

**Lesson Nineteen      Travel****第十九課                  旅行**

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**GRAMMAR****1. 不得了 (bú déliǎo, extremely)**

The expression, which often follows the structure “**adjective + 得 (dé)**”, indicates a high degree, in the speaker’s judgment, of the attribute signified by the **adjective**. For example, if one cannot stand the summer heat in a certain place, one can comment on it by saying:

(1) 那個地方夏天熱得不得了。

Nà gè dì fāng xià tiān rè de bú déliǎo.

(Summer is unbearably hot in that place.)

(2) 長城上的人多得不得了。

Cháng chéng shàng de rén duō de bú déliǎo.

(There was an incredible number of people on the Great Wall.)

## 2. Question Pronouns as Indefinite References (Whoever, Whatever, etc.)

A question pronoun repeated in two separate but related clauses of the same sentence forms the equivalent of the “question pronoun + -ever” expression in English. Its first occurrence refers to an indefinite person, object, time, place, etc. Its second occurrence then refers to that same person, object, time, place, etc.:

- (1) 誰想去，誰就去。

Shéi xiǎng qù, shéi jiù qù.  
(Whoever wants to go can go.)

- (2) 你吃什麼，我就吃什麼。

Nǐ chī shénme, wǒ jiù chī shénme.  
(I will have whatever you're having.)

- (3) 哪雙鞋便宜，就買哪雙。

Nǎ shuāng xié piányi, jiù mǎi nǎ shuāng.  
(Buy whichever pair of shoes is the cheapest.)

- (4) Taxi driver: 您想怎麼走？

Nín xiǎng zěn me zǒu ?  
(Which way do you want to take?)

Passenger: 怎麼近，怎麼走。

Zěn me jìn , zěn me zǒu .  
(I'll take whichever is the shortest distance.)

In this kind of sentence sometimes the two occurrences of the question pronoun play the same grammatical role, i.e, both are subjects, as in (1); or both are objects, as in (2). Sometimes the two occurrences of the question pronoun perform different grammatical functions. In (3), for example, the first “哪雙” (nǎ jiā) is the subject whereas the second “哪雙” (nǎ jiā) is the object. The adverb 就 often precedes the verb in the second clause, but not always, as shown in (5) and (6) below.

(5) 哪兒安靜，我住哪兒。

Nǎ ér ān jìng , wǒ zhù nǎ ér.  
(I'll live wherever it's quiet.)

(6) A: 他找誰幫他搬家具？

Tā zhǎo shuí bāng tā bān jiā jù ?  
(Whom is he going to ask to help him moving his furniture?)

B: 誰身體棒，他找誰。

Shuí shēn tǐ bàng , tā zhǎo shuí.  
(He'll ask whoever is strong.)

### 3. Numbers over One Thousand

You have already learned how to count in Chinese up to a thousand.

<i>Number</i>	<i>Chinese</i>	<i>Pinyin</i>	<i>English</i>
1	一	yī	one
10	十	shí	ten
100	百	bǎi	hundred
1000	千	qiān	thousand

However, in Chinese, the next larger unit after thousand is not \*十千 (\*shí qiān), but 萬 (wàn). Even though the Chinese share the international practice of segmenting a long Arabic number into three-digit sets in writing or in print, they mentally divide the number into four-digit sets instead when they read it. Starting at the fifth digit from the right is the four digit set of 萬 (wàn), and the next four-digit set is that of 億 (yì). In the examples below, we have artificially indicated such divisions as an aid.

<i>English</i>	<i>Arabic Number</i>	<i>Chinese Mental Division</i>	<i>Chinese</i>	<i>pinyin</i>
thousand	1,000	1000	千	qiān
ten thousand	10,000	1,0000	萬	wàn
hundred thousand	100,000	10,0000	十萬	shíwàn
million	1,000,000	100,0000	百萬	bǎiwàn
ten million	10,000,000	1000,0000	千萬	qiānwàn
hundred million	100,000,000	1,0000,0000	萬萬/億	wànwàn/yì
billion	1,000,000,000	10,0000,0000	十億	shíyì

Examples of large numbers:

12,345 (1,2345) 一萬二千三百四十五 yíwàn èrqiān sānbǎi sìshíwǔ

25,000 (2,5000) 兩萬五千 liǎngwàn wǔqiān

340,876 (34,0876) 三十四萬零八百七十六 sānshísì wàn líng bābǎi qīshíliù

1,000,900,000 (10,0090,0000) 十億零九十萬 shíyì líng jiǔshí wàn

#### 4. Comparative Sentences with 比 (bǐ) (II) [See also Grammar1 L.11]

In a sentence where 比 (bǐ) is used, a numeral + measure word combination can be placed after the adjective to indicate the disparity.

**A + 比 (bǐ) + B + Adjective + Numeral + Measure Word + Noun**

- (1) 我們班比你們班多四個學生。

Wǒmen bān bǐ nǐmen bān duō sì ge xuésheng.  
(There are four more students in our class than in yours.)

- (2) 這件襯衫比那件襯衫貴二十塊錢。

Zhè jiàn chèn shān bǐ nà jiàn chèn shān guì èr shí kuài qián.  
(This pair of shoes is twenty dollars more expensive than that pair.)

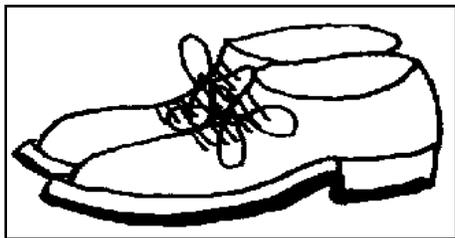
- (3) 我的房租比你的便宜五百塊。

Wǒ de fáng zū bǐ nǐ de piányi wǔ bǎi kuài.  
(My computer is five hundred dollars cheaper than yours.)

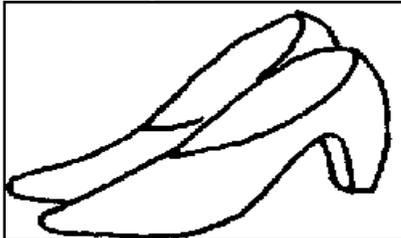
- (4) 我表弟比我小三歲。

Wǒ biǎodi bǐ wǒ xiǎo sān suì.  
(My brother is three years younger than I.)

Please make at least two statements comparing the shoes below.



這雙鞋八十九塊  
Zhè shuāng xié bā shí jiǔ kuài.



那雙鞋六十九塊  
Nà shuāng xié liù shí jiǔ kuài.