

Mandarin Corner

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1

Liàngliàng shì yī míng èr niánjí de xiǎoxuéshēng.

亮亮是一名二年级的小学生。

Liang was a second grade primary school student.

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
是	shì	is
一	yī	one
名	míng	classifier for people
二年级	èr niánjí	second grade
的	de	(used after an attribute)
小学生	xiǎoxuéshēng	primary school student

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

2

Yīnwèi pǐnxuéjiānyōu,

因为品学兼优,

Because of his good character and excellent academic performance,

因为	yīnwèi	because
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品学兼优	pǐnxuéjiānyōu	top marks for studies and for behavior (at school)
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3

bèi xuǎn wéi le bān lǐ de bānzhǎng.

被选为了班里的班长。

he was chosen as the class monitor.

被	bèi	(indicates passive-voice clauses)
---	-----	-----------------------------------

选	xuǎn	to choose
---	------	-----------

为	wéi	as
---	-----	----

了	le	(completed action marker)
---	----	---------------------------

班	bān	class
---	-----	-------

里	lǐ	inside
---	----	--------

的	de	(used after an attribute)
---	----	---------------------------

班长	bānzhǎng	class monitor
----	----------	---------------

4

Tā shì gè dúlì, dǒngshì de háizi,

他是个独立、懂事的孩子，

He was an independent and mature child.

他	tā	he
---	----	----

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是	shì	is
个	gè	classifier for people
独立	dúlì	independent
懂事	dǒngshì	sensible / thoughtful
的	de	(used after an attribute)
孩子	háizi	child

5

cóng xiǎoxué kāishǐ jiù zìjǐ zuò gōngjiāo shàngxià xué,

从小学开始就自己坐公交上下学,

Starting from primary school, he would go to school by bus on his own.

从	cóng	from
小学	xiǎoxué	primary school
开始	kāishǐ	to start
就	jiù	as soon as
自己	zìjǐ	one's own
坐公交	zuò gōngjiāo	to take a bus
上下学	shàngxià xué	go to school and come home from school

6

wúlùn guāfēng xià yǔ, cóngbù xūyào fùmǔ jiē sòng.

无论刮风下雨, 从不需要父母接送。

Even in a rainy day, he never needed his parents to pick him up or send him to school.

无论	wúlùn	no	regardless of whether...
刮风	guāfēng		to be windy
下雨	xià yǔ		to rain

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从不	cóngbù	never
需要	xūyào	to need
父母	fùmǔ	parents
接送	jiēsòng	picking up and dropping off

7

Yītiān shàngwǔ, Liàngliàng zài yī liàng

一天上午，亮亮在一辆

One morning, Liang was in a bus that

一天	yītiān	one day (in the past)
上午	shàngwǔ	morning
亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
在	zài	(to be) in
一	yī	one
辆	liàng	classifier for vehicles

8

zhèngzài kāiwǎng xuéxiào de gōngjiāochē lǐ.

正在开往学校的公交车里。

was going to his school.

正在	zhèngzài	right in the middle of (doing sth)
开往	kāiwǎng	heading for
学校	xuéxiào	school
的	de	(used after an attribute)
公交车	gōngjiāochē	public transport vehicle
里	lǐ	inside

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9

Yōngjǐ de chēxiāng hé mēnrè de tiānqì

拥挤的车厢和闷热的天气

The bus was crowded and the stuffy hot weather

拥挤	yōngjǐ	crowded
的	de	(used after an attribute)
车厢	chēxiāng	carriage
和	hé	and
闷热	mēnrè	hot and stuffy
的	de	(used after an attribute)
天气	tiānqì	weather

10

bùjīn ràng rén hūnhūnyùshuì.

不禁让人昏昏欲睡。

was making people sleepy.

不禁	bùjīn	can't refrain from
让	ràng	to make sb (feel sad etc)
人	rén	people
昏昏欲睡	hūnhūnyùshuì	sleepy (idiom)

11

Jùlí zhōngdiǎnzhàn hái yǒu liǎng zhàn,

距离终点站还有两站,

There were two more stops before the last stop.

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距离	jùlí	to be apart from
终点站	zhōngdiǎnzhàn	final stop on bus line
还	hái	still
有	yǒu	to have
两	liǎng	two
站	zhàn	(bus) stop

12

chéngkè men lùxù xià le chē.

乘客们陆续下了车。

Passengers were getting off the bus one after the other

乘客	chéngkè	passenger
们	men	plural marker for pronouns
陆续	lùxù	one after the other
下	xià	to go down
了	le	(completed action marker)
车	chē	vehicle

13

Liàngliàng yě zhōngyú zhǎodào zuòwèi,

亮亮也终于找到座位,

and Liang finally got a seat.

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
也	yě	(for emphasis)
终于	zhōngyú	finally

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找到	zhǎodào	to find
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座位	zuòwèi	seat
----	--------	------

14

tā lì mǎ zuò le xià lai.

他立马坐了下来。

He sat down immediately.

