INTRODUCTORY CHINESE GRAMMAR II



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1.1: Adjectives

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Negative adjectives with "-si le"	Adj. + 死了	我今天累死了。

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1.2: Adverbs

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Approximations with "chabuduo"	Subj. + 差不多	我们 的 中文 水平 *差不多*。
Emphasizing quantity with "dou"	大家 / 很多人 + 都……	很 多 地方 *都* 有 wifi。
Expressing actions in progress with "zai"	(正)在 + Verb	我们 *正在* 吃饭。
Expressing "all along" with "yizhi"	Subj. + 一直 + Predicate	我 *一直* 在 现在 的 公司 工作。
Expressing "already" with "yijing"	已经……了	他 *已经* 走 *了*。
Expressing "always" with "zongshi"	总是 + Verb	他 *总是* 迟到。
Expressing "and also" with "hai"	还 + Verb	她 有 一个 弟弟，*还* 有 一个 妹妹。
Expressing "just" with "gang"	Subj. + 刚 + Verb	他 *刚* 走。
Expressing "only" with "zhi"	只 + Verb	我 *只* 有 一个 妹妹。
Expressing "then" with "jiu"	就 + Verb Phrase	我们 现在 有 时间，*就* 去吧。
Negative commands with "bie"	别 + Verb	*别*走。
Simultaneous tasks with "yibian"	一边 + Verb 1 (，) 一边 + Verb 2	不要 *一边* 说话 ，*一边* 吃 东西。

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1.3: Adverbs with Adjectives

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Asking about degree with "duo"	Subj. + 多 + Adj. ?	他 多 高？
Basic comparisons with "yiyang"	Noun 1 + 跟 / 和 + Noun 2 + 一样 + Adj.	你 *跟* 他 *一样* 高 。
Expressing "a little too" with "you dian"	有点(儿) + Adj.	我 *有点* 饿 。
Expressing "both A and B" with "you"	又…… 又……	他 又 高 又 帅。
Expressing distance with "li"	Place 1 + 离 + Place 2 + Adv. + 近 / 远	我 家 *离* 大学 很 近。
Expressing "even more" with "geng"	更 + Adj.	我 想 找 一个 *更* 有钱 的 男朋友。
Expressing "not very" with "bu tai"	不太 + Adj.	他 *不太* 高兴 。我 *不太* 喜欢。
Expressing "really" with "zhen"	真 + Adj.	你 女朋友 *真* 漂亮 。
Intensifying with "duo"	Subj. + 多 + Adj.	*多* 好！外面 *多* 舒服！
Moderating positive adjectives with "hai"	还 + Adj.	*还* 可以。*还* 好。
Modifying nouns with adjective + "de"	Adj. + 的 + Noun	*好喝 的* 啤酒 / *可爱 的* 宝宝
Modifying nouns with phrase + "de"	Phrase + 的 + Noun	去 北京 *的* 火车。今天 来 *的* 人。
Superlative "zui"	最 + Adj. (+ 了)	谁 *最* 有钱 ？

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1.4: Conjunctions

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Expressing "or" in statements	……或者……	我 想 去 青岛 *或者* 南京。
Expressing "with" with "gen"	跟…… + Verb	你 要 *跟* 我 一起 去 吗？
The filler word "neige"	……那个……	*那个*……你 可以 做 我 的 女 朋友 吗？
Two words for "but"	……，可是 / 但是……	我 喜欢 他，*可是/但是* 他 不 喜欢 我。

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1.5: Nouns

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
After a specific time with "yihou"	Time / Verb + 以后	10点 *以后*，我 不 在 家。
Before a specific time with "yiqian"	Time / Verb + 以前	十 点 *以前*，我 在 家。
Expressing "before" in general with "yiqian"	以前，……	*以前*，我 不 会 说 中文。
Expressing "just now" with "gangcai"	刚才 + Verb	你 *刚才* **说** 什么 了？
Expressing "when" with "de shihou"	……的时候	你 不在 *的 时候*，我 会 想 你。
In the future in general with "yihou"	以后，……	*以后*，你 不要 问 我。
Time words and word order	Subj. + Time…… / Time + Subj.……	我 *明天* 有 空。/ *明天* 我 有 空。

