



Learn with Pictures and Video S2

Powerful Cantonese Learning Technique - Learning Through Opposites 1

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Traditional Chinese

男人開燈。
孩子們正在關上電力。
男孩正在開門。
大學生正在關門。
運動員正在開始賽事。

Jyutping

naam4 jan2 hoi1 dang1
haai4 zi2 mun4 zing3 zoi6 gwaan1 soeng5 din6 lik6
naam4 haai4 zing3 zoi6 hoi1 mun4
daai6 hok6 sang1 zing3 zoi6 gwaan1 mun4
wan6 dung6 jyun4 zing3 zoi6 hoi1 ci2 coi3 si6

English

The man turns on the light.
The children are turning off the power.
The boy is opening the door.
The university student is closing the door.
The athletes are starting the race.

Vocabulary

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Traditional	Jyutping	English
運動員	wan6 dung6 jyun4	athlete
男孩	naam4 haai4	boy
男人	naam4 jan2	man
孩子	haai4 zi2	child, children
燈	dang1	light
開	hoi1	to turn on, to open
關上	gwaan1 soeng5	to turn off, to close
電力	din6 lik6	power, electricity
門	mun4	door
大學生	daai6 hok6 san1	university student
賽事	coi3 si6	race, competition
開始	hoi1 ci2	to start, to commence, to begin

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

運動員正在踢足球。	wan6 dung6 jyun4 zing3 zoi6 tek3 zuk1 kau4	The players are playing soccer.
男孩醒來，起床了。	naam5 haai4 sing2 loi4 hei2 cong4 liu5	The boy wakes up and leaves his bed.
男人在練習拳擊技巧。	naam5 jan2 zoi6 lin6 zaap6 kyun4 gik1 gei6 haau2	The man is practicing his boxing skills.
糖果對孩子們有很大的誘惑。	tong4 gwo2 deoi3 haai4 zi2 mun4 jau5 han2 daai6 dik1 jau5 waak6	Candy is a great temptation to kids.
男人開了燈。	naam4 jan2 hoi1 liu5 dang1	The man turned on the light.
男人開了燈。	naam4 jan2 hoi1 liu5 dang1	The man turned on the light.
尋日有人換燈膽時無關電制，結果被電擊致死。	cam4 jat6 jau5 jan4 wun6 dang1 daam2 si4 mou4 gwaan1 din6 zai3, git3 gwo2 bei3 din6 gik1 zi3 sei2。	Yesterday, someone changed the light without turning off the electricity, and was accidentally shocked.
孩子們正在關上電力。	haai4 zi2 mun4 zing3 zoi6 gwaan1 soeng5 din6 lik6	The children are turning off the power.
男孩正在開門。	naam4 haai4 zing3 zoi6 hoi1 mun4	The boy is opening the door.
大學生正在關門。	daai6 hok6 sang1 zing3 zoi6 gwaan1 mun4	The university student is closing the door.
運動員正在開始賽事。	wan6 dung6 jyun4 zing3 zoi6 hoi1 ci2 coi3 si6	The athletes are starting the race.

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運動員正在開始賽事。

wan6 dung6 jyun4 zing3 zoi6
hoi1 ci2 coi3 si6

The athletes are starting the race.

Grammar Points

The focus of this lesson is tense comparison in Cantonese.
Present tense, Present Progressive tense, and Past tense

In this lesson you'll learn the difference between the different tenses in the Cantonese language: present tense, present progressive tense, and past tense.

1. 男人正在開燈。

naam4 jan2 zing3 zoi6 hoi1 dang1

The man is turning on the light.

Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
non-past tense	男人開燈。	naam4 jan2 hoi1 dang1	The man turns on the light.
present progressive tense	男人正在開燈。	naam4 jan2 zing3 zoi6 hoi1 dang1	The man is turning on the light.
past tense	男人開了燈。	naam4 jan2 hoi1 liu5 dang1	The man turned on the light.

2. 孩子們正在關上電力。

haai4 zi2 mun4 zing3 zoi6 gwaan1 soeng5 din6 lik6

The children are turning off the power.

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Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
non-past tense	孩子們關上電力。	haai4 zi2 mun4 gwaan1 soeng5 din6 lik6	The children turn off the power.
present progressive tense	孩子們正在關上電力。	haai4 zi2 mun4 zing3 zoi6 gwaan1 soeng5 din6 lik6	The children are turning off the power.
past tense	孩子們關上了電力。	haai4 zi2 mun4 gwaan1 soeng5 liu5 din6 lik6	The children turned off the power.

3. 男孩在開門。

naam4 haai4 zoi6 hoi1 mun4

The boy is opening the door.

Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
non-past tense	男孩開門。	naam4 haai4 hoi1 mun4	The boy opens the door.
present progressive tense	男孩在開門。	naam4 haai4 zoi6 hoi1 mun4	The boy is opening the door.
past tense	男孩開門了。	naam4 haai4 hoi1 mun4 liu5	The boy opened the door.

4. 大學生正在關門。

daai6 hok6 sang1 zing3 zoi6 gwaan1 mun4

The university student is closing the door.

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Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
non-past tense	大學生關門。	daai6 hok6 sang1 gwaan1 mun4	The university student closes the door.
present progressive tense	大學生正在關門。	daai6 hok6 sang1 zing3 zoi6 gwaan1 mun4	The university student is closing the door.
past tense	大學生關門了。	daai6 hok6 sang1 zoi6 gwaan1 mun4 liu5	The university student closed the door.

5. 運動員正在開始賽事。

wan6 dung6 jyun4 zing3 zoi6 hoi1 ci2 coi3 si6

The athletes are starting the race.

Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
present tense	運動員開始賽事。	wan6 dung6 jyun4 hoi1 ci2 coi3 si6	The athletes start the race.
present progressive tense	運動員正在開始賽事。 。	wan6 dung6 jyun4 zing3 zoi6 hoi1 ci2 coi3 si6	The athletes are starting the race.
past tense	運動員開始了賽事。	wan6 dung6 jyun4 hoi1 ci2 liu5 coi3 si6	The athletes started the race.