CantoneseClass101.com

3-Minute Cantonese #8
Talking About Your Age

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 你幾多歲呀?

2. 你貴庚呀?

3. 我十七歲。

4. 我唔想講。

JYUTPING

1. nei5 gei2 do1 seoi3 aa3?

2. nei5 gwai3 gang1 aa3?

3. ngo5 sap6 cat1 seoi3.

4. ngo5 m4 soeng2 gong2.

ENGLISH

1. How old are you?

2. How old are you?

3. I am 17.

4. I prefer not to say.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
你	nei5	you	pronoun
幾多	gei2 do1	how many, how much	phrase
歲	seoi3, seui4	age, year (old)	noun
呀	aa3	final particle for questions	final particle
貴	gwai3	honorable, respectful	adjective
庚	gang1	age, year	noun
呀	aa3	final particle	final particle
我	ngo5	I	pronoun
十	sap6	ten (10)	number
七	cat1	seven (7)	number
歲	seoi3	year, years old	noun
唔想	soeng2	to want	verb
講	gong2	say; speak	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

幾多位？
gei2 do1 wai2 ?

How many people are you?

我叫Nicole。
ngo5 giu3 Nicole。

I'm (called) Nicole.

而家十點鐘。
ji4 gaa1 sap6 dim2 zung1。

It's ten o'clock now.

我哋公司有七個人。
ngo5 dei2 gung1 si1 jau5 cat1 go3 jan4。

There are seven people in our company.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask someone's age and say yours.

	Register	Cantonese	*Jyutping*	English
Phrase 1	**informal**	你幾多歲呀？	*nei5 gei2 do1 seoi3 aa3*	**How old are you?**
Word 1		你	*nei5*	You
Word 2		幾多	*gei2 do1*	how many
Word 3		歲	*seoi3*	years old
Word 4		呀	*aa3*	final particle for questions
Phrase 2	**formal**	你貴庚呀？	*nei5 gwai3 gang1 aa3*	**How old are you?**
Word 1		你	*nei5*	You
Word 2		貴	*gwai3*	honorable, respectful
Word 3		庚	*gang1*	age, year
Word 4		呀	*aa3*	final particle
Phrase 3		我十七歲。	*ngo5 sap6 cat1 seoi3*	**I am 17.**
Word 1		我	*ngo5*	I
Word 2		十	*sap6*	ten
Word 3		七	*cat1*	seven
Word 4		歲	*seoi3*	years old

Phrase 4	我唔想講。	*ngo5 m4 soeng2 gong2*	**I prefer not to say.**
Word 1	我	*ngo5*	I
Word 2	唔想	*soeng2*	to want
Word 3	講	*gong2*	say,speak

CULTURAL INSIGHT

For numbers between 21 and 29, you might hear people using *jaa6* to mean 20 something, instead of *ji6 sap6*. Both can be used in spoken Cantonese.

For example, 21 in Cantonese can be either *jaa6 jat1* or *ji6 sap6 jat1*. Similarly, 27 could be either *jaa6 cat1* or *ji6 sap6 cat1*.

我   我