

# My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

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Dàjiā hǎo! Huānyíng láidào Mandarin Corner, wǒ shì Eileen.

大家好！欢迎来到 Mandarin Corner，我是 Eileen。

Hello everyone! Welcome to Mandarin Corner. I am Eileen.

大家好      dàiā hǎo      hi, everyone

欢迎      huānyíng      to welcome

来到      láidào      to come

我      wǒ      I

是      shì      am

2

Shàng yī gè shìpín gěi nǐmen jiǎng le wǒ zài gōngchǎng gōngzuò de jīnglì,

上一个视频给你们讲了我在工厂工作的经历，

# My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

In the previous video, I talked about my experience working in a factory.

上一个	shàngyīgè	previous one
视频	shìpín	video
给	gěi	to
你们	nǐmen	you (plural)
讲	jiǎng	to speak
了	le	(completed action marker)
我	wǒ	I
在	zài	(to be) in
工厂	gōngchǎng	factory
工作	gōngzuò	to work
的	de	(used after an attribute)
经历	jīnglì	experience

## 3

hái méiyǒu kàn de rén kěyǐ qù kàn yīxià.

还没有看的人可以去看一下。

Those who haven't watched it can go check it out.

还	hái	still
没有	méiyǒu	haven't
看	kàn	to watch
的	de	(used after an attribute)
人	rén	people
可以	kěyǐ	can
去	qù	to go
看	kàn	to watch

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

一下 yīxià (used after a verb) give it a go

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Jīntiān yào gěi nǐmen jiǎng de shì wǒ cóng gōngchǎng cízhí hòu de gùshi.

今天要给你们讲的是我从工厂辞职后的故事。

Today, I'm going to tell you **the** story about what happened after I resigned from the factory.

今天	jīntiān	today
要	yào	will
给	gěi	to
你们	nǐmen	you (plural)
讲	jiǎng	to speak
的	de	(used after an attribute)
是	shì	is
我	wǒ	I
从	cóng	from
工厂	gōngchǎng	factory
辞职	cízhí	to resign
后	hòu	after
的	de	(used after an attribute)
故事	gùshi	story

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Méiyǒu shàng guo dàxué de wǒ shénme dōu bù dǒng.

没有上过大学的我什么都不懂。

As someone who didn't attend university, I didn't know anything.

没有 méiyǒu to not have

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上	shàng	to attend (class or university)
过	guo	experienced action marker
大学	dàxué	university
的	de	(used after an attribute)
我	wǒ	me
什么	shénme	anything
都	dōu	(not) at all
不懂	bù dǒng	not understand

### 6

Cízhí hòu, wéiyī néng xiǎngdào de gōngzuò shì qù mài yīfu.

辞职后，唯一能想到的工作是去卖衣服。

After quitting, the only job I could think of doing was selling clothes.

辞职	cízhí	to resign
后	hòu	after
唯一	wéiyī	only
能	néng	can
想到	xiǎngdào	to think of
的	de	(used after an attribute)
工作	gōngzuò	job
是	shì	is
去	qù	to go
卖衣服	mài yīfu	to sell clothes

### 7

Nà yě shì wǒ zuì xiànmù de gōngzuò,

那也是我最羡慕的工作，

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That was also the job I most desired

那	nà	that
也	yě	also
是	shì	is
我	wǒ	I
最	zuì	the most
羡慕	xiànmù	to admire / to envy
的	de	(used after an attribute)
工作	gōngzuò	job

### 8

yīnwèi kěyǐ bù yòng shàng yèbān, áo yè le.

因为可以不用上夜班、熬夜了。

because I didn't have to work night shifts and stay up late anymore.

因为	yīnwèi	because
可以	kěyǐ	can
不用	bùyòng	need not
上夜班	shàng yèbān	to work night shift
熬夜	áo yè	to stay up late or all night
了	le	(indicating a change of state)

### 9

Wǒ yǒu yī gè xiǎoxué tóngxué zài Zhèjiāng mài yīfu.

我有一个小学同学在浙江卖衣服。

I had a classmate from elementary school who was selling clothes in Zhejiang.

我	wǒ	I
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## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

有	yǒu	to have
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for people
小学	xiǎoxué	elementary school
同学	tóngxué	classmate
在	zài	(located) at
浙江	zhèjiāng	Zhejiang province
卖	mài	to sell
衣服	yīfu	clothes

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Tā jiào Línfèng, wǒmen cóngxiǎo yīqǐ zhǎngdà.

她叫林凤，我们从小一起长大。

Her name is Linfeng, and we grew up together.

她	tā	she
叫	jiào	to be called
林凤	línfèng	Linfeng
我们	wǒmen	we
从小	cóngxiǎo	from childhood
一起	yīqǐ	together
长大	zhǎngdà	to grow up

11

Tā yāoqǐng wǒ qù Zhèjiāng gōngzuò,

她邀请我去浙江工作，

She invited me to Zhejiang for work,

她	tā	she
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## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

邀请	yāoqǐng	to invite
我	wǒ	me
去	qù	to go to (a place)
浙江	zhèjiāng	Zhejiang province
工作	gōngzuò	to work

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yúshì wǒ mǎi le qìchē piào jiù qù le.

于是我买了汽车票就去了。

so I bought a bus ticket and off I went.

于是	yúshì	thus
我	wǒ	I
买	mǎi	to buy
了	le	(completed action marker)
汽车票	qìchē piào	bus ticket
就	jiù	then
去	qù	to go
了	le	(completed action marker)

13

Nà shì wǒ dìyīcì dāndú zuòchē qù wàidì,

那是我第一次单独坐车去外地，

That was the first time I traveled alone to another city,

那	nà	that
是	shì	is
我	wǒ	I
第一次	dìyīcì	the first time

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单独	dāndú	by oneself
坐车	zuòchē	to take the car, bus, train etc
去	qù	to go to (a place)
外地	wàidi	parts of the country other than where one is from

### 14

jì xīngfèn yòu yǒudiǎn dānxīn,

既兴奋又有点担心，

I was both excited and worried.

