1. NP (=obj) \( \text{維} \) \( \text{起來好像} \) …
   "NP seems … once you start V-ing it"
   "Once one (start) V(ing) NP, NP seems …"

\[ \rightarrow a. \] In the phone, Tianhua sounded like she had something on her mind.
   On the phone, Tianhua sounded like she had something on her mind.

\[ \rightarrow b. \] He反复說 the house’s equipment was so good, it seemed like a new house.
   He反复說 the house’s equipment was so good, it seemed like he wanted to sell the house.

\[ \rightarrow c. \] He looked like he was in his twenties, but he was actually forty.
   He coming to phone said nothing, but he seemed very nervous.

\[ \rightarrow d. \] These cosmetics look very expensive, but they’re not name-brand ones.
   Once you start doing it, this job isn’t as easy as it seems.

\[ \rightarrow e. \] This road seems pretty long once you start walking it.

2. Another \( \text{才} \) usage for your collection!

\[ X \text{ VP1, Y才VP2} \]
   "It wasn’t until X VP1 that Y VP2"
   "Y VP2 only after X VP1"

\[ \rightarrow a. \] Zhang Tianming asked her several times, Tianhua finally said that she had a falling out with her boyfriend.
   It wasn’t until Zhang Tianming asked her several times that Tianhua finally said she’d had a falling out with her boyfriend.

\[ \rightarrow b. \] He had detailed situation told me that this thing with you nothing to do.
   It wasn’t until after I broke up with my boyfriend that he knew he was wrong.

\[ \rightarrow c. \] You don’t wait until you’ve had a conflict to consider his feelings.
   You should wait until the credit card comes before going to the shopping center!

3. \( \text{(等)VP1以後再VP2} \)
   "wait and VP1 before doing VP2"
   "wait until VP1 before doing VP2"  
   (future of future-of-past events)

\[ \rightarrow a. \] She also said she’d tell Tianming the details of the situation once she was in a better state of mind.
   She also said she’d tell Tianming the details of the situation once she was in a better state of mind.

\[ \rightarrow b. \] Wait until the credit card comes before going to the shopping center!
   Let’s wait until the credit card comes before going to the shopping center!

Usage note: 再 vs \( \text{才} \)
   再 indicates sequence of events and never occurs with modal auxiliaries (e.g., *再能 VP、*再可以 VP、再會 VP、*再要 VP、*再想 VP). \( \text{才} \) also indicates sequence
of events, but presents the first as an absolute condition for the realization of the second, and can also take a modal.

Typical usages of 再 and 才:

我還不知道我能不能去，明天再告訴你吧。
I still don’t know whether I can go; I’ll tell you tomorrow.

我還不知道我能不能去，明天才能告訴你。
I still don’t know whether I can go; I can’t tell you until tomorrow.

4. 在 NP 上.....
   “With respect to NP ...”
   “When it comes to NP ...”

->a. 在興趣上，他跟天華不太一樣。
   With respect to interests, he and Tianhua were not too similar.

b. 他在學習上一直很用功。
c. 他們在性格上也很不同。
d. 我們班的學生在文化背景上很不同。
e. America and China are quite different culturally.
f. With respect to work, they were both very conscientious.

5. X V 來 V 去
   “X V-ed back and forth”
   “X V-ed and V-ed”

->a. 張天明想來想去想不出他們為什麽鬧翻了。
   Zhang Tianming turned it over and over in his mind but couldn’t figure out what had come between them.

Caution The preferred word order with a transitive verb and overt object is:

OBJ X V 來 V 去 ....

昨天的報紙我翻來翻去可是還是找不到那個租房子的廣告。
I flipped back and forth through yesterday’s newspaper, but I still can’t find that room-for-rent ad.

Rather than

*X V 來 V 去 OBJ

*我翻來翻去昨天的報紙可是還是找不到那個租房子的廣告。

b. I walked back and forth, not knowing what to do.
c. He kept writing on the paper, but no one knew what he was writing.
d. I dialed (the telephone number) over and over, but no one answered.
e. I looked high and low for my favorite sweatsuit but still couldn’t find it.

6. DURATION/POINT 以來
   “For the past DURATION”
   “Over the past DURATION”
   “Since POINT,...”
a. 兩個星期以來，這已經是第四次了。
   This was already the fourth time in the past two weeks

b. 兩個月以來，我看了好幾次廣告欄，沒看到有合適的房子出租。
c. 兩年以來我沒選什麼哲學課。
d. Since having kids, she hasn’t gone to see a single movie.
e. I haven’t been back to China since 1986.
f. We haven’t moved (our residence) since 1994.
g. He’s been taking a physics test for three days.

