

HSK 2 · Events, Objects and Shopping Comparisons

Level-two comparisons and shopping; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Comparing, counting, already-done

A 比 B + adjective compares; 本 and 件 count new things; 已经 了 says already done.

The 比 pattern

- 1 **The frame** A + 比 + B + adjective: 这本书比那本书贵 (zhè běn shū bǐ nà běn shū guì).
- 2 **The adjective follows** The quality comes last — 比 does the comparing.
- 3 **The checked example** 蓝色的二十元, 红色的三十元 — the difference is 十元, with a specific baseline.
- 4 **Try it** Compare two prices you know: 比 贵/便宜 元。

Decision

Both reference objects, then the quality.

本 and 件

Measure word	Counts	Example
本	Books	一本书 (yì běn shū) — one book
件	Clothing	一件衬衫 (yí jiàn chènshān) — one shirt
个	The everyday default	Still everywhere from HSK 1

已经 了: already

Already done

我已经买了。(Wǒ yǐjīng mǎi le.) — I've already bought it.

Planned

我打算明天买。 — I plan to buy it tomorrow.

Watch out: no 很 in 比

这本书比那本书很贵 × — the standard 比 comparison takes no 很, however “very” the English sounds.

Check yourself

Your turn

Which pair is right? (1) Which measure word takes a shirt? (2) Fix 这本书比那本书很贵。

- A. 本; keep the 很
- B. 件; drop the 很
- C. 件; add 也很
- D. 本; drop the 比