LESSON 11
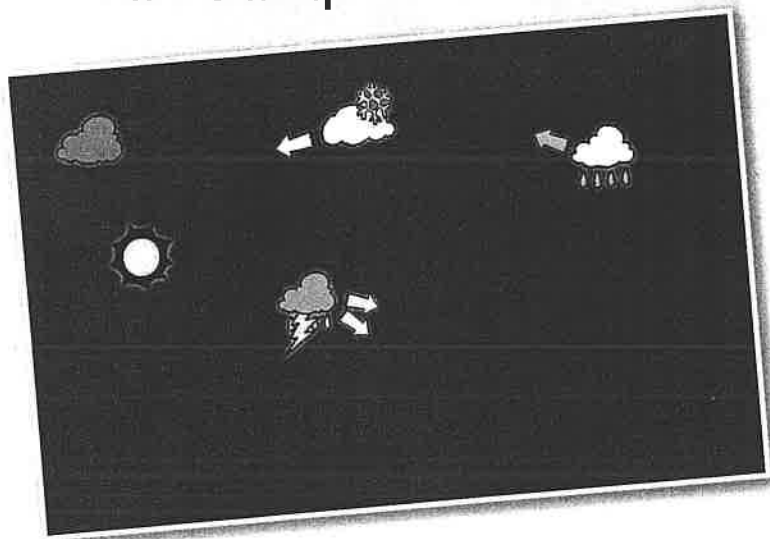
Talking about the Weather

第十一课 谈天气

Dì shíyī kè   Tán tiānqì

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this lesson, you will learn to use Chinese to

- Employ basic terms for weather patterns and phenomena;
- Describe simple weather changes;
- Compare the weather of two places;
- Talk about what you may do in nice or bad weather;
- Present a simple weather forecast.

RELATE AND GET READY

In your own culture/community—

1. What is the typical weather in spring, summer, autumn, and winter?
2. Where do people get information about weather?
3. What weather-related outdoor sports are popular, if any?
4. How do people feel about rain or snow?

Dialogue I: Tomorrow's Weather Will Be Even Better!

(Gao Xiaoyin is looking out the window.)

今天天气比^① 昨天好，不下雪了^②。

我约了朋友明天去公园滑冰，不知道天气会^③怎么样？

我刚才看了网上的天气预报，明天天气比今天更好。不但不会下雪，而且❶ 会暖和一点儿^④。

是吗？太好了！

LANGUAGE NOTES

❶ In a sentence with the 不但 (búdàn)···，而且 (érqiě)··· (not only…, but also…) structure, the conjunction 而且 (érqiě) in the second clause is generally required, while the conjunction 不但 (búdàn) in the first clause is optional.

你约了谁去滑冰？

白英爱。

你约了白英爱？可是她今天早上坐飞机去纽约了。

真的啊？那我明天怎么办？

你还是在家看碟❷吧！

❷ 碟 (dié) means a small plate or something that resembles a small plate. It is now often used to refer to DVDs. The phrase 看碟 (kàn dié) thus means to watch a movie or TV series on DVD.

Jīntiān tiānqì bǐ① zuótiān hǎo, bú xià xuě le②.

Wǒ yuē le péngyou míngtiān qù gōngyuán huá bīng, bù zhīdào tiānqì huì③ zěnmeyàng?

Wǒ gāngcái kàn le wǎng shang de tiānqì yùbào, míngtiān tiānqì bǐ jīntiān gèng hǎo. Búdàn bú huì xià xuě, érqiě❶ huì nuǎnhuo yì diǎnr④.

Shì ma? Tài hǎo le!

Nǐ yuē le shéi qù huá bīng?

Bái Yīng'ài.

Nǐ yuē le Bái Yīng'ài? Kěshì tā jīntiān zǎoshang zuò fēijī qù Niǔyuē le.

Zhēn de a? Nà wǒ míngtiān zěnmebàn?

Nǐ háishi zài jiā kàn dié❷ ba!

