

LESSON NOTES

Intermediate S1 #23

That's an Odd Chinese Necklace You're Wearing

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: 你條頸掛住啲咩呀?
2. B: 麵包。
3. A: 點解要掛啲條頸度啊? 你有手咩?
4. B: 麵包鋪老闆以為我係傷殘人士, 幫我掛嘅。
5. A: 咩話?
6. B: 因為我著咗件斗篷, 佢睇唔到我對手。
7. A: 咁你點俾錢呀?
8. B: 佢冇收我錢呀!

JYUTPING

1. A: nei5 tiu4 geng2 gwaa3 zyu6 di1 me1 aa3 ?
2. B: min6 baau1.
3. A: dim2 gaai2 jiu3 gwaa3 hai2 tiu4 geng2 dou6 aa3 ? nei5 mou5 sau2 me1 ?
4. B: min6 baau1 pou3 lou5 baan2 ji5 wai4 ngo5 hai6 soeng1 caan4 jan4 si6, bong1 ngo5 gwaa3 ge3.
5. A: me1 waa2 ?

CONT'D OVER

6. B: jan1 wai4 ngo5 zoek3 zo2 gin6 dau2 fung4, keoi5 tai2 m4 dou2 ngo5 deoi3 sau2.
7. A: gam2 nei5 dim2 bei2 cin2 aa3 ?
8. B: keoi5 mou5 sau1 ngo5 cin2 aa3 !

ENGLISH

1. A: What's that hanging around your neck?
2. B: Bread.
3. A: Why would you hang a piece of bread around your neck? Don't you have hands?
4. B: The bakery owner thought I was handicapped and hung it on me.
5. A: What?
6. B: He didn't see my arms because I was wearing a poncho.
7. A: Then how did you pay?
8. B: He didn't ask me to pay.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
圍巾	wai4 gan1	scarf	noun

披肩	pei1 gin1	shawl	noun
斗篷	dau2 fung4	poncho	noun
膊頭	bok3 tau4	shoulder	noun
硬頸	ngaang6 geng2	stubborn	adjective
掛	gwaa3	to hang	verb
麵包鋪	min6 baau1 pou3	bakery	noun
頸	geng2	neck	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>外面好凍，可唔可以借條圍巾俾我？</p> <p><i>noi6 min6 hou2 dung3, ho2 m4 ho2 ji5 ze3 tiu4 wai4 gan1 bei2 ngo5 ?</i></p> <p>It's really cold outside, can you lend me a scarf?</p>	<p>我好鐘意你條紅色披肩。</p> <p><i>ngo5 hou2 zung1 ji3 nei5 tiu4 hung4 sik1 pei1 gin1.</i></p> <p>I really like that red shawl you are wearing.</p>
<p>今年好似突然間好興著斗篷。</p> <p><i>gam1 nin2 hou2 ci5 dat6 jin4 gaan1 hou2 hing1 zoek3 dau2 fung4.</i></p> <p>Wearing ponchos is popular all of a sudden this year.</p>	<p>我搬嘢個陣時撞親個膊頭。</p> <p><i>ngo5 bun1 je5 go2 zan6 si2 zong6 can1 go3 bok3 tau4.</i></p> <p>I hit my shoulder while moving things.</p>
<p>唔好咁硬頸，要聽下其他人嘅意見。</p> <p><i>m4 hou2 gam3 ngaang6 geng2, jiu3 teng1 haa5 kei4 taa1 jan4 ge3 ji3 gin3.</i></p> <p>Don't be so stubborn, listen to other people's opinions.</p>	<p>牆上面掛住我地嘅全家福。</p> <p><i>coeng4 soeng6 min6 gwaa3 zyu6 ngo5 dei6 cyun4 gaa1 fuk1.</i></p> <p>A photo of my whole family hangs on the wall.</p>

呢間麵包鋪好出名，好多人鍾意食佢嘅麵包。

ni1 gaan1 min6 baau1 pou3 hou2 ceot1 meng2, hou2 do1 jan4 zung1 ji3 sik6 keoi5 ge3 min6 baau1.

This bakery is very well known, and a lot of people enjoy eating its breads.

唔好咁硬頸，要聽下其他人嘅意見。

m4 hou2 gam3 ngaang6 geng2, jiu3 teng1 haa5 kei4 taa1 jan4 ge3 ji3 gin3.

Don't be so stubborn, listen to other people's opinions.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is the Usage of Measure Words

你條頸掛住啲咩啊？

"What's that hanging around your neck?"

Our grammar point in this lesson is about the usage of measure word. In Cantonese, when we want to use measure words, we use it like in our dialogue, 你條頸 (*nei5 tiu4 geng2*). First, put the pronoun 你 (*nei5*) at the beginning and follow it with a measure word, in this case 條 (*tiu4*), then finish the phrase with the noun 頸 (*geng2*). And in this pattern, the measure word 條 is necessary. That is to say, you can't say 你頸. We see this in all kinds of things. For instance, 我對手 (*ngo5 deoi3 sau2*) "my hands", 佢條褲 (*keoi5 tiu4 fu3*) "his pants", 佢件斗篷 (*keoi5 gin3 dau2 fung4*) "her poncho", or 你張檯 (*nei5 zoeng1 toi2*) "your table". Although we also can say 我嘅手 (*ngo5 ge3 sau2*), 佢嘅褲 (*keoi5 ge3 fu3*), 佢嘅斗篷 (*keoi5 ge3 dau2 fung4*), or 你嘅檯 (*nei5 ge3 toi2*), it's not normal and natural in Cantonese. For more samples, consider these sentences:

1. 佢睇唔到我對手。
keoi5 tai2 m4 dou2 ngo5 deoi3 sau2
"He can't see my hands."
2. 呢個係唔係你條褲呀？
ni1 go3 hai6 m4 hai6 keoi5 tiu4 fu3 aa3?
"Are these your pants?"

So remember when you want to say "someone's something" next time in Cantonese, use a

measure word in the middle between the person and the thing. That will make you sound very colloquial.