

Mandarin
2月13号



(病人去医院看病)



医生，我肚子疼死^①了。



你昨天吃什么东西了？



我姐姐上个星期过生日，蛋糕没吃完。昨天晚上我吃了几口^②，夜里肚子就疼起来了^③，今天早上上了好几次^④厕所。



你把^⑤蛋糕放在哪儿了？



放在冰箱里了。



放了几天了？



五、六^①天了。



发烧吗？



不发烧。



你躺下。先检查一下。

* * *



你吃蛋糕把肚子吃坏了。



要不要打针？



不用打针，吃这种药^②就可以。一天三次，一次两片。



医生，一天吃几次？请您再说一遍。



一天三次，一次两片。



好！饭前^③吃还是饭后吃？



饭前饭后都可以。不过，你最好二十四小时不吃饭。



那我要饿死了。不行，这个办法不好！

A combination of two adjacent numbers can be used to denote an approximate number, e.g., 五十六、七岁 (wǔshí liù, qī suì, fifty-six or fifty-seven years old), 十八、九块钱 (shí bā, jiǔ kuài qián, eighteen or nineteen dollars), 三、四天 (sān, sì tiān, three or four days), 两、三枝笔 (liǎng, sān zhī bǐ, two or three pens). However, the numbers nine and ten cannot be used this way since it could lead to ambiguity: it would be difficult to distinguish 九、十天 (jiǔ, shí tiān) from 九十天 (jiǔshí tiān, ninety days) in speech.

② "To take medicine" is 吃药 (chī yào), literally "to eat medicine." A more formal expression is 服药 (fú yào), which is commonly written on prescriptions and prescription instructions.

③ 前 (qián, before) in 饭前 (fàn qián, before meals) and 后 (hòu, after) in 饭后 (fàn hòu; after meals) are the shortened forms of 以前 (yǐqián, before) and 以后 (yǐhòu, after) respectively.

①

打针疼死了。

Dǎ zhēn téng sǐ le.

(It's extremely painful to get a shot.)

②

我饿死了。

Wǒ è sǐ le.

(I'm starving.)

③

今天热死了。

Jīntiān rè sǐ le.

(It's awfully hot today.)

③ A: 去年我去了一次中国。你呢？

Qùnián wǒ qù le yí cì Zhōngguó. Nǐ ne?

(Last year I went to China once. How about you?)

B: 去年我去了中国两次。

Qùnián wǒ qù le Zhōngguó liǎng cì.

(Last year I went to China twice.)

④ A: 昨天我找了三次王医生。

Zuótiān wǒ zhǎo le sān cì Wáng yīshēng.

(I went looking for Dr. Wang three times yesterday.)

B: 是吗？昨天我也找了王医生三次。

Shì ma? Zuótiān wǒ yě zhǎo le Wáng yīshēng sān cì.

(Is that right? I also went looking for Dr. Wang three times yesterday.)

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我昨天找了他两次，他都不在。

Wǒ zuótiān zhǎo le tā liǎng cì, tā dōu bú zài.

(Yesterday I went looking for him twice, but he was not in either time.)

遍 (biàn) is another measure word for occurrences of actions, but it pertains to the entire course of the action from the beginning to the end.

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请你念一遍课文。

Qǐng nǐ niàn yí biàn kèwén.

(Please read the text [from the beginning to the end] once).

Nouns denoting body parts involved in the actions can also sometimes serve as measure words for occurrences of actions. One example is from Dialogue I of the current lesson:

昨天晚上我吃了几口...

Zuótiān wǎnshang wǒ chī le jǐ kǒu...

(I ate a few mouthfuls last night...)

D. Recap and Narrate

Working with a partner, recap the content of Dialogue I:

1. 高文中为什么去医院看病？
2. 高文中昨天吃了什么了？
3. 他是什么时候吃的蛋糕，什么时候开始生病的？
4. 高文中把蛋糕放在哪儿了？放了几天了？
5. 高文中发烧吗？
6. 医生说高文中怎么了？
7. 医生说高文中得打针吗？
8. 医生说一天吃几次药？每次几片？

9. 医生说高文中最好怎么样？
10. 高文中觉得这个办法好吗？



作业

- Read through all notes – pay attention to the examples using ‘次 but don’t worry about the grammar explanations pointing out alternative positions in the sentence; all that matters is that if you put ‘the number of times’ before the object, you’ll be fine.
- Using the dialogue of Gao Wen Zhong going to 看病, read the 问题 on pages 7 到 8 and 准备 your answers. Remember, you’ll be doing it out loud in class so need *not just* to read it in your head.