



VietnamesePod101.com

LEVEL
3



Vietnamese

Beginner



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LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #1

How Many Seasons Are There in Vietnam?

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VIETNAMESE

1. Linh: Trời đang mưa. Ngại ra ngoài ăn trưa quá.
2. Mai: Chỉ mưa nhỏ thôi. Tẹo nữa lại nắng lên mà.
3. Linh: Mấy hôm nay oi nỉ, khó chịu quá!
4. Mai: Ừ, thời tiết thế này không muốn ăn gì cả.
5. Linh: Hay gọi cơm hộp nhé, đỡ phải ra ngoài.
6. Mai: Thế cũng được. Hy vọng tuần tới trời sẽ đẹp hơn.

ENGLISH

1. Linh: It's raining. I don't feel like going out for lunch.
2. Mai: Just a drizzle. It's gonna be sunny in a while.
3. Linh: It's been very humid lately – so unpleasant!
4. Mai: Right, this kind of weather doesn't make us feel like eating at all.
5. Linh: Why don't we order lunch boxes? No need to go out.
6. Mai: Yeah, that's fine too. Hopefully the weather will get better next week.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
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đỡ phải	no need to, not have to	verb phrase
cơm hộp	lunch box	noun
khó chịu	unpleasant	adjective
trời	weather, it	noun
ngại	not feel like, to be hesitant, to be afraid to do something	verb
ra ngoài	to go out	verb
ăn trưa	to have lunch	verb phrase
mưa nhỏ	drizzle	noun
nắng	sunny	adjective
oi	humid	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Trong tủ lạnh vẫn còn thức ăn nên đỡ phải đi chợ.</p> <p>"There's still some food left in the fridge so there's no need to go to the market."</p>	<p>An mang cơm hộp đến trường mỗi ngày.</p> <p>"An brings lunch boxes to school every day."</p>
<p>Thái độ của anh ấy làm tôi khó chịu.</p> <p>"His attitude makes me unpleasant."</p>	<p>Hôm nay trời mưa.</p> <p>"It's rainy today."</p>
<p>Tôi rất ngại đi ra ngoài khi trời mưa.</p> <p>"I don't feel like going out when it's raining."</p>	<p>Cô ấy vừa ra ngoài rồi.</p> <p>"She has just gone out."</p>
<p>Tôi ăn trưa ở văn phòng.</p> <p>"I have lunch at the office."</p>	<p>Sáng nay có mưa nhỏ.</p> <p>"There was a drizzle this morning."</p>

<p>Hôm nay trời nắng, thỉnh thoảng có mây.</p> <p>"Today's weather is sunny with occasional clouds."</p>	<p>Trời nắng.</p> <p>"It's sunny."</p>
<p>Trời oi quá.</p> <p>"It's so humid."</p>	<p>Mùa hè ở Hà Nội oi thật.</p> <p>"The summer in Hanoi is so humid."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***ra ngoài* "to go out, out"**

ra is the word meaning "to go out/ to come out," and *ngoài* means "out" or "outside."

Use this verb phrase when you want to say that someone is not in at the moment you are speaking, or that he/she may have gone out for a particular reason.

Ra ngoài often comes after the verb *đi* ("to go") and *chạy* ("to run"):

1. *Đi ra ngoài*: "To go out"
2. *Chạy ra ngoài*: "To run out" (literally means "run from inside to outside")

Both *đi ra ngoài* and *chạy ra ngoài* are used in the same way as *ra ngoài*. In a literal sense they technically do not mean the same thing, but they are often used interchangeably to express the idea that someone has gone out of the current place.

For example:

1. *Anh ấy vừa ra ngoài có chút việc.*
"He has just gone out for some business."

***ngại* "not feel like (doing something)" "to be hesitant/to be afraid to do something"**

ngại is usually followed by a verb or verb phrase. It can sometimes be used with a noun.

Ngại, followed by a verb/verb phrase, is used to express that you are hesitant to do something due to some obstacle. Such an obstacle could be subjective or objective. For example, you can use this word when you are hesitant to get up early because it is too cold or simply because you are lazy.

Ngại can also be followed by a noun to express that you don't feel comfortable with that thing/person.

For example:

1. *Tôi ngại trời mưa.*
"I don't feel comfortable with rainy weather."
2. *Tôi ngại cô ấy.*
"I don't feel comfortable with her."

More examples:

1. *Tôi ngại dậy sớm.*
"I'm hesitant getting up early."
2. *Tôi ngại nói chuyện với cô ấy.*
"I'm hesitant to talk with her."

***đỡ phải* "no need to/not have to"**

đỡ means "to relieve" and *phải* means "must" or "have to."

The phrase literally means "I feel relieved not to have to do something."

Use this phrase to express the idea that you were supposed to do something, but thanks to a particular reason you do not have to do it anymore. This implies that the work you would otherwise have to do is not fun at all.

đỡ phải + Verb/Verb phrase: A clause that contains *đỡ phải* + Verb/Verb phrase is usually not used alone as a single sentence. It should go with another clause indicating the reason. For example, it does not make sense to say: *Tôi đỡ phải dậy sớm* ("I don't have to get up early"). You should state the reason why you do not have to get up early, such as: *Mai là ngày nghỉ nên tôi đỡ phải dậy sớm* ("Tomorrow is a holiday so I won't have to get up early")

đỡ phải can also be used to express that you fortunately do not have to do something which would otherwise be quite tough and require a lot of effort. For example: *Tôi đã có việc làm nên mẹ tôi đỡ phải bán hàng ngoài chợ.* ("I already got a job so my mother does not have to sell goods at the market anymore.")

For example:

1. *Mai là ngày nghỉ nên tôi đỡ phải dậy sớm.*
"Tomorrow is a holiday so I won't have to get up early."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson Is How to Use Adjectives to Talk About the Weather

Trời đang mưa. Ngại ra ngoài ăn trưa quá.

"It's raining. I don't feel like going out for lunch."

As we already learned in the previous series, when talking about the weather, you can say *trời* + adjective (which means "it's + adjective describing the weather") describing the weather. In this lesson, we will learn some more adjectives about the weather. Here are some common phrases:

1. *nóng*: "hot"; (*trời nóng*: "it's hot")
2. *lạnh*: "cold"; (*trời lạnh*: "it's cold")
3. *mát*: "cool"; (*trời mát*: "it's cool")
4. *oi*: "humid"; (*trời oi*: "it's humid")

Adverbs to use with adjectives that describe weather:

1. *quá* ("too/so"); *nóng quá, lạnh quá* ("too/so hot," "too/so cold")
2. *thật* ("really"); *oi thật, nóng thật* ("really humid," "really hot")
3. *rất* ("very"); *rất nóng, rất mát* ("very hot," "very cool")

4. *lắm* ("so"); *nóng lắm, lạnh lắm* ("so hot," "so cold")
5. *hơi* ("quite/fairly/a little"); *hơi nóng, hơi lạnh* ("quite hot," "quite cold")

The whole structure is: (Time phrase) + (*trời*) + adj (an adverb can be added before or after the adjective)

For example:

1. *(Hôm nay)trời mát quá!*
"(Today) it's so cool."
2. *Lạnh thật!*
"So/Really cold."
3. *Trời rất oi.*
"It's very humid."

Here's a list of words and phrases that you can use to describe the weather.

<i>trời nắng</i>	It's sunny
<i>trời sáng và trong</i>	It's bright and clear
<i>trời đang mưa</i>	It's raining
<i>trời đang bão</i>	It's thunderstorming
<i>mưa như trút nước</i>	It's a downpour
<i>trời mưa nhỏ</i>	It's drizzling
<i>trời mưa to</i>	It's raining heavily
<i>trời mưa nhẹ</i>	It's raining lightly
<i>mưa rào</i>	It's showering

<i>tuyết đang rơi</i>	It's snowing
<i>tuyết rơi <u>dày</u></i>	It's snowing heavily
<i>bão tuyết</i>	There's a blizzard
<i>trời âm u</i>	It's cloudy

How to ask about the temperature:

Besides talking about the weather, you can also talk about the temperature of the day.

To ask how many degree celsius, you say: (Time phrase) + *bao nhiêu độ?*

To answer the question, you say: (Time phrase) + number + *độ*

For example:

1. *Hôm nay bao nhiêu độ?*
"How many degrees celsius today? / What is the temperature today?"
2. *Hôm nay 30 độ.*
"Today it's 30 degrees celsius."

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Chỉ mưa nhỏ thôi. Tẹo nữa lại nắng lên mà.*
"Just a drizzle. It's gonna be sunny in a while."
2. *Thế cũng được. Hy vọng tuần tới trời sẽ đẹp hơn.*
"Yeah, that's fine too. Hopefully, the weather will get better next week."

Sample Sentences

1. *Trời nắng.*
"It's sunny."

2. *Trời đẹp quá.*
"The weather is so fine."
3. *Trời rất âm u.*
"It's very cloudy."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

How Vietnamese Office Workers Eat Lunch

Office workers in Vietnam often go out in a group for lunch or order food to the office and eat together there. Some people bring lunch boxes too. But the main point is that Vietnamese people tend to eat in a group rather than eating alone. So if they go out or order food for lunch, they will still usually gather and eat together. Lunch time varies between different companies and organizations. Generally people spend 1 to 2 hours for lunch somewhere between 11:30 am and 2 p.m. Most Vietnamese companies are less strict than foreign companies regarding the time limit for lunch.

Most people will order a lunch set (*cơm suất*) which contains rice, one type of seafood or meat and one type of vegetable or soup. Some people prefer something lighter than rice, so they eat noodles. They chit chat while eating and often drop into a cafeteria for some tea or coffee after they finish eating their main food.

Useful expression

1. *cơm suất*
"a lunch set"

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #2

Can You Leave Your Luggage at this Vietnamese Hotel?

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2

VIETNAMESE

1. An: Chào chị. Tôi muốn nhận phòng ạ.
2. Hoa: Vâng, chị làm ơn cho xem chứng minh thư ạ.
3. An: Gửi chị.
4. Hoa: Cảm ơn chị. Chị Trần Thu An, đặt 1 (một) phòng đơn trong 2 (hai) đêm phải không ạ? Nhận phòng vào 14 (mười bốn) giờ và trả phòng vào 12 (mười hai) giờ chị nhé.
5. An: Vâng. Ngày cuối cùng sau khi trả phòng, tôi có thể gửi hành lý ở đây và quay lại lấy sau không?
6. Hoa: Dạ được ạ. Chúng tôi sẽ giữ hành lý cho khách miễn phí trong vòng 12 giờ.

ENGLISH

1. An: Hello. I would like to check in.
2. Hoa: Yes, please show me your identity card.
3. An: Here you are.
4. Hoa: Thank you. Ms Trần Thu An, one single room for two nights, isn't it? Please check in at 1400 and check out at 1200.
5. An: Yes. On the last day, after check out, can I send my luggage here and pick it up as soon as I come back?

CONT'D OVER

6. Hoa: That's fine. We will keep your luggage for free for 12 hours.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
trong vòng	within	preposition
giữ	to keep	verb
nhận phòng	to check in	verb
cho xem	to show	verb
chứng minh thư	identity card	noun
phòng đơn	single room	noun phrase
đêm	night	noun
trả phòng	to check out	verb
gửi	to send	verb
hành lý	luggage	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Hãy đưa ra câu trả lời trong vòng 10 (mười) giây.</p> <p>"Please give your answer within 10 seconds."</p>	<p>Cô ấy giữ chìa khóa xe cho tôi.</p> <p>"She keeps the car key for me."</p>
<p>Em trai tôi đã buồn vì chúng tôi đã không được phép giữ những chú cún con.</p> <p>"My little brother was sad, because we weren't allowed to keep the puppies."</p>	<p>Thời gian nhận phòng là từ 2 (hai) giờ chiều.</p> <p>"The check-in time is from 2 p.m."</p>

<p>Chị bán hàng cho xem trang sức.</p> <p>"The saleswoman shows jewelry."</p>	<p>Tôi vừa bị mất chứng minh thư.</p> <p>"I just lost my identity card."</p>
<p>Tôi đã đặt một (1) phòng đơn ở khách sạn Sheraton.</p> <p>"I have booked one single room at the Sheraton Hotel."</p>	<p>Tôi không có thói quen ăn đêm.</p> <p>"I don't have the habit of eating at night."</p>
<p>Thời gian trả phòng là 10 (mười) giờ sáng.</p> <p>"The check-out time is 10 a.m."</p>	<p>Tôi đến bưu điện để gửi thư.</p> <p>"I went to the post-office to send a letter."</p>

Tôi thường không mang nhiều hành lý khi đi du lịch.

"I often don't bring much luggage while traveling."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***nhận phòng, trả phòng* "To check in, to check out"**

nhận is the verb meaning "to get/receive," *phòng* is the noun meaning "room," and *trả* means "to return."

Use these two verb phrases when you check in and check out at a hotel or a hostel/guesthouse. When you check in at the airport, instead of saying "*nhận phòng*," you say "*làm thủ tục lên máy bay*" (literally means "complete the procedures for boarding")

Most receptionists in Vietnamese hotels understand what "check in" and "check out" mean, so you can use the English words when you check in/check out as well.

For example:

1. *Tôi đã nhận phòng/trả phòng ở khách sạn Sheraton.*
"I have checked in/checked out of the Sheraton Hotel."

***gửi* "to send"**

gửi + noun + *tới/đến* + place/person "to send something to a place or a person"

gửi + *cho* + person + noun "sent a person something"

gửi + noun "to leave something for someone to keep"

Tôi gửi

When you give something to a person, you can say *gửi* + the pronoun indicating that person to mean "Here you are." This is to show your respect/politeness. For example, if you give something to your senior colleague, you can say *Gửi anh* (to a man) or *gửi chị* (to a woman).

For example:

1. *Tôi đã gửi một món quà tới anh ấy.*
"I sent a present to him."
2. *Tôi đã gửi cho anh ấy một món quà..*
"I sent him a present."

***giữ* "to keep"**

giữ + noun/noun phrase + (cho + person) "keep something for someone"

Use this verb to express the action of:

- Having and maintaining something/someone in one's possession (*giữ tiền*: keep the money)
- Maintaining something during a given condition/situation (*giữ sức khỏe*: take care)
- Being responsible for a certain position/duty (*giữ vị trí giám đốc*: hold the position of director)

Unlike "keep" in English, *giữ* does not have the meaning of "continue doing something" as in "keep talking" or "keep working"

One saying that is fairly commonly in Vietnam is *giữ mồm giữ miệng* ("keep your mouth shut"). If you hear someone say this, you should be careful of what you say.

For example:

1. Vợ tôi giữ hết tiền lương hàng tháng của tôi.
"My wife keeps all of my monthly salary."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Ask Permission Using the Phrase *có thể...được không?* ("Can I...?")

Vâng. Ngày cuối cùng sau khi trả phòng, tôi có thể gửi hành lý ở đây và quay lại lấy sau không?

"Yes. On the last day, after check out, can I send my luggage here and get it as soon as I come back?"

To ask permission in a very respectful way, remember our little magic phrase when talking to strangers: *Có thể...được không?* (*có thể* means "can" and *được không* means "is it fine?," so the structure can literally be translated as "I can do this/that, is it fine?")

In Vietnamese, the verb for "can" is *có thể*, and we add a verb phrase indicating the action for which you are requesting permission between *có thể* and *được không* ("Is it fine?")

Được không literally means "Is it fine?" and it is used as a question tag to confirm what has been asked in the previous clause. *Được* (meaning "fine") is optional but it adds more politeness if it is used.

Structure: *Tôi có thể* + verb + object + (*được không?*)

(Literally, "I can do____, can't I?")

The pronoun *tôi* (meaning "I") can be changed depending on with whom you are speaking.

Examples of asking permission:

1. *Tôi có thể dùng bút chì được không?* "I can use pencil, can't I?" (Am I allowed to use pencil?)
2. *Tôi có thể ngồi đây được không?* → "I can sit here, can't I?" (Am I allowed to sit here?)

3. *Tôi có thể uống nước trong phòng họp được không?* → "I can drink water in the meeting room, can't I?" (Am I allowed to drink water in the meeting room?)

Có thể... được không? ("Is it possible for me to...?") is quite formal and can be used to ask a stranger or someone you don't know very well.

Sample Sentences

1. *Tôi có thể dùng bút chì được không?*
"Can I use pencil?"
2. *Tôi có thể ngồi đây được không?*
"Can I sit here?"
3. *Tôi có thể uống nước trong phòng họp được không?*
"Can I drink water in the meeting room?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Identity Cards in Vietnam

Chứng minh thư or *chứng minh nhân dân* (literally "the document for personal proof") is the identity card of all Vietnamese people. Identity cards are made for people from the time they turn 14. The front side has a person's card number, personal information and personal photo. The back side has a short description of their personal identity mark. This card is essential for all administrative procedures in Vietnam.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #3

Sending a Package from Vietnam

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VIETNAMESE

1. Nam: Tôi muốn gửi bưu phẩm sang Mỹ.
2. Linh: Anh muốn gửi loại bưu phẩm gì?
3. Nam: Một món quà lưu niệm nhỏ bằng gỗ.
4. Linh: Anh muốn gửi thường hay gửi đảm bảo?
5. Nam: Gửi đảm bảo ạ. Cước phí là bao nhiêu ạ?
6. Linh: Để tôi kiểm tra trọng lượng. 1000g, cước phí là 10 đô ạ.
7. Nam: Mất bao lâu thì đến nơi?
8. Linh: Khoảng một tuần, anh ạ.

ENGLISH

1. Nam: I would like to send a parcel to America.
2. Linh: What kind of parcel is it?
3. Nam: A small souvenir made of wood.
4. Linh: Would you like regular or insured delivery?
5. Nam: Insured delivery. How much is the postage?
6. Linh: Let me check its weight. 1000g, so the postage is 10 USD.

CONT'D OVER

7. Nam: How long will it take to arrive at the destination?
8. Linh: About one week, sir.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
đến nơi	to arrive at the destination	verb phrase
mất bao lâu	a question phrase meaning "how long does it take..."	question phrase
trọng lượng	weight	noun
muốn	to want	verb
bưu phẩm	parcel	noun
quà lưu niệm	souvenir	noun
gửi thường	to send by regular mail	verb phrase
gửi đảm bảo	to send by insured mail	verb phrase
cước phí	fee	noun
kiểm tra	to check	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Anh đã đến nơi chưa?</p> <p>"Have you arrived at the destination?"</p>	<p>Đi từ nhà anh đến công ty mất bao lâu?</p> <p>"How long does it take to go from your house to your company?"</p>
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<p>Trọng lượng cơ thể lý tưởng là bao nhiêu?</p> <p>"How much is an ideal body weight?"</p>	<p>Hôm nay tôi muốn đi ngủ sớm.</p> <p>"I want to go to sleep early today."</p>
<p>Tôi không muốn các con tôi tiêu hết tiền để mua kẹo.</p> <p>"I don't want my children to spend all their money on sweets."</p>	<p>Tôi muốn gặp mẹ tôi.</p> <p>"I want to see my mother."</p>
<p>Bưu điện này cung cấp dịch vụ gửi bưu phẩm quốc tế.</p> <p>"This post office provides international parcel delivery service."</p>	<p>Quà lưu niệm Việt Nam rất rẻ và đẹp.</p> <p>"Vietnamese souvenirs are cheap and beautiful."</p>
<p>Các bạn của tôi sẽ giận nếu tôi không gửi cho họ quà lưu niệm.</p> <p>"My friends will get angry if I don't send them some souvenirs."</p>	<p>Cước phí gửi thường rất rẻ.</p> <p>"Sending by regular mail is very cheap."</p>
<p>Gửi đảm bảo đắt hơn gửi thường.</p> <p>"Sending by insured mail is more expensive than by regular mail."</p>	<p>Cước phí di động ngày càng tăng.</p> <p>"The mobile fee is increasing."</p>
<p>Anh đã kiểm tra tất cả những nơi ẩn náu có thể của tên tội phạm chưa?</p> <p>"Have you checked all the possible hideouts of the villain?"</p>	<p>Tôi không thể kiểm tra tài khoản ngân hàng của tôi vì lý do kỹ thuật.</p> <p>"I can't check my bank account due to technical problems."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

bưu phẩm "parcel"

bưu is the word meaning "postal" and *phẩm* means "item." Together, these words means "parcel."

bưu phẩm refers to a letter, papers/documents or a small package (usually less than 2 kg) which can be sent by post. *Bưu phẩm* cannot be used to refer to any type of package that is bigger than 2 kg. If you want to mention a big package, you should say *bưu kiện* (*bưu* means "postal," *kiện* means "package")

Some nouns related to postal services:

bưu kiện: "big package "

bưu thiệp: "postcard"

bưu tá: "postman"

For example:

1. *Gửi bưu phẩm bằng đường hàng không rất nhanh.*
"Sending a parcel by air is very fast."

***muốn* "to want"**

muốn + noun: "want something"

muốn + verb phrase: "want to do something"

This verb expresses the speaker's desire/demand for something or for doing something. *Muốn* + verb phrase ("want to do something") is more commonly used. *Muốn* expresses a desire or demand. Even though the speaker may not get what he/she wants right away, it is usually attainable. This does refer to a wish or a dream which is far from reality. If you want to express a wish/dream, you should use the verb *ước*.

For example:

1. *Tôi muốn một chiếc ô tô mới.*
"I want a new car.
2. *Tôi muốn học lái xe.*
I want to learn how to drive."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Use the Structure *Mất bao lâu?* ("How long does it take?")

Mất bao lâu thì đến nơi?

"How long will it take to arrive at the destination?"

Mất bao lâu? is used to ask about the length of time needed to do something.

***Mất bao lâu* ("How long does it take?")**

Let's break down this sentence. The first word is *mất*, which means "to take," which is usually followed by the number of hours in affirmative sentences. The second word is *bao lâu* which means "how long." So, *mất bao lâu* all together means "how long does it take?"

Main structure:

Verb + (Object) + *mất bao lâu?* (Literally, "Do this takes how long?")

Mất bao lâu + để + Verb + Object? (How long does it take to...?)

The two structures have the same meaning, only the order of the words are different.

For example:

1. *Đi từ Hà Nội đến Huế mất bao lâu?*
"Going from Hanoi to Hue takes how long?"
OR
Mất bao lâu để đi từ Hà Nội đến Huế?
"How long does it take to go from Hanoi to Hue?"
2. *Đọc xong cuốn sách này mất bao lâu?*
"Finishing reading this book takes how long?"
OR
Mất bao lâu để đọc xong cuốn sách này?
"How long does it take to finish reading this book?"

Example from the dialogue:

1. *Mất bao lâu thì đến nơi?*
"How long does it take to arrive at the destination?"

Mất bao lâu is put at the beginning of the question followed by *thì* [then] and a verb phrase *đến nơi* [arrive at the destination] only in special cases. There are two cases when *thì* (meaning "then") is put between *mất bao lâu* and the verb phrase.

- When talking about the destination:

1. *Mất bao lâu thì đến* [how long does it take to arrive at/in] + place?
"How long does it take to arrive at + place?"

- When talking about the completion of a task:

1. *Mất bao lâu thì (làm) xong* [how long does it take to finish (doing) something]+ (noun)?
"How long does it take to finish something?"

Please note that in this structure, *để* meaning "in order to" can also be used instead of *thì* "then" and it is still grammatically correct and well understood. *Thì* is more frequently used in daily speech.

For example:

1. *Mất bao lâu để đến Hà Nội?*
Literally "How long does it take (in order) to arrive in Hanoi?"
2. *Mất bao lâu thì đến Hà Nội?*
Literally "How long does it take, then arrive in Hanoi?"

Level of formality:

The above structure can be used to ask any person, but to make it more polite, put the particle *ạ* at the end of the question when you ask an older person or when you want to show respect to the other speaker.

For example:

1. *Đi từ nhà đến trường mất bao lâu ạ? / Mất bao lâu để đi từ nhà đến trường ạ?*
"How long does it take to go from home to school?"

Sample Sentences

1. *Đi từ Hà Nội đến Huế mất bao lâu?*
"How long does it take to go from Hanoi to Hue?"
2. *Mất bao lâu để đọc xong cuốn sách này?*
"How long does it take to finish reading this book?"
3. *Mất bao lâu thì làm xong công việc này?*
"How long does it take to finish this work?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Vietnamese Souvenirs

Vietnamese souvenirs are very cheap and beautiful. They can be bought at popular tourist spots in Vietnam. Some souvenirs you should consider buying when visiting Vietnam include:

- *Áo dài* (long dress): A Vietnamese traditional dress, mostly worn by women. It is a tight fitting silk tunic, worn over pants and represents the feminine beauty of Vietnamese women.
- *Nón lá* (conical hat): This hat is made of straw and is used to protect the wearer from the sun. It is often worn by farmers or street vendors who have to work hard outside in the sun all day. Nowadays, it goes along with *áo dài* to represent the image of Vietnamese women.
- *Tranh Đông Hồ* (Dong Ho painting): This is a line of folk painting originating from Dong Ho village, an old village in a province of northern Vietnam. The themes of these paintings are good luck signs, historical figures, folk stories, social commentaries and daily activities.
- Other recommended souvenirs include silk, lacquerware, pottery

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #4

Has the Vietnamese Airline Lost Your Luggage?

