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第二十一课 我马上就下去

Learning objectives

How to express an action involving direction
 How to pass on a telephone message
 How to apologize formally



生词 New Words

| | | | |
|-----|----------|-------|---|
| 抱歉 | bàoqiàn | v | be sorry 抱 hold 歉 be apologetic |
| 声音 | shēngyīn | n | voice 声 sound |
| 住 | zhù | v | live, stay; stop |
| 爬 | pá | v | climb |
| 出差 | chūchāi | v-o | be away on business 差 errand |
| 带 | dài | v/n | carry; ribbon, belt |
| 麻烦 | máfan | adj | troublesome 麻 not smooth 烦 fán annoyed |
| 成 | chéng | v | become |
| 留言 | liúyán | v-o/n | leave a message; message 留 leave; stay 言 speech; word |
| 让 | ràng | v | to ask/get/allow (somebody to do something) |
| 搬 | bān | v | move |
| 参加 | cānjiā | v | attend, take part in 参 join |
| 结婚 | jiéhūn | v | marry 结 forge; tie 婚 marriage; wedding |
| 有空 | yǒukòng | v-o | have free time 空 kōng empty |
| 帮忙 | bāngmáng | v-o | help, give help |
| 楼梯 | lóutī | n | stairs 楼 storied building; floor 梯 ladder |
| 电梯 | diàntī | n | lift, escalator |
| 行李 | xíngli | n | luggage |
| 白天 | báitiān | n | daytime |
| 酒吧 | jiǔbā | n | pub, bar |
| 门口 | ménkǒu | n | doorway, entrance |
| 一会儿 | yíhuìr | n | a little while |
| 租期 | zūqī | n | lease period |
| 房东 | fángdōng | n | landlord 房 house 东 master; host |
| 德比 | Déibǐ | p.n | Derby |
| 婚礼 | hūnlǐ | n | wedding 礼 ceremony |
| 位 | wèi | m.w | for persons (polite form) |
| 趟 | tàng | m.w | for the number of trips or runs made |
| 喂 | wèi | int | hello, hey |
| 哎 | āi | int | oh, hey |

 句型 Speech Patterns

| S | Adv | V | Comp |
|----|-----|---|------|
| 你 | | 上 | 去? |
| 他 | | 下 | 来了。 |
| 我们 | 不 | 出 | 去。 |

A single directional word such as 来 or 去 can be put after the action verb to indicate the direction of the movement. It is called a directional complement. Like in English, 来 refers to coming to the speaker, and 去 refers to moving away from speaker.

| S | Adv | V | O | Comp |
|----|-----|---|----|------|
| 你 | | 上 | 楼 | 来。 |
| 老李 | | 带 | 书 | 来了。 |
| 他 | 明天 | 到 | 中国 | 去。 |

When the verb has an object, the directional complement is usually put after the object. There will be more discussion about the position of the object in similar sentences in Book 4.

| S | Adv | V | Comp |
|----|-----|---|------|
| 我 | | 爬 | 上来了。 |
| 他们 | | 走 | 进去了。 |
| 他 | 没有 | 搬 | 出去。 |

来 and 去 can form a compound directional word together with other verbs such as 上 or 下. The compound also serves as a directional complement.

| S | Adv | 让 | O | V | O/Comp |
|----|-----|---|---|----|--------|
| 房东 | | 让 | 他 | 搬 | 出去。 |
| 医生 | 不 | 让 | 他 | 喝 | 酒。 |
| 我 | 没 | 让 | 他 | 去。 | |

让 here is used in the sense of "asking or allowing somebody to do something". In addition to 让, verbs that can also be used in this pattern include 请 and 叫.

对话 1 Dialogue One

李小英：喂，王京在吗？

王京：我就是。你是哪位？

李小英：我是李小英。

王京：啊，是小英啊！抱歉，我没听出你声音。

李小英：没关系。你能不能下来^①一趟^②？我有事找你。

你住在六楼，我不喜欢爬楼梯。

王京：现在有电梯了，你不用爬楼梯了。

李小英：我刚出差回来，带了不少行李。太麻烦了。

王京：好吧，你在楼下等我一会儿，我马上就下去。

李小英：我在楼下的咖啡馆里等你。

王京：咖啡馆搬走了。现在那里成了酒吧了，白天不开门。

李小英：那我就在酒吧门口等你。

王京：好。一会儿见。



刚刚 < ^{n.} 刚才 —— 现在 他刚才来了, 就是在已经走了。
 刚 —— 很久 他刚来, 心还没定下来。
 adv

对话 2 Dialogue Two

王京: 李贵, 你弟弟刚才打电话来了。

李贵: 是吗? 他怎么没打我的手机?

