HSK 5 Grammar 20: Sentence patterns — advanced

HSK 5 Unit 20 sentence patterns, taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

把 — force, regard and mix-ups

Frame	Job	Example
把 + O + 给 + verb	spoken force or complaint	他把通知给删了。
把 + O + 当成 / 看作 + N	how you handle or view it	别把实习当成度假。
不把 + O + 当回事	not take it seriously	他不把排练当回事。
把 A + 看成 / 读成 + B	mistake A for B	他把塑料模型看成真的杯子了。

Use the evidence

The 给 in 给删了 does not mean ‘give’; it only stresses that the deleting really happened.

不比 — no more … than

不比 — not more; equal is possible

这条路不比那条路远。

No farther — maybe the same distance.

没有 — definitely less

这条路没有那条路远。

Definitely shorter.

要 …… 就 …… — if you're doing it, do it

1. **The push** 票不多，要买就今天买。If you are going to buy one, buy it today.
2. **Doing it properly** 要解释就当着大家解释。要学就好好学。
3. **Not the shrug** 坏了就坏了 accepts a result; 要修就修好 pushes someone to act.

Decision

要 + verb + 就 + verb is a strong 'if', close to a command; the subject is often left out.

少不了 — can't do without it

Necessary

她的厨房少不了辣椒。

Her kitchen cannot do without chilli.

Sure to happen

做小组作业，少不了有人最后才交。

Someone is bound to hand it in at the last moment.

等于 — counts as the same

Two acts, one meaning

密码写在纸条上，就等于没有密码。

A password written on a slip of paper is the same as no password.

拒绝回答这个问题，等于承认了。

Refusing to answer this question is the same as admitting it.

Notice

就等于 sounds like a conclusion; without **就** it can sound like a rule. A cause word says why; **等于** says the two count as the same.

Your turn: Part 1

Your turn

You deny that the side path is slower, but you do not claim it is definitely faster. Which sentence fits?

A. 小路没有大路快。
B. 小路不比大路慢。
C. 小路不必大路慢。

Answers: Part 1

1. **The side path** 小路不比大路慢。没有 would make it slower for certain; 不必 means ‘no need’.
2. **Same as** 告诉赵就等于告诉全组。
3. **Not serious** 他不把排练当回事。
4. **Spoken force** 她把钥匙给锁在办公室了。

Decision

Push and necessity: 要印就好好印。每次产品发布，少不了一些修改。

从 …… 中 — what you drew out of a source

1. **The frame** 从 + source + 中 + what you gained.
2. **Example** 她从三个月的实习中获得了真正的信心。
3. **Example** 从那几封客户来信中，我们改好了退货的流程。

Decision

从周一到周三 is a span, and 从图书馆出发 is a starting point; use 中 when the noun is a container you looked inside.

无 + noun + 可 + verb — nothing to …

Chunk	Meaning
无话可说	have nothing to say
无处可去 · 无处可聚	nowhere to go · nowhere to gather
无路可走	no way out
无据可查 · 无据可依	no evidence to check · to rely on

Use the evidence

无 ≈ 没有 and 可 ≈ 可以 in a literary shape. Spoken: 没有地方可以聚. 无可奈何 is a different pattern.

不但 …… 甚至连 …… 也 — and even

The second fact is the extreme one

新来的会计不但发现了账上的错误，甚至连去年的发票也核对了一遍。

She not only found the error; she even went through last year's invoices.

Notice

而且 only adds a second fact. 甚至连 …… 也 makes it the case nobody expected.

有关的 + noun — the … related to

Naming the thing — 有关的 + noun

跟睡眠有关的习惯

与火灾逃生有关的说明贴在每一层的楼梯口。

Joining two things — predicate

这些习惯跟睡眠有关。

These habits are related to sleep.

所谓 — the so-called label

Refusing the label

经理所谓的高效，其实是让所有人加班到很晚。

Calmly defining it

所谓的“共同决定”，在这份协议里指的是双方都要签字。

Your turn: Part 2

Your turn

A formal clinic notice: the records related to drug allergies are already locked. Which sentence fits best?