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

4

VIETNAMESE

1. Nam: Chào chị, tôi muốn khai báo hành lý bị thất lạc.
2. Bình: Anh bay chuyến nào ạ?
3. Nam: Chuyến bay VN234 (VN hai ba bốn), khởi hành lúc 9:30 (chín giờ ba mươi) sáng nay từ Hà Nội đến Sài Gòn.
4. Bình: Hành lý thất lạc của anh là gì ạ?
5. Nam: Một va li màu đen, hình chữ nhật, kích thước 60-45-30 (sáu mươi, bốn mươi lăm, ba mươi). Mặt trước của va li có thể ghi tên tôi là Trần Văn Nam và số điện thoại.
6. Bình: Anh làm đơn đợi một chút. Chúng tôi sẽ kiểm tra ngay.

ENGLISH

1. Nam: Hi, I would like to report lost luggage.
2. Bình: Which flight were you on?
3. Nam: Flight VN234, departing at 9.30 this morning from Ha Noi to Sai Gon.
4. Bình: What is your lost luggage?
5. Nam: A black, rectangular suitcase, with a size of 60x45x30. On the front side there's a name tag on which my name, Trần Văn Nam, and my phone number were written.

CONT'D OVER

6. Bình:

Please wait a minute. We will check right away.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
số điện thoại	phone number	noun
khai báo	to report, to declare	verb
(bị) thất lạc	to be missing, to be lost	verb
chuyến bay	flight	noun
khởi hành	to depart	verb
va li	suitcase	noun
kích thước	size	noun
mặt trước	front side	noun
thẻ ghi tên	name tag	noun
kiểm tra	to check	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Số điện thoại của bạn là gì?</p> <p>"What is your phone number?"</p>	<p>Người nước ngoài ở Việt Nam phải khai báo tình trạng tạm trú.</p> <p>"Foreigners in Vietnam must report temporary residential status."</p>
<p>Cô ấy đã tìm thấy người cha bị thất lạc nhiều năm.</p> <p>"She has found her father who had been missing for a long time."</p>	<p>Chuyến bay đã bị hoãn lại vì thời tiết xấu.</p> <p>"The flight was delayed due to bad weather."</p>

<p>Đoàn khách du lịch khởi hành lúc 6 (sáu) giờ sáng.</p> <p>"The group of tourists depart at 6 a.m."</p>	<p>Đây là danh sách các tour du lịch trong nước khởi hành từ Hà Nội.</p> <p>"This is a list of domestic tours departing from Hanoi."</p>
<p>Chiếc va li này đẹp quá.</p> <p>"This suitcase is so beautiful."</p>	<p>Kích thước ảnh này là bao nhiêu?</p> <p>"What is the size of this photo?"</p>
<p>Mặt trước chiếc vé có hình ca sĩ nổi tiếng.</p> <p>"There is a picture of a famous singer on the front side of the ticket."</p>	<p>Thẻ ghi tên của tôi đã được dán vào hành lý ký gửi.</p> <p>"My name tag was stuck to the checked baggage."</p>
<p>Anh đã kiểm tra tất cả những nơi ẩn náu có thể của tên tội phạm chưa?</p> <p>"Have you checked all the possible hideouts of the villain?"</p>	<p>Tôi không thể kiểm tra tài khoản ngân hàng của tôi vì lý do kỹ thuật.</p> <p>"I can't check my bank account due to technical problems."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***khai báo* "to report," "to declare"**

khai: "to declare"

báo: "to report"

khai báo + noun: "to report/declare something"

Use this verb when you make an official statement, especially when related to legal procedures. *Khai báo* is formal and is only used in a conversation with a person in charge when you have to complete certain procedures. In daily conversation, *khai* is more commonly used.

For example, *khai hải quan* means "declare at customs," and *khai tạm trú* means "report

temporary residency."

Another example is *Bạn phải khai báo hải quan khi vào Nhật Bản*. meaning "You have to declare at customs when entering Japan."

thất lạc "to be missing/to be lost"

N (thing or person) + *bị thất lạc*

("bị" indicates the passive voice)

This phrase indicates something in your possession or someone who is very close to you but has been lost for some reason. *Thất lạc* is more commonly used with a noun indicating a person than a thing. For a lost thing, the phrase *bị mất* ("to be lost") is used more frequently.

For example, *tiền bị mất* ("lost money"), *cái bút bị mất* ("lost pen")

Bị can be omitted in the phrase *hành lý thất lạc* ("lost luggage")

For example:

1. *Sau cơn bão, họ vẫn chưa tìm thấy người nhà bị thất lạc.*
"After the storm, they still haven't found their missing family members."

khởi hành "to depart"

khởi hành + *lúc* + time ("to depart at + time")

khởi hành + *từ* + place ("to depart from + place")

Use this verb when talking about a trip itinerary or the time table of trains, buses or airplanes. *Khởi hành* is hardly used to talk about people's departure in daily conversation. To express that someone has departed from somewhere to somewhere, simple use the verb *đi* ("to go")

For example: *Cô ấy vừa đi Hà Nội lúc 6 giờ.* means "She has departed for Hanoi at 6 o'clock"

Cô ấy vừa khởi hành đi Hà Nội lúc 6 giờ can also be used but this is quite formal. If the person in question is your friend or someone close, using the phrase *khởi hành đi* does not sound natural.

Some commonly used compound nouns that include *khởi hành*:

1. *Giờ khởi hành*: "departure time"
2. *Ngày khởi hành*: "departure day"

For example:

1. *Tàu đã khởi hành từ Hà Nội lúc 6 giờ sáng.*
"The train departed from Hanoi at 6 a.m."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using Adjectives and Noun Phrases to Describe an Object
Một va li màu đen, hình chữ nhật, kích thước 60-45-30 (sáu mươi, bốn mươi lăm, ba mươi). Mặt trước của va li có thể ghi tên tôi là Trần Văn Nam và số điện thoại.

"A black, rectangular suitcase, with a size of 60-45-30. On the front side, there's a name tag on which my name, Trần Văn Nam, and my phone number were written."

Generally, in Vietnamese, adjectives follow the noun, as we see in the dialogue with the adjective referring to color in the phrases *một va li màu đen* ("a black suitcase") and the adjective referring to the shape of the object, *hình chữ nhật* ("rectangular"). These adjectives are descriptive adjectives.

Structure: noun + descriptive adjective

When you want to use more than one adjective to describe an object, usually the adjective with more syllables (longer adjectives) is placed after the shorter adjective, as in the phrase in the dialogue: *một va li màu đen hình chữ nhật* ("a black rectangular suitcase"). If two adjectives have the same syllables, you can use *và* ("and") between them but it is optional.

Full structure:

1. number + noun classifier + noun + descriptive adjective 1 (short) + descriptive adjective 2 (long)
2. number + noun classifier + noun + descriptive adjective 1 + (*và*) [and] + descriptive adjective 2

If the number is only one, *một* ("one") can be omitted.

Noun classifiers:

Most nouns in Vietnamese need a classifier before them. A classifier is also called a counter word, and often accompanies a noun to classify its type. The three most common noun classifiers in Vietnamese are:

1. *cái/chiếc*: general classifier for objects
For example: *cái áo* ("shirt"), *cái/chiếc bánh* ("cake"), *cái bút* ("pen")
2. *con*: general classifier for animals
For example: *con gà* ("chicken"), *con voi* ("elephant"), *con mèo* (cat)
3. *cuốn/quyển*: general classifier for books, notebooks or any collections of papers.
For example: *cuốn/quyển sách* (book), *cuốn/quyển truyện* (storybook), *cuốn/quyển vở* (notebook)

Người ("people") has no classifier. One person is *một người*, "two people" is *hai người* and so on.

Numbers and classifiers do not complement uncountable nouns. For example: *cà phê đen* ("black coffee"), *đường trắng* ("white sugar")

For example:

1. *(Một) cái áo đẹp màu hồng*
"A beautiful pink dress" (*đẹp* means "beautiful" and *màu hồng* means "pink")
2. *(Một) chiếc ô tô sang trọng và sành điệu*
"A luxurious and stylish car" (*sang trọng* means "luxurious" and *sành điệu* means "stylish")

Descriptive adjectives include colors, shapes, tastes, material, quality, size and place of origin:

Category of Adjectives	Vietnamese	"English"
Color adjectives	<i>đỏ, đen, hồng</i>	"red," "black," "pink"

Adjectives of shape	<i>hình chữ nhật, hình tròn, hình vuông, hình tam giác</i>	"rectangular," "round," "square," "triangular"
Taste	<i>ngọt, cay, chua, mặn</i>	"sweet," "spicy," "sour," "salty"
Material	<i>bằng gỗ, bằng lụa, bằng inox, bằng sắt</i>	"wood," "silk" "inox," "iron"
Quality (including speaker's feeling)	<i>đẹp, hay, đáng yêu, thú vị</i>	"beautiful," "good/nice," "cute/lovely," "interesting"
Quality (of the object itself)	<i>cứng, mềm, dẻo, nhẹ, nặng</i>	"hard," "soft," "flexible," "light," "heavy"
Size	<i>nhỏ, to, rộng, hẹp</i>	"small," "big," "wide," "narrow"
Place of origin	<i>của Nhật, của Mỹ, của Ý, của Úc</i>	"Japanese," "American," "Italian," "Australian"

For example:

<i>Vietnamese</i>	"English"
<i>một cái cửa sổ nhỏ</i>	"a small window"
<i>một cái quần đen</i>	"a black pair of pants"
<i>cà phê ngọt</i>	"sweet coffee"
<i>một cái ly đẹp của Ý</i>	"a nice Italian glass"
<i>một cái hộp to bằng gỗ</i>	"a big wooden box"
<i>một cái túi hồng đáng yêu</i>	"a lovely pink bag"

Sample

1. *Một cái áo đẹp màu hồng.*
"A beautiful pink dress."
2. *Một món quà nhỏ đáng yêu.*
"A lovely small gift"
3. *Một chiếc xe ô tô sang trọng và sành điệu.*
"A luxurious and stylish car."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Ho Chi Minh City and Its Old Name "Sai Gon"

Ho Chi Minh city (HCMC), located in Southern Vietnam, is the largest city and also an important economic, political and educational center in Vietnam. The city is named after President Ho Chi Minh, the first and leader of modern Vietnam. HCMC nowadays is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Vietnam. With a warm climate, delicious and cheap food, fresh and abundant fruits, and lots of young, friendly and open-minded people, the city is also home to many buildings with interesting architecture and history. Some recommended tourist spots are the reunification palace, war remnants museum, Notre Dame cathedral, Sai Gon central post office, Ben Thanh and Cho Lon markets, Giac Lam and Thien Hau pagoda.

HCMC has been widely known by its old name Sai Gon (*Sài Gòn*). There are different stories relating the origin of the name Sai Gon. One of the most well-known theories says that Sài Gòn is a Chinese-derived Vietnamese word, in which *sài* means "firewood" and *gòn* refers to a kind of tree called kapok tree (or silk-cotton tree). So Sài Gòn may refer to many kapok trees that were once planted around the city a long time ago. Nowadays, Sài Gòn is still widely used in daily conversation and by most Vietnamese people living overseas.

Useful expression

1. *Dinh Độc Lập/Dinh Thống Nhất*
"The Reunification Palace"

2. *Bảo tàng chứng tích chiến tranh*
"War Remnants Museum"
3. *Nhà thờ đức bà*
"Notre Dame cathedral"
4. *Bưu điện trung tâm Sài Gòn*
"Sai Gon central post office"

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #5

Finding Your Way to a Famous Vietnamese Tourist Attraction

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

5

VIETNAMESE

1. An: Làm ơn cho tôi hỏi, từ đây đến lăng Bác có xa không ạ?
2. Hoa: Gần lắm chị ạ. Đi bộ mất khoảng 10 phút thôi.
3. An: Làm ơn chỉ đường đến đó giúp tôi.
4. Hoa: Ra khỏi khách sạn, chị rẽ phải rồi đi thẳng. Đến ngã tư thứ hai thì rẽ trái, đi thẳng khoảng 50m nữa thì tới nơi.
5. An: Cảm ơn chị.
6. Hoa: Không có gì ạ.

ENGLISH

1. An: Excuse me, can I please ask you, is it far from here to Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum?
2. Hoa: It's very near, madam. It only takes about 10 minutes on foot.
3. An: Please tell me how to get there.
4. Hoa: After getting out of the hotel, turn right and go straight. Turn left at the second crossroads, then keep going straight about fifty more meters and there you are.
5. An: Thank you.
6. Hoa: You're welcome.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
tới nơi	to arrive at the destination	verb phrase
đi thẳng	to go straight	verb phrase
hỏi	to ask	verb
từ...đến...	from...to...	preposition
xa	far	adjective
gần (Northern)	near	adjective
đi bộ	to walk	verb
chỉ đường	to show the direction/way	verb phrase
ra khỏi	to get out of	verb phrase
rẽ	to turn	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Tôi đã tới nơi rồi.</p> <p>"I have arrived at the destination."</p>	<p>Nếu anh đi thẳng, cuối cùng anh sẽ đến được bưu điện.</p> <p>"If you go straight you will finally arrive at the post office."</p>
<p>Từ đây đi thẳng là đến bãi đỗ xe.</p> <p>"Go straight from here and you'll get to the parking space."</p>	<p>Tôi sẽ chỉ hỏi bạn một lần thôi.</p> <p>"I will only ask you one more time."</p>
<p>Sinh viên đại học hỏi một câu hỏi.</p> <p>"The university student asks a question."</p>	<p>Tôi đi xe buýt từ nhà đến trường.</p> <p>"I go by bus from home to school."</p>

<p>Công ty của tôi rất xa nhà.</p> <p>"My company is very far from home."</p>	<p>Không được phép chơi pháo hoa ở gần các tòa nhà.</p> <p>"It is not allowed to use fireworks near buildings."</p>
<p>Khách sạn này ở gần Ga Hà Nội.</p> <p>"This hotel is near Ha Noi Station."</p>	<p>Đứa trẻ đi bộ trên đường.</p> <p>"The baby walks on the road."</p>
<p>Cô ấy chỉ đường cho tôi đến ngân hàng.</p> <p>"She shows me the way to the bank."</p>	<p>An vừa ra khỏi quán ăn.</p> <p>"An has just gotten out of the restaurant."</p>
<p>Anh ấy rẽ phải ở ngã tư.</p> <p>"He turns right at the crossroads."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***từ...đến...* "from...to..."**

từ: "from"

đến: to

từ + noun (time/place) + *đến* (time/place):

Use this pair of prepositions to describe the time period or distance.

Another commonly used structure with *từ... đến...*

Từ + lúc/khi + verb phrase + *đến + lúc/khi* + verb phrase

(from the time of doing something to the time of doing another thing)

For example, *Từ lúc/khi tốt nghiệp đến lúc/khi kết hôn* literally means, "from the time of graduating to the time of getting married"

Another example:

1. *Lan đã đợi tôi từ 10 giờ sáng đến 1 giờ chiều.*
"Lan has been waiting for me from 10 am to 1 p.m."

***rẽ* "to turn"**

rẽ (tay) phải: "to turn right"

rẽ (tay) trái: "to turn left"

(*tay* means "hand" and it is optional)

Use this verb to describe or give instructions about direction. *Rẽ* cannot be used alone. It must be followed by a noun showing direction such as left or right.

rẽ is only used in northern Vietnam. In central and southern Vietnam, *quẹo* is used instead.

rẽ phải = quẹo phải

rẽ trái = quẹo trái

For example:

1. *A: Đến ngã tư thì đi tiếp thế nào*
B: Rẽ trái rồi đi thẳng.
"A: How should I continue after reaching the crossroads?"
"B: Turn left and go straight."

***tới nơi* "to arrive at the destination"**

tới: "to reach/arrive"

nơi: "destination"

tới nơi implies that you have reached your desired destination.

This verb is often used to describe or inform the result of a journey. There are three common phrases:

- *Tới nơi rồi*: meaning "(someone) has arrived" (at the desired destination)

- *Tới nơi chưa?* meaning "Have you arrived yet?"

- ... *là tới nơi* meaning "there you are": This phrase is used after you describe how to go to the desired destination, to confirm that if the direction is correctly followed, you'll arrive at the destination.

Đến nơi in lesson 3 has the same meaning and usage as *tới nơi*

For example:

1. A: *Anh tới nơi chưa? Tôi sẽ đến muộn khoảng 5 phút nhé.*

B: *Tôi tới rồi. Đang đợi ở tầng 1.*

"A: Have you arrived yet? I'll be about 5 minutes late."

"B: I have arrived and am waiting in the first floor."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is On How to Make a Polite Request Using *Làm ơn* ("Please")

Làm ơn cho tôi hỏi, từ đây đến lăng Bác có xa không ạ?

"Excuse me but can I ask please if is it far from here to Uncle's Mausoleum (Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum)?"

The phrase *làm ơn* basically means "please" in English, and we use it when asking for help from someone. To make a polite request, simply say *làm ơn*, then add the verb phrase indicating the thing you need help with. The phrase *giúp tôi* ("help me") or *cho tôi* ("for me") can be put at the end of the request to emphasize that the action is done for you.

If the request is not really asking for help but you only want to request someone to do something, *giúp tôi* is not needed.

Formation:

Làm ơn + verb + phrase + (*giúp tôi*)/(*cho tôi*)

For example:

<i>Làm ơn</i>	The thing you need help	"English"
<i>Làm ơn</i>	<i>đọc từ này cho tôi.</i>	"Please read this word for me."
<i>Làm ơn</i>	<i>gọi taxi giúp tôi.</i>	"Please call me a taxi."
<i>Làm ơn</i>	<i>đưa tôi đến chợ Bến Thành.</i>	"Please take me to Ben Thanh market"
<i>Làm ơn</i>	<i>đợi một chút.</i>	"Please wait a minute."
<i>Làm ơn</i>	<i>giữ yên lặng</i>	"Please keep silent"

When ordering food/drink, or asking the taxi driver to take you somewhere, *làm ơn* (meaning "please") is not needed (though it is fine if you use it). Instead, use the following structures:

1. Order food/drink: *Cho tôi* [Give me]+ number + container (glass/bowl/dish)/classifier + food/drink name

The containers of food like *ly/ cốc* ("glass"), *bát* ("bowl") or *đĩa* ("dish") or *chai* ("bottle") do not need a classifier. If you order food or drink without a container, you need to add its own classifier. For example:

- Cho tôi hai bát phở.* (the same as *Làm ơn cho tôi hai bát phở*)
 "Two bowl of rice noodles, please."
 where *Cho tôi* means "give me"
hai means "two"
bát phở means "bowl of rice noodles"
- Cho tôi một cốc trà đá* (the same as *Làm ơn cho tôi một cốc trà đá*)
 "One glass of iced tea, please."
 where *cho tôi* means "give me"
một means "one"
cốc means "glass"
trà đá means "iced tea"

2. *Cho tôi đến* meaning "Please take me to + place":

For example: *Cho tôi đến chợ Bến Thành.* meaning "To Ben Thanh market, please."

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Làm ơn chỉ đường đến đó giúp tôi.*
"Please show me the way to get there."

Sample Sentences

1. *Làm ơn đọc từ này giúp tôi.*
"Please read this word for me."
2. *Làm ơn gọi taxi giúp tôi.*
"Please call a taxi for me."
3. *Làm ơn đưa tôi đến chợ Bến Thành.*
"Please take me to Ben Thanh market."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum

Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, located in the center of Ba Dinh square in Hanoi, is a large memorial in commemoration of Vietnam's first leader, President Ho Chi Minh. It is also called *Lăng Bác* ("Uncle's Mausoleum") because all Vietnamese people call him *Bác Hồ* (Uncle Hồ). Inside the mausoleum, Ho Chi Minh's body was embalmed and placed in a cooled glass case with dim lights in the central hall. The mausoleum is open for visitors five days per week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday) from 7:30 am to 10:30 a.m on weekdays and from 8 am to 11 am on weekends. This is one of the must-see destinations in Hanoi.

Useful expression

1. *Lăng Bác*

"Uncle's mausoleum (Uncle refers to Uncle Hồ, which is how Vietnamese people call President Ho Chi Minh)"

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #6

Making a Phone Call in Vietnam

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Nam: A lô, Linh à? Tớ Nam đây.
2. Linh: Ôi Nam à? Lâu quá không gặp. Cậu khỏe chứ?
3. Nam: Tớ vẫn khỏe. Vừa mới chuyển việc.
4. Linh: Thế à? Giờ cậu đang làm ở đâu?
5. Nam: Tớ đang làm bên Viettel. Cậu thì thế nào? Khi nào kết hôn đây?
6. Linh: Sắp rồi, chỉ không biết "sắp" là khi nào thôi.

ENGLISH

1. Nam: Hello Linh. It's Nam.
2. Linh: Oh, Nam? Long time no see. How are you?
3. Nam: I'm fine. I just changed my job.
4. Linh: Really? Where are you working now?
5. Nam: I'm working for Viettel. What about you? When are you gonna get married?
6. Linh: It's gonna be soon. I just don't know when "soon" is.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
sắp	(will) ... soon	adverb
a lô	hello (to answer the phone)	conjunction
Lâu quá không gặp	long time no see	expression
khỏe	fine	adjective
vừa mới	just	adverb
giờ	now	noun
làm	to do, to work	verb
ở đâu	where	phrase, interrogative, adverb
kết hôn	to get married	verb
khi nào	when	interrogative word

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Tôi sắp được nghỉ hè.</p> <p>"I will soon have a summer holiday."</p>	<p>A lô, ai gọi đây ạ?</p> <p>"Hello, may I ask who's calling?"</p>
<p>Lâu quá không gặp nhỉ. Anh vẫn khỏe chứ?</p> <p>"Long time no see. Are you doing well?"</p>	<p>Hút thuốc lá có hại cho sức khỏe.</p> <p>"Smoking is not good for your health."</p>
<p>Chào bạn. Bạn có khỏe không?</p> <p>"Hello. How are you? (Are you fine?)"</p>	<p>Tôi vừa mới rời công ty.</p> <p>"I have just left the company."</p>
<p>Vở kịch bắt đầu lúc chín (9) giờ.</p> <p>"The play starts at nine."</p>	<p>Bạn làm nghề gì?</p> <p>"What do you do?" (What do you work as?)</p>

<p>Tôi không biết nó nằm ở đâu.</p> <p>"I don't know where it is."</p>	<p>Bưu điện ở đâu?</p> <p>"Where is the post-office?"</p>
<p>Cô ấy đã kết hôn và có hai con.</p> <p>"She is married with two children."</p>	<p>Sinh nhật của bạn là khi nào?</p> <p>"When is your birthday?"</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

khỏe "fine"

Noun (person) + (adverb) + *khỏe*

("Someone is fine/strong")

Khỏe is used to talk about a person's health status or strength. It is often used after adverbs such as *vẫn khỏe* ("still fine"), *rất khỏe* ("very good/strong"). Sometimes it precedes adverbs such as *khỏe lắm* ("very good/strong"), *khỏe ghê* ("How good/how strong"). *Bạn có khỏe không?* is translated as "how are you" in English but it is only used when you meet someone you haven't seen for a while. It cannot be used as a daily greeting as "how are you."

For example:

1. *Cô ấy vẫn khỏe chứ?*
"Is she still doing fine?"

vừa mới "just"

vừa: "just"

mới: "new/fresh"

vừa mới + verb phrase

Use this adverb to express an action that has happened just before the time of speaking (present perfect tense)

Vừa can be used alone without *mới* and it has the same meaning and usage as *vừa mới*.

For example:

1. *Họ vừa mới chuyển đi nơi khác.*
"They have just moved to another place."

sắp "(will) ... soon "

sắp + verb phrase

Use this adverb to express an action that will soon happen. It can be an planned or unplanned action. No time phrase is required.

For example:

1. *Tôi sắp mua nhà mới.*
"I'm going to buy a new house soon."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Present Continuous Tense using *đang* + a Verb

Thế à? Giờ cậu đang làm ở đâu?

"Really? Where are you working now?"

Unlike many languages, verbs in Vietnamese are not conjugated, which means they never alter their forms to make different tenses. Instead, we add additional words, called helping verbs, in front of the main verbs to create their past, present and future forms.

We can create the present continuous tense by adding *đang* ("in progress"/"in the process of") in front of the main verb. It shows that the action is in the middle of happening right now.

Structure: Subject + *đang* + main verb + (object)

Compare the difference in the following two sentences. The first is a simple present tense, and the second is in the present continuous tense.

1. *Tôi xem ti vi.*
"I watch TV."
2. *Tôi đang xem ti vi.*
"I'm watching TV."

The second sentence with *đang* shows that I'm watching TV at the moment of speaking.

For example:

1. *An đang đọc sách.*
"An is reading a book."
2. *Bách đang ăn bánh.*
"Bach is eating a cake."
3. *Họ đang học về tài chính.*
"They are studying finance."

Because the verbs are not conjugated, they also remain their bare infinitive form no matter if the subject is singular or plural.

đang can also be used before an adjective to describe the speaker's current state or feeling.

