

# Lesson 15 Dialogue 1

## Grammar



# 死 (sǐ) Indicating an Extreme Degree

- Placed after an adjective, 死 (sǐ) can serve as a complement to indicate an extreme degree of the condition named by the adjective.



# It's extremely painful to get a shot.

- 打針疼死了。
- Dǎ zhēn téng sǐ le.



# I'm starving.

- 我餓死了。
- Wǒ è sǐ le.



# It's awfully hot today.

- 今天熱死了。
- Jīntiān rè sǐ le.



死 (sǐ) often follows an adjective with a pejorative meaning and therefore the combination carries a negative connotation.

Occasionally, however, it may also be used in a positive context.



# He was tickled pink when he learned about this.

- 知道了這件事，他高興死了。
- Zhīdào le zhè jiàn shì, tā gāoxìng sǐ le.



# Times of Actions

- 次 (cì) is the measure word most frequently used to indicate that an action is performed a certain number of times.
- The “number + 次 (cì)” combination follows the verb.



# I made two phone calls in the morning.

- 上午我打了兩次電話。
- Shàngwǔ wǒ dǎ le liǎng cì diànhuà.



**I took the medicine three times  
yesterday.**

- 昨天我吃了三次藥。
- Zuótiān wǒ chī le sān cì yào.



If the object is not a person or a place, 次 (cì) should be placed between the verb and the object. If the object represents a person or a place, 次 (cì) can go either between the verb and the object or after the object.



- A: Last year I went to China once. How about you?
- 去年我去了一次中國。你呢？
- Qùnián wǒ qù le yí cì Zhōngguó. Nǐ ne?

- B: Last year I went to China twice.
- 去年我去了中國兩次。
- Qùnián wǒ qù le Zhōngguó liǎng cì.





- A: I went looking for Dr. Wang three times yesterday.
- 昨天我找了三次王医醫生。
- Zuótiān wǒ zhǎo le sān cì Wáng yīshēng.
- B: Is that right? I also went looking for Dr. Wang three times yesterday.
- 是嗎？昨天我也找了王医醫生三次。
- Shì ma? Zuótiān wǒ yě zhǎo le Wáng yīshēng sān cì.



If the object is a personal pronoun, however, 次 (cì) must follow the object.



**Yesterday I went looking for him twice, but he was not in either time.**

- 我昨天找了他兩次，他都不在。
- Wǒ zuótiān zhǎo le tā liǎng cì, tā dōu bú zài.



遍 (biàn) is another measure word for occurrences of actions, but it pertains to the entire course of the action from the beginning to the end.



# Please read the text (from the beginning to the end) once



- 请你念一遍课文。
- Qǐng nǐ niàn yí biàn kèwén.



Nouns denoting body parts involved in the actions can also sometimes serve as measure words for occurrences of actions.



# I ate a few mouthfuls last night...

- 昨天晚上我吃了幾口...
- Zuótiān wǎnshang wǒ chī le jǐ kǒu...



# 起来 (qi lai) Indicating the Beginning of an Action

- 起来 (qi lai) indicates the moment when something static becomes dynamic
- it signifies the beginning of an action or state.



# We began chatting as soon as we met.

- 我們一見面就聊了起來。
- Wǒmen yí jiàn miàn jiù liáo le qi lai



# He began to write a letter as soon as he got home.

- 他一回家就寫起信來。
- Tā yì huí jiā jiù xiě qǐ xìn lai.



Note that the object is placed  
between 起 (qi) and 來 (lai),  
rather than after 起來 (qi lai).



# The students started to play ball after the class was over.

- 下了課以後，學生們打起球來。
- Xià le kè yǐhòu, xuésheng men dǎ qi qiú lai.



# 把 (bǎ) Construction

- Subject + 把 (bǎ) + Object + Verb + Other Element (Complement/ 了 {le}, etc.)



In the 把 (bǎ) construction, what follows the position 把 (bǎ) and precedes the verb serves as both the object of 把 (bǎ) and the object of the verb.

In general, a sentence in the 把 (bǎ) construction highlights the subject's disposal of or impact upon the object, with the result of the disposal or impact indicated by the element following the verb.



