

第二课

Lesson Two



口语句型目录

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生词

Vocabulary

办法	bànfǎ	way (of doing sth.), method	N	辦
合不来	hé bulái	to be unable to get on	PVC	來
敌人	dírén	enemy	N	敵
生气	shēng qì	to get angry	V-O	氣
一会儿...	yíhuìr	one moment... and next moment...	CONJ	會兒
内行	nèiháng	expert	N	
对...有兴趣	duì... yǒu xìngqu	to be interested in	SV	對, 興
灌醉	guàn zuì	to get sb. drunk	RVC	
熟悉	shúxi	to be familiar with	(S) V	
专家	zhuānjiā	expert	N	專
情况	qíngkuàng	situation	N	
无论如何	wúlùn rúhé	no matter what	ADV	無論
戏	xì	play	N	戲
糟	zāo	to be chaotic	SV	
天才	tiāncái	talent, gift	N	
肯	kěn	to be willing to...	MV	
逮	dǎi	to catch	V	
老鼠	lǎoshǔ	mouse	N	
家庭	jiāting	family, household	N	
满足	mǎnzú	to be satisfied	SV	
穷人	qióng rén	poor people	N	窮
富人	fù rén	rich people	N	
说不过	shuō buguò	to be unable to win sb. over by arguing. V. 不过: to be unable to win sb. over by ...	PVC	說, 過
礼拜	lǐbài	week. 礼拜天 Sunday	N	禮
吃醋	chī cù	to be jealous (Lit. eat vinegar)	V-O	
小气	xiǎoqì	to be stingy	SV	氣
闹笑话	nào xiàohuà	to make a fool of oneself	V-O	鬧, 話

返	fǎn	to return	V	
开不起 玩笑	kāi bu qǐ wánxiào	to be unable to take a joke	EXP	開
雌老虎	cí lǎohǔ	female tiger (a fierce woman)	N	
其实	qíshí	actually	ADV	實
机器	jīqì	machine	N	機
相当	xiāngdāng	rather, quite, considerably, very	ADV	當
帮	bāng	a gang of...	MW	幫
真正	zhēnzhèng	real	ADJ	
酒肉朋友	jiǔròu péngyou	fair-weather friends	N	
小看	xiǎokàn	to look down on	V	
笨	bèn	to be stupid	ADJ	
下工夫	xià gōngfu	to be diligent (Lit. spend time)	V-O	
看得起	kàndeqiǐ	to think highly of sb. 看不起 is similar to 小看 (to look down on sb)	PVC	
名堂	míngtāng	result, achievement	N	
赔	péi	to replace, compensate	V	賠
吵	chǎo	to make trouble, to wrangle, to argue, to make noise	V	
肚子	dùzi	stomach	N	
带头	dàitóu	to take the lead	V-O	帶頭
家常 便饭	jiā cháng biànfàn	common occurrence; simple meal	EXP	飯
凑热闹	còu rè'nào	to add trouble to, to join in the fun	V-O	湊熱鬧
馆子	guǎnzi	restaurant	N	館
烤鸭	kǎoyā	Peking Duck	N	鴨
打字	dǎ zì	to type	V-O	
麻烦	máfan	trouble, to trouble	N/V	煩
吹(大)牛	chuī niú	to boast, to chat	V-O	
趟	tàng	time(s), as in once, twice (similar to 次.)	MW	
说谎	shuō huǎng	to tell a lie	V-O	說謊
相信	xiāngxìn	to believe	V	

胃口	wèikǒu	appetite	N	
劝	quàn	to persuade, urge	V	勸
稀奇	xīqí	special, strange	ADJ	
嫌	xián	to mind, to dislike	V	
精力	jīnglì	energy, effort	N	
费口舌	fèi kǒushé	to waste energy on arguing	V-O	費
花岗岩	huāgāngyán	granite	N	崗
脑袋	nǎodai	head	N	腦
费事	fèi shì	to be troublesome	V-O	費
头绪	tóuxù	main threads in a complicated affair	N	頭緒
没完没了	méiwán méiliǎo	endlessly	ADV	
的确	díquè	indeed, really	ADV	確
标准	biāozhǔn	standard, correct	ADJ	標準
胡思乱想	húsī luànxiǎng	to imagine things	V	亂
安定	āndìng	to settle down	V	
惯	guàn	to get used to	V	慣
事先	shìxiān	in advance	ADV	
算了	suànle	come off it, forget it	EXP	
对付	duìfu	to cope with, to deal with	V	對



