

## LESSON NOTES

# Survival Phrases S1 #9

## Please Say it Slower in Cantonese

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## CONTENTS

- 2 Traditional Chinese
- 2 Jyutping
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 9

# TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 講
2. 多次
3. 慢
4. 啲

# JYUTPING

1. gong2
2. do1 ci3
3. maan6
4. di1

# ENGLISH

1. to speak
2. one more time
3. slow
4. -er

# VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
講	gong2	to speak	verb
講多次	gong2 do1 ci3	say it again	phrase
慢	maan6	slow	adjective/adverb
啲	di1	-er	suffix

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>你識唔識講廣東話? <i>nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 gong2 gwong2 dung1 waa2?</i></p> <p>Do you speak Cantonese?</p>	<p>可唔可以講多次? <i>ho2 m4 ho2 ji5 gong2 do1 ci3 ?</i></p> <p>Can you say it again?</p>
<p>唔該講慢啲。 <i>m4 goi1 gong2 maan6 di1 。</i></p> <p>Can you speak slowly please?</p>	<p>行慢啲。 <i>haang4 maan6 di1 。</i></p> <p>Walk slower.</p>
<p>唔該慢啲講多次。 <i>m4 goi1 maan6 di1 gong2 do1 ci3 。</i></p> <p>Can you repeat again, slowly please?</p>	<p>行慢啲。 <i>haang4 maan6 di1 。</i></p> <p>Walk slower.</p>
<p>唔該細聲啲。 <i>m4 goi1 sai3 seng1 di1 。</i></p> <p>Please lower your volume.</p>	

## GRAMMAR

In Cantonese, the equivalent of the English suffix "-er" is 啲 (*di1*). This can be placed after any adjective to change the meaning to "(adjective)-er." In the example from the audio podcast, the host asked 唔該慢啲 (*m4 goi1 maan6 di1*) - "Slower please." The adjective being modified by the suffix is 慢 (*maan6*) "slow." When combined with 啲, the word becomes "slower."

We can add other verbs to a sentence when using 啲. For example, 唔該講慢啲 (*m4 goi1 gong2 maan6 di1*) - "Can you speak slowly please?" The verb being modified by 慢啲 is the verb "to speak" (講, *gong2*).

Concurrently, you can also ask someone to speak faster using 唔該講快啲 (*m4 goi1 gong2 faai3 di1*). The adjective is replaced with 快 ("fast").

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### Quick Tip

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The Cantonese language can be called by three names, all with slightly different connotations.

1. 白話 (*Baak6 waa2*), meaning plain speech, is used outside of Guangzhou in Guangdong.
2. 粵語 (*Jyut6 jyu5*), meaning proper speech. People living in Guangdong and Guangxi will refer to Cantonese in this way.
3. Cantonese speakers who have emigrated from Hong Kong or Guangdong use 廣州話 (*gwong2 zau1 waa2*) to refer to Cantonese.