

HSK 1 · Travel, Destinations and Simple Directions

Beginner travel; classroom examples, not official exam items.

One sentence, four facts

去 goes, 坐 rides, and every ticket answers three questions: destination, mode, time.

去 and 在: going vs being

去 — the goal

我明天去上海。(Wǒ míngtiān qù Shànghǎi.) — I'm going to Shanghai tomorrow.

在 — the here and now

我在上海。(Wǒ zài Shànghǎi.) — I'm in Shanghai.

坐: the vehicle verb

Phrase	Pinyin	Meaning
坐公交车	zuò gōngjiāochē	Take the bus
坐火车	zuò huǒchē	Take the train
走路 / 步行	zǒulù / bùxíng	Walk (on foot)

The three ticket questions

Question	Asks	Wrong answer to avoid
去哪里 ? (qù nǎlǐ)	Destination	The vehicle — 坐火车
怎么去 ? (zěnmē qù)	Mode	The city — 上海
几点走 ? (jǐ diǎn zǒu)	Departure time	The platform number

Watch out: the preposition decides

- 在上海 describes current location; 去上海 describes the goal of travel.
- Read the ticket label, not just the digits.

Check yourself

Your turn

Which pair is right? (1) Which verb means “take a vehicle”? (2) 去哪里? asks what?

- A. 在; the mode
- B. 坐; the destination
- C. 坐; the mode
- D. 去; the destination