

Hi, all

Today's class took a look at the sentence patterns (要, 的, 可以...嗎?) The homework for this week is to write 2 sentences of each for these three sentence patterns. For the examples, the document attached underneath.

As always, I am available via email.

I hope you are all staying safe and well during this time!

Best,  
Ms.Tan

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### 要(想要) to want

It is the most direct and simple way of expressing a desire in Chinese

1. subject + 要 + noun

Ex: 她要一個蘋果。 She wants an apple.  
他們要一輛新車。 They want a new car.

1. subject + 要 + verb

Ex: 我要吃魚。 I want to eat fish.  
誰要喝果汁? Who wants to drink juice?

要 can also express "need"

Ex: 你要去上班。 You need to go to work.  
她要買一個新手機。 She needs to buy a new phone.

要 also cover the use of "should" in Chinese grammar.

Ex: 你要多做運動。 You should do more exercises.  
我們要在吃東西前洗手。 We should wash our hands before eating.

\* It could interpret as meaning "want", "need" or "should" in English, but all of them use 要 in Chinese.

### 的 of (used to form a nominal expression)

It used for modifying nouns, the following simple structure helps as a general guideline 的+noun

1. Before nouns, 的 is used to mark possession or modification. 的 works like apostrophe-"s" in English. Think of this one as the "possessive de" or "noun-modifying de."

Ex: 今天的作業 Today's homework 叔叔的書 Uncle's book

Other examples:

我的鉛筆 my pencil 我的爸爸 my dad  
他的玩具 his toys 他們的東西 their stuff

2. Another way to use 的 is as an attributive. It's a way of connecting adjectives or other words with a noun. It gives us more information about the noun, and 的 makes it clear that the extra information is connected to the noun.

Ex: 好吃的食物 delicious food 漂亮的裙子 pretty dresses  
白色的鞋子 White shoe Here 的 is used to modify "shoe" with the color "white." It attributes the color "white" to the "shoe."

### 可以...吗? Can.... (question particle for yes-no questions)

Using this structure to express permission to do things.

Subj. + 可以 + Verb + Obj. (It's the same structure whether it's a statement or a question.)

Ex: 我可以去玩嗎? Can/May I go out to play?  
我們可以在這停車嗎? Can we park here?  
他可以進來嗎? Can he come in?