

character(s): 汉字 hàn zì

1. *pictograph*: 象形 xiàng xíng – 水 日 木
2. *ideograph*: 指事 zhǐ shì – 上 下 中
3. *associative compound*: 会意 huì yì – 好 话
4. *phonetic compound*: 形声 xíng shēng – 问 / 门
5. *false borrowing*: 假借 jiǎ jiè – 来 / 麦
6. *semantic derivation*: 转注 zhuǎn zhù – 网

phrase order(s) – topic subject predicate

- subject + verb + [indirect object] + direct object
- subject + preposition + verb + direct object
- subject + location phrase + verb phrase
- subject + time when + predicate
- subject + time when + location + verb phrase

adjectival verb(s) 高 gāo, 贵 guì, 小 xiǎo, 大 dà, 好

intensifier(s)

- 很 hěn – very
- 真 zhēn – really
- 比较 bǐjiào – rather
- 相当 xiāngdāng – quite
- 特别 tèbié – especially
- 非常 fēicháng – extremely
- 尤其 yóuqí – especially
- 极其 jíqí – extremely
- 太 tài – too
- 更 gèng – more
- 最 zuì – most

postfix:

- (好) 得很: very good
- (好) 极了: to be terrific
- (好) 得不得了: to be terrific

linking: yuè (lái) yuè

- 越来越 (adjectival verb) – more and more
- 越 (action verb) 越 (adjectival verb) – the more

stative verb(s) – 不 / 没 喜欢 xǐhuan, 爱 ài, 像 xiàng, 要 yào, 需要 xūyào, 怕 pà, 尊敬 zūnjìng, 感谢 gǎnxiè, 懂 dǒng, 信 xìn, 想念 xiǎngniàn, 是 shì, 姓 xìng, 有 yǒu, 在 zài

- 是 shì – equational verb: to be
- 姓 xìng – to be family-named
- 有 yǒu – possession & existence
- 在 zài – to be located at

modal verb(s) – 不

- *possibility* – 会 huì
- *ability* – 会 huì, 能 néng, 可以 kěyǐ
- *permission* – 可以 kěyǐ
- *obligation*:
(strong) – 必须 bìxū, 必得 bìděi, 得 děi
(weak) – 应该 yīnggāi, 该, 应当, 当 dāng, 应 (formal)
(negative) – 不必 bùbì
- *prohibitions* – 不可以, 不能, 不许 bùxǔ (formal)
- as adverb(s) – 必须 bìxū, 必得 bìděi, 得 děi (oblig.)

action verb(s) – 了 / 过 / 在 / 着: 买, 学, 看, 吃, 睡
shuì, 去, 唱 chàng, 洗

obligatory object(s): – 说话 shuōhuà 睡觉 shuìjiào, 看书 kànshū, 吃饭 chīfàn, 写字 xiězì, 画画儿 huàhuàr, 唱歌儿 chànggē, 洗澡 xǐzǎo

change of state(s): 做 zuò, 站 zhàn, 放 fàng (put), 挂 guà (hang), 离开 líkāi (depart), 穿 chuān (clothing), 戴 dài (clothing), 病 bìng, 到 dào, 去 qù

preposition(s)

- *location* – 在 zài (optional in time)
- *reference* – 对 duì (to), 向 xiàng (towards)
- *joint performance* – 跟 gēn
- *movement* – 从 cóng (from), 到 dào (to), 往 wǎng (towards), 进 jìn (into)
- *transfer* – 给 gěi (to), 跟 gēn (from), 向 xiàng (from)
- *beneficiary* – 给 gěi (for), 替 tì (for)
- *agent in passive sentence(s)* – 被 bèi, 叫 jiào, 让 ràng
- in formal language: 为 wèi (for), 由 yóu (from), 于 yú (at/in/on), 自从 zìcóng (from, ever since)
- as verb(s): 在 (at/exist), 给 (to/give), 到 (to/arrive), 对 (towards/correct), 跟 (with/follow)

adverb(s) – 一定 yīdìng (definitely), 也许 yěxǔ (perhaps), 并 bìng (at all), 经常 jīngcháng (often), 已经 yǐjīng (already)

function(s): 也 yě (also) 都 dōu (all, both) 还 hái (also) 就 jué (only, uniquely) 只 zhǐ (only) 才 cái (only then) 而已 éryǐ (and that is all)

conjunction(s)

- and – 和 hé, 跟 gēn, 同 tóng, 与 yǔ
- or – 还是 háishi, 或者 huòzhě

passive(s) – 被 bèi

- 叫 jiào – to call, to order
- 让 ràng – to let, to allow
- 给 gěi – to give, on behalf of

conditional(s) – 就 jiù / 便 biàn / 则 zé

- if – 要是 yàoshi, 如果 rúguo, 假如 jiǎ rú, 假使 jiǎshǐ, 倘若 tǎngruò, 倘使 tángshǐ
- postfix – 则 zé
- if .. then – 的话 de huà
- even if – 就是 situation subject 也 / 还 verb
- as long as – 只要 zhǐ yào
- only if – 除非 chuífēi
- otherwise – 要不然 yàobùrán, 不然, 否则 fǒuzé