school.

## 13. 习俗 (Customs)

Theme 2: Chinese culture  
Sub-themes: Traditions

### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
宗教	<b>zōng jiào</b>	religion
佛教	<b>fó jiào</b>	Buddhism
道教	<b>dào jiào</b>	Taoism
儒家	<b>rú jiā</b>	Confucianism
寺庙	<b>sì miào</b>	temple
禁忌	<b>jìn jì</b>	taboo
迷信	<b>mí xìn</b>	superstitious
丧葬礼仪	<b>sāng zàng lǐ yí</b>	funeral rituals
结婚礼俗	<b>jié hūn lǐ sú</b>	marriage practices
生活方式	<b>shēng huó fāng shì</b>	lifestyle
少数民族	<b>shǎo shù mín zú</b>	national minorities
文明	<b>wén míng</b>	civilisation
文化价值	<b>wén huà jià zhí</b>	cultural value
商业化	<b>shāng yè huà</b>	commercialised
归属感	<b>guī shǔ gǎn</b>	sense of belonging
认同感	<b>rèn tóng gǎn</b>	sense of identity
手工艺品	<b>shǒu gōng yì pǐn</b>	handicraft items
刺绣	<b>cì xiù</b>	embroidery
剪纸	<b>jiǎn zhǐ</b>	paper cuts
火锅	<b>huǒ guō</b>	hotpot

Character	Pinyin	English
穿旗袍	chuān qí páo	to wear a traditional Chinese qipao
装饰	zhuāng shì	to decorate
布置	bù zhì	
摆设	bǎi shè	
观念	guān niàn	Idea/concept
各地	gè dì	everywhere
思想	sī xiǎng	thought
是否	shì fǒu	whether or not
由此可见	yóu cǐ kě jiàn	from this, it can be seen that ...
因此	yīn cǐ	therefore
别的	bié de	other
另外	lìng wài	
其他	qí tā	
不管	bù guǎn	no matter; in spite of
无论	wú lùn	

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘其他’ and ‘别的’

别的(bié de), 另外(lìng wài) and 其他(qí tā) are almost the same for the meaning ‘other,’ but 其他(的) is a little more formal.

For example:

Words	Chinese	English
别的	除了知道他是一个作家，别的我都不知道。	I know nothing about him except he is a writer.
其他	请告诉其他(的)人今天下午开会。	Please tell others there is a meeting this afternoon.
另外	我觉得这本书比另外两本书有意思。	I think this book is more interesting than the other two books.

➤ **The use of ‘过’**

- The aspect particle 过 (guò) is used to indicate that an action has been experienced or something has ever happened in the past . What this expresses is that the verb has been done at least once before, without specifying a particular time.

**Subj. + Verb + 过 + Obj.**

- Negating a 过 Sentence

Because 过 is used to talk about past actions, it should be negated with 没 (méi).

**Subj. + 没 + Verb + 过 + Obj.**

**For example:**

structure	Chinese	English
<b>Subj.+Verb+过 +Obj.</b>	我看过这个电影。	I have seen this film.
	爸爸去过中国。	Dad has been to China before.
<b>Subj.+没+Verb+ 过+Obj.</b>	他没学过英文。	I have never learned English before.
	我们都没坐过飞机。	None of us has ever been on a airplane before.

➤ **The use of ‘因此’ and ‘由此可见’**

- 因此(yīn cǐ), literally ‘because of this,’ is a conjunction meaning ‘therefore,’ and is used in formal writing.

**Cause, + 因此 + Effect**

- 由此(yóu cǐ) means ‘therefrom’ or ‘from this’ and used to draw conclusions from a reason or a situation. Usually 由此 is paired with 可见(kě jiàn), 看来(kàn lái), 说来(shuō lái) and other similar verbs or verb phrases.

**Reasons, 由此 (可见/看来/说来) + results and implications**

**For example:**

phrases	Chinese	English
<b>因此</b>	小时候我常常生病,因此我每天都去公园跑步。	When I was a child, I was often ill, therefore, I run in the park everyday.
<b>由此可见</b>	现在的天气越来越热。由此可见, 保护环境非常重要。	Nowadays the weather is getting hotter and hotter. From this, it can be seen that protecting the environment is very important.
<b>由此看来</b>	由此看来, 独生子女政策需要改变。	From this point of view, one child policy needs to be changed.

➤ **The use of ‘不管’ and ‘无论’**

- 不管(bù guǎn) means ‘no matter’ or ‘in spite of’, it is more informal than 无论(wú lùn).  
As with other constructions, 都 and 也 can be used in the second part of the sentence to emphasize the action or decision will not change.

