

## 6 Ways to Use 吧(ba) in Chinese

### Part 1

#### Expressing An Urgency or A Suggestion, etc.

You can use “吧” at the end of a sentence that expresses an order, a request, an urgency, or a suggestion, etc.

Nǐ hǎohāor xiǎngxiang ba.

你 好好儿 想想 吧。

You'd better think it over.

Bāngbang wǒ ba.

帮帮 我 吧。

Help me, please.

Kuài zǒu ba.

快 走 吧。

Hurry up.

Xiūxi yíxià ba.

休息 一下 吧。

Take a break.

### Part 2

#### Used In Questions

When you are pretty sure about what you are asking about, and you just want it confirmed, in this case, you can use “吧” at the end of the question.

Nín shì Wáng lǎoshī ba?

您 是 王 老师 吧?

Are you Teacher Wang?

Tā shì Shànghǎi rén ba?

他 是 上海 人 吧?

Is he from Shanghai?

Zhè ge fángzi shì xīn gài de ba?

这 个 房子 是 新 盖 的 吧?

Was this house built recently?

### Part 3

#### Used With 大概/也许/可能

When you are not that sure about something, and use “大概”, “也许”, or “可能” in the sentence, you can use “吧” at the end.

Tā dàgài yǐjīng zǒu le ba.

他 大概 已经 走了 吧。

Maybe he has already left.

Yěxǔ míngtiān néng jiàndào tā ba.

也许 明天 能 见到 他 吧。

Maybe you could see him tomorrow.

Xiànzài kěnéng liǎng diǎn le ba.

现在 可能 两 点 了 吧。

It might be around 2 o'clock right now.

### Part 4

#### Used After 好/行/可以

You can use “吧” after “好”, “行”, and “可以” to express you agree with something.

Hǎo ba, jiù zhème bàn.

好 吧, 就 这么 办。

OK, let's do it like this.

Xíng ba, zánmen shìshi kàn.

行 吧, 咱们 试试 看。

All right, let's give it try.

Kěyǐ ba, jiù àn yuán jìhuà jìnxíng.

可以 吧, 就 按 原 计划 进行。

No problem, just do it as we planned.

## Part 5

### Used In “Verb 就 Verb ” Sentence Pattern

In the “Verb 就 Verb” sentence pattern, you can use “吧” to soften the tone.

Diū le jiù diū le ba, wǒ zài gěi nǐ mǎi yí ge.

丢 了 就 丢 了 吧, 我 再 给 你 买 一 个。

It's fine you lost it. I'll buy you a new one.

Bú qù jiù bú qù ba, fǎnzhèng yǐhòu hái yǒu jīhuì.

不 去 就 不 去 吧, 反 正 以 后 还 有 机 会。

No worries you are not going. You can go next time.

## Part 6

### Used To Pause

“吧” can be used between two phrases to weigh two options, give an example, or emphasize something despite something else.

Zǒu ba, bù hǎo; bù zǒu ba, yě bù hǎo.

走 吧, 不 好; 不 走 吧, 也 不 好。

It's not good if I leave and it's not good either if don't.

Jiù shuō Xiǎo Lǐ ba, tā gè fāngmiàn biǎoxiàn dōu búcuò.

就 说 小 李 吧, 他 各 方 面 表 现 都 不 错。

Take Xiao Li as an example. He does very well in everything.

Jiùsuàn nǐ shì duì de ba, yě yīnggāi qiānxū diǎnr.

就算 你 是 对 的 吧, 也 应该 谦虚 点儿。

Even though you are right, you should be humble.