飞机是今天晚上七点钟准时降落在(1)北京首都国际机场的。学校外事处派来的一位张先生在机场接我们。

通过海关的时候儿,我有点儿(2)担心,因为我带了

北京	Běijīng	n.	Beijing
飞机	fēijī	n.	airplane
准时	zhǔnshí	adv./adj.	punctually; on time 准时上课/准时到学校来/他总是很 准时。
降落	jiàngluò	v.	land; descend
首都	shŏudū	n.	capital
国际	guốjì	adj.	international
机场	jīchǎng	n.	airport
外事处	wàishìchù	n.	foreign affairs office
派	pài	v.	dispatch; send
张	Zhāng	n.	Zhang (a surname)
先生	xiān.sheng	n.	Mr.
接	jiē	v.	meet; welcome; fetch
通过	töngguò	v.	pass; pass through; go through
海关	hǎiguān	n.	customs
担心	dānxīn	v.	worry; feel anxious 很担心/别担心 我很担心飞机不能准时降落。
带	dài	v.	take; bring; carry

几本几《花花公子》给我的中国朋友。据说(3)中国海关对(4)这类杂志查得很严,好在(5)他们根本(6)没打开我的行李就让(7)我通过了。后来(8)我们坐上了一部大巴,开了差不多一个小时就到学校了。

花花公子	Huāhuā gōngzĭ	n.	Playboy
据说	jùshuō	adv.	it is said; they say
对	duì	prep.	about; toward; on; to
类	lèi	n.	type; category
杂志	zázhì	n.	magazine
查	chá	v.	check; inspect
严	yán	adj.	strict; severe; stern 老师很严。/学校对学生很严。
好在	hǎozài	adv.	luckily; fortunately
根本	gēnběn	adv.	utterly; completely; at all (always used in negative sentences) 根本没去/根本不会/根本听不懂
打开	dǎ//kāi	vc.	open
行李	xíng.li	n.	luggage; baggage
让	ràng	v.	let; allow
后来	hòulái	n.	afterwards
坐上	zuò//.shàng	vc.	get on (a vehicle)
部	bù	AN	measure word for cars or movies 一部汽车/一部电影
大巴	dàbā	n.	large bus
开(车)	kāi	v.	drive (a car)
差不多	chà .bu duō	adv.	around; about (a certain number) 睡了差不多十个小时 花了差不多一千块钱

北京给我的第一个印象(9)是海关的检查很松,没有我想的那么严。从机场到城里的高速公路又宽又(10)平,非常现代化。这和我想象中(11)古老的北京完全不同(12)。

今天很累,可是也很兴奋。我们的宿舍很好,房间很大,床也很舒服,不过因为时差的关系(13),一直到早上三点还没睡着。

印象	yìnxiàng	n.	impression
检查	jiǎnchá	v./n.	check; examine; inspect; inspection
松	sōng	adj.	loose; slack
城里	chénglĭ	p.w.	within the city; downtown
高速公路	gāosù gōnglù	n.	expressway; freeway
宽	kuān	adj.	wide; broad
平	píng	adj.	flat; smooth; level
现代化	xiàndàihuà	adj./n.	modern, modernization
想象	xiǎngxiàng	v./n.	imagine, imagination
古老	gŭlǎo	adj.	ancient; age-old
兴奋	xīngfèn	adj.	excited
宿舍	sùshè	n.	dormitory
舒服	shū.fu	adj.	comfortable
不过	búguò	adv.	but; however
时差	shíchā	n.	jet lag; time difference
关系	guān.xi	n.	relevance, relationships (used with
一直	yìzhí	adv.	因为 to indicate cause or reason) all the way; all along; continuously 我等他一直等到十点钟。
睡着	shuì//zháo	vc.	fall asleep

★ 繁体字课文 (fantizì kèwén, Text in Traditional Characters)

飛機是今天晚上七點鐘準時降落在(1)北京首都國際機場的。學校外事處派來的一位張先生在機場接我們。

通過海關的時候儿,我有點儿(2)擔心,因為我帶了幾本儿《花花公子》給我的中國朋友。據說(3)中國海關對(4)這類雜誌查得很嚴,好在(5)他們根本(6)沒打開我的行李就讓(7)我通過了。後來(8)我們坐上了一部大巴,開了差不多一個小時就到學校了。

北京給我的第一個印象(9)是海關的檢查很鬆,沒有我想的那麼嚴。從機場到城裏的高速公路又寬又(10)平,非常現代化。這和我想像中(11)古老的北京完全不同(12)。

今天很累,可是也很興奮。我們的宿舍很好,房間很大,床也很舒服,不過因為時差的關係(13),一直到早上三點還沒睡着。

(1) 飞机是今天晚上七点钟准时降落在北京首都国际机场的。 It was at seven o'clock this evening that the plane landed as scheduled at Beijing Capital International Airport.

