

Structure	Pinyin	English Equivalent	Example	Example Pinyin	Example Translation
V 好	V hǎo	done V-ing	饭还没做好, 请你等一会儿。	fàn hái méi zuò hǎo, qǐng nǐděng yīhuìr.	The food is not cooked yet, please wait awhile.
一 + M + N + 也 / 都 + 不 + V	yī + M + N + yě / dōu + bù + V	not V even one N	我一个苹果也不吃。	wǒ yī gè píngguǒ yě bù chī.	I'm not eating any apples. (Lit. I don't eat even one apple.)
那	nà	so then	你不去, 那我也不去了。	nǐ bù qù, nà wǒ yě bù qù le.	[If] you don't go, then I won't go either.
那也	nà yě	but still	A: 我早就复习好了。B: 那也不能一直玩儿啊。	A: wǒ zǎojiù fùxí hǎole。 B: nà yě bùnéng yízhí wánr ā.	A: I've done my reviewed a long time ago already. B: But still [you] shouldn't be playing all the time.
V1 了 就 V2	V1 le jiù V2	V2 as soon as V1	爸爸回来了我们就吃饭。	bàba huílai le wǒmen jiù chīfàn.	We'll eat when dad comes back.
V 来 / 去	V lái / qù	(complements of direction)	我们在楼上等你呢, 你上来吧。	wǒmen zài lóushàng děng nǐ ne, nǐ shànglái ba.	We are upstairs waiting, please come up.
V somewhere 来 / 去	V somewhere lái / qù	(complements of direction)	朋友回家去了。	péngyou huíjiā qù le.	[My] friend went back home.
V O 来 / 去	V O lái / qù	(complements of direction)	明天要带作业来。	míngtiān yào dài zuòyè lái.	You need to bring [your] homework tomorrow.
V 来 / 去 O	V lái / qù O	(complements of direction)	明天要带来作业。	míngtiān yào dàilái zuòyè.	Bring [your] homework tomorrow.
能 ..... 吗?	néng ... .. ma?	how can you...?	你不做作业, 也不练习, 能学好汉语吗?	nǐ bù zuò zuòyè, yě bù liànxí, néng xuéhǎo Hànyǔ ma?	You don't do [your] homework, don't practice, how can you [possibly] learn Chinese well?
N1 还是 N2 ?	N1 hái shì N2 ?	N1 or N2 ?	你要喝咖啡还是喝茶?	nǐ yào hē kāfēi hái shì hē chá?	Do you want coffee or tea?
N1 或者 N2	N1 huòzhě N2	either N1 or N2	天冷了或者工作累了的时候, 喝杯热茶很舒服。	tiānlěng le huòzhě gōngzuò lèi le de shíhòu, hē bēi rèchá hěn shūfu.	When the weather is cold or when you're tired from work, it is very comfortable to drink a cup of hot tea.
N1 还是 N2	N1 hái shì N2	N1 or N2 (in question-like clauses)	我还没想好去爬山还是去看电影。	wǒ hái méi xiǎng hǎo qù páshān hái shì kàn diànyǐng.	I haven't decided whether to go hiking or to go to the movies.
PLACE + V + 着 + N	PLACE + V + zhe + N	There is N V'ed in PLACE.	桌子上放着一杯咖啡。	zhuōzi shàngfàng zhe yī bēi kāfēi.	There is a cup of coffee placed on the table.
PLACE + 没 + V + 着 + N	PLACE + méi + V + zhe + N	There is not N V'ed in PLACE.	桌子上没放着咖啡。	zhuōzi shàng méi fàng zhe kāfēi.	There was no coffee placed on the table.
会 + V / A + (的)	huì + V / A + ( de)	will V, will be A	你穿得那么少, 会感冒的。	nǐ chuān dé nàme shǎo, huì gǎnmào de.	You wear so little, you will catch a cold.
又 ..... 又 .....	yòu ... .. yòu ... ..	not only ... but also ...	这个西瓜又大又甜。	zhège xīguā yòu dà yòu tián.	This watermelon is big and sweet.
V1 + 着 + V2	V1 + zhe + V2	V1-ing while V2-ing	弟弟吃着苹果写作业。	dìdì chī zhe píngguǒ xiě zuòyè.	The younger brother is doing homework while eating [an] apple.
