

Grammar for 小貓釣魚

1. 太陽出來了

The sentence 太陽出來了 means “the sun has emerged,” or “the day breaks.”
“The sun has set” in Chinese is 太陽下山了: literally, “the sun descends the mountain.”

2. 快起來吧。

The pattern 快 verb 吧 is used to urge someone to hurry up and do something.
The particle 吧 indicates a mild suggestion. Without the use of this particle, 快起來 sounds like a command.

This pattern can be used with other action verbs:

快回家吧。 Go home quickly.

快做功課吧。 Do your homework quickly.

快去吧。 Go quickly.

3. 好孩子是不睡懶覺的。

Meaning: “A good child will never sleep during the day.”

The 是...的 pattern is used to emphasize what’s in between 是 and 的 – in this case, 不睡懶覺. 睡懶覺 is an expression meaning that someone sleeps just to pass time and be lazy.

睡午覺 means “afternoon nap.”

More examples for the 是...的 pattern:

在美國爸爸媽媽是不打孩子的。

In America, parents will not beat their children.

在教室裏是不能吃東西的。

No eating is allowed in the classroom.

4. 弟弟，看誰起得早？

This pattern is used when one is proposing a contest. 我們比賽 is implied.

起得早 means “getting up early.”

This pattern is often followed with a potential complement structure to indicate who is better or more skilled.

More examples:

兔子跟烏龜比一比，看誰跑得快。

The hare and the tortoise had a contest to see who runs the fastest.

我們比賽，看誰寫得好。

Let’s compete to see who writes better.

我們比賽，看誰做飯做得好。

Let's have a competition to see who the better cook is.

5. 我起來了。

In this sentence, 起來了 is the completed action.

6. 咪咪，臉洗好了沒有？

This is the question form to check if something has been completed. 好了 is a verb complement indicating that something has been done. For example:

飯吃好了，衣服穿好了，功課做好了，房子蓋好了。

To make the question form, simply add 沒有 at the end:

飯吃好了沒有，衣服穿好了沒有，功課做好了沒有，房子蓋好了沒有。

The positive answer would be 吃好了，穿好了 or even simply 好了, omitting the verb.

The negative answer would be: 沒吃好. If you want to emphasize “not yet” you can add the adverb 還 hai2 as in 還沒吃好。

7. 咪咪，喵喵，你們別跑遠了。

The pattern is 別 verb. It is used to command someone not to do something.

More examples:

別坐在地上。 Do not sit on the floor.

別動我的皮包。 Do not touch my bag.

別看我。 Don't stare at me.

跑遠 is formed by the verb 跑 “run” and the adjective 遠 “far.”

The particle 了 is used because the speaker is anticipating something is going to happen and wants to stop it.

Two examples:

A baby is sleeping, and his mother notes that her older child is making noise that might wake up the baby. The mother would say to the child: 別把弟弟吵醒了 “Don't make noise that will wake your little brother.”

A child is eating ice cream, and his mother is afraid that he will mess up his clothing. She would say: 別把衣服弄髒了 “Don't get your clothes dirty.”

8. 來和我一起釣魚。

The pattern is: A 和 B 一起 verb. The verb 來 in front suggests an invitation.

The adverb 一起 means to do something together.

More examples:

我和朋友一起吃晚飯。 I eat dinner with friends.

我和朋友在一起。 I am with my friends.

我和媽媽一起住。 I live with my mom.

Here are some examples for invitations, where the subject 你 is omitted.

來和我一起坐。 Come sit with me.

來和我一起照相。 Come and take a picture with me.

9. 咪咪，你看我們釣到一條魚。

The pattern 釣到 is a verb-complement structure. The complement 到 is used with verbs to indicate success in obtaining the objects the speakers wants.

Examples:

那本書我買到了。 I was able to buy that book.

今天我學到很多生字。 Today I learned many new words.

The complement 到 is used with the verbs “to see” and “to hear.” The negative form is indicated by 沒.

我沒看到。 I did not see it.

我沒聽到。 I did not hear it.

你聽到沒有？ Did you hear it?

我聽到了。 Yes, I heard it.

The complement 到 can be used with directions or destinations:

我回到家了。 I went home.

我從車站走到學校。 I walked home from the bus station.

到 is often used by itself as a main verb, meaning “to arrive.”

你到家了嗎？ Are you home?

新年快到了。 The New Year is coming soon.

到了到了，下車。 Here it is, I am getting off.

10. 釣魚要專心，不要玩才行。

The pattern 要...，不要...才行 indicates what one needs to do and what one should not do.

The topic 釣魚 is put at the beginning.

才行 is an expression meaning “only then will it do.”

More examples:

開車要專心，不要打手機才行。

When driving, you have to concentrate; you can't use your cell phone.

學中文要天天練習，不要懶惰才行。

When you study Chinese, you have to practice every day; you can't be lazy.

做功課要專心，不要一邊做一邊聽音樂才行。

When you do homework, you have to concentrate; you can't do your homework while listening to music.