Together with a word or phrase denoting place, 在 forms a prepositional phrase which can be placed before a verb as an adverbial phrase. For instance, in 在图书馆看书 or 在饭馆里吃饭, the 在 construction indicates the place where an action occurs. When placed after the verb as a complement, the 在 phrase can also indicate the place at which a person or thing has arrived after or as a result of the action, e.g. 放在桌子上, or 降落在国际机场. Moreover, verbs such as 住 and 降落

can be modified by either the 在 adverbial or the 在 complement; therefore, it is possible to say 降落在国际机场 or 在国际机场降落.

(2) 通过海关的时候儿,我有点儿担心。

When I passed through customs, I was a little worried.

有一点 μ + *adj*. indicates a small degree of something dissatisfactory or disagreeable. It can modify negative adjective forms. The "一" can also optionally be dropped.

- 1. 昨天我有一点儿不舒服。
 I felt a little uncomfortable yesterday.
- 2. 我今天有点儿累。 I am a bit tired today.
- (3) 据说中国海关对这类杂志查得很严。

It is said that China's customs is very strict about inspecting this kind of magazine.

据说 introduces hearsay. The phrase may sometimes be split to provide additional information. Note: This phrase is in the passive voice, and thus a subject like "我" or "你" cannot be added before it.

- 1. 据说他来中国以前,只学了一年中文。
 It is said that he studied only one year of Chinese before he came to China.
- 2. 据学校派来的张先生说,现在的北京和从前完全不同了。 According to Mr. Zhang, the man whom the school sent, present-day Beijing is completely different from the old Beijing.
- (4) 据说中国海关对这类杂志查得很严。

** often takes a noun or verb-object construction as its object, which is the recipient of the verb that follows.

- 1. 他对中国的情况知道得很少。
 He knows very little about China's situation.
- 2. 我对北京的机场有很好的印象。 I have a very good impression of Beijing's airport.

(5) 好在他们根本没打开我的行李就让我通过了。

Fortunately, they let me pass without opening my luggage at all.

好在 points out an advantageous condition in unfavorable circumstances. It is an adverb, and there is no negative form.

1. 这是我第一次到北京来,我有点儿紧张。好在学校派来 的张先生在机场接我。

This was the first that I'd been to Beijing, and I was a little nervous. Fortunately, Mr. Zhang, the man whom the school sent, was at the airport to meet me.

- 2. 好在学校不太远, 开车差不多一个钟头就能到。 Luckily the school is not too far. You can get there in about one hour by driving.
- (6) 好在他们根本没打开我的行李就让我通过了。

根本 usually modifies a negative form and conveys a strong feeling.

- 1. 海关的检查根本不严, 你不必担心。
 The customs inspection isn't strict at all. You don't need to worry.
- 2. 他根本不会开车,你怎么能让他去机场接人呢? He doesn't know how to drive at all. How could you ask him to pick someone up at the airport?
- (7) 好在他们根本没打开我的行李就让我通过了。

让 in this context means "to let" or "to allow (someone to do something)."

- 1. 这件事让他做吧! Let him do it.
- 2. 我妈妈不让我一边吃东西一边看书。
 My mother doesn't allow me to eat and read at the same time.
- (8) 后来我们坐上了一部大巴。

Later on we rode in a large bus.

后来 and 然后 both mean afterwards, but 后来 can be used only to describe events which have already transpired. 然后 indicates the

sequence of what's happening. The pattern is often 先…, 然后(再, 又, 还)….

1.A: 后来怎么样? B: 后来海关就让我通过了。

A: What happened afterwards? B: Afterwards, customs let me passed.

- 2. 我想先去北京,然后去别的地方。 I plan to go to Beijing first and go to other places afterwards.
- 3. 他先买了一本书, 然后又买了几只笔。 He bought a book and then bought a few pens as well.
- (9) 北京给我的第一个印象是海关的检查很松。

The first impression that Beijing gave me is that the customs is lax.

北京给我的第一个印象 means "the first impression that Beijing gave me." This idea can also be expressed as "我对北京的第一个印象."

- 1. 北京首都国际机场给我们的印象很好。
 The Beijing Capital International Airport impressed us very much.
- 2. 高速公路又宽又平, 给了我们很好的印象。 We were impressed by how wide and level the highway was.
- 3. 我对那个学生的印象是: 他很爱说话。
 The impression I have of that student is that he is quite talkative.
- 4. 我对中国海关的印象很好。 My impression of China's customs is very favorable.
- (10) 从机场到城里的高速公路又宽又平。

The highway from the airport to the city is both wide and flat.

With verbs, adjectives, or phrases, the pattern $\mathcal{Z} \cdots \mathcal{Z} \cdots$ indicates that two or more actions, states, or qualities coexist.

