

LESSON NOTES

Learn Cantonese in Three Minutes #12 Where Are You?

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GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is talking about location in Cantonese

Topic 1: How to ask about others' location

Sentence from the lesson:

你喺邊?

nei5 hai2 bin1?

"Where are you?"

1. Let's break this sentence down.

你 *nei5* is "You"

喺 *hai2* means "are"

邊 *bin1* is "where?"

2. Answering this question is very easy! You just say *ngo5 hai2* + the place where you are.

我 *ngo5* means "I" and

喺 *hai2* is that verb "to be" again.

Then you add the place.

So for example, you can say 我喺街 *ngo5 hai2 gaai1* which is "I am on the street"

3. Now let's look at some other possible answers:

"I am in the office" would be 我喺公司 *ngo5 hai2 gung1 si*

"I am at the subway station" would be 我喺地鐵站 *ngo5 hai2 dei6 tit3 zaam6*.

"I am home" would be 我喺屋企 *ngo5 hai2 uk1 kei*

4. This verb can be used for inanimate objects as well, as long as it is about the location.

學校喺右邊 *hok6 haau3 hai2 jau3 bin1* "school is on the right side"

支筆喺地下 *zi1 bat1 hai2 dei6 haa5* "the pen is on the floor"

Language Tip!

Also with the verb 喺 *hai2*, you can use this convenient question if you are lost in the street:
我蕩失路, 請問我喺邊? *ngo5 dong6 sat1 lou6, cing2 man6 ngo5 hai2 bin1?*
That means "I'm lost, can you tell me where I am?"