11. 你要好好的看著魚漂，才能夠釣到大魚。

The first pattern is: 好好的 verb.

This means to do something carefully and attentively. Note that the word order is to put 好好 before the verb. It is used to urge someone to do things properly. For example, if a child is jumping up and down, his mother might say: 好好的走 or simply 好好走.

In formal writing, the character 地 would be used: 好好地走. However, it is still pronounced 'de,' not 'di.'

More examples:

好好吃飯。 Eat your meal properly.

好好做功課。 Do your homework nicely.

好好寫。 Write well.

The second pattern is: verb 著.

著 is a verb suffix, meaning "to maintain (verb) status."

看著我 Look at me.

躺著. Lie down.

It is often used in a command:

拿著. Hold it.

坐著. Sit still.

The third pattern is: 要..., 才能夠...

This pattern indicates a condition that must be met in order for something to happen. The condition is put after 要. Note that you must use a verb construction after 才能夠.

Examples:

要考 SAT 才能夠上大學。

You need to take the SAT in order to go to college.

要吃很多青菜身體才能夠健康。

You need to eat a lot of vegetables in order to be healthy.

要通過考試才能夠開車。

You have to pass a test in order to drive a car.

In this pattern, when 才會 is used, an adjective often follows:

要吃很多青菜才會聰明。

You have to eat a lot of vegetables in order to be smart.

要念很多書才会有錢。

You have to study a lot in order to become rich.

要穿很多衣服才會暖和。

You have to wear a lot of clothing in order to keep warm.

12. 咱們回家吧!

The pattern: 咱們 verb 吧 is a suggestion. You can also use 我們.

13. 下次來好好兒釣。

The adverb 下次 means “next time.” It refers to a future event.

Note that there is no subject in this sentence.

14. 走快點兒啊!

This pattern – verb adjective 點兒啊 – is slightly different from adjective 點兒 verb.

Adjective 點兒 verb places more emphasis on the verb action.

‘Verb + adjective + 點兒啊’ places more emphasis on the manner of the verb.

‘走快點兒啊!’ means the speaker wants the listener to walk *faster*.

15. 媽媽，魚好了沒有?

This pattern is used to check whether an action has been completed.

Examples:

魚好了沒有? Is the fish cooked?

晚飯好了沒有? Is dinner ready yet?

16. 就好了。

The adverb 就 indicates “soon” or “immediately.”

就好了。 It will be ready soon.

17. 你就知道吃。

In this sentence, the adverb 就 indicates “only” or “merely.”

你就知道吃。 All you know is eating.

18. 你會釣你會釣

The verb 會 is used to mean “knowing how to.” The repetition of the phrase is to emphasize the fact that the speaker is acknowledging it with some sarcasm.

19. 你怎麼這樣說話呢？咪咪是能釣到魚的。

你怎麼這樣 verb 呢 is used to indicate the speaker disapproves of something.

More examples:

你怎麼這樣開車呢？ How can you drive like that?

你怎麼這樣做功課呢？ How can you do your homework like that?

In the phrase 咪咪是能釣到魚的, the pattern 是...的 is used to emphasize what is between 是 and 的. In other words, the mother is confident that Mimi is capable of catching fish.

20. 可是像你上午那樣不專心，就釣不著。

‘像...那樣’ is used to indicate that one thing is similar to another.

Examples:

我今天要像昨天那樣只吃一個蘋果。

I am going to do what I did yesterday and just eat one apple.

我將來要像爸爸那樣有學問。

In the future I want to be knowledgeable like my dad.

中國人像日本人那樣愛看漫畫。

Chinese people are similar to Japanese people; they all like to read comic books.

The whole sentence is an “if...then” condition structure. The word 要是 is omitted. 就 is used to introduce the consequence.

The potential complement 釣不著 can be expressed as 釣不到.

21. 媽媽，我釣到的魚掛在哪兒啊？

The relative clause 我釣到的魚 is the subject of the sentence.

Note that the modifier is put before the word it modifies. The modifier marker 的 must be used to link the two. You cannot say: 魚我釣到掛在娜兒啊？

22. 就掛在這好了。

The pattern: 就...好了 indicates a suggestion in answer to a request, meaning “it would be fine to....”

Examples:

我們今天去哪里吃中飯？ 就去麥當勞好了。

Where are we going for lunch? Let's go to McDonald's.

你想看什麼電影？ 就看小貓釣魚好了。

What movie would you like to see? Let's see *A Kitten Goes Fishing*.

23. 那兒留給你弟弟曬魚的。

The verb 留給 means “to save something for someone.”

(In this sentence, the pattern 是。的 was also used with 是 omitted.)

Examples:

房子留給孩子住。

Save the house for children to live in.

我把蛋糕留給妹妹吃。

I save a piece of cake for my younger sister.

他死了以後留給孩子很多錢。

After his death, a lot of his money was left to his kids.

這是留給你的。

This is saved for you.

24. 姊姊釣的魚真大啊!

The modifier must go before the word it modifies.

You would *not* say: 魚姐姐釣真大啊。