01

Sentence Pattern 1:   goals 1

SENTENCE = NOUN (that is a subject) (Adverb) STATIVE VERB
SENT = N_s ADV   SV

Example: Wǒ hěn lèi.
            I [am] pretty tired.

01x

Examples:
我很累。   Wó hěn lèi.
我很忙。   Wó hěn máng
我很高興。 Wó hěn gāo xìng.
我很悶。   Wó hěn mèn.
我很痛！   Wó hěn tòng!
他很麻煩！ Tā hěn má fán.
你很討厭！ Nǐ hén tǎo yàn!

02

Sentence Pattern 2:   goals 26

SENTENCE = SENTENCE + ma

Example: Nǐ hěn lèi ma?
            Are you tired?

02x

Examples:
他是美國人嗎？ Tā shì Měi Guó rén ma?
你去吃飯嗎？   Nǐ qù chī fàn ma?
你們不來嗎？   Nǐmen bù lái ma?
他們在家裡嗎？ Tāmen zài jiāli ma?

03

3. SENTENCE = A noun that is a subject, a transitive verb, and a noun that is an object.

SENT = N_s (ADV) TV N_o

Example: Wǒmen mǎi fángzi.
             We buy houses.

03x

Example
我們賣汽車。 Wǒmen mài qì chē.
他們寫字。   Tāmen xiě zì.
老虎吃肉。   Láo hǔ chī ròu.

04

Sentence Pattern 4:   goals 5

A sentence may be formed by a subject plus the word **shì** plus the name of a set of things.

SENTENCE = N_s shì Nset

Example: Xiǎo Huā shì māo.
             Little Flower is a cat.
             小花是貓。

Example
他們是誰？   Tāmen shì shéi?
他們是老師嗎？   Tāmen shì lǎo shī ma?
他們是朋友嗎？   Tāmen shì péng yǒu ma?
他們都是朋友。   Tāmen dōu shì péng yǒu.

04x

05

Sentence Pattern 5:   goals

A predicate can be formed from an adverb and an immmediately following verb, verb and object, etc..

SENTENCE = NOUNsubject ADVERB PREDICATE

SENT = Ns ADV PRED

Example: Xiǎo Huā bú shì māo.
            Little Flower is not a cat.

05x

Examples:
我們昨天來了。   Wǒmen zuó tiān lái le.
他們已經在。   Tāmen yǐ jīng zài.
我們還沒走。   Wǒmen hái méi zǒu.
他們已經走了。   Tāmen yǐ jīng zǒu le.

06

Sentence Pattern 6:   goals 13

Certain nouns preceded by certain stative verbs (which function adjectively) can take the place of simple nouns in many sentences.

NOUN = SV N
Example: hǎo háizi
            good child

06x

Examples:

高房子	gāo fángzi
矮房子	ǎi fángzi
高車子	gāo chēzi
矮車子	ǎi chēzi
大人	dà rén
小孩	xiǎo háizi
高樹	gāo shù
矮樹	ǎi shù

07

Sentence Pattern 7:   goals 27

A sentence can appear in a "multiple choice" format, i.e., the sentence includes a verb in its positive form and follows it with that verb in its negative form, and to answer that question one selects the correct alternative and repeats the sentence with only that verb present.

SENTENCE = Ns PRED negative PRED

Examples: Tā dà bú dà? Tā bú dà. or Tā hěn dà.

       Is he big? He is not big. or He is pretty big.

Tāmen shì bú shì péng yǒu? Tāmen shì péng yǒu. or Tāmen búshi péng yǒu.

Are they friends? They are friends. or They are not friends.

07x

Examples:

他們有沒有生氣?	Tāmen yǒu méi you shēng qì?
他是不是你的老師?	Tā shì búshi nǐde lǎo shī?
她票(亮)不漂亮?	Tā piào (liang) bú piào liang?
你們昨天在不在家?	Nǐmen zuó tiān zài bú zai jiā?

08

Sentence Pattern 8:   goals 6

The locational zerb zài
A sentence is formed with a subject + a locational verb +
a noun that names a place
Sentence = N_s LV NOUN$_{loc}$

08x

Examples:
誰在門口兒?   Shéi zài mén kǒur?
你在什麼時候回來?   Nǐ zài shéme shí hòu lái ?
在我看，你最漂亮!   Zài wǒ kàn, nǐ zuì piào liàng!

09

Sentence Pattern 9:   goals

The locations where people or things are found may be formed by
mentioning, e.g., a building, and then adding a determining term such as
"inside." So one says, "the barn behind," rather than "behind the barn."