- 1. 我们的宿舍又大又舒服。
 Our dorm is both big and comfortable.
- 2. 他又会说中文又会说英文。 He can speak Chinese, and he can speak English.
- 3. 昨天晚上他们又吃又喝, 花了不少钱。

They ate and drank last night, spending more than a little money.

(11) 这和我想象中古老的北京完全不同。

This Beijing and the ancient one I had imagined are completely different.

中 means "middle;" therefore, 想象中 means "in one's imagination," 生活中的困难 means "the problems in one's life" and 社会中的问题 means "the issues in a society." The structure "verb 中" also means "in the middle of verb."

(12) 这和我想象中古老的北京完全不同。

A 和 B 不同 means A is different from B. Do not use 同 for positive forms; instead use 一样.

- 1. 这本杂志和我想象中的有点几不同。
 This magazine is a little different from what I imagined.
- 2. 北京的海关和美国的一样,都检查得很松。 Beijing customs is just like customs in America, it is very lax.

(13) 因为时差的关系,一直到早上三点还没睡着。

Because of jet lag, I did not fall asleep until after three o'clock in the morning.

关系 means "relations," "influence" or "relevance." When it is used with 因为, it indicates cause or reason. The expression 因为...的关系 may be used with a reason which is slightly vague.

- 1. 因为天气的关系, 飞机不能准时降落。 Because of the weather, the airplane was unable to land on schedule.
- 2. 因为时间的关系, 我们就谈到这儿。 We will have to stop because of the time.

I. Answer the following questions using the structures provided.

- 1. 你为什么要学中文呢? (因为…的关系)
- 2. 你来中国以前、对中国有什么样的印象? (据说)
- 3. 你来中国、坐飞机坐了多长时间? (V. 了+time duration 的 O.)
- 4. 你对北京首都国际机场的第一个印象是什么? (又…又…)
- 5. 你到中国以前, 最担心什么? 现在还担心吗? (好在)
- 6. 中国的海关严还是美国的海关严? (A 没有 B 那么 adj.)

II. Choose the correct answer in parentheses to complete each sentence.

- 1. 他现在又高又黑,和我想象(上,中,下)完全不同。
- 2. (我据说,据中国海关说)《花花公子》不能带进中国。
- 3. 我们应该先到宿舍去, (后来, 然后) 到外事处去。
- 4. 要通过海关的人不多, 我们花了半个小时(就, 不过, 还) 通过检查了。
- 5. 走高速公路很快, (从机场到学校, 开从机场到学校) 只要一个小时。
- 6. 他一(坐了上,坐上了)车就(睡不着,不睡着)。
- 7. 我们对学生(一点儿,有一点儿)松,我(担心一点儿,有一点儿担心)。

III. Make a sentence using the underlined structure(s).

- 1. 通过海关的时候儿,我有点儿担心,因为我带了几本儿《花花公子》给我的中国朋友。
- 2. <u>据说</u>中国海关对这类杂志查得很严,好在他们没打开行李就 让我通过了。
- 3. 今天很累,也很兴奋。不过<u>因为</u>时差<u>的关系</u>,一直到早上三点还没睡着。

IV. Combine the following pairs of sentences into a single sentence.

Example: 张先生在学校的外事处工作。他到机场来接我。

- → 在学校外事处工作的张先生到机场来接我。
- 1. 我跟一个美国学生住在一起。他只学了一个月中文。
- 2. 我的中国朋友到宿舍来看我。他们住在北京。
- 3. 中国的海关打开了行李。行李里有《花花公子》杂志。
- 4. 外事处派来一部大巴。我们坐上了大巴。

V. Complete the dialogues with the expressions provided.

1. A:	你学中文已经两年了,你不想到中国看看吗?
B:	。(因为…的关系,一直还…)
2. A:	你对这个学校宿舍的印象怎么样?
B:	不太好,。(又…又…,有点儿adj.)
3. A:	通过海关的时候,你担心吗?
В:	。(一点几也不,因为,根本)

VI. Translate into Chinese.

- 1. Don't worry! There are not many cars on the highway from downtown to the airport at this time (of day). You will be able to catch (use "坐上") the airplane on time.
- 2. This school is not as modernized as I thought. The dormitory is old and small. It is totally different from what I had imagined.
- 3. Because of 911, Customs at American airports is very strict. If you have water in your luggage, they simply won't let you pass.
- 4. I waited at the airport until 6 o'clock, but didn't see Mr. Zhang, dispatched from the foreign affairs office.

VII. Composition

Write a journal of what you see in your first day/week here in China. What is your first impression? What surprises you most? Have you seen any stark contrasts: new and old, fast and slow, modern and traditional? As a new visitor, what do you think about these extremes?