- Used with a Question Word

**不管/无论 + Question Word, (Subj. +) 都 + Inevitable Result**

- Used with Two Different Options

**不管/无论 + 是 + Option A + 还是 + Option B, Subj. + 都 + Inevitable Result**

**不管/无论 + [Verb / Adj.] + 不 + [Verb / Adj.], Subj. + 都 + Inevitable Result**

- Used with Adjectives

**不管/无论 + 多 + Adj., Subj. + 都 + Inevitable Result**

**For example:**

function	Chinese	English
<b>with a question word</b>	不管多么成功，他都觉得自己做得不够好。	No matter how successful he is, he thinks he doesn't do enough.
	无论你在哪儿工作，你都要交税。	You need to pay taxes wherever you work.
<b>with options</b>	不管是中国菜还是法国菜，我都喜欢吃。	No matter if it's Chinese food or French food, I like to eat it.
	无论你们同意不同意，我都要去参加朋友的生日聚会。	No matter if you agree or disagree, I'm still going to attend a friend's party.
<b>with adjectives</b>	不管孩子多调皮，父母都不应该打他们。	No matter how naughty their children are, parents shouldn't hit them.
	无论多难，我们都不能放弃。	No matter how difficult it is, we can't give up.

**Note:**

- ✦ 不论 (bù lùn) is equivalent to 无论 for this pattern.
- ✦ 无论如何 (wú lùn rú hé) is a useful set phrase, meaning ‘no matter what.’

## 14. 阅读 (Reading)

Theme 2: Chinese culture  
Sub-themes: Cultural activities

### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
文学	wén xué	literature
文艺	wén yì	literature and art
传记	zhuàn jì	biography
漫画	màn huà	cartoon
小说	xiǎo shuō	novel
诗	shī	poetry
诗歌	shī gē	
散文	sǎn wén	prose
故事	gù shì	story
文章	wén zhāng	article/essay
周刊	zhōu kān	weekly magazine
作家	zuò jiā	writer
作者	zuò zhě	
读者	dú zhě	reader
作品	zuò pǐn	works/opus
题材	tí cái	subject matter
内容	nèi róng	
古怪离奇	gǔ guài lí qí	strange/weird
其中	qí zhōng	of which

Character	Pinyin	English
浪漫	làng màn	romance
爱情	ài qíng	
讽刺	fěng cì	satire
侦探	zhēn tàn	detective
科幻	kē huàn	science fiction/fantasy
幽默感	yōu mò gǎn	sense of humour
目前	mù qián	currently
后来	hòu lái	later; afterwards
即将	jí jiāng	to be about to; soon
发表	fā biǎo	to publish/issue
问题	wèn tí	problem
根本	gēn běn	fundamental
偶尔	ǒu ěr	occasionally; once in a while
不仅	bù jǐn	not only

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of '偶尔'

偶尔(ǒu ěr) means 'occasionally' or 'once in a while', it used to express low frequency before a verb. Its antonym is 经常.

偶尔 + Verb

For example:

Chinese	English
我经常走路上班，偶尔骑自行车。	I usually walk to work, but once in a while I go to work by bike.
结婚以后，她偶尔会回家看看父母。	After she got married, she would occasionally go back to her home and see her parents.

➤ **The use of ‘既然...就/那/那就...’**

既然 (jì rán) means ‘since,’ and is often followed by 就 to mean ‘since...then...’

既然 Followed by an Affirmative Sentence. This construction is not generally used to express a result, but more of a suggestion or inference deduced from the first fact. The second halves of following sentences are all suggestions or inferences. It can be placed before or after the subject. But if the subjects in the two clauses are the same, 既然 is more often put after the subject.

**既然 + Fact, [就/那/那就] + Suggestion/Inference**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
既然你想将来有一个好工作, 那就应该好好学习。	Since you want to have a good job in the future, then study hard.
既然这里的菜这么贵, 就另一个饭馆吧。	Since the food price is so expensive in here, then change another restaurant.

➤ **The use of ‘离’**

- One of the ways to express distance is to use 离 (lí). Unless you're talking about a very specific distance, you'll normally want to pair 离 with the adjective 近 (jìn) for ‘close,’ or 远 (yuǎn) for ‘far.’ So this pattern is normally used to simply express that one place is (not) close or (not) far from another place.

**Place 1 + 离 + Place 2 + Adv. + 近 / 远**

- Note that in English, you can actually ask, "How close is it from here?" if the distance is obviously short. But in Chinese it's just, "How far is it from here?"

**Place 1 + 离 + Place 2 (+ 有) + 多远?**

**For example:**

Structure	Chinese	English
<b>Place 1+离+Place 2+Adv.+近/远</b>	我家离公园非常近,我常常去那里跑步。	The park is very close to my house, I often run over there.
	中国离英国太远了。	The UK is far from China.
<b>Place1+离+Place 2 (+有)+多远?</b>	你家离学校多远?	How far is it from your home to school?
	从这里去超市有多远?	How far is it from here to the supermarket?

➤ **The use of ‘后来’**

- The word 后来 (hòu lái) is used to sequence past events in the same way that "afterward" is in English. Something very important to note is that 后来 can only be used with two events **that have already occurred.**

**[Past Event 1], 后来, [Past Event 2]**

- Comparing ‘以后’ & ‘后来’

以后 is a time noun, which means ‘in the future’ or ‘after’. It can be used to talk about things that happen at some unspecified point in the future while 后来 is used to sequence two events that have already occurred. It is the Chinese equivalent of the English word ‘afterward.’

