HSK 5 Grammar 16: Adverbs with adjectives

HSK 5 格外 for a degree beyond the usual, taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Outside the usual frame

The same bus home, a different evening

今天晚上，城市显得格外安静。

Tonight the city seems exceptionally quiet — quieter than on an ordinary evening.

Notice

格 is a frame. **格外** suggests a quality that has moved outside its normal frame: especially, exceptionally.

The frame: 格外 + adjective or verb

1. **With an adjective** 假期里，老家的天空格外蓝。The sky back home is exceptionally blue.
2. **With a degree verb** 奶奶住院以后，我们格外关心她的饮食。The object follows the verb.
3. **Position** 格外 stands directly before the word it grades; time, place or reason come earlier.

Decision

公司格外重视顾客的意见 is right; 重视格外, 明亮格外 and 很格外 are wrong.

很, 特别 or 格外?

Word	What it says	Example
很 / 非常	plain high degree	这条路很安静。
特别	everyday ‘especially’	今天特别冷。
格外	beyond the usual level; a touch literary	这条路今天格外安静。

Use the evidence

Use 很 or 非常 for simple ‘very’. Use 格外 when the point is how far the thing stands out from normal.

Your turn: the bright café

Your turn

This café is always fairly bright. This afternoon its brightness stands out. Which sentence matches?

A. 这家咖啡馆非常暗。
B. 这家咖啡馆格外明亮。
C. 这家咖啡馆明亮格外。

Your turn: grade the verb

Your turn

Which sentence grades the verb with 格外 and keeps the object 顾客的意见?

A. 公司格外重视顾客的意见。
B. 公司重视格外顾客的意见。
C. 公司很格外重视顾客的意见。

Answers: standing out

1. **The café** 这家咖啡馆格外明亮。Brightness beyond its normal level.
2. **The company** 公司格外重视顾客的意见。格外 + verb + object.
3. **The designer** 设计师对展览的灯光格外在意。
4. **Rewrite** 这座城市六月非常热。→ 这座城市六月格外热。

Decision

Production: 第一次上台时，父母格外关注孩子的动作。

Check yourself

Your turn

The teacher is usually patient, but today she is unusually patient with the new student. Which sentence fits?

A. 今天老师对新同学格外耐心。
B. 今天老师对新同学耐心格外。
C. 今天老师很格外耐心。