Structure: Subject + *đang* + (adverb) + adjective (state or feeling)

For example:

1. *Cô ấy đang bận.*
"She is busy." (at the moment of speaking)
2. *Tôi đang (rất) mệt.*
"I'm (very) tired." (at the moment of speaking)
3. *Họ đang vui.*
"They are happy." (at the moment of speaking)

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Tớ đang làm bên Viettel. Cậu thì thế nào? Khi nào kết hôn đấy?*
"I'm working for Viettel (a carrier). What about you? When are you gonna get married?"

Sample Sentences

1. *An đang đọc sách.*
"An is reading a book."
2. *Bách đang ăn bánh.*
"Bach is eating a cake."
3. *Họ đang học về tài chính.*
"They are studying finance."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Young People and Average Marriage Age in Vietnam

Vietnamese people are family-oriented. They consider building a family as important as building a career. Most people, especially women, think about getting married as soon as they graduate from university. The average age of marriage in Vietnam use to be about 27 for men and 24 for women, which is quite young compared to more developed countries.

Recently, under the influence of Western, Korean, and Japanese cultures, a large number of Vietnamese people want to enjoy single life longer than before by spending more time doing what they like, traveling, studying abroad and so on. So the average marriage age has also increased to 28-29 for men and 26-27 for women. However, most people still suffer great pressure from their families if they are not married or not thinking about marriage by their late 20s.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #7

Going to a Language School in Vietnam

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 7 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Linh: Chào chị, em muốn đăng ký học tiếng Nhật ạ.
2. Mai: Em ngồi đi.
3. Linh: Em phải làm những thủ tục gì để vào học ạ?
4. Mai: Đầu tiên em cần điền thông tin về khóa học mong muốn vào mẫu đơn này. Sau đó, em sẽ làm bài kiểm tra trình độ. Sau khi có kết quả, trường sẽ chọn lớp phù hợp cho em.
5. Linh: Làm bài kiểm tra trình độ có mất phí không ạ?
6. Mai: Miễn phí em nhé. Còn đây là thông tin về học phí và thời gian biểu.

ENGLISH

1. Linh: Hello, miss. I would like to register for a Japanese course.
2. Mai: Please sit down.
3. Linh: What procedures will I have to follow to be admitted to school?
4. Mai: First, you will need to fill in this form for your desired course. Then you will take a test for placement. After looking at the test results, our school will choose a suitable class for you.
5. Linh: Will I have to pay any fees for the level check test?

CONT'D OVER

6. Mai: It's free, miss. And here is some information about school fees and schedules.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
thời gian biểu	timetable, schedule	noun
học phí	school fee	noun
miễn phí	free	adjective
đăng ký	to register, to apply	verb
làm thủ tục	to follow a procedure	verb phrase
vào học	to be admitted to school, to enroll in	verb
điền	to fill in	verb
khóa học	course	noun
bài kiểm tra trình độ	level check test	noun phrase
chọn	to choose	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Cô ấy làm việc rất vô tổ chức và không theo thời gian biểu.</p> <p>"She works in a very unorganized way and does not follow the schedule."</p>	<p>Học phí trường này rất cao.</p> <p>"This school's school fee is very high."</p>
<p>Đây là dịch vụ miễn phí.</p> <p>"This is a free service."</p>	<p>Tôi muốn đăng ký học làm bánh.</p> <p>"I want to register for a cake making course."</p>

<p>Cô ấy đang làm thủ tục xin visa đi Nhật.</p> <p>"She is following the visa application procedures to Japan."</p>	<p>Nam đã vào học khoa kinh tế ở trường đại học Hà Nội.</p> <p>"Nam has enrolled in the faculty of economics of Hanoi University."</p>
<p>Hãy điền từ vào chỗ trống</p> <p>"Fill a word in the blank."</p>	<p>Khóa học này kéo dài 3 tháng.</p> <p>"This course lasts three months."</p>
<p>Bài kiểm tra trình độ này không khó.</p> <p>"This level check test is not difficult."</p>	<p>Tôi muốn chọn thứ gì mà tôi chưa bao giờ thử.</p> <p>"I would like to choose something I have never tried."</p>
<p>Tại sao anh đã chọn màu đó?</p> <p>"Why did you choose that color?"</p>	<p>Không ai có thể chọn hộ cho bạn. Bạn phải tự làm việc ấy.</p> <p>"Nobody can choose for you, you have to do it yourself."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

đăng ký "to register/to apply"

đăng ký + noun/verb phrase ("to register/apply for something")

Use this verb when you want to take part in a certain activity or course. Common phrases that contain *đăng ký*:

- *đăng ký dự thi*: "register for an exam/contest"
- *đăng ký học* + subject: "register for a study course"
- *đăng ký khóa học*: "register for a course"
- *đăng ký kết hôn*: "marriage registration"

- *đăng ký cư trú*: "residency registration"

Another commonly used structure containing *đăng ký*:

đăng ký làm + noun of job

(apply for a position)

For example:

1. *đăng ký làm tình nguyện viên*
"apply to be a volunteer"
2. *đăng ký làm giáo viên*
"apply to be a teacher"

Another example:

1. *Tôi đã đăng ký dự thi đại học ngày hôm qua.*
"I registered for the university exam yesterday."

***làm thủ tục* "to follow a procedure"**

làm: "to do"

thủ tục: "procedure"

làm thủ tục + noun/verb phrase ("follow a procedure of something")

Use this verb to express an action of working on and completing related paperwork for a certain activity.

- *Làm thủ tục hành chính*: "follow administrative procedures"

- *Làm thủ tục đi du học*: "follow study abroad application procedures"

- *Làm thủ tục hải quan*: "follow customs procedures"

Làm thủ tục can be followed by *đăng ký* to mention the required procedures to register for a course or a certain activity.

For example:

- *làm thủ tục đăng ký kết hôn*: "follow the marriage registration procedures"

- *làm thủ tục đăng ký thi bằng lái xe*: "follow the driving test application procedures"

For example:

1. *Anh ấy đang làm thủ tục hải quan.*
"He is following customs procedures."

vào học "to be admitted to school/to enroll in"

vào: "to enter"

học: "to study"

(được) vào học + name of school: "to be admitted to + name of school"

Use this verb to express an action of being successfully admitted to a school or to start studying at a school. *Được vào học*, which is the passive form, is commonly used to express that someone has been admitted to a school. *Vào học* implies the start of someone at a school. If you want to say that someone is studying/studies at a certain school in general, *học* ("to study") or *đang học* ("be studying") is used instead.

For example:

1. *Cô ấy học/đang học ở trường đại học ngoại thương.*
"She studies/is studying at foreign trade university."
2. *Cô ấy đã vào học ở trường đại học ngoại thương.* (This implies that she has just started studying at foreign trade university)

vào học also implies the start of a new school year/a new school semester.

1. *A: Bạn đã vào học chưa?*
B: Mình vào học rồi.
A: "Has your school started yet?"
B: "Yes, it has."

For example:

1. *Lan đã (được) vào học trường đại học ngoại thương.*
"Lan has been admitted to/has enrolled in foreign trade university."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Use the Verbs *cần* and *phải* to Express Necessity and Obligations

Đầu tiên em cần điền thông tin về khóa học mong muốn vào mẫu đơn này. Sau đó, em sẽ làm bài kiểm tra trình độ. Sau khi có kết quả, trường sẽ chọn lớp phù hợp cho em.

"First, you will need to fill in this form for your desired course. Then you will take a test for placement. After we get the test results, our school will choose a suitable class for you."

Cần means "to need" and *phải* means "must/to have to." They are placed just before another verb to express a necessity or obligation to do something. The verbs following *cần* and *phải* should be in their infinitive forms.

Cần puts the emphasis on the necessity. It expresses advice or a suggestion, but with a little sense of obligation.

Phải has a stronger meaning and it carries the nuance of an obligation.

Structure: Subject + *cần/phải* + verb + (object)/(adverb)

For example:

1. *Bạn cần luyện tập nhiều hơn.*
"You need to practice more."
2. *Tôi phải viết xong báo cáo trong hôm nay.*
"I have to finish writing the report within today."

A clause expressing a purpose or a reason can be put at the end of the sentence to explain why the previous action is necessary or compulsory.

Structure:

1. **Purpose:** Subject + *cần/phải* + verb + (object)/(adverb) + *để* [in order to]+ verb
phrase = "need to/must to do something in order to..."
2. **Reason:** Subject + *cần/phải* + verb + (object)/(adverb) + *vì* [because]+ Subject + Verb
= "need to/must do something because..."

For example:

1. *Trẻ con phải uống sữa để phát triển chiều cao.*
"Children must drink milk to boost their height."
2. *Anh ta phải đi taxi vì trời mưa.*
"He had to go by taxi because of the rain/because it rained."
3. *Sinh viên cần làm thêm để có kinh nghiệm sống.*
"Students need to do a part-time job in order to gain experience."
4. *Bạn cần học tiếng Anh vì nó rất hữu ích.*
"You need to study English because it is useful."

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Em phải làm những thủ tục gì để vào học ạ?*
"What procedure will I have to follow to be admitted to school?"

Sample Sentences

1. *Anh ta phải đi taxi vì trời mưa.*
"He had to go by taxi because of the rain/because it rained."
2. *Tôi phải viết xong báo cáo trong hôm nay.*
"I have to finish writing the report within today."
3. *Trẻ con cần uống sữa để phát triển chiều cao.*
"Children need to drink milk to boost their height."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Japanese and Its Increasing Importance in Vietnam

After English, Japanese is the second most popular foreign language among young people in Vietnam. Over the past few years, Japan has invested a lot in Vietnam, so the number of Japanese companies and Japan-Vietnam joint venture companies has increased rapidly too. There is a big demand for employees who can speak Japanese in Vietnam now. Therefore, Japanese schools and learning centers are also growing fast. Japan has now become a desired destination for young Vietnamese who want to study or work overseas.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #8

What's Your Favorite Vietnamese Food?

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Mai: Tôi nay em nấu phở nhé.
2. Nam: Anh không thích ăn phở lắm. Em nấu cơm đi.
3. Mai: Vậy mua thịt bò về xào hành tỏi nhé.
4. Nam: Ừ được đấy. Anh thích ăn thịt bò.
5. Mai: Ăn bắp cải luộc nữa nhé. Trời nóng thế này ăn rau luộc cho mát nhỉ.

ENGLISH

1. Mai: I will cook Vietnamese rice noodles for dinner, ok?
2. Nam: I don't like phở much. Cook rice, honey.
3. Mai: So let's buy beef and make stir fried beef with onion and garlic.
4. Nam: Sounds good. I like beef.
5. Mai: Let's make boiled cabbage too. Boiled vegetables will cool us down in such hot weather.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
luộc	to boil	verb
bắp cải	cabbage	noun

được đấy	that's fine	expression
hành tỏi	onion and garlic	noun phrase
xào	to stir-fry	verb
nấu	to cook	verb
Phở	pho, Vietnamese noodles	noun
cơm	rice	noun
mua	to buy	verb
thịt bò	beef	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Cô ấy chỉ biết luộc trứng và nấu mì gói.</p> <p>"She only knows how to boil eggs and cook instant noodles."</p>	<p>Mùa này bắp cải rất ngon.</p> <p>"Cabbages are very delicious in this season."</p>
<p>Cái xe máy này được đấy.</p> <p>"This motorbike is just fine."</p>	<p>Hành tỏi là nguyên liệu không thể thiếu của món ăn Việt Nam.</p> <p>"Onions and garlic are indispensable ingredients of Vietnamese food."</p>
<p>An xào rau với dầu ô liu.</p> <p>"An stir fries vegetables with olive oil."</p>	<p>Mẹ tôi đang nấu bữa tối.</p> <p>"My mother is cooking dinner."</p>
<p>Có, tôi đặc biệt thích Phở.</p> <p>"Yes, I especially love Pho."</p>	<p>Người Việt Nam thường ăn cơm.</p> <p>"Vietnamese people often eat rice."</p>

<p>Cho tôi thêm cơm.</p> <p>"Please give me more rice."</p>	<p>Bà phải mua 3 cái nếu bà muốn được giảm giá.</p> <p>"You have to buy three if you want to get the discount."</p>
<p>Em mua cho anh 2 chai bia nhé!</p> <p>"Buy 2 bottles of beer for me please!"</p>	<p>Anh ấy sẽ mua một căn nhà cạnh sông cho con chó của anh ấy.</p> <p>"He will buy a house next to the river for his dog."</p>
<p>Anh ý muốn mua một chiếc ô tô mới.</p> <p>"He wants to buy a new car."</p>	<p>Cô ấy vừa mua một cái áo.</p> <p>"She has just bought a shirt."</p>
<p>Tôi luôn luôn mua quá nhiều thực phẩm khi đói.</p> <p>"I always buy too many groceries when I am hungry."</p>	<p>Thịt bò Nhật rất mềm.</p> <p>"Japanese beef is very soft."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

nấu "to cook"

nấu + noun (food name/type of food)

This verb expresses the action of cooking in general. Most types of food can be put after *nấu*. *Nấu* cannot be followed by *bánh* ("cake"). Instead, we say *làm bánh* ("make a cake") as in English.

Nấu and *ăn* ("to eat") are used together to form a compound noun *nấu ăn*, which indicates the activity of cooking in general.

For example: *Tôi thích nấu ăn.* ("I love cooking")

Another example:

1. Tôi đang học nấu súp gà.
"I'm learning how to cook chicken soup."

xào "to stir-fry"

xào + noun (food name/type of food)

ingredient + xào + (với) ingredient: a stir-fried food that contains two types of ingredients (vegetables and meat), the preposition *với* ("and") is used to connect two ingredients.

This verb expresses a method of cooking ingredients with oil over a high heat. In Vietnam, *món xào* ("stir-fried food") often includes a type of vegetable and a type of meat.

- *thịt bò xào khoai tây*: stir-fried beef with potatoes.

- *thịt lợn xào cà chua*: stir-fried pork with tomatoes.

xào can be used as an adjective in the name of a food as well, such as:

- *phở xào*: stir-fried rice noodles

- *thịt bò xào*: stir-fried beef

For example:

1. Tôi xào thịt bò với khoai tây cho bữa tối.
"I stir-fried beef with potatoes for dinner."

lộc "to boil"

lộc + noun (food name/type of food): "boil something"

This verb expresses a method of cooking ingredients in boiling water. Boiled foods are popular in Vietnam because Vietnamese people often like light and fresh food. Boiled food contains no oil or salt, which is good for one's health. "To boil the water" is *đun nước* or *đun sôi nước* (*nước* means "water"). However, you cannot say *Luộc nước*.

Some common boiled foods in Vietnam:

- *thịt gà luộc*: "boiled chicken"

- *thịt lợn luộc*: "boiled pork"

- *rau luộc*: "boiled vegetables"

Boiled food is often served with a sauce containing fish sauce, minced garlic, lemon juice and chilli. Sometimes, shrimp sauce or soy sauce is used too.

For example:

1. *Để luộc gà ngon cần có bí kíp.*
"There are some tips to making delicious boiled chicken."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Use the Verb *thích* to Express Likes and Dislikes

Anh không thích ăn phở lắm. Em nấu cơm đi.

"I don't like Phở much. Cook rice, honey."

We can express likes and dislikes in Vietnamese by using the verb *thích*, meaning "to like."

Expressing Likes

To indicate that you like something or someone, put the noun indicating that thing/person right after *thích*. *Thích* won't change its form according to the subject of the sentence.

Structure: Subject + *thích* + noun (thing/person)

For example:

1. *Tôi thích hoa hồng*
"I like roses"
2. *Lan thích màu đỏ.*
"Lan likes the color red."

3. *Nam thích cô gái đó.*
"Nam likes that girl."

To indicate that you like doing something, put a verb phrase describing that activity right after *thích*. The verb following *thích* remains in its infinitive form.

Structure: Subject + *thích* + verb + object

For example:

1. *Lan thích chơi cầu lông.*
"Lan likes playing badminton."
2. *Tôi thích học tiếng Anh.*
"I like learning English."
3. *Cô ấy thích ăn thịt gà.*
"She likes to eat chicken."

Expressing Dislikes

Dislikes can be expressed easily by simply including the negative particle *không* ("no/not") in front of *thích* to make the phrase *không thích* ("don't like"). The other parts of the sentence stay unchanged.

Structure:

Subject + *không thích* + noun (thing/person): "do/does not like something"

Subject + *không thích* + verb + object: "do/does not like doing something"

For example:

1. *Tôi không thích hoa hồng.*
"I don't like roses."
2. *Lan không thích chơi cầu lông.*
"Lan does not like playing badminton."

3. *Nam không thích cô gái đó.*
"Nam does not like that girl."

Using *thích* as an adjective:

Thích itself is a verb but in some cases, it functions as an adjective. It expresses the joy or excitement of the speaker about something. In such cases, *thích* is often used with an adverb or the verb *trông* ("to look") or *nghe* ("to sound").

For example:

1. *Thích quá/Thích ghê!*
(Literally this translates to "like so much" but it means "so great/so cool!")

This expression is used as an exclamation when you see/receive something, you feel that it is so great and you like it a lot.

1. *Trông thích quá/Trông thích ghê!*
Literally "look so like!" means "looks great"
2. *Nghe thích quá/Nghe thích ghê!*
Literally "sound so like!" but means "sounds great!"

How to Say "I like you" in Vietnamese

1. A woman says to a man: *Em thích anh.*
2. A man says to a woman: *Anh thích em.*

Example from the dialogue:

1. *Ừ được đấy. Anh thích ăn thịt bò.*
"Sounds good. I like to eat beef."

Sample Sentences

-
1. *Tôi thích hoa hồng.*
"I like roses."
 2. *Lan thích chơi cầu lông.*
"Lan likes playing badminton."
 3. *Anh ấy không thích dậy sớm.*
"He does not like to get up early."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Pronouns and Jokes Related to Phở and Rice

When talking about the relationship between a husband and wife, Vietnamese people often use a joke relating to *phở* (rice noodles) and *cơm* (rice). The funny saying is *Bồ là phở, vợ là cơm*, which literally means "The mistress is noodle, the wife is rice." Vietnamese people eat rice every day, so rice is essential, but eating rice so frequently can decrease one's appetite. So sometimes, it is good to eat noodles outside, to get a fresh feeling.

Rice is a metaphor for the wife, someone who is very important, but may cause boredom and annoyance. Noodles are a metaphor for the mistress, which cannot replace rice, i.e. the wife, but may be necessary sometimes to refresh oneself. But don't misunderstand, this phrase isn't to encourage men to engage in love affair! It is more like a warning, emphasizing that wives and families are irreplaceable.

Useful expression

1. *Bồ là phở, vợ là cơm.*
"The mistress is noodle, the wife is rice."

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #9

What Should We Do Tonight in Vietnam?

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. An: Linh à? Tao An đây. Tối nay đi xem phim không?
2. Linh: Ừ được đây. Máy giờ thì được nhỉ?
3. An: 6 (sáu) giờ tao xong việc. Hẹn gặp lúc 7 (bảy) giờ nhé.
4. Linh: Cũng được. Gặp ở đâu thì được nhỉ?
5. An: Tầng hầm Vincom nhé. Gửi xe, đi ăn tối rồi lên xem phim trên tầng 5 (năm).
6. Linh: Ok, vậy hẹn mày 7 (bảy) giờ ở Vincom.

ENGLISH

1. An: Hey Linh. It's me, An. Wanna go to the movies tonight?
2. Linh: Sounds great. What time is good?
3. An: I'll finish work at 6 p.m. Let's meet at 7 p.m.
4. Linh: That's fine. Where is good to meet?
5. An: Vincom basement, ok? We'll leave our motorbikes there, go for dinner, then go to the fifth floor for the movie.
6. Linh: Ok. So see you at 7 p.m. at Vincom.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
gửi xe	to leave a vehicle in the parking lot	verb phrase
đi xem phim	to go to the movies	verb phrase
mấy giờ	what time	expression
xong việc	to finish work	verb phrase
hẹn	to make an appointment	verb
gặp	to meet	verb
tầng hầm	basement	noun
Vậy	so	conjunction
đi ăn tối	to go for dinner	verb phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Anh ấy gửi xe ngay cạnh nhà hàng.</p> <p>"He left his motorbike at a parking lot just beside the restaurant."</p>	<p>Tôi thấy chán nên đã quyết định đi xem phim.</p> <p>"I was bored so I decided to go to the movie."</p>
<p>Mấy giờ thì cuộc họp bắt đầu?</p> <p>"What time does the meeting start?"</p>	<p>Tôi xong việc rồi.</p> <p>"I have finished my work."</p>
<p>Tôi đã hẹn với cô ấy lúc 5 giờ chiều.</p> <p>"I have made an appointment with her at 5 p.m."</p>	<p>Chúng ta có thể gặp ở ga.</p> <p>"We can meet at the station."</p>
<p>Tôi muốn gặp bố mẹ của em.</p> <p>"I would love to meet your parents."</p>	<p>Tôi sẽ gặp bạn lúc 10 giờ ở trước ga.</p> <p>"I will meet you at 10 PM in front of the station."</p>

<p>Chúng ta gặp nhau vào tuần sau được không?</p> <p>"Can we meet next week-end."</p>	<p>Rất vui được gặp bạn!</p> <p>"Nice to meet you!"</p>
<p>Tòa nhà này có tầng hầm rộng.</p> <p>"This building has a large basement."</p>	<p>Vậy hẹn gặp lại sau nhé!</p> <p>"So, see you later!"</p>

Tôi đi ăn tối cùng cô ấy.

"I'll go for dinner with her."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

mấy giờ "what time"

Mấy giờ rồi? ("What time is it?")

Mấy giờ + thì + S + V? (What time does someone/something do something?)

Mấy giờ comes at the beginning of a question to ask about the exact time when something happens or someone takes an action. Answer this question by mention the number (indicating the hours), followed by *giờ* (o'clock) and time of day such as *sáng* (a.m) or *chiều/tối* (p.m). The time of day (a.m/p.m) is optional.

Bây giờ là mấy giờ? ("What time is it now?") can be used interchangeably with *Mấy giờ rồi?* to ask about the current time at the moment of speaking.

For example:

- A: *Mấy giờ thì cô ấy sẽ đến?*
 B: *3 giờ chiều.*
 A: "What time will she come?"
 B: "3 p.m"

hẹn "to make an appointment"

hẹn + *với* + person + (*ở/tại* + place) + (*lúc* + time). Which means:

date/have an appointment + with + person + (at/in + place) + (at + time)

This formation is used to make an appointment with someone at/in a certain place at a certain time.

hẹn refers to the action of scheduling a meeting with someone. This verb can be used for both business and general meetings. It is often used with *gặp* (to meet) to make the phrase *hẹn gặp* (literally "make an appointment to meet"). *Hẹn gặp* can be followed directly by a noun indicating the other person without the preposition *với* (with).

- *hẹn với cô ấy* = *hẹn gặp cô ấy* "to make an appointment with her"

Some common words/phrases with *hẹn*:

- *cuộc hẹn*: "an appointment"

- *hẹn hò*: "dating"

For example:

1. *Tôi đã hẹn với An ở ga Hà Nội lúc 8 giờ sáng.*

"I have made an appointment with An at Hanoi station at 8 a.m."

***gửi xe* "to leave a vehicle at a parking lot/to park a vehicle "**

gửi: "to send"

xe: "vehicle"

gửi xe literally means "give/send a vehicle to someone (to take care of it)"

Use this verb phrase to say that you will park your vehicle somewhere.

The verb *gửi* (to send) is used to mean that you send your vehicle to the person-in-charge of the parking lot so that he/she will take care of it while you are not there. Most parking lots in Vietnam are not automatic. They are managed by individual guards. Vehicle owners bring their vehicles there, get a ticket from the guards, and pay a fee to them for a space.

For example:

1. Tôi gửi xe ở gần bưu điện.
"I parked my vehicle near the post office."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Use the Phrase *thì được* to Ask For a Suggestion
Ừ được đấy. Máy giờ thì được nhỉ?
"Sounds great. What time is good?"

Thì được literally means "is fine" and it aims to ask "What is fine?" This phrase is put after a verb phrase to ask for a suggestion in doing something. This implies: "What should I do?"

Structure: Verb phrase + question word + *thì được* + sentence-ending particles (*nhỉ/ạ*)?

- Question words: *ai* (who), *gì* (what), *khi nào* (when), *ở đâu* (where)
- *nhỉ*: a particle showing a request for confirmation and is used among friends, people of the same age or to talk to a younger person.
- *ạ*: this particle also aims to ask for confirmation but it is used when you are talking to an older person.

For example:

1. *Mời ai thì được nhỉ?* (Literally "Who is fine to be invited")
The speaker may be preparing for a party and asks other people who he/she should invite.
2. *Mặc gì thì được nhỉ?* (Literally "What is fine to wear?")
The speaker may go out in a while and asks other people what he/she should wear.
3. *Nấu món gì thì được ạ?* (Literally "What food is fine to cook?")
The speaker may want to invite friends to his/her home, and asks an older person what food he/she should cook.

Note: This is a spoken expression in Vietnamese. In written text, or in a very formal situation, the word *nên* (should) is used instead in the structure with *thì được* that we learned above.

