HSK 5 Grammar 1: Adjectives — Extreme and Plenty

HSK 5 adjective degree patterns and 有的是, taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Four reactions at a busy station

You miss a seat, the **carriage** is packed, the **snack** costs **more** than you hoped, and the tea is sweeter than you like — four patterns from this unit.

- Three start with an adjective; the fourth is **有的是** + noun.
- Pinyin uses dictionary tones, with the usual changes for **一** and **不**.

Adjective + 得不得了: to an unbelievable degree

1. **Form** adjective + 得不得了 (de bù dé liǎo) — the last 了 is liǎo, not le.
2. **Example** 地铁里挤得不得了，我下一站就下车。(dìtiě lǐ jǐ de bù dé liǎo…) — The metro is incredibly **crowded**; I'll get off at the next stop.
3. **Example 2** 赢了比赛以后，队员们激动得不得了。— After they won, the players were extremely excited.
4. **Boundary** 队员们激动不得了 × — keep the 得.

Decision

A **strong** spoken reaction, pleasant or unpleasant — not a measured amount.

Adjective + 得很: really (trailing form)

Front 很 — a different form

空气很新鲜。(Kōngqì hěn xīnxiān.) — The air is very fresh.

Trailing 得很 — this pattern

公园里的空气新鲜得很。(Gōngyuán lǐ de kōngqì xīnxiān de hěn.) — The air in the park is really fresh.

Adjective + 了 + (一) 点儿: a bit too ...

Past your own aim

这汤咸了点儿，少放一点盐就好。(Zhè tāng xián le diǎnr...) — This soup is a bit too salty; a little less salt would be better.

八点开会，对我来说早了一点儿。— An eight o'clock start is a little too early for me.

有的是 + noun: plenty

1. **Form** subject + 有的是 + bare noun — no number, no **measure** word.
2. **Example** 书架上有的是小说，你随便借。— There are plenty of novels on the shelf; borrow any one.
3. **Example 2** 别催他，他有的是办法。— Don't push him; he has plenty of ways to sort it out.
4. **Boundary** 这些读物有的是小说，有的是杂志 — this is 有的 …… 有的 …… "some … some …", NOT "plenty".

Decision

One fixed phrase + bare noun = plenty. The 有的 …… 有的 …… reading is different.

How to choose

Meaning	Pattern
Strong reaction, pleasant or not	Adjective + 得不得了
"Very" after the adjective	Adjective + 得很 (no front 很)
A bit past an aim you had	Adjective + 了 + (一) 点儿
Plenty of a thing, no exact number	有的是 + noun

Answers: the practice set · 1/3

#	Answer	Note
1	Adjective + 得很	凉快 + 得很 = really cool
2	有的是 + noun	酸奶 = plenty of yoghurt
3	得	忙得不得了

Answers: the practice set · 2/3

#	Answer	Note
4	孩子们兴奋得不得了	Restore the 得
5	B 吵了点儿	A is grammatical but a different form
6	这碗面香得很	Drop the front 很

Answers: the practice set · 3/3

#	Answer	Note
7	B = plenty; A = some are	Paired 有的 marks the “some” reading

Quick check

Your turn

教室里凉快得很 – which pattern?

A. 得不得了
B. 得很
C. 了点儿

Check yourself

Your turn

Which sentence means “there are plenty”? A 这些读物有的是小说. B 桌子上有的是读物.

A. A
B. B