



ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



MANDARIN CHINESE ACTIVITY

How to use serial verbal constructions in Mandarin Chinese?

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1 Combine the two sentences into one sentence using verbal constructions in series.

1. 我开车到宿舍。我找他。
Wǒ kāichē dào sùshè. Wǒ zhǎo tā.
I drive to the dorm. I look for him.

2. 我们坐车去公园。我们玩。
Wǒmen zuò chē qù gōngyuán. Wǒmen wán.
We take a bus to the park. We play.

3. 他坐出租车了。他去到机场了。
Tā zuò chūzūchē le. Tā qù dào jīchǎng le.
He took a taxi. He went to the airport.

4. 我去找老师了。我问问题了。
Wǒ qù zhǎo lǎoshī le. Wǒ wèn wèntí le.
I went to look for the teacher. I asked questions.

5. 她要买酸奶。她喝酸奶。
Tā yào mǎi suānnǎi. Tā hē suānnǎi.
She wants to buy yogurt. She will drink yogurt.

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2 Change the following sentences into the negative form.

1. 我们今天下午有时间去公园玩。
Wǒmen jīntiān xiàwǔ yǒu shíjiān qù gōngyuān wán.
We have time to go and play in the park this afternoon.
-

2. 他们用英语聊天。
Tāmen yòng yīngyǔ liáotiān.
They chat in English.
-

3. 我现在想走路去还书。
Wǒ xiànzài xiǎng zǒulù qù hái shū.
I want to walk to return the book right now.
-

4. 你有水喝吗?
Nǐ yǒu shuǐ hē ma?
Do you have water to drink?
-

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3 Change the following sentences into a sentence with the completion of an action, and point out the usage (purpose, manner, or result) of the verbal constructions in series.

1. 他们打电话祝我生日快乐。
Tāmen dǎ diànhuà zhù wǒ shēng rì kuàilè.
They called me to wish me a happy birthday.
-

2. 我走路去邮局寄信。
Wǒ zǒulù qù yóujú jì xìn.
I walked to the post office to mail the letter.
-

3. 他偷车被抓到。
Tā tōu chē bèi zhuā dào.
He stole a car and was caught.
-

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4 Translate the following English sentences into Mandarin Chinese sentences with verbal constructions in series.

Word Bank

起床 qǐchuáng to get up	穿衣服 chuān yīfu to get dressed	旅行 lǚxíng to travel
买 mǎi to buy	东西 dōngxi thing/stuff	

1. I got up and got dressed.

2. They traveled to Beijing. (lit: They went traveling in Beijing.)

3. I want to buy stuff to eat.

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1

1. 我开车到宿舍找他。
Wǒ kāichē dào sùshè zhǎo tā.
I drove to look for him in the dorm.
2. 我们坐车去公园玩。
Wǒmen zuò chē qù gōngyuán wán.
We took a bus to the park and played.
3. 他坐出租车去到机场了。
Tā zuò chūzūchē qù dào jīchǎng le.
He went to the airport by taxi.
4. 我去找老师问问题了。
Wǒ qù zhǎo lǎoshī wèn wèntí le.
I went to look for the teacher to ask questions.
5. 她要买酸奶喝。
Tā yào mǎi suānnǎi hē.
She wants to buy yogurt to drink.

2

1. 我们今天下午没有时间去看公园。
Wǒmen jīntiān xiàwǔ méi yǒu shíjiān qù gōngyuán wán.
We don't have time to go to the park this afternoon.
2. 他们不用英语聊天。
Tāmen bù yòng yīngyǔ liáotiān.
They don't chat in English.
3. 我现在不想走路去还书。
Wǒ xiànzài bùxiǎng zǒulù qù hái shū.
I don't want to walk to return the book right now.
4. 你没有水喝吗？
Nǐ méi yǒu shuǐ hē ma?
Don't you have water (to drink)?

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3 1. 他们打电话祝我生日快乐了。
Tāmen dǎ diànhuà zhù wǒ shēngri kuàilè le.
They called me to wish me a happy birthday. **(purpose)**

2. 我走路去邮局寄信了。
Wǒ zǒulù qù yóujú jì xìn le.

Or

我走路去邮局寄了信。
Wǒ zǒulù qù yóujú jì le xìn.
I walked to the post office to mail the letter. **(manner)**

3. 他偷车被抓到了。
Tā tōu chē bèi zhuā dào le.
He stole a car and was caught. **(result)**

4 1. 我起床穿了衣服。
Wǒ qǐchuáng chuān le yīfu.

Or

我起床穿衣服了。
Wǒ qǐchuáng chuān yīfu le.
I got up and got dressed.

2. 他们去到北京旅行了。
Tāmen qù dào běijīng lǚxíng le.
They traveled to Beijing.

3. 我要买东西吃。
Wǒ yào mǎi dōngxi chī.
I want to buy stuff to eat.

