

Lesson 6

第六课

Dì liù kè

约时间

Yuē shíjiān

MAKING APPOINTMENTS

Learning Objectives

In this lesson, you will learn to:

- Answer a phone call and initiate a phone conversation
- Set up an appointment with a teacher on the phone
- Ask a favor
- Ask someone to return your call

Relate & Get Ready

In your own culture/community:

- How do you answer the phone?
- How do students address their teachers?
- How do you ask for a favor?

Calling Your Teacher

Dialogue 1

李友¹给常老师打电话……



喂?



喂, 请问, 常老师在吗?



我就是。您^a是哪位?



老师, 您好。我是李友。



李友, 有事儿吗?



老师, 今天下午您^b有时间^b吗?

我想问^c您几个问题。



对不起, 今天下午我要²开会。



明天呢?



明天上午我有两节^d课,
下午三点要给二年级考试。



您^e什么时候^e有空儿?



明天四点以后^f才有空儿。



要是^g您方便, 四点半我到您的办公室
去, 行吗?



四点半, 没问题^h。我在办公室等你。



谢谢您。



别³客气。



Lǐ Yǒu gěi¹ Cháng lǎoshī dǎ diànhuà . . .



Wéi?



Wéi, qǐng wèn, Cháng lǎoshī zài ma?



Wǒ jiù shì. Nín^a shì nǎ wèi?



Lǎoshī, nín hǎo. Wǒ shì Lǐ Yǒu.



Lǐ Yǒu, yǒu shìr ma?



Lǎoshī, jīntiān xiàwǔ nín yǒu shíjiān^b ma?

Wǒ xiǎng wèn^c nín jǐ ge wèntí.



Duìbuqǐ, jīntiān xiàwǔ wǒ yào² kāi huì.



Míngtiān ne?



Míngtiān shàngwǔ wǒ yǒu liǎng jié^d kè,
xiàwǔ sān diǎn yào gěi èr niánjí kǎo shì.



Nín shénme shíhou^e yǒu kòng?



Míngtiān sì diǎn yǐhòu^f cái yǒu kòng.



Yàoshi^g nín fāngbiàn, sì diǎn bàn wǒ dào
nín de bàngōngshì qù, xíng ma?



Sì diǎn bàn, měi wèntí^h. Wǒ zài
bàngōngshì děng nǐ.



Xièxie nín.



Bié³ kèqì.

Language Notes

a 您 (nín)

This personal pronoun is often used to address an older person or someone of higher social rank. It is common for strangers to address each other with 您 (nín) and then switch to 你 (nǐ) as they get acquainted.

b 有时间 (yǒu shíjiān)

“To have free time” is 有时间 (yǒu shíjiān) or 有空儿 (yǒu kòng), never 有时候 (yǒu shíhou).

c 问 (wèn)

Both 问 (wèn) and 请 (qǐng) are often translated as “to ask” in English. However, the verb 问 (wèn) means “to inquire,” e.g., 我问她一个问题 (Wǒ wèn tā yí ge wèntí) (I ask her a question), whereas 请 (qǐng) means “to invite” or “to request,” e.g., 我请她跳舞 (Wǒ qǐng tā tiào wǔ) (I invite her to dance).

d 节 (jié)

The measure word for academic courses is 门 (mén). Compare: 三门课 (sān mén kè) (three courses), 三节课 (sān jié kè) (three class periods), and 三课 (sān kè) (three lessons).

e 什么时候 (shénme shíhou)

几点 (jǐ diǎn) is used to ask for a specific time of day. To ask about time in general, use the expression 什么时候 (shénme shíhou) (when).

f 以后 (yǐhòu)

The Chinese equivalent of “after four o’clock” is 四点以后 (sìdiǎn yǐhòu). Note the difference in word order. Likewise, “before Monday” is 星期一以前 (xīngqīyī yǐqián).

g 要是 (yàoshi)

要是 (yàoshi) (if) is a conjunction used to introduce a contingent or hypothetical action or situation. Unlike “if,” it cannot introduce a subordinate clause: ❌ 我不知道要是他明天来.

h 没问题 (méi wèntí)

This phrase, meaning “no problem,” is a reassuring reply to a tentative inquiry. It suggests that the speaker does not foresee any problems. When people thank you and say 谢谢 (xièxie), the appropriate answer is 不谢 (bú xiè) or 别客气 (bié kèqì) rather than 没问题 (méi wèntí).