Structure: Subject + *nên* + verb + phrase + question word

For example:

1. *Tôi nên mời ai nhỉ?*
"Who should I invite?"
2. *Tôi nên mặc gì nhỉ?*
"What should I wear?"
3. *Em nên nấu món gì ạ?*
"What food should I cook?"

Example from the dialogue:

1. *Cũng được. Gặp ở đâu thì được nhỉ?*
"That's fine. Where is good to meet?"

Sample Sentences

1. *Mời ai thì được nhỉ?*
Literally: "Who is fine to be invited?"
("Who should I invite?")
2. *Mặc gì thì được nhỉ?*
Literally: "What is fine to wear?"
("What should I wear?")
3. *Nấu món gì thì được ạ?*
Literally: "What food is fine to cook?"
("What food should I cook?")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Friendship and Related Pronouns

There are several pairs of pronouns that can be used among friends or people of the same age. What to use depends on how close you are to the other person.

In general: *cậu* (you) - *tớ* (I/me)

bạn (you) - *tớ* (I/me)

ấy (you) - *tớ* (I/me) (in Hanoi only)

Very close (casual): *mày* (you) - *tao* (I/me) (usually used among people of the same gender)

Formal (often used in writing): *bạn* (you) - *tôi* (I/me)

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #10

Getting a Bargain in Vietnam

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Bình: Ti vi này bao nhiêu tiền anh nhỉ?
2. Long: 10 (mười) triệu chị ạ.
3. Bình: Sao ở đây đắt thế nhỉ? Bên MediaMart cũng loại này chỉ có 9 (chín) triệu rưỡi. Có bớt chút không anh?
4. Long: Chúng tôi bán đúng giá, nhưng đang có chương trình khuyến mại rút thăm may mắn. Nếu chị trúng thưởng sẽ được giảm 20% (hai mươi phần trăm) cho mỗi đơn hàng trên 5 (năm) triệu.
5. Bình: Hay quá. Rút thăm ở đâu ạ?
6. Long: Chị xuống quầy dưới tầng 1 nhé.

ENGLISH

1. Bình: How much does this TV cost?
2. Long: 10 million, madame.
3. Bình: How can it be so expensive here? The same TV at MediaMart costs only 9.5 million. Would you consider lowering the price a little?
4. Long: We sell at the labelled price. But we are running a promotional program in which you can join a lottery. If you win, you can get 20% off for any order above 5 million.
5. Bình: Great. Where can I join the lottery?

CONT'D OVER

6. Long: Please go to the counter on the first floor.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
phần trăm	percent	noun
giảm	to reduce, to lower	verb
ti vi	television	noun
bao nhiêu tiền	how much	interrogative
đắt	expensive	adjective
bớt	to reduce, to lower	verb
bán đúng giá	to sell at the labelled price	verb phrase
chương trình khuyến mại	promotional program	noun phrase
rút thăm	lottery	noun
trúng thưởng	to win a lottery	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>30% (ba mươi phần trăm) trong tổng số học sinh là nữ.</p> <p>"30% of the total students are female."</p>	<p>Hôm nay nhiệt độ giảm.</p> <p>"The temperature decreases today."</p>
<p>Gia đình xem ti vi.</p> <p>"The family watches television."</p>	<p>Cái áo này bao nhiêu tiền?</p> <p>"How much is this shirt?"</p>

<p>Anh ấy đã mua rượu đắt nhất trong cửa hàng rượu</p> <p>"He got the most expensive wine in the liquor shop."</p>	<p>Cái xe ô tô đó quá đắt. Tôi sẽ không mua nó đâu.</p> <p>"That car is too expensive, I won't buy it."</p>
<p>Cô ấy có một chiếc ô tô rất mắc (đắt).</p> <p>"She has a very expensive car."</p>	<p>Hãy bớt lo âu và cười lên.</p> <p>"Stop worrying and smile."</p>
<p>Cửa hàng này bán đúng giá.</p> <p>"This shop sells goods at the labelled price."</p>	<p>Chương trình khuyến mại kéo dài 1 (một) tháng.</p> <p>"The promotional program lasts 1 month."</p>
<p>Anh ấy đang tham gia rút thăm may mắn.</p> <p>"He is participating in a lottery."</p>	<p>Tôi vừa trúng thưởng một trăm ngàn đồng.</p> <p>"I just won a lottery of one hundred thousand dong."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***bán đúng giá* "to sell at the labeled price"**

bán: "to sell"

đúng: "exact"

giá: "price"

bán đúng giá literally means "to sell at the exact price (without discount)"

This phrase is often used by the seller of a shop when he/she wants to emphasize that you should not bargain when you shop there. In Vietnam, not all shops have a price tag for the items being sold, so usually you must ask the seller how much an item costs. When he/she tells the price and says *bán đúng giá*, which means "please do not bargain."

For example:

1. *Đây là cửa hàng bán đúng giá.*
"This is a shop that sells things at their labeled price."

giảm/bớt ("to reduce"/"to lower"/"to decrease")

giảm and *bớt* have the same meaning. They are generally followed by a noun (indicating the reduced thing), numbers or percentage.

giảm has a broader meaning and can be used with both visible things such as prices, temperature, weight etc and invisible things such as worry, stress, tiredness.

bớt has more limited usage. It can also be used with prices, but it is more commonly used with invisible things such as worry, stress, tiredness. etc.

- *giảm*: *giảm giá* ("reduce price"), *giảm cân* ("reduce weight"), *giảm nhiệt độ* ("lower the temperature"), *giảm lo âu* ("reduce worry"), *giảm căng thẳng* ("reduce stress")

- *bớt*: *bớt giá* ("reduce price"), *bớt lo âu* ("reduce worry"), *bớt căng thẳng* ("reduce stress").

giảm is safer to use than *bớt*, so we recommended you use it when in doubt as to which is correct..

When it comes to discount, both *giảm* and *bớt* can be followed by a percentage to express how many percent discount is applied.

giảm/bớt 20% (*hai mươi phần trăm*): "20% off"

For example:

1. *Tôi muốn giảm cân.*
"I want to lose weight."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using the Phrase *sao + adj + thế nhỉ?* to Express One's Opinion About Something/Someone

Sao ở đây đắt thế nhỉ? Bên MediaMart cũng loại này chỉ có 9 (chín) triệu rưỡi. Có bớt chút

không anh?

"How can it be so expensive here? The same TV at MediaMart costs only 9.5 million. Would you consider lowering the price a little?"

Sao + adjective + thế nhỉ?

Let's break down this sentence. The first word is *sao*, which means "why/how." *Thế* means "so/such/like that" and *nhỉ* is a particle which aims to ask for confirmation by the other speaker.

This expression is used as an exclamation, showing the speaker's emotion/opinion (usually surprised/amused or annoyed) about something (usually something that has just been seen or heard). The emotion expressed in this question form indicates that the speaker is not so sure how/why the previously mentioned thing is true: "How can it be so..?."

This expression is often used in a conversation and is a response to what has been said earlier by another person. If it is used separately, it reflects a thought of the speaker in his/her mind or simply means the speaker is talking to himself/herself about what has happened.

For example:

- A: *Cái áo này giá một trăm ngàn đấy.*
B: *Sao rẻ thế nhỉ?*
A: "This shirt costs one hundred thousand dong."
B: "How can it be so cheap?"
- A: *Lan vừa đỗ đại học kiến trúc.*
B: *Sao giỏi thế nhỉ?*
A: "Lan has just passed the exam into the University of Architecture."
B: "How could she be so good?"
- A: *Đây là phòng của cô.*
B: *Ồ, sao rộng thế nhỉ?*
A: "This is your room."
B: "Wow, how can it be so spacious?"

Sample Sentences

1. *Sao rẻ thế nhỉ?*
"How can it be so cheap?"
2. *Sao giỏi thế nhỉ?*
"How can she/he be so good?"
3. *Sao rộng thế nhỉ?*
"How can it be so wide?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Shopping in Vietnam

Bargaining is common when you go shopping in Vietnam. It often happens when you shop in outdoor markets, street shops, and stands. The seller can increase the price up to two times higher than the item's true value. Do not hesitate to halve the initial price and gradually increase it to the level that both of you are satisfied with. Some sellers may get angry if you suggest a low price but that is quite normal. Simply say goodbye and go to another shop for a better service.

If you are not sure about your bargaining ability, go to the supermarkets, or department stores where items are sold at their labelled prices.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #11

Is this Coupon Valid in this Vietnamese Store?

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VIETNAMESE

1. Announcement: Chương trình khuyến mại "Ngày chủ nhật vui vẻ" xin dành tặng phiếu giảm giá 50% (năm mươi phần trăm) cho 100 (một trăm) khách hàng mua hàng đầu tiên trong ngày hôm nay"
2. Bình: Anh cho hỏi, phiếu giảm giá 50% (năm mươi phần trăm) áp dụng cho những sản phẩm nào ạ?
3. Lâm: Tất cả các sản phẩm dưới 6 (sáu) triệu chị ạ.
4. Bình: Phiếu đó khi nào thì hết hạn?
5. Lâm: Thứ bảy tuần sau chị nhé.
6. Bình: Hiện còn bao nhiêu phiếu anh nhỉ?
7. Lâm: Vẫn còn 30 (ba mươi) phiếu ạ.

ENGLISH

1. Announcement: The promotional campaign "Happy Sunday" presents 50% off coupons for the first 100 customers who buy at our store today.
2. Bình: Excuse me, to which products can the 50% off coupons be applied?
3. Lâm: All products under six million, madame.
4. Bình: When will those coupons expire?
5. Lâm: Next Saturday, madame.

CONT'D OVER

6. Bình: How many coupons are left now?
7. Lâm: There are still thirty of them.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
hiện	now, currently	adverb
tặng	to present	verb
phiếu giảm giá	coupon	noun
đầu tiên	first	noun
khách hàng	client, customer	noun
áp dụng	to apply	verb
tất cả	all, entire, whole, all together	pronoun, phrase
sản phẩm	product	noun
hết hạn	to expire	verb
bao nhiêu	how many, how much	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Anh ấy hiện đang làm bác sĩ.</p> <p>"He is now working as a doctor."</p>	<p>Anh ấy đã tặng cho tôi một quyển sách hay.</p> <p>"He presented me with a good book."</p>
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<p>Tôi được tặng phiếu giảm giá khi đi siêu thị.</p> <p>"I was presented a coupon when going to the supermarket."</p>	<p>Ứng cử viên đầu tiên đã hoàn thành phỏng vấn.</p> <p>"The first candidate has finished the interview."</p>
<p>Người đại lý bất động sản gặp khách hàng.</p> <p>"The real estate agent meets the client."</p>	<p>Luật này đã được áp dụng toàn quốc.</p> <p>"This law has been applied nationwide."</p>
<p>Tôi đã xem tất cả các bộ phim.</p> <p>"I have seen all of the movies."</p>	<p>Tất cả chi phí của chúng tôi đều vượt xa thu nhập của chúng tôi.</p> <p>"Our expenses altogether are far beyond our incomes."</p>
<p>Tất cả mọi người đều vui vẻ.</p> <p>"Everybody is happy."</p>	<p>Sản phẩm mới của họ thật sự rất thanh lịch và dễ sử dụng.</p> <p>"Their new product is really elegant and easy to use."</p>
<p>Đây là sản phẩm tốt nhất.</p> <p>"This is the best product."</p>	<p>Sữa mà tôi đã mời những vị khách vào ngày hôm qua đã hết hạn.</p> <p>"The milk I offered my guests yesterday had expired."</p>
<p>Hộ chiếu này đã hết hạn.</p> <p>"This passport has expired."</p>	<p>Chúng tôi phải trả bao nhiêu?</p> <p>"How much do we have to pay?"</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***tặng* "to present"**

tặng + noun/pronoun (person) + noun (thing): present someone something

tặng + noun (thing) + *cho* + noun/pronoun (person): present something to someone

Use this verb to express the action of giving something as a gift to friends, people of the same age or younger people. When presenting a gift to an older person or a distinguished person, *biếu* is used instead of *tặng*: *biếu* + noun (person) + noun (thing) (*biếu* is more polite and formal)

For example:

1. *An tặng tôi một túi xoài.*
"An presents me a bag of mangoes."
2. *An biếu bác Minh một túi xoài.*
"An presents Uncle Minh a bag of mangoes."

***hết hạn* "to expire"**

hết: "to end"

hạn: "limit"/"term"

noun + *đã hết hạn/hết hạn rồi* (noun + expired/has already expired.)

Use this verb to indicate that a document has come to the end of its validity or a kind of food is past its expiration date. This verb is often used with *đã* or *rồi* (both meaning "already") When talking about a law or an agreement or regulation that is no longer effective, *hết hiệu lực* (no longer effective) is used instead of *hết hạn*.

For example:

1. *Quy định này đã hết hiệu lực.*
"This regulation is no longer effective."

For example:

1. *Visa của tôi đã hết hạn.*
"My visa has expired."

***bao nhiêu* "how many," "how much"**

Có bao nhiêu + noun (thing/person) + (preposition (*ở/tại/trong*) + noun of place)?

"How many/much + noun + is/are there + (in/at + place)?"

Use this phrase to ask about the quantity. It comes in a set phrase *có bao nhiêu* (how much/how many is/are there) at the beginning of the question, and can be followed by both countable and uncountable nouns. The noun phrase of place comes at the end and is optional. If the quantity is no more than ten, *mấy* is more commonly used than *bao nhiêu*. For example:

1. *Có mấy người?*
"How many people?"
2. *Bạn có mấy quyển sách?*
"How many books do you have?"

For example:

1. *Có bao nhiêu cái bánh mì trong tủ lạnh?*
"How many loaves of bread are there in the fridge?"
2. *Bạn có bao nhiêu tiền?*
How much money do you have?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Use of the Verb *áp dụng* ("to apply")

Anh cho hỏi, phiếu giảm giá 50% (năm mươi phần trăm) áp dụng cho những sản phẩm nào ạ?

"Excuse me, to which products can the 50% off coupons be applied?"

The verb *áp dụng* is commonly used in articles or on the news when mentioning the adoption of a law, regulation, technology etc into a certain field or into practice. This verb is often used in the passive form, past tense or present perfect tense (*đã được áp dụng*: was/were or has/have been applied)

Structure:

Subject + (đã được) áp dụng + cho/với (to/with) + noun (person/thing): "to be applied to someone/something"

Subject + (đã được) áp dụng + trong/vào (in) + noun (field/place): "to be applied in a certain place/field"

Nouns that can precede áp dụng:

Nouns (Vietnamese)	Nouns (English)
luật	law
quy định	regulation
thuế	tax
giá	price
chính sách	policy
biện pháp/phương pháp	measure/method
lý thuyết	theory
công nghệ/kỹ thuật	technology/technique

For example:

1. Quy định này (được) áp dụng cho/với toàn bộ nhân viên.
"This regulation is applied to all employees."
2. Công nghệ này đã được áp dụng vào/trong sản xuất nông nghiệp.
"This technology has been applied in agricultural production."
3. Lý thuyết đã được áp dụng trong thực tiễn.
"The theory was applied in practice."

Sample Sentences

1. *Quy định này (được) áp dụng cho/với toàn bộ nhân viên.*
"This regulation is applied to all employees."
2. *Công nghệ này đã được áp dụng vào sản xuất nông nghiệp.*
"This technology has been applied in agricultural production."
3. *Lý thuyết đã được áp dụng trong thực tiễn.*
"The theory was applied in practice."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Vietnamese People's Special Interest in Shopping

Vietnamese people like shopping very much. The most popular products are electronic goods and household appliances, especially those imported from foreign countries such as America, Japan, Korea and Australia. When traveling to other countries, Vietnamese tourists love going to shopping centers, malls or anywhere selling good products. They may not have time to go to all famous tourist spots, but that is not a big problem. However, if they cannot buy something to bring home, they will feel very unpleasant.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #12

Is There a Problem with Your Vietnamese Meal?

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- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Minh: Gỏi cuốn của chị đây ạ.
2. An: Xin lỗi, tôi không gọi gỏi cuốn.
3. Minh: Không phải chị gọi 1 (một) đĩa gỏi cuốn tôm thịt ạ?
4. An: Không, tôi gọi nem rán, chứ không phải gỏi cuốn.
5. Minh: Thành thật xin lỗi chị về sự nhầm lẫn này. Tôi sẽ đổi món lại ạ.
6. An: Làm ơn nhanh một chút được không? Tôi đang vội.
7. Minh: Vâng, tôi mang ra ngay đây ạ. Một lần nữa thành thật xin lỗi chị.
8. An: Không sao.

ENGLISH

1. Minh: Here are your spring rolls.
2. An: Sorry, I didn't order fresh spring rolls.
3. Minh: Didn't you order a plate of pork and shrimp fresh spring rolls?
4. An: No, I ordered fried spring rolls, not fresh ones.
5. Minh: I'm terribly sorry for this mistake. I'll change it right away.
6. An: Please be quick. I'm in a hurry.

CONT'D OVER

7. Minh: Yes, I'll bring it here right away. Once again, I'm really sorry.
8. An: No problem.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
ngay	immediately, right away	adverb
vội	in a hurry	adjective
nhanh	quick, fast	adjective
gỏi cuốn	fresh spring rolls	noun
gọi	to order, to order (food, drink)	verb
nem rán	fried spring rolls	noun
đĩa	dish, plate	noun
thành thật xin lỗi	I'm terribly sorry	expression
sự nhầm lẫn	mistake	noun
đổi	to change, to exchange, to convert	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Sau khi xem tivi, tôi đi ngủ ngay.</p> <p>"After watching TV, I go to bed immediately."</p>	<p>Trông An lúc nào cũng vội vàng.</p> <p>"An looks as if she is always in a hurry."</p>
<p>Họ nói chuyện rất nhanh.</p> <p>"They talk very fast."</p>	<p>Tôi thích ăn gỏi cuốn.</p> <p>"I like to eat fresh spring rolls."</p>

<p>Tôi cũng đã gọi một cốc cà phê cho bạn.</p> <p>"I ordered a coffee for you too."</p>	<p>Anh ấy đã gọi kem dừa.</p> <p>"He ordered coconut ice cream."</p>
<p>Tôi xem thực đơn rồi gọi món.</p> <p>"I saw the menu and ordered food."</p>	<p>Món nem rán rất ngon.</p> <p>"The fried spring rolls are very delicious."</p>
<p>Cô ấy đặt bánh vào một chiếc đĩa.</p> <p>"She puts the cake on a plate."</p>	<p>Thành thật xin lỗi vì đã đến muộn.</p> <p>"I'm terribly sorry that I'm late."</p>
<p>Chắc chắn có sự nhầm lẫn ở đây.</p> <p>"There must be a mistake here."</p>	<p>Tôi muốn đổi tiền Euro sang đô la mỹ.</p> <p>"I would like to exchange Euro to Dollars please."</p>
<p>Họ đã đổi cách bố trí văn phòng sau khi thuê nhân sự mới.</p> <p>"They changed the office set up after hiring new personnel."</p>	<p>Cô ấy lại đổi màu tóc.</p> <p>"She changed her hair color again."</p>
<p>Đứa bé đã chuyển trường.</p> <p>"The child changed schools."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***gọi* "to order"**

gọi + (*món*) + food name

gọi + number + noun classifier + food name

gọi as in the previous lesson means "to call" but in this lesson, it means "to order" and is used when you go to a restaurant and order food.

To ask: "Have you ordered something?," you can say, *Đã gọi món gì chưa?* If the other

person is older, add a pronoun to the beginning of the question (before *đã*) to show respect. What kind of pronoun should be added? The second person pronoun (you) to address the other speaker. For example, if you ask an older man, you can say: *Anh đã gọi món gì chưa?* If you are asking an older woman you can say: *Chị đã gọi món gì chưa?*

For example:

1. *Tôi vừa gọi gà quay.*
"I have just ordered roasted chicken."

***thành thật xin lỗi* "I'm terribly/I'm really sorry"**

thành thật: "sincere"

xin lỗi: "sorry"

S (person) + *thành thật xin lỗi* + O (person)
("terribly sorry someone")

S (person) + *thành thật xin lỗi* + *vì* ("because/because of") + reason for saying sorry
("terribly sorry because ...")

This expression is used when the speaker makes a mistake and wants to say sorry to the other person. It is very polite so it is highly recommended in any circumstances when you want to say sorry to someone.

This is a polite expression and can be used in both daily conversation and written text.

For example:

1. *Tôi thành thật xin lỗi anh.*
"I'm terribly sorry (to you)."
2. *Tôi thành thật xin lỗi anh vì đã không giữ lời hứa.*
"I'm terribly sorry for not keeping the promise."

***ngay* "immediately/right away"**

Verb/verb phrase + *ngay*

ngay comes after a verb or verb phrase to express an action that will be done immediately. It is often used in a request to push someone to do something more quickly. It can also be used when you are working or doing something with a group or under someone's supervision and want to promise/assure that you will work and respond fast. *ngay* is only used in a request/order to push a younger person, close friends, or subordinates. Don't use it to talk to an older person or someone you respect.

For example:

1. *Mother: Học ngay đi con.*
Child: Vâng con học ngay đây.
Mother: "Kid, study right now."
Child: "Yes, I'll study immediately."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Use the Phrase *chứ không phải* (rather than) To Talk About a Different Option from the One Previously Mentioned

Không, tôi gọi nem rán, chứ không phải gọi cuốn.

"No, I order fried spring rolls, not fresh ones."

The phrase "would rather" is used to express a preference in English. "Would rather" is the same in meaning as "would prefer." These two phrases are used interchangeably to express a preference when making a choice. Here are some examples of short conversations that use "would rather" to either state or ask for a preference.

***Chứ không phải* - ("It's A, not B/rather than B")**

Chứ không phải means "it's not..." It is used to correct some previously stated information. The correct information is put in the first clause of the sentence, followed by *chứ không phải*, then the wrong information.

Structure: Subject + verb + noun 1 + *chứ không phải* + noun 2.

("It's A, not B/rather than B")

For example:

1. *Tôi là giáo viên, chứ không phải bác sĩ.*
"I'm a teacher, not a doctor."
2. *Anh ấy đang học tiếng Anh, chứ không phải tiếng Nhật.*
"He is studying English, not Japanese."

In these two sentences, you can see after *chứ không phải* comes a noun. The verb in the first clause (*là* in the first sentence and *đang học* in the second sentence) is not repeated here.

The full versions of them should be:

1. *Tôi là giáo viên, chứ không phải là bác sĩ.*
"I'm a teacher, I'm not a doctor."
2. *Anh ấy đang học tiếng Anh, chứ không phải đang học tiếng Nhật.*
"He is studying English, not studying Japanese."

Because these two clauses have the same subject and verb, so there is no need to repeat the verb after *chứ không phải*.

Let's see another example:

1. *Anh ấy đang sửa máy tính, chứ không phải chơi game.*
"He is repairing the computer, rather than playing a computer game."

In this sentence, the second clause has a different verb from the first clause, so the second verb plus the noun *chơi game* (play a computer game) is added after *chứ không phải*.

Structure: Subject + verb 1 + noun 1 + *chứ không phải* + verb 2 + noun 2.

The two actions indicated by verb phrase 1 and verb phrase 2 are often similar at first glance and are easily confused. The verbs in this case are usually in the present continuous tense.

For example:

1. *Lan đang nghiên cứu, chứ không phải xem tin tức.*
"Lan is doing research, rather than reading news."
2. *Cô ấy đang vẽ, chứ không phải viết luận.*
"She is drawing, rather than writing a composition."

Sample Sentences

1. *Tôi là giáo viên, chứ không phải bác sĩ.*
"I'm a teacher, not a doctor."
2. *Anh ấy đang học tiếng Anh, chứ không phải tiếng Nhật.*
"He is studying English, not Japanese."
3. *Anh ấy đang sửa máy tính, chứ không phải chơi game..*
"He is repairing the computer, rather than playing a computer game."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Fried and Fresh Spring Rolls

When thinking of Vietnamese spring rolls, fresh spring rolls are what first come to mind for most foreigners. Fresh spring rolls are very popular among foreigners in Vietnam and overseas too. But actually, fried spring rolls are a more traditional food in Vietnam, rather than fresh spring rolls. Fried spring rolls include pork, minced carrots, bean sprouts, wood ear and other ingredients wrapped inside rice paper. This roll is then fried in oil until it turns brown-yellow. When complete, it becomes very crispy and tastes great with sweet and sour sauce and raw vegetables.

Fried spring rolls are the main dish of traditional feasts, family reunion parties, end-of-year and new year parties. This is also an indispensable food for the Vietnamese new year.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #13

Who Should Pay in Vietnam?

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13

VIETNAMESE

1. An: Bao nhiêu tiền thế?
2. Linh: 120 (một trăm hai mươi) ngàn. Để tao bao nhé.
3. An: Có phải dịp gì đặc biệt đâu. Cứ chia đôi đi.
4. Linh: Cũng lâu rồi không gặp nhau mà. Hôm nay tao mời. Lần khác đến lượt mày.
5. An: Vậy tẹo nữa tao sẽ trả tiền vé xem phim.
6. Linh: Ok, vậy đi.

