

Summary Lesson 7 – 12 (revised 22 april 07)

Lesson 7

1. Resultative construction.

verb	+resultative	+了 (completed action)	negative with 没
kàn 看	wán 完 wán	了 了	méikànwán 没看完
chī 吃	bǎo 饱 bǎo	了 了	méichībǎo 没吃饱

(compare : 看了 kàn le read, 没看 méi kàn didn't read; 吃了 chī le ate, 没吃 méi chī didn't eat)

2. Asking how, when and where something took place using 是 ... 的 construction.

	是 shì	+time/place/manner	+verb	+的 de	
when	是 shì	shénme shíhòu 什么时候	认识 rènshi	的 de?	shì qùnián rènshi de 是去年认识的。
where	是 shì	zài nǎli 在哪里	买 mǎi	的 de?	shì zài zhōngguó mǎi de 是在中国买的。
how	是 shì	zěnmē 怎么	去 qù	的 de?	shì zuòfēijī qù de 是坐飞机去的。
when and where:	是 shì	qùnián zài zhōngguó 去年在中国	买 mǎi	的 de。	

3. Expression. 好久不见 le, 最近怎么样! (= 好久没见了)

4. Ask for someone's age

nǐ jǐ suì le 你几岁了? (child); nǐ duō dà le 你多大了? (peer); nín duō dà suì shu le 您多大岁数了? (respectful to elderly)

5. 了 The aspectual particle 了 (placed immediately after the verb) only shows that an action is in the state of completion. It may be used to describe a past, present or future action.

zuótiān wǒ chī le sānwǎn fàn 昨天, 我吃了三碗饭。 Yessterday, I ate three bowls of rice.

míngtiān wǒ chī le zǎofàn qù nǐ jiā 明天, 我吃了早饭去你家 Tomorrow, I will go to your place after eating breakfast.

end-sentence 了 gives an update, often used to tell what someone has been doing. The action is going on.

wǒ chī le 我吃了。 I have eaten.

wǒ chī le sānwǎn fàn le 我吃(了)三碗饭了 I have eaten three bowls of rice. (up till now)

- the negative form an action that has taken place is made by placing the negative adverb 没 before the predicate verb, and omit the 了.

wǒ chī le 我吃了 I ate --- wǒ méi chī 我没吃 I didn't eat

- 不 ... 了 no longer; stop doing something 不去了 不要了 不吃了

6. 到 dào, to reach; to arrive, often in combination with destination and direction

到 place direction
yǒu shíjiān dào wǒ jiā 去 Go to my place when you have time.

dào hólán lái. Come to the Netherlands when you have time.

Lesson 8

7. Express 'in the process of' doing something with 在 and 正在, use of 正 (meaning precisely, exactly) emphasizes 'at that very moment' when something else happened.

wǒ zài chī fàn 我在吃饭 I am eating

wǒ zài xué hànyǔ 我在学汉语 I am studying Chinese.

wǒ zhèngzài chī fàn 我正在吃饭 I am eating at this very moment (when the phone rings)

wǒ zhèngzài xué hànyǔ 我正在学汉语 I am in studying Chinese at this very moment.
(when you asked, I happened to be in the process of studying – see text)

for both 正 在 and 在, the negative form is 没 在

8. Express if an result can or cannot be achieved (expressing the potential)

verb +de 得 +resultative

kàn 看 dé 得 dǒng 懂

kàn 看 bú 不 dǒng 懂 negative form with bú 不

9. Use of some... some ... 有的我听得懂, 有的我听不懂。有的好, 有的不好。

10. The 了 at the end of the sentence indicates the completion of the action, and is still on-going. The first 了 after the verb is sometimes omitted.

Subject + predicate(verb) + 了 + amount + 了

wǒ xiě le sāngè zì le 我写(了)三个字了 I have written 3 characters! (up till now)

wǒ chī le shí gè jiǎozi le 我吃(了)十个饺子了 I have eaten 10 dumplings!(up till now)

11. Use of 了 to express the change of state (wasn't before, now it is / has become).

• adjectival verb + 了

wǒ è le 我饿了 I am hungry now (I have become hungry)

wǒ lèi le 我累了 I am tired now (I have become tired)

• time/age + le

shí èr diǎn 十二点了 It is now 12 o'clock (it has become 12)

wǒ sān shí suì le 我30岁了 I am now 30 years old (I have become 30 years old).