**For example:**

Word	Chinese	English
后来	上个月我见过他，但是后来再也没见过他。	I saw him last month, but have not seen him afterwards.
	我的朋友以前是一个老师，后来去中国做生意了。	My friend quit his teaching job. Afterwards, he went to China to do business.
以后	老板半个小时以后回来。	After half an hour, the boss will return.
	结婚以后爸爸不喝酒了。	After he got married, dad stopped drinking.

➤ **The use of ‘即将’**

The word 即将 (jì jiāng) means ‘to be about to’ or ‘be going to’. It is used in the future tense, which is similar to ‘将要’ (jiāng yào) or ‘快要’ (kuài yào).

**Subj. + 即将 + Verb phrase.**

**For example:**

Chinese	English
黑暗即将过去,黎明就在眼前。	the darkest hour is just before the dawn
飞机即将起飞,但是我姐姐还没有来。	The plane is about to fly but my elder sister hasn't come yet.

➤ **Measure words for verbs — ‘次’, ‘下’, ‘回’ & ‘遍’**

When a verb is done more than once, it also requires a measure word to accompany it. This way the measure word is acting as a way to count the frequency or re-occurrence of an action. The most common measure words for verbs are 次 (cì), 回 (huí) & 遍 (biàn).

**Verb + Number + Measure Word**

The grammar pattern is very similar to English. For example, ‘看三次’ and ‘saw three times’ mirror each other in structure.

**For example:**

Word	Chinese	English
次	我们去过中国三次。	We've been China three times.
	关于这个问题我们讨论过几次。	We've discussed this issue a few times.
下	他敲了几下门。	He knocked the door quite a few times.
	弟弟打了我很多下。	Younger brother hit me many times.
回	这首歌我听过一百多回。	I have listened this song more than one hundred times.
	这个饭馆我来过十几回。	I have been to this restaurant more than ten times.
遍	这本书我看过两遍。	I've seen this book twice.
	你能再说一遍吗?	Could you please repeat again?

➤ **Separable verbs**

Separable verbs are ‘verb-object phrases.’ They consist of two characters: the first is the verb, and the second is the object. Very often, these two will appear together, seemingly acting as a single verb, as in 吃饭, ‘to eat,’ 见面, ‘to meet,’ or 睡觉, ‘to sleep.’ But the two can also separate, and the verb can also be used without the object.

In general, separable verbs cannot directly be followed by objects.

**For example:**

Separable verbs	Verb+Verb+ Object	Verb...[Other Stuff]... Object	Verb+[Measure Word Phrase]+Object
跑步	跑跑步	跑完步	跑一个小时步
游泳	游游泳	游完泳	游五回泳
吃饭	吃吃饭	吃过饭	吃几次饭
唱歌	唱唱歌	唱了歌	唱个歌
看书	看看书	看着书	看五遍书
见面	见见面	见过面	见三次面

## 15. 电影 (Films)

Theme 2: Chinese culture  
Sub-themes: Cultural activities

### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
立体	lì tǐ	3D
搞笑	gǎo xiào	amusing
票房收入	piào fáng shōu rù	box office revenue
喜剧	xǐ jù	comedy
悲剧	bēi jù	tragedy
开幕	kāi mù	curtain up/open/begin
导演	dǎo yǎn	director
灾难片	zāi nàn piàn	disaster film
恐怖片	kǒng bù piàn	horror film
武侠片	wǔ xiá piàn	martial arts film
战争片	zhàn zhēng piàn	war film
娱乐圈	yú lè quān	entertainment industry
影迷	yǐng mí	film fan
电影明星	diàn yǐng míng xīng	film star
主角	zhǔ jué	main role/character
配角	pèi jué	supporting actor
角色	jué sè	role/character
摄影	shè yǐng	photography
拍摄	pāi shè	to film/photograph, photography

Character	Pinyin	English
场景	chǎng jǐng	scene
场面	chǎng miàn	
编剧	biān jù	scriptwriter
视频	shì pín	video
配乐	pèi yuè	score (of a film)
反映	fǎn yìng	to reflect
标准	biāo zhǔn	standard
满足	mǎn zú	to satisfy
之间	zhī jiān	between/among
观众	guān zhòng	audience
此外	cǐ wài	besides; in addition to
除非	chú fēi	unless; only if
及/以及	jí/yǐ jí	as well as; and

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ The use of ‘此外’

The word 此外 (cǐ wài) means ‘besides’ or ‘in addition to’. It is short for 除此之外 (chú cǐ zhī wài) and always use before a sentence. As a conjunction, 此外 can link two sentences.