他	tā	he
---	----	----

立马	lì mǎ	immediately
----	-------	-------------

坐	zuò	to sit
---	-----	--------

了	le	(completed action marker)
---	----	---------------------------

下来	xia lai	(indicates motion down)
----	---------	-------------------------

15

Kě pì gu hái méi zuò rè,

可屁股还没坐热,

But as soon as he sat down,

可	kě	but
---	----	-----

屁股	pì gu	butt
----	-------	------

还	hái	yet
---	-----	-----

没	méi	not
---	-----	-----

坐	zuò	to sit
---	-----	--------

热	rè	to warm up
---	----	------------

Note: 屁股还没坐热 is an saying used to describe a very short period of time. It's so short that your butt doesn't even have a chance to get warm.

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16

jiù yǒu zhāng dà shǒu pāi le pāi Liàngliàng de jiānbǎng.

就有张大手拍了拍亮亮的肩膀。

a big hand tapped Liang's shoulder.

就	jiù	right away
有	yǒu	there is
张	zhāng	classifier for flat objects
大手	dà shǒu	big hand
拍了拍	pāi le pāi	to pat (V+了+V indicates a brief action)
亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
的	de	(used after an attribute)
肩膀	jiānbǎng	shoulder

17

Liàngliàng huítóu yī kàn,

亮亮回头一看，

Liang turned his head

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
回头	huítóu	to turn one's head
一	yī	(before a verb, indicating the suddenness of an action)
看	kàn	to look at

18

shì yī gè gāo gāo shòu shòu de nánzǐ,

是一个高高瘦瘦的男子，

and saw a tall, skinny guy

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是	shì	is
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for people
高高瘦瘦	gāogāo shòushòu	tall and skinny
的	de	(used after an attribute)
男子	nánzǐ	a man

19

tā shēnchuān hēisè wàitào, tóu dài yāshémào.

他身穿黑色外套，头戴鸭舌帽。

who was in a black coat and wore a cap.

他	tā	he
身穿	shēnchuān	to wear
黑色	hēisè	black
外套	wàitào	coat
头	tóu	head
戴	dài	to wear (hat)
鸭舌帽	yāshémào	peaked cap

20

Nánzǐ qīngshēng de shuō:

男子轻声地说：

The guy softly said:

男子	nánzǐ	a man
轻声	qīngshēng	softly

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地	de	-ly
说	shuō	to say

21

“Xiǎopéngyǒu, wǒmen kěyǐ huàn gè wèizhi ma?”

“小朋友，我们可以换个位置吗？”

"Hey, kid! Can we change seats?"

小朋友	xiǎopéngyǒu	child
我们	wǒmen	we
可以	kěyǐ	can
换	huàn	to exchange
个	gè	classifier for objects in general
位置	wèizhi	seat
吗	ma	(question particle for "yes-no" questions)

22

nǐ zhèr kàochuāng."

你这儿靠窗。”

Yours (right now) is by the window.”

你	nǐ	you
这儿	zhèr	here
靠窗	kàochuāng	by the window

23

Liàngliàng yǒudiǎn nàmèn, xīnxiǎng:

亮亮有点纳闷，心想：

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Liang was a little puzzled and thought to himself:

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
有点	yǒudiǎn	a little
纳闷	nàmen	puzzled
心想	xīnxiǎng	to think to oneself

24

“Míngmíng nǐ de wèizhi yě kàochuāng a!

“明明你的位置也靠窗啊!

"Your seat is also by a window.

明明	míngmíng	obviously
你	nǐ	you
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
位置	wèizhi	seat
也	yě	also
靠窗	kàochuāng	by the window
啊	a	modal particle

25

Wèishénme yào hé wǒ huàn?"

为什么要和我换? ”

Why do you wanna change with me?"

为什么	wèishénme	why?
要	yào	to want
和	hé	with

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我	wǒ	me
换	huàn	to change

26

Bùguò tā yě méi duō wèn,

不过他也没多问,

However, he didn't question him

不过	bùguò	however
他	tā	he
也	yě	(for emphasis)
没	méi	have not
多	duō	much
问	wèn	to ask

27

yǐwéi nánzǐ zhǐshì xǐhuan kàn tā zhèbiān de fēngjǐng,

以为男子只是喜欢看 he 这边的风景,

because he thought that the guy probably just liked to see the scenery on Liang's side.

以为	yǐwéi	to think
男子	nánzǐ	a man
只是	zhǐshì	simply
喜欢	xǐhuan	to like
看	kàn	to see
他	tā	he
这边	zhèbiān	this side
的	de	(used after an attribute)

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风景	fēngjǐng	scenery
----	----------	---------

28

suǒyǐ gēn tā huàn le wèizhi.

所以他换了位置。

So, Liang exchanged seats with the guy.

所以	suǒyǐ	so
跟	gēn	with
他	tā	him
换	huàn	to exchange
了	le	(completed action marker)
位置	wèizhi	seat

29

Gōngjiāochē jìxù xiàngqián kāi zhe,

公交车继续向前开着，

The bus continued moving forward

公交车	gōngjiāochē	public transport vehicle
继续	jìxù	to continue
向前	xiàngqián	forward
开	kāi	to drive (a vehicle)
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)

30

Liàngliàng hàoqí de cháo yuánlái de wèizhi kàn le guoqu.