天气预报
tiānqì yùbào

明天天气预报
（8月2日20时—8月3日20时）

| 35°C | 30°C | 20°C | 15°C | 10°C | 5°C |

VOCABULARY

1.	天气	tiānqì	n	weather
2.	比	bǐ	prep/v	(comparison marker); to compare [See Grammar 1.]
3.	下雪	xià xuě	vo	to snow
4.	约	yuē	v	to make an appointment
5.	公园	gōngyuán	n	park
6.	滑冰	huá bīng	vo	to ice skate
7.	会	huì	mv	will [See Grammar 3.]
8.	刚才	gāngcái	t	just now; a moment ago
9.	网上	wǎng shàng		on the internet
10.	预报	yùbào	v	to forecast
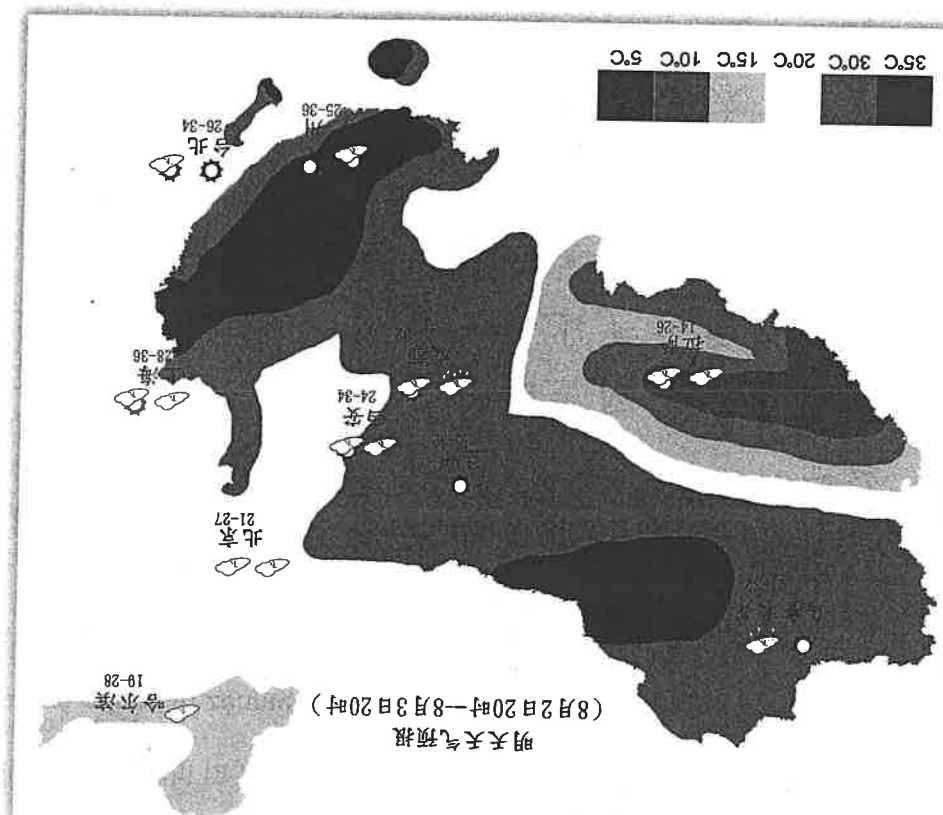
VOCABULARY

11.	更	gèng	adv	even more
12.	不但…，而且…	búdàn…, érqiě…	conj	not only…, but also…
13.	暖和	nuǎnhuo	adj	warm
14.	冷	lěng	adj	cold
15.	办	bàn	v	to handle; to do
16.	碟	dié	n	disc; small plate, dish, saucer

世界主要城市天气

城市	天气	气温(℃)	城市	天气	气温(℃)
华盛顿		33/21	新德里		36/28
纽约		31/21	德黑兰		36/26
芝加哥		30/20	莫斯科		23/15
洛杉矶		25/18	圣彼得堡		23/15
旧金山		21/13	伊斯坦布尔		30/22
温哥华		23/13	雅典		35/22
蒙特利尔		28/18	布拉格		22/7
多伦多		30/17	日内瓦		26/14
阿卡波克		23/12	法兰克福		23/9
巴西利亚		17/11	柏林		21/10
里约热内卢		21/16	慕尼黑		23/8
布宜诺斯艾利斯		13/5	巴黎		23/12
圣地亚哥		14/4	里昂		29/20
东京		29/11	都柏林		22/12
曼谷		34/26	伦敦		23/11
新加坡		30/25	斯德马尔摩		22/13

纽约今天会不会下雪？
Niǔyuē jīntiān huì bú huì xià xuě?

Grammar

1. Comparative Sentences with 比 (bǐ) (I)

Specific comparison of two entities is usually expressed with the basic pattern

A + 比 (bǐ) + B + Adj

❶ 李友比她大姐高。

Lǐ Yǒu bǐ tā dàjiě gāo.

(Li You is taller than her oldest sister.)

❷ 今天比昨天冷。

Jīntiān bǐ zuótiān lěng.

(Today is colder than yesterday.)

❸ 第十课的语法比第九课的语法容易。

Dì shí kè de yǔfǎ bǐ dì jiǔ kè de yǔfǎ róngyì.

(Lesson Ten's grammar is easier than Lesson Nine's grammar.)

There are two ways in which the basic comparative construction may be further modified: a) by adding a modifying expression after the adjective:

A + 比 (bǐ) + B + Adj + 一点儿/得多/多了 (yì diǎnr/de duō/duō le)

❹ 今天比昨天冷一点。

Jīntiān bǐ zuótiān lěng yì diǎn.

(Today is a bit colder than yesterday.)

(4a) *今天比昨天一点儿冷。

*Jīntiān bǐ zuótiān yì diǎnr lěng.

❺ 明天会比今天冷得多。

Míngtiān huì bǐ jīntiān lěng de duō.

(Tomorrow will be much colder than today.)