既	jì	both... (and...)
兴奋	xīngfèn	excited
又	yòu	and
有点	yǒudiǎn	a little
担心	dānxīn	worried

### 15

dānxīn dào le Zhèjiāng shǒujī méidiàn,

担心到了浙江手机没电，

I was worried that my phone's battery would die when I got to Zhejiang

担心	dānxīn	to worry
到	dào	to arrive
了	le	(completed action marker)
浙江	zhèjiāng	Zhejiang province
手机	shǒujī	cell phone
没电	méidiàn	dead (of batteries)



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ránhòu wúfǎ liánxi tā.

然后无法联系她。

and I wouldn't be able to contact her.

然后	ránhòu	and
无法	wúfǎ	unable
联系	liánxi	to get in touch with
她	tā	her

17

Suǒyǐ wǒ tèyì bǎ tā de shǒujī hàomǎ bèi le xialai, yǐfáng bùcè.

所以我特意把她的手机号码背了下来，以防不测。

So I memorized her phone number, just in case.

所以	suǒyǐ	so
我	wǒ	I
特意	tèyì	intentionally
把	bǎ	(marking the following noun as a direct object)
她	tā	she
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
手机	shǒujī	cell phone
号码	hàomǎ	number
背	bèi	to recite from memory
了	le	(completed action marker)
下来	xialai	(expressing completion of an action)
以防不测	yǐfáng bùcè	in case of accidents

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## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

Línfēng zài nàge chéngshì gōngzuò le hǎojǐ nián,

林风在那个城市工作了好几年，

Linfeng worked in that city (Cixi) for several years,

林风	línfēng	Linfeng
在	zài	(to be) in
那个	nàge	that one
城市	chéngshì	city
工作	gōngzuò	to work
了	le	(completed action marker)
好几年	hǎojǐ nián	several years

19

dōu shì zài fúzhuāng diàn lǐ mài yīfu.

都是在服装店里卖衣服。

all in clothing stores.

都	dōu	all
是	shì	is
在	zài	(to be) in
服装	fúzhuāng	dress / clothing
店	diàn	shop
里	lǐ	inside
卖	mài	to sell
衣服	yīfu	clothes

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Wǒ dǐdá zhèjiāng hòu,

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我抵达浙江后，

After arriving in Zhejiang,

我	wǒ	I
抵达	dǐdá	to arrive
浙江	zhèjiāng	Zhejiang province
后	hòu	after

21

tā gěi wǒ jièshào le yī fèn mài yīfu de gōngzuò.

她给我介绍了一份卖衣服的工作。

she introduced me to a job selling clothes.

她	tā	she
给	gěi	for
我	wǒ	me
介绍	jièshào	to introduce
了	le	(completed action marker)
一	yī	one
份	fèn	classifier for jobs
卖	mài	to sell
衣服	yīfu	clothes
的	de	(used after an attribute)
工作	gōngzuò	job

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Nà jiā lǎobǎn tā rènshi,

那家老板她认识，

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She knew the owner of that store,

那	nà	that
家	jiā	measure word for business
老板	lǎobǎn	boss
她	tā	she
认识	rènshi	be familiar with

23

suǒyǐ hěn shùnlì de wǒ jiù zhǎo dào le gōngzuò.

所以很顺利地我就找到了工作。

so it was very smooth for me to find a job.

所以	suǒyǐ	so
很	hěn	very
顺利地	shùnlì de	smoothly
我	wǒ	I
就	jiù	right away
找	zhǎo	to find
到	dào	(denoting completion or result of an action)
了	le	(completed action marker)
工作	gōngzuò	job

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Wǒ de gōngzuò shì zhàn zài diàn lǐ,

我的工作是在店里，

My job was standing in the store,

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我	wǒ	I
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
工作	gōngzuò	job
是	shì	is
站	zhàn	to stand
在	zài	(to be) in
店	diàn	shop
里	lǐ	inside

### 25

yǒu gùkè lái jiù gěi tāmen jièshào shìhé de yīfu,

有顾客来就给他们介绍适合的衣服，

introducing the customers to clothes that was suitable for them,

有	yǒu	there is
顾客	gùkè	customer
来	lái	to come
就	jiù	then
给	gěi	for
他们	tāmen	them
介绍	jièshào	to introduce
适合	shìhé	to fit
的	de	(used after an attribute)
衣服	yīfu	clothes

### 26

huòzhě bāng tāmen shì yīfu.

或者帮他们试衣服。

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or helping them try on clothes.

或者	huòzhě	or
帮	bāng	to help
他们	tāmen	they
试	shì	to try
衣服	yīfu	clothes

27

Yě shì měitiān gōngzuò shí'èr gè xiǎoshí.

也是每天工作十二个小时。

I was also working 12 hours every day.

也	yě	also
是	shì	is
每天	měitiān	every day
工作	gōngzuò	to work
十二	shí'èr	12
个	gè	classifier for objects in general
小时	xiǎoshí	hour

28

Dǐxīn jiā tíchéng shì yī qiān wǔ bǎi kuài zuǒyòu, dàn bù bāo chī zhù.

底薪加提成是一千五百块左右，但不包吃住。

The basic salary plus commission was around 1,500 yuan, but food and accommodation wasn't included.