12. auxiliary verb 会(know how to; can) and 能(able to; can). Sometimes interchangeable

• 会 know how to do something; be skilful in, mastery of skills;

wǒ huì zuò fàn shuō zhōngwén kāi chē hē jiǔ 我会做饭/说中文/开车/喝酒。 I can cook/speak Chinese/drive/drink.

• 会 as a resultative:

wǒ xué huì zuò fàn le 我学会(做饭)了。 wǒ xué huì shuō zhōngwén le 我学会(说中文)了。 I have learned and mastered the skill of (a skill)

• 会 will;

jīn tiān huì xià yǔ 今天会下雨 It will rain today.

wǒ míng nián huì qù zhōngguó 我明年会去中国。 I will go to China next year. (contextual: I know how to go).

• 能 allowed to; able to; capable of; (often affected by some factors)

wǒ bù néng qù 我不能去 I am not able to go (too busy/not allowed to) (不会去 don't know how to go)

tā néng chī le 他能吃了 he can now eat (recovering from an illness, operation etc)

bù néng chī le 不能吃了 No longer edible (food has turn bad).

tā hē zuì le 他喝醉了, bù néng kāi chē 不能开车 He is drunk and not able to drive.

Lesson 9

13. Using something to do something

用 +tools +action/activity

• yòng 用 kuài zi 筷子 chī fàn 吃饭

• yòng 用 diàn nǎo 电脑 gōng zuò 工作

• yòng 用 xīn 心 xué xí 学习 [literal: use heart to study]

14. The differences between 多少 ^{duōshǎo} and 几 ^{jǐ}
- 几: used for small numbers (child's age, time, room number, bus number) and countable nouns. It is followed by a measure word.

nǐ yǒu jǐ gè hái zǐ? how many children do you have? 几点了? what's the time?

jǐ lù chē? what number bus? jǐ hào fáng? what room number?

- 多少: can be used in any situation (big numbers and uncountable nouns). It is generally used without a measure word.

hélán yǒu duōshǎo zhōngguó rén? How many Chinese are there in the Netherlands?

duōshǎo qián? How much (money) is it?

nǐ de shǒu jī hào mǎ shì duōshǎo? What is your mobile phone number?

15. Use of 吧 at the end of a phrase/sentence:

- to express uncertainty; making a guess hěnduō ba. hěn cháng ba.
很多吧。很长吧。
- as an encouragement/suggestion zǒu ba. chī ba.
走吧! 吃吧!

16. use of adverb 还 still; more; what/where else?

nǐ hái zhī dào shén me? What else do you know?

nǐ hái qù le nǎ lǐ? Where else did you go?

(compare: hái méi yǒu) not yet ... have not ... 他还没走 zǒu He has not yet left.)

17. Describing location,

- locative words: shàngbiān 上边 on top, xiàbiān 下边 below, lǐbiān 里边 inside, wàibiān 外边 outside, duìmiàn 对面 opposite side, pángbiān 旁边 next to, dōng nán xī běi biān 东/南/西/北边 east/south/west/north side, qiánbiān 前边 front, hòubiān 后边 back, zhèlǐ 这里 here nǎlǐ 哪里 where?

- Tell the exact location: cháguǎn 茶馆里边; dìtú 地图上; wǒ jiā nánbiān 我家南边; zhuōzi 桌子上; chē lǐbiān 车里边;
- Tell a where a place is located in relation to another. (preposition 在 means 'is situated')

shānxī zài shāndōng xībiān zài shānxī 山西在山东西边 A 在 B + locative words 山西 is situated in the west side of 山东

- xībiān 西边 west side, xīfāng 西方 the west/european; dōngbiān 东边 east side 东fāng 东方 the east/the orient;

Lesson 10

18. Use of preposition 离 lí to indicate distance between two places.

A + 离 + B + distance description

wǒ jiā lí nǐ jiā bú yuǎn 我家离你家不远 My home is not far from yours.