❻　纽约比这儿冷多了/冷得多。

Niǔyuē bǐ zhèr lěng duō le/lěng de duō.

(New York is much colder than here.)

Note that the modifying expression must be placed after the adjective, not before it.

(6a)　*纽约比这儿很冷。

*Niǔyuē bǐ zhèr hěn lěng.

"Much colder" is 冷多了 (lěng duō le) or 冷得多 (lěng de duō), not 很冷 (hěn lěng, very cold).

b) by adding the adverb 更 (gèng) or the adverb 还 (hái) in front of the adjective:

A + 比 (bǐ) + B + 更/还 (gèng/hái) + Adj

❼　昨天冷，今天比昨天更冷/今天比昨天还冷。

Zuótiān lěng, jīntiān bǐ zuótiān gèng lěng/jīntiān bǐ zuótiān hái lěng.

(Yesterday was cold. Today is even colder than yesterday.)

跟 (gēn) and 和 (hé) can be used in another type of comparative sentence:

A 跟/和 B (不) 一样 + Adj (A gēn/hé B {bù} yíyàng + Adj)

However, unlike a comparative sentence with 比 (bǐ), a comparative sentence with 跟 (gēn) or 和 (hé) only indicates whether two things or persons exhibit the same degree of an attribute, without specifying which of the two exhibits it to a greater or lesser degree.

Compare (8a) with (8b) and (8c) with (8d).

❽　**a:**　这个教室和那个教室一样大。

Zhè ge jiàoshì hé nà ge jiàoshì yíyàng dà.

(This classroom and that classroom are the same size.)

b:　这个教室跟那个教室不一样大。

Zhè ge jiàoshì gēn nà ge jiàoshì bù yíyàng dà.

(This classroom and that classroom are not the same size.)

c:　这个教室比那个教室大。

Zhè ge jiàoshì bǐ nà ge jiàoshì dà.

(This classroom is larger than that classroom.)

d: 这个教室比那个教室大得多。

Zhè ge jiàoshì bǐ nà ge jiàoshì dà de duō.

(This classroom is much larger than that classroom.)

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2. The Particle 了 (le) (III): 了 as a Sentence-Final Particle
[See also Grammar 5 in Lesson 5 and Grammar 5 in Lesson 8.]

When 了 (le) occurs at the end of a sentence, it usually indicates a change of status or the realization of a new situation.

❶ 下雪了。

Xià xuě le.

(It's snowing now.)

❷ 妹妹累了。

Mèimei lèi le.

(My sister has become tired.)

❸ 我昨天没有空儿，今天有空儿了。

Wǒ zuótiān méiyǒu kòngr, jīntiān yǒu kòngr le.

(I didn't have time yesterday, but I do today.)

❹ 你看，公共汽车来了。

Nǐ kàn, gōnggòng qìchē lái le.

(Look, the bus is here.)

When used in this sense, 了 (le) can still be used at the end of a sentence even if the sentence is in the negative.

❺ 我没有钱了，不买了。

Wǒ méiyǒu qián le, bù mǎi le.

(I don't have any money [left]. I won't buy it anymore.)

Remember that to negate 有 (yǒu, to have), one uses 没 (méi), not 不 (bù).

3. The Modal Verb 会 (huì, will) (II) [See also Grammar 9 in Lesson 8.]

会(huì) indicates an anticipated event or action.

❶   白老师现在不在办公室，可是他明天会在。

Bái lǎoshī xiànzài bú zài bàngōngshì, kěshì tā míngtiān huì zài.

(Teacher Bai is not in the office now, but he will be tomorrow.)

❷ A: 你明年做什么？

Nǐ míngnián zuò shénme?

(What will you do next year?)

   B: 我明年会去英国学英文。

Wǒ míngnián huì qù Yīngguó xué Yīngwén.

(I'll go to Britain to learn English next year.)

❸   他说他晚上会给你发短信。

Tā shuō tā wǎnshang huì gěi nǐ fā duǎnxìn.

(He said he will send you a text message this evening.)

The negative form of 会 (huì) is 不会 (bú huì):

❹   小王觉得不舒服，今天不会来滑冰了。

Xiǎo Wáng juéde bù shūfu, jīntiān bú huì lái huá bīng le.

(Little Wang is not feeling well. He won't come ice skating today after all.)

❺   她这几天特别忙，晚上不会去听音乐会。

Tā zhè jǐ tiān tèbié máng, wǎnshang bú huì qù tīng yīnyuèhuì.

(She is very busy these days. She won't be going to the concert tonight.)

❻   天气预报说这个周末不会下雪。

Tiānqì yùbào shuō zhè ge zhōumò bú huì xià xuě.

(The weather forecast says that it won't snow this weekend.)

4. Adj+（一）点儿 ({yì} diǎnr)

The expression （一）点儿 ({yì} diǎnr) can be placed after an adjective to indicate slight qualification. 一 (yī) is optional.

