

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S2 #25

Flying on Cathay Pacific

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 唔該熄手機。
2. 唔通你睇唔到我唔得閒咩?
3. 飛機馬上起飛。
4. 哦，好。
5. 多謝合作。

JYUTPING

1. m4 goi1 sik1 sau2 gei1 。
2. m4 tung1 nei5 tai2 m4 dou3 ngo5 m4 dak1 haan4 me1 ?
3. fei1 gei1 maa5 soeng6 hei2 fei1 。
4. ngo4 , hou2 。
5. do1 ze6 hap3 zok3 。

ENGLISH

1. A: Please turn off your phone.
2. B: Can't you see I'm busy?

CONT'D OVER

3. A: The plane is taking off.
4. B: Oh, okay.
5. A: Thanks for your cooperation.

VOCABULARY

| Traditional | Romanization | English | Class |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 唔通 | m4 tung1 | rhetorical question mark | adverb |
| 睇唔到 | tai2 m4 dou2 | can't see | verb phrase |
| 馬上 | maa5 soeng6 | immediately | adverb |
| 起飛 | hei2 fei1 | to take off | verb |
| 多謝 | do1 ze6 | Thank you. (formal) | expression |
| 飛機 | fei1 gei1 | airplane | noun |
| 合作 | hap6 zok3 | to cooperate | verb |

SAMPLE SENTENCES

| | |
|--|---|
| 唔通你唔識字? <i>m4 tung1 nei5 m4 sik1 zi6 ?</i> Can't you read? | 頭先睇唔到你。 <i>tau4 sin1 tai2 m4 dou2 nei5.</i> Didn't see you just now. |
| 我哋馬上走。 <i>ngo5 dei6 maa5 soeng6 zau2.</i> Let's go now. | 飛機一陣起飛。 <i>fei1 gei1 jat1 zan6 hei2 fei1.</i> The plane will take off in a bit. |

多謝你。
do1 ze6 nei5.

Thank you.

而家飛機票唔貴。
Ji4 gaa1 fei1 gei1 piu3 m4 gwai3.

Plane tickets now are not expensive.

合作好重要。
hap6 zok3 hou2 zung6 jiu3.

Cooperation is important.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Rhetorical Questions

唔通你睇唔到我唔得閒咩？

m4 tung1 nei5 tai2 m4 dou3 ngo5 m4 dak1 haan4 me1 ?

"Can't you see I'm busy?"

One of the many ways of forming a rhetorical question is to use the typical word 唔通. The structure is as below:

唔通 + subject + verb + 啊/咩 (optional)?

Sample Sentences

| Native Language | Romanization | "English Translation" |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 唔通你唔識字？ | <i>m4 tung1 nei5 m4 sik1 zi6 ?</i> | "Can't you read?" |
| 唔通你唔知咩？ | <i>m4 tung1 nei5 m4 zi1 me1 ?</i> | "Don't you know?" |
| 唔通我哋你(啊/咩)？ | <i>m4 tung1 ngo5 aak1 nei5 ?</i> | "Would I lie to you?" (I wouldn't lie to you) |

唔通個個都係天才？

*m4 tung1 go3 go3 dou1
hai6 tin1 coi4 ?*

"Is everyone a
genius?" (Not everyone is
genius.)

Examples from This Lesson

1. 唔通你睇唔到我唔得閒咩？
m4 tung1 nei5 tai2 m4 dou3 ngo5 m4 dak1 haan4 me1 ?
"Can't you see I'm busy?"

Language Tip

Not all rhetorical questions have 唔通, but sentences with 唔通 are definitely rhetorical.