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1.5.7: Time words and word order

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1.6: Numbers

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Approximating with sequential numbers	Number 1 + Number 2	三 *四*个 人。一 *两* 天。
Big numbers in Chinese	Number + 万 / 亿	五 *万*
Structure of times (advanced)	Number 1 + 点(钟) + Number 2 + 分	现在 *十一点十八分*。

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1.6.3: Structure of times (advanced)

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1.7: Numbers and Measure Words

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Using "ji" to mean "several"	几 + Measure Word + Noun	桌子 上 有 几 本 书。

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1.7.1: Using "ji" to mean "several"

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1.8: Particles

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Change of state with "le"	……了	我 25 岁 *了*。
Conceding with "ba"	……吧	那 好 *吧*。
Expressing "already" with just "le"	Subj. + Verb Phrase + 了	你 应该 问 老师 。我 问 *了*。
Expressing completion with "le"	Subj. + Verb + 了 + Obj.	我 吃 *了* 两 个 苹果。
Expressing experiences with "guo"	Verb + 过	我 去 *过* 中国 。
Expressing "not anymore" with "le"	不 / 没(有) + Verb Phrase + 了	我 不想 吃 *了*。
Expressing "now" with "le"	New Situation + 了	吃饭 *了*！
Modal particle "ne"	……呢？	我 不 要 回家 。还 早 *呢* ！
Sentence-final interjection "a"	……啊	是 *啊*！谁 *啊*？
Softening speech with "ba"	……吧	这样 不 太 好 *吧*。
Structural particle "de"	的 / 得 / 地	红色的车，跑得很快，慢慢地走
Using "guo" with "le"	Verb + 过 + 了	她 吃 *过* 了。

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1.8.3: Expressing "already" with just "le"

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1.9: Prepositions

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Basic comparisons with "bi"	Noun 1 + 比 + Noun 2 + Adj.	你 *比* 我 胖 。
Expressing "from… to…" with "cong… dao…"	从……到……	*从*1 号 *到*5 号 我 在 上海。

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1.9.2: Expressing "from… to…" with "cong… dao…"

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1.10: Verbs

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Basic comparisons with "meiyou"	Noun 1 + 没(有) + Noun 2 + Adj.	你 *没有* 我 胖。
Directional verbs "lai" and "qu"	来 / 去 + Place	我 *来* 上海 一 年 了。
Polite requests with "qing"	请 + Verb	*请* 坐。

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1.10.3: Polite requests with "qing"

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1.11: Auxiliary verbs

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Auxiliary verb "yao" and its multiple meanings	要 + Noun / 要 + Verb	我 *要* 一 杯 水。
Expressing "should" with "yinggai"	应该 / 该 + Verb	你 *应该* 工作。
Expressing "will" with "hui"	会 + Verb	明天 你 *会* 来 吗？
Expressing "would like to" with "xiang"	想 + Verb	我 *想* 去。

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1.11.1: Auxiliary verb "yao" and its multiple meanings

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1.12: Verb phrases

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Actions in a row	(Verb Phrase 1) + (Verb Phrase 2)	我们 *去* 咖啡店 *喝* 咖啡 吧。
Expressing "difficult" with "nan"	难 + Verb	*难* 做。*难* 买。
Expressing duration with "le"	Verb + 了 + Duration	他 在 北京 住 *了 两 年*。
Expressing "never" with "conglai"	从来 + 不 / 没(有) + Verb	她 *从来 不* 喝酒。我 *从来 没有* 去 *过* 美国。
Expressing ongoing duration with double "le"	Verb + 了 + Duration + 了	他 在 北京 住 *了 两 年 了*。
Expressing "together" with "yiqi"	一起 + Verb	我们 *一起* 去 吧！要 不 要 *一起* 吃饭？
Inability with "mei banfa"	没办法 + Verb	我 *没 办法* 帮 你。
Indicating location with "zai" before verbs	Subj. + 在 + Place + Verb	我 *在* 上海 工作。
Reduplication of verbs	Verb + Verb	你 *看看*。
Special cases of "zai" following verbs	Verb + 在 + Place	我 住 *在* 北京。放 *在* 这里。
Special verbs with "hen"	很 + Verb	我 *很* 喜欢 他。
Using "dao" to mean "to go to"	到 + Place	我 *到* 上海。
Using "hao" to mean "easy"	好 + Verb	*好* 做。*好* 买。
Verbing briefly with "yixia"	Verb + 一下	你 *看 一下*。
Verbs that take double objects	Subj. + Verb + Indirect Obj. + Direct Obj.	我 *问* 了 老师 一 个 问题。