❶ 前几天我很不高兴，昨天考试考得很好，我高兴点儿了。

Qián jǐ tiān wǒ hěn bù gāoxìng, zuótiān kǎo shì kǎo de hěn hǎo, wǒ gāoxìng diǎnr le.

(I was very unhappy a few days ago. I did very well on the exam yesterday. I am a little bit happier now.)

❷ 我妹妹比我姐姐高一点儿。

Wǒ meìmei bǐ wǒ jiějie gāo yì diǎnr.

(My younger sister is a bit taller than my older sister.)

❸ 你得快点儿，看电影要晚了。

Nǐ děi kuài diǎnr, kàn diànyǐng yào wǎn le.

(You'd better pick up the pace a bit, or you'll be late for the movie.)

❹ 今天比昨天冷点儿。

Jīntiān bǐ zuótiān lěng diǎnr.

(Today is a bit colder than yesterday.)

❺ 老师，请您说话说得慢一点儿。

Lǎoshī, qǐng nín shuō huà shuō de màn yì diǎnr.

(Teacher, would you please speak a little bit more slowly?)

（一）点儿 (yì diǎnr) does not precede the adjective. The following sentences are therefore incorrect:

(2a) *我妹妹比我姐姐一点儿高。

*Wǒ meìmei bǐ wǒ jiějie yì diǎnr gāo.

(4a) *今天比昨天一点儿冷。

*Jīntiān bǐ zuótiān yì diǎnr lěng.

(5a) *老师，请您说话说得一点儿慢。

*Lǎoshī, qǐng nín shuō huà shuō de yì diǎnr màn.

Language Practice

A. Let's Compare

a. Shopping for Shoes

You are helping a friend decide between two pairs of shoes. Please compare their colors, styles, and prices.

size: 8　　$90　　　　　　　　size: 8.5　　$100

b. Blind Date

You are out on a blind date. Your date is telling you his/her preferences, and would like to know yours. Let's see how compatible you and your date are.

EXAMPLE:　**Your date**

>

好吃 (hǎochī, good to eat; delicious)

我觉得美国菜比中国菜
好吃。你呢？

Wǒ juéde Měiguó cài bǐ Zhōngguó
cài hǎochī. Nǐ ne?

1.　　　>　　　好喝　　hǎohē (delicious to drink)

2.　　　>　　　难　　　nán

3.　　　>　　　慢　　　màn

B. Healthy Lifestyle Choices

Little Zhang decided to change his old habits in order to lead a healthier lifestyle. Let's see how he does things differently these days.

EXAMPLE:

past   present

他以前不吃早饭，
现在吃早饭了。

Tā yǐqián bù chī zǎofàn,

xiànzài chī zǎofàn le.

1.

2.

3.

C. Are You a Fan?

If you are a fan of Wang Peng, Li You, Bai Ying'ai, or Gao Wenzhong, and you know everything about them, what will you say when others ask questions about them? Let's practice using the structure 不但…而且… (búdàn…érqiě…).

EXAMPLE:

Someone asks

A: 王朋帅吗？ 高　　　　　　　　　Wáng Péng shuài ma?　gāo

You, as a fan, will answer

B: 王朋不但很帅，　　　　　　　　Wáng Péng búdàn hěn shuài,
　　而且很高。　　　　　　　　　érqiě hěn gāo.

Someone asks

A: 王朋喜欢看球吗？　　　　　　　Wáng Péng xǐhuan kàn qiú ma?

You, as a fan, will answer

B: 王朋不但喜欢看球，　　　　　　Wáng Péng búdàn xǐhuan kàn qiú,
　　而且喜欢打球。　　　　　　　　érqiě xǐhuan dǎ qiú.

1.

A: 高文中高吗？ 帅　　　　　　　　Gāo Wénzhōng gāo ma?　shuài

B:

E. Dating Dilemma

You can't make up your mind: "Who should I go out with, A or B?" A has numerous good qualities. Your friend points out that B at least equals A, if not in fact surpasses A. Or your friend reminds you that B trumps A in some other way.

EXAMPLE:

You: 我觉得A很帅/ 漂亮。

Wǒ juéde A hěn shuài/ piàoliang.

Friend: 可是B跟A一样 帅/漂亮。

Kěshì B gēn A yíyàng shuài/piàoliang.

不，不，不， B比A帅/漂亮多了。

Bù, bù, bù, B bǐ A shuài/piàoliang duō le.

Possible attributes to consider:

1. 高
2. 钱　多
3. 学习　好
4. 打球打得好

1. gāo
2. qián duō
3. xuéxí　　hǎo
4. dǎ qiú dǎ de hǎo

All considered:

_____ 比 _____ 好。

_____ bǐ _____ hǎo.

F. Recap and Narrate

Working with a partner, recap the content of Dialogue I:

1. 昨天的天气好不好？
2. 昨天下雪了吗？

1. Zuótiān de tiānqì hǎo bù hǎo?
2. Zuótiān xià xuě le ma?

3. 今天的天气好吗？
   明天呢？

4. 高文中约了谁去
   公园滑冰？

5. 白英爱能跟高文中
   去滑冰吗？为什么？

6. 高小音让高文中
   明天做什么？

3. Jīntiān de tiānqì hǎo ma?

   Míngtiān ne?

