

8.11 Dialogue: What did you do yesterday?

Jiǎ Zuótiān zuò (~gàn) shénme le?	What did you do yesterday?
Yǐ Qù mǎi dōngxī le. Wǒ mǎi-le yì shuāng xié.	I went shopping. I bought a pair of shoes.
Jiǎ Shi zài nǎr mǎi de?	Where from?
Yǐ Zài Xīdān mǎi de.	In Xidan. [a shopping district in western Běijīng]
Jiǎ Duōshao qián?	How much?
Yǐ 85 kuài!	¥ 85
Jiǎ Piányi.	[That]’s cheap.
Yǐ Yě mǎi-le jǐ jiàn chènshān. Ránhòu wǒmen chī-le yí dùn wǎnfàn. Nà, nǐmen ne?	I also bought a shirt. Then we went out for a dinner. How about you?
Jiǎ Wǒmen qù-le yí tàng Cháng Chéng.	We took a trip to the Great Wall.
Yǐ Zuò huǒchē qù de ma?	By train?
Jiǎ Bù, huǒchē tài màn le, wǒmen shì zuò gōnggòng qìchē qù de.	No, the train’s too slow, we went by bus.
Yǐ Huǒchē shì hěn màn.	The train IS slow!
Jiǎ Wǒmen yě méi qù Bādálǐng, wǒmen qù Sīmǎtái le. Zài Cháng Chéng shàng zǒu-le jǐ ge xiǎoshí.	And we didn’t go to Badaling [n.w. of Běijīng], we went to Simatai [n.e.] [We] walked for a few hours on the Great Wall.
Yǐ Sīmǎtái, Běijīng de dōngběi – nàme yuǎn!	Simatai, northeast of Běijīng – so far!
Jiǎ Bādálǐng rén tài duō le, Sīmǎtái yuǎn yìdiǎnr kěshì yóukè méi Bādálǐng nàme duō!	There are too many people at B.; Simatai’s a little farther but there aren’t as many tourists.
Yǐ Hēng. Nà, jīntiān ne?	Uhuh. And today?
Jiǎ Jīntiān wǒ děi xuéxí.	Today I have to study.
Yǐ Wǒ yě shì – yǒu qīmò kǎoshì!	Me too – finals!



The Great Wall at Simǎtái.

Exercise 8.

Rearrange these words and phrases to form sentences:

1. xiǎng / wǒmen / qù / kàn / jiǔyuèfen / dào / míngnián / Xī'ān / qīnqi
2. xiūxi xiūxi / huíjiā / yào / xiànzài / wǒ
3. túshūguǎn / xiǎng / bu / jīntiān / wǒ / qù / xiǎng / wǒ / chéng lǐ / mǎi / qù / dōngxi / qù
4. jǐnzhāng / dōu / lǎoshī / suǒyǐ / yán / yīnwèi / hěn / xuésheng / hěn
5. fànguǎnr / xīngqīliù / qù / kè / dōu / de / xuéshēng / chīfàn / èrniánjí / qù / méiyóu / suǒyǐ
6. lěng / Běijīng / suǒyǐ / tiānqì / fēng / dà / hěn / bu / wǒmen / shūfu / qiūtiān / yǒu diǎnr / yě / hěn
7. fùmǔ / kěshì / Zhōngwén / tā / shuō / bu / huì / huì
8. lái de / tā / shì / lǎo Běijīng / Běijīng / suǒyǐ / jiào / péngyou / dōu / tā

8.12 Verb Combos (2)

8.12.1 Directional complements

In Unit 7, it was shown that directional verbs (eg shàng, chū, guò) can combine with untuned lái or qù to form verb combos such as xiàlai, guòqu and huílai (or the corresponding potential forms such as xiàbulái ‘cannot come down [here]’). Now you will see that these pairs can themselves combine with compatible verbs such as ná ‘hold; take’, tái ‘lift; carry’; kāi ‘drive’, fàng ‘put’, bān ‘move; remove; take away’. The complete paradigm can be illustrated with ná ‘carry; bring; take’:

With ná

náshànglai	‘bring [them] up [here]’	náshàngqu	‘take [them] up [there]’
náxiàlai	‘bring [them] down [here]’	náxiàqu	‘take [them] down [there]’
nájìnlai	‘bring [them] in [here]’	nájìnqu	‘take [them] in [there]’
náchūlai	‘bring [them] out [here]’	náchūqu	‘take [them] out [there]’
náhuílai	‘bring [them] back [here]’	náhuíqu	‘take [them] back [there]’
náguòlai	‘bring [them] over [here]’	náguòqu	‘take [them] over [there]’

Other examples

bānjìnlai	‘move in [here]’	fàngjìnqu	‘put [them] in [there]’
táichūlai	‘carry [them] out [here]’	táichūqu	‘carry [them] out [there]’
kāihuílai	‘drive [them] back [here]’	bānhuíqu	‘move back [there]’
kāiguòlai	‘drive [it] over [here]’	kāiguòqu	‘drive [it] over [there]’

An additional directional complement can be added to this set: qǐlai ‘rise’. The qǐlai suffix has a number of extended meanings, but its with verbs of motion, it means ‘rise’ or ‘up’:

zhànqǐlai ‘stand up’ náqǐlai ‘hold up’ táiqǐlai ‘lift up’

Adding objects to directional combinations (eg ‘bring the *luggage* down’) often requires a grammatical feature that will not be introduced until Unit 9, so in this section, you can avoid mentioning objects at all (or simply place them at the head of the sentence, as in the examples).

Usage

- a) Nǐ de dōngxi nàme duō ya! Wǒ You have so many things! I’ll help
bāng nǐ náchūlai, hǎo bu hǎo? you bring them out, okay?
- Méi guānxi, wǒ zìjǐ ná ba!* *Never mind, I’ll get them.*
- Bù, wǒ bāng nǐ ná ba. No I’ll help you with them.

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| b) | Nǐ zhù zài jǐ lóu?
<i>Liù lóu.</i>
Hǎo, wǒ bāng nǐ náshàngqu ba.
<i>Nǐ tài kèqi! Bù hǎo yìsi.</i> | What floor do you live on?
<i>The 6th.</i>
Okay, let me help you take [them] up.
<i>You're too kind! You shouldn't.</i> |
| c) | Wǒ de chē xiān kāiguòlai,
hǎo bu hǎo?
<i>Hǎo, nà wǒ zài zhèlǐ děng nǐ.</i>
Jǐ fēn zhōng jiù kěyǐ le. | I'll drive my car over first, okay?
<i>Fine, so I'll wait for you here.</i>
I'll just be a few minutes. |

Exercise 9.

Without mentioning the destination, make requests as indicated.

Examples

Request that your friend help you to put the books down [there].
<Zhèi xiē shū> qǐng bāng wǒ fàngxiàqu.

Request that your friend help you to take the clothes out [of the drawers].
<Zhèi xiē yīfu> qǐng bāng wǒ náchūlai.

Request that your friend help you to

1. put [the pile of clothes] back [in the drawers].
2. bring [the flowers] up [here].
3. carry [the luggage] down [there].
4. lift up [this suitcase]. (xiāngzi 'case')
5. take [these clothes] out [of the drawers].
6. take [the shoes] out [of the room].
7. lift [this computer] up [onto the rack].
8. bring [the things] back [here].
9. carry [musical instruments] over [there].
10. move [the things] out [there].
11. drive [the car] over [there].
12. lift up [the fridge]. (bīngxiāng 'ice-box')
13. put [the dictionaries] back [there].

8.12.2 Forgetting and remembering*a) Forgetting*

The verb wàng 'forget' is familiar from Unit 3, where it was introduced in expressions such as, Nǐ de piào, bié wàng le! 'Don't forget your tickets'.

Shǔjià, wǒ wàng le hěn duō Hànyǔ.	I've forgotten a lot of Chinese over the summer.
Nà dāngrán, nǐ sān ge yuè méi jīhuì liànxí Zhōngwén le.	That's not surprising; you haven't had a chance to practice Chinese for 3 months!
Méi guānxi, nǐ hěn kuài huì jiǎnqilai de	No matter, it'll come back to you fast.
Xīwàng rúcǐ.	I hope so.