Vocabulary

No.	Word	Pinyin	Part of Speech	Definition
1	给	<i>gěi</i>	prep	to, for [See Grammar 1.]
2	打电话	<i>dǎ diànhuà</i>	vo	to make a phone call
	电话	<i>diànhuà</i>	n	telephone
3	喂	<i>wēi/wèi</i>	interj	(on the phone) Hello!, Hey!
4	在	<i>zài</i>	v	to be present, to be at (a place)
5	就	<i>jiù</i>	adv	precisely, exactly
6	您	<i>nín</i>	pr	you (honorific for 你)
7	哪	<i>nǎ/něi</i>	qpr	which
8	位	<i>wèi</i>	m	(polite measure word for people)
9	下午	<i>xiàwǔ</i>	t	afternoon
10	时间	<i>shíjiān</i>	n	time
11	问题	<i>wèntí</i>	n	question, problem
12	要	<i>yào</i>	mv	will, to be going to, to want to, to have a desire to [See Grammar 2.]
13	开会	<i>kāi huì</i>	vo	to have a meeting
	开	<i>kāi</i>	v	to open, to hold (a meeting, party, etc.)
	会	<i>huì</i>	n	meeting
14	上午	<i>shàngwǔ</i>	t	morning
15	节	<i>jié</i>	m	(measure word for class periods)
16	课	<i>kè</i>	n	class, course, lesson
17	年级	<i>niánjí</i>	n	grade in school
18	考试	<i>kǎo shì</i>	vo/n	to give or take a test; test
	考	<i>kǎo</i>	v	to give or take a test
	试	<i>shì</i>	n/v	test; to try, to experiment
19	以后	<i>yǐhòu</i>	t	after, from now on, later on
20	空 (儿)	<i>kōng(r)</i>	n	free time
21	要是	<i>yàoshi</i>	conj	if
22	方便	<i>fāngbiàn</i>	adj	convenient
23	到	<i>dào</i>	v	to go to, to arrive



Confucius (孔子) (Kǒng Zǐ), considered China's "First Teacher" (先师) (Xiānshī), is associated with wisdom. Why do you think Confucius is referenced on this packaging? How does this pen refill claim to help students?

No.	Word	Pinyin	Part of Speech	Definition
24	办公室	bàngōngshì	n	office
25	行	xíng	v	all right, OK
26	等	děng	v	to wait, to wait for
27	别	bié	adv	don't [See Grammar 3.]
28	客气	kèqi	adj	polite
29	常老师	Cháng lǎoshī	pn	Teacher Chang

我们在哪儿见面？

Wǒmen zài nǎr jiànmiàn?
Where will we meet?



我在 _____ 等你。
Wǒ zài _____ děng nǐ.

How About You?

See index for corresponding vocabulary or research another term.

1

The preposition 给 (gěi) (to, for)

给 (gěi) (to, for) can be a verb or a preposition. As a preposition, 给 (gěi) is generally combined with nouns or pronouns to form prepositional phrases, which appear before verbs as adverbials.

A

他给我打了一个电话。

Tā gěi wǒ dǎ le yí ge diànhuà.

He gave me a call.

B

他是谁？请你给我们介绍一下。

Tā shì shéi? Qǐng nǐ gěi wǒmen jièshào yí xià.

Who is he? Please introduce us.

C

你有你姐姐的照片吗？给我看一下，行吗？

Nǐ yǒu nǐ jiějie de zhàopiàn ma? Gěi wǒ kàn yí xià, xíng ma?

Do you have a picture of your older sister? Can I have a look?