对话

Dialogue

已经晚上十一点半了，酒吧都要关门了，可是比里和古波还坐在那儿喝着酒，没完没了地谈着。

古波 没有几个月我和帕兰卡就得去中国学习了。可是到底去什么地方好，我们怎么也决定不了。

比里 是啊，的确好难作决定，因为各地都有各地的好处。

- 古波 我小时候去过一趟日本，以后**再也没**去过亚洲了。你给我讲讲中国各地学汉语的好处吧。
- 比里 北京人说的话标准，所以去北京对你的发音有帮助。虽然台湾人的国语**说不上**是最标准的，不过在台湾你**倒**可以住在中国人家里练习口语。
- 古波 其实啊，**不管**去哪儿学习，到了中国以后，我得**先**到一些有名的地方去**逛逛再说**。故宫是个**非去不可**的地方，然后再去...
- 比里 你别胡思乱想了。应该找个地方安定下来。**反正**到了中国以后，你还怕没机会出去**转转**吗？
- 古波 我**这个人**啊，你**可**不知道，**从来就是**这样：要是在一个地方住惯了就不想出去旅行了。**老**在家里学习工作**什么的**。
- 比里 算了，算了，别**开玩笑**了。你**这个人**啊，会这么老实吗？我说，其实在大陆放假的时候什么都**搞**不了，就是旅行的好机会。
- 古波 听说在台湾找工作**好容易**吧？在学校教英文**并不费事**吧？
- 比里 教英文**并不**是一件**闹着玩**的事，你得事先作好准备，课后还要改作业。要不怎么教得好呢？
- 古波 对付那些学英语的学生得要有**两手**：教听，教说，不教写，上课谈天吹大牛，一点儿都不**费劲儿**。



口语句型 Sentence patterns

zěnmě dōu/yě bu méi shénme dōu/yě bu méi zěnmě yě
1. 怎么V都/也不(没) V什么都/也不(没) 怎么V也 PVC (neg.)

1a. 怎么V都/也不(没)

NO MATTER HOW ... IT IS STILL...

The adverb 也 is normally used for negative sentences, but 都 can be used in both negative and affirmative sentences in the 连 construction. 不管 is used to emphasize a statement and is often placed at the beginning of the clause. (See also pattern 4 for 无论/不管).

(不管) s. 怎么 (v.) 也/都 (neg.) v./sv.

(不管) 她 怎么打扮 都 难看

However she dresses she is still ugly.

她 怎么 也 不会去台湾

She won't go to Taiwan, no matter what.

1b. V什么都/也不(没)

WHATEVER (SB. DOES) IT IS STILL...

As the object in a V 什么都... sentence is usually clear, or understood by the listeners, it is often omitted. In this expression the emphasis is on the object of the sentence, unlike in the previous expression, where it is on the verb:

(不管) s. v. 什么[o] 也/都 [neg.]v./sv

(不管) 她穿什么[衣服] 都 难看

No matter what clothes she wears she is still ugly.

1c. 怎么V也 PVC (neg.)

HOWEVER HARD ONE HAS TRIED...ONE CAN'T...

我怎么跟他说都没用，他一定要去他朋友家。我可没有办法叫他留在家。
 小王不喜欢小李。不管小李怎么作，对小王来说都是错的。所以他们俩合不来。
 我怎么看也看不懂这句话，你看得懂吗？
 我怎么也看不惯他的样子。
 他们是朋友的时候怎么说都好，可是现在是敌人了，所以怎么说都不好。
 他真是个好好人：你不管跟他怎么说他总是说：“行，行。”
 老师怎么说他，他都不生气。

Make sentences with 哪儿都, 什么都, 谁都, 怎么都 and V 什么都.