Notes

shǔjià	N	summer vacation (heat-vacation)
jiǎn	V	pick up; collect
huì...de		predictions with <u>huì</u> are often supported by final 'emphatic' <u>de</u> .
xīwàng	V	hope
rúcǐ		a phrase in Classical Chinese diction, 'like this'.

Wàng (like its English counterpart) can also be used in the sense of 'leave behind accidentally'; in such cases, the place is introduced with a *zai*-phrase placed after wàng. (In general, where the *zai*-phrase indicates where something ends up, it follows the verb; cf. fàng zai 'put [somewhere]'; guà zai 'hang [somewhere]'. The three verbs, <chū>shēng, zhǎng<dà> and zhù, which as you will recall, allow *zai*-phrases before and after, are harder to rationalize.)

O, wǒ de píbāo wàng zai jiā lǐ le. I've left my wallet at home.

Āiyā, hùzhào wàng zai jīchǎng le! Aach, [I] left my passport at the airport.

The presence of zài after the verb (where it is often untoned) precludes the possibility of *V-le*; *wàng zài le jiā lǐ does not occur.

Wàngjì 'forget-note+down' is a common alternative to wàng...le and, especially in Taiwan, so is wàngdiào 'forget-fall'.

Wǒ wàng le ~ wǒ wàngjì le ~ wǒ wàngdiào le.

b) Remembering:

The counterpart of wàng is jì 'to note' – the same root that shows up in the compound wàngjì 'forget', mentioned above.

Hànyǔ hái jìde ma?	You still remember your Chinese?
<i>Hái jìde yìxiē, kěshi Hànzì wàng le hěn duō.</i>	<i>Some; but I've forgotten a lot of characters.</i>
Ng, Hànzì, yòu nán jì, yòu róngyi wàng!	Chinese characters are tough to remember and easy to forget!

Jì is more common in the compound, jìde 'remember':

Nèi jiàn shìqing, nǐ hái jìde ma?	You still remember that?
Nǐ jìde bu jìde nèi ge rén? Tā zài wǒmen de dānwèi gōngzuò le yì nián. <i>Wǒ jìbuqīngchu.</i>	Do you remember that guy? He worked in our unit for a year. <i>I don't recall [him] clearly.</i>

Notes

- a) yòu...yòu... 'both...and...'; cf. yòu mēn yòu rè.
 b) Qīngchu in the last sentence is acting as a verb complement to jì; the whole is in the potential form; cf Tā méi shuōqīngchu. 'She didn't talk [about it] very clearly.'

Where recall takes place suddenly, the verb combo xiǎngqǐlai is used. It is a short metaphorical leap from literally rising, as in zhànqǐlai, to having memories surge up in the mind.

O, xiǎngqǐlai le! Oh, now I remember!

Wǒ xiǎngbùqǐ ta de míngzi <lai> le. I can't recall her name [anymore].

c) In song:

Forgetting and remembering are common themes in popular songs. Here are lines from songs of one of the most popular of Chinese singers, Dèng Lìjūn – Teresa Teng (1953 – 1995):

From Wàngjì tā 'forgetting him':

Wàngjì tā děngyú wàngdiào le yíqiè.
Forget him equals forget-drop LE everything.

From Chūliàn de dìfang 'the place where love began':

Wǒ jìde yǒu yíge dìfang, wǒ yǒngyuǎn yǒngyuǎn bù néng wàng;
I remember have a place, I forever not can forget

wǒ hé tā zài nàlǐ dīngxià le qíng, gòng dùguo hǎo shíguāng.
I and he at there fix-down LE love, together pass-GUO special time

From Xiǎngqǐ nǐ ‘remembering you’:

Xiǎngqǐ nǐ, xiǎngqǐ nǐ nèi xiàoliǎn, cháng zài wǒ xīn liúliàn.
recall you, recall you that smiling-face, often in my heart remain-love

8.12.3 I haven't slept for two days!

As you know, duration is expressed by a phrase placed after the verb (and before associated objects):

Zuótiān wǎnshàng wǒ zhǐ shuì le sān ge xiǎoshí, jīntiān hěn hūtu. I only slept 3 hours last night; today I'm quite muddled.