D

我昨天很忙，没给妈妈打电话。

Wǒ zuótiān hěn máng, méi gěi māma dǎ diànhuà.

I was very busy yesterday. I didn't call my mother.

EXERCISES

Rearrange the words to form a sentence by inserting 给 where appropriate. Use exercise 1 as an example.

1 高文中 介绍他姐姐 我们

→ 高文中给我们介绍他姐姐。

2 李老师 介绍中国音乐 他的学生

3 我妈妈 看她的照片 我们

The modal verb 要 (yào) (will, be going to) has several meanings. In this lesson, 要 (yào) indicates a future action, particularly a scheduled event or an activity that one is committed to. The negative form of 要 (yào) is 不 (bù) (no, not) rather than 不要 (bú yào).

A 明天下午三点我要给二年级考试。

Míngtiān xiàwǔ sān diǎn wǒ yào gěi èr niánjí kǎo shì.

I'm going to give the second-year class a test at 3:00 p.m. tomorrow.

B 今天晚上妹妹要去看电影。

Jīntiān wǎnshàng mèimei yào qù kàn diànyǐng.

My younger sister is going to see a movie tonight.

C Q: 明天我要去小白家玩儿。你呢?

Míngtiān wǒ yào qù Xiǎo Bái jiā wánr. Nǐ ne?

I'm going to visit Little Bai tomorrow. How about you?

A: 明天我不去小白家玩儿，我要开会。

Míngtiān wǒ bú qù Xiǎo Bái jiā wánr, wǒ yào kāi huì.

I'm not going to visit Little Bai tomorrow. I am going to a meeting.

EXERCISES

In pairs, form a question-and-answer about people's scheduled activities by using 要.

Use exercise 1 as an example.

1 小李今天晚上 去听音乐

→ Q: 小李今天晚上要做什么?

A: 他今天晚上要去听音乐。

2 王朋星期三 去高文中家玩儿

3 王律师的弟弟明天晚上 去学校看电影

别 (bié) (don't) is used to advise someone to refrain from doing something. Depending on the context, it can be used to express a polite request, a gentle reminder, or a serious admonition.

A 别客气。

Bié kèqì.

You're welcome.

B 你别说。

Nǐ bié shuō.

Don't say anything.

C 别进来!

Bié jìn lái!

Don't come in!

D 那个电影没有意思，你别看了。

Nà ge diànyǐng méi yǒu yìsi, nǐ bié kàn le.

That movie is boring. Don't go see it.

E 别给小王打电话!

Bié gěi Xiǎo Wáng dǎ diànhuà!

Don't call Little Wang!

EXERCISES

In pairs, suggest your partner refrain from doing something by using the bracketed phrase and inserting 别 where appropriate. Use exercise 1 as an example.

1 **Student A** 我今天晚上想去看电影。 (没意思)

Student B 那个电影没意思，别去看了。

2 **Student A** 我想请小高吃美国菜。 (不喜欢)

Student B 小高 _____。

3 **Student A** 我想给小英打电话。 (很忙)

Student B 小英 _____。

Language Practice

A

BFF

PRESENTATIONAL

Recap what Little Gao often does for his friends. Use 给 (gěi) where appropriate, e.g.:

打电话

dǎ diànhuà

小高常常给他们打电话。

Xiǎo Gāo chángcháng gěi tāmen dǎ diànhuà.

1 看他爸爸妈妈的照片

kàn tā bàba māma de zhàopiàn

2 听中国音乐

tīng Zhōngguó yīnyuè

3 喝英国茶

hē Yīngguó chá

4 介绍新电影

jièshào xīn diànyǐng

你呢? Now share what you do for your friends with the class.

B

To-do list

INTERPERSONAL

Li You has the next few days all planned out. In pairs, form a question-and-answer about what she will be doing by inserting 要 (yào) in the ◇, e.g.:

明天◇去跳舞

míngtiān ◇ qù tiàowǔ

Q: 李友明天做什么?

