

Prepositions

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.

随着 (as / along with)

■ Two changes can track together without proving causation

- A report describes improvements alongside economic development.
- **随着经济的发展，生活更好了。** – 随着 frames development as the changing background to the improvement.

■ Build the form

- The pattern in this lesson is **随着 (as / along with)**. 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.

随着经济的发展，生活更好了。

suí zhe jīng jì de fā zhǎn shēng huó gèng hǎo le

Word guide: 随着 – as; 经济 – economy; 发展 – development; 生活 – life; 更 – more; 好 – good.

■ Read examples in context

- In the opening example, **随着经济的发展，生活更好了。**: 随着 frames development as the changing background to the improvement.
- Explain who acts, what is described and which time or group is relevant before choosing an English paraphrase.

■ Know the boundary

- The sentence asserts a relationship in time or development.
- The grammar alone does not prove that development was the only cause.

■ Use the distinction

- 随着 frames development as the changing background to the improvement.
- The sentence asserts a relationship in time or development. The grammar alone does not prove that development was the only cause.

■ Try it with help closed

A report describes improvements alongside economic development. 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: 随着经济的发展，生活更好了。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- The sentence asserts a relationship in time or development.
- The grammar alone does not prove that development was the only cause.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.

在 ... 上 (in terms of / regarding)

■ An abstract domain differs from a physical surface

- A person works conscientiously.
- **在工作上，他很认真。** – 在 ... 上 limits the evaluation to the domain of work.

■ Build the form

- The pattern in this lesson is **在 ... 上 (in terms of / regarding)**. 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.

在工作上，他很认真。

zài gōng zuò shàng tā hěn rèn zhēn

Word guide: 在 – in; 工作 – work; 上 – (aspect); 他 – he; 很 – very; 认真 – serious.

■ Read examples in context

- In the opening example, **在工作上，他很认真。**: 在 ... 上 limits the evaluation to the domain of work.
- Explain who acts, what is described and which time or group is relevant before choosing an English paraphrase.

■ Know the boundary

- 在桌子上 instead describes a physical position.
- The work evaluation does not necessarily apply to every area of the person's life.

■ Use the distinction

- 在 ... 上 limits the evaluation to the domain of work.
- 在桌子上 instead describes a physical position. The work evaluation does not necessarily apply to every area of the person's life.

■ Try it with help closed

A person works conscientiously. 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: 在工作上，他很认真。

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- 在桌子上 instead describes a physical position.
- The work evaluation does not necessarily apply to every area of the person's life.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.