ENGLISH

1. An: How much is that?
2. Linh: 120,000 dong. Let me pay it all.
3. An: It's not a special occasion, though. Let's split it equally.
4. Linh: It's been a long time since we've seen each other. Today I'll pay for you. Next time will be your turn.
5. An: Then I'll pay for the movie tickets later.
6. Linh: Ok. Deal!

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
vậy đi	Deal!, Done!, so, such	expression adverb
vé xem phim	movie ticket	noun
bao	to treat someone to food or drink, to cover	verb
dịp	occasion	noun
đặc biệt	especially, special	adjective, adverb
chia đôi	to split, to divide into two	verb phrase
mời	to invite, to treat	verb
lần khác	another time, next time	noun phrase
lượt	turn	noun phrase
trả tiền	to pay	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Ý tưởng hay đấy, cứ làm vậy đi.</p> <p>"What a good idea, let's do so."</p>	<p>Nam đã mua hai vé xem phim.</p> <p>"Nam bought two movie tickets."</p>
<p>An, hôm nay bao tớ ăn tối nhé.</p> <p>"An, treat me dinner today."</p>	<p>Hôm nay là một dịp đặc biệt.</p> <p>"Today is a special occasion."</p>
<p>Các anh có giảm giá đặc biệt nào ngày hôm nay không?</p> <p>"Do you have any special discounts today?"</p>	<p>Có, tôi đặc biệt thích Phở.</p> <p>"Yes, I especially love Pho."</p>

<p>Linh chia đôi cái bánh và đưa cho em gái một nửa.</p> <p>"Linh divides the cake into two and gives her younger sister one part."</p>	<p>Tôi được mời dự tiệc của Hoa.</p> <p>"I am invited to Hoa's party."</p>
<p>Tớ sẽ đi ăn tối với cậu vào lần khác nhé.</p> <p>"I will have dinner with you another time, okay?"</p>	<p>Cô ấy chờ 1 (một) tiếng mà vẫn chưa đến lượt.</p> <p>"She has been waiting for one hour and her turn still has not come yet."</p>
<p>Vị khách trả tiền tại quầy tính tiền.</p> <p>The customer pays at the register.</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***bao, mời* "to treat someone" (food/drink/entertainment)**

bao: "to cover"/"to treat"

mời: "to invite"

bao/mời + noun/pronoun (person) + noun (thing)

Literally, "treat someone something"

Bao and *mời* are used to express the intention to provide someone something at your own expenses. Basically these words have the same meaning. The phrase *hôm nay tôi bao nhé/ hôm nay tôi mời nhé* ("let me treat you today") is typically said either before you start an activity (before coming into a restaurant/buying movie tickets etc) or after you finish an activity and are waiting for the bill.

These verbs are mainly used in conversation rather than in separate sentences. *Bao* can come off very casual, so it is recommended that you use the verb *mời* unless you are very close to the person you want to treat.

You can also use the verb *trả/trả tiền* ("to pay"). The sentence: *hôm nay tôi trả tiền nhé* ("today

"I'll pay") or *để tôi trả tiền nhé* ("let me pay it") can also be used to express one's intent to treat someone else.

For example:

1. *Bữa ăn hôm nay để tôi mời nhé.*
"For today's meal, let me treat you."

***lượt* "turn"**

đến lượt: (literally, "someone's turn has come"):

đến lượt + pronoun/person's name + *rồi*: "It is one's turn already."

đến lượt + pronoun/person's name + *chưa?*: "Is it one's turn yet?"

chưa đến lượt: "not one's turn yet"

đến lượt + pronoun/person's name + verb phrase: "It's one's turn to do something."

lượt often follows the verb *đến* ("to come"/"to reach") to make a set phrase *đến lượt*. It is used when someone is waiting for his/her turn to do something, for example when lining up to buy a ticket, waiting to be served at a restaurant, bank, hospital, waiting to join a meeting or interview etc.

đến lượt is frequently used to express one's impatience while waiting for something. The set phrase to use in such a situation is *mãi vẫn chưa đến lượt* ("my turn still hasn't come yet"). For example, *Sao mãi vẫn chưa đến lượt tôi?* ("Why hasn't my turn come yet?").

For example:

1. *Đến lượt tôi báo cáo rồi.*
"It's my turn to report."
2. *vậy đi* "Done!"/"Deal!"
3. *vậy*
"so, that way"

4. *đi*
"let's..." (sentence particle)
5. *Cứ vậy đi.*
"Let's do so."
6. *Vậy đi nha.*
"So it's done/decided (that way.)"

When two speakers are discussing something and have come to a decision or agreement, *vậy đi* or *cứ vậy đi* is used to confirm their agreement. This expression is only used in conversation, typically among friends, colleagues, people of the same age or younger, or subordinates.

For example:

1. A: *Mai tiếp tục nhé.*
B: *Ừ, cứ vậy đi.*
A: "Let's continue tomorrow."
B: "Fine, let's do so."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Use the Structure: *Để tôi + V* ("Let me do something")
120 (một trăm hai mươi) ngàn. Để tao bao nhé.
"120,000 dong. Let me pay it all."

Để ("Let"), followed by a pronoun or person's name and a verb phrase, means "Allow/let that person to do/do something."

If the pronoun following *để* is a first person pronoun, "I" or "we," the sentence means that the speaker is willing to do the thing he/she said. He/she accepts that responsibility.

Structure: *Để + tôi/chúng tôi + verb + object*

(Let me/us do....)

For example:

1. *Để tôi gọi taxi.*
"Let me call a taxi."
2. *Để chúng tôi làm việc này.*
"Let us do this work."
3. *Để tôi đi đổi tiền.*
"Let me go exchange money."

If *để* is followed by a person's name or another pronoun, the sentence means "to allow that person to do something." In this case, a subject is often put before *để*.

Structure: Subject + *để* + person's name/pronoun (other than first person pronoun) + verb + object

(Someone lets them/her/him/that person do something)

For example:

1. *Tôi để cô ấy vào trước.*
"I let her come in first."
2. *Lan để anh ấy đưa về nhà.*
"Lan lets him take her home."

Sample Sentences

1. *Để tôi gọi taxi.*
"Let me call a taxi."
2. *Để tôi đi đổi tiền.*
"Let me go exchange money."
3. *Tôi để cô ấy vào trước.*
"I let her come in first."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Habit of Paying for Others When Eating Out Together

When going out to eat together, Vietnamese people will often try to pay for the people they are with. Though sometimes costs are split evening amongst a group, Vietnamese people usually place relationships above money, and thus, in an effort to show their friends/colleagues or acquaintances that they are generous, everyone will insist on paying the bill for their friends. If you go out to eat with a Vietnamese friend, don't be surprised if he or she wants to pay for you and says: *Để tôi mời bạn* ("Let me treat you").

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #14

How Bad is Vietnamese Bureaucracy?

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 7 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Lan: Cho tôi nhờ chút được không ạ?
2. Airport staff: Vâng, có việc gì ạ?
3. Lan: Tôi không biết điền tờ khai hải quan như thế nào. Anh có thể hướng dẫn tôi không?
4. Airport staff: À, ở đây chị điền thông tin cá nhân của mình như tên, ngày sinh, địa chỉ, số hộ chiếu. Phần dưới là khai báo hành lý mang theo. Chị chỉ cần đánh dấu "có" hoặc "không." Cuối cùng ký tên ở dưới.
5. Lan: Tôi hiểu rồi. Cảm ơn anh rất nhiều.
6. Airport staff: Không có gì ạ.

ENGLISH

1. Lan: Can I ask for help?
2. Airport staff: Yes, what's the matter?
3. Lan: I don't know how to fill in the customs form. Could you please instruct me?
4. Airport staff: Ah, here, fill in your personal information, such as name, date of birth, address, and passport number. Under that is the carry-on luggage report. You just need to mark "Yes" or "No." Finally sign your name at the bottom.

CONT'D OVER

5. Lan: I got it. Thank you very much.
6. Airport staff: You're welcome.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
hành lý mang theo	carry-on luggage	noun
nhờ	to ask for help	verb
có việc gì	What's the matter?	expression
biết	to know	verb
tờ khai hải quan	customs form	noun
hướng dẫn	to guide, guidance	verb; noun
thông tin cá nhân	personal information	noun
ngày sinh	date of birth	noun
số hộ chiếu	passport number	noun
đánh dấu	to mark	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Tôi không có hành lý mang theo.</p> <p>"I don't have carry-on luggage."</p>	<p>Cô ấy nhờ tôi mua hộ cuốn sách.</p> <p>"She asks me to buy her a book."</p>
<p>Có việc gì mà trông anh buồn vậy?</p> <p>"You look sad, what's the matter?"</p>	<p>Chúng ra chắc sẽ không bao giờ biết nguồn gốc của phong tục này.</p> <p>"We will probably never know the origins of this habit."</p>

<p>Tôi không biết tên cô ấy.</p> <p>"I don't know her name."</p>	<p>Lan đang điền vào tờ khai hải quan.</p> <p>"Lan is filling in the customs form."</p>
<p>Thiết bị định vị đã hướng dẫn họ đến địa chỉ sai.</p> <p>"The GPS guided them to the wrong address."</p>	<p>Người phụ nữ đang hướng dẫn cậu bé rửa tay.</p> <p>"The woman is guiding the boy to wash his hands."</p>
<p>Thông tin cá nhân của nhân viên là bí mật.</p> <p>"Employees' personal information is confidential."</p>	<p>Hãy ghi ngày sinh vào đơn dự thi.</p> <p>"Please write your date of birth in the application form."</p>
<p>Số hộ chiếu rất quan trọng.</p> <p>"The passport number is very important."</p>	<p>Hãy đánh dấu vào những thông tin quan trọng.</p> <p>"Please mark important information."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***có việc gì* "what's wrong"/"what's the matter?"**

có: "to have"

việc: "thing"/"matter"

gì: "what"

Có việc gì is often followed by the particle *vậy* or *thế* (both mean "so/such," but when used at the end of a sentence, they have no definite meaning. Their only purpose is to make a question sound natural and flexible)

- *Có việc gì vậy? /Có việc gì thế?*

This phrase is used in two situations:

- To ask someone if he/she has a problem

For example:

1. *Trông anh có vẻ mệt mỏi. Có việc gì vậy?*
"You look quite tired. What's wrong?"

- To respond to someone's call (in a conversation when someone calls you and you feel like he/she is going to ask something)

1. A: *B ơi*
A: "Hey, B"
B: *Tớ đây, có việc gì vậy?*
B: "Here, what's up?"

To ask an older person or someone in a formal situation, add *ạ* at the end of the question to show respect: *Có việc gì vậy ạ?/Có việc gì thế ạ?*

Another phrase with the same meaning and usage is...

Có chuyện gì vậy? (Chuyện means "matter")

For example:

1. Mai: *Lan ơi, tớ bảo này.*
Lan: *Có việc gì vậy?*
Mai: *Linh đang ốm đấy.*
Lan: *Vậy à? Đi thăm nó đi.*
Mai: "Hey Lan, I want to tell you this."
Lan: "What's up?"
Mai: "Linh is sick."
Lan: "Really? Let's go visit her."

biết "to know"

biết + noun/pronoun (thing/person): "to know something/someone"

biết + verb phrase: "to know how to do something"

biết (rằng) + S + V: "to know that..."

biết is used in the same way as "to know" is used in English. It expresses that the speaker knows something or someone, or knows how to do something. When *biết* is followed by a verb phrase, the verb following it is not conjugated. *Biết*, when followed by a pronoun or a person's name, indicates that you only know a little about that person, either their face, or name, but not very well. To express a closer relationship, the verb *quen* ("to be familiar with/acquainted with") is used instead.

For example:

1. *Tôi biết cô ấy*
"I know her" (maybe her face or her name but I have never talked to her)
2. *Tôi quen cô ấy*
"I know her" (I know a little information about her and have talked to her several times and she also knows me)

For example:

1. *Tôi biết chị Lan/chị ấy.*
"I know sister Lan/her."
2. *Tôi biết (rằng) họ đã kết hôn.*
"I know that they are married."
3. *Tôi biết làm bánh.*
4. "I know how to make a cake."

***nhờ*"to ask for help"**

nhờ + pronoun + verb + (*hộ/giúp*) + noun (thing): to ask someone to do something for the speaker.

nhờ chút/nhờ chút việc: to ask for help in something

Use this verb when you want to ask someone for a favor, for help doing something. The verb phrase indicating the action that requires help contains the main verb, followed by the verb

hộ/giúp (meaning "do for me"), then finally the object of the verb. *hộ/giúp* is optional.

For example:

1. *Tôi nhờ anh ấy dịch hộ bài báo.*
"I asked him to translate the article for me."

A common phrase containing *nhờ* is: *Cho tôi nhờ chút/Cho tôi nhờ chút việc* ("Can you do me a favor?"). It is frequently used as the beginning of a conversation in which you want to ask for help from someone.

Add được không ạ? (is it fine?) at the end of the sentence to make it more polite.

Cho tôi nhờ chút (việc) được không ạ? Is it fine if I ask a favor from you?"

For example:

1. *Lan nhờ anh ấy đưa về nhà.*
"Lan asks him to take her home."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using *chỉ cần* ("only need to...") to Express the Minimum Level of Necessity or Requirements

À, ở đây chị điền thông tin cá nhân của mình như tên, ngày sinh, địa chỉ, số hộ chiếu. Phần dưới là khai báo hành lý mang theo. Chị chỉ cần đánh dấu có "hoặc không. Cuối cùng ký tên ở dưới.

"Ah, here, fill in your personal information, such as name, date of birth, address, passport number. Under that is the carry-on luggage report. You just need to mark "Yes" or "No." Finally sign your name at the bottom."

Chỉ cần (*chỉ* means "only" and *cần* means "need") can be followed by a verb phrase to express that only by doing a certain thing, it is enough. This expresses two meanings: there is no need to do anything else because it's good enough or the speaker does not expect anything more than what was stated.

The verb following *chỉ cần* remains in the infinitive form regardless of the subject.

Minimum level of necessity:

Structure: Subject + *chỉ cần* + verb + object.

For example:

1. *Anh chỉ cần mang theo một va li nhỏ.*
"You only need to bring a small suitcase."
This means there is no need to bring a bigger suitcase.
2. *Bạn chỉ cần đọc trang số một.*
"You only need to read page number one."

No more requirements/no expectation:

Structure: Subject + *chỉ cần* + verb + object + *thôi* ["no more"].

Subject + *chỉ cần* + verb + object + *là được* ["is fine"].

chỉ...thôi expresses that "only ... is enough."

chỉ...là được expresses that "only ... is fine."

For example:

1. *Bạn chỉ cần ngồi xem thôi.*
"You only need to sit and watch." This means you are not required to do anything else, sitting and watching is good enough.
2. *Cô ấy chỉ cần đỗ tốt nghiệp là được.*
"She only needs to pass the graduation exam." This means passing the exam, to her, is good enough. Nobody expects more from her.

Sample Sentences

1. *Anh chỉ cần mang theo một va li nhỏ.*
"You only need to bring a small suitcase."

2. *Bạn chỉ cần ngồi xem thôi.*
"You only need to sit and watch."
3. *Cô ấy chỉ cần đỗ tốt nghiệp là được.*
"She only needs to pass the graduation exam and it is fine."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Asking a Vietnamese Person for Help: Dos and Don'ts

Vietnamese people are very friendly and open to foreigners, so you can feel free to ask anyone for help. However, in order to get the help you want, remember the following:

- Try to look for a young, energetic person to ask (Young people are more likely to speak English or understand foreigners quickly)
- Pay attention to your belongings (bags, phones, etc) when looking around for help
- Ignore and avoid those who seem to be trying to call and convince you to do something

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #15

Exchanging Currency in Vietnam

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. John: Tôi muốn đổi tiền.
2. Mai: Anh đổi tiền gì ạ?
3. John: Từ đô la Mỹ sang đồng Việt Nam. Tỷ giá hôm nay là bao nhiêu?
4. Mai: Tỷ giá hôm nay là 21.000 (hai mươi một ngàn) đồng 1 (một) đô la.
5. John: Tôi muốn đổi 100 (một trăm) đô.
6. Mai: Của anh 2 triệu một (hai triệu một) nhé. Mời anh ký vào đây ạ.

ENGLISH

1. John: I want to exchange currency.
2. Mai: Which currency would you like to exchange?
3. John: From US Dollars to Vietnamese Dong. What is today's rate?
4. Mai: Today's rate is 21,000 dong per 1 dollar.
5. John: I would like to exchange 100 dollars.
6. Mai: Here you are. 2.1 million dong. Please sign here.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
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ký	to sign	verb
đổi tiền	to exchange money, currency	verb
gì	what	question word, pronoun
đô la Mỹ	US dollar	noun
sang	to go, to come	verb
tỉ giá	rate	noun
bao nhiêu	how many, how much	phrase
triệu	million	noun
Mời	please	verb, Adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Xin vui lòng ký vào cuối mẫu đơn.</p> <p>"Please sign at the bottom of the form."</p>	<p>Minh đổi tiền ở ngân hàng Vietcombank.</p> <p>"Minh exchanges money at Vietcombank."</p>
<p>Bạn làm nghề gì?</p> <p>"What's your job?"</p>	<p>Bạn muốn ăn món gì?</p> <p>"What (dish) do you want to eat?"</p>
<p>Tôi có thể đổi đô la Mỹ ở đâu?</p> <p>"Where can I exchange US dollar?"</p>	<p>Tôi sẽ sang nhà An chơi vào thứ bảy này.</p> <p>"I'll come to An's house this Saturday."</p>
<p>Tỉ giá hôm nay thấp quá.</p> <p>"Today's rate is so low."</p>	<p>Chúng tôi phải trả bao nhiêu?</p> <p>"How much do we have to pay?"</p>
<p>Anh ta kiếm được 6 (sáu) triệu một tháng.</p> <p>"He earns 6 million (VND) per month."</p>	<p>Mời chị ngồi.</p> <p>"Please sit down, Miss."</p>

Mời anh uống nước.

"Please have a drink."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***gì* "what"**

gì has several usages. In this lesson, we learn the usage of *gì* when placed after a noun to mean "what kind of (that noun)?"

Structure: (S + V) + noun + *gì*?

Add *gì* after a noun to ask for more details about the thing to which that noun refers. The noun in this case is a general noun which indicates a group of similar things. In other words, the noun can be classified into sub-categories.

For example: *hoa* ("flower") → *hoa gì?* ("what flower?")

màu ("color") → *màu gì?* ("what color?")

bánh ("cake") → *bánh gì?* ("what cake?")

For example:

1. *Bạn thích hoa gì?*
"What kind of flower do you like?"

***mời* "please"**

mời, as described in previous lessons, means "to invite" or "to treat." In this lesson, it is used as an adverb which has the same meaning as "please."

mời + pronoun + verb phrase: Please do something.

mời is put at the beginning of a polite request, followed by a pronoun (the person you are talking to) and the verb phrase indicating the action you want him/her to do. *mời* + pronoun is commonly used before a meal, essentially meaning *bon appetit*.

For example: Dinner is ready and you are going to start eating with a woman in a formal situation. Before eating, it is impolite to say, *Mời chị*.

The pronoun that comes after *mời* varies according to whom you are talking to.

For example:

1. *Mời anh uống nước.*
"Please have some water, sir."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Talking about Currency (Thousands and Millions)

Tỉ giá hôm nay là 21.000 (hai mươi một ngàn) đồng 1 (một) đô la.

"Today's rate is 21,000 dong per 1 dollar."

The currency of Vietnam is the *đồng* (dong). The money comes only in notes with the smallest value 500 dong and largest value 500,000 dong. Essentially, the most common currency unit in Vietnam is *ngàn đồng/nghìn đồng* ("thousand dong"). However, when it comes to money, everyone understands that the number you refer to is *đồng*, so you only need to say *ngàn/nghìn*.

The notes come in 10 values: 500 dong; 1,000 dong; 2,000 dong; 5,000 dong; 10,000 dong, 20,000 dong; 50,000 dong; 100,000 dong; 200,000 dong and 500,000 dong.

When visiting Vietnam, you may need to count money or know how to say large values, especially when shopping. Because the currency unit in Vietnam is *ngàn đồng/nghìn đồng*, we only need to learn how to count in factors of one thousand here. (Please refer to lesson 4 of the basic bootcamp series for detailed information on how to count from 1 to 999)

1. 1,000 - 10,000 (Multiples of 1,000)

Simply add *nghìn*, which means "thousand," right after the numbers from *một* to *mười* (one to ten), then we'll have *một nghìn* - "one thousand," *hai nghìn* - "two thousand," and so on, up to *mười nghìn* - "ten thousand." You can also say *ngàn* instead of *nghìn*

Numbers from 1000 to 1,000,000:

English	Vietnamese
one thousand	<i>một nghìn/ngàn</i>
two thousand	<i>hai nghìn/ngàn</i>
three thousand	<i>ba nghìn/ngàn</i>
four thousand	<i>bốn nghìn/ngàn</i>
five thousand	<i>năm nghìn/ngàn</i>
six thousand	<i>sáu nghìn/ngàn</i>
seven thousand	<i>bảy nghìn/ngàn</i>
eight thousand	<i>tám nghìn/ngàn</i>
nine thousand	<i>chín nghìn/ngàn</i>
ten thousand	<i>mười nghìn/ngàn</i>

2. 11,000 - 99,000

Add *ngàn* right after the numbers from *mười một* to *chín mươi chín* (eleven to ninety-nine), then we'll have *mười một nghìn*- "eleven thousand," *mười hai nghìn* - "twelve thousand," and so on, up to *chín mươi chín nghìn* - "ninety-nine thousand."

For example:

1. *Hai mươi lăm nghìn*
"Twenty-five thousand dong"
2. *Ba mươi bảy nghìn*
"Thirty-seven thousand dong."

3. *Sáu mươi hai nghìn*
"Sixty-two thousand dong."
4. *Chín mươi chín nghìn*
"Ninety-nine thousand dong."

3. 100,000 - 900,000 (Multiples of 100,000)

Add *trăm nghìn* ("hundred thousand") right after the numbers from *một* to *mười* (one to ten), we'll have *một trăm nghìn* ("one hundred thousand"), *hai trăm nghìn* ("two hundred thousand"), and so on, up to *chín trăm nghìn* ("nine hundred thousand").

English	Vietnamese
one hundred thousand	<i>một trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>
two hundred thousand	<i>hai trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>
three hundred thousand	<i>ba trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>
four hundred thousand	<i>bốn trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>
five hundred thousand	<i>năm trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>
six hundred thousand	<i>sáu trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>
seven hundred thousand	<i>bảy trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>
eight hundred thousand	<i>tám trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>
nine hundred thousand	<i>chín trăm nghìn/ngàn</i>

4. 110,000 - 999,000

Add *ngìn* right after numbers from *một trăm mười* to *chín trăm chín mươi chín* ("one hundred and ten thousand" to "nine hundred ninety-nine"), and we'll have *một trăm mười nghìn* - "one hundred and ten thousand," *một trăm mười một nghìn* - "one hundred and eleven thousand," and so on, up to *chín trăm chín mươi tám nghìn* - "nine hundred ninety-eight thousand," and *chín trăm chín mươi chín nghìn* - "nine hundred and ninety-nine thousand."

For example:

1. *Hai trăm mười sáu nghìn.*
"Two hundred and sixteen thousand dong."
2. *Bốn trăm bảy mươi hai nghìn.*
"Four hundred and seventy-two thousand dong."
3. *Bảy trăm năm mươi nghìn.*
"Seven hundred and fifty-five thousand dong"

5. One Million in Vietnamese is *một triệu*, so one million dong is *một triệu đồng*

Amounts of money ending with five hundred dong:

Because the smallest unit of currency is five hundred dong (*năm trăm đồng*), you'll often need to pay for something ending with five hundred dong. Simply add *năm trăm đồng* after the thousands of the amount of money.

For example:

1. *Bốn nghìn năm trăm đồng*
"Four thousand five hundred dong"
2. *Mười hai nghìn năm trăm đồng*
"Twelve thousand five hundred dong"
3. *Một trăm nghìn năm trăm đồng*
"One hundred thousand and five hundred dong"
4. *Bảy trăm hai mươi nghìn năm trăm đồng*
"Seven hundred twenty thousand and five hundred dong"

5. *Chín trăm chín mươi chín nghìn năm trăm đồng*
"Nine hundred ninety-nine thousand and five hundred dong"
6. *Một triệu năm trăm đồng*
"One million five hundred dong"

Sample Sentences

1. *Hai trăm mười sáu nghìn.*
"Two hundred and sixteen thousand"
2. *Bốn nghìn năm trăm đồng*
"Four thousand five hundred dong"
3. *Bốn trăm bảy mươi hai nghìn*
"Four hundred and seventy-two thousand dong"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Use of Commas and Dots in Writing Vietnamese Numbers

The use of commas and dots in writing Vietnamese numbers is opposite to their use in English. In English, large numbers (from four digits and above) are divided in groups of three digits starting from right to left, every three digits separated by a comma. Vietnamese numbers have the same digit grouping rule, but dots are used instead of commas to separate each group.

Regarding decimal numbers, a dot is used to represent a decimal point but in Vietnam, a comma is used instead.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #16

Is Your Vietnamese Flight Delayed?

