HSK2 – student practice pack

Chinese

Original Mandarin teaching practice supporting HSK2. This pack is not an official mock paper or a complete exam inventory.

Try first with help closed. Review tomorrow and after a few days. A teacher or partner can read the listening script from the separate teacher pack.

Address someone and make a request

Goal: Use a suitable title and ask permission politely.

■ Words to help you

- 老师 – lǎoshī – teacher
- 可以 – kěyǐ – may / can with permission
- 进来 – jìnlái – come in
- 别 – bié – do not, instruction
- 晚 – wǎn – late

■ Listen before reading

What permission is requested?

1. To come in
2. To sit here
3. To leave

■ Read a different account

林安来晚了。她说：“ 王老师，对不起。我可以进来吗？ ” 王老师说：“ 可以，请进来。别说话。 ”

What does the teacher ask Lin An not to do?

Speak / Enter / Sit

■ Build a sentence

Complete “May I come in?”: 我 …… 进来吗?

Address someone and make a request – speak and write

■ Speak

Address Teacher Li, ask to come in, and respond when permission is given.

■ Plan and write

Write a polite request to sit here, using a surname and title.

- Put the surname before 老师.
- Use 可以 and 吗.
- State the action requested.

■ Remember

Do not translate English first-name classroom address automatically into every Chinese setting. Use the person's preferred form of address.

Compare two things before buying

Goal: Describe a difference and ask about the preferred item.

■ Words to help you

- 比 – bǐ – than, comparison
- 贵 – guì – expensive
- 便宜 – piányi – cheap / inexpensive
- 颜色 – yánsè – colour
- 但是 – dànshì – but

■ Listen before reading

Which is cheaper in the recording?

1. This cup
2. That cup
3. They cost the same

■ Read a different account

红色的杯子二十块钱，蓝色的杯子十五块钱。红色的比蓝色的贵，但是林安更喜欢红色。

Why might Lin An still choose the red cup?

It is cheaper / She prefers its colour / The text says blue is broken

■ Build a sentence

Complete “This is more expensive than that”: 这个 …… 那个贵。

Compare two things before buying – speak and write

■ Speak

Compare two fictional cups by price. Ask which colour a partner prefers.

■ Plan and write

Write a comparison and then a preference.

- Make the comparison direction clear.
- Give a preference separately.
- Use 但是 only where it marks a contrast.

■ Remember

A 比 B 贵 means A costs more than B. Reversing A and B reverses the comparison.

Understand a route and repair confusion

Goal: Follow simple directions and ask for clarification.

■ Words to help you

- 从 – cóng – from
- 到 – dào – to / arrive
- 左 – zuǒ – left
- 右 – yòu – right
- 再 – zài – then / again after

■ Listen before reading

What is the final turn in the recording?

1. Left
2. Right
3. No turn

■ Read a different account

从学校到医院，先向右走，再向左转。医院在图书馆旁边。林安听不清，问：“ 请再说一遍。”

Where is the hospital in the reading?

Beside the library / Inside the school / Beside the station

■ Build a sentence

Complete “first go, then turn”: 先走，…… 转。

Understand a route and repair confusion – speak and write

■ Speak

Give two-step directions. Your partner asks you to repeat the final turn.

■ Plan and write

Write a two-step route with a starting point and destination.

- Name the starting point and destination.
- Use 先 and 再 to order actions.
- State a direction for each step.

■ Remember

先 and 再 indicate order. Do not choose a route by spotting only one familiar direction word.

Talk about an experience and a current action

Goal: Distinguish having done something before from doing it now.

■ Words to help you

- 过 – guo – experience marker
- 正在 – zhèngzài – in the process of
- 去年 – qùnián – last year
- 学习 – xuéxí – study
- 以前 – yǐqián – before

■ Listen before reading

What is happening now?

1. Travelling to Shanghai
2. Reading
3. Swimming

■ Read a different account

王力去年去过上海。林安没去过上海。今天王力正在学习中文，林安正在看书。

Who has not been to Shanghai?