王京: 他打了。他说你的手机是留言。

李贵: 啊! 我的手机没电了。他找我干什么?

王京: 他说星期六他要搬家, 要你过去帮忙。

李贵: 为什么现在要搬家呢?

王京: 租期到了。房东让他星期六搬出去, 星期天有人要搬进来。

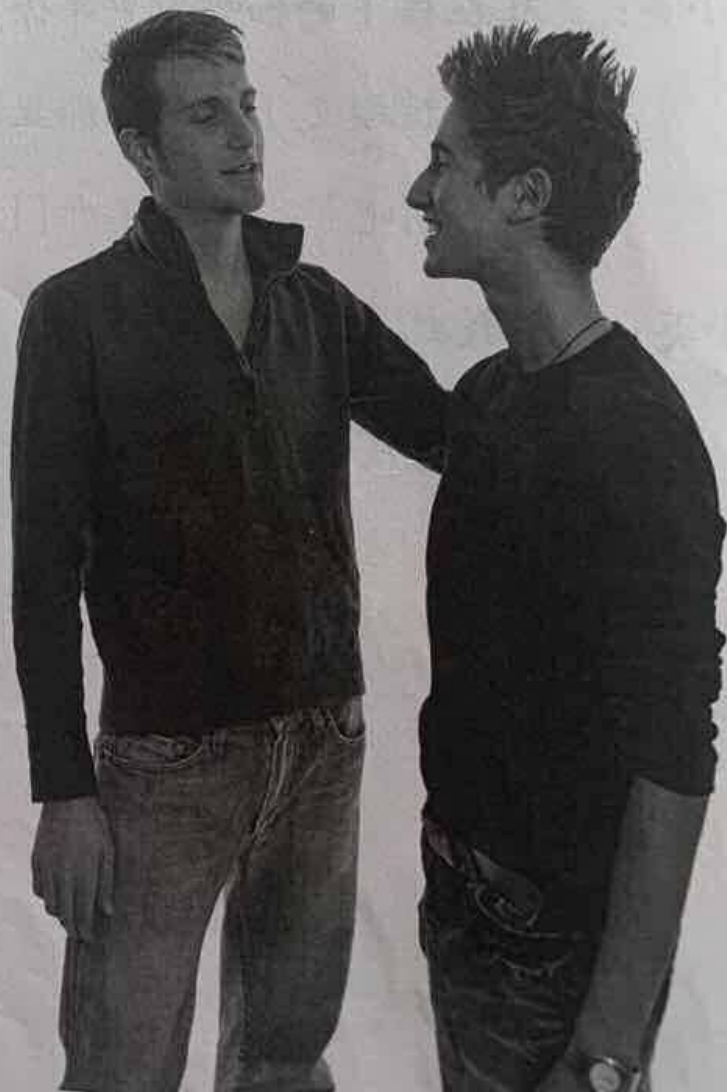
李贵: 可是星期六我没空儿, 我要到德比去参加一个朋友的婚礼。

王京: 哎, 你朋友不是下个星期六结婚吗?

李贵: 今天几号?

王京: 十一号。

李贵: 啊, 我还以为今天
是十八号呢。



语法注释 Grammar Notes

① Directional complements

Single directional complements 一来 and 去 are the most commonly used ones. Others include 上, 下, 进, 出, 回, 过.

For example:

走来, 走去, 走上, 走下,
走进, 走回, 走过

The following are the most commonly used compound directional complements. 上来/上去, 下来/下去, 进来/进去, 出来/出去, 回来/回去, 过来/过去, 起来

They are used together with the verb 走: 走上来, 走上去, 走进来, 走进去, 走出来, 走出去, 走回来, 走回去。

The compound directional complement 起来 does not always refer to directions, but it also refer to the beginning of the action. For example, 唱起来 means start to sing.

② 下来一趟 一趟 is a measure word for actions to indicate the number of trips or runs made. Similar measure words for the verbs include 次 and 下 which indicate respectively a measure of times (once) and the brevity of the action. Please note that they are placed after the verbs.

文化知识 Cultural Note

中文的正式文体 Formal and informal styles in Chinese

While 对不起 is the common informal way to apologise, 抱歉 or 非常抱歉 is a much more formal way to express the same thing. As in other languages, the choice of expression depends on the situation and on the relationship between the people involved. The words for "wife", for example, range from 夫人, the most formal, through 太太 and 爱人 to the colloquial and very informal 老婆. When asking after the managing director's wife, you would refer her as 你夫人 but address his wife as 你老婆 when speaking with a very close friend.