4. Gāo Wénzhōng yuē le shéi qù

   gōngyuán huá bīng?

5. Bái Yīng'ài néng gēn Gāo

   Wénzhōng qù huá bīng ma?

   Wèishénme?

6. Gāo Xiǎoyīn ràng Gāo

   Wénzhōng　míngtiān zuò

   shénme?

Using the words and phrases in blue as prompts, connect your answers above to form a narrative like this example:

现在是冬天，昨天下雪了，今天的天气比昨天好，不下雪了。天气预报说明天的天气更好，不但不会下雪，而且会暖和一点儿。高文中很高兴，因为他约了白英爱去公园滑冰。可是高小音告诉他，白英爱今天早上坐飞机去纽约了。高文中不知道。他问高小音他明天怎么办？高小音让他在家看碟。

Xiànzài shì dōngtiān, zuótiān xià xuě le, jīntiān de tiānqì bǐ zuótiān hǎo, bú xià xuě le. Tiānqì yùbào shuō míngtiān de tiānqì gèng hǎo, búdàn bú huì xià xuě, érqiě huì nuǎnhuo yì diǎnr. Gāo Wénzhōng hěn gāoxìng, yīnwèi tā yuē le Bái Yīng'ài qù gōngyuán huá bīng. Kěshì Gāo Xiǎoyīn gàosù tā, Bái Yīng'ài jīntiān zǎoshang zuò fēijī qù Niǔyuē le. Gāo Wénzhōng bù zhīdào. Tā wèn Gāo Xiǎoyīn tā míngtiān zěnmebàn? Gāo Xiǎoyīn ràng tā zài jiā kàn dié.

Dialogue II: The Weather Here Is Awful!

（高文中在网上找白英爱聊天儿。）

英爱，纽约那么好玩儿，你
怎么在网上，没出去？

这儿的天气非常糟糕。

怎么了？❶

昨天下大雨，今天又⑤下雨了。

这个周末这儿天气很好，你快一
点儿回来吧。

这个周末纽约也会暖和一点儿。
我下个星期有一个面试，还不能
回去。

我在加州找了一个工作，你也去吧。加州冬天不冷，夏天不热，春天和秋天更舒服。

加州好是好⑥，可是我更喜欢纽约。

(Gāo Wénzhōng zài wǎng shang zhǎo Bái Yīng'ài liáo tiānr.)

Yīng'ài, Niǔyuē nàme hǎowánr, nǐ zěnme zài wǎng shang, méi chū qu?

Zhèr de tiānqì fēicháng zāogāo.

Zěnme le?❶

Zuótiān xià dà yǔ, jīntiān yòu⑤ xià yǔ le.

Zhè ge zhōumò zhèr tiānqì hěn hǎo, nǐ kuài yì diǎnr huí lai ba.

Zhè ge zhōumò Niǔyuē yě huì nuǎnhuo yì diǎnr. Wǒ xià ge xīngqī yǒu yí ge miànshì, hái bù néng huí qu.

Wǒ zài Jiāzhōu zhǎo le yí ge gōngzuò, nǐ yě qù ba. Jiāzhōu dōngtiān bù lěng, xiàtiān bú rè, chūntiān hé qiūtiān gèng shūfu.

Jiāzhōu hǎo shì hǎo⑥, kěshì wǒ gèng xǐhuan Niǔyuē.

VOCABULARY

1.	那么	nàme	pr	(indicating degree) so, such
2.	好玩儿	hǎowánr	adj	fun, amusing, interesting
3.	出去	chū qu	vc	to go out
4.	非常	fēicháng	adv	very, extremely, exceedingly
5.	糟糕	zāogāo	adj	in a terrible mess; how terrible
6.	下雨	xià yǔ	vo	to rain
7.	又	yòu	adv	again [See Grammar 5.]

VOCABULARY

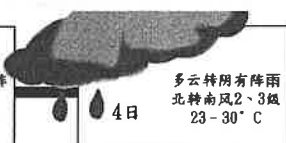|				
8.	面试	miànshì	v/n	to interview; interview
9.	回去	huí qu	vc	to go back; to return
10.	冬天	dōngtiān	n	winter
11.	夏天	xiàtiān	n	summer
12.	热	rè	adj	hot
13.	春天	chūntiān	n	spring
14.	秋天	qiūtiān	n	autumn; fall
15.	舒服	shūfu	adj	comfortable

Proper Nouns

16.	加州	Jiāzhōu		California

Weather 北京城区未来三天预报

今日	4日	5日
多云转阴有雷阵雨 偏南风2·3级 22-30°C	多云转阴有阵雨 北转南风2·3级 23-30°C	阴间多云有阵雨 北转南风2·3级 22-29°C

这是哪个城市的天气预报？

Zhè shì nǎ ge chéngshì de tiānqì yùbào?