王力 / 林安 / Both

■ Build a sentence

Complete “I have been to Shanghai”: 我去 …… 上海。

Talk about an experience and a current action – speak and write

■ Speak

Ask whether a partner has been to a city, then ask what they are doing now.

■ Plan and write

Write one experience sentence and one current-action sentence.

- Use 过 for the experience.
- Use 正在 for the ongoing action.
- Do not imply an experience is happening now.

■ Remember

过 is not an ending to add to every English past-tense verb. Here it presents an experience.

Describe a family and explain a custom

Goal: Give basic family information and describe a festival activity.

■ Words to help you

- 姐姐 – jiějie – older sister
- 家人 – jiārén – family members
- 春节 – Chūnjié – Spring Festival
- 因为 – yīnwèi – because
- 所以 – suǒyǐ – so / therefore

■ Listen before reading

Why does the family call the sister?

1. She is not at home
2. She cooked dumplings
3. She is a teacher

■ Read a different account

春节，林安的姐姐回家了。因为家人在一起，所以大家很高兴。晚上他们吃饺子。

What causes the family's happiness in the reading?

They are together / They buy a phone / The school opens

■ Build a sentence

Complete the result marker: 因为家人在一起，…… 大家很高兴。

Describe a family and explain a custom – speak and write

■ Speak

Describe one fictional family activity during a festival. Ask what another family does, without assuming the same custom.

■ Plan and write

Write a family activity and one reason-result sentence.

- Name the people or relationship.
- Give a specific activity.
- Keep the reason and result in the intended direction.

■ Remember

Festival customs differ by region and family. The example is one family's practice, not a rule for everyone.

Give a reason and make a suggestion

Goal: Explain a change of plan and respond with a suggestion.

■ Words to help you

- 为什么 – wèishénme – why
- 因为 – yīnwèi – because
- 吧 – ba – suggestion particle here
- 一起 – yìqǐ – together
- 下雨 – xià yǔ – rain

■ Listen before reading

When is the suggested visit?

1. Tomorrow
2. This evening
3. Yesterday

■ Read a different account

今天下雨了。王力不去公园。林安问：“ 为什么？ ” 他说：“ 因为下雨了。我们明天一起去吧。”

What is Wang Li’s reason?

The rain / The price / His sister

■ Build a sentence

Complete “Why are you not going?”: 你 …… 不去?

Give a reason and make a suggestion – speak and write

■ Speak

Say why a fictional trip cannot happen today. Suggest a new time and let your partner accept or decline.

■ Plan and write

Write a reason for a change of plan and a new suggestion.

- Give a reason.
- Give a new time.
- Use 吧 for the suggestion, not as an English tense.

■ Remember

A suggestion is not a confirmed arrangement until the other person agrees. 了 may signal a change, not merely past time.

Complete a message with the right character

Goal: Use the sentence meaning and pronunciation to choose a character.

■ Words to help you

- 在 – zài – at / in
- 再 – zài – again / then
- 见 – jiàn – see
- 这里 – zhèlǐ – here
- 字 – zì – character

■ Listen before reading

Where is the speaker?

1. At school
2. At the library
3. At the park

■ Read a different account

林安写：“ 我在学校。请明天再来。明天下午三点见。” 她检查了时间和地点，然后发出消息。

Which character in the message means “again”?

在 / 再 / 见

■ Build a sentence

Choose zài for location: 我 …… 学校。

Complete a message with the right character – speak and write

■ Speak

Ask a partner how to read 在, then say a sentence with it. Explain in English how 再 differs.

■ Plan and write

Write a two-line message giving your location and tomorrow's meeting time. Check 在 and 再 carefully.

- Use 在 for the current location.
- Give tomorrow's time.
- Check the characters, not only pinyin.

■ Remember

A correct pinyin sound does not guarantee the correct character.