

Adjectives

HSK 4 Grammar

Use the examples with their context and limits. Recall a sentence before reading the model. Original teaching additions accompany examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA); see the course reference provenance.

全 + Noun (the whole / all of)

■ Identify the whole group

- All members of a family arrive at a gathering.
- **全家都来了。** – 全家 includes the entire family being discussed.

■ Build the form

- The pattern in this lesson is **全 + Noun (the whole / all of)**. Locate it in the original interlinear examples below.
- Keep the words in their demonstrated positions; the pattern must fit the intended situation as well as the sentence form.

全家都来了。

quán jiā dōu lái le

Word guide: 全家 – the whole family; 都 – all; 来 – come.

■ Read examples in context

- In the opening example, **全家都来了。**: 全家 includes the entire family being discussed.
- Explain who acts, what is described and which time or group is relevant before choosing an English paraphrase.

■ Know the boundary

- The group is defined by context.
- 全家 does not refer to every family in the world.

■ Use the distinction

- 全家 includes the entire family being discussed.
- The group is defined by context. 全家 does not refer to every family in the world.

■ Try it with help closed

All members of a family arrive at a gathering. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson's pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

One possible response: 全家都来了。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- The group is defined by context.
- 全家 does not refer to every family in the world.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Adj + 死了 (extremely ...)

■ Recognise an expressive complaint

- After a long walk, a friend exaggerates their tiredness.
- **我累死了。** – The speaker means extremely tired in this conversational context.

■ Build the form

- The pattern in this lesson is **Adj + 死了 (extremely ...)**. Locate it in the original interlinear examples below.
- Keep the words in their demonstrated positions; the pattern must fit the intended situation as well as the sentence form.

我饿死了。

wǒ è sǐ le

Word guide: 我 – I; 饿 – hungry; 死 – to death.

■ Read examples in context

今天热死了!

jīn tiān rè sǐ le

Word guide: 今天 – today; 热 – hot; 死 – to death.

- In the opening example, **我累死了。**: The speaker means extremely tired in this conversational context.
- Explain who acts, what is described and which time or group is relevant before choosing an English paraphrase.

■ Know the boundary

- This use is hyperbole.
- 死 can be literal in other contexts, so do not decide meaning from the characters alone.

■ Use the distinction

- The speaker means extremely tired in this conversational context.
- This use is hyperbole. 死 can be literal in other contexts, so do not decide meaning from the characters alone.

■ Try it with help closed

After a long walk, a friend exaggerates their tiredness. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson's pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

One possible response: 我累死了。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- This use is hyperbole.
- 死 can be literal in other contexts, so do not decide meaning from the characters alone.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.