

”If” Statements

Ref Hsk6 Grammar

假使……，就……—”if …then …”

假使 is a formal, written word for ”if, supposing, in the event that.” It opens a hypothetical condition, and the result clause usually carries **就** (or **便**). It’s a close sibling of **如果 / 假如 / 倘若**—the difference is register, not meaning.

Structure: 假使 + Condition , (就 / 便) + Result

{zh: 假使 |jiǎ shǐ|if / 没有 |méi yǒu|there were no / 水 |shuǐ|water / , 生命 |shēng mìng|life / 就 |jiù|then / 无法 |wú fǎ|couldn’t / 存在 |cún zài|exist / 。 }

If there were no water, life couldn’t exist.

{zh: 假使 |jiǎ shǐ|if / 你 |nǐ|you / 是 |shì|were / 我 |wǒ|me / , 你 |nǐ|you / 会 |huì|would / 怎么 |zěnmē|how / 做 |zuò|do it / ? }

If you were me, what would you do?

Remember: **假使** = a formal/written ”if, supposing” (假 = ”suppose”) —same meaning as **如果 / 假如 / 倘若**, just dressier; the result takes **就 / 便**. Climb the register ladder: 要是 (casual) → 如果 → 假如 → 假使 / 倘若 (literary).

Watch out

- In everyday speech it sounds bookish —use **如果 / 要是**.