

## LESSON NOTES

# Absolute Beginner S1 #11

## No Free Cantonese Lunch

---

## CONTENTS

- 2 Traditional Chinese
- 2 Jyutping
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 5 Cultural Insight

# 11

# TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 弊!
2. 咩事?
3. 我有晒cash!
4. 唔使驚，我大把。

# JYUTPING

1. bai6 !
2. me1 si6 ?
3. ngo5 mou5 saai3 cash !
4. m4 sai2 geng1, ngo5 daai6 baa2。

# ENGLISH

1. Shoot!
2. What?
3. I ran out of cash!
4. Don't worry. I've got plenty.

# VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
冇晒	mou5 saai3	to run out of	phrase
驚	geng1	to be scared of	transitive verb
咩事	me1 si6	What (thing happened)?	phrase
擔心	daam1 sam1	to worry	verb
唔使驚	m4 sai2 geng1	Don't worry.	phrase
錢	cin2	money	noun
大把	daai6 baa2	to have plenty (of); many	verb, adjective
唔使	m4 sai2	no need to	phrase
弊	bai6	shoot!	interjection

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>佢冇晒面。 <i>keoi5 mou5 saai3 min2。</i></p> <p>He is so embarrassed.</p>	<p>我好驚老鼠。 <i>ngo5 hou2 geng1 lou5 syu2。</i></p> <p>I'm scared of mice.</p>
<p>咩事? <i>me1 si6?</i></p> <p>What?</p>	<p>媽媽好擔心你。 <i>maa1 maa1 hou2 daam1 sam1 nei5。</i></p> <p>Mom is so worried about you.</p>
<p>我喺你身邊, 唔使驚! <i>ngo5 hai2 nei5 san1 bin1, m4 sai2 geng1!</i></p> <p>Don't worry, I am by your side.</p>	<p>嗰個幾錢? <i>go2 go3 gei2 cin2?</i></p> <p>How much is that?</p>

<p>慢慢嚟，我大把時間。 <i>maan6 maan2 lai4, ngo5 daai6 baa2 si4 gaan3.</i></p> <p>Take it easy, I have plenty of time.</p>	<p>失戀啫，唔駛咁鬱結嚟。 <i>sat1 lyun2 ze1, m4 sai2 gam2 wat1 git3 bo3.</i></p> <p>You don't need to be depressed just because you broke up with your girlfriend.</p>
<p>唔駛咁緊張。 <i>m4 sai2 gam3 gan2 zoeng1.</i></p> <p>No need to be so anxious.</p>	<p>弊啦! <i>bai6 laa3!</i></p> <p>Oh, shoot!</p>

## GRAMMAR

### The Focus of This Lesson is Reviewing Basic Sentence Structure

我有晒 cash !

*ngo5 mou5 saai3 cash!*

"I ran out of cash!"

The basic Cantonese sentence structure follows the English pattern: Subject + Verb/Adverb + Object. A sample sentence is 我好口渴 (*ngo5 hou2 hau2 hot3.*) - "I'm very thirsty." In this sentence, the object of the sentence is the adjective 口渴 ("thirsty"). We connect the subject 我 to the adjective/object by the adverb 好. In this context, the adverb 好 functions as the English equivalent of "to be" and "very" combined.

### More examples using the adverb 好:

- 佢好肚餓。  
*keoi5 hou2 tou5 ngo6*  
"He is hungry."
- 我好劓。  
*ngo5 hou2 gui6*  
"I am tired."

To negate a sentence in Cantonese, simply replace the adverb 好 with 唔 (*m4*).

### For Example:

1. 我唔奘。  
*ngo5 m4 gui6*  
"I'm not tired."

We can place other verbs into our formula of Subject + Verb + Object, including 有 (*jau5*) - "to have," 要 (*jiu3*) - "to want," and 鍾意 (*zung1 ji3*) - "to like".

### For Example:

1. 我有錢。  
*ngo5 jau5 cin2*  
"I have money."
2. 我要呢個。  
*ngo5 jiu3 ni1 go3*  
"I want this"
3. 我鍾意你。  
*ngo5 zung1 ji3 nei5*  
"I like you."

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### Purchasing Power in Hong Kong

---

Hong Kong is based on commerce, and it functions as an Asian financial hub. People travel from all over the world to shop in one of Hong Kong's many department stores. Customers need easy access to these goods, so the use of credit and debit cards is everywhere. Aside from being able to pay with a card, Hong Kong has colorful and interesting banknotes. Individual banks inside Hong Kong print their own money. Money from different banks will appear and feel different, sometimes having a clear, see-through portion. Coins are also quite common in Hong Kong since a large number of people take public transportation. Coins are easily distributed and collected.