底薪	dǐxīn	basic salary
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加	jiā	plus
提成	tíchéng	a commission
是	shì	is
一千五百	yī qiān wǔ bǎi	1500
块	kuài	yuan (colloquial)
左右	zuǒyòu	approximately
但	dàn	but
不	bù	not
包	bāo	to include
吃住	chī zhù	food and accommodation

29

Suǒyǐ chúqù chīfàn hé fángzū de fèiyòng,

所以除去吃饭和房租的费用，

So after deducting food and rent expenses,

所以	suǒyǐ	so
除去	chúqù	apart from
吃饭	chīfàn	to eat
和	hé	and
房租	fángzū	rent for a room or house
的	de	(used after an attribute)
费用	fèiyòng	cost

30

yě jiù shèng bùliǎo duōshao le.

也就剩不了多少了。

there wasn't much left.

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也	yě	(for emphasis)
就	jiù	then
剩	shèng	to be left
不了	bùliǎo	unable to
多少	duōshao	as much as
了	le	(indicating a change of state)

31

Fángzū měi gè yuè shì sān bǎi wǔshí yuán, yī gè xiǎo fángjiān.

房租每个月是三百五十元，一个小房间。

The rent was 350 yuan per month for a small room.

房租	fángzū	rent for a room or house
每个月	měi gè yuè	every month
是	shì	is
三百五十	sān bǎi wǔshí	350
元	yuán	yuan
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for objects in general
小	xiǎo	small
房间	fángjiān	room

32

Wǒ hé Línfèng gè chū yībàn.

我和林凤各出一半。

Linfeng and I split the rent.

我	wǒ	I
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## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

和	hé	and
林凤	Línfèng	Linfeng
各	gè	each
出	chū	to pay out
一半	yībàn	half

33

Méiyǒu chúfáng, bùnéng zuòfàn, zhǐnéng zài wàimiàn chī.

没有厨房，不能做饭，只能在外面吃。

There was no kitchen, so we couldn't cook and could only eat outside.

没有	méiyǒu	to not have
厨房	chúfáng	kitchen
不能	bùnéng	cannot
做饭	zuòfàn	to cook
只能	zhǐnéng	can only
在	zài	(to be) in
外面	wàimian	outside
吃	chī	to eat

34

Nàshíhou wǒ juéde cānguǎn lǐ de kuàicān zhēn hǎochī!

那时候我觉得餐馆里的快餐真好吃！

At that time, I thought the fast food in the restaurants was really delicious!

那时候	nàshíhou	at that time
我	wǒ	I
觉得	juéde	to feel
餐馆	cānguǎn	restaurant

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里	lǐ	inside
的	de	(used after an attribute)
快餐	kuàicān	fast food
真	zhēn	really
好吃	hǎochī	delicious

35

Kě yī duàn shíjiān zhīhòu wǒ jiù chī nì le,

可一段时间之后我就吃腻了，

But after some time, I got tired of it,

可	kě	but
一	yī	one
段	duàn	classifier for stories, periods of time
时间	shíjiān	period
之后	zhīhòu	later
我	wǒ	I
就	jiù	then
吃	chī	to eat
腻	nì	tired of
了	le	(indicating a change of state)

36

hěn xīwàng néng zìjǐ zuòfàn,

很希望能自己做饭，

and really wished I could cook for myself.

很	hěn	very
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希望 xīwàng to wish for

能 néng can

自己 zìjǐ oneself

做饭 zuòfàn to cook

37

yě hěn xiǎngniàn māma zuò de fàn.

也很想念妈妈做的饭。

Also, I really missed my mom's cooking.

也 yě also

很 hěn very

想念 xiǎngniàn to miss

妈妈 māma mom

做 zuò to make / to cook

的 de (used after an attribute)

饭 fàn food

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Shēngyì bùhǎo, tíchéng bù gāo de shíhou

生意不好，提成不高的时候

When the business wasn't good and my commission was low,

生意 shēngyì business

不好 bùhǎo no good

提成 tíchéng a commission

不 bù not

高 gāo high

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的 de (used after an attribute)

时候 shíhou time (when)

39

gōngzī jiù bùgòu huā.

工资就不够花。

the salary wasn't enough for me.

工资 gōngzī wages

就 jiù then

不够 bùgòu not enough

花 huā to spend (money, time)

40

Jìde yǒuyīcì wǒmen méi qián chīfàn,

记得有一次我们没钱吃饭，

I remember once, we didn't have money to eat,

记得 jìde to remember

有一次 yǒuyīcì once

我们 wǒmen we

没 méi to not have

钱 qián money

吃饭 chīfàn to eat

41

zhǐnéng zuò zài jiā lǐ kàn diànshì.

只能坐在家里看电视。

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

and all we could do was sit at home watching TV.

只能	zhǐnéng	can only
坐	zuò	to sit
在	zài	(located) at
家里	jiālǐ	home
看	kàn	to watch
电视	diànshì	television

42

Diànshì shang zài fàng guǎnggào,

电视上在放广告,

There was a commercial playing on the TV.

电视	diànshì	television
上	shang	on top
在	zài	indicating an action in progress
放	fàng	show (a film, etc.)
广告	guǎnggào	a commercial

43

yī wèi niánqīng de māma zuò zài fànzhūo pángbiān

一位年轻的妈妈坐在饭桌旁边

A young mother sat at the dining table

一	yī	one
位	wèi	classifier for people (honorific)
年轻	niánqīng	young

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的	de	(used after an attribute)
妈妈	māma	mother
坐	zuò	to sit
在	zài	(located) at
饭桌	fànzhuō	dining table
旁边	pángbiān	beside

### 44

zài hǒng háizi chīfàn, kě háizi bù yuànyì chī.