A 了	A le	become A	昨天吃了感冒药, 现在好一些了。	zuótiān chī le gǎnmàoyào, xiànzài hǎo yíxiē le.	I took flu medicine yesterday, and I'm better now.
V 了	V le	(didn't V but) now V	现在我可以穿漂亮的裙子了。	xiànzài wǒ kěyǐ chuān piàoliang de qúnzi le.	Now I can wear a beautiful dress.
越来越 + A + (了)	yuèlái yuè + A + ( le)	more and more A	你最近越来越帅了。	nǐ zuìjīn yuèlái yuè shuài le.	You're more and more handsome these days.

V + 得 + RESULT	V + dé + RESULT	can V to RESULT	我看得清楚那个汉字。	wǒ kàn dé qīngchu nàge hànzì.	I can see the Chinese character clearly.
V + 得 + DIRECTION	V + dé + DIRECTION	can V to DIRECTION	楼这么高，你上得来吗？	lóu zhème gāo, nǐ shàng dé lái ma?	The building is so high, are you able to come up?
V + 不 + result	V + bù + result	cannot V to RESULT	我找不到好饭馆。	wǒ zhǎobudào hǎo fànguǎn.	I can't seek out a good restaurant.
V + 不 + direction	V + bù + direction	cannot V to DIRECTION	楼太高了，我上不去。	lóu tài gāo le, wǒ shàng bù qù.	The building is too high, I can't go up.
N 呢？	N ne?	where is N?	你的书呢？	nǐ de shū ne?	Where is your book?
刚 V	gāng V	just V	儿子刚做完作业。	érzi gāng zuòwán zuòyè.	The son just finished his homework.
刚才	gāngcái	moments ago	刚才儿子在做作业。	gāngcái érzi zài zuò zuòyè.	My son is doing homework moments ago.
V + 了 + DURATION + O	V + le + DURATION + O	V'ed O for DURATION	我们坐了一个小时公共汽车。	wǒmen zuò le yī gè xiǎoshí gōnggòngqìchē.	We took a bus for an hour.
V + 了 + DURATION + O + 了	V + le + DURATION + O + le	have been V-ing O for DURATION	我学习了一年汉语了。	wǒ xuéxí le yī nián Hànyǔ le.	I have studied Chinese for a year.
对 N 感兴趣/有兴趣	duì N gǎnxìngqù/ yǒuxìngqù	interested in N	他们对中国电影感兴趣。	tāmen duì Zhōngguó diànyǐng gǎnxìngqù.	They are interested in Chinese movies.
对 N 没兴趣	duì N méi xìngqù	not interested in N	他们对中国电影没兴趣。	tāmen duì Zhōngguó diànyǐng méi xìngqù.	They are not interested in Chinese movies.
半	bàn	half hour	现在七点半。	xiànzài qī diǎn bàn.	It's half past seven.
一刻	yī kè	quarter hour (when telling time)	现在七点一刻。	xiànzài qī diǎn yī kè.	Now it's quarter past seven.
一刻钟	yī kè zhōng	quarter hour (duration)	你迟到了一刻钟。	nǐ chí dào liǎo yī kè zhōng.	You are late for 15 minutes.
差 (chà)	chà (chà)	to (when telling time)	已经差一刻八点了！	yǐjīng chà yī kè bā diǎn le!	It's already a quarter to eight!
再 V	zài V	again (later)	我明天还要再去看看。	wǒ míngtiān hái yào zài qù kànkàn.	I will go see it again tomorrow.
又 V	yòu V	(did) again	你今天怎么又迟到了？	nǐ jīntiān zěnmē yòu chí dào liǎo?	Why are you late again today?
S + Q1 + 就 + Q2	S + Q1 + jiù + Q2	(S acts in a way so that the answer to Q1 is the same as the answer to Q2.)	我想喝什么就喝什么。	wǒ xiǎng hē shénme jiù hē shénme.	I drink whatever I want to drink.
S1 + Q + S2 + 就 + Q	S1 + Q + S2 + jiù + Q	(S2 acts in a way that the answer to Q is true for both S1 and S2.)	你喝什么我就喝什么。	nǐ hē shénme wǒ jiù hē shénme.	I drink whatever you drink.
