

Complete Lesson Transcript – Lesson 87 [Traditional]

ChineseLearnOnline.com Lesson 87: My friend is coming to town.

Adam: Hello, I'm Adam, and you're listening to our progressive course teaching Mandarin Chinese.

Kirin: 歡迎來到第八十七課.

Adam: Today's lesson builds upon lesson 26 of our series. So you're welcome to review that lesson before continuing. Let's begin by listening to a dialogue by our native Chinese speakers, and then break it down for you.

Raphael: 讓我們先聽一次今天的對話.

Cindy: 我的朋友下個星期要到這個城市來. 你能幫我給他在旅館訂一個房間嗎?

Yann: 沒問題. 這附近就有一家新旅館. 我聽說很便宜.

Raphael: 讓我們再重復一遍今天的對話.

Kirin: 我的朋友下個星期要到這個城市來.

你能幫我給他在旅館訂一個房間嗎?

沒問題.

這附近就有一家新旅館.

我聽說很便宜.

Raphael: 讓我們來翻譯今天的對話.

Adam: Let's begin with the first line.

Kirin: 我的朋友下個星期要到這個城市來.

Raphael: 朋友 是什麼意思?

Adam: That means "friend". That's followed by

Kirin: 下個星期.

Adam: Do you know what that means? We've seen this format before describing "next week."

Kirin: 我的朋友下個星期要到這個城市來.

Adam: So that gives us “Next week, my friend”

Kirin: 要到這個城市來.

Adam: So there a few verbs in there that hopefully make sense. “Want arrive this” followed by a new word.

Raphael: 城市. 第二聲和第四聲.

Adam: And that means “city.” So putting everything together gives us a literal translation of “My friend next week wants arrive this city come.”

Kirin: 我的朋友下個星期要到這個城市來.

Adam: That should be easy enough to figure out as “My friend is coming to town next week.”

Kirin: 我的朋友下個星期要到這個城市來.

Adam: Notice how the verb 要 here has a dual meaning, so this sentence could also be translated as meaning “My friend wants to come to town next week.” In any case, the woman then asks

Kirin: 你能幫我給他在旅館訂一個房間嗎?

Raphael: 能是什麼意思?

Adam: We saw it in lesson 39, and it’s the verb meaning “to be able” to do something. The next verb there is 幫, which we saw in lesson 34 and is the verb “to help.” That’s followed by a few more words there that we should know. So the literal translation of the first part of the sentence is “you able to help me give me located in”. Hmmn...we’ll need to piece together the rest of this sentence to make any sense of it. The next word there is another new one.

Kirin: 旅館.

Adam: And that means “hotel.” So what does he want to do in a hotel?

Kirin: 訂一個房間.

Adam: There's another new word there.

Raphael: 訂. 第四聲.

Adam: And that's the verb "to book or reserve." The last part we should know from lesson 26.

Kirin: 房間.

Adam: Meaning "room" as in where you stay in a hotel.

Kirin: 你能幫我給他在旅館訂一個房間嗎?

Adam: So looking at it again we have "You able to help me give him in a hotel reserve a room?" This is the format used to ask "Can you help me reserve a hotel room for him?"

Kirin: 你能幫我給他在旅館訂一個房間嗎?

Adam: The tricky part of this question is the

Kirin: 給他訂一個房間.

Adam: On the surface that literally means "Give him reserve a room"; however, this is the format used to say "Reserve a room for him."

Kirin: 給他訂一個房間.

Adam: The man then replies.

Kirin: 沒問題.

Adam: There's a phrase we first heard in lesson 19. Do you remember what that means? It means "No problem."

Kirin: 沒問題.

Adam: He then continues.

Kirin: 這附近就有一家新旅館.

Adam: So there's another new word in there.

Raphael: 附近. 兩個第四聲.

Adam: And that means “Nearby.”

Kirin: 這附近就有一家新旅館.

Adam: The 這 in front is short for 這裡 meaning “here.” So that gives us “near here.” In the next part of the sentence, we have the 就 particle that we have studied recently. We taught it as meaning “only” or in this case “just.” Here it emphasizes that we are going to find exactly what we are looking for. So “Near here there is just.” We then have another new word. 家 which uses the first tone is a measure word for commercial establishments, which in this case is

Kirin: 旅館.

Adam: So here we have

Kirin: 一家新旅館.

Adam: Do you remember what 新 means from the adjective 新的? That we saw in lesson 36 and means “new” so looking at this sentence again.

Kirin: 這附近就有一家新旅館.

Adam: That gives us “Here nearby just has a new hotel.” In other words, “There’s a new hotel just near here.”

Kirin: 這附近就有一家新旅館.

Adam: He then adds.

Kirin: 我聽說很便宜.

Adam: Again, a couple more verbs we’ve seen before. The verb “to listen” and the verb “to speak.”

Kirin: 聽說

Adam: together these two characters form “heard.” We then have the adjective

Kirin: 便宜

Adam: meaning “cheap.” So when you put that together we get

Kirin: 我聽說很便宜.

Adam: “I hear speak very cheap.” You can extend that meaning to “I heard it spoken that it’s very cheap” or simply “I heard it’s very cheap.”

Kirin: 我聽說很便宜.

Raphael: 讓我們再重復一遍今天的對話.

Kirin: 我的朋友下個星期要到這個城市來.
你能幫我給他在旅館訂一個房間嗎?
沒問題.
這附近就有一家新旅館.
我聽說很便宜.

Raphael: 讓我們再聽一次今天的對話.

Cindy: 我的朋友下個星期要到這個城市來. 你能幫我給他在旅館訂一個房間嗎?

Yann: 沒問題. 這附近就有一家新旅館. 我聽說很便宜.

Adam: Great; so lots to learn in this lesson. The best way to remember all of this is by exposing yourself to more examples. You can do so by listening to the podcast review for this and other lessons, available to Premium subscribers at Chineselearnonline.com.

Kirin: 我們下次再見.