

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 196 [English]

Kirin: Chinese Learn Online lesson 196 .

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 .

Raphael: Let's listen to our dialogue at normal speed .

Cindy: Why do you look so tired these past few days ?

Yann: My apartment building's elevator is broken . So lately I keep having to take the stairs .

Cindy: This is a good exercise for you .

Yann: Going down is okay , but going up is very tiring . Especially when carrying many things .

Cindy: So did anyone go to fix it ?

Yann: It's fixed . This saves me a lot of time , since I have many things to do . I can't imagine life without an elevator .

Raphael: Let's listen again to the dialogue at a slower speed .

Kirin: Why do you look so tired these past few days ?

My apartment building's elevator is broken .

So lately I keep having to take the stairs .

This is a good exercise for you .

Going down is okay ,

but going up is very tiring .

Especially when carrying many things .

So did anyone go to fix it ?

It's fixed .

This saves me a lot of time , since I have many things to do . I can't imagine life without an elevator .

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

Kirin: Why do you look so tired these past few days ?

Raphael: Qiān jǐtiān means the past few days . This woman feels that this man looks tired during that time . So she asks him this question .

Kirin: Why do you look so tired these past few days ?

Raphael: The man then replies

Kirin: The elevator in my apartment building is broken .

Raphael: This sentence has two new words . The first new word is

Kirin: Building .

Adam: Building.

Raphael: The second new word is

Kirin: Elevator .

Adam: Elevator.

Raphael: In Asia, many people live in apartments . Older apartments don't have elevators , but now most buildings have elevators , this makes it more convenient . But in the place the man lives , the elevator there is broken . So what can he do ? He says

Kirin: So lately I've had to keep using the stairs .

Raphael: Today's next new word is

Kirin: Stairs .

Adam: Stairs.

Raphael: If you live in a bigger building . Taking the stairs everyday can be quite exhausting . The woman then replies

Kirin: This is good exercise for you .

Raphael: Normally when we are at work , we seldom have time to exercise . So this woman feels that taking the stairs everyday is a good opportunity to exercise . The man then says

Kirin: Coming downstairs is okay , but climbing up is tiring .

Raphael: Zǒu xià lóu means to go down . For example going from the third floor to the first floor , this is going downstairs . As well, in this conversation , the opposite of zǒu xià lóu is to climb up . So today's next new word is

Kirin: To climb .

Adam: To climb.

Raphael: Normally, it's simpler to come downstairs than to climb upstairs . So this man thinks that climbing upstairs to his apartment , is very tiring for him . He then says

Kirin: Especially when carrying many things .

Raphael: Normally when we carry many things , our walking will become slower . As well we will feel tired . Now if you are carrying heavier things , and as well have to climb upstairs , this will really exhausting . The woman then asks

Kirin: So did anyone go to fix it ?

Raphael: Today's next new word is

Kirin: To fix .

Adam: To fix.

Raphael: When our things break down , if we still want to use them , we have to take them to get fixed . So this woman wants to know if anyone went to fix this elevator . The man then replies

Kirin: It's fixed .

Raphael: Xiū hǎo le means that it has already finished being fixed , so it means that right now the elevator doesn't have any problems . He then says

Kirin: This saves me a lot of time .

Raphael: We have taught this shěng before . But here , this shěng has a different meaning .

Kirin: To save .

Adam: To save.

Raphael: As well, *bù shǎo* here means “many”. So what he means is that , if he takes the elevator , he can save a lot of time , because taking the elevator is faster than taking the stairs . He then continues

Kirin: Since I’m busy doing many things , I can’t imagine a life without an elevator .

Raphael: Today’s last new word is

Kirin: To imagine .

Adam: We’ve seen both these characters before. The literal meaning is “to think like”, and together that means “to imagine.”

Kirin: I can’t imagine a life without an elevator .

Raphael: What he means is that , he is used to using the elevator everyday to go down . So if one day , if the apartment building he lives in doesn’t have an elevator , his life will become very inconvenient .

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

Cindy: Why do you look so tired these past few days ?

Yann: My apartment building’s elevator is broken . So lately I keep having to take the stairs .

Cindy: This is a good exercise for you .

Yann: Going down is okay , but going up is very tiring . Especially when carrying many things .

Cindy: So did anyone go to fix it ?

Yann: It’s fixed . This saves me a lot of time , since I have many things to do . I can’t imagine life without an elevator .

Raphael: If you need to , you can go to our website chineselearnonline-com to get more practice .

Kirin: Keep at it !