NOUNloc = broad location name + inside, outside, etc.

NOUNloc = NOUNloc + lǐtou/wàitou/shàngtou/xiàtou/dǐ xià,
                                        etc.
Examples: fángzi lǐtou, fángzi wàitou, fángzi shǎngtou,
              inside the house, outside the house, on the house,
              fángzi xiàtou, fángzi dǐ xià,
              at the bottom of the house, under the house,
              fángzi qiántou, fángzì hòutou, etc.
              in front of the house, at the back of the house, etc.

09x

Example

10

Sentence Pattern 10:   goals 7

Saying "there are" in Chinese requires mention, or at least implicit reference to, a place or time, and an affirmation that it has a certain person or thing. The full form of this statement is as follows:

 SENTENCE = zài location yŏu object
(In location there is/are [object or objects])

10x

Examples:

(在)教室裡頭有二十個人。	(Zài) jiào shì lǐtou yŏu èr shíge rén.
在山上沒有人。	Zài shānshang méi yŏu rén.
在三點鐘，媽媽已經回來了。	Zài sān diăn zhōng, Māma yǐ jīng huí lái le.

11

Sentence Pattern 11: goals 29, 30, 31

A specifier, a number, a measure word, and a noun can stand in for a simple noun.
(Either the specifier or the number may be omitted.)

NOUN = SP #   MW   NOUN

example: zhèi sān   bēi   kā fēi (these three cups of coffee)
                sān   bēi   kā fēi (three cups of coffee)
          zhèi   bēi   kā fēi (this cup of coffee)

11x

Examples:
這　　一　　杯茶　　　　　　六　　所房子
那　　兩　　張紙　　　　　　七　　件衣服
哪　　三　　本書　　　　　　八　　柯樹
　　　四　　塊錢　　　　　　九　　輛汽車
　　　五　　片電影　　　　　十　　盤菜

12

Sentence pattern 12: goals

Indefinite vs. Definite
Some sentences have indefinite reference, e.g., "Fángzi lǐtou yǒu yì xiē rén." (There are some people in the house.)
Once those sentences have drawn attention to the formerly indefinite individuals, they become identified in everyone's minds as "the individuals," "these individuals," "those individuals," etc.

Example: Fángzi lǐtou yǒu yì xiē rén. Nèi xiē rén dōu shì péng yǒu. (In the house there are some people. Those people are all friends.)
          Sù shè wàitou yǒu jǐge rén. Nèi xiē rén dōu shì xué shēng. (Outside the dormitory there were several people. Those people are all students.)

12x

Example

13

Sentence Pattern 13:   *goals 4*

A sentence can be formed with a subject plus an intransitive verb.
Sentence = N_s ITV
Example: Lǎo Shī míng tiān lái. (Teacher is coming tomorrow.)

13x

Examples:
我不去。   Wǒ bú qù.
妹妹還沒有來呢。   Mèimei hái méi yǒu lái ne.
我們走吧。   Wǒ men zǒu ba.
不要亂跑!   Bú yào luàn pǎo.

14

Sentence Pattern 14:   *goals 10*

A noun expression can be formed by a modifying phrase or clause linked to
the original (unmodified) noun using de.

NOUN = modifier de NOUN

Examples: qù de rén   (people who go)
             lái de rén   (people who came)
             bú qǔ de rén   (people who are not going)
             méi yǒu lái de rén   (people who did not come)
             zuó tiān lái de rén   (people who came yesterday)
             bú zài de rén   (people who are not present)

14x

Examples:
不去的人很多。　　　　　　　Bú qùde rén hěn duō.
我很懷疑那些不去的人。　　　Wǒ hěn huái yí nà xiē bú qùde rén.
不去的人在哪兒？　　　　　　Bú qùde rén zai` nǎr?
馬光在那些不去的人裡面嗎？　 Mǎ Guāng zài nà xiē bú qùde rén lǐ miàn ma?

15

Sentence Pattern 15:   goals 15

A predicate can be composed of a locative verb, the name of a location, and a predicate indicating what is done there.

PRED = LV N_{lv} PRED
example: zài tú shū guǎn niàn shū
           study at the library

15x

Examples:
他們常常在家裡唱歌。　　　　Tāmen cháng cháng zài jiāli chàng gē.
你們不要在圖書館裡睡覺。　　Nǐmen bú yào zài tú shū guǎnli shuì jiào
我在二零零三年回來了。　　　Wǒ zài èr líng líng sān nián huí lái le.