在哄孩子吃饭，可孩子不愿意吃。

and she was trying to get her child to eat, but the child refused.

在	zài	(indicating an action in progress)
哄	hǒng	to amuse (a child)
孩子	háizi	child
吃饭	chīfàn	to have a meal
可	kě	but
孩子	háizi	child
不	bù	not
愿意	yuànyì	willing (to do sth)
吃	chī	to eat

### 45

Diànshì lǐ de mǐfàn kànqilai hǎo hǎochī a!

电视里的米饭看起来好好吃啊！

The rice on the TV looked so delicious!

电视	diànshì	television
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## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

里	lǐ	inside
的	de	(used after an attribute)
米饭	mǐfàn	(cooked) rice
看起来	kànqilai	seemingly
好	hǎo	very
好吃	hǎochī	tasty
啊	a	(expressing enthusiasm)

46

Gé zhe xiǎnshìpíng hǎoxiàng dōu néng wéndào mǐfàn de xiāngwèi,

隔着显示屏好像都能闻到米饭的香味，

I could almost smell the fragrance of the rice coming from the screen.

隔	gé	at a distance from
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
显示屏	xiǎnshìpíng	display screen
好像	hǎoxiàng	as if
都	dōu	(used for emphasis) even
能	néng	can
闻到	wéndào	to smell
米饭	mǐfàn	(cooked) rice
的	de	(used after an attribute)
香味	xiāngwèi	fragrance

47

wǒ hé lín fèng jiù duì zhe diànshì měng tūn kǒushuǐ,

我和林凤就对着电视猛吞口水，

Me and Linfeng swallowed as we faced the TV and our mouth started to water,

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我	wǒ	I
和	hé	and
林凤	línfèng	Linfeng
就	jiù	then
对	duì	to face
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
电视	diànshì	television
猛	měng	suddenly / violent
吞	tūn	to swallow
口水	kǒushuǐ	saliva

48

huànxǐǎng néng cóng diànshì shàng bǎ shíwù duān xiàlái chī.

幻想能从电视上把食物端下来吃。

and we fantasized being able to take the food from the TV.

幻想	huànxǐǎng	fantasy
能	néng	to be able to
从	cóng	from
电视	diànshì	television
上	shàng	on top
把	bǎ	(marking the following noun as a direct object)
食物	shíwù	food
端	duān	to carry
下来	xiàlái	(indicates motion down and towards us)
吃	chī	to eat



## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

49

Dàgài sān gè yuè zhīhòu,

大概三个月之后，

After about three months,

大概	dàgài	about
三	sān	three
个	gè	classifier objects in general
月	yuè	month
之后	zhīhòu	later

50

yīnwèi měitiān zhàn shí'èr gè xiǎoshí tài xīnkǔ le

因为每天站十二个小时太辛苦了

because standing for 12 hours a day was so hard,

因为	yīnwèi	because
每天	měitiān	every day
站	zhàn	to stand
十二	shí'èr	12
个	gè	classifier objects in general
小时	xiǎoshí	hour
太...了	tài... le	too (much)
辛苦	xīnkǔ	hard

**Note:** 太 + adjective + 了 is often used to express emotions, attitudes, or beliefs that are too extreme or exaggerated.

51

wǒ jiù yòu cízhí le.

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

我就又辞职了。

I quit my job again.

我	wǒ	I
就	jiù	then
又	yòu	(once) again
辞职	cízhí	to resign
了	le	(completed action marker)

52

Jiēzhe wǒ zhǎo le yī jiā mài yùndòng fúzhuāng de diàn.

接着我找了一家卖运动服装的店。

After that, I found another clothes selling job in a sports store.

接着	jiēzhe	after that
我	wǒ	I
找	zhǎo	to find
了	le	(completed action marker)
一	yī	one
家	jiā	measure word for business
卖	mài	to sell
运动	yùndòng	sports
服装	fúzhuāng	clothes
的	de	(used after an attribute)
店	diàn	shop

53

Nàge gōngzuò de shíjiān jiù shǎo le hěn duō,

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

那个工作的时间就少了很多，

The working hours were much less,

那个	nàge	that one
工作	gōngzuò	job
的	de	(used after an attribute)
时间	shíjiān	time
就	jiù	just (emphasis)
少	shǎo	less
了	le	(completed action marker)
很多	hěn duō	a lot

54

dàn lí jiā hěn yuǎn, suǒyǐ xūyào zuò gōngjiāochē qù shàngbān.

但离家很远，所以需要坐公交车去上班。

but the store was far away from my home, so I had to take a bus to work.

但	dàn	but
离	lí	(in giving distances) from
家	jiā	home
很	hěn	very
远	yuǎn	far
所以	suǒyǐ	so
需要	xūyào	to need
坐	zuò	to take (a bus, airplane etc)
公交车	gōngjiāochē	public transport vehicle
去上班	qù shàngbān	to go to work

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

55

Xīn de gōngzuò gōngzī yě bùshì hěn gāo,

新的工作工资也不是很高，

The pay for the new job wasn't very high either,

新	xīn	new
的	de	(used after an attribute)
工作	gōngzuò	job
工资	gōngzī	pay
也	yě	also
不是	bùshì	is not
很	hěn	very
高	gāo	high

56

suǒyǐ yě huì jīngcháng quēqián.

所以也会经常缺钱。

so I often ran out of money as well.

所以	suǒyǐ	so
也	yě	also
会	huì	will
经常	jīngcháng	constantly
缺钱	quēqián	shortage of money

57

Nàshíhòu zuò gōngjiāochē shì yī kuài qián,

那时候坐公交车是一块钱，

At that time, taking the bus cost one yuan (about 0.15 US dollar).