亮亮好奇地朝原来的位置看了过去。

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and Liang curiously looked towards his original seat.

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
好奇地	hàqíde	curiously
朝	cháo	towards
原来	yuánlái	original
的	de	(used after an attribute)
位置	wèizhi	seat
看	kàn	to look at
了	le	(completed action marker)
过去	guoqu	(indicating motion away from the speaker)

31

Tā kàndào nánzǐ de qián pái zuò zhe yī gè lǎorén,

他看到男子的前排坐着一个老人,

He saw an old man sitting in front of that guy.

他	tā	he
看到	kàndào	to see
男子	nánzǐ	a man
的	de	(used after an attribute)
前排	qiánpái	front row
坐着	zuò zhe	sitting
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for people
老人	lǎorén	old man

32

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zhèngzài dǎkēshuì.

正在打瞌睡。

The old man was asleep.

正在	zhèngzài	right in the middle of (doing sth)
----	----------	------------------------------------

打瞌睡	dǎkēshuì	to fall asleep
-----	----------	----------------

33

Ér nà míng nánzǐ de shǒu zhèng mànman de

而那名男子的手正慢慢地

But that guy's hand was slowly

而	ér	(indicates causal relation)
---	----	-----------------------------

那	nà	that
---	----	------

名	míng	classifier for people
---	------	-----------------------

男子	nánzǐ	a man
----	-------	-------

的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
---	----	---------------------------

手	shǒu	hand
---	------	------

正	zhèng	just (doing sth.)
---	-------	-------------------

慢慢地	mànman de	slowly
-----	-----------	--------

34

shēn jìn lǎorén de xīzhuāng kǒudài.

伸进老人的西装口袋。

getting into the old man's suit pocket.

伸	shēn	to stretch
---	------	------------

进	jìn	into
---	-----	------

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老人	lǎorén	old man
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
西装	xīzhuāng	suit
口袋	kǒudài	pocket

35

Liàngliàng bèi zhè yī chǎngjǐng jīngdāi le.

亮亮被这一场景惊呆了。

Liang was shocked by what he saw.

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
被	bèi	by
这	zhè	this
一	yī	one
场景	chǎngjǐng	scene
惊呆了	jīngdāi le	stunned (indicate a change of state)

36

Zhèshí, nánzǐ tūrán niǔ guò tóu lái,

这时，男子突然扭过头来，

At that moment, the guy suddenly turned his head

这时	zhèshí	at this moment
男子	nánzǐ	a man
突然	tūrán	sudden
扭	niǔ	to turn
过	guò	(indicating turning towards the speaker)

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头	tóu	head
来	lái	(indicating turning towards the speaker)

37

kàn zhe Liàngliàng,

看着亮亮,

to look at Liang

看	kàn	to look at
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang

38

hái duì tā guǐmèi de yī xiào,

还对他鬼魅地一笑,

and gave him an evil smile.

还	hái	also
对	duì	at
他	tā	he
鬼魅	guǐmèi	forces of evil
地	de	ly
一	yī	(before a verb, indicating the suddenness of an action)
笑	xiào	smile

39

bìngqiě bǐ le yī gè bù yào chǎo de shǒu shì.

并且比了一个不要吵的手势。

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He put his hand over his mouth to indicate to Liang not to make any noise.

并且	bìngqiě	and
比	bǐ	to gesture (with hands)
了	le	(completed action marker)
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for objects in general
不要	bùyào	don't!
吵	chǎo	making a noise
的	de	(used after an attribute)
手势	shǒushì	gesture

40

Liàngliàng jǐnzhāng de kàn zhe zhè yī mù,

亮亮紧张地看着这一幕,

Liang nervously watched this

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
紧张	jǐnzhāng	nervous
地	de	-ly
看	kàn	to watch
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
这	zhè	this
一	yī	one
幕	mù	act (of a play)

41

bù gǎn chūshēng.

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不敢出声。

and didn't dare make any sound.

不	bù	not
敢	gǎn	to dare
出声	chūshēng	make a sound

42

Zhōngdiǎnzhàn dào le, Liàngliàng huāngmáng de xià le chē.

终点站到了，亮亮慌忙地下了车。

The bus arrived at the last stop and Liang hurriedly got off.

终点站	zhōngdiǎnzhàn	final stop on bus line
到	dào	to arrive
了	le	(completed action marker)
亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
慌忙地	huāngmáng de	hurriedly
下	xià	to get off
了	le	(completed action marker)
车	chē	vehicle

43

Chē wài de yángguāng géwài de cìyǎn,

车外的阳光格外的刺眼，

The sun outside was especially strong

车	chē	vehicle
外	wài	outside

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的	de	(used after an attribute)
阳光	yángguāng	sunshine
格外	géwài	especially
刺眼	cìyǎn	to harsh (light)

44

Liàngliàng de liǎn zhàng de tōnghóng.

亮亮的脸涨得通红。

and Liang's face turned red.