Rule

Rule: **Set the stage and only then tell the action.**

Note: Chinese word order is strongly dominated by the sequence of events in the real world. For instance, causes are mentioned before effects. Where something occurs has to be mentioned before the action moves onto that stage. In English, to the contrary, the information about time and place is frequently put into a tag ending such as, "in 1948," "on the elevator," etc.

16

Sentence Pattern 16:   *goals*

Questions and sentences about indefinite items can be formed by using X-words.

nà → nǎ   (that→ "which" or "something")
nèi→ něi   (that → "which" or "something")

16x

Examples:

哪國人	nǎ guó rén	people of which country
哪天	nǎ tiān	which day (when)
哪位	nǎ wèi	which person of status (which honorable lady/gentleman)
哪些	nǎ xiē	which several items

17

Sentence Pattern 17:   *goals 3 & 23*

A predicate can be formed by placing a modifying or auxillary verb before the main verb.

PRED = AUX V PRED

These auxillary verbs have similar meanings. 能 means to be physically able to do something and/or that environmental factors permit doing something. 會 means to have learned how to do something, and 可以 means "permissible," although it is often used to mean "can" in the sense that a possibility for some action or result exists.

example   Rén huì shuō huà (People know how to talk)
          Rén bù néng fei-. (Humans do not have the physical ability to fly.)
          Nǐmen bù ké yǐ zài zhèr chī fàn. (You may not eat here.)

17x

Examples:
她會說中國話。   Tā huì shuō Zhōng Guó huà`.
他老了，不能走路了。   Tā lǎo le, bù néng zǒu lù le.
你這樣作是不可以的。   Nǐ zhèi yàng zuò shì bù ké yǐde.

18

Sentence Pattern 18:   goals (8) 11
A predicate can be composed of a locative verb, the name of a location, and
a predicate indicating what is done there, but a predicate can also be
composed of one predicate that indicates something like going somewhere
in order to do something, doing something in order to be able to do
something else, etc. In English we generally use the word "to" as a link
between the first and second predicate, e.g., "He bought a saw to cut the
wood," or, "She went to London to see the Queen." In Chinese, however,
there typically is no word corresponding to that "to," and the two clauses
are simply jammed together.

PRED = PRED$_a$ (to) PRED$_b$
Example huí jiā xiūxi
          go home to rest

18x

Examples:
我到城裡去買。   Wǒ dào chéng lǐ qù mǎi.
他到球場去玩。   Tā dào chiú chǎng qù wán.
你們到電影院去看〝日出〞吧。   Nǐmen dào diàn yǐng yuàn qù kàn "Rì Chū" ba.
她買書送給她媽媽。   Tā mǎi shū sòng gěi tā māma.

19

Sentence Pattern 19:   goals 36
Anywhere a noun can be used in a sentence it can be replaced by an
exclusive or construction (either X or else Y).

NOUN = NOUN$_a$ háishi NOUN$_b$

Example: Xiǎo wáwa shì nán háizi háishi nǔ háizi?
            Is the baby a boy or a girl?

19x

Examples:
她是你的老師還是你的女朋友？ Tā shì nǐde lǎo shī háishi nǐde nǔ péng yǒu?
你今天想吃雞肉還是牛肉？   Nǐ jīn tiān xiǎng chī jī ròu háishi niú ròu?
我不知道那個人是老先生還是年輕人。 Wǒ bù zhī dào nàge rén shì
                                lǎo xiānsheng hái shi nián qīng rén.

20

Sentence pattern 20   goals

A sentence can be formed using the special verb compound **zhù zài** (which
means something close to the English expression "resides at").

SENTENCE = N$_s$ **zhù zài** N$_{location}$

Example: Nèige xuéshēng bú zhù zài sù shè.
            That student does not reside in the dormitory.

20x

Examples:
你住在哪兒?
我住在宿舍。
我不住在宿舍。

21

Sentence Pattern 21:   *goals 37*
COVERBS:

A coverb is can be a special kind of verb that cooperates with the verb that
follows it and acts to give additional information about that verb. Often
coverbs cannot be used alone or are rarely used alone. One such coverb,
which otherwise appears in resultative verb compounds, is lí. As an active
verb it means "to separate from." As a coverb, it means "is separated from"
and requires a following stative verb or something indicating a length in
space or time and that functions like a stative verb in such sentences.

PRED = COVERB NOUN_{coverb}   PRED

example: Tú shū guǎn lí xué xiào bù yuǎn.
          The library is separated from the school not far.