……, 此外, ……

**For example:**

Chinese	English
我没时间参加这个活动。此外，我也对它不太感兴趣。	I don't have time to attend this activity. Besides, I'm not really interested.
我常常去公园跑步。此外，我每天吃的食物也非常健康。	I often go to park for running. Besides, I also eat very healthy food everyday.

➤ **Reduplication of adjectives**

- One-Syllable Adjectives (AA)

It's mostly for adjectives that describe the physical world: colors, sizes, shapes, and other physical descriptors. This is also known as the 'AA' pattern:

**Adj. + Adj. + 的 (+ Noun)/ A A + 的 (+ Noun)**

- Two-Syllable Adjectives (AABB)

If the adjective has more than one character, then you should repeat each character individually (rather than the whole word). This is known as the 'AABB' pattern. In the structure below, the original two-character adjective (such as 高兴, 漂亮) is 'AB,' where the first character of the adjective is represented by 'A,' and the second by 'B.'

**A A B B + 的 (+ Noun)**

- Used as Adverbs (AABB)

When adjectives are used as adverbs to modify verbs, you can reduplicate the adjective using the AABB pattern.

**AABB + 地 + Verb**

For example:

Structure	Adjective	Chinese	English
<b>A A+的(+ Noun)</b>	大 (big)	她有一双大大的眼睛。	She has big eyes.
	瘦 (thin)	你的妹妹瘦瘦的。	Your younger sister is thin.
<b>A A B B+的(+ Noun)</b>	漂亮 (pretty)	你今天打扮得漂漂亮亮的。	You dressed up very pretty today.
	干净 (clean)	我喜欢这个干干净净的房间。	I like this clean room.
<b>AABB+地+Verb</b>	清楚 (clear)	我清清楚楚地听到了你说话。	I heard you clearly.
	马虎 (careless)	老师马马虎虎地检查了我们的作业。	The teacher checked our homework carelessly.

➤ **The use of '及/以及'**

及/以及 (jí/yǐ jí) means 'and' or 'as well as'. It often appears in the written language, which is used to join for phrases, clauses or multi-syllable words (**but not one-syllable words**).

**[Noun Phrase 1], [Noun Phrase 2] + 以及 + [Noun Phrase 3]**

For example:

Structure	Chinese	English
Nouse Phrase	他们经常来找我，我的家人以及我的朋友。	They come up with me, my clients, and my friends frequently.
multi-syllable words	我们为小学生，中学生以及大学生设计了不同的考试。	We have tests and exams for children at primary school, for middle-school students, for university students.
clauses	我能改变的只有我的认知，以及自己如何去用这些知识。	I can only change what I know and how I apply this knowledge.

➤ The use of ‘除非’

- 除非 (chú fēi) can be used as a conjunction and means ‘unless.’ The simplified construction more directly maps to the basic English usage of ‘unless.’

**Result / Fact, 除非 + Condition**

- 否则 (fǒu zé) or (要)不然 (yào bù rán) often appear in the following phrase, to form a construction meaning ‘unless x, otherwise y’:

**除非 + Condition, [否则/(要)不然] + [Result / Fact]**

- Reverse Pattern with 除非 and 才

除非 is also used in the patterns below. The meaning expressed is the same as the sentences above, but below the ‘Y’ part expresses what won't happen unless the 除非 condition is met. It might be more helpful to think of 除非 here as meaning ‘only if.’

**除非 x, 才 y**

For example:

Structure	Chinese	English
<b>Result/Fact, 除非+ Condition</b>	你不能出去踢足球，除非把作业做好。	You can't go out to play football unless you finish your homework.
<b>除非+Condition, [否则/(要)不然] + [Result/Fact]</b>	除非你把作业做好，否则不能出去踢足球。	Unless you finish your homework, otherwise, you can't go out to play football.
<b>除非 x, 才 y</b>	除非你把作业做好，才能出去踢足球。	Only if you finish your homework, you can go out to play football.

## 16. 电视 (Television)

Theme 2: Chinese culture  
Sub-themes: Cultural activities

### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
动画片	dòng huà piàn	cartoon film
卡通片	kǎ tōng piàn	
访谈节目	fǎng tán jié mù	chat show
清谈节目	qīng tān jié mù	
美食节目	měi shí jié mù	food programme
综艺节目	zōng yì jié mù	variety show
电视主持人	diàn shǐ zhǔ chí rén	TV presenter
热门话题	rè mén huà tí	hot topic
纪录片	jì lù piàn	documentary
连续剧	lián xù jù	drama series
广播	guǎng bō	to broadcast
资讯	zī xùn	information
信息	xìn xī	
精彩	jīng cǎi	excellent
感动	gǎn dòng	moving/ to feel moved
剧情	jù qíng	plot
情节	qíng jié	
煽情	shān qíng	sensational
真人秀	zhēn rén xiù	reality show

Character	Pinyin	English
演出	yǎn chū	show
表演	biǎo yǎn	
秀	xiù	
潮流	cháo liú	trend
趋势	qū shì	
意义	yì yì	meaning
有关	yǒu guān	related to
真正	zhēn zhèng	real/true
宣传	xuān chuán	propaganda
通过	tōng guò	through; by means of
相当	xiāng dāng	quite; considerably
极其	jí qí	extremely
无比	wú bǐ	peerlessness; matchless
明明	míng míng	obviously; apparently
参加	cān jiā	to participate

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ Degree modifiers—‘相当’、‘极其’ & ‘无比’

相当(xiāng dāng), 极其(jí qí) & 无比(wú bǐ) are degree adverbs, which intensify or in some other way modify the degree of expression of the adjective (or verb).