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
脸	liǎn	face
涨	zhàng	(of the head) filled by a rush of blood
得	de	(structural particle)
通红	tōnghóng	very red

45

Tā dīxià tóu, kàn zhe dìmiàn,

他低下头，看着地面，

He lowered his head looking at the ground

他	tā	he
低下	dīxià	to lower (one's head)
头	tóu	head
看	kàn	to look at
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
地面	dìmiàn	ground

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46

mànmàn de xiàng xuéxiào zǒuqù.

慢慢地向学校走去。

and slowly walked towards his school.

慢慢地	mànmàn de	slowly
向	xiàng	towards
学校	xuéxiào	school
走去	zǒuqù	to walk over (to)

47

Tā biān zǒu biān huíxiǎng chē shàng de chǎngjǐng.

他边走边回想车上的场景。

As he walked, he recalled the scene that just happened on the bus.

他	tā	he
边...边	biān... biān	simultaneously
走	zǒu	to walk
回想	huíxiǎng	to recall
车	chē	vehicle
上	shàng	on top
的	de	(used after an attribute)
场景	chǎngjǐng	scene

48

Xiǎngdào nàge xiǎotōu,

想到那个小偷，

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He thought about that thief

想到	xiǎngdào	to think of
那个	nàge	that one
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief

49

tā xīnli yǒuxiē hàipà hé jǐnzhāng,
他心里有些害怕和紧张,
and felt a little scared and nervous.

他	tā	he
心里	xīnli	in mind
有些	yǒuxiē	some
害怕	hàipà	to be scared
和	hé	and
紧张	jǐnzhāng	nervous

50

dàn dāng tā xiǎngdào nàge dōngxi bèi tōu de lǎorén shí,
但当他想到那个东西被偷的老人时,
But when he thought of the old man whose property was stolen,

但	dàn	but
当... 时	dāng... shí	when
他	tā	he
想到	xiǎngdào	to think of
那个	nàge	that one

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东西	dōngxi	stuff
被	bèi	(indicates passive-voice clauses)
偷	tōu	to steal
的	de	(used after an attribute)
老人	lǎorén	old man

51

tā gǎndào hěn tóngqíng,

他感到很同情,

he sympathized with him

他	tā	he
感到	gǎndào	to feel
很	hěn	very
同情	tóngqíng	to sympathize with

52

tóngshí yòu zébèi zìjǐ nuòruò,

同时又责备自己懦弱,

and at the same time, blamed himself for being a coward

同时	tóngshí	at the same time
又	yòu	also
责备	zebèi	to blame
自己	zìjǐ	oneself
懦弱	nuòruò	cowardly

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méiyǒu zhàn chulai bāngzhù nà wèi lǎorén.

没有站出来帮助那位老人。

and not standing up to help that old man.

没有	méiyǒu	to not have
站	zhàn	to stand
出来	chulai	(after a verb, indicates coming out)
帮助	bāngzhù	to help
那	nà	that
位	wèi	classifier for people (honorific)
老人	lǎorén	old man

54

Dài zhe zhè fùzá de xīnqíng,

带着这复杂的心情，

With these confused thoughts,

带	dài	to take along
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
这	zhè	this
复杂	fùzá	complex
的	de	(used after an attribute)
心情	xīnqíng	mood

55

tā lái dào le kètáng.

他来到了课堂。

he went to his class

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他	tā	he
来到	láidào	to come / to arrive
了	le	(completed action marker)
课堂	kètáng	classroom

56

Yī xiàwǔ, tā dōu méiyǒu xīnsi tīngjiǎng,

一下午，他都没有心思听讲，

and the whole afternoon, he wasn't in the frame of mind to listen to his teacher.

一	yī	entire
下午	xiàwǔ	afternoon
他	tā	he
都	dōu	all
没有	méiyǒu	to not have
心思	xīnsi	mood
听讲	tīngjiǎng	to listen to a lecture

57

érshì yīzhí xiǎng zhe nà jiàn shì.

而是一直想着那件事。

Instead, he kept thinking about that event.

而是	érshì	rather
一直	yīzhí	continuously
想	xiǎng	to think
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

那	nà	that
件	jiàn	classifier for events
事	shì	thing

58

Xiàkè líng xiǎng,

下课铃响,

The bell rang announcing the end of class

下课	xiàkè	to finish class
铃	líng	(small) bell
响	xiǎng	to ring

59

Liàngliàng jǐshàng le huíjiā de gōngjiāo.

亮亮挤上了回家的公交。

and Liang got on the bus to return home.

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
挤上	jǐshàng	to squeeze oneself up into (a crowded vehicle etc)
了	le	(completed action marker)
回家	huíjiā	to return home
的	de	(used after an attribute)
公交	gōngjiāo	public transportation

60

Rénqún zhōng, tā kàndào le yī zhāng shúxī de miànkǒng

人群中，他看到了一张熟悉的面孔

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

In the crowd, he saw a familiar face

人群中	rénqún zhōng	in the crowd
他	tā	he
看到	kàndào	to see
了	le	(completed action marker)
一	yī	one
张	zhāng	classifier for flat objects
熟悉	shúxī	to be familiar with
的	de	(used after an attribute)
面孔	miànkǒng	face

61

-shàngwǔ kàndào de xiǎotōu.

