HSK 4 Grammar 17: "If" statements

HSK 4 要是 ... 就 ..., taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

The chatty if

要是 … 就 … is the everyday spoken "if … then …" — the chatty twin of 如果, and the 就 is what the exam checks.

- Condition leads, 就 stamps the consequence.
- Especially common in northern China.

The frame: 要是 + Condition，就 + Result

Two ifs, two stamps

你要是真的想我，就给我打电话。(Nǐ yàoshi zhēn de xiǎng wǒ, jiù gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà.) — If you really miss me, then call me.

要是明天不下雨，我们就去爬山。(Yàoshi míngtiān bù xiàyǔ, wǒmen jiù qù páshān.) — If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we'll go hiking.

Two extras: 要不是 and the shrink

1. **The counterfactual: 要不是**要不是堵车，我早就到了。(Yàobushi dǔchē, wǒ zǎo jiù dào le.) — If not for the traffic, I'd have been here long ago.
2. **The shrink after a subject** 你要不来，我们就开始了。(Nǐ yào bù lái, wǒmen jiù kāishǐ le.) — If you don't come, we'll start without you.
3. **Try it** 要是周六天气好，我们就在公园野餐。(Yàoshi zhōuliù tiānqì hǎo, wǒmen jiù zài gōngyuán yěcān.) — If the weather's good on Saturday, we'll picnic in the park.
4. **Check each** Every one keeps its 就 — the stamp that completes the if.

Decision

要不是 blames the traffic; the shrink keeps the chat rolling.

The if family, sorted

Pattern	Feel	Result word
要是 ... 就 ...	Chatty, spoken, northern	就
如果 ... 就 ...	Neutral if	就
即使 ... 也 ...	Even if — a supposition overridden	也

Watch out: the 就 and the fact line

- The 就 belongs to the pattern: 要是明天不下雨，我们去爬山 reads unfinished without it.
- 要是 introduces a condition you are waiting on — a real-fact contrast takes 虽然 … 但是 ….

Quick check

Your turn

Which word opens the result clause after 要是?

A. 就
B. 也

Check yourself

Your turn

"Even if it rains, I'll go" takes which pattern?

A. 即使 …… 也 ……
B. 如果 …… 就 ……
C. 要是 …… 就 ……