

## Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 15 [Traditional]

Hosts: Adam Menon / Kirin Yang

Adam: Hello and welcome to Lesson 15 of ChineseLearnOnline.com. I'm your host, Adam.

Kirin: 大家好. 我是 Kirin.

Adam: In today's lesson, we are going to complete the dialogue that we started in our last lesson. We'll listen to the first part again, then continue on with the rest of the dialogue representing today's lesson.

Cindy: 好久不見. 你今天有空嗎? 我要去吃飯.

Yann: 我現在很忙. 明天可以嗎?

Cindy: 可以. 你要跟我一起去嗎?

Yann: 可以. 明天打電話給我.

Cindy: 好. 明天見.

Adam: Alright, let's listen to it again. Please repeat after Kirin.

Kirin: 好久不見. 你今天有空嗎? 我要去吃飯.

我現在很忙. 明天可以嗎?

可以. 你要跟我一起去嗎?

可以. 明天打電話給我.

好. 明天見.

Adam: Ok, let's now go through all the lines, starting with the lines from last time.

Kirin: 好久不見.

Adam: Long time no see.

Kirin: 你今天有空嗎?

Adam: Do you have any free time today?

Kirin: 我要去吃飯.

Adam: I want to go out and eat.

Kirin: 我現在很忙.

Adam: I'm very busy right now.

Kirin: 明天可以嗎?

Adam: Would tomorrow be ok?

So that was our dialogue from our last lesson. Let's continue on with the rest of the dialogue. Now if someone asks you:

Kirin: 明天可以嗎?

Adam: There are two possible answers. Yes or no. In this dialogue she replies:

Kirin: 可以.

Adam: Meaning, yes that's possible. Remember you ask “可以嗎?” to find out if something is possible. If you wanted to reply “It's not ok,” you would say... 不可以.

Let's now look at the next line.

Kirin: 你要跟我一起去嗎?

Adam: So let's analyze this. The first two characters are 你要 meaning “you want.” We know it's a question though by the 嗎 at the end of the sentence so that makes it “Do you want?” That's followed by 跟我一起. So first we have the character 跟 which is a first tone meaning “with.” We then have 我 meaning “I” followed by 一起. That's a first tone and a third tone. 一起 means... “together.” So putting it all together gives us 跟我一起 or “with me together.” The next character is the verb 去. Do you remember what “去” means? It's the verb “to go.” So putting that together gives us “You want with me together go?” or “Do you want to go together with me?”

Kirin: 你要跟我一起去嗎?

Adam: Now in English, we wouldn't often say “Do you want to go together with me?” But in Chinese it's much more common to have the 一起 together in there as well.

Kirin: 你要跟我一起去嗎?

Adam: Let's listen to the next line of the dialogue.

Kirin: 可以. 明天打電話給我.

Adam: So let's look at what we know from this sentence. What does “明天” mean? We saw that earlier in this conversation meaning... “tomorrow.” What does the verb 給 mean? It's the verb... “to give.” So knowing what we know so far and looking at that sentence gives us “Ok, tomorrow something something give me.” Let's look at that “something something” part which is 打電話. The 打 is a third tone. Don't confuse that with 大 which is a fourth tone meaning “big.” 打 means “to hit.” Now what are we trying to hit in this conversation? Well let's look at the next word 電話 which is two fourth tones. 電 means “electric” or “to do with electricity” while 話 we've seen before in 普通話. The character there you may remember means “speech” so the two characters here 電話 gives us “electric speech.” Can you guess what “electric speech” is referring to? It's actually the word in Chinese for... “telephone.” Now in English we “dial a telephone.” In Chinese you “hit a telephone.” And why not? So they use the verb “hit” to indicate dialing. So let's listen to the sentence again.

Kirin: 可以. 明天打電話給我.

Adam: “It's possible. Tomorrow dial telephone give me”...or “Give me a call tomorrow.”

Kirin: 明天打電話給我.

Adam: We purposely give you these literal translations and try to break down sentences into as much detail as we can since it helps you remember all this new vocabulary. In the Premium notes for this lesson you will see examples of other vocabulary that utilizes the same 電 construction that we see here. It will also give you a better feel for the language if you learn the roots of where these words and expressions come from. It's easier to remember smaller components that can be reconstructed into something bigger than to just try and remember the end phrase without really knowing how it came about.

Now the last sentence of the dialogue was

Kirin: 好. 明天見.

Adam: So we should be able to figure that one out. We know 明天 is “tomorrow” and we know that 見 means “to meet.” So “tomorrow meet” is the same as... “See you tomorrow.”

Kirin: 明天見.

Adam: Great so let's listen to each line of the dialogue one more time. Please repeat after Kirin.

Kirin: 好久不見.  
你今天有空嗎?  
我要去吃飯.  
我現在很忙.  
明天可以嗎?  
可以.  
你要跟我一起去嗎?  
可以. 明天打電話給我.  
好. 明天見.

Adam: And let's now listen to the dialogue again at normal speed.

Cindy: 好久不見. 你今天有空嗎? 我要去吃飯.  
Yann: 我現在很忙. 明天可以嗎?  
Cindy: 可以. 你要跟我一起去嗎?  
Yann: 可以. 明天打電話給我.  
Cindy: 好. 明天見.

Adam: Great! So lots of useful vocabulary and expressions there. To help you put it into memory I highly recommend you go through the various exercises that we've made available to premium subscribers in the vocabulary page for this lesson, found on our website ChineseLearnOnline.com. Then please join us again for lesson 16.

Kirin: 再見.