



Learn with Pictures and Video S2

Top 20 Cantonese Verbs 3

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Traditional Chinese

男人正在選一個燈泡。
教授在解釋圖表。
人們在拿士多啤梨。
女人正拿著地球儀。
講者正在會議演講。

Jyutping

naam4 jan2 zing3 zoi6 syun2 jat1 go3 dang1 paau1
gaau3 sau6 zoi6 gaai2 sik1 tou4 biu2
jan4 mun4 zoi6 naa4 si6 do1 be1 lei2
neoi5 jan2 zing3 naa4 zoek3 dei6 kau4 ji4
gong2 ze2 zing3 zoi6 wui6 ji5 jin2 gong2

English

The man is choosing a light bulb.
The professor is explaining the diagram.
The people are taking the strawberries.
The woman is holding the globe.
The speaker is speaking at the conference.

Vocabulary

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Traditional	Jyutping	English
男人	naam4 jan2	man
燈膽	dang1 daam2	light bulb
女人	neoi5 jan2	woman
選	syun2	to choose
圖表	tou4 biu2	diagram, graph
教授	gaa3 sau6	professor
人	jan4	people
士多啤梨	si6 do1 be1 lei2	strawberry
解釋	gaai2 sik1	to explain
拿	naa4	to take, to obtain
地球儀	dei6 kau4 ji4	globe
講者	gong2 ze2	speaker
演講	jin2 gong2	to give a speech, to speak
	wui6 ji5	conference

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

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.
男人正在選一個燈泡。	naam4 jan2 zing3 zoi6 syun2 jat1 go3 dang1 paau1。	The man is choosing a light bulb.
女人正在刷牙。	neoi5 jan2 zing3 zoi6 caat3 ngaa4	The woman is brushing her teeth.
男人正在選一個燈泡。	naam4 jan2 zing3 zoi6 syun2 jat1 go3 dang1 paau1。	The man is choosing a light bulb.
教授在解釋圖表。	gaa3 sau6 zoi6 gaai2 sik1 tou4 biu2	The professor is explaining the diagram.
教授在解釋圖表。	gaa3 sau6 zoi6 gaai2 sik1 tou4 biu2	The professor is explaining the diagram.
我哋都係中國人。	ngo5 dei6 dou1 hai6 zung1 gwok3 jan4	We are all Chinese.
人們在拿士多啤梨。	jan4 mun4 zoi6 naa4 si6 do1 be1 lei2	The people are taking the strawberries.
教授在解釋圖表。	gaa3 sau6 zoi6 gaai2 sik1 tou4 biu2	The professor is explaining the diagram.
女人拿著地球儀。	neoi5 jan2 naa4 zoek3 dei6 kau4 ji4	The woman hold the globe.
女人拿著地球儀。	neoi5 jan2 naa4 zoek3 dei6	The woman hold the globe.

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講者正在會議演講。

kau4 ji4

gong2 ze2 zing3 zoi6 wui6 ji5
jin2 gong2

The speaker is speaking at the conference.

講者正在會議演講。

gong2 ze2 zing3 zoi6 wui6 ji5
jin2 gong2

The speaker is speaking at the conference.

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. 男人正在選一個燈膽。

naam4 jan2 zing3 zoi6 syun2 jat1 go3 dang1 daam2

"The man is choosing a light bulb."

Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
non-past tense	男人選一個燈膽。	naam4 jan2 syun2 jat1 go3 dang1 daam2	"The man chooses a light bulb."
present progressive tense	男人正在選一個燈膽。 。	naam4 jan2 zing3 zoi6 syun2 jat1 go3 dang1 daam2	"The man choosing a light bulb."
past tense	男人選了一個燈膽。	naam4 jan2 syun2 liu5 jat1 go3 dang1 daam2	"The man chose a light bulb."

2. 教授在解釋圖表。

gaau3 sau6 zoi6 gaai2 sik1 tou4 biu2

"The professor is explaining the diagram."

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Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
non-past tense	教授解釋圖表。	gaau3 sau6 gaai2 sik1 tou4 biu2	"The professor explains the diagram."
present progressive tense	教授在解釋圖表。	gaau3 sau6 zoi6 gaai2 sik1 tou4 biu2	"The professor is explaining the diagram."
past tense	教授解釋了圖表。	gaau3 sau6 gaai2 sik1 liu5 tou4 biu2	"The professor explained the diagram."

3. 人們在拿士多啤梨。

jan4 mun4 zoi6 naa4 si6 do1 be1 lei2
"The people are taking the strawberries."

Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
non-past tense	人們拿士多啤梨。	jan4 mun4 naa4 si6 do1 be1 lei2	"The people take the strawberries."
present progressive tense	人們在拿士多啤梨。	jan4 mun4 zoi6 naa4 si6 do1 be1 lei2	"The people are taking the strawberries."
past tense	人們拿了士多啤梨。	jan4 mun4 naa4 liu5 si6 do1 be1 lei2	"The people took the strawberries."

4. 女人正拿著地球儀。

neoi5 jan2 zing3 naa4 zoek3 dei6 kau4 ji4
"The woman is holding the globe."

Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
present tense	女人拿著地球儀。	neoi5 jan2 naa4 zoek3 dei6 kau4 ji4	"The woman hold the globe."
present progressive tense	女人正拿著地球儀。	neoi5 jan2 zing3 naa4 zoek3 dei6 kau4 ji4	"The woman is holding the globe."
past tense	女人曾經拿著地球儀。	neoi5 jan2 cang4 ging1 naa4 zoek3 dei6 kau4 ji4	"The woman held the globe."

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5. 講者正在會議演講

gong2 ze2 zing3 zoi6 wui6 ji5 jin2 gong2

"The speaker is speaking at the conference. "

Tense	Cantonese	Romanization	English
non-past tense	講者在會議演講。	gong2 ze2 zoi6 wui6 ji5 jin2 gong2	"The speaker speaks at the conference."
present progressive tense	講者正在會議演講。	gong2 ze2 zing3 zoi6 wui6 ji5 jin2 gong2	"The speaker is speaking at the conference."
past tense	講者曾經在會議演講 。	gong2 ze2 cang4 ging1 zoi6 wui6 ji5 jin2 gong2	"The speaker spoke at the conference."