Grammar

5. The Adverb 又 (yòu, again)

又 (yòu, again) indicates recurrence of an action.

❶   昨天早上下雪，今天早上又下雪了。

Zuótiān zǎoshang xià xuě, jīntiān zǎoshang yòu xià xuě le.

(It snowed yesterday morning. It snowed again this morning.)

❷   妈妈上个星期给我打电话，这个星期又给我
打电话了。

Māma shàng ge xīngqī gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà, zhè ge xīngqī yòu gěi wǒ dǎ

diànhuà le.

(My mom called me last weekend. She called me again this weekend.)

❸   他昨天复习了第八课的语法，今天又复习了。

Tā zuótiān fùxí le dì bā kè de yǔfǎ, jīntiān yòu fùxí le.

(He reviewed the grammar in Lesson Eight yesterday, and he reviewed it again
today.)

Both 又 (yòu, again) and 再 (zài, again) indicate repetition of an action, but in a
sentence with 又 (yòu, again), usually both the original action and the repetition
occurred in the past, whereas 再 (zài, again) indicates an anticipated repetition of
an action in general.

❹   我上个周末去跳舞了，昨天我又去跳舞了。

Wǒ shàng ge zhōumò qù tiào wǔ le, zuótiān wǒ yòu qù tiào wǔ le.

(I went dancing last weekend. Yesterday I went dancing again.)

❺   我昨天去跳舞了，我想明天晚上再去跳舞。

Wǒ zuótiān qù tiào wǔ le, wǒ xiǎng míngtiān wǎnshang zài qù tiào wǔ.

(I went dancing yesterday. I'm thinking of going dancing again tomorrow
night.)

6. Adj / V +是 (shì) + Adj / V, + 可是/但是 … (kěshì/dànshì…)

Sentences in this pattern usually imply that the speaker accepts the validity of a certain point of view but wishes to offer an alternative perspective or emphasize a different aspect of the matter.

① A: 滑冰难不难？

Huá bīng nán bu nán?

(Is ice skating difficult?)

B: 滑冰难是难，可是很有意思。

Huá bīng nán shì nán, kěshì hěn yǒu yìsi.

(It *is* difficult, but it is very interesting.)

② A: 在高速公路上开车，你紧张吗？

Zài gāosù gōnglù shang kāi chē, nǐ jǐnzhāng ma?

(Do you get nervous driving on the highway?)

B: 紧张是紧张，可是也很好玩儿。

Jǐnzhāng shì jǐnzhāng, kěshì yě hěn hǎowánr.

(I do get nervous, but I find it a lot of fun, too.)

③ A: 明天学校开会，你去不去？

Míngtiān xuéxiào kāi huì, nǐ qù bu qù?

(There is a meeting at school tomorrow. Will you go?)

B: 我去是去，可是会晚一点儿。

Wǒ qù shì qù, kěshì huì wǎn yì diǎnr.

(I'll go, but I will be a little bit late.)

❹ A: 你喜欢这张照片吗？

Nǐ xǐhuan zhè zhāng zhàopiàn ma?

(Do you like this picture?)

B: 喜欢是喜欢，可是这张照片太小了。

Xǐhuan shì xǐhuan, kěshì zhè zhāng zhàopiàn tài xiǎo le.)

(I like it, but this picture is too small.)

This pattern can be used only when the adjective or verb in it has already been mentioned, e.g., 难 (nán) in (1), 紧张 (jǐnzhāng) in (2), 去 (qù) in (3), and 喜欢 (xǐhuan) in (4). In this regard, it is different from the pattern 虽然… 可是/但是…(suīrán...kěshì/dànshì...).

Language Practice

G. Plan B

When you plan something and the weather does not cooperate, then what do you do? Ask and answer the following questions with your partner, and see if you can settle on an alternative.

EXAMPLE:

A: 我想出去玩儿，
可是下雨了。

Wǒ xiǎng chū qu wánr,
kěshì xià yǔ le.

B: 别出去了！还是
在家看电视吧。

Bié chū qu le! Háishi
zài jiā kàn diànshì ba.

1. A: 我想去买点儿东西，
可是雪下得很大。

Wǒ xiǎng qù mǎi diǎnr dōngxi,
kěshì xuě xià de hěn dà.

B: _____

2. A: 我想出去看朋友，
可是天气很糟糕。

Wǒ xiǎng chū qu kàn péngyou,
kěshì tiānqì hěn zāogāo.

B: _____

3. A: 我想去公园打球，
但是太热。

Wǒ xiǎng qù gōngyuán dǎ qiú,
dànshì tài rè.

B: _____

H. Little Zhang's Routine

The following chart shows what Little Zhang did last week. Let's recap by using
又 (yòu).

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

EXAMPLE:

→ 小张星期一看碟，
星期五又看碟。

Xiǎo Zhāng xīngqīyī kàn dié,
xīngqīwǔ yòu kàn dié.

1.

 →

2.

