Laowai

HSK 7-9

HSK 3.0 / Grammar

Refine an advanced explanation / 10 topics



Open the linked lesson for the full explanation and more examples.

Open this study guide

Laowai

HSK 3.0 Levels 7-9 grammar

Refine an advanced explanation

A focused advanced selection on purpose, cause, assumptions and contrasting viewpoints. Compare the constructions in full sentences, then follow the lesson for further examples.

雨一直在下，我没办法出去。

Yǔ yīzhí zàixià, wǒ méi bànfǎ chūqù.

It's constantly raining, I have no way to go out.

Study this construction

How to use this guide

Read the example, cover the translation and say what the sentence means. Open the linked lesson for the full explanation and additional examples. Where practice is available, the online guide links to it.

Laowai's teaching crosswalk to the 2021 proficiency framework. Vocabulary links use the 2025 examination lists; the grammar selections are study guides, not the official 2025 syllabus.

Topics in this selection

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Verb phrases

以便 (Yǐbiàn): So That or In Order To

Preparatory action，以便 + intended outcome / easier action

以便 introduces the purpose or useful outcome an earlier action is intended to facilitate. The first clause sets up preparation, an arrangement, or a decision; the second explains what that makes possible or easier.

我们很早就去了机场， 以便能赶上最早的飞机。

Wǒmen hěn zǎo jiù qù le jīchǎng, yǐbiàn néng gǎnshàng zuì zǎo de fēijī.

We got to the airport very early so we could make the earliest flight.

Full lesson and examples →

Conjunctions and complex sentences

因为…而 (Yīnwèi…Ér): Link a Cause to Its Effect

Subject + 因为 + cause + 而 + resulting predicate

因为…而 ties a reason closely to its effect within the sentence. The cause follows 因为, and 而 leads into the resulting action or state.

我因为生病而请假。

Wǒ yīnwèi shēngbìng ér qǐngjià.

Because I got sick, I asked for time off.

Full lesson and examples →

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假使…就 (Jiǎshǐ…Jiù): Formal If Then Conditions

假使 + hypothetical condition，subject + 就 + consequence

假使 introduces a hypothetical condition for the listener to consider. The following clause states what would happen or what someone would do if that condition applied.

假使明天下雨，我就不去上班了。

Jiǎshǐ míngtiān xià yǔ, wǒ jiù bù qù shàngbān le.

If it rains tomorrow, then I'm not going to work.

Full lesson and examples →

何况 and 更何况: Let Alone or All the More

Established case，(更)何况 + stronger inferred case + (呢)

何况 extends an argument from an established case to another where the conclusion follows even more readily. It can support a positive conclusion or strengthen a negative one.

这句话连孩子都懂，何况大人呢?

Zhè jù huà lián háizi dōu dǒng, hékuàng dàrén ne?

Children can understand what this sentence means, let alone the adults.

Full lesson and examples →

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Sentence structure and word order

为…而… (Wèi…Ér…): Act for a Purpose or Cause

Subject + 为 + purpose / cause + 而 + action

为…而… places an action in the service of a purpose, person, or cause. The phrase after 为 identifies what motivates or gives direction to the action, and 而 introduces the action itself.

很多中国父母为孩子而活。

Hěnduō Zhōngguó fùmǔ wèi háizi ér huó.

Many Chinese parents live for their children.

Full lesson and examples →

以…的名义 (Yǐ…De Míngyì): In the Name Of

以 + person / organization / stated cause + 的名义 + action

以…的名义 explains the name, authority, or stated cause under which an action is carried out. It can describe legitimate representation, a formal declaration, or someone invoking a justification.

不要以我的名义给公司写信，公司会找我麻烦的。

Bùyào yǐ wǒ de míngyì gěi gōngsī xiě xìn, gōngsī huì zhǎo wǒ máfan de.

Don't write to the company in my name, they will give me trouble.

Full lesson and examples →

Comparisons

不断 versus 不停: Repeatedly or Without Stopping

不断 / 不停 + (地) + verb; verb + 个不停

不断 and 不停 both describe continuation or recurrence, but they emphasize it differently. 不断 often suits repeated developments or an ongoing process across a period, including progress and change. 不停 more directly stresses a lack of stopping, especially with observable activity such as talking, eating, or a repeated sound. Many contexts allow overlap, so the distinction is a tendency rather than a universal boundary.



客户不断地改变主意，怎么办?

Kèhù bùduàn de gǎibiàn zhǔyì, zěnme bàn?

The client keeps changing his mind. What should I do?

Full lesson and examples →

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一直 versus 一向: Continuously or Habitually

一直 + continuing action / state; 一向 + established habit / characteristic

一直 can describe an action or state continuing through a relevant stretch of time. It can look back from a starting point, describe the present, or extend a commitment into the future.

我会一直陪着你。

Wǒ huì yīzhí péizhe nǐ.

I will always be with you.

Full lesson and examples →

彼此 versus 对方: Each Other or the Other Person

彼此 + verb; verb + 彼此 / 对方; 彼此 / 对方 + 的 + noun

彼此 emphasizes a reciprocal relationship between participants: an action goes both ways or applies mutually among them. It can appear before a verb with a function similar to mutually, or act as an object meaning each other. 对方 identifies the other person or side in an interaction.

结婚以前夫妻应该多花时间彼此了解。

Jiéhūn yǐqián fūqī yīnggāi duō huā shíjiān bǐcǐ liǎojiě.

Before they get married, the bride and groom should spend more time getting to know each other.

Full lesson and examples →

HSK 3.0 Levels 7-9 grammar

反而 versus 相反: Unexpected Reversal or Opposite

Subject + 反而 + predicate; 相反，clause; 相反的 + noun

反而 describes a result that reverses the expected direction, so it belongs within the predicate structure of its clause. 相反 can introduce an opposing statement as a transition, or describe two things as opposite. The meanings can overlap when an outcome contradicts expectations, but the words have different grammatical possibilities and cannot be exchanged in every position.

这样做帮不了他，相反，还会害了他。

Zhèyàng zuò bāng bùliǎo tā, xiāngfǎn, hái huì hài le tā.

This won't help him. On the contrary, it will harm him.

Full lesson and examples →

Sources and further study

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