

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 166 [English]

Kirin: Chinese Learn Online lesson 166 .

Hello everyone , I'm Kirin .

Raphael: Hello everyone , I'm Raphael .

Adam: And hello, I'm Adam.

Kirin: Welcome to Taiwan and our progressive course teaching Chinese . What are we studying today ?

Raphael: Today we are going to listen to a conversation between a teacher and a student . Let's first listen to today's dialogue at normal speed .

Yann: Why didn't you write your homework ?

Cindy: I can't write some of these characters .

Yann: Then you can use a dictionary .

Cindy: I know , but I forgot to take my dictionary home yesterday .

Yann: Ok, you can first use pinyin to write down your answer , then after class , you can give me your homework .

Raphael: Let's listen again to today's dialogue at a slower speed . Please repeat after Kirin .

Kirin: Why didn't you write your homework ?

I can't write some of these characters .

Then you can use a dictionary .

I know .

But I forgot to take my dictionary home yesterday .

Ok, you can first use pinyin to write down your answer .

Then after class .

You can give me your homework .

Raphael: Let's explain today's dialogue . The first line is

Kirin: Why didn't you write your homework ?

Raphael: Do you remember what “gōngkè” (homework) means ?

Adam: That means “homework.”

Raphael: So what does this question mean ?

Kirin: Why didn't you write your homework ?

Adam: The literal meaning is “You why not have write your homework” which becomes “How come you haven't done your homework?”

Kirin: Why didn't you write your homework ?

Raphael: The student then replies

Kirin: I can't write some of these characters .

Raphael: We have studied all these words before .

Adam: The literal meaning here is “Have some characters I can't write” as in “There are some characters that I don't know how to write.”

Kirin: I can't write some of these characters .

Raphael: We often hear this line in Chinese schools . Since there are too many Chinese characters for the student to study , some of the more difficult characters , are often forgotten .

Kirin: I can't write some of these characters .

Raphael: The teacher then says

Kirin: Then you can use a dictionary .

Raphael: The first new word for today is

Kirin: Dictionary .

Adam: And that means “dictionary.”

Raphael: If a student can't write a character , he can use a dictionary . The dictionary will clearly tell them the character's meaning , as well as how to write it . If the student wants to know a new word's meaning , he can use

Kirin: Dictionary .

Adam: So back to our conversation

Kirin: Then you can use a dictionary .

Adam: “So you can use a dictionary.”

Raphael: The student then says

Kirin: I know , but I forgot to take my dictionary home yesterday .

Raphael: Previously we taught you the word “wàng” (to forget) . Do you still remember what “wàng” (to forget) means ?

Adam: That means “to forget.”

Raphael: Here we saw

Kirin: To forget .

Raphael: It’s “wàng” (to forget) with the “ji” in “jìde” (to remember) .

Adam: So that literally means “forget to remember.”

Kirin: I know , but I forgot to take my dictionary home yesterday .

Raphael: Do you remember what “bǎ” (to grasp) means ?

Adam: That means “to hold” or “to grasp.”

Raphael: And what does “dài” (to bring) mean ?

Adam: That’s the verb “to bring” so that gives us a literal meaning of “I know but I yesterday forgot to grasp dictionary take go home” which becomes “I know, but I forgot to take my dictionary home yesterday.”

Kirin: I know , but I forgot to take my dictionary home yesterday .

Raphael: The teacher then says

Kirin: Ok, you can first use pinyin to write down your answer .

Raphael: The next new word for today is

Kirin: [Answer](#) .

Adam: And that means “answer.” Note that this is the noun form of “answer.” Do you remember the verb “to answer” that we taught you before?

Kirin: [To reply](#) .

Adam: So back to our dialogue we have

Kirin: [Ok, you can first use pinyin to write down your answer](#) .

Adam: which literally gives us “Ok, you first use pinyin grasp answer write down come.” Note how [to hold](#) is being used metaphorically here to put the answer down on paper. And at the end of the sentence we have [to write down](#) which means “to write down.”

Kirin: [Ok, you can first use pinyin to write down your answer](#) .

Adam: “Ok, first use pinyin to write your answer down.”

Raphael: [He then continues](#)

Kirin: [Then after class , You can give me your homework](#) .

Raphael: [What does “děng” \(wait\) mean ?](#)

Adam: That means “wait.” “Wait Until when?”

Kirin: [After class](#) .

Raphael: [What does “xiàkè” \(after class\) mean ?](#)

Adam: That means “to finish class.” The [after](#) here means “after,” giving us “after class ends.”

Kirin: [Then after class , You can give me your homework](#) .

Adam: There are a couple of characters worth looking at here. We’ll start with [to hand in](#) at the end which we saw recently can be used to make friends.

Kirin: [To make a friend](#) .

Adam: Here it has a completely different meaning of to “hand in” or “deliver something”, which in this case is the homework to the teacher.

Kirin: Then after class , You can give me your homework .

Adam: The other character in there worth looking at is [again](#) which we know means “again.” Here it’s actually being used as part of a construction with the [first](#) from the previous sentence. Together they form the construct of you first do something then do something else.

Kirin: You first do something, then do something .

Adam: So in our example here we had

Kirin: You can first use pinyin to write down your answer , then after class , you can give me your homework .

Adam: “First use pinyin to write down your answer, then after class hand in your homework to me.”

Raphael: Let’s listen again to today’s dialogue at normal speed .

Yann: Why didn’t you write your homework ?

Cindy: I can’t write some of these characters .

Yann: Then you can use a dictionary .

Cindy: I know , but I forgot to take my dictionary home yesterday .

Yann: Ok, you can first use pinyin to write down your answer , then after class , you can give me your homework .

Adam: Great ! For more examples of the vocabulary taught in this and earlier lessons, plus more examples of the xian / zai construct listen to the podcast review for this lesson, available to premium subscribers at ChineseManual.com

Kirin: Continue to keep at it !