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Absolute Beginner S2 #14 Shopping in Hong Kong

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 呢個商場打緊折。

2. 打幾折?

3. 最低三折

4. 咁平? 一齊去啦。

JYUTPING

1. ni1 go3 soeng1 coeng4 daa2 gan2 zit3 。

2. daa2 gei2 zit3 ?

3. zeoi3 dai1 saam1 zit3

4. gam3 peng4 ? jat1 cai4 heoi3 laa1 。

ENGLISH

1. A: This store is having a sale.

2. B: What's the discount?

3. A: Seventy percent off at most.

4. B: That cheap? Let's go!

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
商場	soeng1 coeng4	shopping mall	noun
打折	daa2 zit3	be on sale	verb
折	zit3	discount	adjective
最	zeoi3	the most	adjective
低	dai1	low	adjective
高	gou1	high	adjective
咁	gam3	so	adjective
平	peng4	cheap	adjective
貴	gwai3	expensive	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

呢個商場好大，你想買咩基本上都有齊。
ni1 go3 soeng1 coeng4 hou2 daai6, nei5 soeng2 maai5 me1 gei1 bun2 soeng6 dou1 jau5 caai4.

This shopping mall is very big, whatever you want to buy, they basically have.

而家冇打折。
ji4 gaa1 mou5 daa2 zit3。

We don't have any sale now.

件衫有冇折?
gin6 saam1 jau5 mou5 zit3?

Does the piece of clothing have a discount?

你最靚!
nei5 zeoi3 leng3 !

You're the most beautiful!

人工太低。
jan4 gung1 taai3 dai1。

The pay is too low.

最高幾多?
zeoi3 gou1 gei2 do1 ?

What's the highest one?

成日咁多人。	平啲啦。
seng4 jat6 gam3 do1 jan4。	*peng4 di1 laa1。*
There're always so many people.	Cheaper, please.

太貴喇。
taai3 gwai3 laa6。

Too expensive.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Expressing Extremes with Adjectives
最低三折
zeoi3 dai1 saam1 zit3
"Seventy percent off at most."

The most common way of expressing extremes is below.

最 + adjective = "the most" + adjective.

Sample Sentences

Cantonese	Romanization	"English"
最靓係你。	*zeoi3 leng3 hai6 nei5 。*	"The most beautiful one is you."
七月最熱。	*cat1 jyut6 zeoi3 jit6 。*	"July is the hottest."
邊個最好？	*bin1 go3 zeoi3 hou2 ？*	"Which one is the best?"
邊個最好睇？	*bin1 go3 zeoi3 hou2 tai2 ？*	"Which one is the best-looking?"

Examples from This Lesson

1. 最低三折

   zeoi3 dai1 saam1 zit3

   "Seventy percent off at most"

Language Tip

In Cantonese or other Chinese languages, expressing discount is to say what is on as opposed to saying what's off. For example, "twenty percent off" is 八折 ("eighty percent on").

1. 最低三折