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 10 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Announcement: Quý khách xin lưu ý.
2. Chuyến bay VN321 chặng Hà Nội - Đà Nẵng sẽ khởi hành chậm hơn một giờ so với dự kiến do sự cố kỹ thuật.
3. Giờ khởi hành mới dự kiến là 11 giờ 30 phút (mười một giờ ba mươi phút).
4. Cửa ra máy bay đã đổi sang cửa số 5 (năm).
5. Quý khách đi chuyến bay VN321 xin vui lòng có mặt tại cửa số 5 (năm) vào lúc 11 giờ (mười một giờ) để làm thủ tục lên máy bay.
6. Chúng tôi xin thành thật xin lỗi về sự bất tiện này.

ENGLISH

1. Announcement: Attention please!
2. Flight VN321 from Ha Noi to Da Nang will be delayed for one hour.
3. The new departure time is expected to be at 11.30.
4. The boarding gate has also been changed to gate number 5.
5. Passengers on flight VN321 please go to gate number 5 at 11:00 for boarding.
6. We are terribly sorry for this inconvenience.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
sự bất tiện	inconvenience	noun
thủ tục lên máy bay	boarding procedure	noun
cửa ra máy bay	boarding gate	noun
sự cố kỹ thuật	technical problem	noun
dự kiến	to expect	verb
chậm	slow, slowly	adjective, adverb
quý khách	customer	noun
lưu ý	to note, to pay attention	verb
chặng	stage, stop	noun
khởi hành	to depart, departure	verb, noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Chúng tôi xin lỗi vì sự bất tiện mà chúng tôi đã gây ra.</p> <p>"Sorry for the inconvenience that may causes."</p>	<p>Tắc đường gây ra sự bất tiện lớn cho người qua lại.</p> <p>"Traffic jams cause great inconvenience to the passengers."</p>
<p>Tôi đã hoàn thành thủ tục lên máy bay.</p> <p>"I have completed boarding procedures."</p>	<p>Cửa ra máy bay là cửa số 6 (sáu).</p> <p>"The boarding gate is gate number 6."</p>
<p>Sự cố kỹ thuật khiến máy ngừng hoạt động.</p> <p>"Technical problems cause the machine to stop working."</p>	<p>Tình hình kinh tế được dự kiến sẽ tốt lên.</p> <p>"The economic situation is expected to get better."</p>

<p>Tôi nghe không được rõ, làm ơn nói chậm lại.</p> <p>"I cannot hear clearly, please speak again slowly."</p>	<p>Xin mời quý khách lên tàu.</p> <p>"Customers, please get on the train."</p>
<p>Hãy lưu ý đến cách sử dụng động từ trong tiếng Anh.</p> <p>"Please pay attention to verb usage in English."</p>	<p>Chuyến bay này gồm 2 (hai) chặng.</p> <p>"This flight has 2 stops."</p>
<p>Nếu bạn không thể nhớ giờ khởi hành, thì làm ơn hãy kiểm tra vé của bạn 2 lần.</p> <p>"If you can't remember the departure time, please check your ticket twice. "</p>	<p>Đoàn khách du lịch khởi hành lúc 6 (sáu) giờ sáng.</p> <p>"The group of tourists depart at 6 a.m."</p>

Đây là danh sách các tour du lịch trong nước khởi hành từ Hà Nội.

"This is a list of domestic tours departing from Hanoi."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***lưu ý* "to note/to pay attention"**

lưu ý + noun/noun phrase: "to pay attention to something"

lưu ý + *không/đừng* + verb phrase: "Attention! Don't..."

Common phrases:

Cần lưu ý/Hãy lưu ý: "Please note/pay attention"

Xin lưu ý: "Attention please!"

lưu ý is used to remind someone about important things that people tend to mistake or overlook. It is frequently used in public announcements. *lưu ý* is used more in written text,

newspapers, or public announcements. It can be used in daily conversation as well, but is less common.

For example:

1. *Lưu ý đừng xả rác bừa bãi.*
"Please note, don't throw garbage randomly."

dự kiến "to expect"

dự kiến + S + V: "to expect that something will happen."

S + được dự kiến + sẽ + verb phrase: "Something is expected to..."

This verb is used to express a guess, or an expectation that something will happen, based on some grounds/evidence, plan or research. It does not reflect a groundless expectation.

For example:

1. *Các chuyên gia dự kiến cổ phiếu của Vinamilk sẽ giảm mạnh trong tuần tới.*
2. "Experts expect that Vinamilk's shares will fall sharply next week." (Note: Vinamilk is a big company in Vietnam)

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Simple Future Tense

Chuyến bay VN321 chặng Hà Nội - Đà Nẵng sẽ khởi hành chậm hơn một giờ so với dự kiến do sự cố kỹ thuật.

"Flight VN321 from Ha Noi to Da Nang will be delayed for one hour."

There is no specific verb tense in Vietnamese to describe future actions, so an auxiliary verb (helping verb) *sẽ* is used instead. A typical simple future tense pattern is [*sẽ*] + [verb]. No verb form will be changed, regardless of the subject. A time phrase (optional) can be added at the beginning or the end of the sentence.

The whole sentence structure will be: Subject + *sẽ* + main verb + Object + (*vào/trong* (in/at) + time phrase).

Like in English, the simple future tense in Vietnam is used to express:

1. An action that will happen in the near future, with or without a previous plan.

For example:

1. *Tôi sẽ làm xong việc sớm.*
"I will finish the work soon."
2. *Tôi sẽ gọi cho cô ấy ngay.*
"I will call her immediately"

2. A general prediction about something based on one's experience, knowledge or information from someone else.

For example:

1. *Trời sẽ mưa.*
"It will rain"
2. *Cô ấy sẽ đến.*
"She will come."
3. *Lan sẽ đi taxi.*
"Lan will go by taxi."

A time phrase can be added at the beginning or the end of the sentence.

At the end: Subject + *sẽ* ("will") + main verb + Object + *vào/trong* ("in"/"at") + time phrase

At the beginning: *Vào/trong* ("at"/"in") + time phrase + Subject + *sẽ* ("will") + main verb + Object

When a time phrase comes at the beginning, the preposition *vào/trong* ("at"/"in") can sometimes be removed.

Common future time phrases:

ngày mai: "tomorrow"

tuần tới/tuần sau: "next week"

tháng tới/ tháng sau: "next month"

năm tới/năm sau: "next year"

number + *ngày* ("day") + *nữa/tới* ("later"/"next"): "...days later/in...days"

number + *tuần* ("week") + *nữa/tới* ("later"/"next"): "...weeks later/in...weeks"

number + *tháng* ("month") + *nữa/tới* ("later"/"next"): "...months later/in...months"

number + *năm* ("year") + *nữa/tới* ("later"/"next") "...years later/in...years"

For example:

1. *Tôi sẽ đi Paris trong hai tuần nữa.*
"I will go to Paris in two weeks."
2. *Ngày mai trời sẽ mưa.*
"It will rain tomorrow."
3. *Cô ấy sẽ nghỉ việc vào tháng tới/tháng sau.*
"She will quit her job next month."

Negative form:

Add *không* ("not"/"no") after *sẽ* to make the negative form. The other parts remain the same.

Subject + *sẽ* ("will") + *không* ("not") + verb + object

For example:

1. *Trời sẽ không mưa.*
"It will not rain."
2. *Cô ấy sẽ không nghỉ việc vào tháng tới/tháng sau.*
"She will not quit her job next month."
3. *Cô ấy sẽ không đến.*
"She will not come."

Type 1: A Tag Question

- Is used when you want to confirm if something is true or not.
- Add *chứ* (a sentence-ending particle which asks for confirmation of what is said in the statement, roughly meaning "right?") at the end of an affirmative question to make the question form. The other parts remain the same.

Structure:

Subject + *sẽ* ("will") + verb + object + *chứ* ("right?")

Answer:

+ *Vâng/Ừ* ("Yes") or *Đúng rồi* ("That's right"): *Vâng* is used to reply to an elder, *Ừ* or *Đúng rồi* is used to reply to a younger person or someone around one's own age.

+ *Không phải ạ/ Không phải* ("No, it isn't"): *Không phải ạ* is used to reply to an elder. *Không phải* is used to reply to a younger person or someone around one's own age.

A time phrase (if any) can be put at the beginning of the question or right before *chứ*.

For example:

1. *Cô ấy sẽ đến chứ?*
"She will come, right?"
2. *Cô ấy sẽ nghỉ việc vào tháng sau chứ?*
"She will quit her job next month, right?"

Type 2: Yes/No Question:

- Is used simply to ask something. This is not about confirmation.

- Use the phrase *có...không?* (literally "yes...no?").

Structure:

Subject + *có* (literally "yes") + verb + object + *không* ("no"/"not")?

Answer:

+ *Có ạ/Có* ("Yes"): *Có ạ* is used to reply to an elder. *Có* is used to reply to a younger person or someone around one's own age.

+ *Không ạ/Không* ("No"): *Không ạ* is used to reply to an elder. *Không* is used to reply to a younger person or someone around one's own age.

A time phrase (if any) can be put at the beginning of the question or right before *không?*

For example:

1. *Cô ấy có nghỉ việc vào tháng sau không?*
"Will she quit her job next month?"
2. *Cô ấy có đến không?*
"Will she come?"

Note: The phrase *có...không?* (literally "yes...no?"), as you have learned in the ABS, is used to create a yes/no question in Vietnamese. It can also be used to form a yes/no question in all tenses. In all tenses, it stays the same, you just need to add a time phrase to distinguish whether it is a yes/no question in the present, past or future.

For example:

1. *Hôm qua cô ấy có đến không?*
"Did she come yesterday?"
2. *Hôm nay cô ấy có đến không?*
"Does she come today?"

3. *Ngày mai cô ấy có đến không?*
"Will she come tomorrow?"

Sample Sentences

1. *Tôi sẽ làm xong việc sớm.*
"I will finish work soon."
2. *Tôi sẽ gọi cho cô ấy ngay.*
"I will call her immediately."
3. *Trời sẽ mưa.*
"It will rain."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Flying in Vietnam

One of the biggest airlines in Vietnam is Vietnam Airlines, the national airline of Vietnam. It was founded 1956 and became a member of Skyteam in 2010. Flying to 52 destinations in 17 countries, Vietnam Airlines symbol is a golden lotus and the red *áo dài* is the uniform of its female flight attendants. Vietnam airlines has played an essential role in the economic development of Vietnam over the last two decades. Its goal for 2020 is to become the second largest full-service carrier in Southeast Asia.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #17

Going on a Shopping Spree in Vietnam

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight

17

VIETNAMESE

1. Mai: Cửa hàng chúng tôi đang giảm 20% (hai mươi phần trăm) cho toàn bộ sản phẩm. Mời chị xem hàng ạ.
2. Anne: Giá trên chiếc khăn này là giá gốc ạ?
3. Mai: Vâng, chị cứ lấy giá trên mà trừ đi 20% (hai mươi phần trăm) nhé.
4. Anne: Giá ghi trên này là 300.000 đồng (ba trăm ngàn đồng). Vậy giá hiện tại là 240.000 (hai trăm bốn mươi ngàn) phải không ạ?
5. Mai: Đúng rồi chị.
6. Anne: Cho tôi lấy chiếc này.

ENGLISH

1. Mai: Our store is running a 20% off sale on all products. Please take a look.
2. Anne: Is the price on this scarf the original price?
3. Mai: Yes. Take the labeled price and subtract 20% from that—you'll get the current selling price.
4. Anne: The price written here is 300,000 dong. That means the selling price is 240,000, doesn't it?
5. Mai: That's right, Miss.

CONT'D OVER

6. Anne: I'll get this.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
giá hiện tại	current price	noun
cửa hàng	shop, store	noun
giảm	to reduce, to lower	verb
toàn bộ	all, whole	adjective
xem hàng	to take a look (at the goods)	verb
chiếc khăn	scarf	noun
giá gốc	original price	noun
mác	label	noun
trừ đi	to deduct, to subtract	verb
lấy	to take	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Giá hiện tại cao quá. "The current price is too high."	Cửa hàng này mở cửa lúc 9 (chín) giờ sáng. "This store opens at 9 a.m."
Hôm nay nhiệt độ giảm. "The temperature decreases today."	Toàn bộ nhân viên đều được thưởng. "All employees are given a bonus."

<p>Cô ấy xem hàng và dừng lại ở một bức tượng cổ.</p> <p>"She takes a look at the goods and stops at an old statue."</p>	<p>Tôi tặng cô ấy một chiếc khăn lụa.</p> <p>"I present her a silk scarf."</p>
<p>Giá gốc là bao nhiêu?</p> <p>"How much is the original price?"</p>	<p>Công ty này chuyên thiết kế mác quần áo.</p> <p>"This company specializes in designing clothing labels."</p>
<p>Mười trừ đi hai bằng tám.</p> <p>"Deduct two from ten, we get eight."</p>	<p>Tôi thích cái này nên tôi sẽ lấy nó.</p> <p>"I like this one so I'll take it."</p>
<p>Mọi người đã lấy dâu.</p> <p>"The people took the strawberries."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***toàn bộ* "all/whole"**

toàn bộ + noun (person/thing): "all of..."

toàn bộ indicates the total of people or things as a whole. It can be used with both countable and uncountable nouns.

A synonym of *toàn bộ* is *tất cả* ("all"). *Tất cả* has the same usage as *toàn bộ*.

For example:

1. earthquake."

***trừ đi* "to deduct/to subtract"**

(*Lấy*) A + *trừ đi* + B + *bằng/còn/ thì được* + C: "Subtract B from A, we get C."

(*lấy* means "to take," *bằng* means "equal to," *còn* means "to remain," *thì được* means "to get")

This verb is used when making calculations and is placed between two numbers in a formula. The great number comes before *trừ đi*, the smaller number comes after it.

trừ đi also means "to exclude":

1. people."

For example:

1. profit."

***lấy* "to take"**

(Cho) *tôi* + *lấy* + noun (thing): "I'll take something"

lấy has several meanings. In this lesson, *lấy* means "to agree to take something" after considering for a while. This is often used when shopping. The sentence (Cho) *tôi lấy cái này* ("I'll take this") is often said while holding or pointing at a desired item.

For example:

1. shirt."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Tagging Questions using *phải không ạ*

Giá ghi trên này là 300.000 đồng (ba trăm ngàn đồng). Vậy giá hiện tại là 240.000 (hai trăm bốn mươi ngàn) phải không ạ?

"The price written here is 300,000 dong. That means the selling price is 240,000, does it?"

Phải không ạ? means "Is it right?" It is typically placed after a statement to confirm whether what was said in the statement is correct. It is used as a question tag in English. The particle *ạ* indicates that this question is used to ask an elder or someone in a formal situation.

Structure: Subject + verb + object + *phải không ạ?*

For example:

1. you?"
2. it?"
3. she?"

How to answer this question:

- "Yes": (*Vâng*), *đúng rồi*. ("Yes, that's right"). (*Vâng* means "yes" and is used to reply to an elder or someone you respect)

- "No": *Không phải*. ("No, it isn't")

To reduce the level of formality (for example, when talking to a friend), simply remove *ạ* and only say *phải không*.

For example:

1. you?"
2. it?"

Another phrase that has the same meaning and usage with *phải không ạ?* is *đúng không ạ?* ["Is it right?"]. You can use it interchangeably with *phải không ạ?*

Sample Sentences

1. it?"
2. you?"
3. she?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Vietnamese Silk Products

Silk is an important part of Vietnamese culture. The biggest silk production village in Vietnam is Van Phuc village, located in the center of Ha Dong town, which is about 10 kilometers southwest of Hanoi. Visiting this village, you can not only see and buy beautiful silk products, but also see the process of creating different styles of silk by the village's weavers. There are a variety of silk products, ranging from handkerchiefs and scarfs, to ties and handbags. If you are interested in fabric and want to buy 100% silk products, this place is highly recommended.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #18

Topping Up Your Vietnamese Phone Card

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

18

VIETNAMESE

1. Announcement: Tài khoản của bạn hiện không đủ để thực hiện cuộc gọi. Xin vui lòng nạp thêm tiền.
2. Mike: Cho tôi mua 1 (một) thẻ điện thoại.
3. Trang : Anh mua thẻ gì ạ?
4. Mike: Thẻ Viettel, mệnh giá 100.000 (một trăm ngàn).
5. Trang: Thẻ của anh đây ạ.
6. Mike: Nạp tiền như thế nào?
7. Trang: Anh cào chỗ này, rồi nhập số thẻ theo hướng dẫn ghi ở trên thẻ.
8. Mike: Tôi hiểu rồi. Cảm ơn chị. Gửi chị tiền.
9. Trang: Cảm ơn.

ENGLISH

1. Announcement: You do not have enough money in your account to make a call. Please add more credit.
2. Mike: One phone card, please.
3. Trang: What kind of card, sir?
4. Mike: Viettel, with a value of 100,000 dong.

CONT'D OVER

5. Trang: Here you are.
6. Mike: How can I refill my phone using this card?
7. Trang: Scratch it here, then input the card number according to the instructions on the card.
8. Mike: Understood. Thank you. Here's the money.
9. Trang: Thank you.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
số thẻ	card number	noun
tài khoản	account	noun
đủ	enough	adjective adverb
thực hiện cuộc gọi	to make a call	verb
nạp	to add (money), to refill (phone)	verb
thẻ điện thoại	phone card	noun
mệnh giá	face value	noun
cào	to scratch	verb
nhập	to input	verb
hướng dẫn	to guide, guidance	verb; noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Số thẻ là một dãy có 10 số.</p> <p>"The card number is a 10 digit series."</p>	<p>Tôi vừa mở tài khoản ở ngân hàng Vietinbank.</p> <p>"I have just opened an account at Vietinbank."</p>
<p>Anh ấy không có đủ thông tin để viết báo cáo.</p> <p>"He does not have enough information to write a report."</p>	<p>Cần có ít nhất 3 (ba) ngàn đồng trong tài khoản để thực hiện cuộc gọi.</p> <p>"There must be at least 3,000 VND left in the account to make a call."</p>
<p>Tôi không biết cách nạp tiền điện thoại ở Việt Nam.</p> <p>"I don't know how to refill my phone in Vietnam."</p>	<p>Mua thẻ điện thoại ở đâu?</p> <p>"Where can I buy phone cards?"</p>
<p>Mệnh giá thẻ này là bao nhiêu?</p> <p>"How much is the face value of this card?"</p>	<p>Thẻ cào được bán ở các sạp báo.</p> <p>"Scratch cards are sold at newspaper stands."</p>
<p>Hãy nhập dữ liệu vào bảng này.</p> <p>"Please input data into this table."</p>	<p>Thiết bị định vị đã hướng dẫn họ đến địa chỉ sai.</p> <p>"The GPS guided them to the wrong address."</p>
<p>Người phụ nữ đang hướng dẫn cậu bé rửa tay.</p> <p>"The woman is guiding the boy to wash his hands."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

đủ "enough"

đủ + noun (thing/person - uncountable/countable)

Verb + *đủ* (+ adverb + *rồi*): "do something enough already"

đủ + adjective

đủ can be used as an adjective or adverb to express a good enough amount/number/extent. The adverb *rồi* ("already") is often put at the end of the sentence containing *đủ* to emphasize that the current amount/number/extent is already good, no need to add more.

For example:

1. *Tôi có đủ tiền.*
"I have enough money."
2. *Nhóm đã đủ người rồi.*
"The group has enough people already."
3. *Tôi ăn đủ rồi.*
"I have eaten enough."
4. *Cô ấy học đủ giỏi rồi.*
"She learns well enough."

For example:

1. *Cô ấy đủ xinh đẹp rồi.*
"She is beautiful enough."

***nạp* "to add (money)"/"to refill"**

nạp + noun ("money"/"battery"/"energy")

nạp, followed by a noun, means to add more to the current amount. Nouns that can be used after *nạp* include *tiền* ("money") and *năng lượng* ("energy")

- *nạp tiền*: "charge money"

- *nạp năng lượng*: "fill energy" (*năng lượng* refers to both natural energy (for cars, machines, etc) and body energy.

For example:

1. *Hãy nạp năng lượng cho một ngày mới.*
"Fill your energy for a new day."

nhập "to input"

nhập + noun (thing) + *vào* + noun (thing)

"input something into something"

nhập has several meanings. In this lesson, it means to "input data/number" to something.

- *nhập dữ liệu*: "input data"
- *nhập số*: "input number"
- *nhập thông tin*: "input information"
- *nhập số liệu*: "input figures"

In Vietnamese, the subject can be followed directly by an adjective without "to be," so *là* is not used with adjective.

For example:

1. *Anh ấy đang nhập dữ liệu vào máy tính.*
"He is inputting data into the computer."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Asking "how" Questions

Nạp tiền như thế nào?

"How can I refill my phone using this card?"

In this lesson, we will learn about using the question word "how" to ask about the method of doing something.

In Vietnamese, "how" is *như thế nào?* To ask how to do something, add the verb phrase

indicating that action right before *như thế nào?*

Structure: Verb + Object + *như thế nào?*

For example:

1. *Đọc từ này như thế nào?*
"How do you read this word?"
2. *Đi đến Lăng Bác như thế nào?*
"How do you go to uncle's (Ho Chi Minh) mausoleum?"
3. *Ăn món này như thế nào?*
"How do you eat this food?"

Another way to ask how to do something is by using the expression *bằng cách nào?*, meaning "by what way?" (*bằng* means "by," *cách* means "way"/"method" and *nào* means "which"). However, this expression can only be used to ask about the means or the tools needed to do something. If the activity requires no tools or means (for example, a means of transportation), we cannot use *bằng cách nào*.

Structure: Verb + Object + *bằng cách nào?*

For example:

1. *Đi đến lăng Bác bằng cách nào?*
"How do you go to uncle's mausoleum?" A means of transportation may be required to go there, so it is possible to ask *bằng cách nào?*
2. *Ăn món này bằng cách nào?*
"How to eat this food?" Chopsticks or a spoon may be needed to eat this or it can be eaten by hand, so it is possible to ask *bằng cách nào?*
3. *Đọc từ này bằng cách nào?*
"How do you read this word?" This phrase sounds odd because what the speaker wants to ask is the pronunciation of this word, but there is no tangible tool needed to do this.

You can add *ạ* at the end of the sentence when talking to an elder.

1. *Đọc từ này như thế nào ạ?*
"How do you read this word?"
2. *Đi đến lăng Bác bằng cách nào ạ?*
"How do you go to uncle's mausoleum?"

Sample Sentences

1. *Đọc từ này như thế nào?*
Literally "How to read this word?"
2. *Đi đến lăng Bác như thế nào?*
"How to go to Uncle's mausoleum (Ho Chi Minh mausoleum)?"
3. *Ăn món này như thế nào?*
Literally, "How to eat this food?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Types of Phone Cards

There are five main types of mobile phone cards (scratch cards) in Vietnam, which correspond to the name of five carriers: Viettel, Mobifone, Vinaphone, Vietnamobile and Beeline. The first three cards are more popular and have various face values. You can buy as little as 10,000 VND (about 50 cents) and as much as 500,000 VND (about 24 USD). Simply go to any newspaper stand, phone shop or convenience store, say the type and the value of card you want and you can start refilling your phone according to the guidelines printed on the card.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #19

Meeting the Family in Vietnam

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

19

VIETNAMESE

1. Linh: Anne, cậu vào nhà đi.
2. Anne: Cảm ơn cậu.
3. Linh: Cậu ngồi đi. Để tớ giới thiệu nhé. Đây là bố mẹ tớ.
4. Anne: Cháu chào hai bác ạ. Cháu là Anne, là du học sinh người Mỹ ạ.
5. Linh: Còn đây là Mai, em gái tớ.
6. Mai: Em chào chị Anne. Rất vui được gặp chị.
7. Anne: Ừ, chào em.

ENGLISH

1. Linh: Anne, come in.
2. Anne: Thank you.
3. Linh: Sit down. Let me introduce you. These are my parents.
4. Anne: Hello, Uncle and Aunt. My name is Anne. I'm an American student.
5. Linh: And this is my younger sister, Mai.
6. Mai: Hello sister Anne. Nice to meet you.
7. Anne: Yeah, hi, sister!

