

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Cantonese #7 Do You Speak English?

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 你識唔識講英文?
2. 唔該，你識唔識英文?
3. 識呀! 我識講英文。
4. 唔識呀! 我唔識講英文。

JYUTPING

1. nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 gong2 jing1 man2
2. m4 goi1, nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 jing1 man2
3. sik1 aa3, ngo5 sik1 gong2 jing1 man2
4. m4 sik1 aa3, ngo5 m4 sik1 gong2 jing1 man2.

ENGLISH

1. Do you speak English?
2. Excuse me, do you know English?
3. Yes, I speak English.
4. No, I don't speak English.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
你	nei5	you	pronoun
識	sik1	know	verb
唔識	m4 sik1	don't know	phrase
講	gong2	say; speak	verb
英文	jing1 man2	English	noun
會	wui3	can	modal verb
唔會	m4 wui3	cannot	modal verb
唔該	m4 goi1	excuse me, please, thank you	phrase
唔識呀	m4 sik1 aa3	not know	phrase
我	ngo5	I	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>你識唔識英文? <i>nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 jing1 man2 ?</i></p> <p>Do you speak English?</p>	<p>唔該，我諗你坐緊呢個位係我嘅。 <i>m4 goi1, ngo5 lam2 nei5 co5 gan2 ni1 go3 wai2 hai6 ngo5 ge3.</i></p> <p>"Excuse me, I think this is my seat you are sitting on."</p>
<p>唔該細聲啲。 <i>m4 goi1 sai3 seng1 di1.</i></p> <p>Please lower your volume.</p>	<p>我叫Nicole。 <i>ngo5 giu3 Nicole.</i></p> <p>I'm (called) Nicole.</p>

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer the question Do you speak English?.

	Register	Cantonese	Jyutping	English
Phrase 1	formal	你識唔識講 英文?	<i>nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 gong2 jing1 man2</i>	Do you speak English?
Word 1		你	<i>nei5</i>	you
Word 2		識	<i>sik1</i>	know
Word 3		唔識	<i>m4 sik1</i>	don't know
Word 4		講	<i>gong2</i>	speak
Word 5		英文	<i>jing1 man2</i>	English
Phrase 2	informal	你會唔會講 英文?	<i>nei5 wui3 m4 wui3 gong2 jing1 man2</i>	Do you speak English?
Word 1		你	<i>nei5</i>	you
Word 2		會	<i>wui3</i>	can
Word 3		唔會	<i>m4 wui3</i>	cannot
Word 4		講	<i>gong2</i>	speak
Word 5		英文	<i>jing1 man2</i>	English
Phrase 3	formal	唔該, 你識 唔識英文?	<i>m4 goi1, nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 jing1 man2</i>	Excuse me, do you know English?
Word 1		唔該	<i>m4 goi1</i>	excuse me
Word 2		你	<i>nei5</i>	you
Word 3		識	<i>sik1</i>	know
Word 4		唔識	<i>m4 sik1</i>	don't know

Word 5	英文	<i>jing1 man2</i>	English
Phrase 4	唔識呀! 我 唔識講英 文。	<i>m4 sik1 aa3, ngo5 m4 sik1 gong2 jing1 man2.</i>	No, I don't speak English.
Word 1	唔識呀	<i>m4 sik1 aa3</i>	not know
Word 2	我	<i>ngo5</i>	I
Word 3	唔識	<i>m4 sik1</i>	do not know
Word 4	講	<i>gong2</i>	speak

CULTURAL INSIGHT

If your native language is not English, you can make your own question by replacing “English” with the name of the other language. For example, you can use...

日文 (*jat6 man2*) for Japanese.

西班牙文 (*saai1 baan1 aa4 man2*) for Spanish.

德文 (*dak1 man2*) for German.

義大利文 (*ji3 daai6 lei6 man2*) for Italian.