### 1. “If/when” clauses without the “如果/要是”

->a. 這個學期她選了一門電影課，得看很多電影，張天明有空也陪她一起看。

**Translation:**

…………………………………………………………………………………………
…………………………………………………………………………………………
…………………………………………………………………………………………

CAUTION: You’re probably over-using 如果 and 要是

In English, “if”-less/ “when”-less clauses are fairly rare,

“He goes, I don’t.” (->“If he goes, I don’t”)

but common in Chinese, where the qualifying nature of the first clause can be conveyed simply by, e.g. 就 or 也 in the second.

### 2. 就是 NP 也 VP “Even NP(also) VPs”

| X 就是 VP1, (Y) 也 VP2 | “Even if X VP1s, (Y) still VP2s” |

A. 就是 NP 也 VP “Even NP (also) VPs”

->a. 小孩學壞容易，學好難哪！就是大人也難免會受電視電影的影響。

   It’s easy for kids to learn bad things, and hard to learn good! Even adults are hard-pressed to avoid being influenced by television and movies.

b. Hudson’s 的東西都很貴，就是減價的東西也貴。
c. 我哥哥從來不穿短褲(duan3ku4), 就是夏天也不穿。
d. No one is allowed to enter, not even his parents.

B. X 就是 VP1, (Y) 也 VP2 “Even if X VP1s, (Y) still VP2s”

e. Even if you don’t want to go， I’ll still go.
f. Even if you don’t “let” him smoke， he’s going to smoke.
g. 你拿著槍威脅別人，就是開玩笑的話也很不負責任。
h. 隔壁的小孩跟誰都敢說難聽的話，就是跟自己的母親他也敢說。
i. Smoking is not good for your health; even if you only smoke occasionally, it’s bad for you.

### 3. X 引起了 Y “X gave rise to/incited Y”

->a. MTV 的卡通片對兒童的影響很不好，引起了很多家長的反對。

   The influence of MTV cartoons on children is very negative, and this has given rise to considerable parental protest.

->b. 據說加州有一個小男孩看了卡通片以後，模仿片裏的人物玩火柴，引起了一場火災，....
There was reportedly a small boy in California who, after watching a cartoon, imitated the characters in the film by playing with matches, thus causing a fire.

c. 小孩玩火柴早晚會引起火災。
d. 讓孩子多聽 Mozart 可能會引起他對古典音樂的興趣。
e. Today’s documentary piqued my interest in childhood education.

Usage note: Typical things you can 引起:
興趣 xing4qu4 interest 注意 zhu4yi4 attention
同情 tong2qing2 sympathy 關心 guan1xin1 concern
反感 fan3gan3 opposition 誤會 wu4hui4 misunderstanding

4. 據說 S

“They say that S”
“It is said that S”
“Reportedly S”

->a. 據說加州有一個小男孩看了 MTV 的卡通片以後模仿片裏的人物玩火柴，引起了一場火災，….
There was reportedly a small boy in California who, after watching a cartoon, imitated the characters in the film by playing with matches, thus causing a fire.

b. 據說男孩子最受電視、電影的影響。
c. 據說美國的兒童教育質量越來越差。
d. It is said that his family used to be very wealthy.

CAUTION: 據說 VS 聽說
據說 does not take a subject, unlike 聽說, whose subject is assumed to be the speaker unless indicated otherwise:

*I /he/she it is said that …. I/he/she hear (s) I hear that …

5. S1, 結果 S2

“S1, and as a result, S2”
“S1, and/but in the end, S2”

->a. 加州的一個小男孩看了 MTV 以後玩火，結果不小心把他妹妹燒死了。
A little boy from California was playing with matches after watching MTV and accidentally burned his little sister to death.

b. 我選了日文和中文，結果哪個都沒念好。
c. I fell asleep on the couch and ended up not seeing that art film!
d. 我跟父母為選專業的問題爭論了半天，結果還是不知道應該怎麼辦。
e. I loaned him my favorite dictionary, and he ended up losing it!
f. He’s been watching the news half the day and now he’s in a bad state of mind.
6. S, (X) 反而 VP  

“S, and X turns around and VPs”  
“S, but on the contrary, X VPs”

Note: 反而 occurs BEFORE the verb, AFTER the subject X (if there is one).

->a. 大人不好好教育孩子，反而怪電視！
Adults fail to teach children properly--and then turn around and blame TV!

b. 名牌的東西他非自己買不可，別人送他，他反而不要。
c. 最難寫的字他都會寫，最容易寫的他反而不會。
d. 他說好了要把詳細情況告訴我，現在反而不說了。
e. …but the brands the customers like the best, they don’t sell!