 →

I. Two Sides to Every Coin

Things are rarely simple. Take turns reminding each other to consider another factor.

EXAMPLE:

加州　　漂亮   Jiāzhōu   piàoliang

A: 加州很漂亮。   A: Jiāzhōu hěn piàoliang.

B: 加州漂亮是漂亮，   B: Jiāzhōu piàoliang shì piàoliang,
可是东西太贵了。   kěshì dōngxi tài guì le.

How about the following

1. 纽约　　　　有意思   Niǔyuē   yǒu yìsi

2. 坐地铁　　　便宜   zuò dìtiě   piányi

3. 坐公共汽车　慢   zuò gōnggòng qìchē   màn

4. 北京的冬天　下雪   Běijīng de dōngtiān   xià xuě

J. Beijing Weather

The following is a three-day weather forecast for Beijing. Give a report on which days the weather will be colder/warmer and how the weather will change, and compare it with the weather in your town.

next Monday   next Tuesday   next Wednesday

28°F   37°F   40°F

K. Recap and Narrate

Work with a partner, recap the content of Dialogue II:

1. 高文中说纽约好玩儿吗？

2. 白英爱在纽约为什么在房间里上网，没出去？

3. 高文中为什么让白英爱周末快一点儿回学校？

4. 白英爱这个周末能回学校吗？

5. 高文中在哪儿找了一个工作？

6. 高文中说那儿的天气怎么样？

7. 白英爱觉得那儿怎么样？

1. Gāo Wénzhōng shuō Niǔyuē hǎowánr ma?

2. Bái Yīng'ài zài Niǔyuē wèishénme zài fángjiān li shàng wǎng, méi chū qu?

3. Gāo Wénzhōng wèishénme ràng Bái Yīng'ài zhōumò kuài yì diǎnr huí xuéxiào?

4. Bái Yīng'ài zhè ge zhōumò néng huí xuéxiào ma?

5. Gāo Wénzhōng zài nǎr zhǎo le yí ge gōngzuò?

6. Gāo Wénzhōng shuō nàr de tiānqì zěnmeyàng?

7. Bái Yīng'ài juéde nàr zěnmeyàng?

Using the words and phrases in blue as prompts, connect your answers above to form a narrative like this example:

纽约很好玩儿，可是那儿现在的天气非常糟糕，昨天下大雨，今天又下大雨了。高文中说学校这儿周末的天气很好，让白英爱快一点儿回来。可是白英爱说纽约周末的天气也会好一点儿，而且她下个星期有一个面试，还不能回去。高文中在加州找了一个工作，他告诉英爱加州的天气很好，冬天不冷，夏天不热，春天和秋天更舒服，希望白英爱也去加州。英爱说，加州好是好，可是她更喜欢纽约。

Niǔyuē hěn hǎowánr, kěshì nàr xiànzài de tiānqì fēicháng zāogāo, zuótiān xià dà yǔ, jīntiān yòu xià dà yǔ le. Gāo Wénzhōng shuō xuéxiào zhèr zhōumò de tiānqì hěn hǎo, ràng Bái Yīng'ài kuài yì diǎnr huí lai. Kěshì Bái Yīng'ài shuō Niǔyuē zhōumò de tiānqì yě huì hǎo yì diǎnr, érqiě tā xià gè xīngqī yǒu yí ge miànshì, hái bù néng huí qu. Gāo Wénzhōng zài Jiāzhōu zhǎo le yí ge gōngzuò, tā gàosù Yīng'ài Jiāzhōu de tiānqì hěn hǎo, dōngtiān bù lěng, xiàtiān bú rè, chūntiān hé qiūtiān gèng shūfu, xīwàng Bái Yīng'ài yě qù Jiāzhōu. Yīng'ài shuō, Jiāzhōu hǎo shì hǎo, kěshì tā gèng xǐhuan Niǔyuē.

## HOW ABOUT YOU?

How's the weather where you are?

1.	潮湿	cháoshī	adj	wet; humid
2.	闷热	mēnrè	adj	hot and stifling
3.	凉快	liángkuai	adj	pleasantly cool
4.	晴天	qíngtiān	n	sunny day
5.	阴天	yīntiān	n	overcast day
6.	风	fēng	n	wind

If there are other terms that you wish to use to describe the weather, please ask your teacher and make a note here:

Culture Highlights

1 For measuring temperature, China uses the Celsius rather than the Fahrenheit system. For measuring length and weight, China uses the metric system, even though some people still use the old system. The basic unit of length in the old Chinese system is 里 (lǐ), which equals half a kilometer, or 0.311 mile. The basic unit of weight in the old Chinese system is 斤 (jīn), which equals half a kilogram, or 1.102 pounds.

