

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Top 25 Cantonese Questions You Need to Know S1 #2 Where Are You From? in Cantonese

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A: Top 25 Cantonese Questions You Need to Know - Lesson 2: Where are you from? 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 Where are you from? In Cantonese this is

B: 你邊度嚟㗎？

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: 邊度

A: meaning “where.”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 邊度

A: Now repeat.

B: 邊度

{Pause}

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

B: 你邊度

{pause}

And next

B: 嚟

A: meaning “to come.”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 嚟

A: Now repeat.

B: 嚟

{Pause}

Listen to the the first 3 words of the question and repeat.

B: 你邊度嚟

{pause}

Next is

B: 㗎

A: which is, a particle that indicates question or doubt.

B: (Slow, by syllable) 㗎

A: Now repeat.

B: 㗎

{Pause}

Listen to the entire question and repeat.

B: 你邊度嚟㗎

{pause}

A: You will hear this common question again and again throughout your studies.
Master the following pattern and responses to the question “Where are you from?”

B: 我美國嚟嘅。

A: "I'm from the U.S." Again, slowly. Repeat the phrase.

B: (Slow) 我美國嚟嘅。

{pause}

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

B: 我

A: means "I. "

B: (Slow, by syllable) 我

A: Now repeat

B: 我

{Pause}

A: And next

B: 美國

which is "America" or "U.S."

B: (Slow, by syllable) 美國

A: Now repeat.

B: 美國

{Pause}

A: Next is

B: 嚟

meaning “to come.”

B: (Slow, by syllable) 嚟

A: Now repeat.

B: 嚟

{Pause}

A: And next

B: 嘅

A: This is a final particle that implies assertion with emphasis.

B: (Slow, by syllable) 嘅

A: Now repeat.

B: 嘅

{Pause}

A: Listen to the speaker say, "I'm from the U.S.", and then repeat.

B: 我美國嚟嘅。

{pause}

A: To expand on the pattern, replace the U.S with England.

B: 英國

A: England

B: (slow) 英國 (regular) 英國

A: Listen to the phrase again, this time with "England"

B: 我英國嚟嘅。

A: It mostly stays the same. Simply replace the U.S with England. Say "I'm from England."

{pause}

B: 我英國嚟嘅。

A: To use a different phrase, replace England with "China."

B: 中國

A: China

B: (slow) 中國 (regular) 中國

A: Listen to the phrase again, this time with “China.”

B: 我中國嚟嘅。

A: It mostly stays the same. Simply replace England with China. Say I'm from China.

{pause}

B: 我中國嚟嘅。

A: To expand on the pattern, replace China with Germany.

B: 德國

A: Germany

B: (slow) 德國 (regular) 德國

A: Listen to the phrase again, this time with Germany

B: 我德國嚟嘅。

A: It mostly stays the same. Simply replace China with Germany. Say “I'm from Germany.”

{pause}

B: 我德國嚟嘅。

Now it's time for a quiz. Imagine you are visiting Hong Kong and someone asks you where you're from. You're from the U.S. Respond to the question.

B: 你邊度嚟㗎? (five seconds) 我美國嚟嘅。

A: Now, imagine you're from England. Respond to the question.

B: 你邊度嚟㗎? (five seconds) 我英國嚟嘅。

A: Now, imagine you're from China. Answer the speaker's question.

B: 你邊度嚟㗎? (five seconds) 我中國嚟嘅。

A: Imagine you're from Germany. Respond to the question.

B: 你邊度嚟㗎? (five seconds) 我德國嚟嘅。

A: Now you want to ask that person where they're from. Ask the question.

(5 seconds)

B: 你邊度嚟㗎?

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

B: 你邊度嚟㗎?

A: This is the end of Lesson 2