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

No matter how hard I try, I still can't get used to eating Chinese food.

dào dǐ

2. 到底

AFTER ALL

REALLY

ACTUALLY

到底 is an adverb which can be placed either before a subject, or before a verb or co-verb (such as ‘把’, ‘被’ and ‘比’). 他到底是专家, 他什么都知道 *After all he is an expert and he knows everything.*

到底 can also be used for emphasis in a question: 到底你要吃什么 *What do you really want to eat?*

丁云到底是中国人，怎么也吃不惯英国菜。
 一会儿你说要看京剧，一会儿你说要看电影，到底你要作什么？
 古波和比里到底是好朋友，比里随便说什么古波都不生气。
 到底他是老师的好学生，你看，老师说什么，他就作什么。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

How many months do we actually have to stay at Peking University?

shuōbùshàng suàn bùshàng

3. 说不上 or 算不上

IT CANNOT BE SAID THAT

These expressions are in the PVC pattern. The affirmative forms for these expressions

are 说得上 and 算得上. They can be placed before a verb or stative verb, but not before a noun subject.

s. v. o.
小王 算不上 是 个好学生

It can't be said that Xiao Wang is a good student.

A 作中国菜你是个内行。

B 说不上是个内行，只是我对作菜有些兴趣。

虽然他说不上是一个中国问题的专家，但是他对中国的情况很熟悉。

他们俩合不来，说不上(说不到)两句就生气了。(!?)

要是他说不上是个酒鬼，也算得上是个‘喝酒专家’吧。

目前在中国买瓷器算不上便宜。

古波汉语算不上说得特别好，可是倒还算流利。

Is there any difference between 数不上, 说不上, and 算不上; and between 数得上, 说得上, and 算得上? (Look at sentence pattern 8 in Lesson One.)

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

It can't be said that today is the hottest day of the summer. There is still more hot weather to come.

wúlùn bùguǎn
4. 无论 / 不管

NO MATTER (WHAT, WHO, WHERE and HOW)

REGARDLESS OF

This expression implies that the result will stay the same, regardless of the situation. 不管 and 无论 are used for emphasis in a statement which contains a question word and 都 or 也:

不管/无论(V)什么都... ...anything

不管/无论谁都... ...anybody

不管/无论(V)哪儿都... ...anywhere

不管/无论怎么...都... (see pattern 1)

不管/无论 A (还是) B 都... no matter whether A or B

Also see sentence pattern 1.

他无论学什么语言都学得好极了。

帕兰卡无论去哪儿都受人欢迎。

学语言要有天才。有的人不管怎么学也学不好。

无论谁来看戏都得买票，可不能开后门! (!?)

A 无论如何你不能不管他呀，他到底是你的儿子呀。

B 我管他（是谁）呢!

A 他的中文学得太糟了。我问他谁是他的老师，他无论如何不肯说。

B 不管谁教他都教不好。

“不管黑猫、白猫，会逮老鼠的就是好猫。”这是谁说的? (!?)

xīān zài shuō

5. 先...再说

LET'S DO (STH.) FIRST

This expression implies that something has to be made a priority. The verb after 先 is usually followed by 了. This expression has a similar construction to the 's.v.了 o. 就 v.2 o.2' sentence pattern, but instead of the 就 clause, it uses the phrase 再说.

先 v. 了 o. 再说

先看了电影再说

Let's watch the film first.

A 我们还有很多事要办呢!

B 管他呢，先吃了饭再说。

A 去中国前得要问问应该注意些什么。

B 管他问题多不多，先到了那儿再说。

A 我想先研究中国文学，以后当教授。

B 好了好了，先学好汉语再说。

A 到北京以后我一定会认识些中国朋友。

B 还认识中国朋友呢! 连一句话都不会说，怎么去认识朋友呢? 还是¹先好好地学些口语再说吧。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

(Your friend is worrying about living in England, but he hasn't applied for a visa.)

Don't worry. Get the visa first.

¹还是: it would be better.

fēi bùkě fēi cái
6. 非...不可 非...才 ...

6a. 非...不可

ABSOLUTELY MUST
IT WON'T DO UNLESS

Both 非 and 不 are negations. In Chinese a double negative becomes an affirmative. 非...不可 is used for emphasis. The matter one wants to emphasize is placed between 非 and 不可. 非 should be followed by verbs, or co-verbs such as 比, 把 and 被.

s. 非 v. o. 不可
我 非得喝些酒 不可

I absolutely must have some wine.

6b. 非...才 ...

WILL NOT... UNLESS...

