



## Absolute Beginner S2

### A Cantonese Romance

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## Traditional Chinese

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我可唔可以錫吓你？  
唔可以。  
咁攞吓呢？  
都唔可以。

## Jyutping

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ngo5 ho2 m4 ho2 ji5 sek3 haa5 nei5 ?  
m4 ho2 ji5 。  
gam2 laam2 haa5 ne1 ?  
dou1 m4 ho2 ji5 。

## English

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A Can I kiss you?  
B No.  
A How about a hug?  
B Still no.

## Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
掂	dim3	to touch
拖手	to1sau2	to hold hands
攞	laam5	to hug
摸	mo2	to feel
錫	sek3	to kiss
拍拖	paak3 to1	to be in a relationship
結婚	git3 fan1	to get marry
離婚	lei4 fan1	to get divorced

## Vocabulary Sample Sentences

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唔好掂我！ 佢哋開始拖手。 攞住我。 佢摸咗隻貓。 媽媽錫咗我一吓。	m4 hou2 dim3 ngo5! keoi5 dei6 hoi1 ci2 to1 sau2。 laam5 zyu6 ngo5。 keoi5 mo2 zo2 zek3 maau1。 maa4 maa1 sek3 zo2 ngo5 jat1 haa5。 keoi5 dei6 ji5 cin4 paak3 to1。	Don't touch me! They began to hold hands. Hug me. He petted the cat. Mom kissed me.
佢哋以前拍拖。	keoi5 dei6 ji5 cin4 paak3 to1。	They were in a relationship before.
今年好多人結婚。	Gam1 nin4 hou2 do1 jan4 git3 fan1。	Many people are getting married this year.
我出年結婚。 我舊年離婚。	ngo5 ceot1 nin2 git3 fan1。 ngo5 gau6 nin2 lei4 fan1。	I'm getting married next year. I was divorced last year.

## Grammar Points

The Focus of This Lesson is Verb Complement

咁攞吓呢？

gam2 laam2 haa5 ne1 ?

"How about a hug?"

We already know what a verb is. In this lesson, we're going to learn a verb complement that means to do something for a little bit. The pattern is like this:

verb + 吓 = "to do something for a little bit/while."

For example, "to kiss" is 錫 (sek3). "To kiss a little bit" is 錫吓 (sek3 haa5). "To hold hands" is 拖手 (to1 sau2). "To hold hands for a little while" is 拖吓手 (to1 haa5 sau2).

Sample Sentences

Cantonese	Romanization	English Translation
睇吓得唔得？	tai2 haa5 dak1 m4 dak1 ?	"Can I have a look?"
試吓得唔得？	si3 haa5 dak1 m4 dak1 ?	"Can I have a try?"
我想坐吓先。	ngo5 soeng2 co5 haa5 sin1	"I want to sit for a bit."

Examples from This Lesson

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1. 我可唔可以錫吓你？  
ngo5 ho2 m4 ho2 ji5 sek3 haa5 nei5 ?  
"Can I kiss you?"
2. 咁攞吓呢？  
gam2 laam2 haa5 nei1 ?  
"How about just a hug?"

## Language Tip

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This verb complement of 吓 is also, if not always, used when you want to take it down a notch. For example, 睇吓啫 ("Just looking. No big deal. You don't have to yell").