7. 難怪 S
   X 難怪 VP
   “No wonder S”
   “No wonder X VP”

->a. 難怪你心情不好，原來是湯姆喝酒的事。
   No wonder you’ve been so upset! All along it was the issue of Tom’s drinking.

b. 難怪你那麼喜歡他！
c. 難怪你喜歡隔壁的男生！
d. No wonder you had a falling out with him!
e. 難怪你關了窗戶，外邊有人放搖滾樂，多麼難聽！
f. 難怪你們相處得那麼好！原來你們都喜歡聽古典音樂。

8. 越 VP 越 VP
   “The more VP, the more VP”

A. X 越來越 SV
   “X (is getting) more and more SV”
   a. He’s getting pickier and pickier about eating.
   b. The articles he’s writing are getting more and more one-sided.
   c. This sweater is getting smaller on me. Don’t put it in the drier again!

B. X 越 VP1(Y)越 VP2
   “The more X VP1, the more (Y) VP2”
   d. 牛仔褲越穿越舒服。
      The longer you wear jeans, the more comfortable they get.
   e. 老師越說, 學生越不明白。
   f. 你越想跟她談男朋友喝醉酒的問題, 她越想找他去。

9. X V （了） DURATION NP(= obj )(了)
   “X V-ed NP for DURATION”
   “X has V-ed NP for DURATION”
   “X V NP for DURATION”

->a. 這個週末我們放三天假，想去你那兒看看你。
   This weekend we’re off for three days; I was thinking of going to see you.
(i.e., It's long weekend this weekend; I was thinking of going to see you.)

b. 我昨天念了半天書，可是今天考試還是考得不好。
c. 我打了一天電話，可是還沒找到合適的地方住。
d. He's been studying Chinese for 20 years!

Note the following alternative to X V DURATION NP:

X V NP V 了 DURATION
她念中文念了二十年了。
He’s been studying Chinese for 20 years.

10. S/NP 把 X V 死了
   “S/NP V(-ed) X to death”
   ->a. 這兒把我憋死了！
       This place is really suffocating me to death!

b. 我跟她交往真把我憋死了！
c. 天天背這麼多漢字真把我累死了！
d. 老聽那些學生在走廊里大喊大叫真把我煩死了！
e. 她說我脾氣有點急躁真把我氣死了！
f. What he said really ticked me off!

11. ……迷
   “___ nut; ___ fanatic”
   Note: the natural English translation can be idiomatic (e.g., “movie buff”, versus “sports buff”)

球迷 ...........................................          戲迷 .................................
bookworm .................................          movie buff ............................
sports/exercise fanatic ........................

12. X V 得 VP
   “X V-ed to the point of VP-ing”
   ->a. 有一次他醉得把屋里的鏡子都打破了，還對我說了很多難聽的話。(L7)
       He once got so drunk he even broke the mirror in the room and said many ugly \ things to me.

   ->b. 安德森差不多每天晚上都看球，激動得大喊大叫。(L6)
       Anderson watched ballgames just about every night and would get so excited he'd scream and shout.

c. 他的聲音大得把窗戶打破了！
d. 他的脾氣急躁得大家都不想跟他做朋友。
e. I was so bored/oppressed at home I just had to come out and find you.

REVIEW
X V 得 S
   “X V-ed such that S happened.”
At night, often until 11:00 or 12:00, there were still people in the hallway greeting each other loudly or cracking jokes and they were so noisy that Zhang Tianming couldn’t get to sleep day or night.

13. X 人很好  “X is a fine/good person”

CAUTION: X 很好 ≠ “X 人很好”
“X is fine.” ≠ “X is a fine person.”

14. X 有點兒 SV  “X is a bit SV”

<table>
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<th>small</th>
<th>short</th>
<th>picky</th>
<th>impatient</th>
<th>expensive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>thick</td>
<td>tall</td>
<td>noisy</td>
<td>cold</td>
<td>far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one-sided</td>
<td>troublesome</td>
<td>hot</td>
<td>difficult</td>
<td>oily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bland</td>
<td>worried/antsy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

cf 稍微 SV 點兒
“a bit (too) SV”
“a bit more SV”

CAUTION: This construction characterizes SV as a negative attribute.
* 我的車有點兒安全。  * 我的房間有點兒安靜。
* My car is a bit safe.  * My room is a bit quiet.

* 這套運動服有點兒新。
* This sweatsuit is a tad new.

REVIEW

15. X 一 VP1, (Y) 就 VP2  “No sooner did X VP1 than (Y) VP2-ed”
“As soon as X VP1-ed, X/Y VP2-ed.”

->a. 湯姆是個球迷，電視里一有體育節目，他就非看不可。
   Tom was a ballgame fanatic; as soon as a sports program come on TV, he was bent on watching it.

->b. 天華是個戲迷，一有新戲就去看。
   Tianhua was a theater buff; whenever there was a new play, she went to see it.

c. 我一見就知道他是性格十分開朗的人。
d. No sooner did I hear his voice than I guessed he was someone with an impatient
temperament.

REVIEW

16. X VP, 就是.....

“X VP, it’s just that …”

->a. 湯姆人很好，性格十分開朗，學習也不錯，就是脾氣有點兒急躁。

Tom was a good person; he had completely open personality and his studies weren’t bad, it’s just that he was a bit impatient by nature.