21x

Examples:
舊金山離北京很遠。   Jiù Jīn Shān lí Běi Jīng hén yuǎn.
我家離你家不遠。   Wǒ jiā lí nǐ jiā bù yuǎn.
水星離土星很遠。   Shuǐ Xīng lí Tǔ Xīng hén yuǎn.

22

Sentence Pattern 22:   *goals 56*

In the development of the Chinese language its speakers felt a need to flag certain sentences as indicating that there had been a change in the status of events. In English we sometimes do this by prefixing a sentence with the phrase, "It came to pass that..." By sometime around the year 1200, Chinese speakers were doing much the same thing by appending the word "lái" (to come) to sentences. In somewhat the same way that the English phrase, "God be with you" tranformed into "goodbye," the terminal "lái" became "le," also losing its tone in the process.

SENTENCE = SENTENCE le

Example: Māma lái le. (There's been a change. Mom is coming!) or (There's been a new development. Mom is here!)
Example: Bàba bù lái le. (There's been a change. Dad is not coming after all.)
Example: Wáwa chī fàn le. (Baby has started eating solid food!) (Some˙ a change is "the first time ever.")

22x

Examples:
他用手打開箱子。   Tā yòng shǒu dǎ kāi xiāng zi.
他用望遠鏡看火星的運河。Tā yòng wáng yuǎn jìng kàn Huǒ Xīng de yùn hé.
他媽媽買雞蛋做蛋糕。   Tā ma-ma mǎi jī dàn zuò dàn gāo.
姐姐到德國去留學。   Jiějie dào Dé Guó qù liú xué.

23

Pattern 23:   goals 32

Numbers are formed in a very orderly way in Chinese. In high school math
we learn to write numbers in the following format:
d (1000) + e (100) + f (10) + g
But we say "fifty" instead of "five tens." Chinese follows the basic
mathematical schema shown above:

c (10,000) + d (1,000) + e (100) +f (10) + g
c (wàn)   + d (qiān) + e (bǎi) + f (shí) + g

So, for example, 17,345 is read:

yí wàn qì qiān sān bǎi sì shí wǔ.

23x

Examples:

一萬零五十	yí wàn líng wǔ shí	10050
三十萬零五塊錢	sān shí wàn líng wǔ kuài qián	$30,005
一百一十天	yì bǎi yì shí tiān	115 days
一萬零二百零三	yí wàn líng èr bǎi líng sān	10,0203

24

Sentence Pattern 24:   goals
Chinese uses a logical order or a sentence order that follows the time
sequence of events in almost every situation. One such case is the sentence
pattern that is used to indicate the actuality and/or the future potentiality
to achieve a result. Many of the instances of this pattern are figurative and
may seem abstract to English speakers. So it is important to start with an
example that may make more sense to the beginning learner of the Chinese
language:

VERB = VERB + Resultative VERB

Example: Tāmen chī bǎo.
         They eat [and so] get full.

The negative form of this sentence, indicating that they did not get enough
to eat is:

Example: Tāmen méi (yǒu) chī bǎo.
         They have not gotten full.

24x

Examples:
她睡著了。   Tā shuì zháo le.
我們還沒吃完呢。   Tā men hái méi chī wán ne.
我沒有看懂。   Wǒ méi yǒu kàn dǒng.
那隻貓跑掉了。   Nà zhī māo pǎo diào le.

21a

Sentence Pattern 21a: goals 37

As mentioned in Pattern 20, the coverb lí can also be used with the designation of a length of space or time, and that expression functions like a stative verb in such sentences.

PRED = COVERB NOUN$_{coverb}$ PRED

Example: Tú shū guǎn lí zhèr sān gōng lǐ.
         The library is three kilometers from here.

21ax

Examples:
舊金山離北京很遠。 Jiù Jīn Shān lí Běi Jīng yuǎn.
天津離北京不遠。   Tiān Jīn lí Běi Jīng bù yuǎn.

25

Sentence Pattern 25
Distances between different places can be compared by making an sentence that follows this pattern:

SENT = (V **lí** W) **bǐ** (X **lí** Y) PRED

Example: Yīng Guó lí Fǎ Guó bǐ Aì ěr lán lí Dé Guó jìn.
         The distance from England to France is (nearer =) less than the distance from Ireland to Germany.

25x

Examples:

舊金山離巴黎比倫敦離羅馬遠。 Jiù Jīn Shān lí Bā Lí bǐ Lún Dùn lí Luó Mǎ yuǎn.

