

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S1 #25

Drinks on Me in Cantonese

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 今晚去酒吧飲酒?
2. 啊...
3. 我請。
4. 一定到。

JYUTPING

1. gam1 maan5 heoi3 zau2 baa1 jam2 zau2 ?
2. aa4 ...
3. ngo5 ceng2。
4. jat1 ding6 dou3。

ENGLISH

1. How about we have a drink in the bar tonight?
2. Uh...
3. My treat.
4. I'll definitely be there.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
夜晚	je6 maan5	night	noun
一定	jat1 ding6	definitely	adverb
我請	ngo5 ceng2	my treat	phrase
酒吧	zau2 baa6	bar	noun
尋日	cam4 jat6	yesterday	noun
聽日	ting1 jat6	tomorrow	noun
今日	gam1 jat6	today	noun
尋晚	cam4 maan5	last night	noun
聽晚	ting1 maan5	tomorrow night	noun
今晚	gam1 maan1	tonight	noun
白日	baak6 jat6	day	noun
到	dou3	to arrive	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>我夜晚去酒吧。 <i>ngo5 je6 maan5 heoi3 zau2 baa1.</i></p> <p>I go to bars at night.</p>	<p>我一定請你飲嘢。 <i>ngo5 jat1 ding6 ceng2 nei5 jam2 je5.</i></p> <p>I'll definitely buy you a drink.</p>
<p>我請你飲嘢。 <i>ngo5 ceng2 nei5 jam2 je5.</i></p> <p>I'll buy you a drink.</p>	<p>前邊有間酒吧。 <i>cin4 bin1 jau5 gaan1 zau2 baa1.</i></p> <p>There's a bar in front.</p>
<p>你尋日遲到。 <i>nei5 cam4 jat6 ci4 dou3.</i></p> <p>You were late yesterday.</p>	<p>聽日放假。 <i>ting1 jat6 fong3 gaa3.</i></p> <p>"Tomorrow is a holiday."</p>

<p>我今日見到你。 <i>ngo5 gam1 jat6 gin3 dou2 nei5.</i></p> <p>I saw you today.</p>	<p>你尋晚去咗邊? <i>nei5 cam4 maan5 heoi3 zo2 bin1?</i></p> <p>Where were you last night?</p>
<p>佢哋聽晚返。 <i>keoi5 dei6 ting1 maan5 faan1.</i></p> <p>They'll be back tomorrow night.</p>	<p>我哋今晚去玩。 <i>ngo5 dei6 gam1 maan1 heoi3 waan2.</i></p> <p>We're going out tonight.</p>
<p>佢白日做野。 <i>keoi5 baak6 jat6 zou6 je5.</i></p> <p>he works in the day.</p>	<p>我地一定到。 <i>ngo5 dei6 jat1 ding6 dou3.</i></p> <p>We'll be there.</p>

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is time words 今晚 *gam1 maan5* ("Tonight")

今晚去酒吧飲酒? *gam1 maan5 heoi3 zau2 baa1 jam2 zau2?*

"How about we have a drink in the bar tonight?"

This grammar point focuses on where to place time words in a Cantonese sentence. In a Cantonese sentence, the time word is placed at the beginning of the sentence. If the sentence has a subject, you can place the time word either before or after the subject. If the subject is omitted then the time word simply goes at the beginning of the sentence.

For example, 我而家口渴 (*ngo5 ji4 gaa1 hau2 hot3*) - "I'm thirsty right now." The time word 而家 (*ji4 gaa1*) - "right now" is placed in front of the verb. If taken word for word, the sentence looks like "I right now to be very thirsty."

Examples:

- 你今日忙唔忙?
nei5 gam1 jat6 mong4 m4 mong4
"Are you busy today?"
Time word: 今日

2. 我尋晚去左。
ngo5 cam4 maan5 heoi3 zo2
"I went there last night."
Time word: 尋晚

3. 今晚我們去酒吧飲酒？
gam1 maan5 ngo5 mun4 heoi3 zau2 baa1 jam2 zau2
"How about we go out for a drink tonight?"
Time word: 今晚

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A View from the Top

A view of Victoria Harbor goes well with an immaculately made drink at one of Hong Kong's many luxury bars.

Starting with the grandfather of the harbor view bars, Felix offers wide sweeping views of the neon lit harbor while lighting up the colonial-style Peninsula hotel. It's an old-school high roller place that bans kids and enforces a strict dress code, but get past the elitism and you'll find yourself in Hong Kong's most classic harbor view bar.

At Aqua Spirit, enjoy the floor-to-ceiling view of the harbor as you battle vertigo. Sip the Aquatini while observing every little detail of Northern Hong Kong island.

Perched on the top floor of the Excelsior, you will find the restaurant ToTT (Talk of the Town). Here you can enjoy champagne brunches and special occasion dinners. Enjoy a fruity cocktail on the roof terrace during one of those clear Hong Kong summer nights.