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

那时候	nàshíhou	at that time
坐	zuò	to take (a bus, airplane etc)
公交车	gōngjiāochē	public transport vehicle
是	shì	is
一块	yī kuài	1 yuan
钱	qián	money

58

kě méi qián de shíhou wǒ lián yī kuài qián dōu shěbude huā.

可没钱的时候我连一块钱都舍不得花。

But when I didn't have any money, I didn't even want to spend one yuan.

可	kě	but
没钱	méi qián	having no money
的	de	(used after an attribute)
时候	shíhou	time (when)
我	wǒ	I
连	lián	(used with 也, 都 etc) even
一块	yīkuài	1 yuan
钱	qián	money
都	dōu	(used for emphasis) even
不舍得	shěbude	to hate to do something
花	huā	to spend (money, time)

59

Xiàbān hòu wǒ jiù zǒulù huíjiā,

下班后我就走路回家，

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

So after work, I would walk home

下班	xiàbān	to finish work
后	hòu	after
我	wǒ	I
就	jiù	then
走路	zǒulù	to walk
回家	huíjiā	to return home

60

dàgài yào huā sìshí fēnzhōng.

大概要花四十分钟。

which would take roughly 40 minutes.

大概	dàgài	roughly
要	yào	will
花	huā	to spend (money, time)
四十	sìshí	40
分钟	fēnzhōng	minute

61

Wǒmen yě yǒu bái bān hé wǎn bān.

我们也有白班和晚班。

We also had day shift and night shift.

我们	wǒmen	we
也	yě	also
有	yǒu	to have

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

白班	báibān	day shift
和	hé	and
晚班	wǎnbān	night shift

62

Báibān shì zǎoshang bā diǎn dào xiàwǔ sān diǎn bàn,

白班是早上八点到下午三点半，

The day shift was from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm,

白班	báibān	day shift
是	shì	is
早上	zǎoshang	early morning
八点	bā diǎn	8:00
到	dào	until (a time)
下午	xiàwǔ	afternoon
三点半	sān diǎn bàn	3:30

63

wǎnbān shì xiàwǔ sān diǎn bàn dào wǎnshang shí diǎn.

晚班是下午三点半到晚上十点。

and the night shift was from 3:30 pm to 10:00 pm.

晚班	wǎnbān	night shift
是	shì	is
下午	xiàwǔ	afternoon
三点半	sān diǎn bàn	3:30
到	dào	until (a time)
晚上	wǎnshang	evening

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

十点      shí diǎn      10:00

64

Shàng wǎnbān zǒulù huíjiā huì yǒudiǎn wēixiǎn,

上晚班走路回家会有点危险，

It could be a little dangerous walking home after working the night shift

上晚班      shàng wǎnbān      to work night shift

走路      zǒulù      to walk

回家      huíjiā      to return home

会      huì      will

有点      yǒudiǎn      a little

危险      wēixiǎn      dangerous

65

yīnwèi yǒude jiēdào méiyǒu lùdēng,

因为有的街道没有路灯，

because some streets didn't have lights,

因为      yīnwèi      because

有的      yǒude      some

街道      jiēdào      street

没有      méiyǒu      to not have

路灯      lùdēng      street light

66

érqiě wǎnshang jiēshang yě méiyǒu shénme rén.

而且晚上街上也没有什么人。



## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

and there weren't many people out at night.

而且	érqiě	in addition
晚上	wǎnshang	at night
街上	jiēshang	on the street
也	yě	also
没有	méiyǒu	to not have
什么	shénme	any
人	rén	people

67

Yǒu yī tiān wǎnshang wǒ xiàbān huíjiā, tiān hěn hēi,

有一天晚上我下班回家，天很黑，

One night after work, I was on my way home and it was very dark.

有一天	yǒu yī tiān	one day
晚上	wǎnshang	night
我	wǒ	I
下班	xiàbān	to finish work
回家	huíjiā	to return home
天	tiān	sky
很	hěn	very
黑	hēi	dark

68

wǒ yī gè nǚháizi, jiā zhe bāobāo zǒu de hěn kuài.

我一个女孩子，夹着包包走得很快。

Being a girl, I walked very fast with my handbag.

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

我	wǒ	I
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for people
女孩子	nǚháizi	girl
夹	jiā	to place in between
着	zhe	aspect particle indicating action in progress
包包	bāobāo	bag or purse etc
走	zǒu	to walk
得	de	(link a verb or an adjective to a complement)
很快	hěn kuài	very fast

69

Lùshang jīhū méiyǒu rén.

路上几乎没有人。

Almost nobody was on the street.

路上	lùshang	on the road
几乎	jīhū	almost
没有	méiyǒu	to not have
人	rén	people

70

Zhèshí, tūrán yǒu yī gè nánrén,

这时，突然有一个男人，

Suddenly there was a man

这时	zhèshí	at this moment
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## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

突然	tūrán	suddenly
有	yǒu	there is
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for people
男人	nánrén	man

71

chuānzhe pòlàn de yīfu

穿着破烂的衣服

who wore worn out clothes,

穿	chuān	to wear
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
破烂	pòlàn	worn out
的	de	(used after an attribute)
衣服	yīfu	clothes

72

duì zhe wǒ wěisuǒ de xiào.

对着我猥琐地笑。

and who lewdly smiled at me.

对	duì	towards
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
我	wǒ	me
猥琐地	wěisuǒ de	lewdly
笑	xiào	smile

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

73

Ránhòu wǒ jiù kàn dào tā jiěkāi tā de kùzi,

然后我就看到他解开他的裤子，

Then, I saw him loosen his pants

然后	ránhòu	then (afterwards)
我	wǒ	I
就	jiù	then
看	kàn	to see
到	dào	(denoting completion or result of an action)
他	tā	him
解开	jiěkāi	to untie
他	tā	he
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
裤子	kùzi	pants

74

gěi wǒ zhǎnshì tā de “bǎobèi”!

