

LESSON NOTES

# Absolute Beginner S2 #16

## Paying Phone Bills in Hong Kong

---

CONTENTS

- 2 Traditional Chinese
- 2 Jyutping
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar

# 16

# TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 你電話打唔通。
2. 係咩?
3. 要交電話費喇!
4. 咩係電話費啊?

# JYUTPING

1. nei5 din6 waa2 daa2 m4 tung1。
2. hai6 me1 ?
3. jiu3 gaau1 din6 waa2 fai3 laa6 !
4. me1 hai6 din6 waa2 fai3 aa3 ?

# ENGLISH

1. A: I couldn't reach you by phone.
2. B: Really?
3. A: You should pay your phone bill.
4. B: What's a phone bill?

# VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
打	daa2	to dial	verb
通	tung1	to get through	verb
短訊	dyun2 seon3	text message	noun
留言	lau4 jin4	to leave message	verb
電話費	din6 waa2 fai3	phone bill	noun
交	gaau1	to pay (utility bills); to hand in	verb
電話	din6 waa2	telephone	noun

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>我要打個電話。 <i>Ngo5 jiu3 daa2 go3 din6 waa2.</i></p> <p>I need to make a call.</p>	<p>打俾我。 <i>daa2 bei2 ngo5.</i></p> <p>Call me.</p>
<p>打唔打得通? <i>daa2 m4 daa2 dak1 tung1 ?</i></p> <p>Will the call go through?</p>	<p>佢發咗短訊俾我。 <i>keoi5 faat3 zo2 dyun2 seon3 bei2 ngo5.</i></p> <p>She sent text message to me.</p>
<p>唔該留言。 <i>m4 goi1 lau4 jin4.</i></p> <p>Please leave a message.</p>	<p>電話費好貴。 <i>din6 waa2 fai3 hou2 gwai3.</i></p> <p>The phone bill is really costly.</p>
<p>下個月要交水費。 <i>haa6 go3 jyut6 jiu3 gaau1 seoi2 fai3.</i></p> <p>I need to pay the water bill next month.</p>	<p>有冇我電話? <i>jau5 mou5 ngo5 din6 waa2?</i></p> <p>Are there any phone calls for me?</p>

## GRAMMAR

## The Focus of This Lesson is Describing the Failure to Do Something

你電話打唔通。

"Your phone would not connect through."

打唔通

1. verb + 唔 + adj = "can't get" adj

否定某種動作效果。相當於普通話的"打不通", "吃不下"等等。

Cantonese	Romanization	"English Translation"
打唔通	<i>daa2 m4 tung1</i>	"Can't get through"
做唔晒	<i>zou6 m4 saai3</i>	"Can't get done"
食唔飽	<i>sik6 m4 baau2</i>	"Can't get full"
飲唔醉	<i>jam2 m4 zeoi3</i>	"Can't get drunk"

2. subject/object + verb + 唔 + adj

该结构前的主语可以是该动作的发出者或者接收者, 如"我吃不饱"也可以说"这个菜吃不饱"。

Cantonese	Romanization	"English Translation"
我打唔通。	<i>ngo5 daa2 m4 tung1</i>	"I can't reach you by phone."
你電話打唔通。	<i>nei5 din6 waa2 daa2 m4 tung1。</i>	"Your telephone would not connect through."
我做唔晒。	<i>ngo5 zou6 m4 saai3。</i>	"I can't finish these."
呢啲做唔晒。	<i>ni1 di1 zou6 m4 saai3。</i>	"These cannot be finished."
我哋食唔飽。	<i>ngo5 dei6 sik6 m4 baau2。</i>	"We can't get full."

---

呢餐食唔飽。

*ni1 caan1 sik6 m4 baau2.*

"This meal is not enough  
(to feed us)."

---

### Examples from This Lesson

---

1. 你電話打唔通。  
*nei5 din6 waa2 daa2 m4 tung1.*  
"Your telephone would not connect through."