**Subj. + degree adverbs + Adj (verb phrase).**

For example:

Words	Chinese	English
相当	他相当高兴。	He's quite happy.
极其	他极其高兴。	He's extremely happy.
无比	他无比高兴。	He's extremely happy.

➤ **The use of ‘就’**

The adverb 就 (jiù) has quite a few uses in Chinese, and appears in several common patterns. The first and simplest usage is similar to ‘just’ or ‘then.’ Usually the first part of the sentence will set up a situation. Then the second part, with 就 leading the way, indicates what should be done as a result.

..., 就 + Verb Phrase

For example:

Chinese	English
妈妈没有让他玩手机，他就哭了。	His mom didn't allow him to play mobile phone, and then he just started crying.
你现在越来越胖，就不要吃得太多。	You are putting more and more weight. So just stop eating too much food.

➤ **The use of ‘只’**

There are a number of different ways to express ‘only’ in Chinese, but 只 (zhǐ) is the most basic one. It's an adverb, so it normally can come directly before a verb, or before an auxiliary verb like 会 (huì) or 能 (néng).

只 (+会/能) + Verb

For example:

Chinese	English
我们班只有五个学生上大学。	Our class only had five students who went to the university.
我只会说中文和英文。	I only can speak Chinese and English.
我只能坐火车去市中心。	I only can take a train to the city center.

➤ **The use of ‘明明’**

明明(míng míng) means ‘clearly; apparently.’ There is usually a rhetorical question or short transition sentence before or after the clause with ‘明明’.

For example:

Chinese	English
我明明看见你走进了这个房间。	I clearly saw you walk into this room.
这明明是一个非常好的工作，但是你不想要。	Apparently it is a extremely good job, but you don't want it.

➤ **The use of ‘得’**

- 得 (de) is used to construct various kinds of complements and is usually associated with verbs. It has no obvious equivalent in English and the learners consider it as the ‘complement de.’

**Subject + verb + 得 + Potential complement/Degree complement**

- Potential complement

Structurally, potential complements are closely related to both result complements and direction complements. The most important and commonly used potential complements are derived from other complements such as the following:

- ✦ Verb + 见 e.g. 看见, 听见 (result complements)
- ✦ Verb + 懂 e.g. 看懂, 听懂 (result complements)
- ✦ Verb + 完 e.g. 吃完, 做完, 用完, 花完 (result complements)
- ✦ Verb + Adj. e.g. 看清楚, 听明白, 洗干净 (result complements)
- ✦ Verb + 到 e.g. 找到, 买到, 收到 (result complements)
- ✦ Verb + Direction e.g. 上来, 下去, 进去, 起来, 走过去, 爬上去 (direction complements)

- Degree complement

Degree complements such as 很(hěn); 非常(fēi cháng); 很好(hěn hǎo); 不多(bù duō); 得不得了(de bù de liǎo), etc. They are used to modify verbs and adjectives. They always come after the word they modify.

**For example:**

Function	Chinese	English
Potential complement	我看得见很远的地方。	I can see far away.
	他买得到你要的东西。	He can buy the things you want.
	你能爬得上去吗?	Can you climb to the top?
Degree complement	她穿得非常漂亮。	She dresses extremely pretty.
	他跑得太快了(快得不得了)。	He runs very fast.
	我吃得不多, 但还是很胖。	I don't eat much but I am still fat.

## 17. 音乐 (Music)

Theme 2: Chinese culture  
Sub-themes: Cultural activities

### 一. Vocabulary List

Character	Pinyin	English
芭蕾舞	bā lěi wǔ	ballet
乐队	yuè duì	band
合唱团	hé chàng tuán	choir
古典音乐	gǔ diǎn yīn yuè	classical music
流行	liú xíng	popular
现代	xiàn dài	modern
民歌	mín gē	folk song
戏曲	xì qǔ	opera (Chinese)
歌剧	gē jù	opera (Western)
演唱会	yǎn chàng huì	pop concert
摇滚乐	yáo gǔn yuè	rock 'n' roll
舞台	wǔ tái	stage
大型	dà xíng	large scale
乐器	yuè qì	musical instrument
二胡	èr hú	erhu
古筝	gǔ zhēng	guzheng (Chinese zither)
钢琴	gāng qín	piano
琵琶	pí pá	pipa
小提琴	xiǎo tí qín	violin

