

UNIT 6 今天几号?

What's the date today?

Unit overview

Theme	Birthdays and invitations
Vocabulary	Dates and days of the week, months, daily activities
Grammar	Sentences without verbs, invitations with 请
Listening	Identifying months, dates and days of the week
Reading	Activities on a weekly planner
Speaking	Asking for and saying dates/days, making invitations
Writing	Creating a weekly calendar

Sentences with a noun predicate

When expressing dates, days of the week or time, a noun phrase can be used as the predicate without verbs. For example: 今天二月五号。九号星期天。

However, a verb needs to be used in a negative statement or question about dates, days of the week or time. For example: 今天不是二月五号。九号不是星期天。今天不是星期六吗? / 现在不是下午六点吗? (a rhetorical question which is often used to confirm a fact and does not need to be answered).

When clarifying the correct time or date, 是 is usually used. For example: 今天是星期六, 不是星期日。现在是四点, 不是三点。

Extra language points

The preposition 跟

跟 is used to indicate involvement or relationship, and means "with". In Chinese, the prepositional phrase "跟 + someone" must be placed before the main action verb. For example: 跟王玉的哥哥见面, 跟马克去吃中餐。

Really? Is it true? 真的吗?

真的吗? is used to ask whether something is true or not. When the speaker already knows the fact in some way and only needs a confirmation, the question is asked with a falling tone. When the fact comes as a surprise to the speaker, this question is asked with a rising tone.

Pronunciation: meaning groups in sentences

When saying Chinese sentences, it is important to divide the characters into meaning groups and say the characters in one group closer together than characters from other groups. For example: (永民), (二月九号) 是 (王玉) 的 (生日)。 (我们) 请她 (吃饭), (怎么样)?

Warm-up activities

LESSON 1

- 1 Bring a large calendar to the class.
- 2 Write the words on the board: 月, 号, 星期.
- 3 Hold up the calendar and point to the dates of the seven days in the current week, saying “……月……号, 星期……” one by one.
- 4 Ask some volunteers to point to the days of other weeks on the calendar, and say the dates and weekdays, until they know how to say dates and days.
- 5 Point to today's date on the calendar, and ask “今天几号?”
- 6 Elicit appropriate response from students, “……月……号”. Then ask “……号星期几?”
- 7 Elicit response from students, “星期……”.
- 8 Students work in pairs and ask and answer questions about dates on their school calendar.

LESSON 2

- 1 Ask students about their daily activities: “What do you usually do in a week?”
- 2 Elicit responses and write them on the board: 上班, 看书, 学中文, 跟朋友见面, 去派对, 打篮球.
- 3 Ask one student to come to the front of the room and sit on a chair facing the rest of the class.
- 4 Stand behind the student sitting on the chair. Point to one activity word on the board without letting the student see it.
- 5 The rest of the students mime the activity that the teacher is pointing to. No speaking is allowed. The student sitting at the front needs to guess what the activity is and say the corresponding Chinese word.
- 6 Ask a few students to come to the front to do this activity in turns until everyone knows the activity words.

Teaching tips

Position of 见面

Ask students to identify the position of 见面 in a Chinese sentence about meeting with someone; this is quite different from the position of “to meet someone” in an English sentence.

For example: 他跟朋友见面。He'll meet friends.

Decoding the words

shēngrì 生日	生 birth; life; grow; live; 日 sun; daytime; day; daily
jīntiān 今天	今 present-day; this (day/year); 天 sky; day; season
xīngqī 星期	星 star; 期 a period of time; phase; stage; scheduled time
chīfàn 吃饭	吃 eat; 饭 cooked rice; meal
chúfáng 厨房	厨 kitchen; 房 house; room;
nàlǐ 那里	那 that; 里 in; inside; a Chinese unit of distance (= 0.5 kilometre)
zěnmeyàng 怎么样	怎 <dialect> how; 怎么 how (can it be that); 样 appearance; shape; sample; pattern
méiwèntí 没问题	没 not have; 问 ask; inquire; 题 topic
shàngbān 上班	上 go to; go up; upper; up; board, the first part of; 班 shift; class;
jiànmiàn 见面	见 see; catch sight of; 面 face; face a certain direction; surface;

Answer key & audio scripts

Student's Book

LESSON 1

Vocabulary and listening

- 1 a 3, b 4, c 5, d 6, e 1, f 2
 2 a 2, b 4, c 1, d 3
 3 a 3, b 5, c 4, d 6, e 2, f 1, g 7
 a Wednesday, b Friday, c Thursday, d Saturday,
 e Tuesday, f Monday, g Sunday

