



ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

How to use a complement of quantity in Mandarin Chinese?

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1 Rearrange the following words to make a sentence with a complement of quantity.

a.

这本书 zhè běn shū	读过 dú guo	一遍 yibiàn	我 wǒ
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I have read this book once.

b.

比 bǐ	这个电脑 zhègè diànnǎo	贵 guì	那个 nàgè	电脑 diànnǎo	50 元 50 yuán
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This computer is 50 yuan more expensive than that one.

c.

十分钟 shífēnzhōng	他 tā	了 le	今天 jīntiān	迟到 chídào
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He was ten minutes late today.

d.

美国 Měiguó	去 qù	我们 wǒmen	过 guo	一次 yīcì
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We have been to the United States once.

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2 Complete the following sentences with quantity complements.

- a. 这首歌我听过()。
Zhè shǒu gē wǒ tīng guo ().
I have listened to this song ().
- b. 她比妹妹大()。
Tā bǐ mèimei dà ().
She is () years older than her younger sister.
- c. 我们九点上课，你十点才到，晚了()。
Wǒmen jiǔdiǎn shàngkè, nǐ shídiǎn cái dào, wǎn le ().
We started class at nine o'clock, and you didn't arrive until ten o'clock. You were late ().
- d. 对不起，我没听清楚，请再说()，好吗？
Duìbùqǐ, wǒ méi tīng qīngchǔ, qǐng zài shuō (), hǎo ma?
Sorry, I didn't hear clearly, please say it once (again), is that okay?

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3 Tell us about Lisa and John in Mandarin, using a complement of quantity where you can.



Clues:

Lisa and John love each other very much. They have been to China twice. John is one year older than Lisa and is taller than her. Like Lisa, John loves singing. Lisa loves reading, but John does not.

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- 1**
- a. 我读过一遍这本书。
Wǒ dú guo yíbiàn zhè běn shū.
I have read this book once.
- b. 这个电脑比那个电脑贵50 元。
Zhègè diànnǎo bǐ nàgè diànnǎo guì 50 yuán.
This computer is 50 yuan more expensive than that one.
- c. 他今天迟到了十分钟。
Tā jīntiān chídào le shífēnzhōng.
He was ten minutes late today.
- d. 我们去过一次美国。
Wǒmen qù guo yīcì Měiguó.
OR
我们去美国一次。
Wǒmen qù guo Měiguó yīcì.
We have been to the United States once.

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2

- a. 这首歌我听过（两次）。
Zhè shǒu gē wǒ tīng guo (liǎng cì).
I have listened to this song twice.
- b. 她比妹妹大（一）岁。
Tā bǐ mèimei dà (yī) suì.
She is one year older than her younger sister.
- c. 我们九点上课，你十点才到，晚了（一个小时）。
Wǒmen jiǔdiǎn shàngkè, nǐ shídiǎn cái dào, wǎn le (yīgè xiǎoshí).
We started class at nine o'clock, and you didn't arrive until ten o'clock. You were late by an hour.
- d. 对不起，我没听清楚，请再说（一遍），好吗？
Duìbùqǐ, wǒ méi tīng qīngchǔ, qǐng zài shuō (yíbiàn), hǎo ma?
Sorry, I did not hear clearly, please say it again, is that okay?

3

丽莎和约翰十分相爱。他们去过中国两次。约翰比丽莎大一岁，比她高。跟丽莎一样，约翰喜欢唱歌。丽莎不像约翰，她喜欢看书。

Lìshā hé Yuēhàn shífēn xiāng'ài. Tāmen qù guo Zhōngguó liǎngcì. Yuēhàn bǐ Lìshā dà yī suì, bǐ tā gāo. Gēn Lìshā yíyàng, Yuēhàn xǐhuan chànggē. Lìshā bù xiàng Yuēhàn, tā xǐhuan kànshū.