越 V1/A1 越 V2/A2	yuè V1/A1 yuè V2/A2	the more V1/A1 the more V2/A2	我们越聊越开心。	wǒmen yuè liáo yuè kāixīn.	The more we chat, the more joyous we are.
N1 跟 N2 一样	N1 gēn N2 yíyàng	N1 is like N2	你的眼睛跟大熊猫一样。	nǐ de yǎnjīng gēn dàxióngmāo yíyàng.	Your eyes are like pandas' [eyes].
N1 跟 N2 一样 A	N1 gēn N2 yíyàng A	N1 is as A as N2	儿子跟爸爸一样高。	érzi gēn bàba yíyàng gāo.	The son is as tall as his father.
没有 N (这么/那么) A	méiyǒu N (zhème/nàme) A	not as A as N	我的汉语没有他那么好。	wǒ de Hànyǔ méiyǒu tā nàme hǎo.	My Chinese is not as good as his.
A 一点儿/一些	A yídiǎnr/ yíxiē	A little more A	大山比大卫矮一点儿。	Dàshān bǐ Dàwèi ài yídiǎnr.	Dashan is a little shorter than David.

A 得多/多了	A dé duō/ duō le	much more A	今天的作业比昨天多得多。	jīntiān de zuòyè bǐ zuótiān duō dé duō.	Today's homework is much more than yesterday's.
# #+1	# #+1	# or #+1	我每天学习一两个小时汉语。	wǒ měitiān xuéxí yī liǎng gè xiǎoshí Hànyǔ.	I study Chinese for one or two hours a day.
把 + O + V + 了	bǎ + O + V + le	V'ed the O	我把钱包忘了。	wǒ bǎ qiánbāo wàng le.	I forgot my/the wallet.
不要/别/没把 + O + V + 了	bùyào/ bié/ méi bǎ + O + V + le	don't/don't/haven't V'ed the O	别把手机忘了。	bié bǎ shǒujī wàng le.	Don't forget your/the phone.
# 左右	# zuǒyòu	approximately #	周末我一般十点左右起床。	zhōumò wǒ yībān shí diǎn zuǒyòu qǐchuáng.	I usually get up at around 10 o'clock on weekends.
就 V/A	jiù V/A	just (better than expected)	坐飞机一个小时就到了。	zuòfēijī yí gè xiǎoshí jiù dào liǎo.	It takes only an hour to get there by plane.
才 V/A	cái V/A	just (worse than expected)	你怎么才来?	nǐ zěnméi cái lái?	How come you only came just now? (Why are you so late?)
把 + O + V + 在/到 + PLACE	bǎ + O + V + zài/ dào + PLACE	V' d the O to PLACE	我把照片放在你包里了。	wǒ bǎ zhàopiànfàng zài nǐ bāo li le.	I put the photo in your bag.
V + motion V + 来/去	V + motion V + lái/ qù	(compound complements of direction)	明天我们一起把礼物送过去。	míngtiān wǒmen yìqǐ bǎ lǐwù sòng guòqù.	Let's send the gift over together tomorrow.
一边 + V1 + 一边 + V2	yībiān + V1 + yībiān + V2	V1 while V2	他一边唱歌一边跳舞。	tā yībiān chànggē yībiān tiàowǔ.	He sang while he danced.
把 + O + V + result	bǎ + O + V + result	V the O until RESULT	我把衣服洗干净了。	wǒ bǎ yīfú xǐ gānjìng le.	I washed my clothes clean.
把 + O + V + direction	bǎ + O + V + direction	V the O to DIRECTION	他把水果拿过来了。	tā bǎ shuǐguǒ ná guò lái le.	He took the fruit over.
先 .....再/又 .....然后 .....	xiān ... .. zài/ yòu ... .. ránhòu ... ..	First, then, then, ...	我先坐了公共汽车，又坐了地铁，然后才到小刚家。	wǒ xiān zuò le gōnggòngqìchē , yòu zuò le dìtiě , ránhòu cái dào xiǎo gāng jiā.	I first took the bus, then took the subway, and then went to Xiaogang's house.