Duìbuqǐ, nǐ děng le hěn jiǔ le! Bù, gāng dào. Sorry, you've been waiting a long time! No, just got here.

Not doing something for a period of time, however, is treated differently. The time of deprivation is treated as though it were ‘time when’ and placed before the verb. Final le underscores the fact that the deprivation continues – ‘so far’:

Wǒ sān ge yuè méi jīhuì shuō Hànyǔ le. Nǐ zuì hǎo duō fùxí yixià. I haven't had a chance to speak Chinese for 3 months. You'd better review some more then.

Wǒ sān tiān méi shuìjiào le. Nà nǐ yíding hěn lèi ba. I haven't slept for 3 days. You must be tired.

Wǒ èrshí duō xiǎoshí méi chīfàn le. Nà nǐ yíding hěn è ba! I haven't eaten for over 20 hours. You must be hungry!

8.13 Measure words revisited

DEM	Nu	M	SV	de	NAT'LITY	NOUN	predicate
Nèi	běn					zìdiǎn	shì shéi de?
Nèi	liǎng	běn			Zhōngwén	zìdiǎn	shì tā de.
Nèi	jǐ	ge	hěn	dà	de	dōngxì	shì shéi de?
	Liǎng	ge		dà	de		jiù gòu le!

In the above schema, notice where M-words appear and where DE appears. M-words only follow numbers (yí ge, liǎng ge) or demonstratives (nèi ge, zhèi ge). DE, on the

other hand, follows SVs (as well as other kinds of attributes, not shown on the chart): hěn dà de wénzi ‘large mosquitos’. Demonstratives do sometimes appear without measure words, in which case the meaning is ‘that class of item’: zhè chá means ‘this type of tea’ not just the sample in front of you (cf. zhèi zhǒng chá in which ‘kind’ is explicitly a M). When several items are indicated, xiē is used (cf. §6.3.3):

Zhèi xiē sǎn, nǐ bǎ shì nǐ de? Which of these umbrellas is yours?

Nǐ gào su wǒ nǐ xiē yī fu shì xǐ de,
nǐ xiē shì gān xǐ de. Tell me which of these clothes are
to be washed, and which dry-cleaned.

8.13.1

M-words (other than those for money and weights) that have been encountered in the first 8 units are listed below. Additional ones can be found in the Appendix to this unit.

bǎ	<i>items with handles</i> Nèi bǎ hóng de shì wǒ de. [sǎn] Sān bǎ yǐ zi bú gòu. yì bǎ dāo	The red one’s mine. [umbrella] 3 chairs aren’t enough. a knife
bāo	<i>pack of</i> yì bāo yān	a pack of cigarettes
běn	<i>books</i> Zhǐ yǒu liǎng běn. Mǎi <yì> běn Zhōngguó dì tú ba.	[I] only have 2 [dictionaries]. Why not buy a Chinese atlas?
céng	<i>floor; story</i> liù céng lóu	a 6 story building
chuàn	<i>bunch; string of</i> Nèi chuàn yào shì shì shéi de? Yí chuàn duō shao qián? Mǎi yí chuàn pú tao gěi tā ba.	Whose are those keys? How much for a bunch [of bananas]? Why not buy her a bunch of grapes?
dài	<i>bag of</i> Zěn me mài? / Yí dài sān máo.	How’re [they] sold? / 30 cents a bag.
dǐng	<i>things with points, tops</i> Tā xiǎng mǎi yì dǐng hóng mào zi. Chuáng shàng yǒu yì dǐng wén zhāng.	She wants to buy a red hat. There was a mosquito net over the bed.
fèn	<i>newspapers; copies</i> liǎng fèn bào èr shí fèn	2 newspapers 20 copies