19. Give someone a call / receive a call

给 preposition + person + 打电话
gěi wǒ dǎ diàn huà 给我打电话 give me a call.

méi rén jiē diàn huà no one answers the call

20. 跟 with/and – [preposition phrases + verb/activity] - to engage in an activity with someone

wǒ gēn wǒ ài rén qù kàn tā 我跟我爱人去看他 I go with my wife/husband to see him.

wǒ gēn nǐ qù běi jīng 我跟你去北京。 I am going to Beijing with you.

nǐ (你) gēn wǒ lái 跟我来 come with me

21. adverb just 刚 刚出去 gāng chū qù Just went out.

Lesson 11

22. Adverb xiān 先, zài 再 first ... then

• xiān lái sì liǎng jiǎoziba 先 来 四两 饺子吧! First bring 200g of dumplings! (page 139)

• xiān qù zhōngguó, zài qù rìběn 先去 中国, 再去 日本。 Go first to China, and then go to Japan.

23. Standard expressions: 听说 tīng shuō, hear of ... 、 不错 bú cuò, not bad, pretty good

• tīngshuō tā qù le zhōngguó le 听说 他去了 中国 了 I heard he has gone to China

• zhè běn shū búcuò 这本书 不错 This book is pretty good.

• tā zhōngwén shuō dé búcuò 她 中文 说 得 不错 She speaks pretty good Chinese.

24. Spontaneous expression giving the reason why someone is not present at a place:

Adverb + 去 (verb of direction)+了 [He's gone (the action) 'doing something' (the reason)]

• shàngbān qù le 上班 去了 hēchá qù le 喝茶 去了 chīfàn qù le 吃饭 去了 mǎi dōngxī qù le 买东西 去了

25. Use of a verb/verb phrase with de 的 to describe a noun:

• (verb/verbphrase + de) +noun

• hē kělè de dìfāng 喝 可乐 的 地方 A place for drinking cola. (les 5 page 75)

• Omission of object

péngyǒu chī de fàn shì zhōngguó fàn 朋友 吃 的 (饭) 是 中国 饭
The meal that my friend ate is a Chinese meal.(page 139)

26. Expression: 慢慢吃 màn man chī; 慢走 màn zǒu

Lesson 12

27. From ... to 从 cóng ... 到 dào

• used to tell time
cóng yídiǎn dào sāndiǎn 从 一点 到 三点。 from 1 to 3 o'clock

• cóng yīyuè dào sānyuè 从 一月 到 三月 from January to March

• used for locations

cóng zhèr dào nàr 从 这儿 到 那儿 from here to there

compare: cóng hélán lái; dào zhōngguó qù; cóng nǎli lái?; dào nǎli qù
从 荷兰 来; 到 中国 去; 从 哪里 来? ; 到 哪里 去?

28. Use of 就 jiù to express cause and consequence, or condition and subsequent result.

• conditions +就 consequence (resulting action)

zǒu wǔfēnzhōng jiù dào 走 五分钟 就 到 walk 5 minutes and you will be there.

nǐ qù, wǒ jiù qù 你去, 我 就 去 if you go, I will go.

29. Use of le in future situation. (See also 5 and 11, Lesson 7 and 8 respectively)

• xià le chē, zuò èrshíèrlù 下了 车, 坐 二十二路 Take bus 22 after you alight.

• chī le fàn, dào wǒ jiā 吃了 饭, 到 我家 Come to my place after you finish eating.

30. 往: toward. To say walk toward a place, the Chinese construction is:

wǎng 往	+location	+verb	
wǎng 往	huǒchēzhàn 火 车 站	zǒu 走 .	direction train station
wǎng 往	qián 前	zǒu 走 .	go straight/ rechtdoor
wǎng 往	yòu 右	guǎi 拐	make a right turn.