



Survival Phrases S1

Restaurant: Part 5 - Check Please!

15

Traditional	2
Jyutping	2
English	2
Vocabulary	2
Grammar Points	3
Cultural Insight	3

Traditional Chinese

埋單
小姐
先生
靚仔
靚女

Jyutping

maai4 daan1
siu2 ze2
sin1 saang1
leng3 zai2
leng3 nei5

English

pay the bill
miss
mister
handsome boy
pretty girl

Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
埋單	maai4 daan1	to check the bill
小姐	siu2 ze2	miss
先生	sin1 saang1	sir, mister
靚仔	leng3 zai2	handsome boy
靚女	leng3 nei2	pretty girl

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

CantoneseClass101.com

Learn Cantonese with **FREE** Podcasts

我嚟埋單。
小姐，唔該借過。
先生，幾位？
偉仔好靚仔。

ngo5 lai4 maai4 daan1.
siu2 ze2, m4 goi1 ze3 gwo3.
sin1 saang1, gei2 wai2?
wai5 zai2 hou2 leng3 zai2.

Let me pick up the tab.
Miss, please let me through.
How many people, sir?
Tony Leung is very
good-looking.
Carling Lau is very
good-looking.

嘉玲好靚女。

gaa1 ling4 hou2 leng3 nei5.

Grammar Points

After you have eaten your fill, it is time to grab the bill. To do this, wave the waiter over while loudly saying 唔該埋單. (m4 goi1 maai4 daan1). The word 埋單 literally translates as "to bury the list." This is the same 單 from 菜單 ("menu").

To call the waiter over, say 小姐 (siu2 ze2) if it is a lady, and 先生 (sin1 saang1) if it is a man. Both of these names are proper. If you are in a bar, the names change to 靚仔 (leng3 zai2) and 靚女 (leng3 nei5), respectively.

Cultural Insight

Quick Tip

When paying the bill, you don't want to be shy when calling to the waitress. Simply wave your hand, and with a loud clear voice, proclaim 埋單! (maai4 daan1). If you mispronounce the word, you may be skipped over, so spend time practicing it in loud, noisy restaurants.