Character	Pinyin	English
载歌载舞	<b>zài gē zài wǔ</b>	to sing and dance
广场舞	<b>guǎng chǎng wǔ</b>	square dance
产生	<b>chǎn shēng</b>	to cause/produce
创造	<b>chuàng zào</b>	to create
声音	<b>shēng yīn</b>	sound
经过	<b>jīng guò</b>	to go through/pass by
任何	<b>rèn hé</b>	any/whichever
变化	<b>biàn huà</b>	change/vary
许多	<b>xǔ duō</b>	many; lots of
不少	<b>bù shǎo</b>	quite a few; not a few
等/等等	<b>děng/děng děng</b>	etc; and so on...
什么的	<b>shǎn me de</b>	
直到	<b>zhi dao</b>	till; all the way untill
所有	<b>suǒ yǒu</b>	all
特点	<b>tè diǎn</b>	distinguishing feature

## 二. Grammar

### ➤ Plurality of nouns—‘不少’ & ‘许多’

Just like 一些(yī xiē) and 几(jǐ), 不少(bù shǎo) and 许多(xǔ duō) are also called plurality of nouns which are placed before the noun it modifies. 不少 means ‘quite a few’ and 许多 means ‘many.’

For example:

Word	Chinese	English
不少	我去过中国不少地方。	I have been to quite a few places in China.
许多	我去过中国许多地方。	I have been to many places in China.

➤ **The use of ‘等等’ & ‘什么的’**

- 等等 (děng děng) or simply 等 (děng), is just like saying ‘and so on’ or ‘etc.’ in English, but it's just a bit more formal. The basic structure is easy. Just make a list of things and add 等 or 等等 to the end of the list. It's the same as in English when we use ‘etc.’ at the end of a list, except in Chinese you don't put a final comma before the 等 or 等等.

**A1, A2 …… 等/等等**

- 什么的 (shén me de) is an informal way to express ‘and so on,’ and is used to end a list of items when it is obvious to the listener what class of things the speaker is talking about.

**Noun 1, Noun 2 (+ Noun 3) + 什么的**

Note: It can be a little impolite to use 什么的 after a list of peoples names, in which case 等 can be used in place of 什么的.

**For example:**

Word	Chinese	English
等	我们学校的课程有数学、英文、中文等。	The subjects of our school are Maths, English, Chinese, etc.
	伦敦、上海、北京、纽约等城市都非常有名。	London, Shanghai, Beijing, NewYork and so on are all famous cities.
等等	我喜欢的运动有跑步、跳舞、踢足球、打羽毛球等等。	The sports I like are running, dancing, playing football, playing badminton and so on.
	我去过欧洲很多国家。比如：法国、德国、意大利等等	I have been to many European countries. such as France, German, Italy, etc.
什么的	我的卧室里有柜子、电视、电脑、床什么的。	My bedroom has wardrobe, TV, computer, bed and so on.
	遛狗、钓鱼、买东西什么的，这些爱好我都喜欢。	Walking with a dog, fishing, shopping, and so on. I like all these hobbies.

➤ **The use of ‘而’**

The conjunction 而 (ér) is used to connect two sentences that are related to each other, and is also frequently used to emphasize contrast between two parts of the sentence. Used in this way, it can be translated as ‘but rather.’ 而 is often used in more formal or literary language.

**Sentence 1, + 而 + Sentence 2**

For example:

Chinese	English
你喜欢跑步和跳舞，而我喜欢看书和听音乐。	You like running and dancing, but I like reading and listening to music.
我们已经等了一个小时，而他还是没来。	We have waited an hour, and he still did not come.

➤ **The use of ‘直到’**

- 直到 (zhí dào) is for describing a time frame that began in the past and continued until a point closer to the present. It is like the English phrase, ‘all the way until.’ It can be used in an affirmative or negative form, expressing that something has taken a while or is late.
- In the positive form, which uses 才(cái), it may be more natural in English to express the idea as "not until... did" something happen.

**直到 + Time / Event, Subj. + 才……**

- In the negative form, which normally uses 都(dōu) with 不(bù) or 没(méi)

**直到 + Time / Event, Subj. + 都 + 不/没 ……**

For example:

Structure	Chinese	English
<b>Positive Form</b>	直到今天早上，我才知道你有女朋友了。	It wasn't until this morning that I knew you have a girl friend.
	直到经理来了以后我才离开办公室。	It wasn't until the manager came that I left the office.
<b>Negative Form</b>	直到现在，我都没有离开过这个城市。	Even now I have never left this city.
	直到我有了工作，我都不会做家务。	I didn't know how to do house work until I had a job.

## 文学作品与电影 (Literary texts and films)

For Paper 2, students are required to study **two works** from the list below. This can be either two literary texts **or** one literary text and one film.

Students are expected to provide a critical and analytical response by selecting relevant material from the works, presenting and justifying point of view, developing arguments, drawing conclusions based on understanding, and evaluating issues, themes and cultural and social contexts related to the works studied.