Lǐ Yǒu míngtiān zuò shénme?

A: 李友明天要去跳舞。

Lǐ Yǒu míngtiān yào qù tiàowǔ.

1 今天晚上◇请朋友喝咖啡

jīntiān wǎnshang ◇ qǐng péngyou hē kāfēi

2 明天上午◇

míngtiān shàngwǔ ◇

去同学家练习中文

qù tóngxué jiā liànxí Zhōngwén

3 明天下午◇

míngtiān xiàwǔ ◇

去老师的办公室问问题

qù lǎoshī de bàngōngshì wèn wèntí

4 这个星期五◇

zhè ge xīngqīwǔ ◇

去学校看电影

qù xuéxiào kàn diànyǐng

5 这个周末◇

zhè ge zhōumò ◇

给小高介绍一个朋友

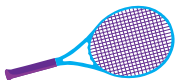
gěi Xiǎo Gāo jièshào yí ge péngyou

Then ask about your partner's plans for the next few days.

Using the images, practice how to be accommodating. Insert 要是 (yàoshi) where appropriate, e.g.:

不喜欢 (bù xǐhuan)  喜欢 (xǐhuan) 
要是你不喜欢唱歌，我们跳舞，怎么样？

Yàoshi nǐ bù xǐhuan chàng gē, wǒmen tiào wǔ, zěnmeyàng?

- 1 不想 (bù xiǎng)  想 (xiǎng) 
- 2 觉得……没有意思 (juéde ... méiyǒu yìsi) 
觉得……有意思 (juéde ... yǒu yìsi) 
- 3 不喜欢 (bù xǐhuan)  喜欢 (xǐhuan) 
- 4 没有空儿 (méi yǒu kòng'r) today 有空儿 (yǒu kòng'r) tomorrow

In pairs, take turns asking and answering the following questions.

- 1 要是你有时间，你想去哪儿玩儿？
Yàoshi nǐ yǒu shíjiān, nǐ xiǎng qù nǎr wánr?
- 2 要是朋友请你吃饭，你想吃什么菜？
Yàoshi péngyou qǐng nǐ chī fàn, nǐ xiǎng chī shénme cài?
- 3 要是同学请你看电影，你想看什么电影？
Yàoshi tóngxué qǐng nǐ kàn diànyǐng, nǐ xiǎng kàn shénme diànyǐng?
- 4 要是朋友请你去跳舞，你想去哪儿跳舞？
Yàoshi péngyou qǐng nǐ qù tiào wǔ, nǐ xiǎng qù nǎr tiào wǔ?
- 5 要是朋友找你打球，你什么时候有时间？
Yàoshi péngyou zhǎo nǐ dǎ qiú, nǐ shénme shíhou yǒu shíjiān?

You are calling your friend to arrange a time to hang out. In pairs, role-play the conversation between the caller and the person (either your friend or your friend's sibling) who answers.

Caller 喂，请问，_____ 在吗？

Wēi, qǐngwèn, _____ zài ma?

Friend 我就是。/

Wǒ jiù shì. /

Friend's Sibling _____ 不在。

_____ bú zài.

Friend/Friend's Sibling 您是哪位？

Nín shì nǎ wèi?

Caller 我是 _____。

Wǒ shì _____.

Friend/Friend's Sibling _____，你好！
有事儿吗？

_____, nǐ hǎo! Yǒu shìr ma?

Caller (You ask if you can come over this evening to watch TV.)

Friend/Friend's Sibling (They have a ball game, but are free tomorrow night.)

Caller (Tomorrow night works for you, so you set a time before saying goodbye.)

What do the characters mean?

What is the common radical?

What does the radical mean?

How does the radical relate to the overall meaning of the characters?

Characterize it!

1

打

2

找

Chinese Chat

Teacher Chang just posted a tweet. When do you think her students can make an appointment with her?



Teacher Chang
@Teacher_Chang66

Follow

明天上午有两节课，还要开会.....十一点半以后才有空儿。

10:07 PM - 14 Nov 2016



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