HSK 3 Grammar 6: Sentence Patterns (把 & 被)

HSK 3 把/被 and rising patterns, taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

The two famous constructions, demystified

把 does something to a specific object; 被 reports what happened to it. Then 着 scenes and question words with new jobs.

- Both 把 and 被 need more than a bare verb.
- 被 often reports something unwelcome.

把: grab it, then report it

1. **The frame** Subject + 把 + Object + Verb + result.
2. **Worked sentence** 请把门关上。(Qǐng bǎ mén guānshang.) — Please close the door.
3. **The bare-verb ban** 把书放在桌子上 ✓ — 把书放 ×, the verb needs its result.
4. **The object rule** Specific and known: the door, my phone.

Decision

Grab it → then say what you did to it.

被: the victim leads

把 — the doer leads

小偷把手机偷了。— The thief took the phone.

被 — the victim leads

手机被小偷偷了。(Shǒujī bèi xiǎotōu tōu le.) — The phone got taken by the thief.

Place + verb + 着 + noun

Describing a scene

桌子上放着一本书。— There's a book on the table.

门口站着一个人。— Someone is standing at the door.

墙上挂着一张地图。— A map hangs on the wall.

Notice

The place comes first, with no 在; the thing is usually new information, with a number + measure word.

Question word + 都: every, any

Sentence	Meaning
谁都知道。	Everyone knows.
我什么都吃。	I eat anything.
他哪儿都不想去。	He doesn't want to go anywhere.

The echoed question word

1. **The frame** 想 + V + question word + 就 + V + the same question word.
2. **Worked sentence** 想吃什么就吃什么。(Xiǎng chī shénme jiù chī shénme.) — Eat whatever you want.
3. **The family** 谁 …… 就 …… 谁 · 哪儿 …… 就 …… 哪儿.
4. **The rule** The question word must match on both sides.

Decision

Whatever you pick, that's what you get — the language of total freedom.

Not even one

一 … 也 / 都 … 不 / 没

他一句话也没说。— He didn't say a single word.

我一点儿都不累。— I'm not tired at all.

Notice

一 sets the smallest amount, and 也 / 都 with a negative rules out even that.

Not a question at all

Some- and any-

这个人我好像在哪儿见过。— I seem to have met this person somewhere.

我想吃点儿什么。— I'd like to eat something.

你有什么问题吗？— Do you have any questions?

Notice

The question word is unstressed; 好像, 点儿 or 吗 show that it means some- or any-.

Watch out: negation goes in front

- Negate before 把/被: 没被发现, 没把作业做完.
- A bare verb is illegal in both frames.

Quick check

Your turn

Which sentence starts with the one the action happens to?

A. 把 sentence
B. 被 sentence

Check yourself

Your turn

Where does 没 go in a 把 sentence?

A. before 把
B. after the verb