—上午看到的小偷。

- it was the thief he saw that morning.

上午	shàngwǔ	morning
看到	kàndào	to see
的	de	(used after an attribute)
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief

62

Liàngliàng lìnmǎ jǐnzhāng qilai, xīnxiǎng:

亮亮立马紧张起来，心想：

Liang immediately got nervous and thought to himself:

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
----	------------	-------

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

立马	lì mǎ	immediately
紧张	jǐnzhāng	nervous
起来	qilai	(after a verb) indicating the beginning and continuation of an action or a state
心想	xīnxiǎng	to think to oneself

63

“Rúguǒ wǒ zhè shíhòu dàhǎn chē shàng yǒu xiǎotōu,

“如果我这时候大喊车上有小偷，

"If I shout now that I see a thief,

如果	rúguǒ	if
我	wǒ	I
这时候	zhè shíhòu	this moment
大喊	dàhǎn	to shout
车	chē	vehicle
上	shàng	on
有	yǒu	there is
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief

64

méiyǒu zhèngjù, dàjiā kěndìng bùhuì xiāngxìn de."

没有证据，大家肯定不会相信的。”

and I have no way to prove it, nobody is gonna believe me."

没有	méiyǒu	to not have
证据	zhèngjù	prove
大家	dàjiā	everyone

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

肯定	kěndìng	to be sure
不会	bùhuì	will not (act, happen etc)
相信	xiāngxìn	to believe
的	de	(used at the end of a declarative sentence for emphasis)

65

Yúshì tā qiāoqiāo duǒ jìn rénqún zhōng,

于是他悄悄躲进人群中,

So, he quietly hid himself in the crowd

于是	yúshì	thus
他	tā	he
悄悄	qiāoqiāo	quietly
躲	duǒ	to hide
进	jìn	(used after a verb) into, in
人群	rénqún	crowd
中	zhōng	in

66

jǐnmì guānchá zhe xiǎotōu.

紧密观察着小偷。

and watched the thief closely.

紧密	jǐnmì	inseparably close
观察	guānchá	to watch
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

67

Zhōngyú, xiǎotōu jiāng shǒu shēn jìn le

终于，小偷将手伸进了

Finally, the thief stuck his hand into

终于	zhōngyú	finally
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
将	jiāng	(introduces object of main verb)
手	shǒu	hand
伸	shēn	to stretch
进	jìn	(used after a verb) into, in
了	le	(completed action marker)

68

yī míng chéngkè de kǒudài.

一名乘客的口袋。

another passenger's pocket.

一	yī	one
名	míng	classifier for people
乘客	chéngkè	passenger
的	de	(used after an attribute)
口袋	kǒudài	pocket

69

Kàndào zhè yī mù,

看到这一幕，

Seeing this,

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

看到	kàndào	to see
这	zhè	this
一	yī	one
幕	mù	act (of a play)

70

Liàngliàng xùnsù de jǐ dào le chēxiāng de zuì hòumiàn,
亮亮迅速地挤到了车厢的最后面,
Liang swiftly moved to the back of the bus

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
迅速地	xùnsù de	rapidly
挤	jǐ	to squeeze
到	dào	to (a place)
了	le	(completed action marker)
车厢	chēxiāng	carriage
的	de	(used after an attribute)
最	zuì	farthest or nearest to (a place)
后面	hòumiàn	back

71

dàhǎn dào: "Yǒu xiǎotōu a!
大喊道：“有小偷啊！”
and shouted: "Thief!"

大喊	dàhǎn	to shout
道	dào	to say (the words quoted)

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

有	yǒu	there is
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
啊	a	(modal particle)

72

Yǒurén zài tōu qián a! Dàjiā zhùyì a!"

有人在偷钱啊！大家注意啊！ ”

Somebody is stealing money! Watch out, everyone! "

有人	yǒurén	someone
在	zài	in the middle of doing sth
偷	tōu	to steal
钱	qián	money
啊	a	(modal particle)
大家	dàjiā	everyone
注意	zhùyì	to pay attention to
啊	a	(modal particle)

73

Chéngkè men qíshuāshuā de huí guo tóu kàn zhe Liàngliàng.

乘客们齐刷刷地回过头看着亮亮。

All the passengers turned their heads at the same time to look at Liang.

乘客们	chéngkè men	passengers
齐刷刷地	qíshuāshuā de	evenly
回	huí	to turn around
过	guo	(indicating moving from one place to another)
头	tóu	head

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

看	kàn	to look at
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang

74

Nà míng dōngxi bèi tōu de chéngkè

那名东西被偷的乘客

The passenger whose property was being stolen

那	nà	that
名	míng	classifier for people
东西	dōngxi	stuff
被	bèi	(indicates passive-voice clauses)
偷	tōu	to steal
的	de	(used after an attribute)
乘客	chéngkè	passenger

75

huāngmáng mō le mō zìjǐ de kǒudài,

慌忙摸了摸自己的口袋,

hurriedly checked his pocket

慌忙	huāngmáng	hurriedly
摸了摸	mō le mō	to touch (v+了+v indicates a brief action)
自己	zìjǐ	oneself
的	de	(used after an attribute)
口袋	kǒudài	pocket

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

76

ránhòu dà jiàodào:

然后大叫道:

and shouted:

然后	ránhòu	then (afterwards)
----	--------	-------------------

大	dà	greatly (loudly)
---	----	------------------

叫道	jiàodào	to shout
----	---------	----------

77

“Wǒ de qiánbāo ne?”

