HSK 2 · Personal Descriptions, Requests and Forms of Address

Level-two descriptions and requests; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Polite Chinese in four moves

Respectful titles, adjective descriptions, permission and requests — and the 为什么/因为 pair.

- Titles follow role, not English habit.
- 吗 still does its yes/no job.

Titles: surname + role

Title	Pinyin	For
王老师	Wáng lǎoshī	Teacher Wang — surname + role
先生	xiānsheng	Mr, respectful contexts
女士	nǚshì	Ms, respectful contexts

Describing without 是

1. **The pattern** 他很高 (tā hěn gāo) — he is tall.
2. **The rule that still holds** No 是 before an ordinary adjective — 他是很高 ×.
3. **Why it still matters** Level **two** adds vocabulary, not exceptions: the adjective is still the verb.
4. **Try it** Describe a friend with one adjective.

Decision

The adjective sentence works exactly as in HSK 1.

可以 … 吗？请 … 别 …

The checked exchange

王老师，我可以进来吗？(Wáng lǎoshī, wǒ kěyǐ jìnlái ma?) — Teacher Wang, may I come in?

对不起，我来晚了。(Duìbuqǐ, wǒ lái wǎn le.) — Sorry, I came late.

有点儿 or 一点儿?

Pattern	Meaning	Example
有点儿 + adj	a bit too (a complaint)	这件衣服有点儿贵。— This is a bit **expensive**.
adj + 一点儿	a bit more (a comparison or request)	有便宜一点儿的吗？— Do **you** have a cheaper one?

让 and 一下

Let, make and soften

妈妈让我早点睡。— Mum makes me go to bed early.

让我想一想。— Let me think.

请等一下。— Please wait a moment.

Notice

让 + person + verb: let or make someone do it. 一下 or a doubled verb (想一想, 看看) makes the action short and polite.

为什么 / 因为

The question

你为什么来晚了？— Why did **you** come late?

The reason

因为公交车太慢了。— **Because** the **bus** was too slow.

Quick check

Your turn

How do you address a teacher whose surname is Wang?

A. 王先生
B. 王老师
C. 老师王

Check yourself

Your turn

Which frame asks for permission?

A. 请 ……
B. 可以 …… 吗？
C. 别 ……