gè	<i>people; various things; 'the general M'</i>	
	liǎng ge Zhōngguó péngyou	2 Chinese friends
	sì ge cài yí ge tāng	4 dishes and a soup
	yí ge wèntí	a question; problem
	sì ge dōngxì	4 things
	něi ge chéngshì	which city?
	nèi sān ge júzi	those 3 tangerines
jiàn	<i>items of business, clothing, luggage</i>	
	yí jiàn shìqìng	an item of business
	Yǒu xíngli ma? / Yǒu yí jiàn.	Any luggage? / I have one piece.
	Nèi jiàn tàofú hěn piàoliang.	That's a pretty dress.
kǒu	<i>people</i>	
	Jiā lǐ yǒu liù kǒu rén.	There are 6 in my family.
liàng	<i>vehicles</i>	
	Zài Měiguó yǒu liǎng liàng chē de	In the US, quite a number of people
	bù shǎo!	have two cars.
mén	<i>course of</i>	
	yì mén Zhōngwén kè	a Chinese course
	yǒurén dú liù qī mén kè	some people take 6-7 courses
táng	<i>period [in school]; class</i>	
	Wǒ xiàwǔ hái yǒu liǎng táng.	I still have 2 more classes in the
		afternoon.
tiáo	<i>long, sinuous things (roads, rivers, fish, some animals)</i>	
	Zhōngguó yǒu liǎng tiáo dà hé.	China has two main rivers.
	Zhèi tiáo xīnwén hěn yǒu yìsi.	This item of news is quite interesting.
	Liǎng zhī jī, yì tiáo yú.	Two chickens, one fish.
wèi	<i>polite M for people</i>	
	Nín [shì] něi wèi?	Who is it [please]?
	Zhèi wèi shì wǒ de lǎoshī.	This is my teacher.
zhāng	<i>flat things</i>	
	Wǒ mǎi le liǎng zhāng [piào].	I bought 2 [tickets].
	Kànkàn zhèi zhāng dìtú ba.	Why don't you take a look at this
		map.
zhī	<i>certain animals</i>	
	yì zhī māo / gǒu / niǎo / jī	a cat / dog / bird / chicken

zuò *for structures, mountains*
 yí zuò qiáo a bridge
 Xībīān yǒu yí zuò shān. There's a mountain in the west.

Exercise 10

Provide Chinese equivalents:

1. Which one's yours? [umbrellas] / That large one.
2. Expensive ones aren't necessarily the best. [umbrellas]
3. One of them's imported and one of them's Chinese. [bikes]
4. One cup's enough! [coffee]
5. Have you read today's paper? I have two copies!
6. From here, walk straight ahead; there's a tall building on the right – that's the post office (yóujú).
7. We're out of beer; you'd better buy another 6.
8. In China, cars aren't as expensive as they used to be; nowadays, you can get a good one for about 120,000 yuan.
9. Which one of these bikes is yours? / That one – the old one.

8.14 Aspirations

Máo Zédōng, late in his era, used to talk about the sì yǒu, literally 'the four haves', but usually translated as 'the four musts': a bicycle, radio, watch and sewing machine. Later Dèng Xiǎopíng added the bā dà 'the 8 bigs' (the rest of the list below). Now, people talk, humorously, about the xīn de sì yǒu 'the new 4 musts': chē, fáng, kuǎn and xíng, which make abbreviated reference to 'a car', 'a house', 'money (funds)' and 'fashion [what's in]'. The three sets listed below can be roughly associated with particular eras, eg qīshí niándài 'the 70s', as indicated:

qīshí niándài

shǒubiǎo
 féngrenjī
 zìxíngchē
 shōuyīnjī

literal meanings

hand-watch
 sewing-machine
 self-power-machine
 receive-sound-machine

ie

watch
 sewing maching
 bicycle
 radio

bāshí niándài

xǐyījī
 diànbīngxiāng
 diànshàn
 mótuōchē

wash-clothes-machine
 electric-ice-box
 electric-fan
 mo-tor-vehicle

washing machine
 refrigerator
 electric fan
 motorcycle

jiǔshí niándài

cǎidiàn
 yīnxiǎng
 yí tào jiājù
 zhàoxiàngjī

'cǎisè de diànshì'
 sound-resound
 a suite [of] furniture
 reflect-image-machine

color TV
 stereo
 set of furniture
 camera



In the bike lane, Kunming.

Exercise 11.

