



Lower Intermediate S1

Do You Need a Pharmacy in China?

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Traditional Chinese

- A 彌敦道 嘉連威老道
B 先生，需唔需要幫手？
A 請問呢條係咩街？
B 你要去邊度？
A 我搵緊藥房。
B 前面街口轉左就有間。
A 唔該晒！

Jyutping

- A nei4 deon1 dou6... gaa1 lin4 wai1 lou5 dou6...
B sin1 saang1, sei1 ng4 sei1 jiu3 bong1 sau2 ?
A cing2 man6 ni1 tiu4 hai6 me1 gaai1 ?
B nei5 jiu3 heoi3 bin1 dou6 ?
A ngo5 wan2 gan2 joek6 fong4 .
B cin4 min6 gaai1 hau2 zyun3 zo2 zau6 jau5 gaan1 .
A ng4 goi1 saai3 !

English

- A Nathan Road...Granville Road...
B Sir, do you need any help?
A Could you tell me the name of this street?
B Where are you going?
A I'm looking for a pharmacy.
B There's one on the left corner ahead.
A Thanks!

Vocabulary

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Traditional	Jyutping	English
彌敦道	nei4 deon1 dou6	Nathan Road
嘉連威老道	gaa1 lin4 wai1 lou5 dou6	Granville road
幫手	bong1 sau2	to help
街名	gaa1 meng2	street name
藥房	joek6 fong4	pharmacy
街口	gaa1 hau2	corner
搵	wan2	to look for

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

彌敦道係九龍區最主要嘅一條馬路。	nei4 deon1 dou6 hai6 gau2 lung4 keoi1 zeoi3 zyu2 jiu3 ge3 jat1 tiu4 maa5 lou6。	Nathan Road is the main road in Kowloon district.
嘉連威老道有好多舖頭。	gaa1 lin4 wai1 lou5 dou6 jau5 hou2 do1 pou3 tau2。	There are a lot of stores on Granville Road.
你可唔可以過嚟幫手搬個雪櫃？	nei5 ho2 ng4 ho2 ji5 gwo3 lei4 bong1 sau2 bun1 go3 syut3 gwai6 ?	Can you come over to help move the refrigerator?
澳門有好多好得意嘅街名。	ou3 mun2 jau5 hou2 do1 hou2 dak1 ji3 ge3 gaa1 meng2。	Macau has a lot of funny street names.
呢度有冇藥房？	ni1 dou6 jau5 mou5 joek6 fong4?	Is there a pharmacy here?
喺前面街口轉右。	hai2 cin4 min6 gaa1 hau2 zyun3 jau6。	Turn right at the next corner.
我要搵你哋經理。	Ngo5 jiu3 wan2 nei5 dei2 ging1 lei5。	I'm looking for your manager.

Grammar Points

The Focus of this Lesson is on Asking for Help

需唔需要幫手？

seoi1 ng4 seoi1 jiu3 bong1 sau2 ?

"Do you need help?"

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In our dialogue we ran into the verb phrase 需唔需要 ("to need or not to need"). This is one of the most direct ways of asking if someone needs something. In our grammar point today, we are going to extend this to review three other critical verb phrases that are often used when translating sentences about needing or wanting something in English. In Cantonese, there are 使唔使 sai2 ng4 sai2, 要唔要 jiu3 ng4 jiu3 and 愛唔愛 oi3 ng4 oi3.

You should be familiar with basic verb reduplication at this point. One of the common ways of asking a question in Cantonese is to repeat the verb in first the positive and then negative sense. To form a more complex question, simply position these three phrases before either a verb or a noun, as with our following examples:

1. 你使唔使幫手？
nei5 sai2 ng4 sai2 bong1 sau2 ?
"Do you need help?"
2. 你要唔要去彌敦道？
nei5 jiu3 ng4 jiu3 heoi3 nei4 deon1 dou6 ?
"Do you need to go to Nathan Road?"
3. 你愛唔愛杯咖啡。
nei5 oi3 ng4 oi3 bui1 gaa3 fe1 ?
"Do you need a coffee?"

These phrases are of varying strength. 使唔使 is the most forceful, followed by 要唔要 which is somewhat softer. Finally, remember that 愛唔愛 is used only when talking about food: you'll hear it in restaurants and cafes when waiters and waitresses ask you what you would like to eat or drink.

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Cultural Insight

[Hong Kong Hospital](#)

Need something more than a pharmacy? The two main hospitals on Hong Kong island are the Queen Mary Hospital, located in Pok Fu Lam, as well as the Tung Wah Hospital in Sheung Wan. There are many more hospitals on the mainland including the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kowloon Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital. Most doctors and medical professionals in these major medical centers speak English.