非...才 ...is a conditional conjunction. The 非 clause states the condition, and the 才 clause shows the consequence: 这些学生真不自觉地, 你非跟他们发火了, 他们才会听进去 *These students are unreceptive and unwilling. They won't take anything in unless you are angry with them.*

学习汉语非得天天练习不可, 要不一定学不好。

大家都去台湾。就你一个人非去中国大陆不可吗?

你去中国农家喝酒可得注意了, 因为他们非把你灌醉不可。

我非把今天的练习作完不可。

你去中国农家喝酒可要注意了, 他们非把你灌醉才感到满足。

Change the above 非...不可 sentences into 非...才... sentences.

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

Do we absolutely have to learn Mandarin with a Peking accent?

fǎn zhèng
7. 反正

IN ANY CASE

反正 can be placed before or after a subject. 反正她不会来 and 她反正不会来 are the

same in meaning: *in any case, she is not coming*. For emphasis, 都 or 也 may be placed before the verb or the negation.

The 反正 clause is often preceded by a 无论/不管 clause, as in: 无论你怎么说, 反正我(也)不会替你作这种事的 *I wouldn't do this kind of thing for you anyway, no matter what you say*.

A 我就不想去北京!

B 我不管你想不想去, 反正你(也)得跟我走!

A 你说, 为什么这个世界上穷人越来越穷, 富人越来越富?!

B 我不说了, 我不管怎么说, 反正(也)说不过你。

别着急了。反正她今天来不了就明天来。

反正明天(也)是礼拜天, 不上课, 多喝两杯吧。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

I'm not going to study Chinese any more. No matter how hard I try I won't achieve anything anyway.

8. cónglái bù cónglái méi guò
从来 (不) 从来没 V 过

8a. 从来(不)

ALWAYS, (NEVER)

This expression is similar to 总是 in meaning. 从来 is often used in the negative form 从来不, but 从来 can be used in the affirmative form to state that *something or somebody is always in a state of...* When 从来 is used in an affirmative sentence, it is often accompanied by 就, with 是 or modal verbs: 她从来就是一个好学生 or 她总是一个好学生 *She is always a good student*. 作饭的从来就是我一个人 or 作饭的总是我一个人 *I am the one who always does the cooking*.

我从来就觉得她能考到第一 *I always feel that she could get a first in her exams*. 他从来就喜欢喝酒. or 他总是喜欢喝酒 *He always likes drinking*.

8b. 从来没V过

NEVER HAVE (DONE)

ON NO OCCASION

他这个人从来就是这样: 挣多少, 用多少。怎么富得起来呢?

- A 我可从来没吃过中国豆腐。(!?)
B 要是你再‘吃豆腐’的话，你女朋友就要吃醋啦²!(?)
A 他怎么从来不上我的课？
B 他说你的课没上头。
英国的天气从来就是这样：雨天多，晴天少。
A 小王这个人不错，不喝酒，不吸烟，从来不花一分钱。
B 还说 he 不错呢！从来就是小气得不得了。
我从来不跟人借钱。
我从来没跟人借过钱。
他从来就喜欢吃人家豆腐。(!?)

zàiyěbù zàiyěméi
9. 再也不 再也没

9a. 再也不

WILL NOT... EVER AGAIN

9b. 再也没

HAVE NOT... EVER AGAIN

再也 emphasizes that an action will not (再也不) happen again or has not (再也没) happened again. These expressions cannot be used in an affirmative form:

s. [tw.] 再也不/没 v. [o]
我以后 再也不 学 中文了
I'll never learn Chinese again.

昨天晚上我在你朋友家喝醉了酒，闹了笑话。以后我再也不喝酒了。
她上次去你家被你妈妈骂了一顿，以后再也没有去过你的家。

- A ‘时间一去不返’是什么意思？
B 就是说：丢失的时间再也不能回来了。

² 啦 = 了 + 啊

kāiwánxiào	bié kāiwánxiào le	gēn kāiwánxiào	zhewán
10. 开玩笑	别开玩笑	跟...开玩笑	V 着玩

10a. 开玩笑

(YOU) MUST BE JOKING

MAKE A JOKE

10b. 别开玩笑

(Lit.) DON'T MAKE A JOKE

10c. 跟...开玩笑

PULL SB.'S LEG

MAKE FUN OF SOMEBODY

跟 should be followed by the indirect object (*somebody*): 我跟她开个玩笑 *I'm pulling her leg.*

10d. V 着玩

ONE DOES STH. JUST FOR FUN

ONE DOES STH. CASUALLY

It is often used to deprecate one's actions in order to appear modest, particularly when somebody has expressed admiration. V 着玩 is sometimes placed between 是 and 的:

A: 你小提琴拉得真好。

You play the violin very well.

