

HSK 4 Grammar 18: "No matter" statements

HSK 4 不管/无论 patterns, taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Whatever the case, the result holds

不管 and 无论 say the outcome holds whatever the case — and both demand an open variable in the first clause.

The frame: 不管 + open variable, 都 / 也 + Result

Two sweeps

不管你穿什么都好看。(Bùguǎn nǐ chuān shénme dōu hǎokàn.) — No matter what you wear, it looks good on you.

不管怎样，我们都要好好准备。(Bùguǎn zěnmeyàng, wǒmen dōu yào hǎohāor zhǔnbèi.) — No matter what, we must prepare properly.

Try it: the rain promise

- 1 **The promise** You'll come whatever the weather.
- 2 **Open the variable** 下不下雨 (xià bu xià yǔ) — the A-not-A form is the openness.
- 3 **Build it** 不管下不下雨，我都来。(Bùguǎn xià bu xià yǔ, wǒ dōu lái.)
- 4 **Check** Open variable first clause, 都 in the second: the pattern is complete.

Decision

No matter whether it rains, I'm coming.

无论: the written twin

Same grammar, better clothes

无论多么成功，他都觉得自己不够好。(Wúlùn duōme chénggōng, tā dōu juéde zìjǐ bú gòu hǎo.) — No matter how successful he is, he always feels he's not good enough.

无论天多热，都要坚持。(Wúlùn tiān duō rè, dōu yào jiānchí.) — No matter how hot it gets, we have to keep going.

Watch out: no open variable, no pattern

Works

不管你穿什么 ✓ — 什么 is open.

Fails

不管这件衣服 × — a flat noun clause ranges over nothing.

Check yourself

Your turn

Which pair is right? (1) Which two words can close a 不管 sentence? (2) Correct or not: 无论这件衣服都好看。

- A. 就 / 也; correct
- B. 都 / 也; not correct — no open variable
- C. 都 / 就; correct
- D. 也 / 才; not correct