### ➤ Literary texts:

Name	Author	Year	Style
《一只叫凤的鸽子》 (A Very Special Pigeon)	曹文轩 Wenxuan, Cao	2014	Contemporary Short story
《城南旧事》 (My Memories of Old Beijing) 〈爸爸的花儿落了〉 (Dad's Flowers Have Fallen)	林海音 Haiyin, Lin	1960	Autobiographical novel
《城南旧事》 (My Memories of Old Beijing) 〈惠安馆〉 (Hui-an Hostel)			
《故乡》 (Hometown)	鲁迅 Xun, Lu	1921	Novel

### Resources:

#### ✦ 一只叫凤的鸽子 (A Very Special Pigeon)

<https://writingchinese.leeds.ac.uk/book-club/september-cao-wenxuan-%E6%9B%B9%E6%96%87%E8%BD%A9/%E4%B8%80%E5%8F%AA%E5%8F%AB%E5%87%A4%E7%9A%84%E9%B8%BD%E5%AD%90/>

#### ✦ 城南旧事 (My Memories of Old Beijing)

Film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2G-sNhaSnk>

Novel 1—惠安馆: <http://www.dushu369.com/zhongguomingzhu/HTML/89347.html>

Novel 2—爸爸的花儿落了: <http://www.dushu369.com/zhongguomingzhu/HTML/89343.html>

#### ✦ 故乡 (Hometown):

<https://www.kanunu8.com/book/4416/55711.html>

➤ **Films:**

Name	Director	Year	Youtube Link
《请投我一票》 (please vote for me)	陈为军 Weijun,Chen	2007	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLNcbO_IdMU&amp;t=223s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLNcbO_IdMU&amp;t=223s</a>
《十七岁的单车》 (Beijing Bicycle)	王小帅 Xiaoshuai,Wang	2001	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7laA2alxh0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7laA2alxh0</a>
《天水围的日与夜》 (The way we are)	许鞍华 Anhua,Xu	2008	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zo3e6fPShw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zo3e6fPShw</a>

**Three key aspects of film:**

- ✦ The story—an initial situation, a setting, some characters
- ✦ The narration—how the story is told and how elements are ordered
- ✦ The manipulation of images—types of camera shot and visual sequences

**Film techniques:**

- ✦ Camera work
- ✦ Sound
- ✦ Position of characters
- ✦ Lighting
- ✦ Music
- ✦ Colours
- ✦ Movement

**Example questions of asking filming techniques:**

- ✦ Why did the director use that technique?
- ✦ What is the impact on the viewer?
- ✦ Are the techniques effective? Why or why not?

## 写作策略 (Strategies of writing an essay)

### ➤ The P-E-E Technique

The Point, Evidence, Explanation method (PEE) is great for organising paragraphs around your ideas and gives your argument some direction.

#### ✦ Point:

Make a point. This can be anything from a short sentence to a few lines..

#### ✦ Evidence:

Quote the text. The quote needs to be related to the point you made.

#### ✦ Explanation:

Explain the quote, what it means, how it works, and how it backs up the point you made originally.

<b>Point</b> What is my point in relation to the question?	
<b>Evidence</b> What I can see/read	
<b>Explanation</b> What can I say/deduce/explain from the above	

➤ **Analysis of characters**

A character analysis is a kind of essay where you examine behaviours, motivations, and actions of characters. In most cases, it is used for the analysis of literary works. This form of academic writing involves personalities' descriptions and conflicts with others they experience throughout a story. This analysis aims to provide a critical assessment of characters and build up conclusions based on the storyline.

	<b>Character1</b>	<b>Character 2</b>
<b>Physical description</b>		
<b>Personality</b>		
<b>Actions</b>		
<b>Their relationship with other characters</b>		
<b>Their similarities with other characters</b>		
<b>Their differences with other characters</b>		

A good approach to write a character analysis essay is to keep taking notes while reading - you should record key quotes belonging to your character, key actions that define him/her, opinions of other characters about them, etc. When writing the characterization, all these notes would prove handy.

➤ **Using de Bono’s PMI**

PMI (plus, minus, interesting) is a brainstorming, decision making and critical thinking tool. It is used to encourage the examination of ideas, concepts and experiences from more than one perspective. PMI was developed by Dr. Edward de Bono, a proponent of lateral and critical thinking.

<b>P</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>I</b>

✦ **Step 1. Consider the Plus Points**

In this step, simply enumerate all of the positive things you can think of.

✦ **Step 2. Consider the Minus Points**

In this step, enumerate all of the negative things you can think of.

✦ **Step 3. Consider the Interesting Points of the Situation.**

In this step, enumerate all the interesting points that you can think of. Rather than positive or negative, they are simply points of interest that you should direct your attention to.

✦ **Step 4. Make Your conclusion**

In this step, you make your judgement because you’ve scanned and organised three important aspects: the positives, the negatives, and the interesting.

## ➤ Common Question Words

The following list of common questions words might help you to understand the questions before writing the texts.