B: 不好，我是拉着玩的。

Not really. (I play it for fun.)

什么？你们一学期只上八星期的课！你别开玩笑。

比里这个人可开不起玩笑。你可千万别跟他开玩笑。

上课怎么能开玩笑？得认真一点嘛³。

A 你从来就爱开玩笑。

B 我怎么爱开玩笑？我总是认认真真的。

A 你学起日文来了。

B 我没事学着玩的。

A 他为什么总是说我是雌老虎？

³嘛 ma is used to reinforce a statement: 酒是很好喝的嘛 *wine is nice to drink.*

B 你别生气，他是说着玩的。

A 你看，他们俩打起来了。

B 不要紧，他们是打着玩的。

Say the following sentences in Chinese.

1. You must be joking. Somebody as talented as you can do anything.
2. I'm pulling your leg. In fact I do love learning Chinese.

bìng bu méi jué bu méi
11. 并不 / 没 决不 / 没

11a. 并不 / 没

(NOT) AT ALL...

This is used to emphasize the fact that something is not what was expected. It can only be used in the negative form.

11b. 决不 / 没

ABSOLUTELY (NOT)

It is used to emphasize negation: 我决不去酒馆喝酒 *I'm definitely not going to the pub for a drink!*

The difference between 并 and 决 is that 并 not only emphasizes the negative form, but also indicates the opposite of what was expected. In this respect 并 is similar to 倒, but 倒 is not used for emphasis, and it can be used for both affirmative and negative statements. 决 is only used for emphasis in negative statements:

小王决不是一个坏人

Xiao Wang is not in the very least a bad person.

小王并不是一个坏人

Xiao Wang is not a bad person (though every one thinks he is.)

小王倒不是一个坏人

Xiao Wang is actually not a bad person (though I thought he was.)

这么容易的问题其实并不用问。问了倒让人笑话。

这种机器看起来并不好用，其实用惯了也相当简单。

那帮人看起来相当厉害，其实都是纸老虎，并没有什么了不起。

虽然他常常请客，可是他并没有几个真正的好朋友。只是一些“酒肉朋友”。

这个问题并没有你想的那样容易。

你可别小看他。其实他并不笨。

其实学汉语并不难学，只要下功夫就行。

读书人并不都看得起有钱人。你说这话对吗？

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

Although he is an expert on Chinese porcelain, he doesn't actually like Chinese porcelain at all.

gāo nòng

12. 搞 / 弄

12a. 搞

DO

MAKE

BE ENGAGED IN

SET UP

GET (HOLD OF)

搞 is one of those verbs that has many meanings, and is very commonly used in the spoken language, especially when the nature of the action is not quite clear to the speaker: 你搞得到那本书吗 *Can you get hold of that book?* The speaker is not concerned about the specifics of getting hold of the book: buying or borrowing would be equally acceptable.

In Taiwanese and in other southern regional dialects, 搞 can imply *to have a sexual relationship* as in 搞男女关系.

12b. 弄

DO

MAKE

GET (HOLD OF)

FIDDLE WITH

弄 is very similar to 搞, but it is only used for doing something physically, on a small scale, and it very often implies that the action is done by hand. One can say: 他是搞教育的 *He is engaged in education work/ he is a teacher.* One can't say: 他是弄教育的.

A 你男朋友是搞什么的？

B 他是搞计算机的。

A 这个问题我搞了半天还没搞清楚。

B 这种事情你花的时间再多也搞不出名堂来。

你去搞些吃的东西来好吗？可把我饿坏了。

你一上午在这里搞什么了？怎么把你女朋友的约会都给忘了？

听说你会修计算机。你能不能帮我弄一下我的那个计算机？

A 我把你的收音机弄坏了，得赔你一个。

B 不用赔，反正这个收音机也不是我的。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

I still can't work out the meaning of that sentence.

nào

13. 闹

STIR UP TROUBLE

SUFFER FROM

CAUSE NOISY DISTURBANCE

闹 has many meanings and it is commonly used in the spoken language. 闹 has a sense of vigour, even violence: 闹革命 *rise up in revolution; revolt*; 闹乱子 *cause a riot*.