A. 跟药物过敏有关的记录已经锁定了。
B. 与药物过敏有关的记录已经锁定了。
C. 与药物过敏有关记录已经锁定了。

Answers: Part 2

1. **The notice** 与药物过敏有关的记录已经锁定了。与 is formal; 的 links to 记录.
2. **Compact frame** 机器停了，她无据可依。
3. **Source and gain** 馆员从这张旧地图中学会了更好的检索方法。
4. **And even** 他不但打印了报告，甚至连备份硬盘也检查过了。

Decision

所谓的没有天赋，不过是这次复习得太少。refuses the label without blaming anyone.

在 …… 内 — within a span

1. **A limit around a length of time** 合同写明，样品必须在十个工作日内寄到上海。
2. **Announcements** 这次面试的结果会在一周内公布。
3. **Not the same** 在五天内 = within five days; 在五天前 = five days ago; 在五天后 = after five days.

Decision

A deadline pinned to a point is 在星期五之前; 在 …… 内 is a span you are inside.

宁可 …… 也不 or 也要

宁可 A，也不 B — B is refused

雨这么大，我宁可在公司吃碗面，也不冒雨去找那家新餐厅。

宁可 A，也要 B — B is the goal

他宁可把周末的旅行取消，也要把这份报告改到满意为止。

Verb + 就 + verb — so be it

The shrug

这件衬衫缩水了就缩水了，反正夏天也穿不了几次。

客户取消订单就取消吧。

The push (要 …… 就)

要改就把数字核对完。

‘so that’ 好

1. **Action** 请把会议材料提前发到群里，
2. **好 + purpose** 大家好在会上直接讨论。
3. **Another** 他把钥匙留在前台，好让晚到的同事进办公室。

Decision

This **好** is not ‘good’; when a purpose verb follows it, read it as ‘so that’.

一面 …… 一面 …… — at the same time

Two actions in one stretch of time

经理一面翻合同，一面用铅笔标出有问题的条款。

志愿者一面给游客发地图，一面提醒他们博物馆四点关门。

Notice

一面 leans toward writing, narration and careful speech; in chat, **一边** …… **一边** is more usual.

Your turn: Part 3

Your turn

Lin will stay very late tonight; she will not send the client an unfinished file. Which sentence matches?

A. 她宁可待到很晚，也不把没改完的文件发给客户。
B. 她宁可待到很晚，也要把没改完的文件发给客户。
C. 她宁可把没改完的文件发给客户，也不待到很晚。

Answers: Part 3

1. **The late night** 她宁可待到很晚，也不把没改完的文件发给客户。
2. **Within a month** 招聘结果会在一个月内公布。
3. **So that** 请把字号调大一点儿，好让后排的人看清屏幕上的标题。
4. **Same time** 导游一面往东门走，一面给游客介绍花园的历史。

Decision

也要 would make sending the unfinished file the goal.

不是 …… 就是 …… — either … or …

不是 A，就是 B — one of the two

他早上不是喝茶，就是喝咖啡。

Either tea or coffee; no third choice.

不是 A，而是 B — A is wrong, B is true

他早上不是喝茶，而是喝咖啡。

Not tea — coffee.

Your turn: Part 4

Your turn

A classmate says the file was sent yesterday. You correct him: it was this morning. Which sentence fits?

A. 文件不是昨天发的，就是今天上午发的。
B. 文件不是昨天发的，而是今天上午发的。
C. 文件不是昨天发的，还是今天上午发的。

Answers: Part 4

1. **The correction** 文件不是昨天发的，而是今天上午发的。
2. **Two causes only** 不是电脑坏了，就是人没写完。
3. **The meeting room** 会议室不是锁着，就是有人在用。

Decision

就是 keeps two possibilities; 而是 keeps only the second.

Check yourself

Your turn

He would rather walk home in the rain than wait another hour for the bus. Which sentence says this?

A. 他宁可冒雨走回家，也不再等一个小时的公交车。
B. 他宁可再等一个小时的公交车，也不冒雨走回家。
C. 他宁可冒雨走回家，也要再等一个小时的公交车。