



WRITING · CONFIDENT BEGINNER

The Three de Words: 的, 地, 得

Made Clear

Separate 的, 地, and 得 by the words they connect: describe a noun, describe how an action happens, or describe the result or degree after an action.

wǒ xǐhuan de shū

我喜欢的书

the book I like

的 + noun

By the end, you can...

- ✓ Use 的 before a noun phrase
- ✓ Recognize 地 between a manner description and an action
- ✓ Use 得 after a verb or adjective to add degree or result information



Confident beginner

35-50 minutes

17 pages

Answer guide

Self-contained print practice. Audio and web tools are optional.



1

Find the anchor word

After this page, you can Decide whether de points toward a noun, an action, or a complement.

FIND

Position map



Use the visual cue, then find the matching row.

Character	Core frame	Question to ask
的 de	description + 的 + NOUN	Which person or thing?
地 de	manner + 地 + ACTION	How is the action done?
得 de	ACTION + 得 + degree/result	How well, fast, clear, or much?



Find, cover, recall

Find one useful row. Cover it and reconstruct the target form before checking.



2

Find the anchor word CONTINUED

After this page, you can Decide whether de points toward a noun, an action, or a complement.

 **FIND**

Name the job first

Choose noun, action, or degree/result.

1

WORKED EXAMPLE

我的朋友 – what follows de?



noun



action



degree/result

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

2

跑得很快 – what follows de?



noun



action



degree/result



One more from you

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



3

的: identify or describe a noun

After this page, you can Connect an owner, quality, or longer description to a person or thing.

DESCRIBE

Everything before 的 describes the noun



wǒ de lǎoshī

我的老师

my teacher

owner



hǎochī de cài

好吃的菜

tasty food

quality



wǒ zuótiān mǎi de shū

我昨天买的书

the book I bought yesterday

longer description



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



4

的: identify or describe a noun CONTINUED

After this page, you can Connect an owner, quality, or longer description to a person or thing.

 DESCRIBE**Build the noun phrase**

Insert 的 where needed.

3

WORKED EXAMPLE

我___朋友

One answer wǒ de péng yǒu

我的朋友

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

4

她做___饭

**One more from you**

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



5

地: describe how an action happens

After this page, you can Place a manner description before the action in standard written form.

DESCRIBE

Manner + 地 + action



mànmàn de shuō

慢慢地说

speak slowly
manner



rènzhēn de xuéxí

认真地学习

study conscientiously
manner



gāoxìng de xiào le

高兴地笑了

laughed happily
manner before action



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



6

地: describe how an action happens CONTINUED

After this page, you can Place a manner description before the action in standard written form.

 DESCRIBE
Put manner before action

Choose the standard character.

5

WORKED EXAMPLE

请慢慢____说。

☐ 的

☒ 地

☐ 得

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

6

他认真____写汉字。

☐ 的

☐ 地

☐ 得
**One more from you**

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



7

得: describe degree after an action

After this page, you can Add how well, clearly, quickly, or much after the verb.

 COMPLETE

Action + 得 + complement



Tā shuō de hěn kuài.

他说得很快。

He speaks very quickly.
speed



Nǐ xiě de hěn hǎo.

你写得很好。

You write very well.
quality



Wǒ tīng de hěn qīngchū.

我听得很清楚。

I can hear very clearly.
result/degree



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



8

得: describe degree after an action CONTINUED

After this page, you can Add how well, clearly, quickly, or much after the verb.

COMPLETE

Complete the complement

Choose the standard character.

7

WORKED EXAMPLE

她中文说___很好。

☐ 的☐ 地☒ 得

Why it works: It completes the requested job using the target pattern.

8

他跑___很快。

☐ 的☐ 地☐ 得**One more from you**

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



9

Same idea, different focus

After this page, you can Contrast manner before the action with degree after it.

COMPARE

Where is the description?



Tā gāoxìng de chàngē.

她高兴地唱歌。

She sings happily.

manner chosen before action



Tā chàngē chāng de hěn kāixīn.

她唱歌唱得很开心。

She sings with great enjoyment.

degree/state after action



Zhè shì tā rènzhēn xiě de xìn.

