



Lesson 3

Coordinate Verbs



Dictionary entries

* = Old Chinese Pronunciation

桂 “cassia tree” (*guì*, **kiweg*) = 木 (radical #75) + 圭 (*guī*, **kiweg*), 6 strokes

江 “river” (*jiāng*, **kǔng*) = 水 (radical #85) + 工 (*gōng*, **kung*), 3 strokes

From: Fuller, *Literary Chinese*, p. 48.

雨 yú: 1) rain; 2) to rain

4 Tones

ping 平 (level)

shang 上 (rising)

qu 去 (falling)

ru 入 (entering)

Guangyun

雨²

[yù 《广韵》王遇切, 去遇, 云] ①降雨。《诗·小雅·大田》: “雨我公田遂及我私。” 唐韩愈《袁州祭神文》之一: “以久不雨苗且盡死。”

From: Fuller, *Literary Chinese*, p. 48.

雨 = initial **w-ang** 王 +
final **y-u** 遇

Rhyme category

shǒu zhū dài tù 守株待兔 (韓非子)

1. 宋人有耕者，田中有株；兔走觸株，折頸而死。
2. 因釋其耒而守株，冀復得兔。
3. 兔不可復得，而身為宋國笑。
4. 今欲以先王之政，治當世之民，皆守株之類也。

1. Sòng rén yǒu gēng zhě, tián zhōng yǒu zhū; tù zǒu chù zhū, zhé jǐng ér sǐ.
2. yīn shì qí lěi ér shǒu zhū, jì fù dé tù.
3. tù bù kě fù dé, ér shēn wéi Sòng guó xiào.
4. jīn yù yǐ xiān wáng zhī zhèng zhì dāng shì zhī mín jiē shǒu zhū zhī lèi yě.



The verb of existential predication *yǒu* 有
“there is/was”, “there exists”

▶ *yǒu* 有: says that its object exists

▶ The construction

[State]人 有+Noun+者

“Among the people of X there was a Y.”

宋 人 有 耕者

Sòng rén yǒu gēng zhě

“**Among the people of Song there was a ploughman.**”



Revision: Uses of ér 而

- ▶ The particle er 而 is used as a connective between verbs or verb phrases. It may be translated as ‘and’. **It cannot occur between nouns!**
- ▶ Two or more verbs or verb phrases in a series form a narrative or logical sequence.

Examples:

滕文公為世子，將之楚，過宋，而見孟子。

When Duke Wen of Teng was Crown Prince, he passed through Song on his way to Chu and saw Mencius.

至死而止。

‘only stopping when he had died’ (literally: ‘arrive at death and [only] then stop’)



Uses of 而 II

- ▶ The semantic relationships between verbs in a series can be quite varied. Apart from simple narrative sequence there can be the main following relationships:
 1. Implication of purpose: 緣木而求魚 *yuan mu er qiu yu*
'climbing a tree to hunt for fish'
 2. Indicating consequence: 折頸而死 *zhe jing er si*
'twist/break its neck and die'
 3. Contrastive: 人而無知 *ren er wu zhi* 'to be a person and yet be without knowledge'
 4. Manner of action: 走而行 *zou er xing*; the first verb specifies the manner in which the second verb is performed; e.g. 'to run and go to' → 'to hasten', 'to rush to'
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Passive construction with wéi 為...suǒ 所

- ▶ 身為宋國[所]笑 shēn wéi Sòng guó [suǒ] xiào
- ▶ wéi 為...suǒ 所 is a passive construction; wéi 為 ‘by’ introducing the agent of the action (笑 ‘to laugh’) →
- ▶ “he himself was laughed at by [all] the land of Song”.



Analysis of sentence 4

今欲以先王之政治当时之民，

皆守株之類也。

Topic

Comment

今欲以先王之政治当时之民

TW+V+Object

以先王之政治当时之民

CV+ Object + V + Object

以先王之政

CV+ NP + 之 + N

治当时之民

V + NP + 之 + N

‘to use policies of the former kings’ ‘to govern the people of the present age’

Building a complex sentence

- ▶ 治民。to govern the people
 - ▶ 欲治民。desire to govern the people
 - ▶ 欲以政治民。desire to govern the people with policies
 - ▶ 欲以先王之政治民。desire to govern the people with the policies of the former kings
 - ▶ 欲以先王之政治當世之民。desire to govern the people of the present with the policies of the former kings
 - ▶ 欲以先王之政治當世之民此類也。Desiring to govern the people of the present with the policies of the former kings is of this kind.
 - ▶ 欲以先王之政治當世之民皆此類也。Desiring to govern the people of the present with the policies of the former kings is always of this kind.
 - ▶ 今欲以先王之政治當世之民皆守株之類也。Now, to desire to govern the people of the present with the policies of the former kings, this is always like guarding the tree stump.
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