

HSK 5 Grammar 5: Nouns and Time Frames

HSK 5 noun frames and time patterns, taught from the reviewed topic handout;
classroom examples, not official exam items.

当中: among, or in the middle

当中 places someone or something inside a group, a place or a process — “among”, “in the centre”, “in the middle of an activity”.

彼此: each other (the formal partner)

- 1 **Both orders work** 彼此信任 · 信任彼此 — trust each other / trust each other.
- 2 **As an object** 关心彼此 · 爱彼此 — care for each other, love each other.
- 3 **The reply** 彼此彼此 — “likewise” or “same to you”.
- 4 **The boundary** 互相 goes before the verb only; 彼此 can be an object.

Decision

彼此 is the slightly formal partner of 互相 — notices, emails, careful speech.

以来: ever since

From a start to now

毕业以来，我一直在这里工作。 — Since graduating, I have worked here the whole time.

长期以来 / 有史以来 — for a long time now / since history began.

当 ... 的时候: when

Everyday — 的时候

我到车站的时候，车已经开了。

Formal or storytelling — 当 的时候

当我到车站的时候，车已经开了。

Written: 当我到车站时，

名词 + 这个 + 类别: a label with attitude

Person, 这个, category — plus a feeling

你这个室友啊，冰箱里的酸奶又过期了。

林阿姨这个邻居，谁家有事她都第一个到。

Practice check

Your turn

Which pair is right? (1) 彼此信任 — can you also say 信任彼此? (2) Which is the set phrase meaning “since history began”?

- A. No; 长期以来
- B. Yes; 有史以来
- C. Yes; 长期以来
- D. No; 有史以来

Check yourself

Your turn

Since graduating, she has worked here, and her colleagues trust each other. Which pair fits?

- A. 毕业以来，她一直在这里工作。同事们彼此信任。
- B. 毕业以来，她一直在这里工作。同事们互相彼此信任。
- C. 毕业的时候以来，她在这里工作。同事们信任彼此彼此。