这是他认真写的信。

This is the letter he wrote carefully.

whole clause describes 信



Cover + retrieve

Choose one line. Hide it, say it once, then uncover and repair one detail.



10

Same idea, different focus CONTINUED

After this page, you can Contrast manner before the action with degree after it.

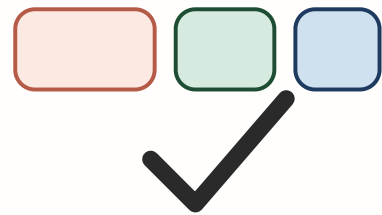
COMPARE

Do not choose from English alone

English adverbs do not map mechanically to 地 or 得. First find the noun or action structure in the Mandarin sentence, then use the position map.

Put it in your own words.

Cover this card and explain the idea in one sentence.



A visual anchor for this page's idea



11

Repair and write

After this page, you can Correct mixed forms and explain the anchor word.

REPAIR

Fix the character

Rewrite each phrase with the standard de character.

9

WORKED EXAMPLE

我的学习地方法

One answer wǒ de xué xí fāng fǎ

我的学习方法

Why it works: 的 connects 我 to the noun phrase 学习方法; no second de belongs inside that word.

10

请说的慢一点儿



One more from you

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



12

Repair and write CONTINUED

After this page, you can Correct mixed forms and explain the anchor word.

REPAIR

Fix the character

Rewrite each phrase with the standard de character.

11

她高兴得走进来



One more from you

Make a new response with the same target pattern.

Finish from memory. Choose one completed response, cover the page, and make it again.



13

Repair and write CONTINUED

After this page, you can Correct mixed forms and explain the anchor word.

 REPAIR

My three-way set

12

Write one phrase with 的 + noun, one with 地 + action, and one with action + 得. Circle the noun or action anchor.

Success looks like Each sentence follows one of the three position frames.

Choose your mode Write in Hanzi · write in tone-marked pinyin · say and record it



14

Check your work

After this page, you can compare your response, understand the repair, and choose one item to replay later.

✓ ANSWER GUIDE

Answers with useful feedback

Closed tasks have a direct answer. Open tasks include a model or success criteria; your response does not need to match word for word.

1

我的朋友 – what follows de?

noun

2

跑得很快 – what follows de?

degree/result

3

我___朋友

wǒ de péng yǒu

我的朋友

4

她做___饭

tā zuò de fàn

她做的饭

5

请慢慢___说。

dī

地

6

他认真___写汉字。

dī

地

Do not stop at checking. Circle one repair and make that response again with the answer covered.



15

Check your work CONTINUED

After this page, you can compare your response, understand the repair, and choose one item to replay later.

✓ ANSWER GUIDE

Answers with useful feedback

Closed tasks have a direct answer. Open tasks include a model or success criteria; your response does not need to match word for word.

7

她中文说____很好。

dé

得

8

他跑____很快。

dé

得

9

我的学习地方法

wǒ de xué xí fāng fǎ

我的学习方法

Why: 的 connects 我 to the noun phrase 学习方法; no second de belongs inside that word.

10

请说的慢一点儿

qǐng shuō dé màn yì diǎn ér

请说得慢一点儿。

11

她高兴得走进来

tā gāo xìng dì zǒu jìn lái

她高兴地走进来。

Do not stop at checking. Circle one repair and make that response again with the answer covered.



16

Check your work CONTINUED

After this page, you can compare your response, understand the repair, and choose one item to replay later.

✓ ANSWER GUIDE

Answers with useful feedback

Closed tasks have a direct answer. Open tasks include a model or success criteria; your response does not need to match word for word.

12

Write one phrase with 的 + noun, one with 地 + action, and one with action + 得. Circle the noun or action anchor.

ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER

Wǒ de Zhōngwén lǎoshī. (noun: lǎoshī) / Tā rènzhēn de xuéxí. (action: xuéxí) / Tā shuō de hěn qīngchū. (action: shuō)

我的中文老师。(noun: 老师) / 她认真地学习。(action: 学习) / 他说得很清楚。(action: 说)

Success criteria: Each sentence follows one of the three position frames.

Second attempt

Cover the model. Recreate it from memory, change one useful detail, and note the repair you want to revisit.

Do not stop at checking. Circle one repair and make that response again with the answer covered.