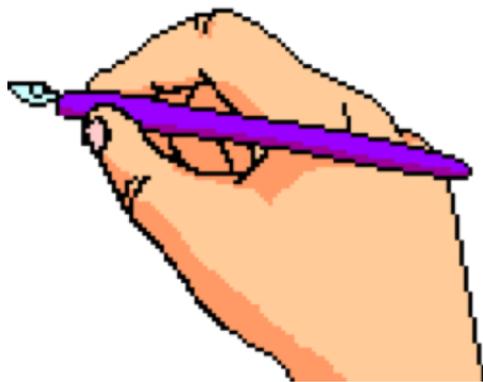
- 我把你要的書找到了。
- Wǒ bǎ nǐ yào de shū zhǎo dào le.
- I have found the books that you wanted.



- The resultative complement 到 (dào) serves as the “other element.”



- 你把這個字寫錯了。
- Nǐ bǎ zhè ge zì xiě cuò le.
- You wrote this character incorrectly.

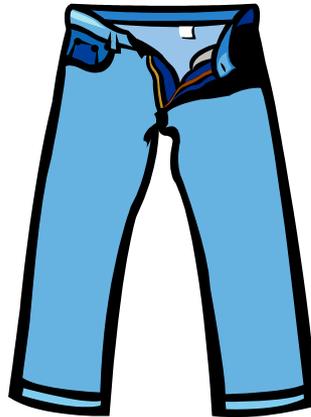


- The resultative complement 錯 (cuò) serves as the “other element.”
- the subject 你 (nǐ) exerts an impact on the character through the action of 寫 (xiě), of which 錯 (cuò) is the result.



# Please pass me that pair of pants.

- 請把那條褲子給我。
- Qǐng bǎ nà tiáo kùzi gěi wǒ.
- The indirect object 我 (wǒ) serves as the “other element.”



# Would you take a look at this text?

- 你把這篇課文看看。
- Nǐ bǎ zhè piān kèwén kàn kan.
- The reduplicated verb 看 (kàn) serves as the “other element.”



# Finish up this cup of coffee!

- 把這杯咖啡喝了！
- Bǎ zhè bēi kāfēi hē le!



# How did you manage to forget your girlfriend's birthday?

- 你怎麼把女朋友的生日忘了？
- Nǐ zěnmē bǎ nǚpéngyou de shēngrì wàng le?



# Compare the following two sentences:

- 老王给了小張一些錢。
- Lǎo Wáng gěi le Xiǎo Zhāng yì xiē qián.
- Old Wang gave Little Zhang some money.
- 老王把錢給小張了。
- Lǎo Wáng bǎ qián gěi Xiǎo Zhāng le.
- Old Wang gave the money to Little Zhang.



If the subject of a sentence is given, the object is something known to both the speaker and listener, and the verb is followed by a complement in the form of a prepositional phrase with 在 (zài) or 到 (dào), that sentence must appear in the 把 (bǎ) construction.



# Put the pen on the desk.

- 你把筆放在桌子上。
- Nǐ bǎ bǐ fàng zài zhuōzi shang.

True



False



- 你放筆在桌子上。
- Nǐ fàng bǐ zài zhuōzi shang.

True



False



# Please deliver this letter to the attorney's office.

- 請你把這封信送到律師的辦公室。

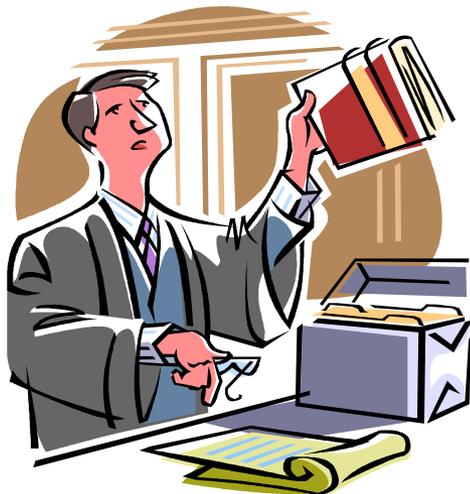
- Qǐng nǐ bǎ zhè fēng xìn sòng dào lǜshī de bànɡōnɡshì.

- V

- 請你送這封信到律師的辦公室。

- Qǐng nǐ sòng zhè fēng xìn dào lǜshī de bànɡōnɡshì.

- X



謝謝

再見

