

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner S1 #22

Losing Your Phone in Hong Kong

CONTENTS

- 2 Traditional Chinese
- 2 Jyutping
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 4 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight

22

TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. JACKIE: 哎呀，我個電話唔見咗！
2. WENDY: 吓？咁點算？
3. JACKIE: 返轉頭搵下啦。
4. WENDY: 快啲！快啲！

JYUTPING

1. JACKIE: aai1 yaa3, ngo5 go3 din6 waa2 m4 gin3 zo2!
2. WENDY: haa5? gam2 dim2 syun3?
3. JACKIE: faan1 zyun3 tau4 wan2 haa5 laa1.
4. WENDY: faai3 di1! faai3 di1!

ENGLISH

1. JACKIE: Oh, no! My phone is missing!
2. WENDY: Oh? What should we do?
3. JACKIE: Let's go back and look for it.
4. WENDY: Quickly, quickly!

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
哎呀	aai1 yaa3	Oh, no!	expression
電話	din6 waa2	telephone	noun
返	faan1	to return	verb
唔見咗	m4 gin3 zo2	missing, gone	
點算	dim2 syun3	what should we do, how do we cope	expression
轉頭	zyun3 tau4	to turn back (literally "turn head"), later	verb; adverb
搵	wan2	to look for	verb
快啲	faai3 di1	quicker, promptly	expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>哎呀！我個銀包唔見咗！ <i>aai1 jaa3! ngo5 go3 ngan4 baau1 m4 gin3 zo2!</i></p> <p>Oh, no! My wallet is missing!</p>	<p>有冇我電話？ <i>jau5 mou5 ngo5 din6 waa2?</i></p> <p>Are there any phone calls for me?</p>
<p>我想我個仔喺我瞓之前返屋企。 <i>ngo5 soeng2 ngo5 go3 zai2 hai2 ngo5 fan3 zi1 cin4 faan1 uk1 kei2.</i></p> <p>I'd like my son to return home before I go to bed.</p>	<p>呢個月底我老公返。 <i>ni1 go3 jyut6 dai2 ngo5 lou5 gung1 faan1.</i></p> <p>My husband will return home by the end of the month.</p>
<p>電話簿唔見咗。 <i>din6 waa6 bou6 m4 gin3 zo2.</i></p> <p>The phone book is gone.</p>	<p>你年紀輕輕已經成身債，以後點算？ <i>nei5 nin4 gei2 heng1 heng1 ji5 ging1 seng4 san1 zaa3, ji5 hau6 dim2 syun3?</i></p> <p>You have such heavy debt despite being so young, how are you going to cope in the future?</p>

<p>我決定咗喇，冇得返轉頭。 ngo5 kyut3 ding6 zo2 laa3, mou5 dak1 faan1 zyun3 tau4.</p> <p>I made up my mind; there's no turning back now.</p>	<p>我去搵牛奶，你搵麵包，我哋嚟收銀度集合啦。 ngo5 heoi3 wan2 ngau4 naai5, nei5 wan2 min6 baau1, ngo5 dei6 hai2 sau1 ngan2 dou6 zaap6 hap6 laa1.</p> <p>I will look for the milk; you look for the bread, and meet me at the cash register.</p>
<p>我搵緊鞋。 ngo5 wan2 gan2 haai4.</p> <p>I am looking for some shoes.</p>	<p>我搵緊一條靚頸巾。 ngo5 wan2 gan2 jat1 tiu4 leng3 geng2 gan1.</p> <p>I am looking for a nice scarf.</p>
<p>講快啲。 gong2 faai3 di1.</p> <p>Speak faster.</p>	<p>你真係好邋邋，快啲去沖涼！ nei5 zan1 hai6 hou2 laat6 taat3, faai3 di1 heoi3 cung1 loeng4 !</p> <p>You are so filthy, go take a shower at once.</p>
<p>就嚟要落雨啦，快啲返屋企。 zau6 lai4 jiu3 lok6 jyu5 laa3, faai3 di1 faan1 uk1 kei2.</p> <p>It's going to rain soon, go home quickly.</p>	<p>行慢啲定行快啲？ Haang4 maan6 di1 ding6 haang4 faai3 di1 ?</p> <p>Should we slow down or hurry up?</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

點算 means, "What should we do now?" **點** (*dim2*) means "how," and **算** (*syun3*) means "to calculate." Together, they form a question, "What should [subject] do?" Or, "How do [subject] solve the problem?" For example, **我點算** (*ngo5 dim2 syun3*) means, "What should I do?"

快啲

This word is a combination of the adjective **快** (*faai3*) meaning "fast" and the word **啲**, which is used like "-er" here. **啲** indicates a higher degree. Together, **快啲** (*faai3 di1*) means "faster." The antonym is **慢啲** (*maan6 di1*), meaning "slower."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Sentence Repetition in Cantonese

快啲！快啲！

"Quickly, quickly!"

In this lesson's grammar point, we'll look at how repetition in Cantonese helps place emphasis on words. In the last line of the dialogue, we heard Wendy saying, 快啲！快啲！ (*faai3 di1! faai3 di1!*). In Cantonese, repetition of a phrase is a common way to urge others to do something or stress the importance.

Since Cantonese is a tonal language, sometimes we cannot express urgency simply with the tone we speak, so sentence repetition emphasizes the significance.

For example:

1. 去啦，去啦！
heoi3 laa1, heoi3 laa1!
"Go! Go!" (usually used for rushing others to move, or begging others to go somewhere)
2. 食多啲，食多啲，食多啲啦！
sik6 do1 di1, sik6 do1 di1, sik6 do1 di1 laa1!
"Eat more, eat more, eat more!" (a restaurant slogan that has gained popularity among teenagers since a popular comedian used it as a joke)
3. 點算？點算呀？
dim2 syun3? dim2 syun3 aa3?
"What should we do? What should we do?" (usually said by someone who is lost or frustrated, and has no idea how to get out of the situation)
4. 邊度？邊度？
bin1 dou6? bin1 dou6?
"Where? Where?" (looking around frantically searching for the target)
5. 嗰度！嗰度呀！
go2 dou6! go2 dou6 aa3!
"There! (It's) over there! (Can't you see it?)"

Examples from this dialogue:

1. 快啲! 快啲!
faai3 di1! faai3 di1!
"Hurry up!" (Literally, "Quickly, quickly!")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Reporting a Lost Cellphone in Hong Kong

We hope you'll never need to use this information, but if you ever lose your cellphone and/or SIM card in Hong Kong, you should report the loss to your mobile service provider as soon as possible. Quick action can prevent others from using your SIM card or phone to make local or overseas calls, as well as use the roaming service.

Your mobile service provider will suspend and disconnect service upon receiving a report from you. However, according to the general practice of mobile service providers in Hong Kong, the cellphone or SIM card owner is liable for all the charges incurred before the suspension. That makes it all the more important to report your loss right away.

Below are the contact numbers for reporting losses to Hong Kong mobile service providers:

3 (Hutchison Telephone Co. Ltd.): 3162-3333

1010 (CSL Limited): 2888-1010

One2Free (CSL Limited): 2512-3123

SmarTone: 2880-2688

Peoples (China Mobile): 2945-8888

China Unicom: 2122-1188