



## Absolute Beginner S2

### Paying Phone Bills in Hong Kong

16

Traditional	2
Jyutping	2
English	2
Vocabulary	2
Grammar Points	3

## Traditional Chinese

---

你電話打唔通。  
係咩？  
要交電話費喇！  
咩係電話費啊？

## Jyutping

---

nei5 din6 waa2 daa2 m4 tung1。  
hai6 me1 ?  
jiu3 gaau1 din6 waa2 fai3 laa6 !  
me1 hai6 din6 waa2 fai3 aa3 ?

## English

---

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

## Vocabulary

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

## Vocabulary Sample Sentences

---

# CantoneseClass101.com

Learn Cantonese with **FREE** Podcasts

打俾我。  
打唔打得通？  
佢發咗短訊俾我。

daa2 bei2 ngo5。  
daa2 m4 daa2 dak1 tung1 ?  
keoi5 faat3 zo2 dyun2 seon3  
bei2 ngo5。

Call me.  
Will the call go through?  
She sent text message to me.

唔該留言。  
電話費好貴。  
下個月要交水費。

m4 goi1 lau4 jin4。  
din6 waa2 fai3 hou2 gwai3。  
haa6 go3 jyut6 jiu3 gaau1  
seoi2 fai3。

Please leave a message.  
The phone bill is really costly.  
I need to pay the water bill next  
month.

有冇我電話？

jau5 mou5 ngo5 din6 waa2?

Are there any phone calls for  
me?

## Grammar Points

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	daa2 m4 tung1	"Can't get through"
做唔晒	zou6 m4 saai3	"Can't get done"
食唔飽	sik6 m4 baau2	"Can't get full"
飲唔醉	jam2 m4 zeoi3	"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 "我吃不到"也可以说"这个菜吃不到"。

# CantoneseClass101.com

Learn Cantonese with **FREE** Podcasts

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