这些学生昨天晚上又吵又闹，弄得我一夜没睡。

昨天学生食堂作的饺子不干净。大家吃了都闹肚子了。

上星期我在你家闹了笑话，以后我再也不敢去你家了。

是谁带头闹事的？

年轻夫妇小吵小闹，这是家常便饭，没什么了不起的。

他们闹乱子，你别凑热闹，要不以后有麻烦。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

Last night my neighbour upstairs had a party. It was so noisy that I couldn't sleep.

hǎo tǐng

14. 好 or 挺

VERY

EXTREMELY

好 and 挺 are similar to 很, but are more colloquial and informal. They can be placed before adverbs, stative verbs and modal verbs.

我挺想吃烤鸭，咱们进城去那家北方馆子吃饭怎么样？

王先生打字打得好快，一分钟就能打两百多个字。

去国外旅行办手续好麻烦，你看，我办了一天还没办好。

你的同学挺会吹牛，学了几个月的中文，去了一趟中国，他就说自己是“中国问题专家”了。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

The food in the Chinese restaurant round the corner is not at all bad.

lǎo

15. 老

ALWAYS

老 is similar to 总是, but is used more colloquially. It is placed before a verb, but not before the subject of the sentence.

老 can also be followed by 是. 老是 and 总是 can be placed before the subject of a sentence or before a verb. If 老是 is placed before a subject, it refers to the subject, otherwise it refers to the action: 他老是去中国 *He is always going to China*; 老是他去中国 *It is always he who goes to China*.

要是你老说谎怎么会有人相信你呢？

英国老下雨，一年到头没有几天是晴天。

A 都十点半了都，小王怎么还没来？

B 你不知道吗？他老迟到。

A 你老作这种练习，有什么作头？

B 不管你想不想作，有练习就应该作。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

You always tell the same story again and again. What's so good about it?

méi jǐ jiù

16. 没V几 MW 就 V/SV

START...BEFORE ONE CAN DO SOMETHING, NO SOONER

This is a typical case of a 就 sentence which indicates that the action after 就 takes place very quickly, before you know that it has happened. The action that has not yet been completed is placed in the 没 clause. It always consists of a verb, a small number or 几, and a measure word. The 没 clause is always placed before the 就 clause: 他没作两分钟的功课就说累了 *He had only done two minutes' work before he said he was tired*. This expression is similar to V 不上几 MW 就...

他们俩合不来,没说两句就打起来。 or 他们俩合不来,说不到两句就打起来。

英国的天气真是! 没晴几天就下雨。老不见太阳。

他每天忙得要死。你看,这⁴没吃几口饭就往外跑。

牛津大学可真舒服,这没上几个星期的课就放假,学生到底能学到些什么?

他这个人喝酒可不行:没喝两杯脸就红了。 or 喝不到两杯脸就红了。

他胃口真小:没吃两口就说吃饱了。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

I can't drink red wine. My face turns bright red as soon as I have a single sip.

yǒuliǎngshǒu yǒuliǎngxiàzi

17. 有两手 or 有两下子

SKILFUL

TO KNOW ONE'S STUFF

有两手 and 有两下子 imply that one has a special ability or skill. They should always be placed at the end of the phrase which indicates the skill: 他吃饭有两手,可是作事不行 *He knows how to eat, but he doesn't know how to work*. 有两手 and 有两下子 are used as stative verbs and are similar to the expression 真棒 *really good*.

Colloquially, 两手 means SKILL: 教我们两手 *Teach us some of your skills*.

⁴ 这 NOW. Used colloquially. Placed before verbs or negation, e.g. 我这得去上课。 Now I have to go to my class.

