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Basic Bootcamp
Useful Cantonese Phrases in the Classroom

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Traditional Chinese

廣東話點講?
唔該慢啲。
唔該幫我寫低。

Jyutping

"_____" gwong2 dung1 waa2 dim2 gong2 ?
"_____"
m4 goi1 maan6 di1.
"_____"
m4 goi1 bong1 ngo5 se2 dai1.

English

How do you say "_____" in Cantonese?
"_____"
Please slow down a bit.
"_____"
Please write it down for me.

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Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
廣東話	gwong2 dung1 waa2	Cantonese language
點講	dim2 gong2	how to say/speak
唔該	m4 goi1	please; thank you; excuse me
慢	maan6	slow
啲	di1	-er
幫	bong1	to help
寫低	se2 dai1	to write down

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

我識講廣東話。	ngo5 sik1 gong2 gwong2 dung1 waa6.	I (know how to) speak Cantonese.
你識唔識講廣東話？	nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 gong2 gwong2 dung1 waa6?	Do you (know how to) speak Cantonese?
呢個點講？	ni1 go3 dim2 gong2?	How do you say this?
唔該細聲啲。	m4 goi1 sai3 seng1 di1.	Please lower your volume.
唔該講慢啲。	m4 goi1 gong2 maan6 di1 。	Can you speak slowly please?
行慢啲。	haang4 maan6 di1.	Walk slower.
唔該慢啲講多次。	m4 goi1 maan6 di1 gong2 do1 ci3 。	Can you repeat again, slowly please?
行慢啲。	haang4 maan6 di1.	Walk slower.
唔該細聲啲。	m4 goi1 sai3 seng1 di1.	Please lower your volume.
唔該幫下我。	m4 goi1 bong1 haa5 ngo5.	Please help me.
寫低你個名。	se2 dai1 nei5 go3 meng2.	Write down your name.

Grammar Points

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The Focus of This Lesson is Cantonese Phrases Useful for Learning Cantonese in the Classroom.
"_____" 廣東話點講？
"_____" gwong2 dung1 waa2 dim2 gong2?
"How do you say "_____" in Cantonese?"

There are several names for Cantonese.
For Example:
  1. 廣東話
     gwong2 dung1 waa2
  2. 白話
     baak6 waa2
  3. 粵語
     jyut6 yu5

  or more generally:
中文
zung1 man2

"Chinese"

So instead of saying 廣東話點講 (gwong2 dung1 waa2 dim2 gong2) - "How do you say "__" in Cantonese," you can say, 中文點講 (zung1 man2 dim2 gong2) - "How do you say "___" in Chinese?"

Adjectives + 啲

唔該慢啲。(m4 goi1 maan6 di1) - "Please slow down a bit."

Adding the term 啲 (di1) after an adjective, literally means "a little." We often use it when making a command; it softens the command somewhat.

For Example:
1. 慢
   maan6
   "slow"
2. 慢啲
   maan6 di1
   "a little slower"
3. 快啲
   faai3 di1
   "a little faster"
4. 大啲
   daai6 di1
   "a little bigger"
5. 細啲
   sai3 di1
   "a little smaller"

唔該帮我 + verb

唔該幫我寫低。(m4 goi1 bong1 ngo5 se2 dai1) - "Please write it down for me."

We commonly use this sentence structure in Chinese to ask a favor of someone. 幫 literally means "to help." To request someone's assistance or a favor, use this phrase as we heard in the dialogue: 唔該幫我寫低. (m4 goi1 bong1 ngo5 se2 dai1.) - "Please write it down for me." Literally, "Please help me write down."

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