除了 N 以外	chúle N yìwài	except N	除了这个汉字以外，别的我都认识。	chúle zhège hànzi yìwài , biéde wǒ dōu rènshi.	Except for this Chinese character, I know everything else.
除了 .....(以外), 还 .....	chúle.....( yìwài), hái ... ..	not only ... , but also ...	上网除了看新闻(以外), 还可以听音乐。	shàngwǎng chúle kàn xīnwén( yìwài), hái kěyǐ tīng yīnyuè.	In addition to watching the news, you can listen to music too.
什么	shénme	any	周末你有什么打算吗?	zhōumò nǐ yǒu shénme dǎsuàn ma?	Do you have any plans for the weekend?
A 极了	A jíle	extremely A	今天天气冷极了。	jīntiān tiānqì lěng jíle.	The weather is extremely cold today.
如果 .....(的话), 就 .....	rúguǒ .....( dehuà), jiù ... ..	if ... , then ...	如果你太累的话, 就休息一会儿。	rúguǒ nǐ tài lèi dehuà , jiù xiūxi yíhuìr.	If you are too tired, take a break.
A + 得 + CLAUSE	A + dé + CLAUSE	so A that + CLAUSE	儿子累得下了班就睡觉了。	érzi lèi dé xià le bān jiù shuìjiào le.	The son was so tired that he went to sleep as soon as he got off work.
A + A + 的	A + A + de	A (with characteristics)	她鼻子小小的, 头发黑黑的。	tā bízi xiǎoxiǎo de, tóufa hēi hēi	Her nose is teeny tiny and her hair is black.
V + V	V + V	V for a bit	我带你去医院检查检查吧。	wǒ dài nǐ qù yīyuànjiǎnchá jiǎnchá ba.	Let me take you to the hospital for to check up a bit.
Q + 都	Q + dōu	Q-ever	小刚什么都喜欢吃。	xiǎo gāng shénme dōu xǐhuan chī.	Xiao Gang likes to eat anything (lit. whatever).

只要 .....就 .....	zhǐyào ... .. jiù ... ..	as long as	只要我有时间, 就一定跟你去旅游。	zhǐyào wǒ yǒu shíjiān, jiù yīdìng gēn nǐ qù lǚyóu.	As long as I have time, I will definitely travel with you.
关于	guānyú	about	关于这件事, 我们还没有决定呢。	guānyú zhè jiàn shì, wǒmen hái méiyǒu juéding ne.	We have not decided on this matter yet.
V + 出来	V + chūlái	V and produce an outcome	这个字你能写出来吗?	zhège zì nǐ néng xiě chūlái ma?	Can you write (out) this word?
V + 出来	V + chūlái	V and recognize	你听出来了吗? 这是谁的声音?	nǐ tīng chūlái le ma? zhè shì shéi de shēngyīn?	After listening, did you recognize [it]? Whose voice is this?
V + 下来	V + xiàlái	V down	我真希望时间能慢下来。	wǒ zhēn xīwàng shíjiān néng màn xiàlái.	I really hope that time can slow down.
想起来	xiǎngqilai	to recall	我想不起来他的名字了。	wǒ xiǎng bù qilai tā de míngzi le.	I can't think of (lit. think up) his name.
看起来/看上去	kànqǐlái/ kànshàngqu	to seem	他看上去/看起来像40多岁。	tā kànshàngqu/ kànqǐlái xiàng40 duō suì.	He looks like he is in his 40s.
使/叫/让 + O + A/V	shǐ/ jiào/ ràng + O + A/V	make O A/V	读书使/叫/让我快乐。	dúshū shǐ/ jiào/ ràng wǒ kuàilè.	Reading makes me happy.
O + 被/叫/让 + S + V	O + bèi/ jiào/ ràng + S + V	O is V'ed by S	我的照相机被/叫/让谁拿走了?	wǒ de zhàoxiàngjī bèi/ jiào/ ràng shéi ná zǒu le?	My camera was taken by who?
O + 不/没 + 被/叫/让 + S + V	O + bù/ méi + bèi/ jiào/ ràng + S + V	O is not V'ed by S	问题还没有被解决呢。	wèntí hái méiyǒu bèijiějué ne.	The problem has not been solved yet.

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