水星離土星比火星離金星遠。Shuǐ Xīng lí Tǔ Xīng bǐ Huǒ Xīng l í Jīn Xing-
yuǎn.

26

Sentence Pattern 26   *goals 54*

Chinese regularly proceeds from the largest unit to to the least significant
unit, so in giving dates, the year is mentioned first, followed by the month,
and then the date. In writing one uses rì for the date, but in speaking one
usually says hào.

nián	yuè	rì
nián	yuè	hào

Example: èr líng yì sān nián sì yuè wǔ rì
            2013 April 5

26x

Examples:

她的生日是三月二十七號。 Tāde shēng rì shì sān yuè èr shí qī hào.
他明年十一月五號回國。   T ā míng nián shí yī yuè wǔ hào huí guó .

27

Sentence Pattern 27 *goals 16*

As well as indicating that a given location has certain people or things in it, in Chinese one can also show that a given location has certain people or things in it doing something.

SENTENCE = (zài) LOCATION yǒu NOUN$_{subject}$ PREDICATE

SENT = (zài) N$_{location}$ yǒu N$_s$ PRED

Example: (Zài) tú shū guǎn wàitou yǒu rén tī zú qiú.
          Outside the library there are people playing soccer.

27x

Examples:

在宿舍裡有人打牌。 Zài sù shè lí yǒu rén dǎ pái.
在圖書館裡沒有人不念書。Zài tú shū guán lǐtou méi yǒu rén bú shuì jiào.
白天沒有人在宿舍裡睡覺。Bái tiān méi yǒu rén zài sù shèli shuì jiào.

28

Sentence pattern 28 *goals*

A sentence can be formed with a coverb that introduces a point of origin and a verb that indicates whether the subject's motion is toward the speaker or not.

SENTENCE = Subject COVERB NOUN$_{origin}$ VERB

SENT = N$_s$ CV N$_{orgin}$ VERB

Example: Tā cóng Měi Guó lái.
          S/he comes from America.

28x

Examples:

他們從韓國來了。 Tāmen cóng Hán Guó lái le.
我明天不從家裡來。Wǒ míng tiān bù cóng jāi lǐ lái.
我明天從我朋友的家裡來。 Wǒ míng tiān cóng wǒ péng yǒu de jāi lǐ lái.

29

Sentence pattern 29   goals 41 & 43

A sentence can be formed with a coverb that introduces a point of origin
and a verb that indicates whether the subject's motion is toward the
speaker or not, which is then followed by the action that the subject
performs after arrival.

SENTENCE = Subject COVERB NOUN$_{origin}$ VERB (to) PREDICATE

SENT = N$_s$ CV N$_{orgin}$ VERB (to) PRED

Example: Tā cóng Měi Guó lái niàn shū.
              S/he comes from America to study.

29x

Examples:

他們每天早上從家裡來買豆漿。Tāmen měi tiān zǎo shàng cóng jiāli lái mǎi dòu
jiāng.
有的人直接從宿舍來上課。Yǒude rén zhí jiē cóng sù shè lái shàng kè.
每一個人從自己的口袋裡拿出一塊錢。 Měi yíge rén cóng zì jǐde kǒu dài li ná chū
yí kuài qián.

30

Sentence Pattern 30   *goals*

In Chinese, some verbs make function as transitive verbs part of the time and as passive verbs the rest of the time. One example is jiào, which can mean "to call," "to yell," or "to order," but it can also mean, "to be called," "to be named."

Example: Wǒ jiào Kǒng An Guó.
          I called out to Kǒng An Guó.
          or
          I am called Kǒng An Guó.

30x

Examples:

我叫王孝賢。 Wǒ jiào Wáng Xiào Xián.
請叫你爸爸出來。Qǐng jiào nǐ bàba chū l ái.
我叫馬思亮。你叫什麼名字？Wǒ jiào Mǎ Sī Liàng. Nǐ jiào shéme míng zi?

31

Sentence Pattern 31   *goals*

The Chinese language mentions causes before effects and tools before the effects they cause. One instance of this general rule is to mention modes of conveyance before telling of the journey.

SENTENCE = $N_{subject}$ COVERB NOUN$_{coverb}$ PREDICATE

SENT = N_s CV N_{cv} PRED

Example: Wǒmen zuò chē qù.
          We go by car.

