

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #1 Concerts in Hong Kong

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: 個音樂會真係好正!
2. B: 係囉，我好鍾意美國音樂。
3. A: 美國？呢隊係英國樂隊。
4. B: 係咩？
5. A: 你聽唔到啲口音嘅咩？
6. B: 我覺得都係一樣。

JYUTPING

1. A: go3 jam1 ngok6 wui5 zan1 hai6 hou2 zeng3!
2. B: hai6 lo1 , ngo5 hou2 zung1 ji3 mei5 gwok3 jam1 ngok6.
3. A: mei5 gwok3 ? ni1 deoi6 hai6 jing1 gwok3 ngok6 deoi2.
4. B: hai6 me1?
5. A: nei5 teng1 ng4 dou2 di1 hau2 jam1 ge3 me1?
6. B: ngo5 gok3 dak1 dou1 hai6 jat1 joeng6.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. A: What a great concert!
2. B: Yeah, I love American music.
3. A: American? This is a British band.
4. B: Really?
5. A: Can't you hear the accent?
6. B: They're all the same to me.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
歌詞	go1 ci4	lyrics	noun
樂隊	ngok6 deoi2	band	noun
口音	hau2 jam1	accent	noun
演唱會	jin2 coeng3 wui5	concert	noun
音樂	jam1 ngok6	music	noun
歌手	go1 sau2	singer	noun
音樂會	jam1 ngok6 wui5	concert; symphony; recital	noun
歌曲	go1 kuk1	song	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>呢首歌嘅歌詞好觸動人心。 <i>ni1 sau2 go1 ge3 go1 ci4 hou2 zuk1 dung6 jan4 sum1.</i></p> <p>This song has very touching lyrics.</p>	<p>香港最出名嘅樂隊莫過於beyond。 <i>heong1 gong2 zeoi3 ceot1 meng2 ge3 ngok6 deoi2 mok6 gwo3 jyu1 BEYOND.</i></p> <p>The most famous band in Hong Kong is Beyond.</p>
<p>BEYOND係我最鍾意嘅樂隊。 <i>BEYOND hai6 ngo5 zeoi3 zung1 ji3 ge3 ngok6 deoi2.</i></p> <p>Beyond is my favorite band.</p>	<p>佢嘅英國口音好重。 <i>keoi5 ge3 jing1 gwok3 hau2 jam1 hou2 cung5.</i></p> <p>He has a very strong British accent.</p>
<p>聽日係張學友演唱會。 <i>ting1 jat6 hai6 zoeng1 hok6 jau5 jin2 coeng3 wui5.</i></p> <p>Tomorrow is Jackie Cheung's concert.</p>	<p>如果你想瞓得好啲，可以聽輕音樂放鬆下。 <i>jyu4 gwo2 nei5 seong2 fan3 dak1 hou2 di1, ho2 ji5 teng1 heng1 jam1 ngok6 fong3 sung1 haa5.</i></p> <p>If you want to sleep well, listen to light music to relax.</p>
<p>雖然係新人，但佢係今年最紅嘅女歌手。 <i>seoi1 jin4 hai6 san1 jan4, daan6 keoi5 hai6 gam1 nin2 zeoi3 hung4 ge3 nei5 go1 sau2.</i></p> <p>Although she is a new comer, she is this year's most popular female singer.</p>	<p>尋日去咗音樂會。 <i>cam4 jat6 heoi3 zo2 jam1 ngok6 wui5.</i></p> <p>I went to the symphony yesterday.</p>
<p>生日嘅歌曲來來去去都係得嗰幾首。 <i>saang1 jat6 ge3 go1 kuk1 loi4 loi4 heoi3 heoi3 dou1 hai6 dak1 go2 gei2 sau2.</i></p> <p>There are just a few birthday songs in the world.</p>	

GRAMMAR

Learning how to say "both" or "all" in Cantonese

我覺得都係一樣。

"They're all the same to me."

In previous lessons, we taught you that the adverb 都 *dou1* is used to mean "also", as in the sentence 我都係學緊廣東話 (*ngo5 dou1 hai6 hok6 gan2 gwong2 dung1 waa2*) "I'm also learning Cantonese". As with many other Chinese characters though, 都 also has a secondary and more advanced meaning. In this lesson we look at one of these secondary meanings, in which the character is used to suggest that we are referring to "both" or "all" of a category of objects.

If you look at our dialogue, notice that while 都 *dou1* is placed in front of the main verb in the sentence, the object to which it is referring technically precedes it. In our dialogue it is left implied that the speakers are referring to the two bands. For a more explicit example, consider the sentence 我哋都係學生 (*ngo5 dei6 dou1 hai6 hok6 saang1*) "we are all students". It is the subject 我哋 (*ngo5 dei6*) to which the adverb 都 is referring. We see the same pattern with the sentence 呢啲都係我嘅車 (*ni1 di1 dou1 hai6 ngo5 ge3 ce1*) "these are all my cars". And how do we know whether we are dealing with a situation in which 都 means "also" or one in which it means "all"? Unfortunately, you can only tell from context. As a quick tip though, this secondary meaning is dominant when 都 (*dou1*) is paired with the verb 係 (*hai6*) and precedes a plural subject. And in these sentences 都 not only stresses that the action is referring to the whole group, but also places extra emphasis on the statement, as if to suggest that the listener might otherwise doubt that this statement is true.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Hong Kong Music Scene

Hong Kong doesn't have as vibrant a small music scene as many American and European cities, or even Taiwan. While there are certainly plenty of smaller restaurants and bars on the island, to the extent that these venues feature live shows, they tend to showcase cover bands aiming to appeal to the international crowd of partygoers rather than original music. Perhaps this is one reason why the music industry in Hong Kong has ended up so closely linked to the television and film industries, and why the line tends to get blurred between popular singers and actors: without a local circuit it is difficult for smaller acts to build a fan base.

Nonetheless, while life is hard for smaller musicians in Hong Kong, the city remains a major destination on the Asian circuit. When international musicians pass through Asia, most will

stop in Hong Kong where they avoid smaller gigs and go straight to the Hong Kong Coliseum, a major sports and music stadium that opened in 1983 and is now the island's biggest multipurpose arena. Some of the biggest Asian stars including Jay Chow play the stadium regularly, even if it is someone strangely located near the Hung Hom MTR station right next to a shipping yard and a railway station.