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## All structures great and small: on copular sentences with shì in Mandarin

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On copular sentences with *shì* in Mandarin

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# All structures great and small

On copular sentences with *shì* in Mandarin

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To the past years, which are

*Swifter far than summer's flight  
Swifter far than youth's delight  
Swifter far than happy night*

*from "Remembrance"*  
— P.B. Shelley



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## Abbreviations

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CLF	classifier
COP	copula
DE	<i>de</i> in sentence final position
DEM	demonstrative
EXP	experiential aspect marker
FEM	feminine
MAS	masculine
NEG	negation
PFV	perfective aspect marker
PL	plural
PROG	progressive aspect marker
PST	past tense
Q	interrogative particle
RED	reduplication
SFP	sentence final particle
SG	singular
SHI	<i>shì</i> in non-prototypical copular sentences
SUB	subordinate operator
TM	topic marker