给我展示他的“宝贝”!

to show me his “baby” (penis).

给	gěi	to
我	wǒ	me
展示	zhǎnshì	to show
他	tā	he
的	de	~'s (possessive particle)
宝贝	bǎobèi	treasure / baby

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

75

Wǒ xià de gǎnjǐn pǎo.

我吓得赶紧跑。

I was so scared that I started to run away immediately.

我	wǒ	I
吓	xià	to frighten
得	de	(structural particle)
赶紧	gǎnjǐn	hurriedly
跑	pǎo	to run away

76

Dāngshí wǒ xīnli hěn hàipà tā huì zhuī wǒ,

当时我心里很害怕他会追我，

At that time, I was afraid that he would chase after me.

当时	dāngshí	at that time
我	wǒ	my
心里	xīnli	mind
很	hěn	very
害怕	hàipà	to be afraid
他	tā	he
会	huì	will
追	zhuī	to chase after
我	wǒ	me

77

bùguò háihǎo tā méiyǒu gēn shànglai.

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

不过还好他没有跟上来。

Fortunately, he didn't follow me.

不过	bùguò	but
还好	háihǎo	fortunately
他	tā	he
没有	méiyǒu	didn't
跟	gēn	to follow
上来	shanglai	(verb complement)

78

Háiyǒu yī gè wǒ zhījīn jìyìyóuxīn de xiǎo gùshi,

还有一个我至今记忆犹新的小故事，

There was another story that I still remember vividly,

还	hái	also
有	yǒu	there is
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for objects in general
我	wǒ	I
至今	zhījīn	to this day
记忆犹新	jìyìyóuxīn	to remain fresh in one's memory (idiom)
的	de	(used after an attribute)
小	xiǎo	small
故事	gùshi	story

79

nà shì fāshēng zài wǒ gōngzuò de diàn lǐ.

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

那是发生在我工作的店里。

which took place in the (second) shop I was working at.

那是	nà shì	that is
发生	fāshēng	to happen
在	zài	(located) at
我	wǒ	I
工作	gōngzuò	to work
的	de	(used after an attribute)
店	diàn	shop
里	lǐ	inside

80

Nà jiā diàn shì kāi zài yī jiā dàxíng chāoshì lǐ,

那家店是开在一家大型超市里，

The shop was located in a large supermarket,

那	nà	that
家	jiā	measure word for businesses
店	diàn	shop
是	shì	is
开	kāi	to open
在	zài	(located) at
一	yī	one
家	jiā	measure word for businesses
大型	dàxíng	large-scale
超市	chāoshì	supermarket
里	lǐ	inside

# My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

81

mài de shì yùndòng fúzhuāng hé yùndòngxié.

卖的是运动服装和运动鞋。

and it sold sports clothing and shoes.

卖	mài	to sell
的	de	(used after an attribute)
是	shì	is
运动	yùndòng	sports
服装	fúzhuāng	clothes
和	hé	and
运动鞋	yùndòngxié	sports shoes

82

Yǒuyīcì, liǎng gè gāodà de nánrén zǒujìn diàn lǐ,

有一次，两个高大的男人走进店里，

Once, two tall men walked into the store

有一次	yǒuyīcì	once
两	liǎng	two
个	gè	classifier for people
高大	gāodà	tall
的	de	(used after an attribute)
男人	nánrén	men
走进	zǒujìn	to enter
店	diàn	shop
里	lǐ	inside



## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

83

wèn wǒ zhèr zuì guì de xiézi shì nǎ yī kuǎn.

问我这儿最贵的鞋子是哪一款。

and asked me what were the most expensive shoes.

问 wèn to ask

我 wǒ me

这儿 zhèr here

最贵 zuì guì the most expensive

的 de (used after an attribute)

鞋子 xiézi shoe

是 shì is

哪 nǎ which

一 yī one

款 kuǎn classifier for versions or models (of a product)

84

Wǒ dāngshí xīnli lè kāi le huā,

我当时心里乐开了花，

I was thrilled

我 wǒ I

当时 dāngshí at that time

心里 xīnli mind

乐 lè happy

开 kāi to open

了 le (completed action marker)

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

花 huā flower

Note: "心里乐开了花" is a figurative expression in Chinese that means someone feels extremely happy and joyful.

85

yīnwèi yuè guì wǒ ná de tíchéng jiù yuè gāo.

因为越贵我拿的提成就越高。

because the more expensive the shoes were, the higher my commission would be.

因为	yīnwèi	because
越	yuè	the more... the more
贵	guì	expensive
我	wǒ	I
拿	ná	to take
的	de	(used after an attribute)
提成	tíchéng	a commission
就	jiù	then
越	yuè	the more... the more
高	gāo	high

86

Yúshì wǒ hěn gāoxìng de zhǐ le zhǐ zuì guì de nà shuāng xié,

于是我很高兴地指了指最贵的那双鞋，

So I happily pointed at the most expensive pair of shoes

于是	yúshì	thus
我	wǒ	I
很	hěn	very

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

高兴地	gāoxìng de	happily
指了指	zhǐ le zhǐ	to point at (with double verb, it indicates that the action is done briefly or casually)
最	zuì	the most
贵	guì	expensive
的	de	(used after an attribute)
那	nà	that
双	shuāng	pair
鞋	xié	shoe

87

kāishǐ gěi tāmen jièshào.

