

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #2 Buying a Laptop in Hong Kong

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: 歡迎光臨，有咩可以幫到你？
2. B: 我想買部手提電腦。
3. A: 想要乜功能？
4. B: 夠輕、夠薄身、夠襟玩。
5. A: 新出嘅呢款啱晒你！

JYUTPING

1. A: fun1 jing4 gwong1 lam4, jau5 me1 ho2 ji5 bong1 dou2 nei5?
2. B: ngo5 soeng2 maai5 bou6 sau2 tai4 din6 nou5.
3. A: seong2 jiu3 mat1 gung1 nang4?
4. B: gau3 heng1, gau3 bok6 san1, gau3 kam1 wann2.
5. A: san1 ceot1 ge3 ni1 fun2 aam1 saai3 nei5!

ENGLISH

1. A: Welcome, what can I help you with?
2. B: I want to buy a laptop.

CONT'D OVER

3. A: What functions do you want?
4. B: I want it to be light and thin, and also run for a long time.
5. A: This new model fits your needs exactly!

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
續航	zuk6 hong4	endurance	phrase
歡迎光臨	fun1 jing4 gwong1 lam4	welcome	phrase
薄身	bok6 san1	thin	phrase
功能	gung1 nang4	function	phrase
新出	san1 ceot1	new	phrase
厚身	hau5 san1	thick	phrase
抵玩	dai2 waan2	competitive (inexpensive with many great features)	phrase
手提電腦	sau2 tai4 din6 nau5	laptop computer	phrase
款式	fun2 sik1	model	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>我需要部續航能力好嘅電腦。 ngo5 seoi1 jiu3 bou6 zuk6 hong4 nang4 lik6 hou2 ge3 din6 nou5.</p> <p>I need a computer that has good endurance.</p>	<p>歡迎光臨，有咩可以幫到你？ fun1 jing4 gwong1 lam4, jau5 me1 ho2 ji5 bong1 dou2 nei5?</p> <p>Welcome, how can I help you?</p>
<p>薄身嘅電腦好受歡迎。 bok6 san1 ge3 din6 nou5 hou2 sau3 fun1 jing4.</p> <p>Thin computers are really popular.</p>	<p>呢部電腦好多功能。 ni1 bou6 din6 nou5 hou2 do1 gung1 nang4.</p> <p>That computer has a lot of functions.</p>
<p>最近新出咗一個好正嘅耳機。 zeoi3 gan6 san1 ceot1 zo2 jat1 go3 hou2 zeng3 ge3 ji5 gei1.</p> <p>There has been a really nice type of new earphones released recently.</p>	<p>厚身嘅電腦唔方便。 hau5 san1 ge3 din6 nou5 ng4 fong1 bin6.</p> <p>Thick computers are difficult to use.</p>
<p>嗰部手提電腦好抵玩。 go2 bou6 sau2 tai4 din6 nou5 hou2 dai2 waan2.</p> <p>That laptop is really competitively priced.</p>	<p>我想買部手提電腦。 ngo5 soeng2 maa5 bou6 sau2 tai4 din6 nou5.</p> <p>I want to buy a laptop (hand-held) computer.</p>
<p>呢個款式係限量版。 ni1 go3 fun2 sik1 hai6 haan6 loeng6 baan2.</p> <p>That model is a limited edition.</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Good

Our grammar focus this lesson is on a new sentence structure to use with adjectives like 快 (*faai3*) "fast", 高 (*gou1*) "tall", and 長 (*coeng4*) "long". In our earlier lesson series, we started you off speaking Cantonese by teaching you a simple sentence pattern that combines adjectives like these with the adverb 好 (*hou2*) "good". Specifically, we learned that to make simple sentences using adjectives in Cantonese, the easiest thing to do is precede the

adjective with the adverb 好 (*hou2*) and create sentences such as 我部手提電腦好貴 (*ngo5 bou6 sau2 tai4 din6 nou5 hou2 gwai3*) "My laptop is very expensive".

In this lesson we learn another adverb that can be used in exactly the same fashion. This is the adverb 夠 (*gau3*) and it can be used anywhere the adverb 好 (*hou2*) can. Because this word technically means "enough," the meaning of sentences using 够 (*gau3*) is softer than those using 好 (*hou2*). But the word does not have the same negative connotation that the word "enough" does in English. In Cantonese these sentences with 够 (*gau3*) still have a positive meaning. So the sentence 呢部電腦夠新款 (*ni1 bou6 din6 nou5 gau3 san1 fun2*) would literally translate as, "This computer is new enough," but really means something along the lines of, "This computer is quite new." Likewise, 嗰部手提電腦夠薄身 (*go2 bou6 sau2 tai4 din6 nou5 gau3 bok6 san1*) should translate as, "That laptop is quite thin."

Also, as with the adverb 好 (*hou2*), remember that you can use 够 (*gau3*) in front of verbs as well. It is a flexible and quite useful adverb.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Get Your Electronics Here!

Hong Kong's low import taxes make the city an inexpensive place to stock up on most electronics. Nathan Road constitutes one of the most popular places to purchase cameras, computers, and other electronic goods in addition to jewelry. It runs a thriving business selling these products into mainland China.