

HSK 1 · Listening and Reading Habits

Level-one listening and reading task habits; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Whole phrases, whole sentences

The habits that decide level-one questions: hear the whole phrase, read the whole sentence, match fact to question word.

Same person, different action

女儿喝水

“Nǚ'ér hē shuǐ — the daughter drinks water.”

女儿吃饭

“Nǚ'ér chī fàn — the daughter eats a meal.”

Read the question word

Word	Asks	Valid answer
几 (jǐ)	A number	三个人 — three people
谁 (shéi)	A person	我的老师 — my teacher
哪儿 (nǎr)	A place	北京 — Beijing

The rehearsal drill

- 1 **Teacher reads, script hidden** 桌子上有两个杯子。(Zhuōzi shàng yǒu liǎng ge bēizi.)
- 2 **Choose between pictures** A table with two cups, or a table with three books?
- 3 **Why two cups wins** 有 states existence; 两个 counts cups; 桌子上 locates them.
- 4 **Then the rule** Practise a NEW case after feedback — never the identical exposed item.

Decision

A printed copy would test reading, not listening.

Watch out: quantity is not rescued

- A matching object does not rescue the wrong quantity — two cups is not three books.
- A visible-script task does not prove listening ability.

Check yourself

Your turn

Which pair is right? (1) 女儿喝水 vs 女儿吃饭 — what differs? (2) Which word asks a person?

- A. The person; 几
- B. The action; 谁
- C. The action; 几
- D. The person; 谁