Place the following words in short phrases that show your understanding of their difference:

shìjiè	qīngchū	Yīngyǔ	niánjí	yǒumíng	guójí
shíjiān	qīngcài	yǐjing	biaozhun	yǒuyìsi	lǎojiā
shíhou	jīngji	yìqián	cháodài	yǒu dàolǐ	guójiā
shìqing	cāntīng	yóuyǒng	yǒuyòng	yùndòng	yīnyuè

8.15 Highlights

Sports	Nǐ xīhuan shénme yàng de yùndòng? Nǐ cháng duànliàn ma?
Non-compar.	Jīntiān xiāngdāng rè. Jīntiān rè+de bùdeliǎo.
Compar.	Běijīng bǐ Tiānjīn dà yìdiǎnr ~ dà duōle. Bǐ Běijīng duō jǐ bǎiwàn. Běijīng méiyǒu Shànghǎi <nàme> dà. Běijīng bùrú Shànghǎi dà. Tā Hànyǔ jiǎng+de bǐ wǒ hǎo!
Approx One of... Population Bargaining	Miányáng zài Chéngdū de dōngběi, yǒu yìbǎi gōnglǐ zuǒyòu. Shànghǎi de Jīnmào Dàshà shì shìjiè shàng zuì gāo de dàlóu zhīyī. Tiānjīn rénkǒu shì bābǎiwàn zuǒyòu. Kěyǐ shǎo yìdiǎnr ma? Kěyǐ dǎzhé<kòu> ma? Nà hǎo ba, mài gei nǐ ba.

Some more	Duō chī yìdiǎnr cài! Qǐng duō lái sān bēi. Zài chī yìdiǎnr ba.
Toasts	Lái, lái, gānbēi. Zhù nǐ jiànkāng, jīng nǐ yì bēi.
Imports	Yǒu jìnkǒu de yě yǒu guóchǎn de, nǐ yào nǎi zhǒng?
Change	Zhǎo nǐ qī kuài liù.
Things	Shìqing dōu bànwán le ma?
Completely	Bù wánquán yíyàng.
DE	Huì shuō Guǎngdōnghuà de rén yíding tīngdedǒng Pǔtōnghuà ma?
Hútònggr	Yīqián de hútònggr shì xiànzài de gòuwù-zhōngxīn le.
Jobs	Bàba jiāoshū, māma dāng yīshēng.
Sequence le	Wǒ chī le fàn jiu huíjiā.
Seq. le (past)	Wǒ chī le fàn jiu huíjiā le.
Quant. Obj.	Zuótiān shuì le bā ge xiǎoshí <de jiào>. Mǎi le jǐ jiàn chènshān.
V-directionals	Wǒ bāng nǐ fànghuíqu, hǎo bu hǎo.
Forgot	Wǒ de hùzhào wàng zai fēijī shàng le.
Remember	Jìbùqīngchu. Xiǎngqǐlai le.
M-words	Zhèi xiē sǎn, nǎi bǎ shì nǐ de?

8.16 Rhymes and rhythms

a) Rhymes like the one in Unit 3 that begins èrlóu sānlóu, chǎngzhǎng shūjì, or the one in Unit 5, beginning néng hē yì jīn, hē bā liǎng, are called shùnkǒuliūr in Chinese, meaning something like ‘tripping off the tongue’, a contagious style of doggerel as well as a way of venting frustration towards the powerful and privileged. One productive pattern of shùnkǒuliūr takes as its start a rough estimate of the population of China, and estimates the percentage – usually 90% – who indulge in some dubious activity: shíyì rénmín jiùyì (verb) '[among] 1 billion people, 900 million [verb]'. Here are some examples from a recent article by Hua Lin in the *Journal of the Chinese Language Teachers Association* (vol. 36.1, 2001). The first one comments wryly on the Chinese predilection for gambling and the current interest in ballroom dancing; the second is directed to officials who live off government largesse.

Shíyì rénmín jiùyì dǔ
hái yǒu yíyì zài tiàowǔ.

1-billion people 900-million gamble
still have 100-million be-at dancing.

Shíyì rénmín jiùyì máng,
hái yǒu yíyì chī huángliáng.