7. 難免 S  

X 難免 VP

“It’s hard to avoid S”  
“Inevitably, S”  
“It’s hard for X to avoid VP”  
“X is hard-pressed to avoid VP”  
“X inevitably VP”

->a. 就是大人也難免會受電視的影響。
Even adults are hard-pressed to avoid (being subject to) the influence of television and movies.

b. 小孩難免受朋友的影響。
c. 孩子和大人都難免受各種廣告的影響。
d. 球迷在大街上大喊大叫難免影響別人睡覺。
e. Children are hard-pressed to avoid (being subject to) the influence of television characters.

8. S 幾乎 FREQUENCY/DURATION 都… “nearly/almost FREQ/DURATION”  
NP 幾乎都 VP  

“nearly all NP do/are VP”

->a. 學校禮堂幾乎每天晚上都演電影，….
The school auditorium showed movies nearly every night.

b. A: 你看起來好像很累。
B: 我幾乎一個晚上都沒睡覺。
c. This theater shows art films nearly every month.
d. 美國最賺錢的電影幾乎都是商業片。
e. We go to a Chinese restaurant nearly every week.
f. 兒童的卡通片幾乎每天上午都有。
g. Nearly all the students have been to China.
### 9. NP多半 VP

“most of NP VP”; “most NPs VP”
“NPs mostly VP”
“NP probably/most likely VP”

**A. NP多半 VP**

“most of NP VP”
“most NPs VP”
NPs mostly VP”

->a. 學校禮堂幾乎每天晚上都演電影，多半是藝術片，…
   The school auditorium showed movies nearly every night, mostly art films, …

b. 高中學生多半對新聞節目沒甚麼興趣。
c. 以前的卡通片多半是給兒童看的，現在有不少是給大人看的。
d. 美國的家長多半反對孩子吸煙。
e. Most of my courses this semester are in the humanities.

### 10. X以為 S

“X thought (erroneously) that S”

->a. 她說她以為她男朋友的女兒是他的另一個女朋友，…
   She said she thought that her boyfriend’s daughter was his “other” girlfriend, …

b. I thought you were opposed to his smoking.
c. I thought he was imitating characters in the movie!
d. I thought he was looking for excuses.
e. I thought he wouldn’t dare!
f. I thought someone had threatened to bomb the auditorium!

### 11. X不是 Y嗎？

“Isn’t X Y?”
“Didn’t X Y?”

->a. 你剛才不是說小孩不見得會受電視影響嗎？
   Didn’t you just say that children aren’t necessarily influenced by television?

->b. 你這不是自相矛盾嗎？
   Are you contradicting yourself?

c. Aren’t you idle with nothing to do today?
d. Don’t you want to listen to the news?
e. Isn’t he sitting on the couch, doing homework while watching TV?
f. Didn’t he already go to the auditorium?
g. Isn’t he imitating characters in the movie?
h. Don’t you know the result already?
   (Isn’t it the case that you already know the result?)

12. 偶然 VP  “occasionally VP”

->a. 學校禮堂幾乎每天晚上都演電影，多半是藝術片，偶爾也有紀錄片。
   The school auditorium showed movies nearly every night, mostly art films, (but)
   occasionally documentaries, too.

b. 我一般最喜歡看紀錄片，偶爾也跟孩子一起看卡通片。
c. 我跟他不熟，只是偶爾在餐廳裡見到他。
d. I rarely buy clothes; occasionally, I’ll buy an item on sale.
e. When I buy daily necessities, I generally buy inexpensive ones, although I
   occasionally buy name brand ones.

REVIEW

13. X 對 Y 的影響  SV “X’s influence on Y is SV”

->a. MTV 的卡通片對兒童的影響很不好，….
   The influence of MTV cartoons on children is very bad, …

REVIEW

14. 一邊 VP1， 一邊 VP2  “to do VP1 while VP2-ing”

->a. 張天明閒著沒事，坐在沙發上一邊看電視，一邊等他的女朋友。
   Zhang Tianming had nothing to do, so he sat on the couch and watched TV while
   waiting for his girlfriend.

REVIEW

15. X 一 VP1，（Y）就 VP2  “As soon as X VP1, (X/Y) VP2”
   “No sooner does X VP1 had (X/Y) VP2”

->a. 新電影一上演，她就去看。（L8）
   As soon as a new movie started playing, she went to see it.

->b. 湯姆是個球迷，電視裏一有體育節目，他就非看不可。（L7）
   Tom was a ballgame fanatic; as soon as there was a sports program on TV, he was
   bent to seeing it.

->c. 天華是個戲迷，一有新戲就去看。（L7）
   Tianhua was a theater buff; as soon as there was a new play, she went to see it.
   d. I knew who he was as soon as I saw him.
   e. Some people have to have a smoke as soon as they get out of bed.