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
du học sinh	overseas student	noun
vào	to come in, to enter, on	verb, preposition
giới thiệu	to introduce	verb
đây	this, there	pronoun, adverb
là	to be	verb
bố mẹ	parents	noun
cậu/tớ (pair of pronouns)	you and me, you and I (among friends)	pronoun
cháu/bác (pair of pronouns)	you, me (among you and someone around your parents' age)	Pronoun
chị/em (pair of pronouns)	you, me (among you and a female sister)	Pronoun
người Mỹ	American people	noun phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Yuki là du học sinh đến từ Nhật Bản.</p> <p>"Yuki is an overseas student from Japan."</p>	<p>Tôi thường về nhà sớm vào thứ sáu.</p> <p>"I usually go home early on Fridays."</p>
<p>Tôi vừa vào nhà thì trời mưa.</p> <p>"I had just come into the house when it rained."</p>	<p>John có thể giới thiệu bản thân bằng tiếng Việt.</p> <p>"John can introduce himself in Vietnamese."</p>
<p>Làm ơn đặt những túi hàng mua sắm ở đây.</p> <p>"Please, put the shopping bags there."</p>	<p>Đây là em trai tôi.</p> <p>"This is my younger brother."</p>

<p>Đây là một cái điện thoại di động.</p> <p>"This is a mobile phone."</p>	<p>Đây là lỗi của tôi.</p> <p>"This is my mistake."</p>
<p>Chúng tôi là khách du lịch.</p> <p>"We are tourists."</p>	<p>Bố mẹ tôi sống ở Hà Nội.</p> <p>"My parents live in Hanoi."</p>
<p>Cậu mua giúp tớ một cái bút được không?</p> <p>"Can you buy me a pen?"</p>	<p>Cháu biếu bác món quà ạ.</p> <p>"I would like to give you this present. (Speaking to an uncle)"</p>
<p>Chị đi ăn với em không ạ?</p> <p>"Do you want to go and eat with me? (Speaking to an older female friend)"</p>	<p>Người Mỹ rất thẳng thắn</p> <p>"Americans are very straightforward."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***là* "to be"**

S + *là* + noun/noun phrase

là is the same as "to be" in English, but it can only be followed by a noun or noun phrase.

Nouns/noun phrases that can come after *là* include:

- Occupation (the subject is a person)
- Noun phrases indicating the type of person/thing mentioned in the subject (a good person/a nice boy, a beautiful dress etc)

là is never conjugated.

For example:

giới thiệu "to introduce"

giới thiệu + noun (person)/pronoun + *với* + noun (person)/pronoun (introduce someone to someone)

giới thiệu + noun (thing) (+ *cho* + noun (person)/pronoun) introduce something to someone

- *giới thiệu*, firstly, has the same meaning as "to introduce." You use this verb when introducing two people to each other for the first time.

- Secondly, it carries the meaning of "introduce" and "recommend." When you *giới thiệu* something/someone to another person, that thing or person should be nice and highly recommended.

- *giới thiệu* someone to someone also means that you have become a matchmaker for these two people.

A common phrase containing *giới thiệu* at a first meeting is...

Xin giới thiệu, đây là...: "Let me introduce, this is..."

For example:

1. *Tôi giới thiệu Lan với anh ấy.*

"I introduce Lan to him." (this sentence has two meanings. Firstly, Lan and "him" know me, but don't know each other, so I introduce them to each other for the first time. The second meaning is I'm a matchmaker for Lan and "him")

2. *Tôi giới thiệu nhà hàng Asahi cho cô ấy.*

"I introduce Asahi restaurant to her." (I recommend that restaurant to her)

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using Appropriate Pronouns in Greetings

Cháu chào hai bác ạ, Cháu là Anne, là du học sinh người Mỹ ạ.

"Hello, Uncle and Aunt. My name is Anne. I'm an American student."

We have already learned the general greeting in Vietnam is *Xin chào* [Hello/Hi]... However, in daily conversation, Vietnamese people often greet each other using *chào* (hi/hello) with different pronouns, depending on whom they meet.

The general structure is: First person pronoun ("I") + *chào* + second person pronoun ("you")
—(Literally, "I hello you")

The older person can remove the first pronoun and just say: *Chào* + second person pronoun.

Sometimes the older person does not say anything and just nods his/her head.

The pair of pronouns used in the greeting varies according to the people involved:

Here are some of them:

1. **Anh/em:** (*Anh* means "older brother," and indicates a slightly older man. *Em* refers to the younger person, which can be a man or a woman)

The younger person should say: *Em chào anh* [ENGLISH]..

The older man should say: *Anh chào em/Chào em* [ENGLISH]..

2. **Chị/em:** (*Chị* means "older sister," and indicates a slightly older woman. *Em* refers to the younger person, which can be a man or a woman)

The younger person should say: *Em chào chị* [ENGLISH].

The older woman should say: *Chị chào em/Chào em* [ENGLISH].

3. **Chú/cháu** (*Chú* means "uncle," and indicates a man who is slightly younger than your parents.. *Cháu* refers to the younger person, which can be a man or a woman)

The younger person should say: *Cháu chào chú*.

The older man should say: *Chú chào cháu/Chào cháu*.

4. **Bác/cháu** (*Bác* means "uncle" or "aunt," and indicates a man/woman who is slightly older than your parents. *Cháu* refers to the younger person, which can be a man or a woman)

The younger person should say: *Cháu chào bác*.

The older man/woman should say: *Bác chào cháu/Chào cháu*.

5. **Cô/cháu** (*Cô* means "aunt," and indicates a woman who is slightly younger than your parents.. *Cháu* refers to the younger person, which can be a man or a woman)

The younger person should say: *Cháu chào cô.*

The older woman should say: *Cô chào cháu/ Chào cháu.*

6. **Ông-bà/cháu** (*Ông* means "grandpa," *bà* means "grandma," *cháu* means "grandchild")

The grandchild should say: *Cháu chào ông/ Cháu chào bà*

The grandparents should say: *Chào cháu.*

7. **Bố - mẹ/con** (*bố* means "dad," *mẹ* means "mom" and *con* means "child")

The child should say: *Con chào bố/ Con chào mẹ.*

The parents should say: *Chào con.*

In formal situations, the first person pronoun is often removed:

Chào + second person pronoun.

1. To greet a woman: *Chào chị.*
2. To greet a man: *Chào anh*
3. To greet an honored man: *Chào ngài/Chào ông.* ("Hello sir")
4. To greet an honored woman: *Chào bà* ("Hello madam")

Among friends or people of the same age, a greeting is not necessary. You can just call your friend's name, or wave your hand and say "Hi" or *Chào.*

Sample Sentences

1. *Cháu chào cô.*
"Hello Aunt."
2. *Em chào anh.*
"Hello brother."

3. *Chào ông.*
"Hello grandpa/Sir"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Meeting Vietnamese People for the First Time: Dos and Don'ts

Vietnamese people do not typically express familiarity with personal touches when meeting each other. Thus, unlike in other countries, kissing or hugging is not recommended when meeting with a Vietnamese person, though business people and male friends do shake hands when meeting. For a first meeting, simply saying common greetings and introducing yourself with a smile is the best way to get to know a Vietnamese person.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #20

Talking About Yourself in Vietnamese

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- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Linh's mother: Cháu đã đến Việt Nam mấy lần rồi?
2. Anne: Đây là lần thứ hai ạ. Cháu đã đến đây lần đầu tiên vào hai năm trước.
3. Mai: Tại sao chị lại học tiếng Việt ạ?
4. Anne: Khi ở Mỹ, chị đã học về châu Á, và đặc biệt thích văn hóa và lịch sử Việt Nam. Vì vậy chị đã quyết định học tiếng Việt.
5. Mai: Chị đã đi những nơi nào ở Việt Nam rồi ạ?
6. Anne: Chị đã đi Hà Nội và vịnh Hạ Long.

ENGLISH

1. Linh's mother: How many times have you been to Vietnam?
2. Anne: This is my second time. I came here for the first time two years ago.
3. Mai: Why are you learning Vietnamese?
4. Anne: When I was in America, I studied Asia and particularly liked Vietnamese culture and history. So I decided to learn Vietnamese.
5. Mai: Which places have you visited in Vietnam?
6. Anne: I have been to Hanoi and Ha Long Bay.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
những nơi nào	what places, which places	interrogative
đi/đến	to go, to come	verb
lần	time	noun
lần đầu tiên	the first time	noun phrase
lần thứ hai	the second time	noun phrase
học	to learn	verb
tiếng Việt	Vietnamese language	noun
đặc biệt	especially, special	adjective, adverb
quyết định	to decide	verb
vịnh Hạ Long	Ha Long bay	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Những nơi nào có biển đẹp trên thế giới?</p> <p>"What places have beautiful beaches in the world?"</p>	<p>Cô ấy đã đi Hà Nội., Cô ấy đã đến Hà Nội.</p> <p>"She went to Hanoi., She came to Hanoi."</p>
<p>Lần này tôi gặp may.</p> <p>"I am lucky this time."</p>	<p>Đây là lần đầu tiên tôi ăn gỏi cuốn.</p> <p>"This is the first time I have eaten fresh spring rolls."</p>
<p>Đây là lần thứ hai tôi đến Việt Nam.</p> <p>"This is the second time I have come to Vietnam."</p>	<p>Anh ta đang học tiếng Việt.</p> <p>"He is learning Vietnamese."</p>
<p>Tiếng Nhật rất khó học.</p> <p>"Japanese is very difficult to learn."</p>	<p>Anh ta đang học tiếng Việt.</p> <p>"He is learning Vietnamese."</p>

<p>Các anh có giảm giá đặc biệt nào ngày hôm nay không?</p> <p>"Do you have any special discounts today?"</p>	<p>Có, tôi đặc biệt thích Phở.</p> <p>"Yes, I especially love Pho."</p>
<p>Tôi đã quyết định nghỉ việc.</p> <p>"I have decided to quit my job."</p>	<p>Họ đã quyết định chuyển tới Châu Âu trong vòng mấy tháng tới.</p> <p>"They have decided to move to Europe in the coming months."</p>
<p>Vịnh Hạ Long là một điểm du lịch nổi tiếng</p> <p>"Ha Long Bay is a famous tourist destination."</p>	<p>Vịnh Hạ Long là một trong những thắng cảnh đẹp nhất của cả nước.</p> <p>"Ha Long Bay is one of the top attractions of the country."</p>

Vịnh Hạ Long đẹp nhờ hàng ngàn núi đá vôi trên mặt biển.

"Thousands of limestone outcrops on the sea are the reason for the beauty of Ha Long Bay."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

đi, đến "to go"/"to come"

đi/đến + noun (place)

đi: "to go"

đến: "to come"

đến is the same as "go/come" in English.

đến expresses movement towards or in the direction of the speaker(s). This shows the movement away from the speaker(s).

When *đi đến* is used together, *đến* means the same as the preposition "to."

For example:

1. *Tôi đang đến trường*
I'm going to school
2. *Anh ấy đang đến công ty.*
"He is going to the company."

đến here does not mean "to come." It is the same *đến* as in the phrase *đi đến*, but the verb *đi* is omitted here. When *đi* is hidden like this, the place that the person is going to is often a familiar place (like a school, company or office). If you are unsure if you can omit *đi*, simply use both *đi đến*, plus the noun of place.

For example:

1. *Tôi sẽ đi Nhật tối nay.*
"I'm going to Japan tonight."
2. *Cô ấy sẽ đến Nhật tối nay.*
"She is coming to Japan tonight. (the speaker saying this is now in Japan)"

học "to learn"

học + noun: "to learn something"

học + verb phrase: "to learn doing something"

học về + noun: "to learn about something"

học refers to the process of acquiring knowledge or skills. It is also used to talk about one's major at university/school. It is used quite similarly to "to learn" in English.

For example:

1. *Cô ấy đang học tiếng Anh.*
"She is studying English."

2. *Tôi học đánh piano.*
"I learn how to play piano."
3. *Lan học về kỹ thuật.*
"Lan learns about/studies technology."

quyết định "to decide"

đã + quyết định + verb phrase + (rồi): "have decided to do something"

quyết định is used to express that you have been thinking carefully and already made a decision about something. This verb is often used in the past tense or present perfect tense to describe a completed action. (*đã quyết định/quyết định rồi*)

For example:

1. *Tôi đã quyết định đi du học.*
"I have decided to go and study abroad."

GRAMMAR

:The Focus of this Lesson is the Simple Past Tense

Đây là lần thứ hai ạ. Cháu đã đến đây lần đầu tiên vào hai năm trước.

"This is my second time. I came here for the first time two years ago."

Simple Past Tense

To form the past tense, add the helping verb *đã* in front of the main verb. Then add *rồi* (meaning "already") after the main verb if there's no object, or after the object if one is included. *Rồi* is optional and is used to emphasize that the action has been completed. This verb structure will not change no matter whether the subject is singular or plural.

The whole sentence structure will be:

Subject + đã + main verb + Object + (rồi).

When a time expression is used, it can be added at the beginning of the sentence or after the verb phrase and in front of *rồi*.

The simple past tense is used in two instances:

1. To describe an action that happened at a specific time in the past. For example:

Lan đã đi du lịch Mỹ vào tháng trước.

"Lan traveled to America last month."

2. To describe a completed action (*rồi* is used). For example:

Mai đã gặp Hoa rồi.

"Mai met Hoa already."

More examples:

1. *Hôm qua tôi đã gọi cho anh ấy rồi.*

"I already called him yesterday."

2. *Mai đã đi chợ rồi.*

"Mai went to the market already."

When there is no past time expression (a word or phrase indicating the time in the past such as yesterday, two days ago etc), the past tense is very similar to the present perfect tense. It is hard to distinguish the simple past tense and present perfect tense in Vietnamese if there is no time phrase. In most cases, a sentence without a time phrase can be translated either as the English present perfect tense or the simple past tense. Which tense you use depends on the situation and the intention of the speaker. If you want to emphasize the result/completion of action, you can translate it as the present perfect in English. If you just want to say that you/ someone did something, you can use the simple past tense.

For example:

1. *Tôi đã gọi cho anh ấy rồi.*

"I have already called him"

2. *Mai đã đi chợ rồi.*

"Mai has gone to the market already."

Common time phrases in the past:

1. *hôm qua*: "yesterday"
2. *tuần trước*: "last week"
3. *tháng trước*: "last month"
4. *năm ngoái*: "last year"
5. *hai ngày trước*: "two days ago"
6. *hai tuần trước*: "two weeks ago"

Note: In speaking, *đã* can be removed.

For example:

1. *Lan đi du lịch Mỹ vào tháng trước*
"Lan travelled to America last month."
2. *Tôi gọi cho anh ấy rồi.*
"I called him already."
3. *Mai đi chợ rồi.*
"Mai went to the market already."

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Khi ở Mỹ, chị đã học về châu Á, và đặc biệt thích văn hóa và lịch sử Việt Nam. Vì vậy chị đã quyết định học tiếng Việt.*
"When I was in America, I studied about Asia and particularly liked Vietnamese culture and history. So I decided to learn Vietnamese."
2. *Chị đã đi Hà Nội và vịnh Hạ Long.*
"I have been to Hanoi and Ha Long Bay."

Sample Sentences

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1. *Lan đã đi du lịch Mỹ vào tháng trước.*
"Lan traveled to America last month"
 2. *Hôm qua tôi đã gọi cho anh ấy rồi.*
"I already called him yesterday."
 3. *Mai đã đi chợ rồi.*
"Mai went to the market already."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Ha Long Bay—a World Heritage Site

Ha Long Bay (*vịnh Hạ Long*), which translates as "the descending dragon" bay, is a popular tourist destination in Quang Ninh, a province in northern Vietnam. The bay is known for thousands of limestone karsts and caves, as well as numerous isles of different shapes and sizes, and has been recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. The site is about 170 km east of Hanoi and can be accessed by bus, train, and ship. This is a must-see spot in the north of Vietnam.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #21

Planning Your Evening in Vietnam

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- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Hoa: Cuối tuần này cậu định làm gì?
2. Mai: Tớ định đi xem phim. Cậu thì sao?
3. Hoa: Tớ định đi chụp ảnh phong cảnh.
4. Mai: Oa, nghe thú vị thế. Cho tớ đi với.
5. Hoa: Cậu bảo định đi xem phim mà?
6. Mai: Không đi nữa. Đi với cậu có vẻ vui hơn.
7. Hoa: Vậy chủ nhật đi nhé.
8. Mai: OK.

ENGLISH

1. Hoa: What are you going to do this weekend?
2. Mai: I'm going to the cinema. What about you?
3. Hoa: I'm going to take landscape photos.
4. Mai: Wow, sounds interesting. Can I go with you?
5. Hoa: Didn't you say you would go to the cinema?
6. Mai: I'm not going. It seems more fun going with you.

CONT'D OVER

7. Hoa: Then let's go on Sunday.

8. Mai: OK.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
chủ nhật	Sunday	noun
cuối tuần này	this weekend	noun
định	to plan, to intend	verb
đi xem phim	to go to the movies	verb phrase
chụp ảnh phong cảnh	to take landscape photos	verb phrases
nghe	to sound	verb
thú vị	interesting	adjective
có vẻ	to seem	verb
vui	fun, happy	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nhà tôi thường đi dã ngoại vào chủ nhật. "My family often goes for a picnic on Sunday."	Cuối tuần này tôi sẽ ở nhà đọc sách. "I will stay at home and read books this weekend."
Mai định mua xe máy mới. "Mai plans to buy a new motorbike."	Tôi thấy chán nên đã quyết định đi xem phim. "I was bored so I decided to go to the movie."

<p>Nam thích chụp ảnh phong cảnh.</p> <p>"Nam likes taking landscape photos."</p>	<p>Bài hát này nghe vui nhỉ.</p> <p>"This song sounds fun."</p>
<p>Bộ phim này rất thú vị.</p> <p>"This movie is very interesting."</p>	<p>Cô ấy là một người thú vị.</p> <p>"She is an interesting person. "</p>
<p>Tôi nay trời có vẻ lạnh.</p> <p>"It seems cold tonight."</p>	<p>Bữa tiệc ngoài trời hôm nay rất vui.</p> <p>"The outdoor party today was so fun."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

đi xem phim "to go to the movie"

đi + verb phrase: "go + V-ing"

đi xem phim (literally "go seeing a movie") is an example of a verb phrase with *đi*. *Đi* (to go) can be followed by a verb phrase to indicate an activity (often a fun activity, entertainment). The verb following *đi* is not conjugated.

- *đi chơi* (go play): "to go out"
- *đi mua sắm*: "to go shopping"
- *đi uống cà phê*: "to go drink coffee"
- *đi chụp ảnh*: "to go take photos"

For example:

1. *Tôi đang đi xem phim với đồng nghiệp.*
"I'm going to the movie with my colleagues."

nghe "to sound"

nghe + adjective + *nhỉ/thế*: "sound so..."

nghe means "to listen," but in this lesson it is used in the structure "sound + adjective" in English to express the speaker's feelings when listening to something, usually a story. The particle *nhỉ* (right?/isn't it?) or *thế* ("so"/"such") is often used to emphasize the speaker's emotion, and confirm the agreement of the other person.

For example:

1. *Câu chuyện này nghe lạ nhỉ.*
"This story sounds strange, doesn't it?"

***có vẻ* "to seem"**

có vẻ + adjective/adverb

trông có vẻ + adjective: "look like"/"look as if"

có vẻ expresses the feeling that you are not so sure about what you see, but it seems true. A common phrase is *trông có vẻ* ("look like"/"look as if...")

Có vẻ can be put at the beginning of a sentence and follows this structure:

Có vẻ là/Có vẻ như + S + V: "It looks like/It seems that..."

For example:

1. *Trời có vẻ nóng.*
"It seems hot."
2. *Cô ấy trông có vẻ buồn.*
"She looks as if she is sad."
3. *Có vẻ như anh ta sắp ra ngoài.*
"It seems that he is going out."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Talking About Future Plans Using the Verb *định*

Cuối tuần này cậu định làm gì?

"What are you going to do this weekend?"

Talking about Future Plans Using the Verb *định*

To talk about a plan, add the verb *định*, which means "to plan"/"to intend," before the main verb indicating the action you are planning to take.

The main structure is:

Subject + định + Verb + (Object)

Use of time/location phrases:

A time phrase (if any) can be put either at the beginning or the end of the sentence.

The location phrase is often put after the main verb phrase.

For example:

1. *Anh ấy định mua xe máy mới.*
"He plans to buy a new motorbike" (He is going to buy a new motorbike)
2. *Họ định chuyển vào miền nam.*
"They plan to move to the south." (They are going to move to the south.)
3. *Gia đình tôi định đi câu cá vào cuối tuần này.*
"My family plans to go fishing this weekend." (My family is going fishing this weekend)

Negative form:

To talk about something that is not planned to be done, add *không* ("not"/"no") right before *định*. The other parts remain unchanged.

The main structure is:

Subject + không + định + Verb + (Object)

For example:

1. *Anh ấy không định mua xe máy mới.*
"He does not plan to buy a new motorbike."
2. *Gia đình tôi không định đi câu cá vào cuối tuần này.*
"My family does not plan to go fishing this weekend."

Question form:

To form a question with *định*, add *có* (literally meaning "yes") before *định* and add *không* (literally meaning "not/no") at the end of the statement.

Structure:

Subject + có + định + Verb + (Object) + không?

Answer this question simply by saying: *Có* (Yes) or *Không* (No)

For example:

1. *Anh ấy có định mua xe máy mới không?*
"Does he plan to buy a new motorbike?"
2. *Gia đình bạn có định đi câu cá vào cuối tuần này không?*
"Does your family plan to go fishing this weekend?"

The second sentence has been changed into a question, so the pronoun *tôi* (I/me) in *gia đình tôi* (my family) has also been changed into *bạn* (you) to make *gia đình bạn* (your family).

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Tớ định đi xem phim. Cậu thì sao?*
"I'm going to the cinema. What about you?"
2. *Tớ định đi chụp ảnh phong cảnh.*
"I'm going to take landscape photos."

Sample Sentences

1. *Anh ấy định mua xe máy mới.*
"He is going to buy a new motorbike."
2. *Họ định chuyển vào miền nam.*
"They are going to move to the south."
3. *Gia đình tôi định đi câu cá vào cuối tuần này.*
"My family is going fishing this weekend."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Where To Go in Vietnam if You're A Photography Lover

Vietnam's farming landscape can be an interesting experience for photo lovers. Two places we recommend are Sapa and Ha Giang provinces, which are two mountainous provinces in northern Vietnam. Visiting here, you can see the amazing terraced rice fields from above. Definitely a breathtaking view! The best time to see the rice fields is August and September when all the rice has turned yellow, bringing a sun-kissed tint to Vietnam's countryside.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #22

A Confusing Situation in Vietnam

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

22

VIETNAMESE

1. Mai: Mai cậu định chụp ảnh ở đâu?
2. Hoa: Sao lại mai? Mai là thứ bảy mà.
3. Mai: Ồ, tớ tưởng cậu định đi vào thứ bảy.
4. Hoa: Không, chủ nhật cơ. Nói với cậu rồi mà.
5. Mai: Chết, tớ nhầm à? Vậy là ngày kia à?
6. Hoa: Ừ ngày kia, 9 giờ (chín giờ) sáng nhé.
7. Mai: Biết rồi.
8. Hoa: Đừng đến muộn đấy.

ENGLISH

1. Mai: Where are you going to take photos tomorrow?
2. Hoa: Why tomorrow? Tomorrow is Saturday, isn't it?
3. Mai: Oh, I thought you were going on Saturday.
4. Hoa: No, Sunday. I told you already.
5. Mai: Oh, my bad! So it's the day after tomorrow?
6. Hoa: Right. At 9 a.m.

CONT'D OVER

7. Mai: Got it.
8. Hoa: Don't be late.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
đừng	don't	Expression
mai	tomorrow	noun
thứ bảy	Saturday	noun
tưởng	to think	verb
nói	to speak	verb
rồi	already	adverb
nhầm	to confuse, to mistake, to make a mistake, to mix up	verb adjective/adverb, noun
ngày kia	the day after tomorrow	noun
biết rồi	Understood, Got it	Expression
Muộn	late	adverb, adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Đừng thức khuya quá.</p> <p>"Don't stay up too late."</p>	<p>Mai là chủ nhật.</p> <p>"Tomorrow is Sunday."</p>
<p>Thứ bảy là ngày nghỉ.</p> <p>"Saturday is a holiday."</p>	<p>Anh ấy tưởng tôi là nhân viên mới.</p> <p>"He thinks I'm a new employee."</p>

<p>Anh ấy nói được tiếng Anh.</p> <p>"He can speak English."</p>	<p>Xin lỗi, tôi làm vỡ cái cốc của bạn rồi. / Không sao.</p> <p>"I'm sorry, I broke your cup already." / "Never Mind."</p>
<p>Đội ngũ sân bay hẳn là phải cẩn thận để không nhầm túi xách của mọi người.</p> <p>"The airport crew must take care not to mix up people's bags."</p>	<p>Tôi đã nhầm 1 lỗi và trượt trong bài kiểm tra.</p> <p>"I made a mistake and failed the test."</p>
<p>Tôi nhầm cô ấy với một người bạn khác.</p> <p>"I mistook her for another person's name."</p>	<p>Ông ấy đã có những kế hoạch lớn cho ngày kia rồi.</p> <p>"He had big plans for the day after tomorrow."</p>
<p>Ngày kia là ngày bao nhiêu?</p> <p>"What date is the day after tomorrow?"</p>	<p>A: Phải dùng giấy này để in.</p> <p>B: Tôi biết rồi.</p> <p>"A: You must use this paper to print. B: I got it."</p>
<p>anh ấy luôn muộn học.</p> <p>"He is always late for class."</p>	<p>Đã quá muộn để tôi thay đổi những thói quen xấu của tôi.</p> <p>"It was too late for me to change my bad habits."</p>
<p>Cô luôn luôn đi làm muộn.</p> <p>"You are always late for work."</p>	<p>Sáng nay tôi đã đi làm muộn.</p> <p>"I was late for work this morning."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***nhầm* "to confuse/to mistake"**

- *nhầm* + noun/pronoun + *với* + noun/pronoun: to mistake something/someone for something/someone else

- S + *đã nhầm*/ S+ *nhầm rồi*: S + was/were wrong

- S + V + *nhầm*: to do something wrong.

nhầm originally meant "to confuse/to mistake." It expresses the meaning that someone has done something in a different way from what he/she was supposed to do.