1-billion people 900-million busy
still have 100-million eat imperial-grain

b) Now, a less cynical rhyme, about the moon:

Yuè guāngguāng, zhào gǔchǎng,	moon bright, shine+on grain-fields
gǔchǎng shàng, nóng rén máng.	grain-fields on, farmers busy
Jīnnián dào gǔ shōuchéng hǎo,	this-year rice harvest good
jiājiā hùhù lètáotáo.	every household full+of+joy

c) And finally, a never-ending story:

Cóngqián yǒu yí zuò shān,	Formerly have a M mountain,
shān lǐ yǒu ge miào,	mountain on have M temple,
miào lǐ yǒu ge héshàng jiǎng gùshi;	temple in have M priest tell story;
jiǎng de shénme gùshi?	tell DE what story?
Cóngqián yǒu zuò shān	Formerly have M mountain....



‘Línyì’ Shípǐndiàn (Linyi’s provisions shop), Běijīng

Appendix: Additional Measure Words

bān	<i>regularly scheduled trips (flights etc.)</i>	
	Měi tiān zhǐ yǒu liǎng bān.	Only two trips/flights a day.
chǎng	<i>shows, movies, plays</i>	
	Jīntiān qī diǎn yǒu yì chǎng.	There’s a show tonight at 7:00.
dùn	<i>meals [‘pauses’]</i>	
	Tāmen měi tiān chī sān dùn fàn.	They eat 3 meals a day.

duǒ	<i>flowers</i> Mǎi yì duǒ huā gěi tā ba. Yì duǒ ne, zhème shǎo?	Why don't you buy her a flower. <i>One? So few?</i>
dào	<i>course [of food]</i> Dì-yī dào bú cuò, kěshì dì-èr wǒ juéde wèidào bú tài hǎo.	The first course wasn't bad, but the the second didn't taste so good, I thought.
duàn	<i>part, section</i> Dì-yī duàn, nǐ niàn gěi wǒmen tīngting, hǎo bu hǎo?	Read the first paragraph for us, okay?
fēng	<i>letters</i> yì fēng xìn	a letter
jiā	<i>companies, businesses</i> Zài nèi jiā gōngsī gōngzuò hěn xīnkǔ. Nèi jiā fànguǎnr zěnmeyàng?	It's tough working for that company. How's that restaurant?
jià overlaps with tái	<i>Airplanes, contraptions, constructions</i> Nǐ kàn nèi jià fēijī, nàme dī! Nèi liǎng jià zhàoxiàngjī, yí jià shì wǒ de, yí jià shì tā de.	Look at that plane, so low! One of those two cameras is mine, one's hers.
jù	<i>sentence</i> Nǐ shuō yí jù huà, jiù xíng. (cf. Shuō yí ge jùzi.)	One sentence'll be enough. Say a sentence.)
kē	<i>tufts, trees</i> yì kē shù yì kē yān	a tree a cigarette
pǐ	<i>horses</i> yì pǐ mǎ	a horse
piān	<i>articles, stories</i> yì piān wénzhāng yì piān gùshi	an article a story
piàn	<i>slice of, expanse of</i> yí piàn miànbāo	a slice of bread

shù	<i>bouquet, bunch, bundle</i> Tāmen qǐng nǐ chīfàn, nà, nǐ kěyǐ mǎi yí shù huā gěi tāmen.	[If] they invite you to dinner, well, you can buy them a bouquet of flowers.
suǒ	<i>buildings [dòng in Taiwan]</i> Nàr yǒu liǎng suǒ xuéxiào. Nǐ kàn, nèi suǒ shì tāmen de.	There are a couple of schools there. Look, that one's theirs. [house]
tái overlaps with jià	<i>platform; appliances, machines; also plays, performances ('stages')</i> Fángjiān lǐ yǒu liǎng tái diànshì, yě yǒu yì tái diànnǎo.	There are two TVs in the room and a computer.
tóu	<i>cattle; head of</i> yì tóu niú	a cow
zhèn	<i>bout of, burst of</i> Zhèi zhèn fēng hěn lihai. yí zhèn yǔ (cf. zhènyǔ)	That gust was terrific! a shower of rain (cf. 'rainshowers')
zhī	<i>pens, candles ['stub']</i> yì zhī bǐ, liǎng zhī qiānbǐ	a pen, two pencils



Hong Kong: Kowloon street scene