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.

- 我明天八点坐火车去上海 — date, hour, mode, destination.
- 在 is being there; 去 is going there.

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？(zěnme 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.

Quick check

Your turn

Which verb means “take” a vehicle?

A. 在
B. 坐
C. 去

Check yourself

Your turn

What does 你去哪里 ? ask about?

A. how you travel

B. where you are going