“我的钱包呢？”

"Where is my wallet?"

我	wǒ	I
---	----	---

的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
---	----	---------------------------

钱包	qiánbāo	wallet
----	---------	--------

呢	ne	("Where is ...?")
---	----	-------------------

78

Jiēzhe, tā duì zhe xiǎotōu shuōdào:

接着，他对着小偷说道：

Then, he turned to the thief and said:

接着	jiēzhe	then
----	--------	------

他	tā	he
---	----	----

对	duì	towards
---	-----	---------

着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
---	-----	---------------------------------

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
说道	shuōdào	to say (the quoted words)

79

"Nǐ gānggang gànma yīzhí jǐ wǒ?"

“你刚刚干吗一直挤我？”

Why did you keep pushing me?

你	nǐ	you
刚刚	gānggang	just a moment ago
干吗	gànma	why
一直	yīzhí	continuously
挤	jǐ	to push against
我	wǒ	me

80

Shìbùshì nǐ tōu le wǒ de qián?"

是不是你偷了我的钱？”

Did you steal my money?"

是不是	shìbùshì	is or isn't
你	nǐ	you
偷	tōu	to steal
了	le	(completed action marker)
我	wǒ	I
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
钱	qián	money

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81

Xiǎotōu liánmáng bǎ shǒu cáng dào kǒudài lǐ,

小偷连忙把手藏到口袋里,

The thief quickly hid his hands in his pockets

小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
连忙	liánmáng	promptly
把	bǎ	(used to shift the object ahead of the verb)
手	shǒu	hand
藏	cáng	to hide away
到	dào	to (a place)
口袋	kǒudài	pocket
里	lǐ	inside

82

ránhòu wǎng chēmén biān zǒu, shìtú xiàchē.

然后往车门边走, 试图下车。

and walked towards the bus exit door trying to get off.

然后	ránhòu	then
往	wǎng	towards
车门	chēmén	car door
边	biān	side
走	zǒu	to walk
试图	shìtú	to attempt
下车	xiàchē	to get off or out of (a bus)

83

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Liàngliàng yòu hǎndào: "Jiùshì zhège rén!"

亮亮又喊道：“就是这个人！”

Liang shouted again: "That's the guy!"

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
又	yòu	(once) again
喊道	hǎndào	to yell
就是	jiùshì	exactly
这个	zhège	this
人	rén	person

84

Jiùshì tā tōu le nǐ de qián!"

就是他偷了你的钱！”

It was him that stole your money!"

就是	jiùshì	exactly
他	tā	he
偷	tōu	to steal
了	le	(completed action marker)
你	nǐ	you
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
钱	qián	money

85

Qiánbāo bèi tōu de chéngkè

钱包被偷的乘客

The passenger whose wallet was being stolen

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

钱包	qiánbāo	wallet
被	bèi	(indicates passive-voice clauses)
偷	tōu	to steal
的	de	(used after an attribute)
乘客	chéngkè	passenger

86

xùnsù chězhù xiǎotōu de dàyī,
迅速扯住小偷的大衣,
rapidly grabbed the thief's coat

迅速	xùnsù	rapid
扯住	chězhù	to grasp firmly
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
的	de	(used after an attribute)
大衣	dàyī	overcoat

87

shēngqì de shuōdào: "Nǐ hái xiǎng pǎo?
生气地说道: “你还想跑?
and angrily said: "You wanna run away?

生气	shēngqì	angry
地	de	-ly
说道	shuōdào	to say (the quoted words)
你	nǐ	you
还	hái	even

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

想	xiǎng	to want
跑	pǎo	to run away

88

Gēn wǒ qù jǐngchájú!"

跟我去警察局！ ”

Come with me to the police!"

跟	gēn	to go with
我	wǒ	me
去	qù	to go to (a place)
警察局	jǐngchájú	police station

89

Jiēzhe, xiǎotōu bèi nà míng chéngkè zhuài xià le chē.

接着，小偷被那名乘客拽下了车。

Then, the thief was dragged off the bus by the passenger.

接着	jiēzhe	then
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
被	bèi	by
那	nà	that
名	míng	classifier for people
乘客	chéngkè	passenger
拽	zhuài	to pull
下	xià	down
了	le	(completed action marker)
车	chē	vehicle

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

90

Kàndào xiǎotōu bèi zhuā,

看到小偷被抓,

Seeing that the thief was caught,

看到	kàndào	to see
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
被	bèi	(indicates passive-voice clauses)
抓	zhuā	to catch

91

Liàngliàng cháng shū le yīkǒuqì.