开始给他们介绍。

and began to tell them about them.

开始	kāishǐ	to start
给	gěi	for
他们	tāmen	they
介绍	jièshào	to introduce

88

Qízhōng yī gè nánrén ràng wǒ náchū lìngyī zhī xiézi gěi tā shì,

其中一个男人让我拿出另一只鞋子给他试，

One of the men asked me to bring the other shoe of the pair for him to try on

其中	qízhōng	among
一	yī	one
个	gè	classifier for people
男人	nánrén	man

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

让	ràng	to let sb do sth
我	wǒ	me
拿出	náchū	to take out
另一	lìngyī	the other
只	zhī	classifier: one of a pair
鞋子	xiézi	shoe
给	gěi	for
他	tā	him
试	shì	to try

89

shuō chuānshang yī shuāng xiézi cái zhīdào shì bù shìhé.

说穿上一双鞋子才知道适不适合。

because he thought only by trying both, could he know if they fit.

说	shuō	to say
穿上	chuānshang	to put on
一双	yī shuāng	a pair of
鞋子	xiézi	shoe
才	cái	only then
知道	zhīdào	to know
适	shì	to fit
不	bù	not
适合	shìhé	to fit

90

Ránhòu wǒ jiù chōngjìn cāngkù lǐ ná xiézi gěi tā shì.

然后我就冲进仓库里拿鞋子给他试。

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

So I rushed into the warehouse and grabbed the other shoe for him to try on.

然后	ránhòu	then (afterwards)
我	wǒ	I
就	jiù	right away
冲进	chōngjìn	to rush in
仓库	cāngkù	storehouse
里	lǐ	inside
拿	ná	to take
鞋子	xiézi	shoe
给	gěi	for
他	tā	him
试	shì	to try

91

Jiù zài tā bǎ yī shuāng xié dōu chuān zài jiǎo shang zhīhòu,

就在他把一双鞋都穿在脚上之后，

After he put on the pair of shoes,

就	jiù	just (emphasis)
在	zài	in the middle of doing sth
他	tā	he
把	bǎ	(marking the following noun as a direct object)
一双	yī shuāng	a pair of
鞋	xié	shoe
都	dōu	all
穿	chuān	to put on
在	zài	(to be) in

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

脚	jiǎo	foot
上	shang	on top
之后	zhīhòu	after

92

lìngyī gè nánrén ná zhe wǒ shēnhòu de yùndòng kù wèn wǒ duōshao qián.

另一个男人拿着我身后的运动裤问我多少钱。

the other man held up a pair of pants and asked me how much they cost.

另一	lìngyī	the other
个	gè	classifier for people
男人	nánrén	a man
拿	ná	to hold
着	zhe	indicating action in progress
我	wǒ	I
身后	shēnhòu	behind the body
的	de	(used after an attribute)
运动裤	yùndòng kù	sports pants
问	wèn	to ask
我	wǒ	me
多少	duōshao	how much
钱	qián	money

93

Wǒ méi duō xiǎng jiù zǒu guoqu kàn kùzi de jiàqián.

我没多想就走过去看裤子的价钱。

I walked over to check the price without thinking too much about it.

我	wǒ	I
---	----	---

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

没多想	méi duō xiǎng	without thinking too much
就	jiù	then
走过去	zǒu guoqu	to walk over
看	kàn	to see
裤子	kùzi	pants
的	de	(used after an attribute)
价钱	jiàqian	price

94

Děng wǒ huíqu kàn shì xiézi de nánrén shí

等我回去看试鞋子的男人时

When I went back to check on the man who had the shoes on,

等	děng	when
我	wǒ	I
回去	huíqu	to go back
看	kàn	to see
试	shì	to try
鞋子	xiézi	shoe
的	de	(used after an attribute)
男人	nánrén	a man
时	shí	when

95

jiù fāxiàn tā bùjiàn le.

就发现他不见了。

I discovered that he was gone.

就	jiù	then
---	-----	------

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

发现	fāxiàn	to find
他	tā	him
不见	bùjiàn	to have disappeared
了	le	(completed action marker)

96

Wǒ de zuì guì de xiézi yě bùjiàn le,

我的最贵的鞋子也不见了，

My most expensive pair of shoes were also gone.

我的	wǒ de	my
最	zuì	the most
贵	guì	expensive
的	de	(used after an attribute)
鞋子	xiézi	shoe
也	yě	also
不见	bùjiàn	to have disappeared
了	le	(completed action marker)

97

Lìngyī gè nánrén yě pǎo le!

另一个男人也跑了！

And the other man also ran away!

另一	lìngyī	the other
个	gè	classifier for people
男人	nánrén	a man
也	yě	also



## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

跑	pǎo	to run away
了	le	(completed action marker)

98

Dāngshí wǒ jiù shǎyǎn le.

当时我就傻眼了。

At that moment, I was in shock.

当时	dāngshí	at that time
我	wǒ	I
就	jiù	just (emphasis)
傻眼	shǎyǎn	stunned
了	le	(completed action marker)

99

Nà shuāng xiézi qī bǎi wǔshí yuán ne!

那双鞋子七百五十元呢！

Those shoes cost 750 yuan ((about 109 US dollars),

那	nà	that
双	shuāng	pair
鞋子	xiézi	shoe
750	qī bǎi wǔshí	750
元	yuán	yuan
呢	ne	(indicating strong affirmation)

100

Xiāngdāngyú wǒ bàngè yuè de gōngzī.

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

相当于我半个月的工资。

equivalent to half of my monthly salary!

相当于	xiāngdāngyú	equivalent to
我	wǒ	I
半个月	bànge yuè	half of a month
的	de	(used after an attribute)
工资	gōngzī	wages

101

Zhèxià wǒ gèng qióng le!