他说话可真有两下子，你看，他这没说几句就把大家给说服了。
小王喝酒有两手，一个人能喝三瓶酒。可是作别的事他并不行。
你这两手有什么稀奇？我也会。or 你这两下子并不稀奇。我也会。
他妈妈作饭可真有两下子。昨晚她没用两个钟头就作了一大桌菜。
他到底是个内行，干起来真有两下子。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

She is very good (skilful) at telling other people what to do, but she never does a thing herself.

fèi

18. 费

SPEND

WASTE

费 has a sense of 'consuming'. 费 often appears in v-o patterns, some of which have their own independent meanings, as in: 费事 troublesome; 费劲 strenuous.

学习是一件费精力，费时间的事，要不是学不好的。
你别跟他多费口舌了。他的脑袋是花岗岩作的。
这个练习可真费事，作了半天还没有作出头绪来。
别费事了，还是在家吃便饭吧。
谁叫你学习了？又费时间又费精力，我看还是在家睡觉好。

Say the following sentence in Chinese.

Don't waste time arguing with him. You'll never win, whatever you say.



翻译和练习

Translations and exercises

A. Make sentences with the above expressions and sentence patterns.

B. Translate the following sentences into Chinese.

1. It was, after all, the Chinese food that was both cheap and delicious. Last night three of us went to a Chinese restaurant and we only spent \$10.
2. It can't be said that he is a first class (第一流) Chinese scholar, but he is certainly an expert on Chinese culture.
3. A: Whatever you say to me I absolutely must go.
4. B: Don't worry. In any case it is already too late. Have something to eat first.
5. Don't pull his leg. He can't take jokes.
6. He looks very fierce but he is actually a kind-hearted person (好心人).
7. A: You have already worked out the meaning of that sentence. You are good at translating.
8. B: (modestly) Not really.
9. A: You are learning Chinese now. How clever you are!
10. B: Not really. I'm just doing it for fun.
11. You have to realize that learning Chinese is very time-consuming, otherwise you will not get good results.

Mr. Li always asks us to speak Chinese and nothing else. He said to me one day: "It isn't actually difficult to speak to each other in Chinese. You shouldn't be afraid of making a fool of yourself, otherwise you will never be able to learn how to speak." Some of my fellow students are so skilful that they can say anything in Chinese, without even the slightest problem. But however hard I have tried, I still can't do it naturally. I can only manage two Chinese sentences before my English comes out. I say to myself that it really doesn't matter. In any case, we will go to Taiwan soon. I'll learn it there. Why should I spend a lot of time doing something in the wrong environment? However, this morning Mr. Li told me off and said that I have an attitude (态度) problem. I really don't understand what that means.



情景对话

Role play exercises

Complete the following tasks using suitable expressions.

- A: Say to your friend that you would like to go to China, but that you would also like to go to Japan, the U.S.A. and many other places as well.
- B: Ask "A" whether he/she really wants to go to China after all.
- C: Say to your friend that your classmate's spoken Chinese is as good as a native Chinese person's.
- D: Say to "C" that although his/her classmate's spoken Chinese is good, it can't be said to be as good as a native speaker's.
- E: Tell your Chinese room-mate that no matter who phones, no matter who comes round, he/she must tell them that you are not available, because you are very busy.
- F: You have to go out to deal with a very important matter and you can't wait for your friend any longer. Ask your Chinese room-mate to explain the situation to your friend when he/she comes.
- G: You have just finished a meal at your Chinese friend's place. Say to him/her that you are going to help him/her with the washing up.
- H: Tell your friend "G" not to worry about the washing up, as you have a helper who comes every day to do the housework, and anyway you have a dishwasher. So "G" can leave everything to the helper.
- I: Tell your Chinese friend that you have never eaten any Chinese food as good as the meal which he/she cooked for you.
- J: Say to "G" (in a modest Chinese way) that it is your pleasure.

- K: Tell your Chinese friend that you are going to tell a joke to Mr. Wang, your teacher, as he is always very serious about everything and you can't stand it any more.
- L: Say to "K" that Mr. Wang simply can't take a joke. If "K" pulls his leg, he/she will cause a lot of trouble.
- M: Tell your Chinese friend that the test results have taken many of your fellow students by surprise and that the best student didn't actually get very good marks. Unexpectedly, the one who was usually very quiet in class got the best mark.
- N: (You are Chinese.) Invite your English friend out for a meal in a restaurant.
- O: Respond politely by saying: "You really shouldn't spend money on a meal." Suggest that you have a simple meal at home.