亮亮长舒了一口气。

Liang gave off a sigh of relief.

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
长	cháng	long
舒	shū	to relax
了	le	(completed action marker)
一口气	yīkǒuqì	one breath

92

Zhèshí, chēxiāng zhōng chuánlái gèzhǒng shēngyīn.

这时, 车厢中传来各种声音。

At that moment, there was a lot of chatter on the bus by the other passengers.

这时	zhèshí	at this moment
----	--------	----------------

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

车厢	chēxiāng	carriage
中	zhōng	in
传来	chuánlái	(of a sound) to come through
各种	gèzhǒng	all kinds of
声音	shēngyīn	voice

93

Yǒurén shuō: "āiyā,

有人说：“哎呀，

One passenger said: “Ah...

有人	yǒurén	someone
说	shuō	to say
哎呀	āiyā	interjection of wonder, shock or admiration

94

zhīqián wǒ jiù jiàn guò nàgèrén tōu dōngxi!"

之前我就见过那个人偷东西！ ”

I've seen that guy stealing before!"

之前	zhīqián	before
我	wǒ	I
就	jiù	as early as
见	jiàn	to see
过	guò	(experienced action marker)
那个人	nàgèrén	that person
偷东西	tōu dōngxi	to steal stuff

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

95

Yě yǒurén shuō: "Gānggang tā wèile tōu dōngxi,

也有人说：“刚刚他为了偷东西，

Another passenger said: “Just now, in order to steal,

也	yě	also
有人	yǒurén	someone
说	shuō	to say
刚刚	gānggang	just a moment ago
他	tā	he
为了	wèile	in order to
偷	tōu	to steal
东西	dōngxi	stuff

96

hái tèdì hé wǒ huàn le wèizhi ne!"

还特地和我换了位置呢！ ”

he changed seats with me!"

还	hái	even
特地	tèdì	specially
和	hé	with
我	wǒ	me
换	huàn	to exchange
了	le	(completed action marker)
位置	wèizhi	seat
呢	ne	(particle indicating strong affirmation)

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

97

Hái yǒurén shuō: "Zhè xiǎohái zhēn dàdǎn,

还有人说：“这小孩真大胆，

Someone else said: "That kid is so bold!

还	hái	also
有人	yǒurén	someone
说	shuō	to say
这	zhè	this
小孩	xiǎohái	child
真	zhēn	really
大胆	dàdǎn	bold

98

shénme dōu gǎn shuō!"

什么都敢说！ ”

He didn't hold back saying what he saw!"

什么	shénme	anything
都	dōu	all
敢	gǎn	to dare
说	shuō	to say

99

Liàngliàng dīxià le tóu, gǎndào yǒudiǎn hàixiū,

亮亮低下了头，感到有点害羞，

Liang lowered his head and felt shy

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
低下	dīxià	to lower (one's head)
了	le	(completed action marker)
头	tóu	head
感到	gǎndào	to feel
有点	yǒudiǎn	a little
害羞	hàixiū	shy

100

tóngshí yòu hěn zìháo.

同时又很自豪。

and proud at the same time.

同时	tóngshí	at the same time
又	yòu	also
很	hěn	very
自豪	zìháo	proud (of one's achievements etc)

101

Huíjiā hòu, Liàngliàng xīngfèn de

回家后，亮亮兴奋地

After arriving home, Liang excitedly

回家	huíjiā	to return home
后	hòu	after
亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
兴奋	xīngfèn	excited
地	de	-ly

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

102

bǎ zhuā xiǎotōu de jīngguò gàosu le tā de māma.

把抓小偷的经过告诉了他的妈妈。

told his mother about his experience with the thief.

把	bǎ	(used to shift the object ahead of the verb)
抓小偷	zhuā xiǎotōu	to catch a thief
的	de	(used after an attribute)
经过	jīngguò	process
告诉	gàosu	to tell
了	le	(completed action marker)
他的	tā de	his
妈妈	māma	mother

103

Tā de māma tīng wán hòu,

他的妈妈听完后,

After listening to Liang,

他的	tā de	his
妈妈	māma	mother
听	tīng	to listen
完	wán	to finish
后	hòu	after

104

liǎn shàng lùchū dānxīn de biǎoqíng, shuō:

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脸上露出担心的表情，说：

his mother had a worried expression on her face and said:

脸	liǎn	face
上	shàng	on top
露出	lùchū	to show
担心	dānxīn	worried
的	de	(used after an attribute)
表情	biǎoqíng	(facial) expression
说	shuō	to say

105

"Nǐ yī gè xiǎohái gàn má duō guǎn xián shì?"

“你一个小孩子干吗多管闲事？”

“You are only a child, why mind other people's business?”

你	nǐ	you
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for people
小孩	xiǎohái	child
干吗	gàn má	why
多管闲事	duō guǎn xián shì	meddling in other people's business

106

Tā yòu méi tōu nǐ de dōng xī!

他又没偷你的东西！

It's not like he stole your stuff!