- 5 1 二月九号; 2 星期天; 3 二月五号, 星期三;
 4 妈妈厨房

Pronunciation and speaking

- 2 1 èrshíqī, 2 xǐhuan, 3 Běijīng

LESSON 2

Reading and writing

- 1 1 d, 2 c, 3 b, 4 a
 2 1 星期一和星期四, 2 星期二, 3 星期四, 4 星期五

Language in use

Months and dates

- 1 2, 3
 2 1 三月四日, 2 四月六日, 3 八月二十二日, 4 十月一日, 5 十一月七日, 6 十二月三十一日

Sentences without verbs

- 1 1, 3
 2 1 今天星期四。 2 今天十二月二十五号。
 3 王玉二十岁。

Making invitations using 请

- 1 1 请, 吃; 2 请, 去; 3 请, 去, N/A
 2 1 我请她吃饭。 2 永民请我们去他家。
 3 史蒂夫请王玉去他的生日派对。

LESSON 3

Communication activity

中国大陆 (of 2010) : 元旦一月一日, 春节二月, 清明节四月五日, 劳动节五月一日, 端午节六月十六日, 国庆节十月一日, 中秋节九月二十二日, 圣诞节十二月二十五日

香港 (of 2010) : 元旦一月一日, 春节二月, 复活节四月四日, 清明节四月五日, 佛诞日五月二十一日, 端午节六月十六日, 国庆节十月一日, 中秋节九月二十二日, 重阳节十月十六日, 圣诞节十二月二十五日

Character writing

- 2 1 c, 2 d, 3 b, 4 a

Review and practice

- 1 1 生日, 2 号码, 3 几, 4 派对
 2 1 e, 2 c, 3 d, 4 b, 5 a
 3 1 今天, 2 星期日, 3 去, 4 吃
 4 a 今天十一月二十七日。 b 今天星期三。
 c 五月八号星期一。

Vocabulary extension

- 1 去年, 明年
 2 今天, 明天
 3 这个月, 下个月

Workbook

LESSON 1

- 1 1 b, 2 d, 3 a, 4 f, 5 h, 6 j, 7 c, 8 e, 9 i, 10 g
 2 d-c-e-b-g-a-f
 3 1 c, 2 a, 3 d, 4 b, 5 e
 4 f-b-a-c-h-e-d-g; 1 √, 4 √
 5 1 xīngqī jǐ, 2 jiā, 3 fājiànrén, 4 jiào, 5 jīntiān,
 6 Běijīng, 7 jiàn, 8 fángjiān, 9 qǐng, 10 qù, 11 jiǔshí
 qī, 12 xiǎojiě, 13 xièxie, 14 xīn, 15 xìng, 16 xuésheng

LESSON 2

- 1 1 f, 2 a, 3 d, 4 b, 5 g, 6 c, 7 h, 8 e
- 2 1 九号, 2 星期一和星期三, 3 三月八号
- 4 a, e, f, d, c, b
- 5 1 √, 2 √, 4 √, 5 √;
6 今天是星期五。
7 他妈妈四十岁。
8 姚明真酷!
9 她的哥哥很高。
10 今天几号?
- 6 1 王玉请我去派对。/ 我请王玉去派对。
2 马克请老师吃饭。/ 老师请马克吃饭。
3 安娜请永民去她家。
4 史蒂夫请王玉吃中餐。/ 王玉请史蒂夫吃中餐。

LESSON 3

1

月份	节日	月份	节日
January	a	July	
February	b, c	August	
March		September	g
April	d	October	h
May	e	November	
June	f	December	

- 2 1 b, 2 a, 3 e, 4 c, 5 f, 6 d

4

Last	Present	Next
去年	今年	明年
上个月	这个月	下个月
上个星期	这个星期	下个星期
昨天	今天	明天
十月	十一月	十二月

Unit Quiz

- 1 b, 2 a, 3 b, 4 c, 5 a, 6 c, 7 c,
8 b, 9 b, 10 a, 11 a, 12 b, 13 b, 14 b,
15 c, 16 b, 17 b, 18 c, 19 c
20 几月几号, 21 几, 22 去, 23 请
24 你的生日是几月几号? / 我的生日是四月十九号。
25 她的生日派对是星期日下午。