



Absolute Beginner S2

The Cantonese Loan Shark

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Traditional Chinese

我想借一萬。
冇問題。
我係話美金。
我係話英鎊。

Jyutping

ngo5 soeng2 ze3 jat1 maan6 。
mou5 man6 tai4 。
ngo5 hai6 waa6 mei5 gam1 。
ngo5 hai6 waa6 jing1 bong2 。

English

A I want to borrow 10,000.
B No prob.
A I meant US dollars.
B I meant UK pounds.

Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
借	ze3	to borrow; to lend
美金	mei5 gam1	US dollar
英鎊	jing1 bong2	UK pound
港紙	gong2 zi2	HK dollar
人民幣	jan4 man4 bai6	Chinese RMB
日元	jat6 jyun4	Japanese Yen
係話	hai2 waa6	meant to say

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

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圖書館可以借書。	tou4 syu1 gwun2 ho2 ji5 ze3 syu1。	One can borrow books from the library.
美國用美金。	mei5 gwok3 jung6 mei5 gam1。	The United States uses the US dollar.
我想換英鎊。	ngo5 soeng2 wun6 jing1 bong2。	I want to exchange UK Pounds.
我要一啲港紙。	ngo5 jiu3 jat1 di1 gong2 zi2。	I need some HK currency.
呢度唔可以用人民幣。	ni1 dou6 m4 ho2 ji5 jung6 jan4 man4 bai6。	The RMB cannot be used here.
日本用日元。	jat6 bun2 jung6 jat6 jyun4。	Japanese Yen is used in Japan.
我係話頭先。	ngo5 hai6 waa6 tau4 sin1。	I meant to say "just now".

Grammar Points

The Focus of This Lesson is Restating What You Said

我係話美金。

ngo5 hai6 waa6 mei5 gam1 。

"I meant US dollars."

This is especially useful when you made a mistake in speech or would like to clarify your idea: 係話(hai6 waa6)

Sample Sentences

Cantonese	Romanization	English Translation
我係話你好靚。	ngo5 hai6 waa6 nei5 hou2 leng3 。	"I meant you are really beautiful."
佢係話係佢唔啱。	keoi5 hai6 waa6 hai6 keoi5 m4 ngaam1 。	"He meant it was him who's wrong."
我係話聽日開會。	ngo5 hai6 waa6 ting1 jat6 hoi1 wui5 。	"I meant we'll have a meeting tomorrow."

Examples from This Lesson

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1. 我係話美金。
ngo5 hai6 waa6 mei5 gam1 。
"I meant US dollars."
2. 我係話英鎊。
ngo5 hai6 waa6 jing1 bong6 。
"I meant UK pounds."