31x

Examples:

你坐車去嗎？　Nǐ zuò chē qù ma?
我不要坐飛機去。Wǒ bú yào zuò fēi jī qù.
他打算坐火車來。 Tā dǎ suàn zuò huǒ chē lái.
你不願意坐船到中國去嗎？ Nǐ bú yuànyi zuò chuán dào Zhōng Guó qù
ma?

32

Pattern 32   goals 41

In Chinese sentences about going to someplace are parallel in structure to
sentences about coming from someplace. (See Pattern 27.)

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ dào NOUN$_{destination}$ VERB

SENT = N$_s$ dào N$_{destination}$ VERB

Examples: Tāmen dào xué xiào lái.
           They come to school.
           Tāmen dào tú shū guǎn qù.
           They go to the library.

32x

Examples:

你到哪兒去？ Nǐ dào nǎr qù?
我到大華飯館去。Wǒ dào Dà Huá fàn guǎn qù.
你的孩子已經到這兒來了。 Nǐde háizi yǐ jīng dào zhèr lái le.

33

Pattern 33   *goals 43*

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ dào NOUN$_{destination}$ VERB PREDICATE

SENT = N$_s$ dào N$_{destination}$ VERB PRED

Examples: Tāmen dào xué xiào lái niàn shū
They come to school to study.
Tāmen dào tú shū guǎn qù jiè shū.
They go to the library to borrow books.

33x

Examples:

你到哪兒去吃飯？ Nǐ dào nǎr qù chī fàn?
我到大華飯館去吃飯。Wǒ dào Dà Huá fàn guǎn qù chī fàn.
你的孩子已經到這兒來買書了。 Nǐde háizi yǐ jīng dào zhèr lái mǎi shū le.

34

Sentence Pattern 34   *goals 56*

Chinese uses a weakened form of a resultative verb, liǎo, to clarify conversations about whether some expected action has actually been done. As a verb ending, liǎo is pronounced le.

Example: A: Nǐ yǒu méi yǒu chī yào? B: Chīle.
A: Did you take your medicine?   B: I did [take it].

34x

Examples：

我還沒有吃飯，你吃了沒有？
我已經寫了信，你呢？
你不能進來！ 為什麼？我已經給了錢了！
他已經吃了藥。 　@411 @911
奶奶昨天來了，你不知道嗎？989
真理已經沒有錢了。 　@421 @921
你生氣了！怎麼搞得？ 979

35

Sentence Pattern 35   goals

Coordinated use of le. The verb le flags the fact that someone did do
something, and so a change must have occurred. The sentence le flags the
fact that a change has occurred, so in cases where a verb le is used it is
frequently appropriate to add a sentence le. When an intransitive verb
occurs at the end of a sentence, the two le merge into one.

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ TRANSITIVE VERB le NOUN$_{object}$ le
                N$_s$ TV le N$_o$ le

Example: Wǒ chī le yào le
                I did take the medicine. (I took the medicine.)
                Lǎo bǎn lái le!
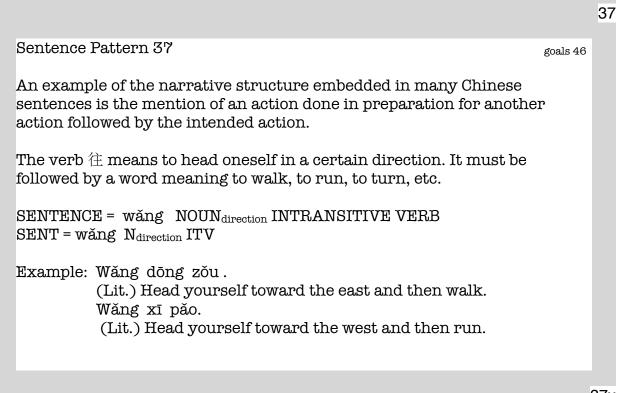   The boss is here!

35x

Example

36

Sentence Pattern 36   goals 45 145

Both the point of origin and the destination can be mentioned in the same sentence. As with other cases, the Chinese language always follows the natural order, so the origin gets mentioned before the destination.

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ cóng NOUN$_{origin}$ dào NOUN$_{destination}$ lái /qù

SENT = N$_s$ cóng N$_{origin}$ dào N$_{destination}$ lái /qù

Example: Māma cóng xué xiào dào yín háng qù .
          Mama went from the school to the bank.

36x

Examples:
他從韓國到中國去。 @141 @641
你從加拿大到珊國來。 @151 @651
我們從中國到韓國去。 @161 @661
我從珊國到英國去。 @171 @671

37

Sentence Pattern 37   goals 46

An example of the narrative structure embedded in many Chinese
sentences is the mention of an action done in preparation for another
action followed by the intended action.