Some verbs that can precede *nhầm*:

- *nhớ nhầm*: "remember incorrectly"

- *nói nhầm*: "say something that should not have been said"

- *đọc nhầm*: "read incorrectly"

- *mua nhầm*: "buy incorrectly" (buy a different thing than the desired one)

Set phrase containing *nhầm*:

1. *(Tôi) nhầm rồi!*
"Oh my bad!"

For example:

1. *Chị nhầm rồi.*
"You were wrong, sis."
2. *Tôi nhớ nhầm ngày sinh nhật của Mai.*
"I remembered Mai's birthday incorrectly."

biết rồi "Understood/Got it"

Biết: "to know"

rồi: "already"

biết rồi is often used in conversation and it is a reply to confirm the speaker's understanding of

what he/she has been told by another person. *Biết rồi* is very informal and is only used among friends. To reply to an older person, or someone in a formal situation, you should use *Tôi biết rồi* (I got it) or *Tôi biết rồi ạ* (*ạ* is to emphasize politeness and show respect to the other person)

Hiểu (to understand) can be used interchangeably with *biết* in this case.

Hiểu rồi/Tôi hiểu rồi: "Understood"/"I understood."

For example:

1. A: *Nhớ chuẩn bị tài liệu cẩn thận đây.*
B: *Biết rồi*
A: "Remember to prepare the documents carefully."
B: "Got it."

đừng "don't"

Đừng + verb phrase: "Don't do something"

đừng, followed by a verb phrase, expresses a request or order not to do something. It is frequently used in the regulation at public places.

To make it more polite, *xin đừng* (please don't) can be used instead of *đừng*, but *xin đừng* also implies that one is "begging," so if you are not going to beg anyone not to do something, you can simply use *đừng*.

For example: *Xin đừng làm phiền tôi.* ("Please don't disturb me")

For example:

1. *Đừng ăn uống trên xe buýt.*
"Don't eat or drink in the bus."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Expressing Confusion Using the Verb *tưởng*

Ồ, tớ tưởng cậu định đi vào thứ bảy.

"Oh, I thought you were going on Saturday."

Tưởng means "to think," but it carries the nuance that that thought is wrong. In other words, the speaker thinks/thought this way, but things turn out another way. *Tưởng* is often followed by a complete sentence which describes what the speaker had thought.

Structure: Subject + *tưởng* (*rằng/là*) + Subject + Verb + Object

rằng/là means "that" and is optional.

For example:

1. *Tôi tưởng anh ấy đã đi Mỹ.*
"I think he has gone to America."
2. *Cô ấy tưởng rằng tôi là bác sĩ.*
"She thinks that I'm a doctor."

To emphasize that the speaker has been thinking so for a long time, but that the speaker's thought turns out to be wrong, the verb *cứ* (to continue/to keep on) can be put before *tưởng*. The other parts remain unchanged. *Rằng/là* is often used in this case.

Structure: Subject + *cứ tưởng* + *rằng/là* + Subject + Verb + Object

For example:

1. *Lan cứ tưởng rằng mai là chủ nhật.*
"Lan keeps thinking that tomorrow is Sunday."
2. *Họ cứ tưởng là cô ấy đã kết hôn.*
"They keep thinking that she is married."

Note: *tưởng* is not used in the negative form or question form. It is also rarely used in the past tense. If you translate it into English, it can be either "think" or "thought." You must assess the situation in which the action occurred to decide if it is meant to imply the present or the past tense.

For example:

The sentence *Tôi tưởng anh ấy đã đi Mỹ* can be translated as "I think he has gone to America" if you say it when speaking with another person. However, it can also be translated as "I thought he had gone to America" if you want to talk about what you had thought at some time in the past.

Sample Sentences

1. *Tôi tưởng là anh ấy đã đi Mỹ.*
"I thought he has gone to America."
2. *Cô ấy tưởng tôi là bác sĩ.*
"She thinks that I'm a doctor."
3. *Lan cứ tưởng rằng mai là chủ nhật.*
"Lan keeps thinking that tomorrow is Sunday."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Punctuality and Attitudes Towards Time

In Vietnam, there is an expression called *giờ cao su* (literally "rubber time"), which refers to the flexibility that one can have in regards to time. Vietnamese people are not always punctual, especially in daily life. For most informal meetings, Vietnamese people rarely show up on time. Instead, people typically arrive anywhere from 5 to 30 minutes late. This happens less at work or in formal meetings, but in general, Vietnamese people are not all that punctual.

Useful expression:

1. *Giờ cao su*
"Rubber time"

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #23

Asking About Business Hours in Vietnamese

CONTENTS

- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. An: Cửa hàng này mở cửa từ mấy giờ đến mấy giờ hả chị?
2. Nga: Từ 9 giờ (chín giờ) sáng đến 6 giờ (sáu giờ) chiều.
3. An: Ngày thường và cuối tuần đều giống nhau ạ?
4. Nga: Ừ, ngày nào cũng thế em ạ.
5. An: Ngày lễ có nghỉ không ạ?
6. Nga: Không em nhé.

ENGLISH

1. An: From what time to what time is this store open, sister?
2. Nga: From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
3. An: Is it the same for both weekdays and weekends?
4. Nga: Yes, every day is the same, sister.
5. An: Does it close on national holidays?
6. Nga: No, sister.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
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nghỉ	to rest, to sleep, off from work	verb
mở cửa	to open	verb
sáng	a.m., morning	noun
chiều	p.m., afternoon	noun
ngày thường	weekday	noun
đều	equally	adverb
giống nhau	similar, same	adjective
cũng thế	the same	adverb
ngày lễ	national holiday	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Nghỉ một chút rồi hãy làm tiếp. "Rest a little, then continue your work."</p>	<p>Bảo tàng mở cửa lúc 9 (chín) giờ sáng. "The museum opens at 9 am."</p>
<p>Tôi dậy lúc 8 giờ sáng. "I get up at 8 am."</p>	<p>Lớp học bắt đầu lúc hai giờ chiều. "The class starts at 2 p.m."</p>
<p>Anh ấy rất bận vào ngày thường. "He is very busy on the weekdays."</p>	<p>Tôi thắc mắc tại sao anh ấy không bao giờ gọi vào các ngày thường. "I wonder why he never calls on weekdays."</p>
<p>Lan và Mai đều giỏi tennis. "Both Lan and Mai are good at tennis."</p>	<p>Hai chị em An rất giống nhau. "An's sister and her look like each other very much."</p>

Tôi hai mươi tuổi và Linh cũng thế.

"I'm twenty and so is Linh."

Nam vẫn phải đi làm vào ngày lễ.

"Nam still has to go to work on national holidays."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

mở cửa "to open"

mở: "to open"

cửa: "door"

mở cửa + lúc + number + giờ + sáng/chiều/ tối: "open at ...a.m/p.m."

mở cửa refers to the opening hours of a place. The place can be a shop, a park, a museum, a bank or any other place that has opening and closing hours. On the contrary, *đóng cửa* means "to close."

giờ mở cửa: "opening hour"

giờ đóng cửa: "closing hour"

For example:

1. *Ngân hàng mở cửa lúc 8 giờ sáng.*
"Banks open at 8 a.m."

cũng thế "same"

cũng: "also," "too"

thế: "so"/"like that"

noun + *cũng thế*

cũng thế is an expression which aims to express similarity between two things. It is often used as a response to what has been said earlier.

cũng vậy ("the same") has the same meaning as *cũng thế* and can be used interchangeably.

For example:

1. *A: Tôi thích bóng đá.*
B: Tôi cũng thế.
"A: I like soccer.
"B: So do I."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Structure *N + và + N + đều* ("both...and") to How Express Similarity

Ngày thường và cuối tuần đều giống nhau ạ?

"Is it the same for both weekdays and weekends?"

... và... đều...: "Both ... and..."

Và means "and" and *đều* means "even/equal/same." This pair of conjunctions is often used with nouns to express similarities between two or more things/people. The word that comes after *đều* should express a similar point between the two things and can be an adjective, noun/noun phrase or verb phrase.

Structure: Noun/noun phrase 1 + *và* + Noun/noun phrase 2 + *đều* + adjective/noun/verb phrase.

For example:

1. *Hà và Linh đều là sinh viên.*
"Both Hà and Linh are students."
2. *Hôm qua và hôm nay đều nóng.*
"Both yesterday and today are hot."
3. *Miền bắc và miền nam đều có những món ăn ngon.*
"Both the north and the south have delicious food."

...và...*đều*.. can be used to compare things or people. However, when there are three or more things being compared, the adjective *cả* (meaning "all") is often put at the beginning of the sentence, the things/people being compared are separated by a comma, followed by *và*, with the last thing/person coming after *và*.

Structure: *Cả* + noun/noun phrase 1, noun/noun phrase 2... + *và* + last noun/noun phrase + *đều* + adjective/noun/verb phrase.

For example:

1. *Cả bố mẹ, em gái và tôi đều thích đi du lịch.*
"My parents, sister and I all like travelling."
2. *Cả Nam, Bình, An và Tâm đều là những nhân viên xuất sắc.*
"Nam, Bình, An and Tâm are all great employees."
3. *Cả khả năng phân tích, cách suy nghĩ và tinh thần làm việc của anh ấy đều xuất chúng.*
"His analyzing ability, way of thinking and working spirit are all excellent"

Negative form:

Simply add *không* (not/no) right after *đều*. The other parts remain unchanged.

Noun/noun phrase 1 + *và* + Noun/noun phrase 2 + *đều không* + adjective/noun/verb phrase.

Cả + noun/noun phrase 1, noun/noun phrase 2... + *và* + last noun/noun phrase + *đều không* + adjective/noun/verb phrase.

Example:

1. *Hôm qua và hôm nay đều không nóng.*
"Both yesterday and today are not hot."
2. *Cả bố mẹ, em gái và tôi đều không thích đi du lịch.*
"My parents, sister and I all don't like travelling."

Exception: The negative form of *là* ("to be") is *không phải là* ("not be"). *Không là* is incorrect.

For example:

1. *Hà và Linh đều không phải là sinh viên.*
"Both Hà and Linh are not students."
2. *Cả Nam, Bình, An và Tâm đều không phải là những nhân viên xuất sắc.*
"Nam, Bình, An and Tâm are not great employees."

Note: ...và...đều... is rarely used in the question form.

Sample Sentences

1. *Hà và Linh đều là sinh viên.*
"Both Hà and Linh are students."
2. *Hôm qua và hôm nay đều nóng.*
"Both yesterday and today are hot."
3. *Cả bố mẹ, em gái và tôi đều thích đi du lịch.*
"My parents, sister and I all like traveling."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Getting Groceries in Vietnamese Neighborhoods

Most people in Vietnam buy food at the nearest outdoor markets where fresh meat, seafood and vegetables of all kinds are sold. Besides large markets, each neighborhood typically has a few food stores providing a smaller variety of food. Those stores are owned by individuals and mainly sell food to their neighbors or people living nearby. As Vietnamese people tend to buy fresh food and vegetables every day, such stores are very convenient, especially for busy people. Though these stores lack the variety of large markets, they are very convenient, allowing people to make purchases in the early morning before going to work or in late afternoon after returning home from work.

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #24

How Much Meat Do You Want at the Vietnamese Market?

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- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Mai: Chị ơi hôm nay có thịt gì ngon không?
2. Hà: Có bò Úc mới, tươi ngon lắm em ạ.
3. Mai: Bao nhiêu tiền 1 (một) cân?
4. Hà: Em muốn mua phần thịt hay phần có cả gân?
5. Mai: Có một chút gân chị nhé.
6. Hà: Loại đó 230.000 (hai trăm ba ngàn) nhé.
7. Mai: Cho em 6 (sáu) lạng.
8. Hà: Của em đây. 138.000 (một trăm ba mươi tám ngàn) nhé.
9. Mai: Gửi chị tiền.
10. Hà: Cảm ơn em nhé. Lần sau lại đến nhé.

ENGLISH

1. Mai: Sister, any good meat today?
2. Hà: There's new Australian beef, very fresh and tasty.
3. Mai: How much per kilo?
4. Hà: Would you like just meat or meat with gristle?

CONT'D OVER

5. Mai: With a little gristle.
6. Hà: That type is 230,000 dong.
7. Mai: I'll get 600 grams.
8. Hà: Here you are. 138,000 dong.
9. Mai: Here's your money.
10. Hà: Thanks, girl. Please come back next time.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
lạng	one hundred grams	noun
loại	type, kind	noun
gân	gristle	noun
cân	kilogram	noun
tươi	fresh	adjective
bò Úc	Australian beef	noun
ngon	good, delicious	adjective
có	to have	verb
thịt	meat	noun
gì	what	question word, pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Cô ấy mua hai lạng phô mát.</p> <p>"She buys 200g of cheese."</p>	<p>Bạn dùng giày loại gì?</p> <p>"What type of shoes do you have?"</p>
<p>Tôi thích ăn thịt bò có gân.</p> <p>"I like to eat beef that has gristle."</p>	<p>Tôi mua một cân táo.</p> <p>"I buy a kilogram of apples."</p>
<p>Cá này tươi quá.</p> <p>"This fish is so fresh."</p>	<p>Thịt bò Úc thường mềm.</p> <p>"Australian beef is often soft."</p>
<p>Cái bánh này ngon.</p> <p>"This cake is delicious."</p>	<p>Họ có quá nhiều rác ở trong vườn của họ.</p> <p>"They have too much garbage in their garden."</p>
<p>Tôi có một món quà cho bạn.</p> <p>"I have a present for you."</p>	<p>Anh có xe máy không?</p> <p>"Do you have a motorbike?"</p>
<p>Bữa ăn của người Việt Nam thường có thịt và rau.</p> <p>"Vietnamese meals often have meat and vegetables."</p>	<p>Bạn làm nghề gì?</p> <p>"What's your job?"</p>
<p>Bạn muốn ăn món gì?</p> <p>"What (dish) do you want to eat?"</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

có "to have"

có + noun/noun phrase: "to have something"

có + noun/noun phrase + (place): "there is/there are..."

có expresses possession. The thing that is owned by the speaker comes right after *có*.

có also means "there is/there are." It is used to list/mention the number of people/things in a certain place.

For example:

1. *Tôi có hai chiếc xe ô tô.*
"I have two cars."
2. *Có mười người trong phòng họp.*
"There are ten people in the meeting room."

***tươi* "fresh"**

noun/noun phrase + *tươi* + *lắm/quá*: "something/someone is so fresh"

noun/noun phrase + *rất tươi*: "something/someone is very fresh."

tươi expresses the freshness. It is used to describe food, flowers or a person's look. If a person looks *tươi* it means he/she looks happy and energetic. It also describes a smile.

To describe a fresh, smiling person, you can use *tươi tỉnh* too. (*tươi tỉnh* literally means "fresh and awake.")

For example:

1. *Hoa tươi quá.*
"The flowers are so fresh."
2. *Thịt lợn rất tươi.*
"The pork is very fresh."
3. *Cô ấy trông rất tươi (tỉnh)*
"She looks fresh."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Structuring Sentences Involving Weights

Bao nhiêu tiền 1 (một) cân?

"How much per kilo?"

The most common weight units for things in Vietnam are *cân* (kilogram) and *lạng* (100 grams). For a person's weight, we use *cân* and *ki lô gam* which both mean kilogram. The number comes first, followed by the weight unit, then the main noun and finally an adjective giving more information about the noun. This adjective is optional.

Structure: Number + cân/ki lô gam/lạng + noun (people/thing)+ (adj)

Please note that 1 *lạng* is equal to "100 grams," so be careful when converting units.

500 grams is 5 *lạng*, but a more common way of saying 5 *lạng* is *nửa cân* (meaning "half a kilogram")

For example:

1. 5 (năm) cân gạo: "5 kilograms of rice"
2. 7 (bảy) lạng tôm tươi: "700 grams of fresh shrimp"
3. nửa cân táo: "500 grams of apples"

In a complete sentence, the noun phrase containing weight is put after the subject and the main verb.

Structure: S + V + Number + cân/ki lô gam/lạng + noun (thing)+ (adj)

For example:

1. Tôi vừa mua nửa cân táo.
"I have just bought 500 grams of apples."
2. Anh ấy mua ba lạng hành khô.
"He buys 300 grams of dried onions."

The noun phrase containing weight can be the subject of a sentence too.

For example:

1. *Nửa cân táo giá một trăm ngàn.*
"500 grams of apples cost one hundred thousand dong."
2. *Năm cân gạo đủ cho nửa tháng.*
"5 kilograms of rice is enough for half a month."

Please note that kilogram is called *ký* in southern Vietnam. You can use *ký* interchangeably with *cân* or *ki lô gam*. *Ký* can be used for both things and people.

For examples:

1. *Nửa ký gạo: "500 grams of rice."*
2. *Tôi nặng 50 (năm mươi) ký: "I weigh 50 kilograms." (nặng means "to weigh")*

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Cho em 6 (sáu) lạng.*
"I'll get 600 grams."

Sample Sentences

1. *Tôi vừa mua bảy lạng tôm tươi.*
"I have just bought 700 grams of fresh shrimp."
2. *Nửa cân táo giá một trăm ngàn.*
"500 grams of apples cost one hundred thousand dong."
3. *Năm cân gạo là đủ cho nửa tháng.*
"Five kilograms of rice is enough for half a month."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

How Much Do Vietnamese People Love Food?

Vietnamese people are very interested in imported food, especially those from developed countries like America, Japan or Australia. Many people insist such food tastes better and is of higher quality. So, most big supermarkets have an imported food corner. Small food shops on the street, especially fruit shops, often hang large banners outside, advertising that they are selling *hoa quả nhập khẩu* ("imported fruits") to attract customers.

Useful expression

1. *Hoa quả nhập khẩu*
"Imported fruits"

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #25

Making a Delicious Vietnamese Dish

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- 2 Vietnamese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

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VIETNAMESE

1. Linh: Tớ sẽ dạy cậu cách làm gỏi cuốn tôm thịt nhé.
2. Anne: Hay quá, tớ thích món đấy lắm.
3. Linh: Đầu tiên đặt 1 (một) chiếc bánh đa lên đĩa, rồi cho tôm luộc, thịt luộc, trứng tráng và rau thơm vào giữa, xếp chúng gọn gàng và dùng tay cuộn bánh đa lại.
4. Sau đó, đặt miếng gỏi cuốn vào một cái đĩa khác, tiếp tục làm tương tự với số bánh đa còn lại.
5. Cậu làm thử xem.
6. Anne: Như thế này đúng không?
7. Linh: Đúng rồi. Cậu cuộn đẹp lắm.
8. Anne: Làm món này thú vị quá.

ENGLISH

1. Linh: I'll teach you how to make pork and shrimp fresh spring rolls.
2. Anne: Sounds great. I like those very much.
3. Linh: First, put some rice paper on a plate, then add boiled pork, boiled shrimp, fried egg, rice noodle and herbs in the middle, arrange them neatly and start rolling the rice paper by hand.

CONT'D OVER

4. After that, place the finished roll on another plate and continue with the remaining rice papers.
5. Wanna try rolling?
6. Anne: Like this, right?
7. Linh: Right. Your roll looks great.
8. Anne: This is very interesting.

VOCABULARY

Vietnamese	English	Class
đặt	to put	verb
tiếp tục	to continue	verb
cuốn	to roll	verb
xếp	to arrange	verb
rau thơm	herb	noun
trứng tráng	fried egg	noun
thịt luộc	boiled pork	noun
tôm luộc	boiled shrimp	noun
bánh đa nem	rice paper	noun
thử	to try	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Làm ơn đặt chiếc máy giặt ở kia!</p> <p>"Please put the washing machine over there."</p>	<p>Tôi đặt bức thư lên bàn.</p> <p>"I put the letter on the table."</p>
<p>Sau khi tốt nghiệp đại học, anh ấy tiếp tục học lên thạc sĩ.</p> <p>"After graduating from university, he continues to study for a master's degree."</p>	<p>Cô ấy đặt thịt và rau vào bánh đa rồi cuộn lại.</p> <p>"She puts meat and vegetables into a rice paper and rolls it."</p>
<p>An xếp sách vào giá sách.</p> <p>"An arranges books on the bookshelf."</p>	<p>Người Việt Nam hay ăn rau thơm.</p> <p>"Vietnamese people usually eat herbs."</p>
<p>Mẹ tôi dạy tôi cách làm món trứng tráng.</p> <p>"My mother teaches me how to make fried eggs."</p>	<p>Thịt luộc ăn kèm nước mắm tỏi ớt là tuyệt nhất.</p> <p>"Eating boiled pork with garlic and chilli sauce is the best."</p>
<p>Tôi thích ăn tôm luộc.</p> <p>"I like to eat boiled shrimp."</p>	<p>Mua bánh đa nem ở đâu?</p> <p>"Where can I buy rice papers?"</p>
<p>Tôi thử nghe bài hát đó và thích luôn.</p> <p>"I tried listening to this song and got interested immediately."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***tiếp tục* "to continue"**

tiếp tục + noun: "to continue something"

tiếp tục + verb phrase: "to continue doing something"

Tiếp tục is used to express a continued action. It can also express that something continues to

happen for a long time without stopping and is causing annoyance. In this case, the phrase *lại tiếp tục* ("continue again") is often used.

For example:

1. *Cô ấy tiếp tục chương trình học sau khi nghỉ 3 tháng.*
"She continues the study program after a 3-month holiday."
2. *Minh tiếp tục làm việc sau khi ăn trưa.*
"Minh continues working after the lunch break."
3. *Anh ta lại tiếp tục làm phiền tôi.*
"He continues disturbing me again."

***thử*"to try"**

thử + verb phrase/verb + *thử* + object: "try doing something"

thử has several meanings. In this lesson, it means "to do something as a test or a trial." The main verb can come before or after *thử*

For example:

1. *Tôi thử làm bánh và đã thành công.*
"I tried making a cake and succeeded."
2. *Cô ấy ăn thử một chút cơm rang.*
"She tried (eating) a little fried rice."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using the Imperative Form and Transitional Words to Describe a Process

Đầu tiên đặt 1 (một) chiếc bánh đa lên đĩa, rồi cho tôm luộc, thịt luộc, trứng tráng và rau thơm vào giữa, xếp chúng gọn gàng và dùng tay cuộn bánh đa lại.

"First, put some rice paper on a plate, then add boiled pork, boiled shrimp, fried egg, and herbs in the middle, arrange them neatly and start rolling the rice paper by hand."

To describe a process of doing something, we use imperatives and transitional words to connect the steps of certain processes.

1. How to Form Imperatives in Vietnamese

To use the imperative form, you only need to use the stem of the verb, followed by its object, which can be a noun or noun phrase. Adverbs can follow the verb too, but are optional.

Structure: Verb + object + (adverb)

Transitional words to describe a process (often put before the main verb):

- *Đầu tiên, trước tiên:* "At first"/"Firstly"
- *Rồi:* "then"
- *Sau đó:* "after that"/"then"
- *Và:* "and"
- *Trước:* "first"
- *Sau:* "after," "later"
- *Cuối cùng:* "finally"

Sample Sentences

1. *Đầu tiên cho bột vào cốc, rót nước sôi vào rồi khuấy đều.*
"First, put powder into the cup, pour boiled water in then stir well."

2. *Trước tiên gội sạch tóc, lau khô, sau đó bôi dưỡng và mát xa nhẹ nhàng.*
"First, wash your hair clean, towel dry, and after that apply treatment gel and gently massage."
3. *Rửa đĩa nhỏ trước, sau đó rửa đĩa to và cuối cùng xếp chúng lên giá.*
"Wash small dishes first, then wash big ones and finally put them on the shelf."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Typical Vietnamese Meal

A typical Vietnamese meal consists of rice, one main dish, one type of vegetable and soup. The main dish can be meat or seafood, often fried, stir-fried or braised. Vegetables can be boiled, stir-fried or cooked in the form of a soup (called *canh*). Fish sauce of course is an indispensable part of Vietnamese cuisine. The sauce is typically mixed with chilli, pepper, minced garlic and lemon juice or vinegar. While each person eats rice from their own bowl, they usually share the other foods, presented on a large tray called a *mâm*. Each person picks up the food they want to eat from the tray and puts it their own bowl.

Useful expressions:

canh: "Vietnamese soup"

mâm: "tray" (round, made of copper or aluminum, much bigger than a normal food plate)



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- 2 Can You Leave Your Luggage at this Vietnamese Hotel?
- 3 Sending a Package from Vietnam
- 4 Has the Vietnamese Airline Lost Your Luggage?
- 5 Finding Your Way to a Famous Vietnamese Tourist Attraction
- 6 Making a Phone Call in Vietnam
- 7 Going to a Language School in Vietnam
- 8 What's Your Favorite Vietnamese Food?
- 9 What Should We Do Tonight in Vietnam?
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