这下我更穷了!

Now, I was even poorer!

这下	zhèxià	this time
我	wǒ	I
更	gèng	even more
穷	qióng	poor
了	le	(indicating a change of state)

102

Ránhòu wǒ kuàisù chōngchū diàn qù zhǎo nà liǎng gè xiǎotōu.

然后我快速冲出店去找那两个小偷。

I quickly ran out of the store to look for those two thieves.

然后	ránhòu	then (afterwards)
我	wǒ	I
快速	kuàisù	rapid

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

冲出	chōngchū	to rush out
店	diàn	shop
去	qù	to go
找	zhǎo	to try to find
那	nà	those
两	liǎng	two
个	gè	classifier for people
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief

103

Xiǎotōu kěndìng bùhuì nàme shǎ,

小偷肯定不会那么傻，

But they were not so stupid

小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
肯定	kěndìng	surely
不会	bùhuì	will not (act, happen etc)
那么	nàme	so
傻	shǎ	foolish

104

zhàn zài nàli děng wǒ qù zhuā a!

站在那里等我去抓啊！

to wait there for me to catch them!

站	zhàn	to stand
在	zài	(to be) in
那里	nàli	there

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

等	děng	to wait for
我	wǒ	me
去	qù	to go
抓	zhuā	to catch
啊	a	(expressing enthusiasm)

105

Wǒ nàshí niánjì xiǎo, hěn dānchún,

我那时年纪小、很单纯，

I was young and naive at that time.

我	wǒ	I
那时	nàshí	at that time
年纪	niánjì	age
小	xiǎo	young
很	hěn	very
单纯	dānchún	naive

106

rènwéi shìjiè shang bùkěnéng yǒu xiǎotōu.

认为世界上不可能有小偷。

I didn't think that it was possible that there were thieves in the world.

认为	rènwéi	to believe
世界上	shìjiè shang	in the world
不可能	bùkěnéng	impossible
有	yǒu	to have
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

107

Jiùsuàn yǒu yě bùhuì fāshēng zài wǒ shēnbiān,

就算有也不会发生在我身边，

Even if there were, I wouldn't encounter them,

就算	jiùsuàn	even if
有	yǒu	there is
也	yě	(for emphasis)
不会	bùhuì	will not (act, happen etc)
发生	fāshēng	to happen
在	zài	(to be) in
我身边	wǒ shēnbiān	around me

108

suīrán diànzhǎng jīngcháng tíxǐng wǒ yào zhùyì.

虽然店长经常提醒我要注意。

despite my manager's constant reminder.

虽然	suīrán	even though
店长	diànzhǎng	store manager
经常	jīngcháng	often
提醒	tíxǐng	to remind
我	wǒ	me
要	yào	must
注意	zhùyì	to pay attention to

109

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

Cóng nà yǐhòu wǒ cái kāishǐ xiāngxìn

从那以后我才开始相信

Since then, I started to believe

从那以后	cóng nà yǐhòu	since then
我	wǒ	I
才	cái	only then
开始	kāishǐ	to start
相信	xiāngxìn	to believe

110

yuánlái shìjiè shang shì zhēn de yǒu xiǎotōu de.

原来世界上是真的有小偷的。

that actually, there were thieves in the world.

原来	yuánlái	actually
世界上	shìjiè shang	in the world
是	shì	is (for emphasis)
真的	zhēn de	truly
有	yǒu	to have
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief
的	de	(used for emphasis)

111

Měicì yǒu gùkè lái mǎi xiézi,

每次有顾客来买鞋子，

Every time a customer came to buy shoes,

每次	měicì	every time
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## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

有	yǒu	there is
顾客	gùkè	customer
来	lái	to come
买	mǎi	to buy
鞋子	xiézi	shoe

112

wǒ zǒng dīng zhe tāmen zhídào tāmen líkāi,

我总盯着他们直到他们离开，

I always kept an eye on them until they left,

我	wǒ	I
总	zǒng	always
盯	dīng	to stare at
着	zhe	(indicating action in progress)
他们	tāmen	they
直到	zhídào	until
他们	tāmen	they
离开	líkāi	to leave

113

hǎoxiàng měigerén dōu shì xiǎotōu.

好像每个人都是小偷。

as if everyone was a thief.

好像	hǎoxiàng	as if
每个人	měigerén	everybody
都	dōu	all

## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

是	shì	is
小偷	xiǎotōu	thief

114

Suīrán zài Zhèjiāng gōngzuò de jīnglì bìng bùshì hěn yúkuài,

虽然在浙江工作的经历并不是很愉快，

Although my experience working in Zhejiang was not a pleasant one,

虽然	suīrán	although
在	zài	(to be) in
浙江	zhèjiāng	Zhejiang province
工作	gōngzuò	to work
的	de	(used after an attribute)
经历	jīnglì	experience
并	bìng	actually (intensifier before negative)
不是	bùshì	is not
很	hěn	very
愉快	yúkuài	pleasant

115

yě jīngcháng èdùzi,

也经常饿肚子，

and I often starved,

也	yě	also
经常	jīngcháng	often
饿肚子	èdùzi	to starve



## My Life As a Clothing Shop Sales Girl

116

dàn xiànzài xiǎngqilai háishi juéde tǐng yǒuyìsi de.

但现在想起来还是觉得挺有意思的。

looking back now, I find it quite interesting.

但	dàn	but
现在	xiànzài	now
想起来	xiǎngqilai	to recall
还是	háishi	still
觉得	juéde	to feel
挺	tǐng	quiet
有意思	yǒuyìsi	interesting
的	de	(used for emphasis)