

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #17

Eating Out in Hong Kong

CONTENTS

- 2 Traditional Chinese
- 2 Jyutping
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

17

TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: 你想食咩餸?
2. B: 是但啦。
3. A: 雞肉定牛肉?
4. B: 乜都得啦。

JYUTPING

1. A: Nei5 soeng2 sik6 me1 sung3?
2. B: Si6 daan6 laa1.
3. A: Gai1 yuk6 ding6 ngau4 yuk6?
4. B: Mat1 dou1 dak1 laa1.

ENGLISH

1. A: What do you want to eat?
2. B: Whatever.
3. A: Chicken or beef?
4. B: Everything is fine.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
餸	sung3	food (dish)	noun
想	soeng2	to want	verb
牛肉	ngau4 juk6	beef	noun
羊肉	joeng4 juk6	lamb	noun
食	sik6	to eat	verb
雞肉	gai1 juk6	chicken	noun
是但	si6 daan6	whatever	pronoun
定	ding6	or	conjunction

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>今晚有三個餸。 <i>Gam1 maan5 jau5 saam1 go3 sung3.</i></p> <p>We have three dishes tonight.</p>	<p>唔該，我想訂枱。 <i>m4 goi1, ngo5 soeng2 deng6 toi2.</i></p> <p>Can I make a reservation?</p>
<p>呢塊牛肉好細。 <i>Nei1 faai3 ngau4 juk6 hou2 sai3.</i></p> <p>This piece of beef is very small.</p>	<p>羊肉已經賣晒。 <i>Joeng4 juk6 ji2 ging1 maa6 sai3.</i></p> <p>The lamb is sold out.</p>
<p>一齊食嘢。 <i>jat1 cai4 sik6 je5.</i></p> <p>Eat together.</p>	<p>佢想要啲雞肉。 <i>Koi5 soeng2 jiu3 di1 gai1 juk6.</i></p> <p>He wants some chicken.</p>
<p>是但啦。 <i>Si6 daan6 laa1.</i></p> <p>Whatever.</p>	<p>電影定話劇? <i>Din6 jing2 ding6 waa2 kek6?</i></p> <p>Movie or play?</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Say "Everything"

乜都得啦。

"Everything is fine."

Our grammar focus in this lesson is learning how to say "everything." In our dialogue, we do this by using the phrase 乜都 (*mat1 dou1*) to refer to "everything." We'll give you examples in a moment, but before we do it's important to point out that the typical placement for this word is at the beginning of a sentence, where it can act as the subject of the sentence, as in the line from our dialogue 乜都得啦 ("everything is fine"). For two more examples, consider the sentences below:

1. 乜都好。
"Everything is good."
2. 我乜都食。
"I eat everything."

Two somewhat tricky points to note. The first is that this can refer to "anything" as well as "everything," and figuring out exactly what is meant requires an awareness of the context. The second thing to be aware of is the placement of this word in the sentence when it functions as a direct object, as in our second sentence. Here, we typically place 乜都 after the subject but before the verb in question. This is a different word order than is common in English, and while it is easy, be aware of the difference.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Eat Local in Hong Kong

Although people can find food from almost all over the world in Hong Kong, the most popular restaurants are still those that provide traditional Hong Kong cuisine. When it comes to eating out, Hong Kong people often go to Wellington Street (威靈頓街), where the top three recommended restaurants are Yung Kee (鑪記酒家) which is famous for its roast duck, Lotus House (蓮香樓) which is a typical Guangdong restaurant which is more than 100 years old, and The Ninth's (九記) which is renowned for being a favorite for the family of

HKSAR Chief Executive Donald Tsang (曾蔭權).