Character	Pinyin	English
如何	rú hé	how
说明	shuō míng	to explain
解释	jiě shì	
分析	fēn xī	to analysis
探讨	tàn tǎo	to probe into; to investigate
评价	píng jià	to evaluate
谈谈	tán tán	to discuss
考虑	kǎo lǜ	to consider
表达	biǎo dá	to express
反映	fǎn yìng	to reflect
影响	yǐng xiǎng	impact; influence
感受	gǎn shòu	perceive; feel
表现	biǎo xiàn	expression; to show
根据	gēn jù	according to
变化	biàn huà	change
变故	biàn gù	accident; misfortune
比喻	bǐ yù	to compare; figure of speech
运用	yùn yòng	to use
作用	zuò yòng	actions
塑造	sù zào	to model; to portray
性格	xìng gé	character
关系	guān xì	relationship
写作手法	xiě zuò shǒu fǎ	technique of writing
象征意义	xiàng zhēng yì yì	symbolic meaning
深刻意义	shēn kè yì yì	profound meaning

## 独立课题研究 (Independent Research Project)

- For the purposes of the assessment, independent research means research carried out **without** the help or instruction of others, including teachers.
- The independent research project **must relate to** the cultural and/or social context of the Chinese-speaking world.
- The independent research project must **not** be based on one of the literary works or films studies for Paper 2.
- The independent research project **must**:
  - ✦ be based on a question or statement defined and developed by the student individually to investigate a particular area of interest specifically related to the culture and/or society of the Chinese-speaking world
  - ✦ include evidence of the student’s research findings, investigated independently, from a range of authentic sources, including the internet
  - ✦ enable the student independently to contextualise, analyse and summarise findings
  - ✦ enable the student to identify at least two written sources, which they can summarise and give a personal response to in their presentation.
- **Guidance on the independent research project**

Stage	Description
1 Pre-independent Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Teacher instruction on how to conduct research, teacher gives advice on suitable resources and how to analyse information.</li> <li>✦ Initial conversations with the teacher on possible questions or statements that the student may use for their independent research project.</li> <li>✦ Subsequent to the above, the student should independently develop the focus of their question or statement.</li> <li>✦ The teacher checks that the student’s question or statement will allow the student to access the full range of marks.</li> </ul>
2 Independent Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ The student conducts research to find and select appropriate sources (including written sources).</li> <li>✦ The teacher monitors the project by giving general feedback.</li> </ul>
3 Analysis of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Students record the 6–10 key findings of their research on the <i>RP3 form</i> and prepare to give information about and analyse their findings, ensuring that all material is clearly linked to the target language culture.</li> <li>✦ In preparation for their two-minute presentation, students prepare to summarise the main points/ideas from at least two of the written sources they have used as part of their research and to give a relevant personal response.</li> </ul>

➤ **How to develop research skills**

The following step by step guide is a suggestion of how to start research and develop it for the independent research project. It is very important to keep an organised record of resources used in order to make the most of them. A research portfolio will allow for this and therefore encourage independent learning; this will result in a more personalised and meaningful learning experience.

Step By Step Guide	Done	Checked
<p><b>CHOOSE AN AREA OF STUDY:</b> What area of study interests you most? Do some background reading in both your first language and the target language to find out what you would be more interested in learning about.</p>		
<p><b>CHOOSE A TOPIC WITHIN THIS AREA:</b> What would you like to know more about? Write a list of possible topics, present them to your class / teacher and discuss which ones would be more appropriate for your study. Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Relevance to the target language society</li> <li>✦ How easy it is to find and access resources on this topic</li> <li>✦ Opportunities for developing ideas</li> </ul>		
<p><b>WRITE SOME BASIC QUESTIONS ON THE TOPIC YOU CHOSE:</b> What do you want to find out about this topic? Use some of these question words/phrases to get you started:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ what, when, who, define, distinguish, identify, list, name, recall, reorganise</li> <li>✦ show, state, write, which, indicate, tell how</li> <li>✦ compare, conclude, contrast, demonstrate, predict, which, distinguish, estimate</li> <li>✦ explain, rephrase, inform, give an example of, hypothesise, illustrate, relate, tell in your own words</li> <li>✦ how would, demonstrate, choose, indicate</li> </ul>		
<p><b>CHOOSE YOUR SOURCES AND START GATHERING INFORMATION IN THE TARGET LANGUAGE:</b> Where can you find enough information to help you find out more? 1 Once you have identified the sources you are going to use, photocopy or print out the texts so you can read them, highlight key points and annotate the new vocabulary. 2 Identify quotes, facts and statistics that you could use later. 3 Don't forget to reference the sources so you don't waste time trying to find the same resource and also in order to use these references in your work if appropriate.</p>		
<p><b>IDENTIFY KEY POINTS AND ORGANISE THEM:</b> What have you learned about your chosen topic? Create a mind map with the main key points and organise the information you have gathered into the categories you have identified.</p>		