The verb 往 means to head oneself in a certain direction. It must be
followed by a word meaning to walk, to run, to turn, etc.

SENTENCE = wǎng NOUN$_{direction}$ INTRANSITIVE VERB
SENT = wǎng N$_{direction}$ ITV

Example: Wǎng dōng zǒu .
          (Lit.) Head yourself toward the east and then walk.
          Wǎng xī pǎo.
           (Lit.) Head yourself toward the west and then run.

37x

Examples:

一直往前走。 @191 @691
往回走。 @201 @701
往東拐。 @211 @711
往上飛。 @221 @721

38

Sentence Pattern 38

<div align="right">goals</div>

Trigger events with **le**. When the trigger event shall have occurred (**le**) it will then (**jiù**) be appropriate to do the next thing.

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ TRANSITIVE VERB **le** NOUN$_{object}$, NOUN$_{subject}$ **jiù** PREDICATE. (If the same subject is used in both clauses, mention it only once.)

SENT = N$_{s1}$ TV le N$_{o}$ (N$_{s2}$) jiù PRED

Example: Nǐ dào le yín hàng, jiù wǎng dōng guǎi .
                    When you do get to the bank then turn east.
                    Dào le xué xiào , tā jiù dào lǐ tou qù le.
                    When he got to school, he then went inside.

38x

Example

39

Sentence Pattern 39   goals

Narrative structure: A frequent device used in conveying directions is to indicate what is done prior (xiān) to doing something else, and then indicating what is done thereafter (rán hòu). This format works for future actions, plans, etc.

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject\ 1}$ **xiān** PREDICATE, **rán hòu** (NOUN$_{subject\ 2}$) PREDICATE
SENT = N$_{s1}$ **xiān** PRED, **rán hòu** (N$_{s2}$) PRED

Example: Nǐ xiān dào yín háng qù , rán hòu wǎng xī guǎi .
            First go to the bank, and after that turn west.

39x

Examples:

40

Sentence Pattern 40   goals 39

Two verbs can be used in series to communicate ideas like "ugly" (difficult to look at).

In English it is necessary to separate two predicates with "to", but in Chinese there is no such necessary separator. Expressions like "difficult to look at" can mean "ugly," so "difficult to read" is usually expressed by using 難念 instead of 難看.

PREDICATE = PREDICATE$_1$ [to] PREDICATE$_2$
PRED = PRED$_1$ [to] PRED$_2$

Example: nán kàn
              difficult to look at

40x

Example

41

Sentence Pattern 41   *goals 48*

One coverb is so often used that it is treated here as forming a sentence pattern in its own right. That coverb is "bi3," which means "as compared to." The subject is compared to some standard known to all parties in the conversation.

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ bi3 NOUN$_{standard}$ PREDICATE
SENT = N$_s$ bi3 N$_{standard}$ PREDICATE

Example: Ta1 bi3 Yao2 Ming2 gao1!
          He is taller than Yao Ming!

41x

Examples:

她比我會開快車。
你比我開得不小心。 @271 @771
我比他們寫得多。 @281 @781

42

Sentence Pattern 42   *goals 17*

Predicates involving Resultative Verbs (pattern 24) can be expanded to indicate the potentiality, or lack of it, to achieve the result.

SENTENCE = NOUNsubject VERB de2/bu4 RESULTATIVE VERB
SENT = N$_s$ V de2/bu4 RV

Example: Ta1 chi1 bu4 bao3. Wo3 chi1 de2 bao3.
          He can't eat to satiety. I can get full.

42x

Examples:

老人走得很慢。

43

Sentence Pattern 43   *goals 25*

Narrative structure is often aided by expressions such as "the man who came to dinner." If both parties is a discussion know some such fact about a third party, but do not know that person's name, the commonly held information can substitute for a name.

SENTENCE = $NOUN_{subject}$ shì (PREDICATE de NOUN)
SENT = N_s shì (PRED de N)
or
SENTENCE = (PREDICATE de NOUN) PREDICATE
SENT = (PRED de N) PRED

Examples:

Tā yí dìng shì zuó tiān láide nèige rén.
He is surely that person who came yesterday.

Zuó tiān láide nèige rén mǎile xīn qì chē le.
Now that person who came yesterday has purchased a new automobile.