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1.12.1: Actions in a row

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1.12.7: Inability with "mei banfa"

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1.12.8: Indicating location with "zai" before verbs

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1.12.9: Reduplication of verbs

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1.12.10: Special cases of "zai" following verbs

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1.12.12: Using "dao" to mean "to go to"

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1.12.13: Using "hao" to mean "easy"

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1.12.14: Verbing briefly with "yixia"

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1.12.15: Verbs that take double objects

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2.1: Complements

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Potential complement "-bu dong" for not understanding	Verb + 不懂	我 听不*懂*。
Result complements "-dao" and "-jian"	Verb + 到 / 见	听 *到* 了 吗 ？
Result complement "-wan" for finishing	Verb + 完 (+ 了)	我 说 *完* 了。

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2.1.1: Potential complement "-bu dong" for not understanding

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2.1.2: Result complements "-dao" and "-jian"

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2.1.3: Result complement "-wan" for finishing

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2.2: Noun Phrases

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Expressing "some" with "yixie"	一些 + Noun	这里 有 *一些* 咖啡。
Using "youde" to mean "some"	有的 + Noun	派对的时候，*有的*人在喝酒，*有的*人在跳舞，还*有的*人在聊天。

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2.2.2: Using "youde" to mean "some"

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2.3: Numbers and Measure Words

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Counting money	Number + 块 / 元 (+ Number + 毛 / 角) (+ 钱)	给 你 五 *块* 三 *毛*。
Expressing "every" with "mei"	每 + Measure Word (+ Noun)	*每* 个 人。*每* 天。
Expressing "half" with "ban"	Number + Measure Word + 半 + Noun	三 个 *半* 小时
Measure words for counting	Number + Measure Word + Noun	一 个 人。一 *杯* 水。
Measure words in quantity questions	几 + Measure Word (+ Noun) ?	几 个 人？
Measure words with "this" and "that"	这 / 那 + Measure Word (+ Noun)	那 个 人。这 *杯* 水。
Ordinal numbers with "di"	第 + Number (+ Measure Word)	你 是 我 的 *第* 一个 朋友。

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2.4: Question Forms

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Asking how something is with "zenmeyang"	……怎么样？	你 最近 *怎么样* ？
Asking why with "zenme"	怎么……？	你 *怎么* 没 来？
Questions with "le ma"	Verb + 了 + 吗？	你 吃饭 *了* *吗* ？

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2.4.3: Questions with "le ma"

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2.5: Sentence Patterns

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Cause and effect with "yinwei" and "suoyi"	因为…… 所以……	*因为* 饿 了，*所以* 吃饭。
Expressing "about to happen" with "le"	快 + Verb / Adj. + 了	*快* 下雨 *了*。
Expressing "everything" with "shenme dou"	什么 + 都 / 也……	爸爸 *什么* *都* 知道。
Expressing location with "zai... shang / xia / li"	在 + Place + 上 / 下 / 里 / 旁边	你 的 手机 *在* 桌子 *上*。
Expressing "stop doing" with "bie… le"	别 + Verb + 了	*别* 哭 *了*，烦 死了 。

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CHAPTER OVERVIEW

3: Comparisons of Similar Grammar Points

3.1: Adverbs

3.1.1: Comparing "bu" and "mei"

3.2: Auxiliary verbs

3.2.1: Comparing "yao" and "xiang"

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3.1: Adverbs

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Comparing "bu" and "mei"	不 vs 没	我 今天 晚上 不 吃饭。昨天 晚上 我 没 吃饭。

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3.1.1: Comparing "bu" and "mei"

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3.2: Auxiliary verbs

Grammar Point (English)	Pattern	Examples
Comparing "yao" and "xiang"	要 vs 想	我 *要* 一 杯 水 。 我 *想* 你 。

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3.2.1: Comparing "yao" and "xiang"

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