2 In China, the climatic conditions differ drastically from one part of the country to another. Generally speaking, just as in America, the north is cold and snowy in winter; the south, hot and wet in summer. Three cities, 重庆 (Chóngqìng), 武汉 (Wǔhàn), and 南京 (Nánjīng), are nicknamed "furnaces" for their notoriously hot temperatures in summer. Some other cities, such as 昆明 (Kūnmíng), are known for their year-round balmy weather. In the lower 长江 (Chángjiāng, the longest river in China, also known as the Yangtze) valley, there is a 黄梅 (huángméi, literally, yellow plum) season in May and June characterized by copious rain and high humidity. But the major rainy season for most of southern China is in July and August, when almost all the rivers swell to flood levels. In winter, the island of 海南 (Hǎinán) provides warmth and appealing resorts for tourists from the north, while many southerners brave the cold and pour into the northern city of 哈尔滨 (Hā'ěrbīn) for its annual exhibition of ice sculptures.

3 Some Chinese names for Western places were invented by early Chinese immigrants, e.g., 旧金山 (Jiùjīnshān, literally, Old Gold Mountain) for San Francisco. But the vast majority of names for Western places are transliterations. Massachusetts, for instance, is transliterated as 麻萨诸塞 (Másàzhūsài), which is in turn abbreviated to 麻州 (Mázhōu), with the character 州 (zhōu) meaning "state." Similarly, California is transliterated as 加利福尼亚 (Jiālìfúníyà), which is often shortened to 加州 (Jiāzhōu).

4 China now boasts more internet users than any other country. Many Chinese urbanites have residential internet access, but many youngsters prefer to use the internet at a type of commercial facility called 网吧 (wǎngbā, internet bar). As 网吧 (wǎngbā) provide not only internet access but also snacks and beverages, they are favorite social venues for these young internet users. One can easily locate a 网吧 (wǎngbā) in a commercial area in any Chinese city. In Taiwan, 网吧 (wǎngbā) is commonly known as 网咖 (wǎngkā).
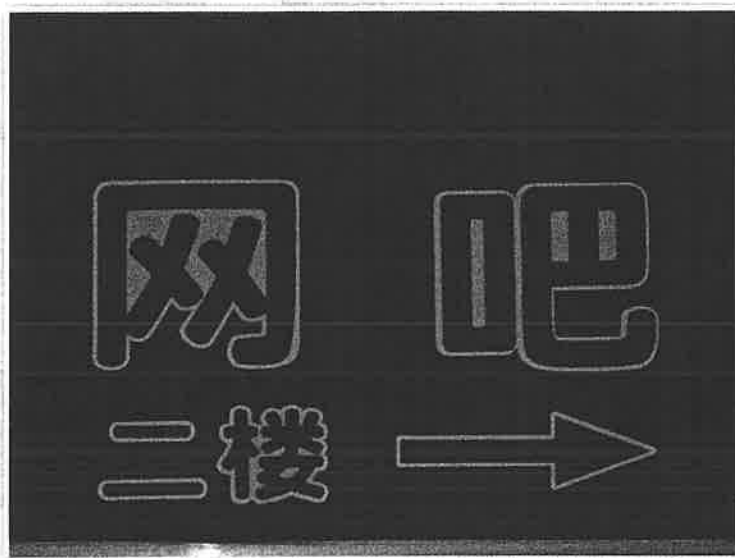
English Text

Dialogue I

Gao Xiaoyin: Today's weather is better than yesterday's. It's not snowing anymore.

Gao Wenzhong: I asked a friend to go ice skating in the park tomorrow. I wonder what the weather is going to be like.

Gao Xiaoyin: I looked up the forecast on the internet. Tomorrow's weather will be even better than today. Not only will it not snow, it'll be a bit warmer, too.

Gao Wenzhong: Really? Fantastic!

Gao Xiaoyin: Whom did you ask to go ice skating?

Gao Wenzhong: Bai Ying'ai.

Gao Xiaoyin: You asked Bai Ying'ai? But she flew to New York this morning.

Gao Wenzhong: Really? Then what do I do tomorrow?

Gao Xiaoyin: Why don't you watch a DVD at home?

Dialogue II

(Gao Wenzhong is chatting with Bai Ying'ai online.)

Gao Wenzhong: Ying'ai, New York is so much fun. How come you're online and not out and about?

Bai Ying'ai: The weather here is awful.

Gao Wenzhong: How come?

Bai Ying'ai: Yesterday it poured. It rained again today.

Gao Wenzhong: The weather here is great this weekend. You'd better come back as soon as you can.

Bai Ying'ai: It's going to be warmer in New York this weekend. Next week I have an interview. I can't come back just yet.

Gao Wenzhong: I found a job in California. Go with me. It's not cold in the winter in California, or hot in the summer. Spring and fall are even more comfortable.

Bai Ying'ai: California is great, but I like New York more.

PROGRESS CHECKLIST

Before proceeding to Lesson 12, be sure you can complete the following tasks in Chinese:

I am able to—

- ☑ Provide a simple description of the weather;
- ☐ Describe the climate in the place where I live;
- ☐ Describe basic weather changes;
- ☐ Compare the weather in two places;
- ☐ Talk about what I may do if the weather is not nice and I cannot go out.