43x

Examples:

在房子上頭的貓

44

Sentence Pattern 44

One special kind of predicate modifier comes after the main verb because it follows the general pattern whereby the natural order of events is mirrored by sentence structure. If, for instance, one speaks and thereby get a good result, that establish the fact that one speaks well. The same statement can record past events or indicate future potentialities. The positive form of these sentences uses a main verb followed by dé and then by a complement that expresses the capacity that has been demonstrated, so these modifiers are called "adverbs of capacity."

PREDICATE = INTRANSITIVE VERB dé MODIFIER
PRED = ITV dé MOD

Examples: Tā shuō dé hǎo.
             He speaks well.
             Tāmen pǎo dé kuài.
             They run fast.

44x

Examples:

老人走得很慢。

45

Sentence Pattern 45   goals 48

Simply stating that someone sings well may not tell other people very much. Others frequently want to know that someone sings well in comparison to some well-known singer. The basic sentence pattern involved is: Ns V de2 PRED. That sequence does not change, but it is supplemented by putting in a coverb, bi3:

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ bǐ NOUN$_{standard}$ PREDICATE
SENT = N$_s$ bǐ N$_{standard}$ PRED

Example: Tāmen bǐ mǎ pǎo dé kuài
                  They run faster than horses.

45x

Examples:

他比我説得好。

她比Miriam Makeba唱得好。@181@681
他比屁股頭鬧得厲害。@499@999

46

Sentence Pattern 46 *goals 99*

The so-called "shi...de" pattern is another case wherein something already mentioned or obvious from context is habitually omitted. For instance, in a story about the Marx brothers or the Van Trapp family of singers, "Tāmen shì hěn yǒu míngde rén," has a redundant element because everyone in the conversation knows full well that the Marx brothers are humans, and so are the members of the Van Trapp family. But this sentence pattern has two special functions: (1) It is frequently used to correct misinformation voiced by someone else. (2) Its use generally indicates, since somebody can be characterized as, e.g., a graduate of some university, that event must have already happened. So it gives some of the same information that putting a sentence into past tense does in the English language.

This structure has many practical uses. It can indicate a kind of passive idea when, e.g., a book is described as one that that Hemingway wrote, it can be used to give prominence in a sentence to the element that immediately follows 是, and it can give essentially the same information as is given in English by putting the main verb of a sentence in past tense.

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ shì PREDICATE de.
SENT = N$_s$ shì PRED de.

Example: Wǒ bú shì qián tiān láide, wǒ shì zuó tiān lái de.
            I did not come the day before yesterday, I came yesterday.
            Tā shì dà xué bì yède.
            She is a college graduate. (She has graduated from college.)

46x

Examples:

47

Pattern 47 (see Pattern 21)   goals 24

One of the frequently used coverbs is gěi. Literally it means "to give somebody something as a present," or just "to give," but it can also be used when one is doing something for somebody as a favor.

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ gěi NOUN$_{indirect\ object}$ NOUN$_{direct\ object}$
SENT = N$_s$ gěi N$_{ido}$ N$_{do}$

Example: Māma gěi wǒ xǐ yīfu.
              Mama washed (my) clothes for me.

47x

Examples:

爸爸替他理頭髮。

48

Sentence Pattern 48

A sentence involving an adverb of capacity along with a transitive verb and a direct object takes the form

SENTENCE = NOUNsubject TRANSITIVE VERB NOUNdirect object
TRANSITIVE VERB dé PREDICATE
SENT = Ns TV No TV dé PRED

Example: Tāmen xiě zì xiě dé kuài.
              They write quickly.

48x

Example

49

Sentence Pattern 49   goals 24

Another coverb that is frequently used to make sentences is dui4, which means "to direct oneself toward," to address (someone)." 對 means to direct oneself toward some object to perform some action, e.g., "She spoke to me," or "They were not very good to their visitors."

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ COVERB NOUN$_{object}$ PREDICATE

SENT = N$_s$ COVERB N$_o$ PRED

Example: Jing3 cha2 dui4 da4 jia1 shuo1: Qing3 ma3 shang4 hui2 jia1 qu4!
              The policeman said to everyone: Please return home immediately!

49x

Example

50

Sentence Pattern 50

goals

A sentence can compare the capabilities of two subjects. The second subject mentioned is generally the better known of the two because it can then serve as a standard for comparison.

SENTENCE = NOUN$_{subject}$ ITV dé bĭ NOUN$_{standard}$ RESULT
SENT = N$_s$ ITV dé bĭ N$_{standard}$ RESULT

Example: Ta1 pao3 de2 bi3 wo3 kuai4.
        She runs faster than I do.

50x

Example