HSK 4 Grammar 10: Sentence Patterns — Existence & Emphasis

HSK 4 emphatic negation with 并, taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

The pushing-back negative

并 + 不 / 没 is "actually NOT — despite what you assume": the go-to for correcting a wrong impression.

- Firm, slightly defensive.
- And it only ever attaches to **不** or **没**.

The frame: Subject + 并 + 不 / 没

Correcting the record

在中国创业并不容易。(Zài Zhōngguó chuàngyè bìng bù róngyì.) — Starting a business in China actually isn't easy.

我并没说过这句话。(Wǒ bìng méi shuōguo zhè jù huà.) — I never actually said that.

Try it: the exam correction

1. **The assumption in the air** A classmate says this exam was easy.
2. **Choose the correcting negative 并** — you are pushing back, not just stating.
3. **Build it 这次考试并不简单。**(Zhè cì kǎoshì bìng bù jiǎndān.)
4. **Check the attachment 并 + 不** — the pair the pattern requires.

Decision

This exam actually wasn't simple — a polite, firm correction.

The negative family, side by side

Pattern	Feeling	Use it when
不 / 没	Plain negative	The default
并 + 不 / 没	Actually not	Correcting an assumption
又 + 不 / 没	"It's not as if..." — a shrug	Defending yourself
根本 + 不 / 没	Not at all	Flat-out denial

Watch out: the bare verb

- 并 needs its 不 / 没: 并去 ×, 并不去 ✓.
- Attaching 并 to a bare verb is the classic error the exam listens for.
- 并 appears where a wrong idea is already in the air — a discussion or correction.

Quick check

Your turn

Which words can follow 并 to correct a belief?

A. 不 and 没
B. any verb

Check yourself

Your turn

Which phrase is the defensive “it’s not as if …”?

A. 又不
B. 并不
C. 根本不