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他	tā	he
又	yòu	(used for emphasis) anyway
没	méi	(negative prefix for verbs)
偷	tōu	to steal
你的	nǐ de	your
东西	dōngxi	stuff

107

wànyī tā jìzhu le nǐ de yàngzi,

万一他记住了你的样子,

What if he remembers you

万一	wànyī	if by any chance
他	tā	he
记住	jìzhu	to remember
了	le	(completed action marker)
你的	nǐ de	your
样子	yàngzi	appearance

108

yǐhòu bàofù nǐ zěnmébàn?"

以后报复你怎么办? ”

and takes revenge?!"

以后	yǐhòu	later
报复	bàofù	to revenge
你	nǐ	you
怎么办	zěnmébàn	what's to be done

Stories In Slow Chinese - Speaking Out

109

Liàngliàng huídá dào:

亮亮回答道:

Liang responded:

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
回答	huídá	to reply
道	dào	to say (the words quoted)

110

"Dànshì wǒ shì pǎo dào chēxiāng hòumian cái kāishǐ hǎn de,

“但是我是跑到车厢后面才开始喊的,

"But I only started yelling when I got to the back of the bus.

但是	dànshì	but
我	wǒ	I
是...的	shì...de	(to emphasize the clause within the sentence pattern)
跑到	pǎo dào	to run to (a place)
车厢	chēxiāng	carriage
后面	hòumian	back
才	cái	only then
开始	kāishǐ	to begin
喊	hǎn	to shout

111

zhèyàng tā jiù kàn bu qīng wǒ de yàngzi le."

这样他就看不清我的样子了。”

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This way, he wouldn't be able to see my face clearly."

这样	zhèyàng	this way
他	tā	he
就	jiù	then
看不清	kànbuqīng	not able to see clearly
我的	wǒ de	my
样子	yàngzi	appearance
了	le	(indicate a change of state)

112

Liàngliàng mā wúnài de xiào le xiào, shuō:

亮亮妈无奈地笑了笑，说：

His mother grudgingly smiled and said:

亮亮妈	Liàngliàng mā	Liang's mother
无奈	wúnài	grudgingly
地	de	-ly
笑了笑	xiào le xiào	to smile (v+了+v indicates a brief action)
说	shuō	to say

113

"Nà yě hěn wēixiǎn ya!

“那也很危险呀！

"It could still be dangerous!

那	nà	that
也	yě	also

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很	hěn	very
危险	wēixiǎn	dangerous
呀	ya	(model particle)

114

Zàishuō, nàme duō dàren kàndào le xíngqiè de guòchéng,

再说，那么多大人看到了行窃的过程，

Also, so many adults saw what happened.

再说	zàishuō	besides
那么多	nàme duō	so many
大人	dàren	adult
看到	kàndào	to see
了	le	(completed action marker)
行窃	xíngqiè	to steal
的	de	(used after an attribute)
过程	guòchéng	course of events

115

wèishénme bù ràng tāmen qù shuō ne?"

为什么不让他们去说呢？”

Why didn't you let them handle it?"

为什么	wèishénme	why?
不	bù	not
让	ràng	to let sb do sth
他们	tāmen	they
去	qù	to go

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说	shuō	to speak
呢	ne	(at the end of a rhetorical question)

116

Liàngliàng náo le náo tóu,

亮亮挠了挠头,

Liang scratched his head,

亮亮	Liàngliàng	Liang
挠了挠	náo le náo	to scratch (v+了+le indicates a brief action)
头	tóu	head

117

yíhuò de kàn zhe tā de māma, wèn:

疑惑地看着他的妈妈，问：

looked at his mother with confusion and then asked:

疑惑	yíhuò	to puzzle over
地	de	-ly
看	kàn	to look at
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
他的	tā de	his
妈妈	māma	mother
问	wèn	to ask

118

"Kě rúguǒ dàjiā dōu bù shuōhuà,

“可如果大家都不说话，

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"If nobody says anything,

可	kě	but
如果	rúguǒ	if
大家	dàjiā	everyone
都	dōu	all
不	bù	not
说话	shuōhuà	to say

119

nà wǒ yě yīnggāi zhuāngzuò méi kànjiàn,

那我也应该装作没看见,

should I also pretend that I didn't see it

那	nà	then (in that case)
我	wǒ	I
也	yě	also
应该	yīnggāi	should
装作	zhuāngzuò	to pretend
没	méi	(negative prefix for verbs)
看见	kànjiàn	to see

120

shénme dōu bù shuō ma?"

什么都不说吗？”

and say nothing?"

什么	shénme	anything
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都	dōu	(used for emphasis)
不	bù	not
说	shuō	to say
吗	ma	(question particle for "yes-no" questions)

121

Zhèxià, tā de māma lèng zhù le,

这下，他的妈妈愣住了，

This time, his mother was dumbfounded

这下	zhèxià	this time
他的	tā de	his
妈妈	māma	mother
愣住	lèng zhù	to be dumbfounded
了	le	(completed action marker)

122

bùzhī zěnmé huídá.

不知怎么回答。

and didn't how to respond.

不知	bùzhī	not to know
怎么	zěnmé	how?
回答	huídá	to reply