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Intermediate S1

Dealing with a Frustrating Chinese Classmate

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Traditional Chinese

- A 你做乜嘢爆爆咁?
B 隔離班個Elaine又踩我。
A 當佢發噏瘋, 佢成日牙擦擦。
B 不過佢的確又叻又靚
A 佢踩你乜?
B 佢話我影印份資料都做唔好。
A 佢有口話人, 冇口話自己。

Jyutping

- A nei5 zou6 mat1 nau1 baau3 baau3 gam2 ?
B gaak3 lei4 baan1 go3 Elain jau6 caai2 ngo5.
A dong3 keoi5 faat3 apl fung1, keoi5 sing4 jat6 ngaa4 caat3
caat3.
B bat2 gwo3 keoi5 dik1 kok3 jau6 lek1 jau6 leng3...
A keoi5 caai2 nei5 mat1 ?
B keoi5 waa6 ngo5 jing2 jan3 fan6 zil liu2 dou1 zou6 m4
hou2.
A keoi5 jau5 hou2 waa6 jan4, mou5 hau2 waa6 zi6 gei2.

English

- A Why do you look so angry?
B Elaine from our neighboring class criticized me again.
A Take it as nonsense! She's always bragging about herself.
B But she IS smart and pretty...
A What did she say to you?
B She said I couldn't even handle things like copying materials.
A She only knows how to criticize others but never criticizes herself.

Vocabulary

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Traditional	Jyutping	English
𦉳𦉳𦉳	naul baau3 baau3	to be really angry
隔離	gaak3 lei4	neighbor
踩	caai2	to criticize
發噏瘋	faat3 apl fung1	to talk nonsense
牙擦擦	ngaa4 caat3 caat3	to brag
成日	sing4 jat6	always
影印	jing2 jan3	to photocopy
做唔好	zou6 m4 hou2	to not do well
有口話人，無口話自己	jau5 hou2 waa6 jan4, mou5 hou2 waa6 zi6 gei2	to criticize others but never himself/herself

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

睇佢𦉳𦉳𦉳咁嘅樣，就知佢哋肯定又嘈咗交。	tai2 keoi5 naul baau3 baau3 gam2 ge3 joeng2, zau6 zil keoi5 dei6 hang2 deng6 jau6 cou4 zo2 gaau1.	From looking at how angry he is, it's obvious that they had a fight.
佢就住喺我隔離，所以好方便見面。	keoi5 zau6 zyu6 hai2 ngo5 gaak3 lei4, so2 ji5 hou2 fong1 bin6 gin3 min6.	He lives right next door, so it's very convenient to see each other.
佢成日都笨手笨腳咁，所以次次都俾人踩。	keoi5 sing4 jat6 dou1 ban6 sau2 ban6 goek3 gam2, so2 ji5 ci3 ci3 dou1 bei2 jan4 caai2.	He does poor work everyday, so everyone looks down on him.
你理佢做咩？就當佢發噏瘋啦。	nei5 lei5 keoi5 zou6 mel ? zau6 dong3 keoi5 faat3 apl fung1 laal.	Don't pay any attention, just treat him as if he is talking nonsense.
唔好成日掛住玩。	m4 hou2 seng4 jat6 gwaa3 zyu6 waan2.	Don't always be playing all day.
打印係唔係貴過影印？	daa2 jan3 hai6 m4 hai6 gwai3 gwo3 jing2 jan3 ?	Is printing more expensive than copying?
唔好太擔心你做唔好，一定要去嘗試一下。	m4 hou2 taai3 daaml sam1 nei5 zou6 m4 hou2, jat1 ding6 jiu3 heoi3 soeng4 si3 jat1 haa5.	Don't worry about not doing a good job, you've got to give it a try.
做人一定唔可以有口話人，無口話自己，一定要自我反省。	zou6 jan4 jat1 ding6 m4 ho2 ji5 jau5 hou2 waa6 jan4, mou5 hau2 waa6 zi6 gei2,	People shouldn't criticize others but never themselves, you have to

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jat1 ding6 jiu3 zi6 ngo5 reflect on your own
faan2 sing2. weaknesses.

Grammar Points

The Focus of This Lesson is the Pattern 做乜.....咁。

你做乜嬬爆爆咁?

"Why do you look so angry?"

Our grammar point in this lesson is about the pattern 做乜.....咁. We put a verb phrase about degree of emotion in the middle between 做乜 and 咁 to ask why somebody has a certain emotion. In our dialogue, we hear it in this sentence: 你做乜嬬爆爆咁 ("Why do you look so angry?"). In this case, the speaker put the phrase 嬬爆爆 in the middle, we also can put other phrases in the pattern. For example, 牙擦擦 ("to put oneself up") or 眼濕濕 ("to cry"). For more examples, consider the following sentences.

For Example:

1. 做乜劫成咁?
"Why are you so tired?"
2. 做乜牙擦擦咁?
"Why do you keep putting yourself up like this?"
3. 做乜眼濕濕咁?
"Why are you crying?"

We also can replace 做乜 with 點解 ("why") and change the pattern into 點解.....咁. Then both the usage and meaning will remain the same. For instance, we can change our example sentences into 點解劫成咁, 點解牙擦擦咁, and 點解眼濕濕咁.

Cultural Insight

A Strict Schooling System

The Hong Kong school system is similar to that of a traditional British style of schooling. This is because when missionaries from England first came to Hong Kong



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and other Cantonese areas they wished to change these school systems to fit those of strict English standards. Hong Kong schools are now considered some of the best in the world. The school environment is intense because at a young age children are put in competition with each other, all vying for top rankings in their class. The disciplinary system is also severe in comparison with western standards as children are kept in line with a strict demerit system. Many schools are taught bilingually in English and Cantonese.