

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Top 25 Cantonese Questions You Need to Know S1 #12 When Is Your Birthday? in Cantonese

12

A: Top 25 Cantonese Questions You Need to Know - Lesson 12: When is your birthday? in Cantonese. In each lesson of this 25 part series, you'll master a common question for Cantonese learners, and then learn how to answer it like a native. You'll learn how these key phrases work by breaking them down into each component. Then through repetition and new vocabulary, you'll expand your understanding of the question, its answers, and any variations.

In this lesson, you'll learn how to respond to the common question “When is your birthday?” In Cantonese this is

B: 你幾時生日?

The first word in the question is

B: 你

A: meaning “you” in English.

B: (Slow, by syllable) 你

A: Listen again and repeat.

B: 你

{Pause}

A: This pattern of first introducing a word at natural speed, providing the translation, breaking it down, and then giving it again at natural speed will be repeated throughout the series. Try to speak aloud as often as possible. The next word in the question is

B: 幾時

A: meaning “when.”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 幾時

A: Now repeat.

B: 幾時

{Pause}

Listen to the the first 2 words of the question and repeat.

B: 你幾時

{pause}

And next

B: 生日

A: meaning “birthday.”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 生日

A: Now repeat.

B: 生日

{Pause}

Listen to the entire question and repeat.

B: 你幾時生日?

{pause}

A: It literally means "You, when, birthday?"

A: You will hear this common question again and again throughout your studies.
Master the following pattern and responses to the question "When is your birthday?"

B: 八月廿二號。

A: "It's August 22nd." Again, slowly. Repeat the phrase.

B: (Slow) 八月廿二號。

{pause}

A: Let's break it down from the beginning. The first word:

B: 八月

A: means "August."

B: (Slow, by syllable) 八月

A: Now repeat

B: 八月

{Pause}

A: Next is

B: 廿二

meaning “twenty-two (22).”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 廿二

A: Now repeat.

B: 廿二

{Pause}

A: And after that

B: 號

A: the word that changes a number into an ordinal number.

B: (Slow, by syllable) 號

A: Now repeat.

B: 號

{Pause}

A: Listen to the speaker say, It's August 22nd., and then repeat.

B: 八月廿二號。

{pause}

A: If it's March 9th, you can say..

B: 三月九號

A: March 9th.

B: (slow) 三月九號 (regular) 三月九號

A: Let's break it down from the beginning. The first word:

B: 三月

A: means "March"

B: (Slow, by syllable) 三月

A: Now repeat

B: 三月

{Pause}

A: And next

B: 九號

meaning “9th” or “9th day.”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 九號

A: Now repeat.

B: 九號

{Pause}

A: Listen to the speaker say, “It’s March 9th.” and then repeat.

B: 三月九號

{pause}

A: If it’s December 22nd, you can say..

B: 十二月廿二號

A: December 22nd.

B: (slow) 十二月廿二號 (regular) 十二月廿二號

A: Let's break it down from the beginning. The first word:

B: 十二月

A: means “December”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 十二月

A: Now repeat

B: 十二月

{Pause}

A: And next

B: 廿二號

meaning “22nd” or “22nd day.”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 廿二號

A: Now repeat.

B: 廿二號

{Pause}

A: Listen to the speaker say, “It’s December 22nd.” and then repeat.

B: 十二月廿二號

{pause}

A: If it's January 19th, you can say..

B: 一月十九號

A: January 19th.

B: (slow) 一月十九號 (regular) 一月十九號

A: Let's break it down from the beginning. The first word:

B: 一月

A: meaning "January"

B: (Slow, by syllable) 一月

A: Now repeat

B: 一月

{Pause}

A: And next

B: 十九號

meaning "19th" or "19th day."

B: (Slow, by syllable) 十九號

A: Now repeat.

B: 十九號

{Pause}

A: Listen to the speaker say, "It's January 19th." and then repeat.

B: 一月十九號

{pause}

Now it's time for a quiz. Imagine you are visiting Hong Kong and someone asks you when your birthday is. Your birthday is August 22nd. Respond to the question.

B: 你幾時生日? (five seconds) 八月廿二號。

A: Imagine your birthday is March 9th. Respond to the question.

B: 你幾時生日? (five seconds) 三月九號。

A: Now, imagine your birthday is December 22nd. Answer the speaker's question.

B: 你幾時生日? (five seconds) 十二月廿二號。

A: Imagine your birthday is January 19th. Respond to the question.

B: 你幾時生日? (five seconds) 一月十九號。

A: You want to ask someone when their birthday is. Ask the question.

(5 seconds)

B: 你幾時生日?

{pause}

A: Now it's time to answer the question with actual information about yourself.

B: 你幾時生日?

{pause}

A: This is the end of Lesson 12