

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases S1 #15

Cantonese Restaurant: Part 5 - Check Please!

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 埋單
2. 小姐
3. 先生
4. 靚仔
5. 靚女

JYUTPING

1. maai4 daan1
2. siu2 ze2
3. sin1 saang1
4. leng3 zai2
5. leng3 neoi5

ENGLISH

1. pay the bill
2. miss

CONT'D OVER

3. mister
4. handsome boy
5. pretty girl

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
埋單	maai4 daan1	to check the bill	verb
小姐	siu2 ze2	miss	noun
先生	sin1 saang1	sir, mister	noun
靚仔	leng3 zai2	handsome boy	noun
靚女	leng3 neoi2	pretty girl	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>我嚟埋單。 <i>ngo5 lai4 maai4 daan1.</i></p> <p>Let me pick up the tab.</p>	<p>小姐，唔該借過。 <i>siu2 ze2, m4 goi1 ze3 gwo3.</i></p> <p>Miss, please let me through.</p>
<p>先生，幾位？ <i>sin1 saang1, gei2 wai2?</i></p> <p>How many people, sir?</p>	<p>偉仔好靚仔。 <i>wai5 zai2 hou2 leng3 zai2.</i></p> <p>Tony Leung is very good-looking.</p>
<p>我姐姐係一個靚女。 <i>Ngo5 ze6 ze1 hai6 jat1 go3 leng3 neoi2.</i></p> <p>My sister is a pretty girl.</p>	<p>嘉玲好靚女。 <i>gaa1 ling4 hou2 leng3 neoi5.</i></p> <p>Carling Lau is very good-looking.</p>

GRAMMAR

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 neoi5*), 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.