

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 27 [Traditional]

Hosts: Adam Menon / Kirin Yang

Adam: Welcome to Lesson 27 of the ChineseLearnOnline.com podcast series teaching Mandarin Chinese. I'm your host, Adam.

Kirin: 大家好. 我是 Kirin.

Adam: Today's lesson is a continuation of a dialogue that we began in our last lesson. The lesson will begin with a dialogue that takes place at the front desk of a hotel. It reviews previously taught vocabulary while introducing a few new words along the way. Premium subscribers can follow along with the transcripts available on our website or on the screen of your MP3 player.

Cindy: 先生，你們有房間嗎？

Yann: 有. 請問你們有幾位？

Cindy: 我們有兩個人，要住一間房間.

Yann: 請給我看一下你的護照.

Cindy: 可以用信用卡嗎？

Yann: 當然可以.

Adam: Alright, so definitely some new words there. Kirin will now read each line of the dialogue for us. Please repeat after her.

Kirin: 先生，你們有房間嗎？

有. 請問你們有幾位？

我們有兩個人，要住一間房間.

請給我看一下你的護照.

可以用信用卡嗎？

當然可以.

Adam: Ok, we'll now break it down for you line by line. We did the first few lines before so this should be a good review.

Kirin: 先生，你們有房間嗎？

Adam: Sir, do you have any rooms available?

Kirin: 有. 請問你們有幾位？

Adam: Yes, we do. How many of you are there in your party?

Kirin: 我們有兩個人，要住一間房間。

Adam: “There are two in our party, and we would like to rent one room.”

Now that was our dialogue from last time. Let’s continue with the rest of the dialogue for today’s lesson.

Kirin: 請給我看一下你的護照。

Adam: Ah, so some new words here. Let’s start with the first part which we should know. 請給我。 What does the verb “給” mean? It means “to give.” So he’s asking “Please give me.” We then have a new verb 看. That’s a fourth tone and means “to look.” It’s actually one of the examples used by Kirin in our very first lesson on tones. Now the literal translation may not make much sense in English – “give me look” – but it’s a very popular construction in Chinese. 給我看 means “Give it to me so I can look at it” or “Show me.” Chinese is a very efficient language so those many words are reduced simply to 給我看。

Kirin: 請給我看一下。

Adam: The next word we’ve seen before 一下。 We saw it before in the phrase:

Kirin: 請你自我介紹一下。

Adam: Do you remember what “一下” means? It means “a moment.” So the phrase we just heard meant “Please take a moment to introduce yourself.” Here we have

Kirin: 請給我看一下。

Adam: ... which literally means “Please give me look a moment” which translates to “Please let me take a quick look at it.”

Now what is it that he wants to look at it?

Kirin: 請給我看一下你的護照。

Adam: The last few words are 你的護照. 你的 means “your” and 護照 is two fourth tones. It’s the word for “passport.” So “Please, can I take a quick look at your passport.”

Kirin: 請給我看一下你的護照。

Adam: The Premium notes for this lesson show examples of using 給 and 一下 to form other sentences so please be sure to take a look there. The woman then asks the man:

Kirin: 可以用信用卡嗎?

Adam: What does the verb “用” mean? It means “to use.” So 可以用– gives us “Can use.” We then have 信用卡. That’s two fourth tones and a third tone. The middle character 用 is the same one we just saw, but here it combines with the 信 to give us the word 信用 which means “credit”. That’s followed by 卡 which is a third tone and its transliteration of the English word “card.” So together, she’s asking “Can we use a credit card?”

Kirin: 可以用信用卡嗎?

Adam: To which the man replies:

Kirin: 當然可以.

Adam: So the first two words there is made up of two characters which are a first tone and a second tone 當然 and that means “of course.” So “of course you can use it.”

Kirin: 當然可以.

Adam: So that’s our dialogue for today. Kirin will now repeat each line for us again. Please repeat after her.

Kirin: 先生，你們有房間嗎?
有. 請問你們有幾位?
我們有兩個人，要住一間房間.
請給我看一下你的護照.
可以用信用卡嗎?
當然可以.

Adam: Great, and we’ll wrap up by listening to the dialogue again at normal speed.

Cindy: 先生，你們有房間嗎?
Yann: 有. 請問你們有幾位?
Cindy: 我們有兩個人，要住一間房間.
Yann: 請給我看一下你的護照.
Cindy: 可以用信用卡嗎?
Yann: 當然可以.

Adam: Alright, premium subscribers can dissect today’s material in the vocabulary and notes sections of our website ChineseLearnOnline.com so be sure to do that before our next lesson.

Kirin: 謝謝大家.