



Absolute Beginner S1

Crashing and Burning

13

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Traditional Chinese

嗨，靚女！
咩事啊？
你電話幾多號啊？
我有電話。

Jyutping

haai1, leng3 nei5 !
me1 si6 a3 ?
nei5 din6 waa2 gei2 do1 hou6 a3 ?
ngo5 mou5 din6 waa2.

English

Hi, gorgeous.
What?
What's your phone number?
I don't have a phone.

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Vocabulary

| Traditional | Jyutping | English |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 打 | daa2 | to dial; to hit |
| 電話 | din6 waa6 | telephone |
| 手機 | sau2 gei1 | cell phone |
| 號碼 | hou6 maa5 | number |
| 屋企 | uk1 kei5 | home |
| 幾多 | gei2 do1 | How many? (literally) |
| 七 | cat1 | seven (7) |
| 八 | baat3 | eight (8) |
| 九 | gau2 | nine (9) |
| 零 | ling4 | zero (0) |

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

| | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| 打俾我。 有冇我電話？ | daa2 bei2 ngo5. jau5 mou5 ngo5 din6 waa2? | Call me. Are there any phone calls for me? |
| 我想買部新手機。 | ngo5 soeng2 maai5 bou6 san1 sau2 gei1. | I want to buy a new cell phone. |
| 你屋企號碼幾多？ | nei5 uk1 kei2 hou6 maa5 gei2 do1? | What's your room number? |
| 佢屋企電話幾多？ | keoi5 uk1 kei2 din6 waa2 gei2 do1? | What's his landline? |
| 總共幾多人啊？ | zung2 gung6 gei2 do1 jan4 aa3? | How many people all together? |
| 呢條裙四百七十蚊。 | ni1 tiu4 kwan4 sei3 baak3 cat1 sap6 man1. | This skirt is 470 HKD. |
| 佢住喺八樓。 佢爸爸一九八九年嚟美國。 | keoi5 zyu6 hai2 baat3 lau2. keoi5 baa4 baa1 jat1 gau2 baat3 gau2 nin4 lai4 mei5 gwok3. | He lives on the eighth floor. His dad came to America in 1989. |
| 我最愛嘅電影角色係占士邦零七！ | ngo5 zeoi3 oi3 ge3 din6 jing2 gok3 sik1 hai6 zim1 si6 bong1 ling4 ling4 cat1 ! | My favorite movie star is James Bond - 007! |

Grammar Points

The Focus of This Lesson is 幾多, gei1 do1 ("How Many")

你電話幾多號啊？

nei5 din6 waa2 gei2 do1 hou6 a3 ?

"What's your phone number?"

In Cantonese, when asking for someone's phone number, use 幾多號 (gei2 do1 hou6) - "How many number?"

"What's your phone number?" in Cantonese is 你電話幾多號啊? (nei5 din6 waa2 gei2 do1 hou6 a3), this translates literally as "Your phone number how many number?"

Here are some more examples using 幾多:

1. 有幾多人？

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jau5 gei2 do1 jan4

"How many people (are there)?"

2. 有幾多個？

jau5 gei2 do1 go3

"How many?"

3. 我哋屋企電話幾多號？

ngo5 dei6 uk1 kei2 din6 waa2 gei2 do1 hou6

"What's our home phone number?"

4. 佢手機幾多號？

keoi5 sau2 gei1 gei2 do1 hou6

"What's his cell number?"

Cultural Insight

Cell Phones in Hong Kong

Cell phones are easy to use and buy in Hong Kong. You can use any international cell phone as long as it has a SIM card slot in the phone. You can easily purchase a SIM card on a pre-paid basis without the hassle of contracts. Since Hong Kong has preferential trade policies and low tariffs, you can purchase international brands of electronics and cell phones at a discounted price. You can buy an iPhone at a thirty to forty percent discount in price from the same model in mainland China.